

Street to Home Phase 1:

Ending Street Homelessness and Enhancing Public Safety Downtown

The Street to Home initiative, which launched with an operation in Downtown Dallas in partnership with the City of Dallas, Downtown Dallas, Inc. (DDI), and numerous other partners, has transformed the community's response to unsheltered homelessness.

Phase one provides a proof point for ending street homelessness incrementally across Dallas and Collin counties. Individuals are moving off the streets permanently through connections to comprehensive services, housing, and mental health treatment. New multidisciplinary response teams prevent street sleeping after all are housed and ensure public spaces remain safe for all our neighbors.

The Results:

May 20th marks an effective end to street homelessness in Downtown Dallas.

Since July, 257 individuals have moved into permanent housing with integrated behavioral health services. An additional 27 individuals with serious mental health and substance use issues are being connected to higher levels of care and treatment facilities through a new workgroup launched to coordinate complex care.

Reaching an effective end to street homelessness in Downtown does not mean there will never be another person who is homeless Downtown, but rather:

1. No one is living and sleeping on the streets of Downtown.
2. Through a new *Downtown Dallas Safety Coalition public-private partnership*, pathways off the street will be immediately activated for anyone new attempting to live or sleep Downtown.
3. Public spaces will be reactivated and revitalized, ensuring Downtown remains a safe and vibrant place for all our neighbors.

Since 2021, these types of innovative strategies have led to a 28% reduction in unsheltered homelessness across Dallas and Collin counties, with close to 16,000 individuals rehoused and in recovery. The initiative has also led to a marked reduction in calls for service in areas where encampments were closed, indicating improved public safety and quality of life Downtown.

Dedicated Funding for Ongoing Success Downtown & Across Dallas and Collin counties

Downtown provides a proof point for how we can effectively end street homelessness incrementally across Dallas and Collin counties. Our data-driven practices continue to evolve to ensure we remain as effective and efficient as possible. Phase one showed us that continuing our success Downtown and beyond will require ongoing, dedicated local investments in:

1. **Integrated Behavioral Healthcare:** Accelerate closure of additional encampments by combining mental health, substance use, and rehousing services to help people exit the street permanently. Scale the new "Complex Needs Workgroup" to coordinate higher levels of mental health and

substance use treatment for those cycling between our jails, hospitals, and streets.

2. **Multidisciplinary Enforcement Strategies:** Through continuous visibility, proactive engagement and coordinated enforcement, multidisciplinary response teams actively manage targeted geographic zones. Outreach and behavioral health providers are immediately activated to provide pathways off the street for anyone in crisis, attempting to sleep, or violating other laws or ordinances in the Downtown area.
3. **Accelerate Diversion & Rehousing from Shelter to Keep People from Living Outside:** Fully resource shelters to divert new individuals and families becoming homeless and rehouse those in existing beds. These strategic investments both reduce homelessness and can immediately more than double the shelter beds available for those on our streets. This includes beds set aside for anyone new entering the streets of Downtown.

What's Next?

These results of Phase 1 underscore the importance of sustained funding to build on the success of Downtown, by bringing solutions to street homelessness across the City of Dallas. Phase 2 of the Street to Home initiative will ensure that the All Neighbors Coalition can:

- Maintain an effective end to street homelessness Downtown, especially with millions of new visitors expected for FIFA World Cup and development of the new Convention Center;
- Resolve high-priority, high-risk encampments at new locations across the City; and
- Begin building a sustainable system that can end street homelessness incrementally, zone by zone, across Dallas and Collin counties.

