

Build Back Better: Housing and Health Provisions that Impact People Experiencing Homelessness

November 2021



Resources

- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Analysis
 - Housing: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/topics/housing>
 - Health: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/topics/health>
- National Alliance to End Homelessness
 - <https://endhomelessness.org/category/federal-funding/>
- National Low Income Housing Coalition
 - <https://nlihc.org/news-category/statements>

Housing Assistance in BBB

<u>HOUSING PROGRAM</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Public Housing	\$65,000,000,000
Affordable & Accessible Housing	\$25,000,000,000
Housing Investment Fund	\$250,000,000
Section 811	\$500,000,000
Section 202	\$500,000,000
Improving Energy & Water Efficiency and Climate Resilience	\$2,000,000,000
Revitalization of Distressed Multi-Family Properties	\$1,500,000,000
Investments in Rural Rental Housing	\$2,000,000,000
Housing Vouchers	\$24,000,000,000
PBRA	\$1,000,000,000
Native American Housing Investments	\$1,000,000,000

<u>HOUSING PROGRAM</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
CDBG	\$3,000,000,000
Hazard Mitigation	\$5,000,000,000
Unlocking Possibilities Program	\$1,750,000,000
National Flood Insurance Program	\$600,000,000
Community Restoration and Revitalization Fund	\$3,000,000,000
Fair Housing	\$700,000,000
First Generation Downpayment Assistance	\$10,000,000,000
Home Loan Program	\$5,000,000,000
Investments in Rural Homeownership	\$100,000,000
Agency Admin, Capacity, and Oversight	\$1,000,000,000
TOTAL	\$152,900,000,000

Voucher Expansion

- Approximately 300,000 new vouchers will be phased in over five years, with funding to maintain them through 2029.
 - \$7.1 billion for families and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness, survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking. Approx 80,000 vouchers.
- Supports to help households with vouchers find units in neighborhoods where they want to live and incentives for landlords to accept vouchers, among other things.

Voucher Expansion

- The new vouchers will significantly benefit families with children and historically marginalized populations for years to come.
 - Of the nearly 700,000 people who will benefit from the vouchers, about 274,000 are children, 138,000 are people with disabilities, and 76,000 are seniors. More than 70 percent are people of color.

Health in BBB

Medicaid

- **Medicaid coverage gap:** Closes the Medicaid coverage gap for 4 years by allowing people in the gap to enroll in plans through HealthCare.gov. They would pay no premiums and could enroll year-round (not just during open enrollment). Although the coverage isn't as robust as Medicaid, there are some enhancements to improve the benefits packages for these people. People with income below 138% of poverty in 12 states would be eligible for these plans.
- **Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services:** Provides a financial incentive to encourage states to improve access to and quality of HCBS and to increase pay for HCBS providers and ensure increases are passed through to direct care workers. This would *not* eliminate waiting lists or make HCBS universally available to all who need them, but it would still be an investment of historic proportions. This provision does not have a sunset date (other than an enhanced administrative match, which ends after the first 10 years). This process would begin with planning grants, and the full financial incentive would be available in ~3 years.
 - BBB would also make Money Follows the Person permanent. MFP provides money to help people on Medicaid transition from institutions to their home/community-based settings (including help finding and securing housing). MFP has been an important catalyst for collaboration between health and housing sectors.

Medicaid

- **Medicaid Reentry:** The legislation would allow Medicaid to pay for services for people in jail or prison 30 days prior to release. This could help people connect to community-based providers and get case management, peer supports, and other services to help them prepare to return home (including help finding housing). This would start 2 years after enactment.
- **Medicaid postpartum:** Right now states can end Medicaid coverage 60 days after a person gives birth, if they are only eligible by virtue of their pregnancy status. Some states do more, but many do not. The bill would require all states to provide Medicaid for 12 months following the end of pregnancy. This provides continuity of care through a physically/financially/mentally difficult period for people and is one important lever in addressing poor maternal health in the US and addressing the black maternal health crisis in particular. This would start one year after enactment.

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Ending Homelessness and Build Back Better

Two things to end homelessness

1. A homelessness system. If someone becomes homeless:

-- engage them

-- keep them safe

-- get them stably housed

2. Housing affordability, fairness and stability so people don't become homeless all the time!

Permanent Supportive Housing

- Rent subsidies – hundreds of thousands of new vouchers
- Health care (including behavioral health) – Home- and Community-Based Services
- Already in place - Homeless HOME; Emergency housing vouchers

Rapid Rehousing

- HCBS for health-related services
- Already in place – Emergency Rental Assistance, CoC funding for DV survivors

Long-Term Housing

- Vouchers – about a 15 percent increase
- Steps up recent pattern of more targeted vouchers (811 mainstream, HUD-VASH)
- Could be another step toward more universal vouchers
- Building capacity to get more new vouchers out
- Issues of who gets the help first
- Undo patterns of discrimination

Needed: Fair Housing

- How federal housing can cause discrimination
- Using it to increase mobility
- Using it to improve neighborhoods
- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing – an opportunity

Needed: Landlord Outreach

- Who does it? “Homeless System” or PHA?
- Where does the money come from?
- Who has the know-how?
- Who has the clout?

