

OVERVIEW:

Addressing Homelessness and the Need for Affordable Housing in Eau Claire

A community strategy developed by the Housing Our Neighbors Planning Collaborative



HOUSING OUR NEIGHBORS
PLANNING COLLABORATIVE
OF EAU CLAIRE COUNTY

WHAT'S THE CURRENT STATE OF HOMELESSNESS?

Homelessness has been increasing in Eau Claire for a long time. In 2025, there were as many as **198 unique individuals** using a day shelter each month. There are many people at risk of losing their housing as well: **one-third of households in Eau Claire County** are struggling to afford basic needs or are **spending more than 30% of their income on rent**.

WHAT IS THE HOUSING OUR NEIGHBORS PLANNING COLLABORATIVE?

A community-wide initiative that builds on the previous and current work being done to end homelessness in Eau Claire County. There are many organizations involved in this project: local government, service providers, nonprofit organizations, community members, and anyone else who wants to be involved.

THE GOAL: Make homelessness brief, rare, and non-recurring across Eau Claire County.

THE STRATEGIES:

The Collaborative mapped the work that has been done in Eau Claire, researched what has worked in other communities, and hosted listening sessions for homelessness service providers and community members. Then, six strategies were identified to begin addressing homelessness in Eau Claire:



Align the system

Improve local organizations' collaboration to close gaps in service and provide an efficient, coordinated homelessness response system.



Share data strategically

Establish data sharing procedures to get an accurate and timely understanding of homelessness in our community.



Strengthen outreach

Meet our neighbors experiencing homelessness where they are, and provide evidence-based, trauma-informed support and resources that may help them



Prevent homelessness

Prevent homelessness when possible by providing intervening early and providing intervention strategies



Ensure affordable housing

Work to develop and maintain genuinely affordable housing in Eau Claire with limited barriers and efficient supports



Community engagement

Build a deeply engaged community that supports our neighbors and fights the stigma surrounding homelessness

Get involved!

Do you see your work or passions in these strategies? Want to share your time, ideas, or funds? Email echousingcollab@eauclairecounty.gov to get involved.

READ THE
FULL PLAN:

