

THE STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN IDAHO

2021



Idaho Housing and Finance, nonprofits, community organizations, response networks and public-private partnerships are leading a coordinated effort to address the issue of homelessness in Idaho. This report was created as an educational tool for service providers, elected officials, community leaders and donors. Ultimately, it is our collective hope that the information in this report brings greater awareness to the challenges experienced by those facing homelessness, the successful interventions being undertaken and the additional resources needed to end homelessness for all Idahoans. Through a united effort, we can ensure every Idahoan has access to a safe and stable place to call home.

We hope that you are inspired by this report to find ways to become actively engaged in the fight against homelessness in Idaho.



FORMS OF HOMELESSNESS

We often see homelessness as someone living on the street. While this is the reality for some, it is not for the majority of those experiencing homelessness. The list below outlines the various degrees of homelessness.

Imminent Risk of Homelessness:

A person or family who will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days.

Precariously Housed:

A person or family who lack a fixed, regular nighttime residence but have been offered accommodation from friends or family for an indeterminate time.

Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence:

A person or family that is fleeing or is attempting to flee domestic violence, has no other residence, lacks resources or support networks, or does not have permanent housing.

Literally Homeless:

A person or a family who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. Typically, this means living in a place not meant for habitation or in an emergency shelter.

Chronically Homeless:

A person or family who has experienced homelessness for at least one year—or repeatedly—while having a disabling condition.



HOMELESSNESS INTERVENTIONS

Homelessness Prevention:

Homelessness prevention provides limited financial assistance (rent and utilities) and services to people who are at risk of becoming homeless. The assistance is designed to stabilize people in their existing homes or to provide housing options that prevent placement in an emergency shelter or living in a place not meant for habitation.

Emergency Shelter:

Emergency shelters offer temporary, basic accommodations to help people avoid living on the street or in other places not meant for habitation. Many shelters support people by helping them connect with resources, necessary benefits and programs. The goal of emergency shelter is to provide temporary relief while those experiencing homelessness resolve their barriers to housing or until more suitable and appropriate permanent housing arrangements are available.

Rapid Rehousing:

Rapid rehousing is time-limited assistance that helps those experiencing homelessness move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability through a combination of rental assistance and supportive services. Rapid rehousing is a proven, effective strategy best suited for those with fewer needs for services.

Transitional Housing:

Transitional housing provides shelter and services to those experiencing homelessness with very specific service needs for an intermediate amount of time. This type of housing is successful for youth, those recovering from substance use, ex-offenders, or those fleeing domestic violence.

Permanent Supportive Housing:

Permanent supportive housing is housing that is safe, decent, affordable and that provides households with full rights of tenancy as well as links to flexible support and services. This approach helps house the most vulnerable who have significant barriers to finding stable housing. Although participation in supportive services is not mandatory to remain in housing, people are encouraged to participate in the following services: healthcare, mental health care, substance-use treatment, life-skills classes, financial consulting, and job training and placement.

Permanent Housing:

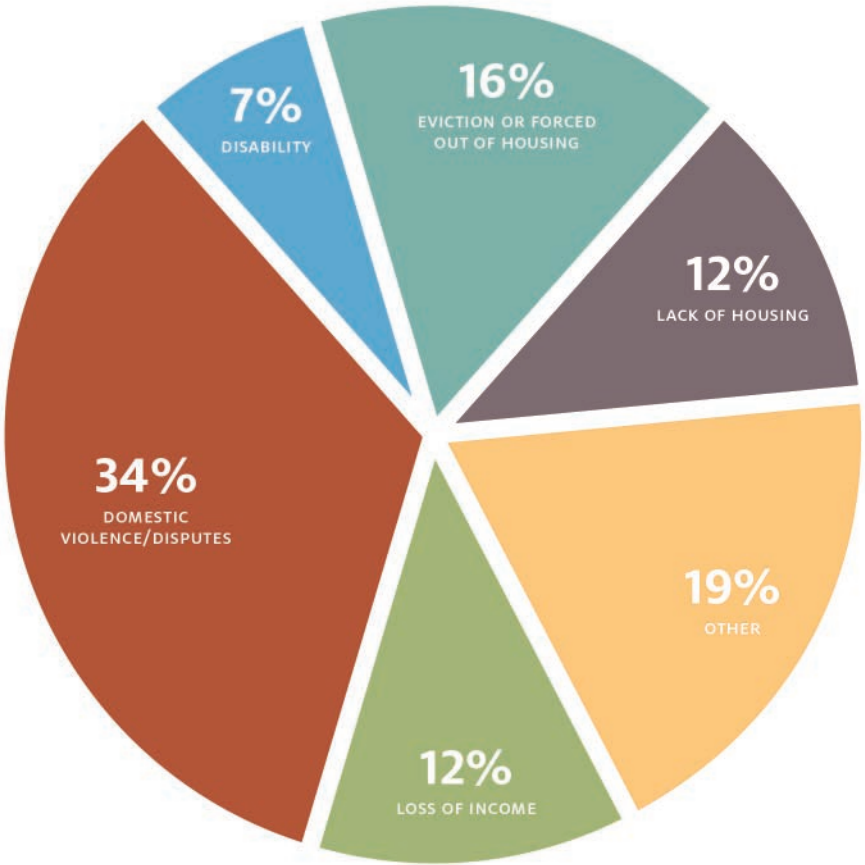
Permanent housing exists in various forms ranging from subsidized programs with or without services, income-based programs with or without services and market-rate rentals and owned dwellings. If services exist, they are commonly centered around providing a sense of community rather than addressing individual needs.



PRIMARY CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS

The top causes of homelessness in Idaho are: experiencing domestic violence or other domestic dispute; eviction or being forced from the place of residence; loss of income; lack of affordable, safe housing; and disability-related challenges.

This data assists in identifying and implementing appropriate and effective homelessness programs and prevention initiatives based on local needs. Each jurisdiction should assess the causes of homelessness that are most prevalent in its area to develop successful initiatives for their community.

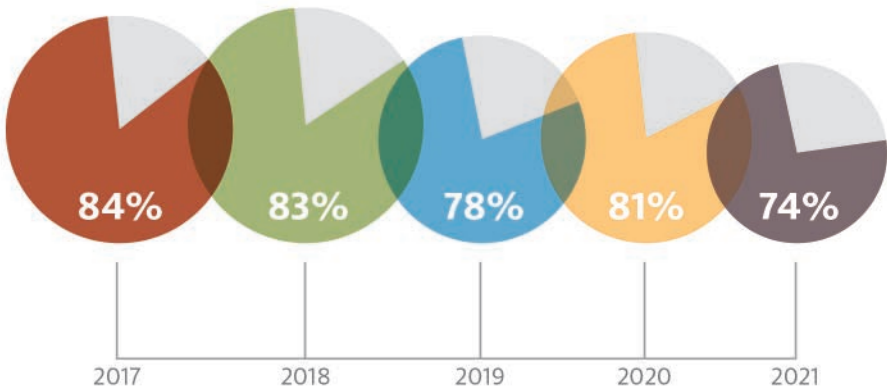


EFFECTIVE INITIATIVES

We define success by how quickly we help individuals and families become permanently housed and build stable futures for themselves. Homelessness prevention, eliminating barriers to housing, increasing housing availability and addressing the most prevalent reasons for becoming homeless are important contributors to our success in helping households find stability and self-sufficiency.



Positive Exits from Permanent Housing



* Includes literally homeless and survivors of domestic violence. This data is reported from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Community Management Information System (CMIS), both of which are electronic databases that gather the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness.

** Represents households exiting homelessness services into permanent housing that did not return to homelessness programs within two years. This figure is not derived from surveying households two years after exiting a program and therefore cannot account for some unknown circumstances such as a household moving from the area that may have received services elsewhere.

