



Fiscal Year 2025 Congressional Budget Justification

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

I am pleased to present the Congressional Justification for the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Budget for the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). This request for \$4.3 million is critical to supporting USICH's mission to prevent and end homelessness in America.

Homelessness is a deadly public health crisis. According to the latest annual Point-in-Time Count, 653,104 people experienced homelessness in the United States on a single night in January 2023. But this is only a snapshot in time. According to the 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, over the course of a year, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 12 percent, or roughly 70,650 people.

After homelessness rose from 2016 to 2020, the combined efforts of Congress, communities, and the Federal government have flattened that curve—and we did so during a pandemic, proving that progress can happen even during the most difficult circumstances. Now, USICH has a plan to reverse the trend and ultimately end homelessness.

All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness sets a bold goal to reduce homelessness 25% by 2025. To accomplish this goal, we must scale up our efforts to move people into housing and, as importantly, we must develop and deploy new and innovative strategies to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place. Prevention is critical to eradicating homelessness, because every year roughly 900,000 people exit homelessness, yet roughly the same number of people fall into homelessness.

During FY2025, USICH will work with the 19 Federal agencies that make up our council to coordinate the implementation of *All In* and to support mayors, governors, providers, and other state and local partners as they implement our strategies in their communities. As part of implementation, USICH will continue to work with selected state and local governments on *ALL INside*, a Federal initiative to help address the recent and tragic rise in unsheltered homelessness.

I am confident that our work together will move us closer to the day that every American has a safe, stable, and permanent place to call home.



Jeff Olivet, Executive Director

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

ABOUT USICH

USICH was first authorized by Congress in 1987 when large bipartisan majorities in Congress passed the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, which President Reagan signed into law. The law recognized the complexity of coordinating Federal efforts to address homelessness. Homelessness is a cross-system problem that no single agency, sector, or jurisdiction can end on its own. That is why the Congress charged USICH to coordinate the Federal response to homelessness and create a national partnership at every level of government and with the private sector to reduce and end homelessness and maximize the effectiveness of Federal programs to address homelessness.

USICH is the only Federal agency solely focused on ending homelessness, and it brings together the collective power of 19 other agencies to coordinate the Federal response at the state and local level. USICH has senior regional advisors spread across the country who work directly with governors, mayors, Continuum of Care leaders, and others involved in ending homelessness.

Budget Comparison by Budget Object Class

Spend Category	2023 Actuals	FY 24 Annualized CR	2025 President's Budget
Obj 11-Personnel Costs	\$2,205,931	\$2,675,867	\$2,736,616
Obj 12-Personnel Benefits	\$769,402	\$628,051	\$796,660
Obj 21-Travel	\$163,287	\$172,000	\$174,624
Obj 22-Transportation of Things	\$1,823	\$3,282	\$1,787
Obj 23-Utilities	\$33,195	\$45,300	\$27,840
Obj 25-Contractual Services	\$801,928	\$465,000	\$557,073
Obj 26-Office & General Supplies	\$21,813	\$10,500	\$5,400
TOTAL	\$3,997,379	\$4,000,000	\$4,300,000
TOTAL FUNDED FTEs	17*	18	18

*USICH did not report vacancy in FY 23 that has since been filled.

SUMMARY

To support our continued work and focus on preventing and ending homelessness, USICH presents its 2025 Budget Request of \$4.3 million. The FY 2025 Budget Request maintains current staffing levels; supports necessary travel costs to support USICH's regional coordinators in participating, leading, and advancing of the USICH strategic plan to our partners, state, local, and Federal leaders; and provides necessary operations support to keep up with the demands of a Federal agency and the necessary growth of USICH.

2025 Budget - \$4.3 million

OC 11.0 Personnel - \$2,736,616

The funding level of \$2.7 million supports full staff of 18 FTE and applicable step increases and estimated cost of living increases. It also incorporates the legislative proposal to increase the salary for the Executive Director from Executive Schedule Level V to Executive Schedule Level IV. For more information, please see the Legislative Proposals section included in this Congressional Justification.

OC 12.0 Civilian Personnel Benefits - \$796,660

These costs reflect agency-provided and OPM-approved benefits for all applicable employees, and commuter benefits.

OC 21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons - \$174,624

This funding level supports travel for staff to promote and support implementation of the Federal Strategic Plan and other mission related initiatives.

OC 22.0 Transportation of Things - \$1,787

Estimated costs are for mailings and deliveries.

OC 23.0 Communications, Utilities, and Miscellaneous - \$27,840

These costs cover office and cellular phones, internet connectivity, postage, and package delivery costs.

OC 25.0 Services - \$557,073

This category supports contractual services USICH procures to support:

- Information Technology (IT) supported by contracts;
- Subscriptions for IT, subscriptions for research, office and virtual connectivity;
- Contracts to support USICH’s Annual Financial Audit, web design and maintenance, research for policy initiatives, and support for statutory requirements;
- Government support services provided by GSA and USDA that support Human Resources and Administration, Finance, and Office Space Rental; and
- Modest consulting budget for people with Lived Homelessness Experience and Regional Coordinator Outreach to provide a Federal response that includes the vital inclusion of people with lived experience.

OC 26.0 Supplies and Materials - \$5,400

This category supports staff supplies and materials for work and initiatives.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The 2025 Budget continues to support the following legislative proposal and will seek changes through the authorization process:

Change in Salary Level for Executive Director: This legislative proposal would enact a statutory change that would adjust the USICH’s Executive Director salary from Executive-Schedule V (\$180,000) to Executive Schedule IV (\$191,900). In evaluating this proposal, USICH reviewed the salaries of similar sized independent agencies and regional commissions. USICH believes this increase aligns with the role of the Executive Director, which is a highly visible role that requires a broad range of high-level skills, expertise, and experience to successfully advance the complex agenda that is required by The Federal Strategic Plan and the All Inside Initiative.

The 2025 Budget supports the following legislative proposal and seeks changes through an administrative provision in the Budget:

Sunset Date Elimination: This legislative proposal would eliminate the statutory sunset date, which is currently October 1, 2028 (see administrative provision below).

APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

Appropriations Account Language: For necessary expenses, including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in carrying out the functions pursuant to title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, \$4,300,000.

Note. --A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Administrative Provision: Sec. 301 Section 209 of title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11319) is repealed.