

## A NATIONAL FUNDERS MOVEMENT TO END HOMELESSNESS

*Homelessness in America is unacceptable, and it is solvable.  
Philanthropy is helping to end homelessness across the country.  
We need your involvement to make sure it continues.*

Communities across America have made great strides in ending homelessness. Denver, Colorado has reduced chronic homelessness by 36% in just two years; Portland, Oregon by 70% in the same amount of time and Chicago by 12%. We are beginning to see the numbers go down in community after community.

The fact is that we know how to end homelessness in America. We know that adequate, affordable and accessible housing is the solution. We know that quality housing with supportive services can get our most vulnerable homeless families and individuals out of shelters and off the streets and change their lives.

Philanthropy has played a key role in helping to make that happen. Local and national funders have supported a range of efforts to help eliminate what had threatened to become a permanent feature of America's social landscape. Rather than contribute to the seemingly endless cycle of homelessness, these funders joined together to invest in innovative research and programs that end that cycle. In the process, they have reshaped the way in which we think about and respond to homelessness.

The result is a growing philanthropic movement to end homelessness in America. This movement is supporting changes in charitable organizations and government agencies at every level to assure the smart, efficient and humane use of our grant and tax dollars and to help people move from homelessness to self sufficiency.

If you aren't already a part of this movement, please read the following principles and strategies. If you agree with them, we welcome your involvement and support. To find out more, please read on:

### Funding Principles for Ending Homelessness

1. Promote housing-based solutions with access to appropriate services, that are integrated into our communities, as the primary investment for ending homelessness.
2. Initiate and collaborate through strategic partnerships among funders, local policymakers, business leaders, and government, as well as advocacy, housing and service providers.
3. Support effective prevention programs and strategies, such as discharge planning, employment training, substance abuse and mental health counseling, and family reunification efforts.
4. Raise awareness of homelessness and help implement existing local ten year plans to end homelessness, while building public will for long-term strategies locally and nationally.
5. Encourage and support research, demonstration projects, and data collection to identify and confirm evidence-based approaches for serving the homeless population.
6. Promote needed systems change, including increased coordination across government departments and agencies and efforts to transition providers from shelter-based to housing first models.
7. Work actively to leverage national policy and financial support for these efforts.

We, the undersigned, commit to these Funding Principles for Ending Homelessness, pledge to fund activities that promote the Principles, and announce our intention to work in partnership within and across our communities to end homelessness in the United States.

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Signature and Date (*Please complete and return form on reverse, along with your signature page*)

*For more information about the Funding Principles, please visit [www.endlongtermhomelessness.org](http://www.endlongtermhomelessness.org)*

## FUNDING PRINCIPLES FOR ENDING HOMELESSNESS

*To endorse these funding principles and add your name and organization to the list of supporters, please visit [www.endlongtermhomelessness.org](http://www.endlongtermhomelessness.org) or complete the following and fax to 617.338.2591 or mail to the address below.*

- 1) Please complete the following and send with the signature page. You will be contacted for verification of your signature.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

- 2) Do you have examples of strategies your foundation has used which reflect these funding principles, or of suggestions for ways to implement one or more of the principles? You may also email your suggestions to [jborn@tpi.org](mailto:jborn@tpi.org), or mail descriptive materials and documents to the address below.

- 3) FAX this form to Funding Principles for Ending Homelessness at **617.338.2591**, or mail the original copy to:

Attn: Funding Principles for Ending Homelessness  
The Partnership to End Long Term Homelessness  
c/o TPI  
160 Federal St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

*For more information about the Funding Principles, please visit [www.endlongtermhomelessness.org](http://www.endlongtermhomelessness.org)*