

**THE HOMELESS COLALITION  
OF THE ALABAMA GULF COAST  
CONTINUUM OF CARE AL-501**



**2020  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

On behalf of the local Continuum of Care, the Homeless Coalition of the Gulf Coast, we welcome each of our member agencies and the public to the biannual Community Report Meeting. The CoC Board of Directors, through our relationships with many community agencies, is charged with coordinating and implementing a community-wide system for serving citizens experiencing homelessness in Mobile and Baldwin counties.

The past year has truly been a challenging year for our community. The unexpected impact that COVID brought on caused us to think and act differently. In spite of COVID, our partner service providers went above and beyond in continuing to serve the homeless in our community. On behalf of the CoC Board, we say Thank You. We also say Thank You to the administrators and staff of Housing First for their dedication and role as the CoC's Collaborative Applicant. Having served on the CoC Board of Directors for several years and watched the working relationship between the CoC and Housing First, I personally want to acknowledge the professionalism and level of independence that Housing First has extended to the CoC Board. Clearly as a part-time volunteer Board, we depend heavily on several employees of Housing First who are ready and willing to respond to the various requests from members of the CoC Board of Directors. I also say Thank You to the members of the CoC Board for your dedication, time and independent thoughts that have allowed us to have robust and meaningful discussions.

Now, let me share with you some specifics regarding homelessness. In accordance with the requirements of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, the CoC is tasked with reviewing and ranking project applications for HUD funding. However due to COVID, the FY2020, HUD ranking process (the NOFA) was not held. HUD elected to utilize the funding allocation from the previous year. As such, our total approved funding from HUD was \$3,930,009. In 2019, we were approved for \$3,902,469. With this funding, we were able to serve 3,260 individuals. Planning and exploration of resources to meet local unmet needs through a variety of funding mechanisms continues. While HUD and State funding sources allows us to serve approximately 49% of the homeless, we must remember that this is our community and there is still more work to be done. Let it not be said, "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me." We must continue to work to help our neighbors to get back on their feet as productive citizens. We must also continue to be there to help our neighbors who are elderly, children and/or disabled.

As I close this letter, let me remind you that this year we have several board members cycling off in accordance with our Governance Charter. We have been actively recruiting nominees to fill the vacant positions that you will be asked to vote on. In addition, the Board has voted and elected a slate of new officers whose term will begin July 1, 2021 and serve for the next two years.

Sincerely,



Warren L. Greene  
CoC, Board of Directors Chair

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# What is a Continuum of Care?

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a group of representatives from local organizations, assembled to plan for and provide a system of outreach, engagement, and assessment of homelessness in our geographic area (Mobile and Baldwin Counties). The CoC implements various strategies to prevent and end homelessness including rapid-rehousing, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, homelessness prevention, and homelessness diversion strategies. At its simplest, a CoC is established by representatives of relevant organizations to carry out the responsibilities set forth in the CoC Program Interim Rule, which include establishing and operating a Coordinated Entry and an HMIS.



**3,260**

Individuals served  
in 2020

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Our CoC is comprised of representatives from nonprofit service providers, the business community, local government, housing agencies, school districts, hospitals, universities, law enforcement, and faith-based organizations

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**Pictured Above:** Paul Rogers entered Housing First’s permanent supportive housing program over 10 years ago around the time he was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Paul said that he “went from death bed to mansion” after receiving assistance. Paul, who was beloved by his case managers, often joked “I was supposed to be dead a long time ago, but it’s y’all’s fault I’m still around because y’all take such good care of me.” Paul passed away in 2020 after outliving his prognosis by over 5 years. He is missed by those who knew him.

# Coordinated Entry

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1632

Households Assessed



498

Households Referred



815

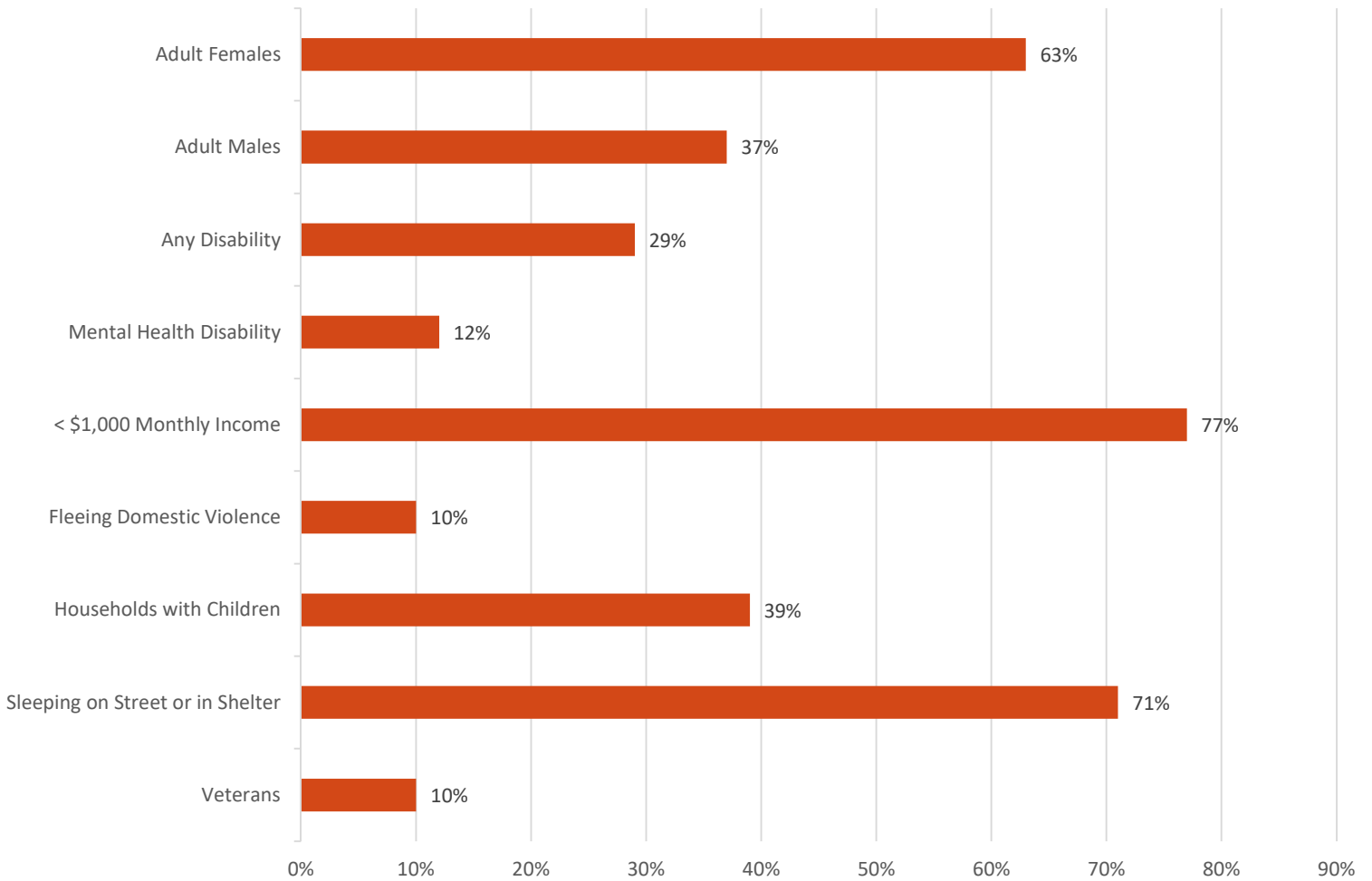
Persons Achieving  
Permanent Housing  
Destinations

The CoC oversees the operation of the community's Coordinated Entry system, known locally as the Community Connections Network, or CCN. CCN maintains a real-time list of individuals in the community who are experiencing a housing crisis, and links them with resources and community partners who can help. CCN uses standardized screening tools to ensure all people are equally and fairly assessed, and it ensures that resources are first applied to those with the greatest needs and highest levels of vulnerability. The system takes a "no wrong doors" approach and can be accessed through outreach efforts, telephone, or in person to provide access with as few barriers as possible.

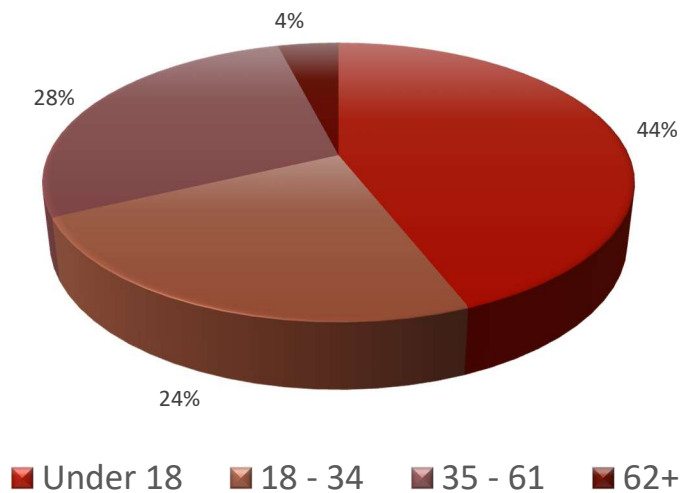


# Who Is Experiencing a Housing Crisis in our Community?

(Data obtained through CCN)



## Age Ranges







Pictured: Director of Public Safety James Barber and Police Chief Lawrence Battiste address volunteers before they embark on the Point-In-Time Count.

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During the last ten days of January each year, communities nation-wide participate in the HUD mandated annual **Point-In-Time Count** to capture a snapshot of homelessness in the United States. Community agencies and volunteers joined Housing First staff to survey sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

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**631**

Individuals were identified as experiencing homelessness on January 27, 2020



Pictured: Point-In-Time volunteers listen to speakers and receive instructions prior to embarking on the Count.

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# Project Homeless Connect

Project Homeless Connect is an annual event held at the Grounds (pictured below) where those experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless receive health and wellness services, legal assistance, dental and vision screenings, access to housing assistance, and mainstream resources such as State issued ID cards, food stamps, etc. All services are provided free of charge.



663  
Volunteers



65  
Service  
Providers



161  
State IDs



201  
Medical  
Services



141  
Legal  
Services



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## 743 People Served

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108

Family Members  
Served in FYS



145

Persons Served in  
Permanent Supportive  
Housing



80

Persons Served  
through ESG



64

Persons Served through  
United Way and  
Community Foundation

# Community Housing Program

The Community Housing Program is focused on ending homelessness through permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, and homelessness prevention. Numerous grants fund the Community Housing team's efforts, including two HUD permanent supportive housing grants (CHP and DHP), a HUD funded rapid re-housing grant (FYS), an ADECA funded emergency solutions grant (ESG), as well as local grants provided by the United Way and the Community Foundation. Every person housed in the Community Housing Program is partnered with a case manager who works to equip them with the skills and resources needed to achieve housing independence and avoid returns to homelessness.

Pictured: The Community Housing team partners with Toys for Tots to provide toys for children in need.





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# Community Outreach Program

The Community Outreach team engages in a variety of outreach activities in the community in effort to assist persons experiencing homelessness. These include:

**Street Outreach** – meeting those experiencing homelessness where they are, whether it’s in an encampment in the woods, under a bridge, in their vehicle, or in a homeless shelter

**Responsive Outreach** – responding quickly to calls from partner agencies, law enforcement, or concerned citizens regarding persons in need of assistance

**Collaborative Outreach** – working together with partner agencies, municipalities, churches, schools, and law enforcement to educate, advocate, and develop resources for those experiencing homelessness



**350+**  
Contacts Made



**725+**  
Supplies Provided



# Homeless Management Information Systems

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The Homeless Management Information System or HMIS is a locally managed database used to collect data about individuals and families seeking services to prevent and end homelessness. The system is an integral part of the community's collaborative efforts as it allows providers to track the provision of services, maintain current case plans, and efficiently coordinate with other agencies.



