

Homelessness MATTERS



June 17th, 2026

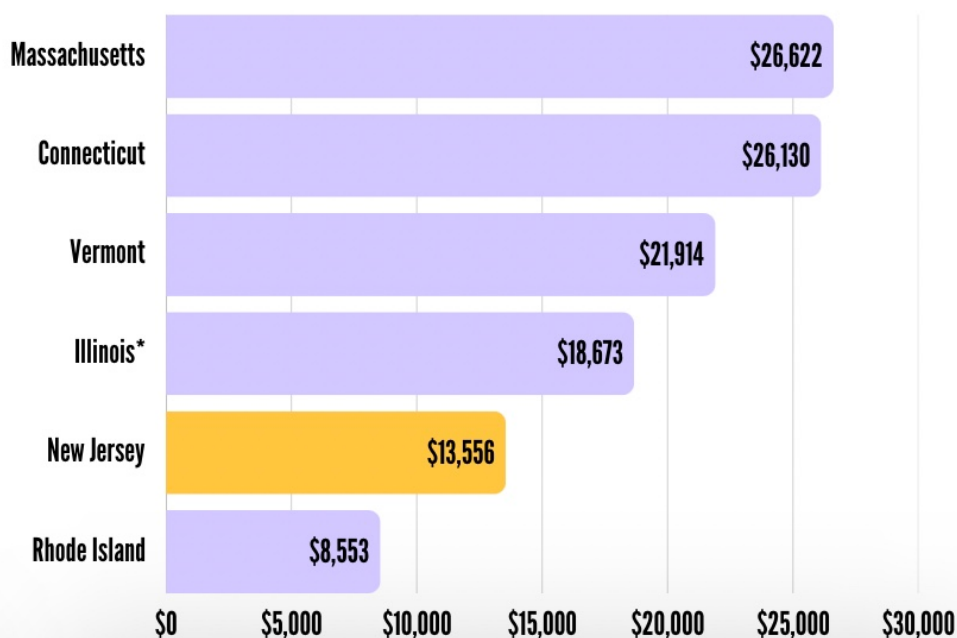
IN THIS EDITION:

- **Opportunities for Action:** Take Action: Urge Support for Critical Homelessness Funding; Public comments needed to defend equal housing access
- **Coalition News:** [Take a few min to help us help you!](#) Complete [this](#) brief survey to provide feedback on future homeless services training opportunities.
- **Resources for Providers:** Spaces still remaining for Coalition/MHA Training on Food Insecurity and Mental Health- **Happening Today!**; Professional development opportunity for homeless service providers; Discounted trainings for homeless service providers from the National Alliance to End Homelessness
- **NJ Homelessness in the News:** Passaic County Invests \$2 Million in Mental Health Services; Street Medicine Brings Healthcare Directly to People Experiencing Homelessness
- **News From Around the Country:** New HUD Funding Rules Threaten Permanent Housing Stability; HUD Announces \$193 Million to Combat Youth Homelessness; How World Cup Cities Are Tackling Homelessness; What Happens When People Experiencing Homelessness Receive Cash?

And much more...

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

State Spending on Homeless Services per Unhoused Person (2025 PIT)



Tell Lawmakers to Invest in Critical Homelessness Funding: New Jersey Can't Afford to Wait!

With the June 30 state budget deadline rapidly approaching, we need every voice in this final push.

Please take action today by contacting Governor Sherrill and your state legislators urging them to support Senate Resolution #432/ Assembly Resolution #7.

These resolutions call for an additional \$40 million investment in homelessness prevention, response, and emergency shelter stabilization—an important first step toward strengthening NJ's homeless response system. While this funding alone won't meet the need, it is a critical down payment toward addressing an unprecedented crisis and building the sustained investment needed for long-term solutions.

As the chart above shows, NJ spends significantly less on homelessness services than most of our peer states.

