

# DHS 2024-2029 Housing Strategy Project

## DHS Project Leads

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DHS's current [Housing Strategy](#) work builds on the foundation provided by the *2016-2020 Supporting Pennsylvanians Through Housing Plan*. The updated Housing Strategy will address Pennsylvanians' evolving housing needs through understanding of the state's current housing context.

Together, we can develop a 5-year DHS Housing Strategy that centers the needs of our Pennsylvania neighbors and communities through aligning our services and partnerships to address housing as both a human right and an essential social driver of health and wellbeing. We will work to increase access to affordable and workforce housing and to ensure access to supports - in times of crisis to weather unexpected challenges and to provide trauma informed, high quality services that meet Pennsylvanians' needs now and for our future.

### Aligning with the Secretary's Priorities

Dr. Val Arkoosh

Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services



## Priority Areas



Supportive Housing



Homelessness & Housing Stability



Housing Services & Supports



Housing Affordability

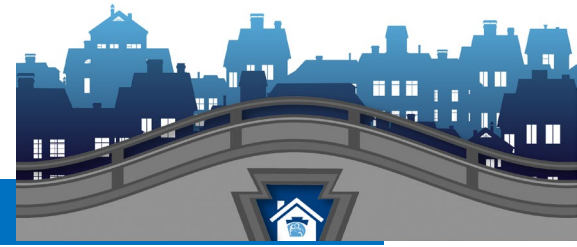


Housing Supply & Accessibility

Housing  
Strategy  
Release

Spring 2024

# Housing Strategy Background & Path Forward



Building on DHS's [2016-2020 Supporting Pennsylvanians Through Housing Plan](#) and its [2018 Update](#):

## Areas of Concentration

- Individuals who live in institutions but could live in the community with housing services and supports
- Individuals and families who experience homelessness or are at-risk of homelessness
- Individuals who have extremely low incomes and are rent-burdened

## Recommendations

- Expand services to connect Pennsylvanians to increased affordable and supportive housing
  - Funding Opportunities
  - Online tools
- Remove housing barriers unique to individuals
- Promote communication between state and local government
- Assess existing and new programs to determine future needs
- Utilize data to measure progress

## Impact Highlights

- Deployment of over \$1 billion in Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds to stabilize 200,000+ households
- Housing of over 700 households at 70 properties in 27 counties through the 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program
- Implementation of Community Health Choices and statewide Managed Care Organization goals for increasing nursing home transitions to home- and community-based service; so far in 2023, 671 formerly institutionalized individuals have been transferred to and are living safely in the community

Developing an updated plan for 2025-2029 based on understanding of:



## Stakeholder Expertise

- Centering needs of individuals and families who have experienced housing instability and crisis
- Integrating partner and provider perspectives who know and support housing and services needs



## Current Context Analysis

- Environmental scan of Pennsylvania housing programs, policy and planning
- Gathering data through surveys, interviews, listening and engagement sessions to better understand Pennsylvania's housing needs

Complete our interest survey to follow the Housing Strategy and learn about engagement opportunities:

