

# MHDCJS HOUSING BILL

**Title:** Concerning programs to build statewide capacity to access Supportive Housing services for people with behavioral and mental health disorders, justice involvement and who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless with emphasis on underserved and under-resourced frontier and rural communities.



**POPULATION:** Individuals with mental health and or substance use disorders currently or at risk of becoming homeless, who have justice system encounters.

## Problem Statement

572 with  
mental illness  
exiting DOC  
homeless in  
FY2018

Sample year  
data from  
Department  
of Corrections

- Communities lack the infrastructure to apply promising practices unique to their community.
- Communities lack access to information systems and data coordination vital to accessing and sustaining effective services.
- Communities lack the supportive services funding necessary to end the cycle of homelessness and incarceration.

## Solutions



- Education & training with hands on support
- Local community coordinator
- Planning/bridge grants
- Sustainability planning
- Data and accessibility

- Per million dollars funded, 135 households served per year
- Statewide solutions prioritizing rural and frontier communities
- Increased access to housing resources and service
- Sustainable community-specific resources
- Reduced homelessness and incarceration
- Stronger relationships, families, and communities

## Impact



<http://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/housing-first-fact-sheet.pdf>

\$  
Saved

## Bill Summary

- 1.) Increased access to Supportive Housing by strengthening the capacity for programming within rural and frontier communities underserved and under-resourced across Colorado.
- 2.) Provide short-term gap funding for Supportive Housing services until HCPF acquires the authority to reimburse services currently not billable through Medicaid.
- 3.) Increase data sharing, outcomes tracking and resource availability for Supportive Housing to ensure quality, sustainable programming that is accessible and replicable across Colorado.

For the 572 individuals experiencing homelessness with behavioral health issues released from DOC in FY 2018, Supportive Housing services would save the state:

- DOC cost savings: \$12,289,992
- Homeless cost savings: \$28,886,000

\*Relative to Supportive Housing Costs

\*Potential jail cost savings not reflected above

\*Anticipated annualized savings estimate based on FY 2018 data