Please take less than two minutes to send a message and then share this action with your staff, supporters, and community partners. Take action here: <https://bit.ly/4vUWWIG>

Protect Equal Access to Housing

Once again, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has proposed changes that would roll back longstanding Equal Access Rule protections for LGBTQ+ individuals seeking shelter and housing services funded by HUD. If adopted, the proposal could affect funding for agencies that do not comply with the directive, even if the directive conflicts with state or local laws. Find more information [here](#).

Submit public comments urging HUD to preserve equitable access to housing for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Deadline: June 29, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. ET

Submit your comments [HERE](#).

COALITION NEWS



Help Shape Future Training Opportunities Offered by the Coalition!

Since January, the Coalition has provided training to more than 1,000 frontline staff across over 80 partner organizations throughout New Jersey. As we continue to expand our Training Academy, we want to ensure that the free and low-cost training opportunities we offer reflect the needs of the homeless services workforce.

If you're a homeless service leader, please take five minutes to complete NJCEH's Training Needs Survey here: [NJ Coalition to End Homelessness Training Academy Needs Assessment – Fill out form](#)

Your feedback will directly inform future training offerings and help us build a stronger homeless service workforce!

RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS

Happening TODAY! It's not too late to sign up for one of the afternoon or evening sessions:

Food Insecurity and Mental Health



Wednesday, June 17, 2026

During this 1-hour workshop, we will discuss:

- * How unmet basic needs such as food impact mental health
- * Signs and survival responses to food stress and trauma
- * Reducing stigma around misunderstood behaviors

**Session
times:**

6-7AM
8-9AM
10-11AM
2-3PM
4-5PM
6-7PM



bit.ly/17juneMH

- * Please register for this workshop in advance by scanning the QR code or clicking the link.
- * When registering, be sure to indicate the time slot you plan to attend.



**Mental Health
Association in
New Jersey, Inc.**

Please contact Jaime Angelini with any questions regarding this training:
jangelini@mhanj.org



GIVE YOUR STAFF ANOTHER TOOL TO CRAFT BETTER CLIENT COMMUNICATION

NJCEH is offering a free, virtual, 45-minute class designed to:

- Increase the positive outcomes of interviews for clients
- Help staff keep control of their time
- Keep initial intake to 15 minutes
- Highlight and define the 5 key markers of a good interview

This class, known as “BATHE” — *the Background, Affect, Trouble, Handling, Empathy Technique* — will be tailored to meet the needs of your specific program and can be held at your convenience.

Email JCantermen@NJCEH.org now to schedule a BATHE Technique training for your staff.

The NJ Coalition to
End Homelessness is
working for your
program to make
every day a better day.



THE NONPROFIT TIMES
The Leading Business Publication For Nonprofit Management

The NJ Coalition to End Homelessness, in partnership with the NonProfit Times, is pleased to offer homeless service providers and partners an exclusive 25% discount on the [Certificate in Nonprofit Management](#) through the NonProfit Times.

This online certificate program introduces learners to key management and leadership issues facing nonprofit organizations today. Topics include fundraising, board and volunteer development, budgeting, financial management, leadership, marketing, and strategic planning. Participants will also gain insight from nonprofit professionals through real-world video commentary and practical case studies.

Each self-paced course (approximately 3–5 hours) includes interactive exercises, videos, readings, self-assessments, and decision-making scenarios designed to strengthen practical nonprofit management skills. Some courses also offer CFRE credits.

NEW JERSEY HOMELESSNESS IN THE NEWS



Healthcare Doesn't Belong in a Waiting Room; It Belongs Where People Need it Most

TAPinto Cranford

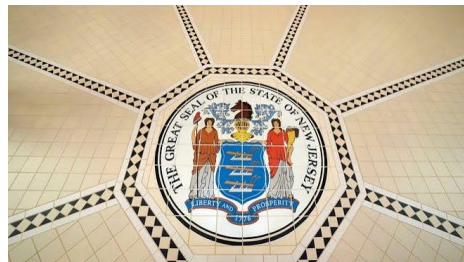
New Jersey's first Street Medicine Program at Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth is bringing healthcare directly to people experiencing homelessness through a mobile medical team that provides urgent care, diagnostics, and behavioral health support on the streets and in shelters. Hospital leaders describe the effort as a shift away from traditional, facility-based care toward meeting people where they are and preventing avoidable emergency room visits. The initiative highlights growing momentum in hospital-based outreach models that address the health impacts of homelessness in real time.