**80**

**HMIS End Users**

## HMIS Partner Agencies

AltaPointe Health Systems, Inc.  
Dumas Wesley Community Center  
Family Counseling Center of Mobile, Inc.  
Family Promise of Baldwin County  
Family Promise of Coastal Alabama  
Franklin Primary Health Center  
Housing First, Inc.  
Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast  
Mobile Area Interfaith Conference (MAIC)  
Salvation Army of Mobile  
UMICM of Mobile (McKemie)  
Ransom Ministries



**12**

**Partner Agencies**

# Permanent Housing for Disabled Homeless and Shelter + Care Programs

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31

Persons Served in the  
Permanent Housing for  
Disabled Homeless  
Program

The Permanent Housing for Disabled Homeless and Shelter + Care Programs are two CoC funded programs designed to prevent and end homelessness for citizens suffering from mental illness. To be eligible, the mental illness must prevent the individuals from obtaining and maintaining housing on their own. Both programs are operated by AltaPointe Health Systems.



43

Persons Served in the  
Shelter + Care Program





# Returning Neighbors Housing Program

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The Returning Neighbors Housing Program is operated by the Mobile Area Interfaith Conference (MAIC) and is focused on helping those leaving institutions to avoid homelessness. Because stable housing is essential to obtaining a job, maintaining health, and building positive relationships, those with inadequate housing often find themselves on a path back to jail. The Returning Neighbors Housing Program seeks to break the cycle and prevent homelessness for this vulnerable population.

Because the Returning Neighbors Housing Program started in 2020, there is no 2020 data to report. We look forward to celebrating their service to the community in the 2021 annual report.



Pictured: Ebony (left) and Jennifer (right) are two new residents in MAIC's housing program

