



United Way  
of Central Maryland

# **Return-On-Investment Study**

## **Homelessness Prevention Program**



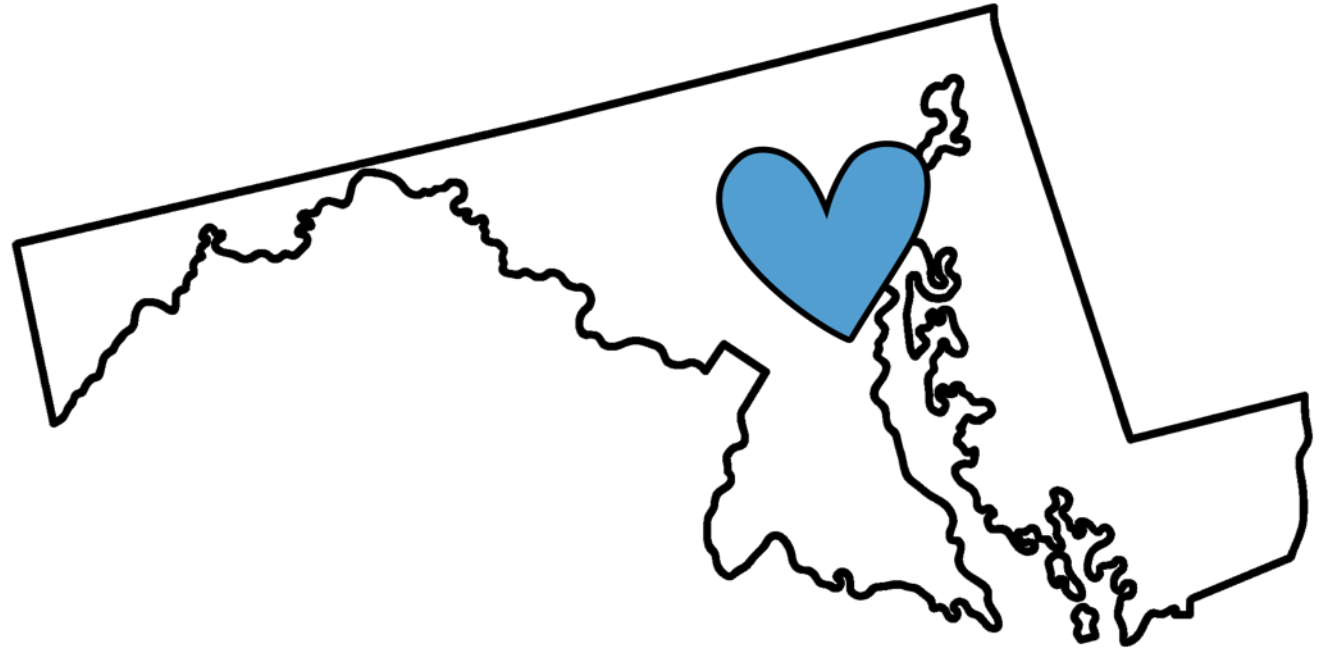


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**PROVIDING** *What's* **NEEDED,**  
*Where* **IT'S NEEDED.**

# THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE:

- Anne Arundel County
- Baltimore City
- Baltimore County
- Carroll County
- Harford County
- Howard County



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# Homelessness Prevention Program

- In 2012, United Way of Central Maryland established the first [Homelessness Prevention Program](#) site in the region to prevent homelessness for families in crisis. It is based on the [Siemer Institute for Family Stability's](#) evidence-based homelessness prevention model.
- The program provides emergency financial assistance to prevent eviction and utility shutoff, and intensive case management services to help families increase their income, reduce expenses, and better prepare for future crises.



HOUSING



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# Service Area and Partners

- Our [Homelessness Prevention Program \(HPP\)](#) includes 16 sites throughout the Central Maryland region.\*
- We have implemented this program regionally through partnerships with several strong community-based organizations.

\* This study only analyzes ROI for 15 sites (the 16<sup>th</sup> site is new).



# Public Costs of Homelessness



Indicator	Data Point	Sub-Total \$ (Annual)	Total \$ (Annual)	Data Source
Cost of all Public Services	Healthcare (53%)	\$29,945	\$56,500	Evans 2019
	Criminal Justice (34%)	\$19,210		
	Shelter Cost and Social Services (13%)	\$7,345		



# Social Costs of Homelessness



Indicator	Social Cost	Data Source
Criminal Records	<b>60.0%</b> more likely to commit crimes	Cronley 2015
Increased Adult Arrest Risk	<b>15.0%</b> increase of adult arrest risk	Herbers 2013
Delayed High School Graduation	<b>15.5%</b> increased risk of delayed high school graduation per transfer	Herbers 2013
Negative Employment Effects	<b>11-22%</b> increased risk of job loss	Evans 2019
Health Impacts	<b>85%</b> of homeless people have a chronic health condition	Hwang, 2011

