



# HOMELESSNESS IN GREATER LOWELL

REGIONAL MEETING ON HOMELESSNESS | AUGUST 3, 2023 | 9:00AM - 12:00PM

## SPEAKER CONTACT INFORMATION

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## KEY DATA

- An estimated 94 people are unsheltered homeless, 159 are sheltered homeless, thousands are marginally housed, and tens of thousands could be considered in other unstable housing such as living without a lease, "doubled up", or severely cost burdened.
- 16,765 households were severely cost burdened (paying more than 50% of their income on rent) in Greater Lowell as estimated by the 2017-21 ACS.
- \$86,613 is the annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom home at HUD's Fair Market Rent, but full-time annual income at minimum wage is \$31,200.
- 4,520 received rental assistance between 2021-23, with some in every NMCOG community.
- Chelmsford, Dracut, and Lowell all had a greater percentage of population change than housing unit change.
- Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC) served 415 individuals and made 303 housing placements in 2023.
- In 2023, 27% of LTLC clients had mental health problems, 33% had substance use problems, and 25% had chronic health conditions. Some people may have more than one problem.
- Of the 415 people, 80% had income from 0 to \$1,000 a month, and 32% were on SSI.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Agencies had a number of recommendations on how the region could come together to help this crisis:

**1** Focus on new funding opportunities to develop new housing opportunities

**2** Implement Inclusionary Zoning policies to either require or incentivize privately-created affordable units

**3** Create or utilize Affordable Housing Trusts and target development for those with Extremely Low Incomes

**4** Voice a clear commitment to housing creation, especially at the municipal leadership level

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## GET INVOLVED IN HOUSING CONVERSATIONS

Get involved and stay in the loop on current and upcoming conversations on homelessness and housing -- both locally and on a regional level.

### TAKE THE REGIONAL MEETING ON HOMELESSNESS SURVEY

It's not too late to take the pre-meeting survey! Responses will help to inform future meetings on homelessness in our region.

### LOWELL HOUSING PRODUCTION PLAN

Whether you live, work, or simply visit Lowell, we want to hear from you. Results will inform the goals and recommendations of the Lowell Housing Production Plan.

### AT HOME IN GREATER LOWELL: A REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

This planning process is scheduled to begin this fall. Sign up here to be informed of meetings, events, and opportunities to share your ideas.



TAKE THE PRE-MEETING SURVEY



TAKE THE LOWELL HPP SURVEY



STAY INFORMED ABOUT  
AT HOME IN GREATER LOWELL