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS



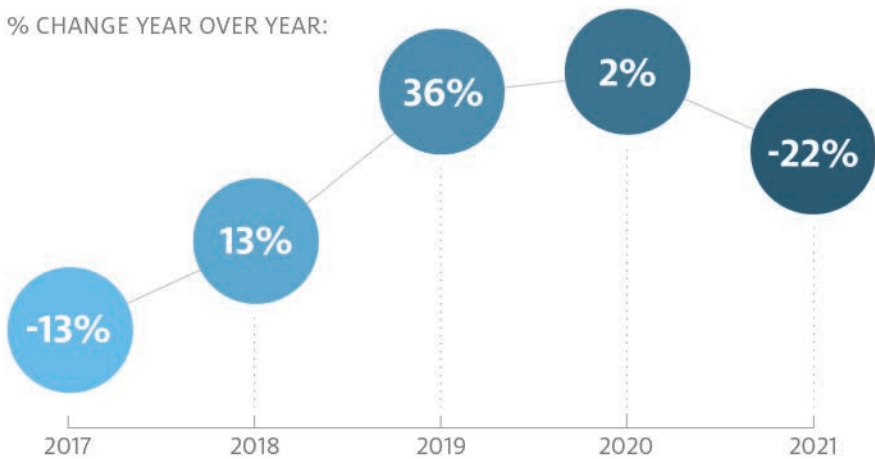
EXTENT OF HOMELESSNESS



POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

The Point-in-Time count is used to help determine the number of those experiencing homelessness in unsheltered environments. The count is done annually on one night in January and results can be impacted from year to year based on several factors, including count locations, weather and the number of volunteers surveying. The Point-in-Time count is best used to look at trends of those unsheltered over time.

% CHANGE YEAR OVER YEAR:



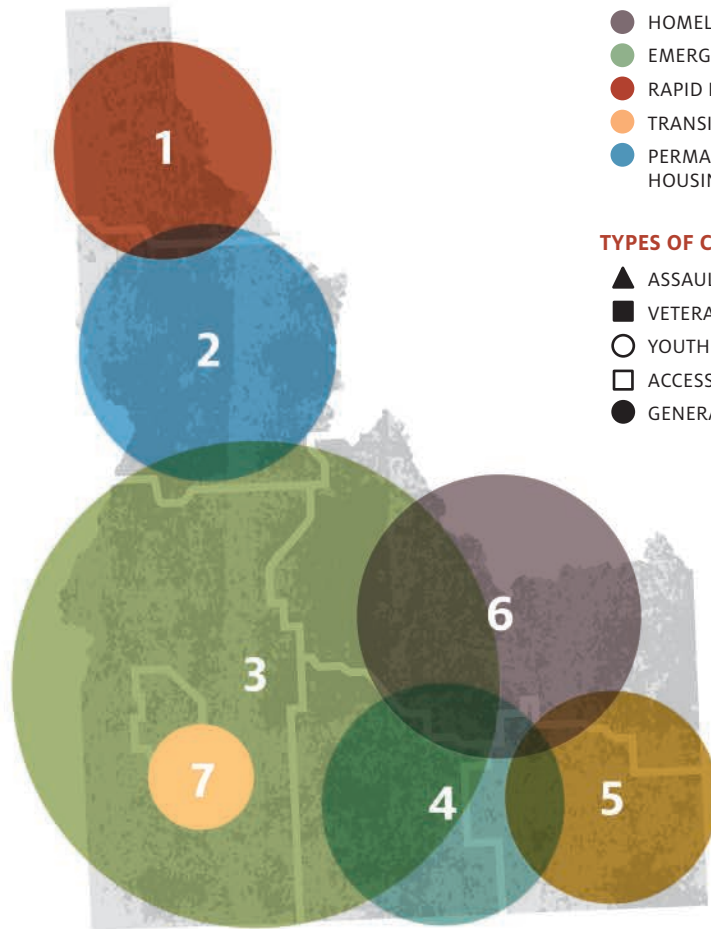
* Includes literally homeless and survivors of domestic violence. This data is reported from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Community Management Information System (CMIS), both of which are electronic databases that gather the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness.

** K-12 students as reported by the Idaho State Board of Education. Includes literally homeless, survivors of domestic violence and precariously housed. Reported from a different source than the source used to report individuals seeking homelessness services listed above.

*** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there were parts of the state where an unsheltered count was not performed or was limited in scope.

RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION

Resources for homelessness service providers come from a variety of sources: federal, state and local; donations provided by Idaho Housing; and other private funding sources.



TYPES OF HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

- ADMINISTRATIVE
- HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM
- HOMELESS PREVENTION
- EMERGENCY SHELTER
- RAPID RE-HOUSING
- TRANSITIONAL HOUSING
- PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

TYPES OF CLIENTS SERVED

- ▲ ASSAULT SURVIVORS
- VETERANS
- YOUTH
- ACCESS POINT
- GENERAL

A list of homelessness service providers is shown on the opposite page, which highlights the area of the state they operate in and the kind of homelessness assistance services these organizations provide. Agencies listed may also offer other types of housing and service programs not listed here that are not specifically for people experiencing homelessness.

* All county population data sourced from United States Census Bureau.

** The number of people experiencing homelessness is reported from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Community Management Information System (CMIS), both of which are electronic databases that gather the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness. The total also includes data from providers who do not participate in the HMIS or CMIS systems. The total is not representative of data from all providers and should be considered a minimum baseline.

*** Sources reflect matching funds required by federal grants and state, local and private funding. Organizations may have generated or received other funding to support homelessness assistance activities not included here.

REGION 1

POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
253,227	520	\$4,856,615
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$2,513,036	\$5,744,050	

Bonner Homeless Transitions - ●●●●●
 Family Promise of North Idaho - ●●●●●
 Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest - ■
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 Priest River Ministries - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Safe Passage - ▲▲▲▲▲
 St. Vincent De Paul of North Idaho - □●●●●●
 The Children's Village - ○○●●●
 Union Gospel Mission - ●

REGION 2

POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
110,415	839	\$2,008,454
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$1,777,274	\$380,500	

Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse - ▲
 Blue Mountain Action Council - ■
 Family Promise of Lewis and Clark Valley - ■●●●●●
 Family Promise of the Palouse - ●●●●●
 First Step 4 Life Recovery Center - ■●●●●●
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 LC Valley Youth Resource Center - ○
 Salvation Army Lewiston - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Sojourners' Alliance - □●●●●●
 YWCA of Lewiston-Clarkston - ▲▲

REGION 3

POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
350,428	1,054	\$12,899,374
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$4,180,780	\$7,715,577	

Advocates Against Family Violence - ▲●●●●●
 Astegos - ●
 Boise City/Ada County Housing Authorities - ■●●●●●
 Boise Rescue Mission - ●●●●●
 CATCH - □●●●●●
 El-Ada Community Action, Inc. - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Hope House - ○
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 Jesse Tree - ●
 Salvation Army Nampa - ●●●●●
 Shepherd's Home - ○
 Terry Reilly Health Services - ▲▲●●●
 The House Next Door - ●
 Trinity New Hope - ●

REGION 4

POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
206,625	982	\$3,273,207
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$1,767,896	\$8,011,303	

CLUB, Inc. - ●
 Crossroads Harbor - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Homeless Veterans Fellowship - ■
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 Safe House - ○○
 South Central Community Action Partnership - □▲▲▲▲
 The Advocates - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Twin Falls Optimist Youth House - ○
 Valley House - ●●●●●
 Voices Against Violence - ▲▲

REGION 5

POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
175,045	663	\$2,915,177
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$3,258,161	\$262,004	

