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PRESS RELEASE

All Neighbors Coalition Announces Third Year of Reductions in Homelessness in Dallas, Collin counties; More Than 10,100 Individuals Housed Since 2021 System Transformation

Housing Forward and the All Neighbors Coalition today announced the third consecutive year of reductions in homelessness in Dallas and Collin counties, including the lowest total number of people experiencing homelessness in nearly a decade.

According to the January Point-in-Time count, a total of 3,718 individuals are experiencing homelessness on any given night in Dallas and Collin counties. That equates to a 19% reduction in overall homelessness and a 24% reduction in unsheltered homelessness since 2021.

That is the year the All Neighbors Coalition, now comprised of 150 organizations, transformed to more effectively tackle homelessness with evidence-based strategies. Fueled by public-private partnership, the system expanded pathways to housing, health, and stability for our neighbors who are unhoused.

“The success we are seeing in Dallas and Collin counties goes against national trends,” said Peter Brodsky, Housing Forward Board Chair. “Together, we have built an infrastructure that is now housing more people experiencing homelessness than ever before and providing the critical wrap-around services to ensure people do not fall back into homelessness.”

Since 2021, more than 10,100 people experiencing homelessness have been housed, with decreases this year as compared to 2023 in family homelessness (15%), youth homelessness (22%), and veteran homelessness (21%)

Federal officials have recognized the region as a top performer and one of only 27% of communities in the country to reduce homelessness last year. Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development earmarked \$27 million in annual funding for the All Neighbors Coalition. That is a 44% increase in performance-based funding as compared to 2021 levels.

Coalition leaders on Tuesday pledged to continue moving the needle on homelessness, with a new goal to cut street homelessness in the region by 50% as compared to 2021 levels. With a \$30 million public-private investment, officials said that goal can be met by 2026.

The next phase will emphasize closing encampments in public spaces with a targeted “Street to Home” approach. This proven model addresses public health and safety concerns, while providing a lifeline to our neighbors enduring unsheltered homelessness. Encampment closures are expedited by bringing behavioral healthcare and rehousing assistance onsite and supporting people experiencing homelessness to move back home.

“The organizations that comprise the All Neighbors Coalition are better aligned on our strategies than ever before,” said Dr. David Woody, III, a Coalition Board Member and the President and CEO of *The Bridge Homeless Recovery Center* in downtown Dallas. “We better understand what it takes to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring, and we are committed to working together to ensure this progress continues.”

The data also reveals ongoing challenges. While Black households make up just 19% of the general population in Dallas and Collin counties, nearly 57% of the unhoused population is Black. This imbalance is a by-product of the wide-ranging impacts of systemic racism and inequities.

“The data continues to support our focus on racial equity,” said Sarah Kahn, Housing Forward President and CEO. “A key part of our system transformation is our commitment to advancing racial equity by identifying and dismantling disparities within the homeless response system.”

The new data and details on the next phase of rehousing efforts were released as part of the annual State of Homelessness Address, held this year at the Winspear Opera House in the Dallas Arts District.

About Housing Forward and the All Neighbors Coalition: Housing Forward, formerly Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA), was founded in 2002 to serve as a collective voice for homelessness in Dallas and Collin counties. Housing Forward has the expertise, partnerships, and resources to lead a system-wide, data-driven strategy to solve homelessness in our community. Housing Forward works together in collaboration with the All Neighbors Coalition to lead system-wide strategies for ending homelessness in our community. The All Neighbors Coalition is made up of 150 partner organizations across Dallas and Collin counties that provide critical resources and support directly to individuals, Veterans, youth, and families experiencing homelessness.