More Than \$2M in Funding to Expand Homeless, Mental Health Services in Passaic County

TAPinto Paterson

Passaic County recently approved more than \$2 million in funding to expand mental health and related supportive services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, strengthening the county's behavioral health and recovery system. Officials say the investment will help improve access to treatment, crisis care, and ongoing support for vulnerable residents as part of a broader effort to stabilize housing and health outcomes. The funding underscores a growing emphasis on integrating mental health services into homelessness response systems at the county level.



Gov. Sherrill, These Vulnerable NJ Residents Need You | Opinion

Courier Post

A recent opinion piece highlights Camden County's Housing First model and related "Pledge to Connect" program as evidence-based approaches that help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness secure stable housing while receiving wraparound health and social services. The programs are credited with reducing emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and long-term public costs by connecting participants to consistent care and housing stability. Advocates argue

that continued state investment is needed to sustain and expand these models, particularly for residents with complex mental health and medical needs.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY



Takeaways from AP's Report on How World Cup Host Cities Are Approaching Homelessness

The Washington Post

As cities across North America prepared to host the 2026 World Cup, several launched initiatives aimed at reducing homelessness, with Atlanta, Dallas, and Seattle investing in housing and shelter strategies that have moved thousands of people indoors. The article highlights an ongoing national debate about whether major events should be used as opportunities to expand housing solutions or simply displace people experiencing homelessness, with advocates urging communities to prioritize permanent housing and supportive services over encampment sweeps and enforcement.



HUD Makes \$193 Million Available to Address Youth Homelessness

HUD

HUD has announced \$193 million in new funding to help communities prevent and end youth homelessness through housing-focused solutions, transitional housing, and supportive services. The funding aims to strengthen local homelessness response systems and provide young people with the stability, resources, and support needed to reunify with family when appropriate or successfully transition to independent adulthood.



HUD Releases FY26 Continuum of Care NOFO, Putting At Least 97,000 People at Risk of Losing Housing

National Low Income Housing Coalition

HUD's FY2026 Continuum of Care funding notice makes significant changes to federal homelessness funding priorities, reducing support for



URI Professor Looks to Change the Way Homelessness is Studied

The Independent

A new research brief from the University of Rhode Island highlights the prevalence of "hidden homelessness"—people who are forced to stay with friends or family because

permanent housing while increasing incentives for law enforcement partnerships, mandatory services, and other "public safety" approaches. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the changes could put at least 97,000 people at risk of losing their housing and reduce resources available to communities working to prevent and end homelessness. Housing advocates warn that the shift away from proven, housing-focused strategies could lead to increased homelessness nationwide.

they have nowhere else to go. Because these individuals are not counted in HUD's annual homelessness census and often do not qualify for homelessness services, researchers estimate that thousands of Rhode Islanders experiencing housing instability remain largely invisible in official data.



Homelessness is Growing at a Faster Rate than Resources to Fix It

invisiblePEOPLE

A recent *Invisible People* article highlights how homelessness in the U.S. is growing faster than the systems meant to respond to it, from shelter beds and healthcare to mental health care, hygiene access, and affordable housing. With significant shortages across nearly every part of the safety net—including a national shortfall of hundreds of thousands of shelter beds and millions of missing affordable homes—advocates warn that current resources are far outpaced by need. The piece underscores that without major investment in both housing and supportive services, homelessness will continue to deepen and become even harder to exit.