Aid for Friends - □●●●●●
 Bannock Youth Foundation - ○○
 Bingham Crisis Center - ▲
 Family Services Alliance of Southeast Idaho - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Homeless Veterans Fellowship - ■
 Housing Alliance And Community Partnerships - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 Oneida Crisis Center - ▲●●●●
 Southeastern Idaho Community Action Agency - ■●●●●

REGION 6

POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
248,399	449	\$5,330,665
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$1,065,209	\$1,028,444	

CLUB, Inc. - □●●●●●
 Community Resource Center of Teton Valley - ●●●●●
 Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership - ●
 Emergency Housing Exchange - ●
 Family Crisis Center - ▲
 Habitat for Humanity - ■●●●●●
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Falls Rescue Mission - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 Lemhi County Crisis Center - ▲
 Promise Ridge - ●
 St. Vincent De Paul - ●

REGION 7

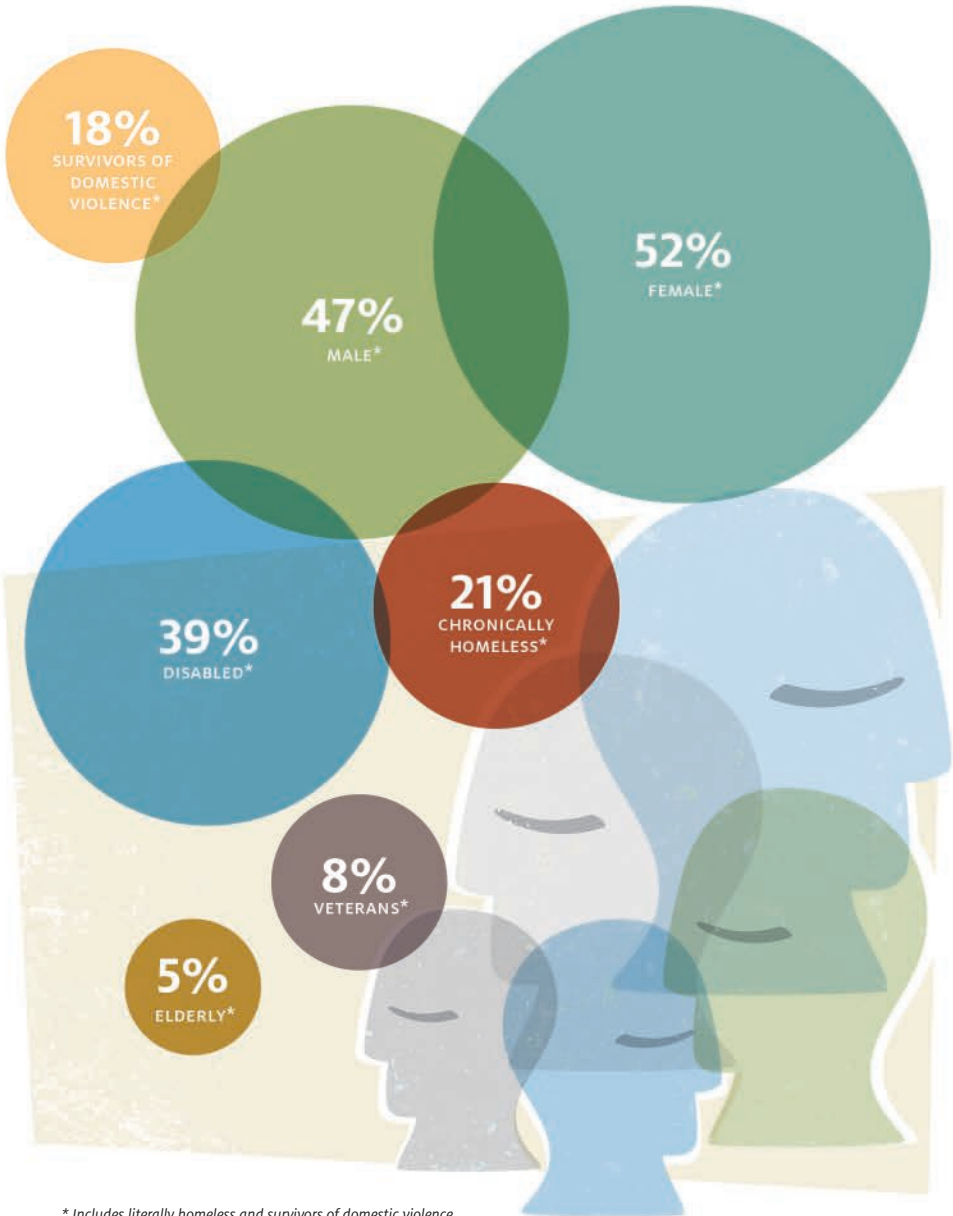
POPULATION*	HOMELESS**	FEDERAL FUNDING
494,967	4,307	\$23,471,241
IHFA FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING***	
\$6,930,018	\$9,362,959	

