

Resolution No. 18

Submitted by:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom

Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Martin O'Malley

Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Richard Daley

Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Ron Gonzales

Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Jerry Brown

Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable William Glacken

Mayor of Freeport

The Honorable Beverly O'Neill

Mayor of Long Beach

The Honorable Paul D. Pate

Mayor of Cedar Rapids

ENDING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS:

ENDORING SAMARITAN INITIATIVE

AND ENDING LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS SERVICES INITIATIVE

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors are committed to ending chronic homelessness in our nation's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, chronically homeless individuals, those with the most persistent forms of homelessness, are afflicted not only by poverty but also by severe conditions such as mental illness and substance abuse; and
3. **WHEREAS**, mayors and cities are on the front lines of the response to chronic homelessness; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in order to make housing for the chronically homeless work, supportive services are necessary to mitigate health, substance abuse, and mental health problems; and
5. **WHEREAS**, research suggests that supportive housing models to end chronic homelessness are highly effective and that the cost of providing supportive housing is substantially offset by savings in the most expensive systems of community care including hospitalizations, jails, and other correctional facilities; and

6. WHEREAS, these supportive strategies improve the quality of life for both the individuals being housed and the community at large; and

7. WHEREAS, the abolition of chronic homelessness requires collaboration and coordination at all levels of government, together with community institutions, businesses, and faith-based organizations, to determine how best to implement prevention and intervention strategies; and

8. WHEREAS, approximately 110 cities have committed to create jurisdictionally-based 10-Year plans to end chronic homelessness in response to the resolution passed in the 2003 Annual Meeting in partnership with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

9. WHEREAS, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness has been meeting with mayors across the country to foster 10-Year Plans in partnership with all sectors of the community,

10. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the Administration's FY 2005 \$70 million multi-agency budget proposal for the Samaritan Initiative, which will help cities implement housing and supportive services strategies to end chronic homelessness; and

11. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports an increased investment of at least \$45 million to be included in the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration's Projects of Regional and National Significance for the Ending Long Term Homelessness Service Initiative to add to the on-site supportive services of the Samaritan Initiative.