



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Colleagues-

HUD recently released the 2023 [Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress: Part 1: Point-In-Time Estimates of Homelessness](#), sharing the result of the point-in-time count conducted in January 2023. The report found more than 650,000 people were experiencing homelessness on a single night in January 2023. Compared to the 2022 point-in-time count, homelessness grew by 12% overall. This is incredibly difficult data for us to take in, but we must not be discouraged in our efforts to provide safe and affordable housing to all our neighbors. At HUD we know what works to end homelessness, because we see you doing it every day.

Despite nationwide efforts assisting people to exit homelessness in record numbers, a challenging rental market with historically low vacancy rates, expiring pandemic-era housing programs, and a growing number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time all contributed to the increase. We know you have undertaken herculean efforts to meet these challenges. You have dedicated time, talent, and heart to this work. All of us at HUD appreciate what you do, and your work is more important than ever.

We must continue our critical efforts by recommitting to the principles that have demonstrated success. By centering equity and people with lived experience of homelessness, strengthening partnerships with other systems like education and healthcare, focusing on prevention, honoring housing first, and ensuring access to supportive services, together we can meet this moment.

Our work is grounded in the belief that homelessness in America should not exist, that homelessness is solvable, and that even in the most challenging times, we can make progress. HUD will continue to support communities across the country with new funding opportunities, technical assistance, and sharing promising practices in our efforts to end this crisis.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to preventing and ending homelessness.

Sincerely,

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Norm Suchar
Director
Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs

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