Boise City/Ada County Housing Authorities - ▲▲●●●●
 Boise Rescue Mission - ●●●●●
 Boise VA Medical Center - ■●●●●●
 CATCH - ●
 City of Boise - ●●●●●
 City of Meridian - ●
 Corpus Christi House - ●
 El-Ada Community Action Partnership - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Good Samaritan Home - ■
 Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - ●●●●●
 Idaho Housing and Finance Association - ●●●●●
 Idaho Youth Ranch - ○
 Institute for Community Alliances - ●
 Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services - ▲▲▲▲▲
 Jesse Tree - ●
 New Path Community Housing - ●
 Salvation Army Boise - ●
 St. Vincent De Paul of SW Idaho - ●
 Supportive Housing and Innovative Partnerships - ■
 Terry Reilly Health Services - ▲▲●●●
 Women's and Children's Alliance - ▲▲



CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMELESSNESS

The path to safe, stable housing must meet the unique needs of each person or family. To accomplish this, we must have a clear picture of the characteristics and circumstances of those who are unhoused. By doing so, we help ensure homelessness is a rare, brief and nonrecurring experience.



* Includes literally homeless and survivors of domestic violence.
This data is reported from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Community Management Information System (CMIS), both of which are electronic databases that gather the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness. One percent of individuals refused to report their gender.

COMBATING HOMELESSNESS

Idaho's homelessness assistance network has tackled homelessness through a variety of programs and interventions throughout the state. Administrators of these program foster collaboration, facilitate and encourage partnerships, develop funding allocation and intervention strategies, set goals and create program policy. Through their tireless work, Idahoans in need receive much-needed food, clothes, services, financial support, healthcare, counseling, substance-use treatment, connection to mainstream resources, transportation and housing.



EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

Housing as a Platform

Housing is a basic and essential need – something that all people share. It influences all aspects of a person's well-being, including their health. The mantra "Housing is Healthcare" has become a common principle across healthcare and supportive housing sectors. As other stakeholders (such as local government, foundations and employers) have come to recognize the correlation between housing and healthcare, public-private partnerships have formed to develop supportive housing solutions.

Public-Private Partnerships

Many of Idaho's housing programs and infrastructure improvements are supported by federal funding. However, federal resources cannot keep up with local demand. Public-private partnerships are the solution to tackling this issue. The inclusion of local partners brings impassioned leaders, generates innovation and spurs financial and in-kind contributions.

Several Idaho communities have laid a great foundation in forming such partnerships by leveraging federal, local and private contributions. These benefits are clearly demonstrated in projects such as LC Valley Youth Resource Center, New Path Community Housing, Valor Pointe, Aid For Friends' expanded shelter, Canyon Terrace, the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and St. Vincent De Paul of North Idaho's EnVision Center.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

LC Valley Youth Resource Center

On September 6, 2020, LC Valley Youth Resource Center in Lewiston opened its doors to serve at-risk and homeless youth. The nonprofit, which focuses its services on 12-17 year olds, works alongside law enforcement, school districts and other agencies to fill the gaps between existing programs for teens.

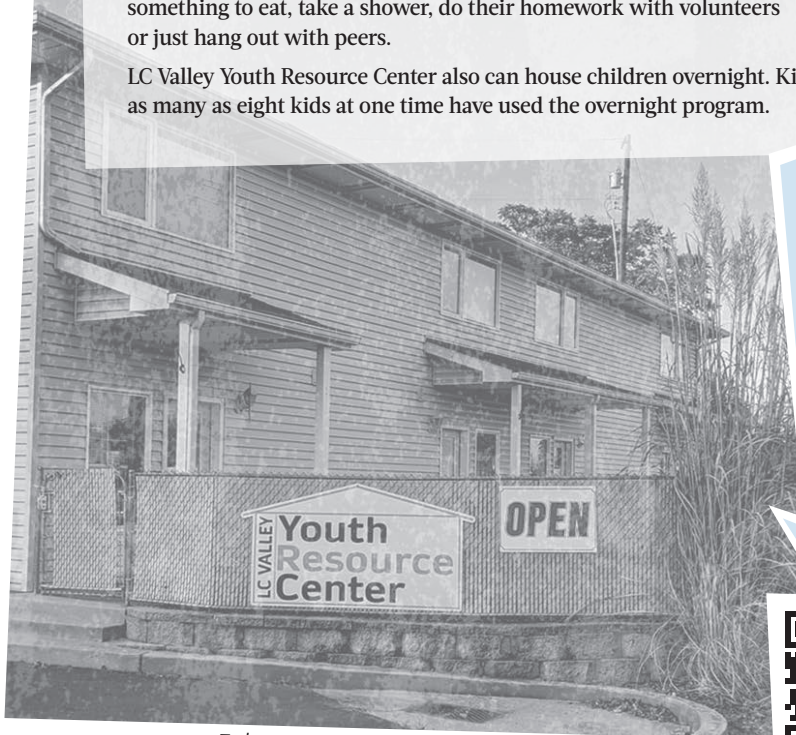
The facility is the brainchild of Michelle King, who made it a reality after years of temporarily caring for her children's classmates. When her youngest son graduated from high school, the family discussed ways to create a long-term, sustainable solution. Eventually, the city of Lewiston and local businesses helped make King's vision a reality, culminating with the purchase of a building in June 2020.

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of the Lewis Clark Valley community, along with a \$375,000 investment by Idaho Housing and Finance, LC Valley Youth Resource Center operates without debt. That enables the organization to pour all of its resources into the youth it serves.

"It's huge, because debt can be the end of anything," said King, who is the organization's board president. "Knowing the building is paid for means that everything else goes straight to our guests and to providing services."

On average, 26 children take advantage of the center's afternoon program from 2:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. every day. The children, most ages 12-14, can get something to eat, take a shower, do their homework with volunteers or just hang out with peers.

LC Valley Youth Resource Center also can house children overnight. King says as many as eight kids at one time have used the overnight program.



To learn more scan code or visit: <https://youtu.be/pzwojwGtcvs>

Emergency Rental Assistance

As the COVID-19 pandemic spread worldwide in 2020, the approach to utilizing housing as healthcare became more important. The economic impact of the pandemic caused many Idahoans to become unstably housed because of their inability to pay their housing expenses. The loss of housing can cause depression, anxiety, substance abuse, domestic violence, psychological distress and suicide. Fortunately, the negative effects of housing instability were mitigated for many by emergency rental assistance.

FUNDS DISBURSED*

\$57,000,000

HOUSEHOLDS ASSISTED*

15,100



* Figures represent program impact from April 2020 through December 2021.

