

What is Housing First?

Housing First centers on quickly moving people experiencing chronic homelessness into permanent housing and then providing “wrap-around” supports and services, like mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment or financial counseling. Housing First is a proven, evidence-based approach to addressing chronic homelessness.

What is Chronic Homelessness?

The federal government defines a chronically homeless person as “either (1) an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, OR (2) an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.” The 2015 Point-In-Time Count identified 94 people experiencing chronic homelessness in Ada County.

Housing First ‘Single Site’

- Partnership between IHFA and City of Boise
- Joint RFP calling for a development team, including service providers, to build approximately 25 housing first units.
- RFP released Feb. 9; Responses due September 2016
- IHFA has up to \$5.75 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credits available under its special housing needs set aside to fund the project.
- The City of Boise will contribute up to \$1 million in one-time money to augment acquisition and construction costs for the winning proposal
- The City and IHFA will also work to raise funding through charitable donations to support the development and make it economically feasible. Donations can be made through [IHFA’s Home Partnership Foundation website](#).

Housing First ‘Scattered Site’

- A partnership between the Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority, Charitable Assistance to Community’s Homeless (CATCH), Terry Reilly Health Services and the City of Boise
- Will utilize existing apartment around the community to provide permanent housing and “wrap-around” services for residents. Goal of 15 scattered site units.
- Boise City /Ada County Housing Authority and the City of Boise will prioritize available units from their current housing inventories
- Boise City /Ada County Housing Authority will provide rental assistance to residents.
- Terry Reilly and CATCH have teamed to provide supportive services.

Website for both projects:

<http://www.homepartnershipfoundation.org/housing-first-boise-ada-county>