



## Executive Order # 66

Relating to the Creation of the Governor's Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness

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**WHEREAS**, the prevention of homelessness is an important goal for communities and the state of Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate housing and supportive services are an essential part of the health and well being of the families and residents living and working in Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of access to mainstream services such as mental health, alcohol and drug services and medical assistance are causal factors in the increase of the homeless population; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin supports more than 46 agencies that provides 480,000 nights of shelter annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of shelter providers in Wisconsin has increased by 33% since 1995 to meet the 70% increase in numbers of persons receiving emergency shelter for homelessness with at least 24,000 people being turned away due to lack of resources throughout the state during the same time; and

**WHEREAS**, thirty-six percent of the homeless population are children whose futures are at risk due to the interruption of stability and education during the developmental period of their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin is committed to establish collaboration and lines of communication between federal, state, county, and local levels of mainstream social program service providers; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin is committed to the well-being of its families and residents by increasing the availability of affordable housing stock and by requiring social service providers to coordinate benefits and simplify access to the systems necessary to decrease the number of persons experiencing homelessness and who are at risk of becoming homeless;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM DOYLE**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of this State, and specifically by Wis. Stat. § 14.019, do hereby:

1. Create the Governor's Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness ("Council");

2. Provide that the Council shall consist of not more than fifteen (15) members appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor;
3. Provide that the Governor shall designate two (2) members on the Council as chair and vice-chair to serve in this capacity at the pleasure of the Governor;
4. Provide that the Council shall be responsible for making recommendations that would lead to:
  - o Increasing the availability of and access to housing for homeless individuals and families;
  - o Improving access to and expanding services for homeless individuals and families;
  - o Improved coordination and planning between state departments;
  - o Improved and expanded access to federal resources;
  - o Enhanced homelessness prevention efforts;
  - o Continued improvement of data collection; and
  - o Development of outcome based performance standards for the plan, identifying responsible agencies and setting timelines for completion;
5. Direct the Department of Administration to provide the Council with such sums of money as are necessary for travel and operating expenses in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 20.505(4)(ba); and
6. Require the Council to submit a final report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and that the Council shall dissolve when its final report is accepted by the Governor

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this ninth day of August 2004.

Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State