IDAHO HOUSING'S FOUNDATION

The Home Partnership Foundation

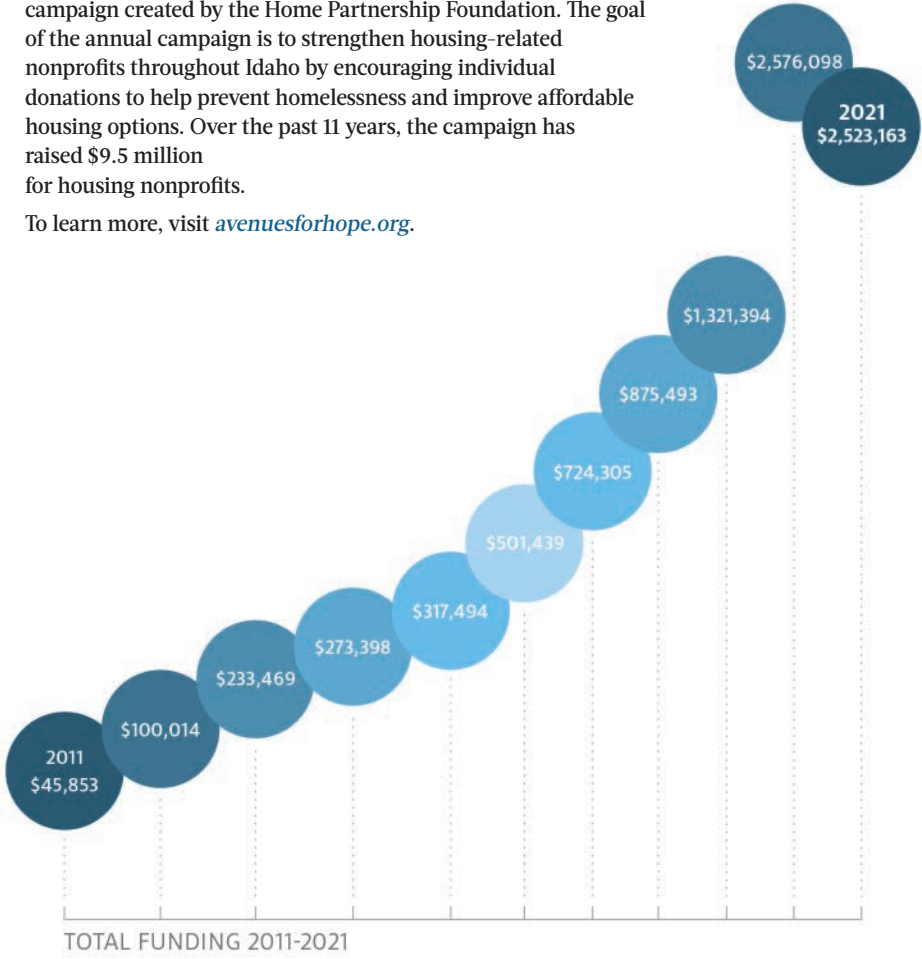
The Home Partnership Foundation is a nonprofit organization created by Idaho Housing and Finance to help communities meet their most pressing housing needs. For more than 16 years, the foundation has received charitable donations from employers, the private sector, developers, local governments, financial institutions and others to help sustain and grow affordable housing opportunities directly and through support for Idaho nonprofits. Since its founding in 2005, the foundation has invested more than \$14 million to help address housing needs in Idaho.

To learn more, visit idahohousing.com/foundation.

Avenues for Hope

The Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge is a unique fundraising campaign created by the Home Partnership Foundation. The goal of the annual campaign is to strengthen housing-related nonprofits throughout Idaho by encouraging individual donations to help prevent homelessness and improve affordable housing options. Over the past 11 years, the campaign has raised \$9.5 million for housing nonprofits.

To learn more, visit avenuesforhope.org.



HOW CAN YOU HELP ?

**EDUCATE
LOBBY**

**VOLUNTEER
DONATE**



...or use what you have learned
to correct misconceptions about homelessness.

Thank you,

*to our valued partners who contributed
information and data presented
in this year's report.*



**Idaho Housing
and Finance**
Association