# Benefits of Prevention





# Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) Benefits

Indicator	# People with Improved Condition	\$ Annual Cost Savings/ Individual
# of individuals that did not become homeless while in program	1,274	\$71,981,000
# of individuals served	1,300	
Program results in decreased healthcare costs (net gain)	1,274	\$36,340,148
Program results in decreased criminal justice costs (net gain)	1,274	\$22,667,265
Program results in decreased social services costs (net gain)	1,274	\$7,555,131
Annual net cost savings*		\$66,562,543
Annual net savings, assuming 12.8% likely to become homeless		\$8,520,006



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# Cost Per Impact

Sector	Outcome	Annual Direct Service Cost	# of People Served w. Improved Condition	Cost Per Impact
FAMILY STABILITY	Number of individuals that did not become homeless while in program	\$1,800,000	1,274	\$1,413
	Number of individuals that successfully completed the program (success rate)	\$1,800,000	1,113	\$1,618
PUBLIC BENEFITS	Decreased healthcare costs (\$29,945)	\$1,800,000	1,274	\$1,413
	Decreased criminal justice costs (\$19,210)	\$1,800,000	1,274	\$1,413
	Decreased cost for shelter and other social services (\$7,345)	\$1,800,000	1,274	\$1,413
SELF-SUFFICIENCY	Number of families with an increased income	\$1,800,000	184	\$9,764



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## Greatest Impact (Annualized)

- Our program achieves the highest impact in the area of Family Stability. We prevent the homelessness of one individual at a cost of \$1,413 per individual.
- Our program achieves a high impact in the area of Public Benefits. We achieve total cost savings from decreased social safety net utilization of \$8,538,804
- Our program achieves lower impacts in the area of Self-Sufficiency, providing families with self-sufficiency support services. 49.6% (or 184) of all families were able to increase their income at a cost of \$9,764 per family





# Return-On-Investment



# Return-On-Investment (ROI)

Data Point	#/\$	Assumption (%)	Sources
Annual total program operation cost for United Way Homelessness Prevention Program	\$1,800,000	15 HPP Sites	HPP ROI
Annual public cost of homelessness per individual	\$56,500		Evans, 2019
Individuals served (parents and children)	1,300		HPP ROI
Individuals that successfully completed the program (success rate)	1,113	85.6%	HPP ROI
Individuals likely to become evicted but for assistance	142	12.8%	Evans (2019), Shinn (2013), Culhane (2011)
Projected cost savings	\$8,520,006	Cost Benefit Analysis	HPP ROI
<b>United Way Homelessness Prevention Program Return-On-Investment (ROI)</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>ROI</b>	<b>HPP ROI</b>



# Return-On-Investment in Context

**Our HPP achieves a Return-On-Investment of 4.7**

ROI Study	ROI	Study Source
Housing San Diego's Homeless at Greatest Risk: A Cost Benefit Analysis (San Diego, California)	1.9	Fermanian Business Institute, 2016
City of Albuquerque Heading Home Initiative Cost Study (Albuquerque, New Mexico)	1.8	Guerin, 2016
Housing Help Program (South Bronx, NY)	1.6	Seedco, 2010
Return on Investment Analysis and Modeling (U.S. Veterans Affairs National Cost Modelling Study)	1.4	Thomas O'Toole, 2014
<b>United Way of Central Maryland (Homelessness Prevention Program)</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>ROI, 2020</b>



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# FY 17-19 Implementing Partners

Jurisdiction	Program Site Name/Catchment Area	Agency Partner
<b>Anne Arundel County</b>	Meade/Severn: 21114, 20724, 21076, 20755	Anne Arundel Partnership for Children, Youth and Families
	North County: Glen Burnie, Brooklyn Park	Anne Arundel Partnership for Children, Youth and Families
<b>Baltimore County</b>	Cockeysville/Timonium: 21030, 21093	Episcopal Housing Corporation (Epiphany Community Center)
	Dundalk: 21222	Episcopal Housing Corporation (Epiphany Community Center)
	Essex: 21221	Episcopal Housing Corporation (Epiphany Community Center)
<b>Carroll County</b>	Carroll County: countywide	Human Services Programs of Carroll County, Inc.
<b>City of Baltimore</b>	Brooklyn/Curtis Bay: 21225, 21226	United Way of Central Maryland
	East Side: 21218, 21231, 21205, 21213	St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
	Highlandtown: 21224	Southeast Community Development Corporation
	Park Heights: 21215	Associated Catholic Charities
	Park Heights Expansion: 21215	Center for Urban Families
	Promise Heights: 21201, 21217	University of Maryland School of Social Work, Promise Heights
	Southwest: Sharp Leadenhall/Pigtown/Morrell Park/ Southwest Baltimore	St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
<b>Harford County</b>	Harford County: Magnolia Elementary, Deerfield Elementary, Riverside Elementary, Edgewood Elementary, Magnolia Middle and Joppatown High	St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
<b>Howard County</b>	Howard County: countywide	Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland



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# Literature

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# QUESTIONS?



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[uwcm.org/family-stability-programs/housing](http://uwcm.org/family-stability-programs/housing)