2026 Getting \$750 a Month Didn't End Homelessness – But Our Study Shows It Still Improved The Lives of Homeless People

Yahoo! news

A recent *The Conversation* article reports on a randomized study of a basic income program for people experiencing homelessness, which found that while \$750 monthly payments did not significantly increase rates of housing attainment compared to a control group, they did improve participants' overall stability and wellbeing. Most participants spent the funds on essentials like food, transportation, housing-related costs, and healthcare, with very little spent on substances. The study suggests that while cash assistance alone is not sufficient to solve homelessness in the absence of affordable housing, it can still meaningfully improve quality of life and financial stability.



State Officials Prepared to Drop Housing First Grant Criteria Before HUD Notice

Center Square-Washington

A new HUD funding notice signals a significant shift in federal homelessness policy, moving away from Housing First and toward funding programs that emphasize treatment, recovery, employment, and other measures of self-sufficiency. Supporters argue the change will increase accountability and focus resources on outcomes, while critics warn it could reduce funding for permanent supportive housing and leave more people at risk of remaining unhoused.



HUD's New Direction on Homelessness Is Missing The Most Important Facts

THE HILL

A new opinion piece argues that rising homelessness cannot be attributed solely to Housing First policies, pointing instead to decades of underinvestment in affordable housing and rental assistance. The author contends that ending homelessness requires expanding affordable housing while pairing housing with mental health care, substance use treatment, and other supportive services, rather than shifting federal policy away from Housing First altogether.



Seattle Mayor Katie Wilson Mayor Ripped After Unveiling Fleet of Tiny Homes Likened to Porta-Potty Drug Dens

NEW YORK POST

A new Seattle tiny-home village designed to help people transition out of homelessness is drawing both praise and criticism ahead of the 2026 World Cup. The controversy highlights an increasingly prominent national debate over how communities should balance housing, treatment, and recovery services in efforts to end homelessness.



NYC Homeless Up Nearly 30% With Shelters Having Most People in History

PIX 11

A new report from the Coalition for the Homeless found that nearly 195,000 people used New York City's shelter system in 2025—the highest number in the city's history—underscoring the growing affordable housing and homelessness crisis. Advocates are calling for major investments in deeply affordable housing, rental assistance, eviction prevention, and supportive housing, arguing that without addressing the root causes of homelessness, the number of people

experiencing housing instability will continue to rise.



Youth Homelessness Looks Different: What It Means to Be Unhoused Before 25

THE SALVATION ARMY

A new article from The Salvation Army highlights that youth homelessness often looks different from adult homelessness, with many young people relying on couch surfing, cars, or other unstable living situations that frequently go uncounted. The piece notes that an estimated 4.2 million young people experience homelessness each year in the U.S. and emphasizes the need for tailored interventions, including safe housing, family mediation, education support, case management, and other services designed to help young people achieve long-term stability.



DEEP DIVE: Why Housing Gaps Are a Central Issue in Society

streets mn

Housing advocate Sue Watlov Phillips argues that rising homelessness nationwide is the result of decades of affordable housing loss, inadequate anti-poverty investments, and housing policies that favor homeowners over low-income renters. She highlights evidence-based approaches such as Rapid Rehousing and emphasizes that ending homelessness will require expanding affordable housing, increasing economic supports, addressing racial inequities, and centering people with lived experience in policy decisions.



Chester County Reaches Functional Zero Milestone for Chronic Homelessness

Chester County Pennsylvania

Chester County, Pennsylvania recently announced it has reached a "functional zero" milestone for chronic homelessness, meaning long-term homelessness has been reduced to a rare and manageable level. County leaders credit coordinated, data-driven efforts and strong partnerships across government, nonprofits, and housing providers. The achievement is being highlighted as an example of how sustained investment in housing-focused, collaborative systems can significantly reduce chronic homelessness.

DONATE TO SUPPORT THE COALITION'S WORK TO END HOMELESSNESS



NJ Coalition to End Homelessness | 10 Mercer Street | Princeton, NJ 08540 US

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