



The homelessness plan for a better Anchorage

- **On Day One**, I will create a Homelessness Response/Action Team, composed of policy experts, community advocates, funders, law enforcement, emergency responders, medical providers, and those experiencing homelessness.
- **Individualized Living Plans** for each homeless person after evaluating their needs in terms of housing, addiction treatment programs, mental and physical health care, job search and training, and any other services.
- **Increase capacity and access** to drug, alcohol, mental health and physical health facilities.
- **Provide incentives** for new residential construction, streamline and reform municipal policies to reduce costs to builders and provide incentives for renovation and conversion of vacant and underutilized properties.
- **I will rebuild trust in our government** to get things done. We need a mayor who provides strong independent leadership and works to partner with the Assembly rather than oppose it simply to oppose it.

My plan will bring all stakeholders together to implement effective programs that will help move our homeless from the streets to self-sufficiency as quickly as possible. I will expedite and incentivize the construction and conversion of new, affordable housing. We will create individualized plans to assess and address each person's needs.

As mayor, I will end the division and finger-pointing of the last three years. Our community needs to agree on and implement a comprehensive and far-reaching plan that truly addresses this crisis for as many as possible.



Addressing homelessness is a multifaceted challenge, requiring a blend of immediate interventions and long-term strategies. Here is a comprehensive plan to address the homeless problem in Anchorage, Alaska:

1. Conduct Comprehensive Research & Assessment:

- **Survey:** Undertake a city-wide survey to determine the exact number of homeless individuals, their demographics, the reasons for their homelessness, and their immediate needs.
- **Engage Experts:** Collaborate with sociologists, urban planners, and experts on homelessness to identify unique challenges in Anchorage due to its climate, geography, and socio-economic conditions.

2. Immediate Relief:

- **Emergency Shelters:** Expand the number of emergency shelters, especially during the harsh winter months. Ensure they are well-heated and equipped with essentials.
- **Mobile Medical Units:** Launch mobile medical units to provide basic healthcare services, mental health counseling, and substance abuse treatment.
- **Food Distribution Centers:** Collaborate with local NGOs and churches to set up more centers for food distribution and basic necessities.

3. Prevention:

- **Affordable Housing:** Invest in and incentivize the creation of affordable housing units.
- **Rental Assistance:** Offer rental assistance or subsidies for those at risk of becoming homeless due to economic hardships.
- **Job Programs:** Create skill-based training and employment programs targeting homeless individuals.
- **Mental Health and Rehab Services:** Strengthen the mental health infrastructure and expand access to rehabilitation services for those battling substance abuse.



4. Integration & Empowerment:

- **Educational Opportunities:** Provide access to adult education and vocational training to empower homeless individuals to rejoin the workforce.
- **Life Skills Training:** Teach necessary life skills, including financial literacy, health, and hygiene practices.
- **Community Engagement:** Organize community programs where residents can interact with homeless individuals, fostering understanding and reducing stigma.

5. Long-Term Housing Solutions:

- **Transitional Housing:** Create transitional housing where homeless individuals can live while they receive training and resources to help them reintegrate into society.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Offer housing solutions coupled with essential services like mental health counseling for those who need sustained support.

6. Policy Reforms & Funding:

- **Allocate Budget:** Dedicate a portion of the city's budget to homeless relief efforts, ensuring continuous funding.
- **Tax Incentives:** Offer tax breaks to businesses that hire formerly homeless individuals or contribute significantly to the cause.
- **Legislation:** Review and reform local laws that may criminalize homelessness or make life harder for homeless individuals.

7. Partnership & Collaboration:

- **Engage NGOs and Charities:** Form alliances with existing organizations working to alleviate homelessness.
- **Private Sector Collaboration:** Collaborate with businesses and industries in Anchorage to provide job opportunities and sponsorships.
- **Federal & State Assistance:** Lobby for grants and assistance from state and federal agencies. Collaborate with other cities to share best practices.



8. Continual Monitoring & Feedback:

- **Data Collection:** Regularly update data on homelessness to track progress and modify strategies.
- **Feedback Loops:** Engage with the homeless community to gain feedback on interventions and improve them continually.

9. Public Awareness & Education:

- **Awareness Campaigns:** Launch public awareness campaigns highlighting the realities of homelessness and debunking myths.
- **Educate School Children:** Introduce modules in schools discussing homelessness, fostering empathy and understanding from a young age.

10. Climate-Specific Interventions:

- **Cold-Weather Gear Distribution:** Given Anchorage's cold climate, distribute winter wear, and heating equipment.
- **Specialized Winter Shelters:** Build shelters designed to handle extreme cold, ensuring those who use them remain safe from frostbite and hypothermia.

Implementing such a comprehensive plan will require collaboration from multiple stakeholders, including the local government, NGOs, the private sector, and the Anchorage community. Addressing homelessness not only enhances the quality of life for those affected but also benefits the community as a whole.