



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2021

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 222**

**REESTABLISHING THE NORTH CAROLINA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL  
FOR COORDINATING HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS**

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2020 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 9,280 people experience homelessness in North Carolina on any given night including 6,756 individuals, 2,524 people in families with children, 485 unaccompanied homeless youth, 798 veterans, and 1,174 chronically homeless individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, of people experiencing homelessness in North Carolina, 72.4% are sheltered and 27.6% are unsheltered; and

**WHEREAS**, African-Americans are considerably overrepresented among the homeless population (51%) compared to the overall North Carolina population (22%), according to 2020 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development data and Census data; and

**WHEREAS**, ending homelessness is critical to racial justice and health equity in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Education, 28,877 North Carolina children and youths lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and

**WHEREAS**, cost burden is one cause of homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, American Communities Survey Data: Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy, 40% of North Carolina renters are low-income or extremely low-income and 73% of low-income renters pay at least 30% of total household income on rent (housing insecure) and 63% spend at least 50% of total household income on rent (extremely housing insecure); and

**WHEREAS**, homelessness denies adults, children and families their basic need for safety, stability and resiliency and causes trauma; and

**WHEREAS**, homelessness severely impacts health, mental health, child development, academic success, employment opportunities, financial security, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, state and local agencies, non-profits and the business community provide programs and services to address issues related to homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, the NC Early Childhood Action Plan sets targets for 2025 to: 1) decrease the percentage of children across North Carolina under age six (6) experiencing homelessness by 10%, and 2) decrease the number of children in kindergarten through third grade enrolled in North Carolina public schools who are experiencing homelessness by 10%; and

**WHEREAS**, making system changes to reduce homelessness requires a high degree of coordination and cooperation among federal, state and local governments, as well as private sector service providers, advocates, and non-profit service providers; and

**WHEREAS**, the reestablishment of a statewide coordinating council is an important and effective tool in supporting the state's goals to end homelessness.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the power vested in me as the Governor by the laws and Constitution of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED**:

**Section 1. Establishment**

The North Carolina Interagency Council for Coordinating Homelessness Programs (hereinafter the "Interagency Council") is hereby reestablished.

**Section 2. Membership**

The Interagency Council shall consist of members who shall be appointed by the Governor from the following state agencies and qualifying categories:

- i. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, or a designee.
- ii. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Administration, or a designee.
- iii. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety ("NCDPS"), or a designee.
- iv. The Director of North Carolina Emergency Management, or a designee.
- v. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Service ("NCDHHS"), or a designee.
- vi. The Chief Deputy Secretary for Opportunity and Well-Being, NCDHHS, or a designee.
- vii. The Chief Deputy Secretary for Health, NCDHHS, or a designee.
- viii. The Deputy Secretary for Medicaid, NCDHHS, or a designee.
- ix. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, or a designee.
- x. The State Budget Director of the Office of State Budget and Management ("OSBM"), or a designee.
- xi. The Director of the NC Pandemic Recovery Office, or a designee.
- xii. The Executive Director of the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, or a designee.
- xiii. One member from the North Carolina Community College System.
- xiv. The Superintendent of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, or a designee.
- xv. One member that represents homeless Continuums of Care (CoC).
- xvi. One member that represents a hospital or health system.
- xvii. One member from local government.
- xviii. Three members from non-profit agencies that provide services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness that represent emergency shelters, rapid rehousing agencies, victim service providers, permanent supportive housing providers, and faith-based service providers.
- xix. One member from the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness.
- xx. One member from the North Carolina Housing Coalition.
- xxi. One member with expertise in services for young children under age six in families experiencing homelessness.
- xxii. One member with expertise in services for public school students in families experiencing homelessness.
- xxiii. One member from the business community that develops affordable housing.
- xxiv. One member representing Public Housing Authorities.
- xxv. One member representing someone with lived experience of homelessness.
- xxvi. Two members from the North Carolina Senate.
- xxvii. Two members from the North Carolina House of Representatives.

The Governor shall appoint two Co-Chairpersons, one from NCDHHS and one from NCDPS that serve on the Interagency Council.

### **Section 3. Term of Membership**

Members of the Interagency Council shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. A vacancy occurring during a term of appointment will be filled by the Governor for the remainder of the unexpired term.

### **Section 4. Meetings**

The Interagency Council shall meet at least two (2) times per year, at the request of the Chairs, or upon written request from at least five (5) of its members.

### **Section 5. Duties**

The duties of the Interagency Council may include the following, as well as other duties that may be defined during the duration of this Executive Order:

- A. The Interagency Council will advise the Governor, his Cabinet, other state agencies and partners, on issues related to housing stabilization and services for persons that are homeless or at risk of homelessness and strategies to reduce and end homelessness.
- B. The Interagency Council will recommend and promote effective interagency collaboration and system integration, which may include advice on COVID-19 response and recovery efforts and coordination of state and federal funding.
- C. The Interagency Council will promote evidence-based practices to address the needs of adults, children, and families that are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- D. The Interagency Council will review existing programs and policies related to homelessness or those at risk of homelessness and recommend improvements to such programs and policies to ensure that such services are provided efficiently and effectively.

### **Section 6. Administration**

NCDHHS and NCDPS shall provide administrative and staff support required by the Interagency Council. Administrative costs and the cost of member per diem, travel, and subsistence expenses shall be paid from state funds that are appropriated to NCDHHS and in accordance with state law and OSBM policies and regulations.

### **Section 7. Effect and Duration**

This Executive Order is effective immediately. It supersedes and replaces all other executive orders on this subject. It shall remain in effect until December 31, 2024, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 147-16.2 or until rescinded.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**ATTEST:**



Elaine F. Marshall  
Secretary of State

