

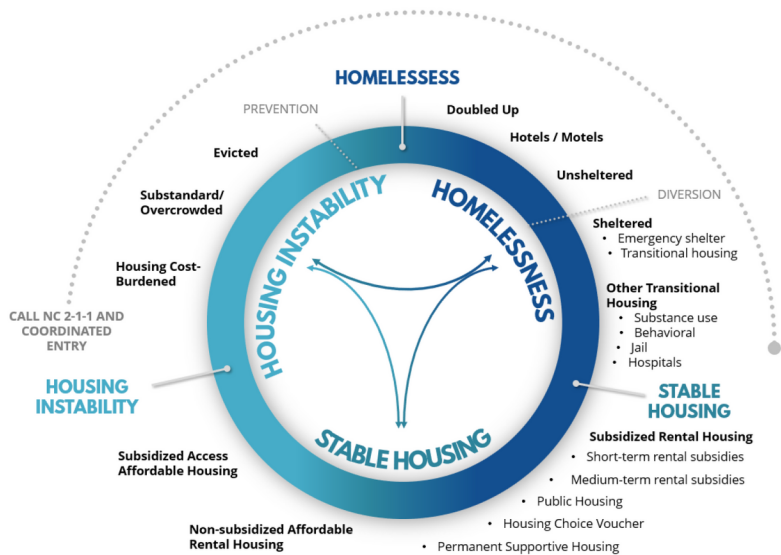
2019 STATE OF HOUSING INSTABILITY & HOMELESSNESS CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

TOOLKIT FOR ACTION

This toolkit is designed to help you take the information from the 2019 State of Housing Instability & Homelessness in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Report, and convert it into action.

This is the only community housing document that combines all data on housing and homelessness across the entire local housing continuum.

The report is part of a local series about housing instability and homelessness funded by Mecklenburg County Community Support Services. The report series is authored by the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute.



According to the 2019 report, housing instability and homelessness indicators reflect an **overall increase in the need for both access to and the inventory of affordable housing**. Charlotte-Mecklenburg continues its work to end and prevent homelessness and increase affordable housing; however, the report shows that it is **not enough, especially for households of color and for those at the lowest income**.



More than half of African American and Latinx renter households are cost burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing related expenses.



There were 2,106 individuals experiencing homelessness in the community as of June 30, 2019.



The largest gap in affordable housing continues to be for households earning below 30% of Area Median Income.

LEARN THE FACTS. GET INVOLVED. CHANGE THE SYSTEM.

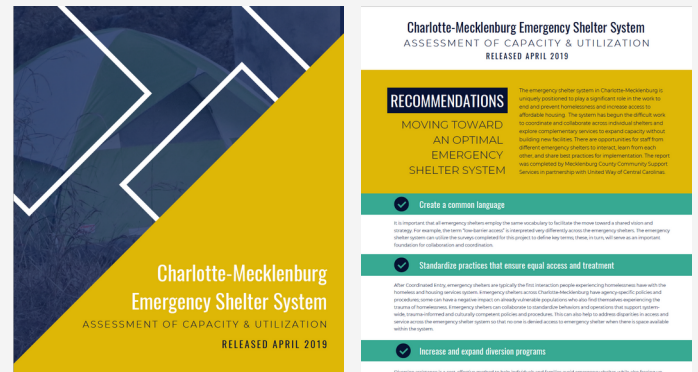
SYSTEM-LEVEL SOLUTIONS

Charlotte-Mecklenburg needs to link strategy, funding and programs across the continuum from housing instability to homelessness to stable housing in order to effectively and comprehensively tackle complex, cross-cutting issues that impact housing. It is important to leverage existing systems and resources in the community to provide other legal, financial and supportive services to help households maintain housing and provide a pathway to economic opportunity.

ACTIONS NEEDED

- ✓ Develop cross-sector partnerships and collaborations that maximize existing expertise and resources that lead to housing sustainability.
- ✓ Develop a community-wide strategy that effectively aligns community resources and utilizes the strengths of public and private stakeholders.

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG EMERGENCY SHELTER SYSTEM ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY & UTILIZATION



Mecklenburg County Community Support Services, in partnership with United Way of Central Carolinas, released the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Shelter System Report that offers a comprehensive look at the overall emergency shelter system. Charlotte-Mecklenburg can use the report to leverage existing resources and efforts in order to optimize the system, effectively connecting those most in crisis with shelter when needed. A toolkit provides system-wide solutions. These tools are available at www.mecklenburghousingdata.org.

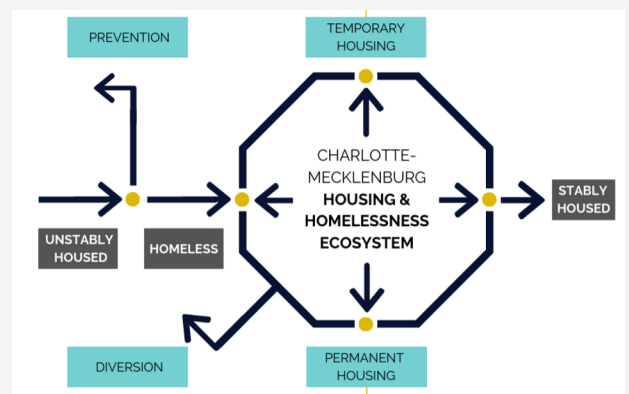
UNLOCK NEW OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES THAT HAVE STRONG OUTCOMES AND HIGH RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The loss of housing negatively impacts households even if they do not become homeless in a shelter on the streets. The cost to provide shelter and to re-house a family once homeless is expensive. Targeting resources upstream for prevention activities can help stabilize families in existing housing while spending less resources.

ACTIONS NEEDED

- ✓ Increase access to flexible funding sources for prevention assistance in community.
- ✓ Link prevention assistance to other supportive services and financial resources to provide pathways to housing stability.

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS ECOSYSTEM



Mecklenburg County Community Support Services in partnership with UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, produced the Housing & Homelessness Ecosystem of community organizations. The Ecosystem represents an important step for Charlotte-Mecklenburg to address housing instability and homelessness as a system. It provides standardized definitions; identifies roles and responsibilities across the continuum; quantifies housing capacities; and outlines funding sources. The Ecosystem is available at www.mecklenburghousingdata.org