

# *American's Road Home Statement of Principles and Action*

**Whereas:** More than 2 million Americans across our country each year experience homelessness in our local communities, compromising the quality of life of the person, and the community; and

**Whereas:** As elected Mayors and County officials, we are on the frontlines of homelessness and accountable to our communities for the well-being of all citizens; and

**Whereas:** We recognize that no one level of government can remedy homelessness alone; and

**Whereas:** We affirm that we will work together with our partners in state and federal government as well as in the foundation community and private sector to maintain and enhance the sustainable investment of resources needed to respond; and

**Whereas:** We have taken action to create jurisdictionally-led, community-based 10-Year Plans to end chronic homelessness in our communities in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), and the National Association of Counties (NACo) to end the disgrace;

**Now, therefore,** we resolve to work together in a national partnership of every level of government and the private sector, with our fellow cities and counties and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to identify, adopt, and create innovative initiatives to advance the following principles and actions:

1. End the homelessness of our most vulnerable and disabled citizens who reside on our streets and in our shelters, those experiencing chronic homelessness, especially including homeless veterans.
2. With the support of our partners work to shorten the time any person is homeless.
3. Accept jurisdictional responsibility for accountability and results in the broader partnership that includes other levels of government and the private sector for an issue that is visible, expensive, and unacceptable in our communities.
4. Affirm our jurisdictionally-led, community-based 10-Year Plans as the community's primary planning strategy to effect accountability and results in ending and preventing homelessness.
5. Develop these plans to ensure that the measurable outcomes are sustainable and render lasting solutions to homelessness
6. Endorse housing solutions as our primary investment to end homelessness, recognizing that shelter and punitive responses are often expensive and ineffective in reducing numbers and restoring lives and affirm that permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing models offer our most disabled citizens the housing and services they need in a cost effective response.
7. Affirm the work of faith and community based agencies for the work they have done on the frontlines for decades and partner with them to fashion innovative responses that are results-oriented.

8. Invite the business and philanthropic communities to be a partner in our efforts, especially local business associations, foundations, Business Improvement Districts, the United Way, and Chambers of Commerce.
9. Work with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, the United States Conference of Mayors Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness, the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the Partnership to End Long Term Homelessness to assure rapid dissemination of innovations that ensures that every community will have equal access to the best ideas that create results in ending homelessness.
10. Create Project Homeless Connect events, the one-day, one-stop, targeted to homeless people in offering an array of housing, employment, and treatment services along with quality of life resources, as a component of our 10-Year Plan response.
11. Support all local, state, and federal legislation and resources that will offer new capabilities for investment in results.
12. Invite other communities to join us in this national effort.

**We**, the undersigned Mayors and County officials, do hereby commit to this Statement of Principles and Actions, embrace its goals, and announce our intention to work in partnership in bringing the homelessness of our most vulnerable and disabled neighbors to an end in the United States.

