



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

November 25, 2024

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 327

AMENDING AND EXTENDING THE NORTH CAROLINA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL FOR COORDINATING HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the undersigned issued Exec. Order No. 222, 36 N.C. Reg. 149-151 (Aug. 2, 2021), Reestablishing the North Carolina Interagency Council for Homelessness Programs (the “Interagency Council”) on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned issued Exec. Order. No. 258, 37 N.C. Reg. 1-2 (July 1, 2022), Amending the Composition of the Interagency Council on May 24, 2022, changing the structure of the Interagency Council; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”), 9,754 people experience homelessness in North Carolina on a given night including 7,200 individuals, 2,554 people in families with children, 491 unaccompanied homeless youth, 777 veterans and 1,678 chronically homeless individuals and, among those, 65% are sheltered and 35% are unsheltered; and

WHEREAS, racial disparities in homelessness persist in North Carolina, as evidenced by the fact that Blacks or African Americans make up 22% of the North Carolina population, according to the 2023 US Census estimates, yet represent 51% of people experiencing homelessness, according to 2023 HUD data; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families who have unstable housing and are cost burdened by housing are at risk for homelessness, and housing is increasingly unaffordable in North Carolina and nationwide; and

WHEREAS, making system changes to prevent and end homelessness requires a high degree of coordination and cooperation among federal, state and local governments, as well as private and non-profit sector service providers and advocates, and a statewide coordinating council is an effective tool; and

WHEREAS, the Interagency Council has identified these priorities: 1) increasing access to rental and related housing financial assistance; 2) increasing development of and access to rental units for people experiencing homelessness and those at risk; and 3) increasing the availability and quality of housing-focused services; and

WHEREAS, the Interagency Council supports the goals related to access to safe, accessible, affordable housing and reduction of homelessness goals in several critical state plans, including the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Strategic Housing Plan,

the North Carolina Early Childhood Action Plan, North Carolina's Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan, and the All Ages, All Stages: A Roadmap for Aging and Living Well; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned charged the Interagency Council with supporting the state's goals to end homelessness and it has been an important and effective tool in supporting that goal; and

WHEREAS, changes to the structure of the Interagency Council need to be made to optimize its work; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article III § 1 of the North Carolina Constitution and N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 143A-4 and 143B-4, the Governor is the chief executive officer of the state and is responsible for formulating and administering the policies of the executive branch of state government; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §147-12, the Governor has the authority and the duty to supervise the official conduct of all executive and ministerial officers; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 258 is set to expire on December 31, 2024, and the undersigned has determined the Interagency Council must be amended and extended by this Executive Order to continue its important work.

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. 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 Adult Corrections, or a designee.
- vi. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Service ("NCDHHS"), or a designee.
- vii. The Deputy Secretary for Medicaid, NCDHHS, or a designee.
- viii. The Manager of the NCDHHS Strategic Housing Plan.
- 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. One member from the University of North Carolina System.
- xv. The Superintendent of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, or a designee.
- xvi. One member that represents homeless Continuums of Care.
- xvii. One member that represents a hospital or health system.
- xviii. Two members from local governments.
- xix. 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.
- xx. One member from the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness.

- xxi. One member from the North Carolina Housing Coalition.
- xxii. One member with expertise in services for young children under age six in families experiencing homelessness.
- xxiii. One member with expertise in services for public school students in families experiencing homelessness.
- xxiv. One member from the business community that develops affordable housing.
- xxv. Two members representing Public Housing Authorities.
- xxvi. One member representing someone with lived experience of homelessness.
- xxvii. Any other member or members demonstrating a commitment to reducing homelessness or assisting those at risk of homelessness in North Carolina, or who possess qualifications or background relevant to the work of the Interagency Council.
- xxviii. Two members from the North Carolina Senate.
- xxix. Two members from the North Carolina House of Representatives.

The Governor shall appoint two Co-Chairpersons from among the state agency representatives that serve on the Interagency Council.

Section 2. 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 3. Meetings

The Interagency Council shall meet at least two (2) times per year, at the request of the Chairs. The Chairs may establish sub-committees that meet as directed.

Section 4. 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. This includes supporting the NCDHHS Strategic Housing Plan's goal for accountability and shared strategy for housing functions across state agencies and key partners and supporting the NC Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan's goal to expand housing opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals.
- 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 5. Administration

NCDHHS 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. NCDHHS may enter into agreements and contracts for administration of the Council.

Section 6. Effect and Duration

This Executive Order is effective immediately. It supersedes and replaces Executive Order No. 222 and Executive Order No. 258. It shall remain in effect until December 31, 2026, or until rescinded or superseded by another applicable Executive Order.

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 25th of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.



Roy Cooper
Governor

ATTEST:



Elaine F. Marshall
Secretary of State

