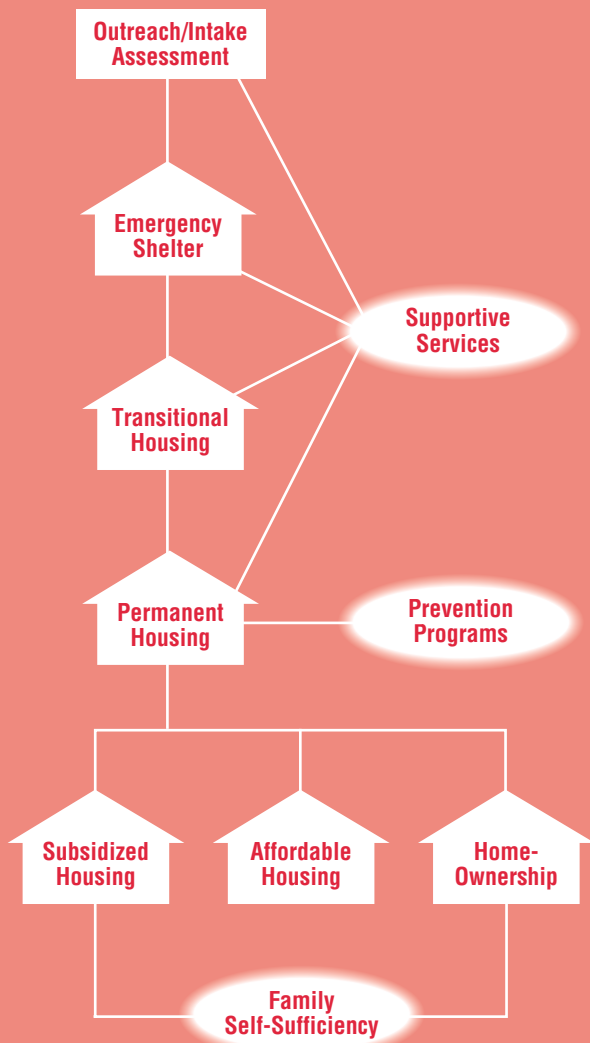




Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance



Idaho Housing and Finance Association, a financial services and housing business organization, provides funding for affordable housing in communities where it is most needed and when economically feasible. IHFA is a self-supporting corporation that must generate all revenue necessary to cover the cost of its operations. It does this by earning fees for work performed and does not use any state-appropriated funds for its operations.



Bridging the Gap

Homeless Assistance Programs



Homeless Assistance Programs

P.O. Box 7899
 (565 W. Myrtle)
 Boise, Idaho 83707-1899
 208-331-4881
 Toll-Free 1-877-447-2687
 Hearing Impaired
 1-800-545-1833, Ext. 400



P.O. Box 7899
 (565 W. Myrtle, 83702)
 Boise, ID 83707-1899
 208-331-4881
 Toll-Free 1-877-447-2687



Continuum of Care

An effective approach to alleviating homelessness is developing community-based processes and facilitating the coordination of services within the community. These processes provide comprehensive response to the many needs experienced by homeless individuals and families.

This approach is used in Idaho by Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA), in partnership with the seven regional Homeless Councils/Coalitions and the Idaho Homelessness Policy Council. Working together, we help local communities shape comprehensive and coordinated housing and service delivery systems called Continuums of Care.

A Continuum of Care approach helps communities plan and provide for balanced emergency, transitional and permanent housing, and service resources to address the needs of homeless people. This facilitates critical transition from homelessness to temporary housing, and services to independent living.

While not all homeless people need access to all services, each service should be present and coordinated within a community for Continuum of Care to be viable.

Emergency Shelter Grants

The Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program is designed to help local shelters meet the immediate needs of homeless persons by providing a decent, safe, and sanitary place to live while preparing them to live in a transitional setting. The program also provides essential services to homeless individuals and families, as well as funds for preventing homelessness.

All eligible applicants must be local units of government, Indian tribes, or private nonprofits with 501(c)(3) status.

Supportive Housing Program

The Supportive Housing Program (SHP) promotes the development of supportive housing and services. The program helps homeless persons transition from homelessness to living as independently as possible.

SHP includes Transitional Housing, which eases the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within 24 months. The program also includes Permanent Housing for Chronically Homeless Individuals and Permanent Housing for Persons with Disabilities. SHP housing is combined with supportive services to promote residential stability, increase skills and/or income, and achieve greater self-determination.

Shelter Plus Care

IHFA, in partnership with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (Mental Health Units), has developed the Idaho Shelter Plus Care (S+C) program. This program enhances Continuums of Care statewide by linking rental assistance with supportive services. This more effectively helps homeless individuals who are seriously mentally ill.

Available Resources

IHFA maintains a statewide directory of homeless shelters and service providers in Idaho. The list assists referring agencies and homeless individuals in accessing available resources and is available online at www.housingidaho.com.

Homeless Management Information System

IHFA uses a homeless management information system (HMIS) that collects demographic information on homeless persons served through statewide homeless programs. All homeless housing and service providers in Idaho are encouraged to take part in the information management system to facilitate program development and planning. Together, we address the needs of homeless families, individuals, and those at risk.

Homeless Program Assistance

IHFA provides technical assistance to interested eligible applicants for the programs listed. We also facilitate the development and maintenance of the Continuum of Care in each region of Idaho. This facilitation includes developing the community's vision to alleviate homelessness, identifying the community's inventory of services and gaps in service, and coordinating project applications for ESG, SHP, and S+C.

