Flexible Housing Pool

The **Flexible Housing Pool** of Chicago and Cook County (FHP) is a public-private partnership that helps people experiencing homelessness who cycle through public crisis systems find housing. It provides rental subsidies and intensive services to participants to help them get housed quickly, remain stably housed, access health care services and other resources needed to thrive. The FHP is different from traditional housing programs, as it focuses on reducing costs to public crisis systems while improving individual health outcomes.

$11M
Annual Cost Reduction
to crisis systems

FHP housed **1,750 people** between 2019 and 2024, and reduced costs to crisis systems by **over $11 million annually** at current scale. Reductions in crisis system utilization generate an estimated **annual cost offset of $14,492 per household**, saving approximately half of the annual per-household programmatic housing investment. In addition, the program demonstrated the following successes:

From 2019-2024, FHP participants experienced:

A **91% reduction** in Emergency Room visits – achieved in 2019 and sustained through 2024.

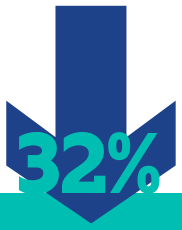
An **89% reduction** in inpatient days – achieved in 2019 and sustained through 2024.

A **46% reduction** in Chicago Emergency Medical Services activation rate each year.

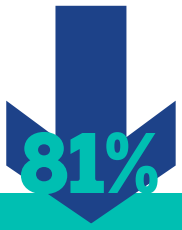




FHP participation significantly decreases contact with law enforcement and stays in Cook County Jail. FHP participants saw:



32% lower Chicago police activation rate each year.



81% fewer jail registrations, achieved in year one and sustained.

The program has a **92% success rate** retaining people in stable housing for at least 12 months.

Spikes in mortality among those experiencing homelessness were observed between 2021-2022, largely due to high potency opioids in the drug supply. However, FHP reduced mortality corresponding to **one life saved for every 111 people housed**.

The FHP evaluation was conducted by Cook County Health through the generous support from the Pritzker Community Health Initiative and CSH.

The Flexible Housing Pool is a program of the Center for Housing and Health.

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