Needed: Coordination with services

- Medicaid is the big source
- Coverage gap (BBB Fix)
- HCBS in BBB
- State/county vs. city
- Health Centers esp. Health Care for the Homeless

Needed: Public/political support

- Polls show extensive public support with big majorities
- Definitely see opposition to housing for homeless people
- Mayors and other leaders who stand up to the opposition have been rewarded at the ballot box
- Data and experience of developers
- Possible policy re: federal incentives

A Coordinated Homelessness System

- Must understand what's needed, where it comes from
- Allocating scarcity is not a good prospect
- Understand what the public wants
- Backing of political leadership
- Beyond coordinated entry

Toward Housing for Everyone

- Biden campaign proposal
- Recent increase in support for housing
- More resources needed
- Technical issues in Congressional budgeting (“discretionary” vs. “mandatory”)
- Bigger issues about what a universal housing commitment looks like

For more

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Build Back Better: An Opportunity to Thrive for People Experiencing Homelessness and Those on the Brink



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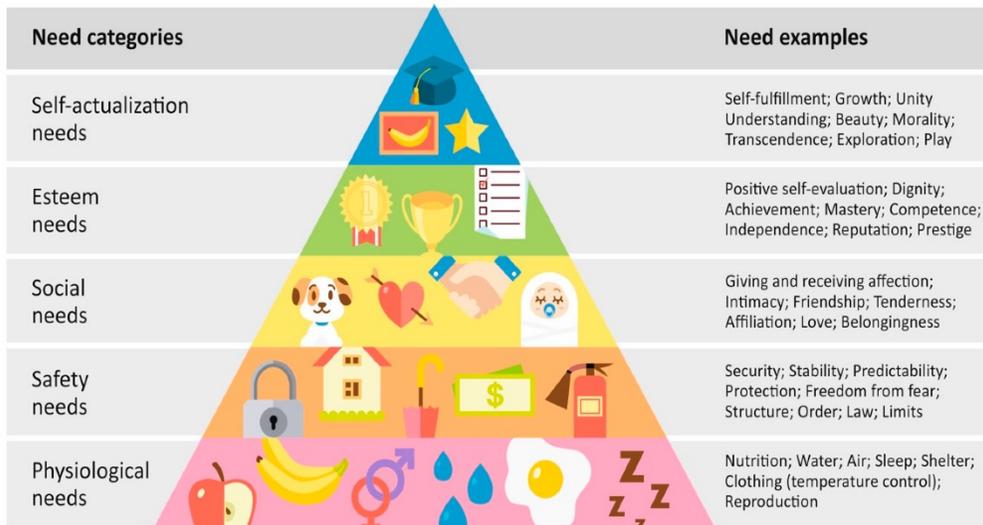
HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM | A DIVISION OF SPECIAL SERVICE FOR GROUPS

Maslow's Theory

- ▶ Maslow's Hierarchy of needs suggests that humans have five (5) levels of needs (Elizabeth Hopper, 2020)
 - ▶ 5. Self Actualization- filling fulfilled or living up to your potential (e.g. purpose)
 - ▶ 4. Esteem-desire to feel good about yourself (e.g. self-confidence)
 - ▶ 3. Love and Belonging-feeling loved and accepted (e.g. social relationships friends romance)
 - ▶ 2. Safety-safe environment (e.g. housing, school, community)
 - ▶ 1. Physiological-physical needs that keep humans alive (e.g. food)

Build Back Better Helping Meeting Basic Needs

Maslow's Pyramid



Pieter Desmet & Steven Fokkinga (2020), Beyond Maslow's Pyramid: Introducing a Typology of Thirteen Fundamental Needs for Human-Centered Design.

Build Back Better (addressing safety and physiological needs)

- ▶ Affordable Housing
- ▶ Child Care
- ▶ Universal pre-K
- ▶ Child Tax Credit
- ▶ School Meals and Child Nutrition
- ▶ Expanded Medicaid

How Build Back Better Invests in meeting basic needs for the people who are homeless and at risk

- ▶ Affordable Housing
 - ▶ \$24 billion in Section 8 Vouchers and Services (\$7.2 Billion homeless & survivors of DV)
 - ▶ \$1 billion Project Based Rental Assistance
 - ▶ \$65 billion in Public Housing (capital needs and surrounding communities)
 - ▶ \$25 billion rehabilitation and creation of affordable housing
 - ▶ \$500 million supportive housing for disabled (very low extremely low income)
 - ▶ \$500 million supportive housing for the elderly
- ▶ Child Care- offered at a sliding scale- no more than 7% of total household income for all children under age 5
- ▶ Universal pre-K- free for more than 6 million children per year
- ▶ Child Tax Credit-\$3,600 per year
- ▶ School Meals and Child Nutrition- expand number of schools able to offer free meals
- ▶ Expanded Medicaid- more than 2 million uninsured adults with incomes under the poverty line will be able to receive coverage through Affordable Care Act and not pay premiums

Race and Equity

- ▶ Reduction in child poverty by extending tax credits – sharpest reductions seen amongst Black and Latino children (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2021)
- ▶ Reduce homeless and housing instability by expanding Housing Choice Vouchers more impacting mostly people of color (more than two-thirds or 71%) (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2021)
- ▶ Strides towards universal health care for 2 million people with incomes below the poverty line- 60% are people of color(Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2021)
- ▶ Improving educational and employment outcomes by providing universal pre-K (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2021)

How do Homeless Continuums of Care Plan for Build Back Better

- ▶ Planning to for these resources to hit your continuum
 - ▶ Training for direct service workers- what do they do the same, differently, less of, or more of?
 - ▶ System leadership on Messaging/education
 - ▶ System collaboration and coordination (state, city, PHAs, landlords/property owners, School Districts, Health Plans etc.)
 - ▶ Understanding how these resources meet the retention needs that exists in your continuum
 - ▶ Promote timely access to resources
- ▶ Reduce bureaucracy and politics wherever possible by holding stakeholders accountable to the larger goal of ending homelessness
- ▶ Making the connection between Build Back Better and the people on the ground doing the work← They also will benefit
- ▶ Data Driven Evaluation
- ▶ Planning ahead→ strategy to advocate for future investments



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