

**Housing and  
Homelessness**

**MIGHTY GOALS**



**Reduce**  
homelessness  
by **50%**  
by **2026**

MIGHTY GOALS  
CHANGE

# Housing and Homelessness Action Plan

## MIGHTY GOALS

1. Reduce homelessness by 50% by 2026

## SHORT TERM GOALS

### Housing

Increase investments in services and programs that prioritize social determinants and wraparound services that prevent and assist those experiencing homelessness.

### Services/Programs

Decrease individual and family housing insecurity through targeted investments in rent/utility assistance, housing navigators, and eviction prevention.

### Shelter

Support the emergency shelter system by investing in individual and family shelters that move households out of crisis.

### Overlap with Health

Demonstrate regional leadership through collaboration to advance housing and homeless services.

## LONG TERM GOALS

### Housing

Collaborate with regional leaders to develop new affordable housing in Maricopa County.

### Services/Programs

Improve systems with housing and homeless services to reduce barriers to entry for communities of color and other vulnerable communities.

Partner with regional organizations to develop new metrics that capture county-wide vulnerability of people facing eviction or in need of rent/utility assistance.

### Shelter

Collaborate with regional leaders to build a more equitable shelter system that reflects our population size.

### Overlap with Health

Change perception of homelessness from a public safety issue to a public health issue with a new public awareness campaign.

# Housing and Homelessness Action Plan

## STRATEGIES

### Advocacy and Public Policy

- ↑ Increase number of affordable housing units
- ↑ Increase permanent support for housing units and support services that assist those with vouchers living in private market apartments/units
- ↑ Increase regional shelter options
- Change regulations for easier access and coordination of supportive services

### Prioritized Communities

- Anyone on the verge of experiencing homelessness due to the COVID-19 recession
- Anyone currently experiencing homelessness in downtown Phoenix

### Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion

- Use data and storytelling to show how racism creates barriers to housing access
  - 27% of individuals experiencing homelessness are Black but only 6% of the county population is Black

## VSUW's Role

- Serve as a grant-maker to nonprofits that place specific focus on critical wraparound services that keep families and individuals housed
- Collaborate with Continuum of Care, government partners, and community-based organizations to develop new regional plans to end homelessness
- Educate community on the connection between housing security and improved health outcomes

Be a **FORCE** for

# Mighty Change WITH US

**Even small actions add up to make a big difference.  
Here are a few ways to get involved now.**

## **GET READING**

- ✓ *"Map the Meal Gap"* Interactive Study by Feeding America
  - [Map](#)
  - [Research Study](#)
- ✓ *"Hunger into Health"* by Erik Talkin
- ✓ *"Evicted"* by Matthew Desmond
- ✓ *"The Color of Law"* by Richard Rothstein
- ✓ *"Hand to Mouth: Living in Bootstrap America"* by Linda Tirado

## **GET DOING**

- ✓ [Volunteer at a COVID-19 Vaccination Site](#)
- ✓ [Donate business attire to St. Joseph the Worker](#)
- ✓ [Participate in a local ReadOn Community](#)
- ✓ [Ask Arizona legislators to increase the Charitable Tax Deduction by supporting HB2113](#)
- ✓ [Help at a food bank](#)

**MC2026**

Valley of the Sun  
United Way