***Signatories:***

Mayor John Hickenlooper, Denver, CO

Mayor Bill Baarsma, Tacoma, WA

Mayor Terry Bellamy, Asheville, NC

Mayor Richard Bloom, Santa Monica, CA

Mayor Marty Blum, Santa Barbara, CA

Mayor Frank Cownie, Des Moines, IA

Mayor Sheila Dixon, Baltimore, MD

Mayor Paul Fraim, Norfolk, VA

Mayor Shirley Franklin, Atlanta, GA

Mayor Oscar Goodman, Las Vegas, NV

Mayor Bill Haslam, Knoxville, TN

Mayor Tom Leppert, Dallas, TX

Mayor Richard Daley, Chicago

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, New York City

Mayor Ron Littlefield, Chattanooga, TN

Mayor Mike Moncrief, Ft. Worth, TX

Mayor William Phelan, Quincy, MA

Mayor Mike Ragsdale, Knox County, TN

Mayor R.T. Rybak, Minneapolis, MN

Mayor Francis Slay, St. Louis, MO

Commissioner Joe Bryan, Wake County, NC

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles County, CA

Mayor Chris Coleman, St. Paul, MN

Mayor Gavin Newsom, San Francisco, CA

Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, Detroit, MI

Mayor Kathy Taylor, Tulsa, OK

Mayor Manny Diaz, Miami, FL

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Los Angeles, CA

Commissioner Bill Hall, Lincoln County, OR

Mayor Chuck Reed, San Jose, CA

Mayor Heather Fargo, Sacramento, CA

Mayor Tom Potter, Portland, OR

Mayor Doug Palmer, Trenton, NJ

Commissioner Steve O'Neil, St. Louis County, MN

Mayor Charles Ryan, Springfield MA

Commissioner Lindy Brown, Wake County, NC

Mayor Dave Bieter, Boise, ID

Supervisor Jerry Hill, San Mateo County, CA

Mayor Michael Sullivan, Holyoke, MA

City Councilor Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara, CA

Mayor Bernard Streeter, Nashua, NH

Supervisor John Woolley, Humboldt County, CA

Mayor Mary Clare Higgins, Northampton, MA

Commissioner Gail Dorfman, Hennepin County, MN

Mayor Kip Holden, Baton Rouge, LA

Mayor Dannel Malloy, Stamford, CT

Supervisor Salud Carbajal, Santa Barbara County, CA

Mayor Kevin Foy, Chapel Hill, NC

Mayor Eddie Perez, Hartford, CT

Mayor Alan Autry, Fresno, CA

Supervisor Donald Gage, Santa Clara County, CA

Mayor Robert Coble, Columbia, SC

Mayor Scott Lang, New Bedford, MA

Supervisor Mariko Yamada, Yolo County, CA

Mayor Mark Boughton, Danbury, CT

Mayor Patrick McCrory, Charlotte, NC

Mayor Sebastian Giuliano, Middletown, CT

Mayor Carl Brewer, Wichita, KS

Mayor Phil Hardberger, San Antonio, TX

Mayor Raul Salinas, Laredo, TX

Mayor Tim Stewart, New Britain, CT

Mayor John Marks, Tallahassee, FL

Mayor James Humphrey, Fort Myers, FL

County Commissioner Mark Richard, Spokane, WA

Mayor Mark Begich, Anchorage, AK

Mayor Kitty Piercy, Eugene, OR

Mayor William May, Jr., Frankfort, KY

Mayor Ray Stephanson, Everett, WA

County Executive John Ladenburg, Pierce County, WA

Mayor Bill Finch, Bridgeport, CT

Mayor John Rhodes, Myrtle Beach, SC

Mayor Robert Kiss, Burlington, VT

County Executive Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County, WA

Mayor Dave Edler, Yakima, WA

Mayor Stephen Gilmore, Ashland, KY

Mayor J. Allen Joines, Winston-Salem, NC

Mayor Bill Bell, Durham, NC

Council Member Brian Calhoun, Fresno, CA

Mayor Frank Melton, Jackson, MS

Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert, Macon, GA

Mayor Royce Pollard, Vancouver, WA

Commissioners Chair Jennifer Roberts, Mecklenburg County, NC

Mayor Robert J. Duffy, Rochester, NY

County Commissioner David Gilmour, Jackson County, OR

Mayor Dan Pike, Bellingham, WA

Mayor Bobby Horton, West Columbia, SC

Council Member Cynthia Sterling, Fresno, CA

Mayor Sam Jones, Mobile, AL

Mayor Bill Bogaard, Pasadena, CA

Mayor Larry Melton, Odessa, TX

Mayor Isidro Negron-Ivizarry, San German, PR

Mayor Tim Kant, Fairhope, AL

County Chairman Mark Owens, Jr., Pitt County, NC

Mayor Patricia Dunn, Greenville, NC

First Selectman Jean deSmet, Windham, CT

Mayor Benjamin Lathrop, Norwich, CT

Board of Commissioners Chair Stephen Tharinger, Clallam County, WA

Supervisor Helen Thompson, Yolo County, CA

Commissioner Faye Stewart, Lane County, OR

Mayor Frank Guinta, Manchester, NH

County Executive Pete Kremen, Whatcom County, WA

Commissioner Mary LeClair, Barnstable County, MA

Mayor James Ruberto, Pittsfield, MA

Mayor Joseph Maestas, Espanola, NM