



Values and Principles for Our Shared Work

February 2023

The Framework project partners will implement our collaborative activities in alignment with a shared set of values and principles, and we encourage communities to center these values and principles within their own efforts to prevent and end homelessness.

1. Advance racial justice and equity

Racial justice is necessary for achieving housing justice, which requires: combatting racism, discrimination, and inequities in housing, homelessness, and policing; reversing the overrepresentation of people of color, especially Black and Indigenous people, among people who are unhoused; and ensuring that funding decisions, strategies, and programs are informed by the leadership and expertise of the most impacted communities and people with lived experiences of homelessness.

2. Directly address barriers to housing

Address inequities to accessing housing for people who are experiencing homelessness by tailoring strategies to meet the needs of people who are harmed by systemic racism, discrimination, inaccessible housing, lack of community support services, and other injustices.

3. Support people to secure and sustain housing

Seize every opportunity provided by homelessness, housing, health, and services funding and systems to implement person-centered, Housing First approaches that connect people to the permanent housing options and services they want and need to succeed and thrive.

4. Act and invest with both urgency and purpose

Strike a balance between speed and impact, understanding that both are critically important. Mobilize financial resources quickly to address people's urgent housing, health, and service needs. Strive to have the greatest impact possible by implementing best practices, partnerships, and a sustained focus on housing justice. Help make the case for reaching the scale of investments necessary for lasting solutions.

5. Center the rights and expertise of people experiencing homelessness

Engage and support the leadership of people with lived expertise, and strengthen partnerships so that efforts reach, serve, and empower historically marginalized communities and populations. Stop implementing policies and practices that punish, criminalize, dehumanize, and/or further traumatize people experiencing homelessness.

The Framework for an Equitable Homelessness Response project is being collaboratively guided by the following partners:

- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities • National Alliance to End Homelessness • National Health Care for the Homeless Council
- National Low Income Housing Coalition • Urban Institute • National Coalition for the Homeless •
- National Homelessness Law Center • Housing Narrative Lab • Housing Justice Collective •
- Barbara Poppe and associates • Matthew Doherty Consulting •