National Alliance to
End HOMELESSNESS

BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE AND EQUITABLE HOMELESS RESPONSE SYSTEM

Communities who have successfully reduced homelessness emphasize the importance of ensuring their homeless response system is effective, efficient, and equitable. Achieving this goal involves preventing homelessness before it happens—and swiftly providing housing if it does—through safe and appropriate interventions, all while preserving the dignity and resilience of those facing housing crises. In addition to the curated resources linked below, communities should take the following into consideration:

Establishing a Continuum of Care (CoC) board composition and structure that includes: • Racial and ethnic diversity reflective of the community • Cross-system decision makers, including nontraditional partners • People with lived experience of homelessness	**Using data to assess disparities, measure success, and guide funding decisions. This should include public-facing data.** **Ensuring transparency in all aspects of decision making to ensure accountability**

For additional resources on building effective homeless response systems, visit:

Stronger Together: A Roadmap to An Effective Homeless System	The SYSTEM Series
Effective Street Outreach: From Unsheltered to Housed	Is Your System Truly Housing First?
Targeted Homelessness Prevention: Stemming the Inflow	Building a Data-Driven Response to Homelessness
Housing Problem-Solving: From Diversion to Rapid Exit and Beyond	Addressing Racial Inequities
Coordinated Entry: Best Practices in Centering Equity and Ensuring Effectiveness	Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness
Emergency Shelter: Reimagining a Housing Focused Place People Want to Use	Reducing the Criminalization of Homelessness
Rapid Re-Housing: A Proven Approach to Ending Homelessness	Listening to People with Lived Experience
Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Re-Housing (TH-RRH): Am I Doing this right?	Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies
Supportive Housing: A Crucial Part to an Effective System	Support Local Engagement to Increase Affordable Housing
An Effective, Equitable, Homeless Response System	Ensuring Anti-Discrimination for LGBTQ Populations
	Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities