Illinois Department of Human Services

ILLINOIS EMERGENCY & TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM

REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State Fiscal Year 2025

Emergency and Transitional Housing Program

PREFACE

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Emergency and Transitional Housing Program (ETH) is compiled for the House and Senate Appropriation Committees of the Illinois General Assembly in accordance with 305 ILCS 5/12-4.5. This report provides historical and current fiscal year information about the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program, and outlines funding by detailing program expenditures, types of services, and number of people served.

This report should not be construed to represent the total homeless population in Illinois. This report contains data compiled from quarterly reports from organizations funded by the ETH Program.

Emergency and Transitional Housing Program

Introduction

  The Illinois Emergency and Transitional Housing (ETH) Program was developed to provide immediate food and shelter to homeless persons and families or persons and families at imminent risk of becoming homeless. The ETH Program was designed to provide meals, beds and supportive services through not-for-profit organizations to homeless individuals and families to assist them to return to self-sufficiency.

Funding for the ETH Program has provided funding for emergency shelters, transitional shelters, voucher programs, food, and an array of supportive services to homeless individuals and families across the state of Illinois. In State Fiscal Year 2025, $51,931,129 in funding was allocated to the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program providers.

Program Goal

The goal of the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program is to render immediate and comprehensive shelter services to homeless individuals and families or individuals and families at imminent risk of homelessness. The program provides food, shelter, and supportive services through local not-for-profit agencies. Program deliverables require that:

- All participants be provided with case management services, counseling services and advocacy services within 5 days of admittance to the program for transitional programs and within 15 days for overnight programs.

- All participants have access to case management services outside of normal business hours of operation including, but not limited to evening case management service hours.

- All participants have complete intake and assessment done upon entry into the program. Providers must submit all intake and assessment forms to IDHS annually for approval.

- All providers have a community outreach plan which includes a detailed description for notifying the community of the program, hours of operation, and admittance / eligibility requirements into the program they administer for IDHS. This plan includes outreach to other community service agencies and the local Family and Community Resource Center (FCRC). IDHS must be advised of any publication and distribution of flyers, printed materials and / or brochures that are part of the IDHS funded program.

- All providers have a referral process that assists program participants with enrollment into public benefit programs such as TANF, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps), ALL Kids, medical assistance, disability assistance, as well as any other resources that address the needs of the program participants.

- All progress and supportive services for transitional shelter participants be tracked and reported within each participant's case file through the development of an Individual Service Plan that includes at a minimum a record of the participant's supportive services, case management, outcomes, goals, progress notes, and benefit assistance.

- All providers have the ability to download the IDHS Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps) application and distribute to all eligible households.

- All providers have a written agreement or memorandum of understanding for referrals with other social service providers. The agreement or memorandum of understanding includes at a minimum; the type of

services to be provided, the referral process of each agency, and follow-up actions.

- All providers accurately report outcomes and submit quarterly reports to IDHS utilizing the Emergency and Transitional Housing (ETH) web-based reporting system.

- All providers report the following information in the annual Funding Plan:

  - an unduplicated number of projected participants to be served in the fiscal year;
  - an unduplicated number of projected households to be served in the fiscal year;
  - the projected nights of shelter to be provided during the fiscal year; and
  - the projected number of meals to be provided, served, purchased, or vouchered during the fiscal year.

Administration

The IDHS Division of Family and Community Services, Bureau of Basic Supports administers the state funded ETH Program. Program staff perform all administrative and program management functions that includes, but is not limited to, the implementation of funding plans, contracting, program payments, and program monitoring. The ETH Program deliverables are verified by IDHS staff through on-site field monitoring.

Funding

The General Revenue Fund (GRF) allocation for the ETH Program provides food, shelter and supportive services to homeless individuals and families throughout the state. The allocation is divided between Chicago (54%) and the balance of the state (46%).

The public and not-for-profit organizations that participate in the ETH Program must provide shelter and supportive services and match at least 25% of the program costs from other sources. Fifty percent of the match must be cash. The other fifty percent may be cash and/or in-kind services, including volunteer services, or the value of the property.

Included in the ETH appropriation are funds allocated for technical assistance. The Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies provides monthly information to homeless agencies across the state regarding legislative and programmatic changes, public and private funding opportunities, and changes in federally funded homeless programs.

Reporting

In Fiscal Year 2009 the Department made significant improvements to the ETH Program by developing a web-based quarterly reporting system. In an attempt to capture the maximum amount of available data, the Department designed a reporting system compatible with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development homeless program reporting formats. The Department also added data elements to the reporting system to provide statistical information regarding homeless children.

Fiscal Reporting: Fiscal compliance, program activity, and program monitoring are employed by IDHS staff to ensure the effective administration of the ETH Program. Upon execution of the ETH contract, all agencies are required to report expenditures quarterly utilizing a web-based reporting system.

Service Reporting: Client activity is also reported quarterly on the IDHS web-based reporting system. The number of participants served, characteristics, services, causes of homelessness, special needs, and household types are just some of the data elements collected.

Program Services

Shelter programs funded by the ETH Program include:

- Overnight / Emergency Shelters that provide emergency sleeping accommodations for 12 or fewer hours that serve at least one meal and provide supportive services;
- Voucher Programs that provide emergency shelter on a per diem basis at a nearby hotel or motel when other overnight shelter is not available and also provide supportive services and may provide food;
- Transitional Shelters that provide shelter, food and supportive services for up to 24 months.

While the majority of the ETH funding provides for food and shelter, all organizations must also provide supportive services to receive funding from the ETH Program.

The supportive services provided by the ETH Program assist homeless individuals and families return to self-sufficiency. The eligible supportive services include:

Advocacy	Intervening on behalf of program participants to assist in the receipt and use of support services.
Alcohol Abuse Services	Providing or arranging services for participants to attend AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) or other programs that address alcohol abuse issues.
Case Management	Coordinating the acquisition, delivery and use of supportive services. Case management must include individual assessments that are used to develop individual service plans.
Child Care	Providing or arranging child care services.
Children's Services	Providing or arranging services for child-specific services, such as child abuse counseling or preschool programs.
Counseling	Providing or arranging for individual or group counseling to alleviate physical abuse, mental health issues, substance abuse, and/or familial obstacles that are preventing a return to self-sufficiency.
Domestic Violence	Providing or arranging services for victims of domestic violence.
Education	Providing or arranging services for participants to complete a course of study leading to a diploma or specific skill certificate.
Employment Services	Providing or arranging services for participants to complete job preparation and/or to secure job interviews or employment. This may include acquiring special tools or clothing to perform the job in which the participant is placed or receiving training.
English as a Second Language	English language services available to persons who seek to improve Language their English language skills.

Follow Up	Assessing the need and providing additional services upon completion of, and discharge from the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program.
Health/Dental Services	Providing or arranging services for participants and assuring use of needed medical and dental services.
HIV/AIDS Related Services	Supportive services related to the needs of participants diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.
Housing Location / Inspection	Locating and/or the initial inspection of rental property on behalf of inspection participants to ensure that the housing is decent and adequate for the household and meets the general health and safety standards prior to tenant occupancy.
Legal Service Referral	Referrals to any legal services which may be needed by participants.
Mental Health Services	Providing or arranging services that address serious mental health issues that cannot be resolved through regular counseling services.
Outreach	Locating and contacting homeless individuals or families in the community and inform them of available services.
Substance Abuse Services	Providing or arranging services for participants to attend NA (Narcotics Anonymous) or other programs that address substance abuse issues.
Transportation	Transporting or purchasing services, such as bus tokens or taxi fares for participants to obtain medical care, public assistance, education, training and other services not provided on site.

Fiscal Year End Program Data

The following statistics were downloaded directly from the Department's ETH web-based reporting system. All of the following program data was compiled from the quarterly reports submitted by the ETH providers.

Number of Homeless Persons

Listed below is the total number of adults and children under the age of 18 that utilized ETH during the fiscal year.

Adults	Children Under 18	Total
27,669	**9,522**	**37,191**

Number of Homeless Households

Single Male	13,330
Single Female	7,564
Couple No Child	312
Couple W/Child	1,173
Male W/Child	239
Female W/Child	3,217
Total Unduplicated Households	**25,835**

Prior Living Situation

The ETH participants reported sleeping in the following places in the week prior to entering the program.

Prior Living Situation	Adults	Children Under Age 18
Non-housing (street, park, car, bus station, etc.)	7,883	1,252
Emergency Shelter	7,156	2,961
Transitional Housing for homeless persons	438	74
Permanent Housing	259	77
Psychiatric facility	231	1
Substance abuse treatment facility	352	2
Hospital	752	43
Jail / Prison	656	6
Domestic violence situation	821	892
Living with relatives / friends	5,603	1,632
Rental housing / Eviction	1,191	579
Disaster / Fire	57	28
Condemned housing	144	85
Other	1,776	1,890
Total	**27,319**	**9,522**

Other Shelters

This section provides the number of participants that used "other" shelters in the year prior to entering the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program. If no shelters were utilized during the prior year, the number of these participants were reported in the "None" category.

Number of Shelters	Adults	Children Under Age 18
None	16,137	6,062
1	6,629	2,417
2	2,615	688
3	1,230	190
4	575	93
5 or more	483	72
Total	**27,669**	**9,522**

Age and Gender

This section describes the age and gender of all participants that entered the program during the fiscal year.

Age	Males	Females
62 and over	1,417	842
51 - 61	2,824	1,693
31 - 50	6,183	5,437
18 - 30	4,290	4,788
Emancipated Minor or Unaccompanied Youth*	89	98
Total Adults 27,661		

13 - 17	830	946
6 - 12	1,930	1,941
1 - 5	1,612	1,504
under 1	371	361
Total Children 9,495		

Age and Gender of Reunited Family Members or Newborns

The age and gender of newborns, other family members, emancipated minors, or unaccompanied youth reunited with a participant that entered the ETH program during the fiscal year is provided in this section.

Age	Male	Female
62 and over	0	0
51 - 61	0	2
31 - 50	1	0
18 - 30	2	3
Emancipated Minor or Unaccompanied Youth*	0	0
Total Reunited Adults 8		

13 - 17	2	3
6 - 12	3	4
1 - 5	3	1
under 1	8	3
Total Reunited Children 27		

* Emanicipated or Unaccompanied Youth are defined as: emancipated minors, unaccompanied youth, married youth and/or a youth with a child.

Ethnicity

This section provides the ethnicity of the ETH participants entering the program within the fiscal year.

Ethnicity	Adults	Children Under Age 18
Hispanic or Latino	4,204	2,182
Non-Hispanic and Non-Latino	23,465	7,340
Total	**27,669**	**9,522**

Race

This section provides the race of participants entering the ETH Program during the fiscal year.

Race	Adults	Children Under Age 18
American Indian/Alaskan Native	364	143
Asian	241	34
Black/African American	14,608	5,482
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	80	116
White	8,350	1,428
American Indian/Alaskan Native & White	56	3
Asian & White	12	13
Black/African American & White	680	685
American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American	90	35
Other *	3,188	1,583
Total	**27,669**	**9,522**

* The "Other" category exists for participants that do not declare themselves in any of the given categories.

Special Needs

This section provides information regarding the types of special needs declared by the ETH program participants upon entering the program. (A participant may have multiple special needs.)

Special Need / Conditions	Adults	Children Under Age 18
Substance Abuse (SA)	3,198	1
Alcohol Abuse (AA)	2,341	2
Mental Illness (MI)	6,752	140
Developmental Disability (DD)	1,252	323
Physical Disability (PD)	3,063	84
HIV and / or AIDS (HIV)	325	2
Chronic Medical Health Problem	3,397	138
Domestic Violence	4,534	1,481
Unaccompanied Youth	190	8
Pregnant / Parenting Teen	541	150
Ex-Offenders	3,300	101
Other	357	19
Total	**29,250**	**2,449**

Disabling Condition

The number of program participants declaring a disabling condition upon entry into the program is reported in this section.

9,737

The definition of a disabling condition is:

1. A disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act;
2. a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is expected to be of a long continued and indefinite duration; substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and of such a nature that such ability could be more suitable housing conditions;
3. a developmental disability as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act;
4. the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; or
5. a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.

Veterans

The number of participants that declared themselves as a veteran* that participated in the ETH Program is reported in this section.

655

* A veteran is anyone who has ever been on active military status.

Cash Income

This section provides monthly cash income levels for all ETH program participants <u>entering</u> the program and the income status of program participants when <u>exiting</u> the program.

Entering the Program

	Adults	Children Under 18
No Income	18,702	8,965
$1 to 150	168	9
$151 to 250	206	18
$251 to 500	785	39
$501 to 1000	3,428	168
$1001 to 1500	1,630	107
$1501 to 2000	1,217	78
$2001 +	1,523	133
Total	**27,659**	**9,517**

Exiting the Program

	Adults	Children Under 18
No Income	12,848	6,715
$1 to 150	132	8
$151 to 250	177	9
$251 to 500	620	63
$501 to 1000	2,722	146
$1001 to 1500	1,390	99
$1501 to 2000	1,016	91
$2001 +	1,208	100
Total	**20,113**	**7,231**

Sources of Cash Income

The sources of cash income for all participants <u>entering</u> the ETH program are provided in this section. Participants may have multiple sources of cash income.

<u>Entering the Program</u>

Income Source	Adults	Children Under 18
AABD	104	41
Alimony / Spousal Support	42	0
Child Support (or DCFS Grant)	225	42
Employment and Training	156	27
Employment Income	4,027	286
Pension / Retirement	188	0
Private Disability Insurance	24	0
Social Security	303	25
SSDI	1,629	52
SSI	2,791	75
Targeted Work Initiative	35	0
Temp. Asst. Needy Families (TANF)	545	132
Transitional / GA / Earnfare	59	4
Unemployment Benefits	177	13
Veterans Benefits	90	0
Work First / Work Pays	4	0
Worker's Compensation	34	0
Total	**10,433**	**697**

Sources of Cash Income (continued)

The sources of cash income for all participants <u>exiting</u> the ETH program are provided in this section.
Participants may have multiple sources of cash income.

<u>Exiting the Program</u>

Income Source	Adults	Children Under 18
AABD	110	37
Alimony / Spousal Support	45	0
Child Support (or DCFS Grant)	172	58
Employment and Training	129	12
Employment Income	3,319	286
Pension / Retirement	161	0
Private Disability Insurance	30	0
Social Security	281	19
SSDI	1,240	42
SSI	2,175	85
Targeted Work Initiative	24	5
Temp. Asst. Needy Families (TANF)	411	123
Transitional / GA / Earnfare	60	4
Unemployment Benefits	156	10
Veterans Benefits	72	0
Work First / Work Pays	3	0
Worker's Compensation	40	0
Total	**8,428**	**681**

Non-Cash Benefits

The non-cash benefits for all participants <u>entering</u> the program are provided in this section, as well as the non-cash benefits for all participants <u>exiting</u> the program during the fiscal year.

<u>Entering the Program</u>

Source of Benefits	Adults	Children Under 18
All Kids	359	1,176
Child Care Assistance	51	39
Emergency Food Assistance	5,047	798
LIHEAP	82	45
Teen Parent Program	37	1
WIC	334	174
Medical Card	12,920	3,989
Other	3,828	1,091
Total	**22,658**	**7,313**

<u>Exiting the Program</u>

Source of Benefits	Adults	Children Under 18
All Kids	299	967
Child Care Assistance	488	88
Emergency Food Assistance	3,710	693
LIHEAP	134	58
Teen Parent Program	26	5
WIC	771	116
Medical Card	9,231	3,108
Other	3,693	757
Total	**18,352**	**5,792**

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program / SNAP
(formerly known as Food Stamps)

This section provides an unduplicated number of <u>households</u> <u>entering</u> the program during the fiscal year that were either currently enrolled, agency enrolled or ineligible for the program.

Enrolled Prior to Entering:	14,272
Enrolled After Entering:	7,388
Ineligible:	4,149
Total Households:	**25,809**

Shelter Nights and Meals

The total number of shelter nights and meals served to all program participants during the fiscal year is provided in this section.

<u>Shelter Nights</u>

	Overnight Shelter	Voucher Shelter	Transitional Shelter
Male Adults	792,595	34,478	105,136
Male Children	297,200	23,672	112,953
Female Adults	665,782	39,273	154,016
Female Children	303,138	23,604	118,533
Total	**2,058,715**	**121,027**	**490,638**
Grand Total			**2,670,380**

<u>Shelter Meals</u>

	Overnight Shelter	Voucher Shelter	Transitional Shelter
Meals Served / purchased / or Vouchered for All Participants	**1,970,281**	**47,413**	**398,649**
Grand Total			**2,416,343**

Supportive Services

The supportive services provided to all program participants during the fiscal year is represented in this section. (Advocacy, Case Management, and Counseling are required supportive services. All numbers in this section are non-duplicative)

Supportive Services	Adults	Children
Advocacy	109,020	14,384
Case Management	276,817	43,348
Counseling		
Financial	37,469	4,577
Life Skills	131,900	13,730
Other Counseling Services	54,508	12,473
Alcohol Abuse Services	28,699	9
Child Care	9,128	8,998
Children's Services	10,559	21,784
Domestic Violence	5,730	2,008
Education	15,418	10,682
Employment Services	46,176	2,264
English as Second Language	2,202	725
Follow-up Services	25,586	1,962
Health / Dental Service	31,893	11,154
HIV / AIDS Related Services	1,331	0
Housing Location / Inspection	22,985	1,755
Mental Health Services	33,575	3,624
Legal Service Referrals	9,148	65
Outreach	26,271	756
Substance Abuse Services	31,571	1
Transportation	134,085	6,091
Other	388,556	158,212
Total	**1,432,627**	**318,602**
Grand Total	**1,751,229**	

Length of Stay

This section provides information regarding the length of time participants spent in the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program before leaving.

Time Period	Adults	Children Under Age 18
Less than 1 month	10,216	2,817
1 to 2 months	3,701	1,602
3 - 6 months	3,765	1,731
7 - 12 months	1,624	729
13 - 24 months	633	273
25 months - 3 years	122	53
4 - 5 years	22	5
6 - 7 years	1	0
8 - 10 years	5	1
10 years and up	1	0
Total	**20,090**	**7,211**

Reason for Departure

Upon departing from the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program, the following reasons were cited for all program participants during the fiscal year.

Reason for Departure	Adults	Children Under Age 18
Left for housing opportunity before completing program	2,235	751
Completed program	5,177	2,398
Non-payment of rent / occupancy charge	71	106
Non-compliance with project	1,270	479
Criminal activity / destruction of property / violence	297	84
Reached maximum time allowed in project	565	333
Needs could not be met by project	271	81
Disagreement with rules / persons	702	243
Death	73	7
Voucher funds exhausted	35	12
Voluntary Departure	5,862	1,391
Unknown / disappeared	2,534	484
Other	998	842
Total	**20,090**	**7,211**

* Transitional shelter programs are allowed to charge up to 30 % of participant income for rent.

Destination

This section provides the destination of the participants who <u>exited</u> the program during the fiscal year and were not expected to return.

Permanent Housing Destination	Adults	Children Under Age 18
Rental house or apartment (non-subsidized)	1,474	949
Public Housing	230	123
Section 8	82	122
Shelter Plus Care	18	4
HOME subsidized house or apartment	1,063	705
Other subsidized house or apartment	487	207
Homeownership	31	17
Moved in with family or friends	1,623	883
Transitional Housing Destination (24 Months or Less)		
Transitional Opportunity	432	127
Moved in with family or friends	2,395	840
Institutional Destination		
Psychiatric hospital	149	8
Inpatient alcohol or other drug treatment facility	146	3
Jail / prison	183	4
Other Emergency Shelter Destination		
Emergency Shelter	1,286	520
Other supportive housing	203	15
Places not meant for human habitation (e.g. street)	798	42
Other	3,937	1,330
Unknown Destination		
Unknown	5,553	1,312
Total	**20,090**	**7,211**

Reason for Turnaway

This section provides information regarding the reason participants were turned away from the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program during the fiscal year.

Reason For Turnaway	Adults	Children Under Age 18
No Vacancy	8,542	3,417
No Voucher Funds	627	389
Inappropriate for shelter	4,574	1,723
Refused to accept rules	1,488	103
Found other housing	3,090	399
Total	**18,321**	**6,031**

Turnaway Referral

This section represents a duplicated count of the referrals made to program participants for other social services that were turned away from the Emergency and Transitional Housing Program.

17,700

Primary Language

The Department is attempting to identify the total number of program participants that could not speak or read English. A duplicated count of the primary language for these program participants is provided in this section.

Category	Number of Adults	Number of Children
Albanian	1	0
Arabic	34	3
Bosnian	1	0
Bulgarian	0	0
Chinese	18	2
French	38	6
Gujarati	0	0
Hindi	1	0
Khmer	0	0
Korean	1	0
Lithuanian	0	0
Mandingo	0	0
Polish	18	6
Romanian	1	0
Russian	5	0
Spanish	1,406	293
Ukranian	10	3
Urdu	0	0
Uzbek	0	0
Vietnamese	6	0
Other - Asian	7	2
Other - African	4	2
Other - Central and South American	0	0
Other - European	4	0
Other - Indian	1	0
Other	89	22
Total	**1,645**	**339**