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## Board of Directors

Warren Greene – Chair  
Healthcare Provider

Beth Biggs – Secretary  
Service Provider

Phillip Davenport  
Mobile County/Public Official

Angie Ishee  
Service Provider

Sara Laurio  
Service Provider

Haley Pham  
Education

Angel Steadman  
Service Provider

Michon Trent  
Service Provider

Sharon Murrill – Vice-Chair  
Business Community

Tara Armbruster  
Service Provider

Dr. Christine Fouty  
Healthcare Provider

Vickery Jones  
Mental Healthcare

Marie Mhoon  
Housing Provider

Beverly Reed  
City of Mobile/Public Official

Carol Thompson  
Education

Mary Carmen Williams  
Education

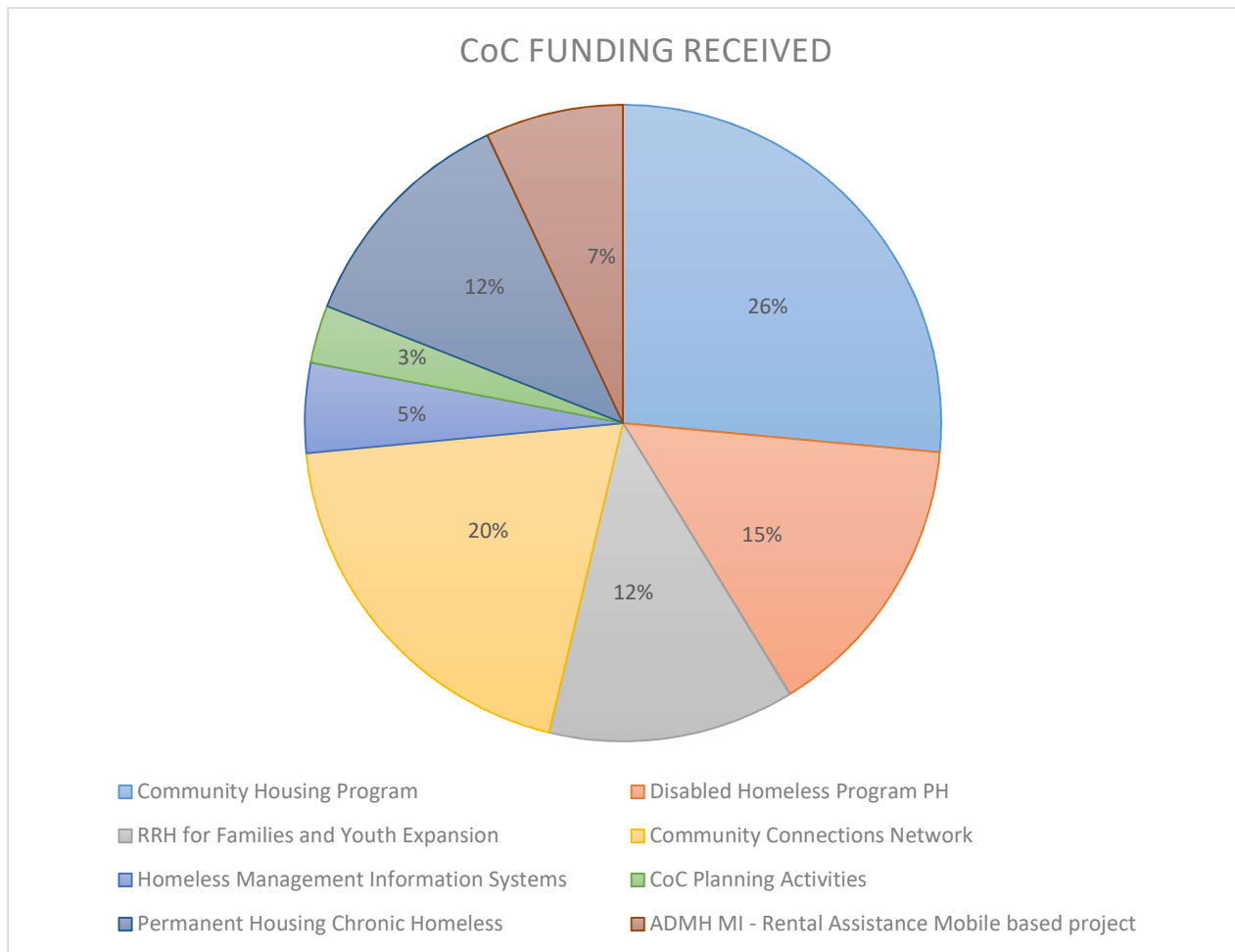
## CoC General Membership

AIDS Alabama South  
Alabama Department of Mental Health  
Alabama Power Company  
AltaPointe Health Systems  
Baldwin County Family Violence  
BancorpSouth  
Big Fish Ministries  
Christian Service Center, Inc.  
Church Street East Historic  
Cindy Harber Center, Inc./Robertsdale  
City of Mobile  
Dumas Wesley Community Center  
Family Promise of Coastal Alabama  
Family Promise of Baldwin County  
Franklin Primary Health Care  
God's Kingdom Church Ministries  
Holiday Transitional Center  
Housing First, Inc.  
Legal Services of Alabama

Lifelines Counseling  
McKemie Place  
Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast  
Mobile Area Interfaith Conference  
Mobile Community Action  
Mobile County Commission  
Mobile County Housing Authority  
Mobile County Public School System  
Mobile Housing Board  
Penelope House  
Ransom Ministries, Inc.  
The Family Center  
The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama  
United Way of Baldwin County  
USA Center of Excellence  
USA Health  
Veterans Recovery Resources  
Volunteers of America – Eagles Landing  
Waterfront Rescue Mission

# CoC Funds Received

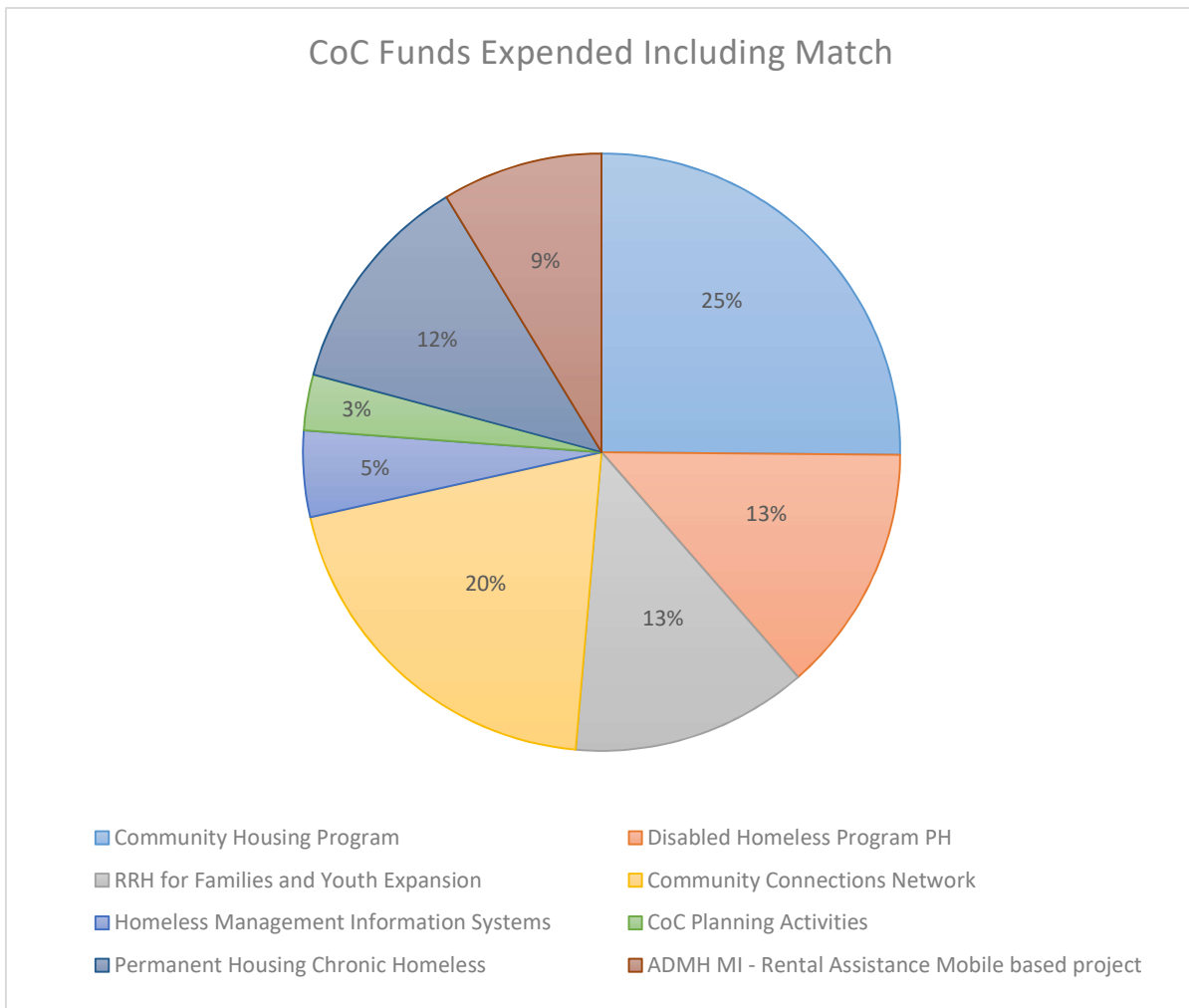
Community Housing Program	\$	1,008,672.00
Disabled Homeless Program PH	\$	562,261.00
RRH for Families and Youth	\$	477,344.00
Community Connections Network	\$	752,973.00
Homeless Management Information Systems	\$	173,723.00
CoC Planning Activities	\$	112,248.00
Permanent Housing Chronic Homeless	\$	457,641.00
ADMH MI – Rental Assistance Mobile based project	\$	266,939.00
Total CoC Funds Received	\$	3,811,801.00





## CoC Funds Expended (including match)

Community Housing Program	\$	1,162,837.00
Disabled Homeless Program PH	\$	620,999.00
RRH for Families and Youth	\$	592,567.00
Community Connections Network	\$	930,005.00
Homeless Management Information Systems	\$	215,841.00
CoC Planning Activities	\$	139,315.00
Permanent Housing Chronic Homeless	\$	560,094.00
ADMH MI – Rental Assistance Mobile based project	\$	402,364.00
 Total CoC Funds Expended	 \$	 4,624,022.00



THANK YOU TO ALL COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE  
A DIFFERENCE IN 2020!



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