

# Ending Homelessness through ACIS

## Housing is essential to improving the health of our most vulnerable neighbors.

Thanks to a unique Medicaid Waiver opportunity entitled Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS), we're in the middle of an exciting public/private partnership at the intersection of housing and health. The City of Baltimore, Health Care for the Homeless, and every hospital in Baltimore are implementing a pilot program to deliver the supportive services necessary to provide 200 housing opportunities for vulnerable individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

### Ten hospitals committed \$2M to the partnership:

- The Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center
- University of Maryland Medical Center-Downtown
- University of Maryland Medical Center-Midtown
- Sinai Hospital
- Mercy Medical Center
- MedStar Union Memorial Hospital
- MedStar Harbor Hospital
- MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital
- St. Agnes Hospital

### Phase One: 155 people in housing and 100 slots filled\*

- 12 Sojourner Place
- 8 at New Shiloh II
- 7 at Metro Heights
- 59 through Section 8 vouchers and rental subsidies
- 14 through public housing renovations

### Phase Two: 16 slots matched\*

- Through Section 8 vouchers/rental subsidies

*\*As of October 2019*

## Jennifer has two words—*Thank You*

Jennifer has a master's degree in counseling and was working on her doctorate. She never expected to be homeless. After losing her job and suffering a stroke that affected her short-term memory, Jennifer landed in a Baltimore shelter. "It's frightening when you're thrown into the middle of nowhere and you don't



*Jennifer (left) is grateful for Community Health Worker Justine for helping her navigate life in her new home.*

know a soul," Jennifer said. "I understood I was in danger." Just when she started to lose hope, Jennifer came to Health Care for the Homeless and met Justine, a Community Health Worker. Justine helped Jennifer get medical care and apply for housing. Thanks to ACIS, Jennifer moved into her very own one-bedroom apartment in 2018.

Jennifer loves her new home—and her support system even more. "I'm vulnerable not only because of my age and gender, but I'm alone and don't know what to do," Jennifer said. "Having Justine help me get to my health appointments now is really meaningful. I no longer struggle to figure out the bus schedule and where streets are."

Turning to Justine, she added, "Thank you so much for what you do for me."

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## Support Every Step of the Way

Health Care for the Homeless takes clients through every step of the supportive housing process. Case managers help clients apply for housing through the Baltimore City Office of Homeless Services Coordinated Access System. Benefits specialists help clients secure income to pay for housing when applicable. Supportive Housing staff help clients locate and move into housing, provide transportation to appointments and grocery stores, help pay bills and work with landlords. Development team members raise private funds for move-in kits for newly housed clients.

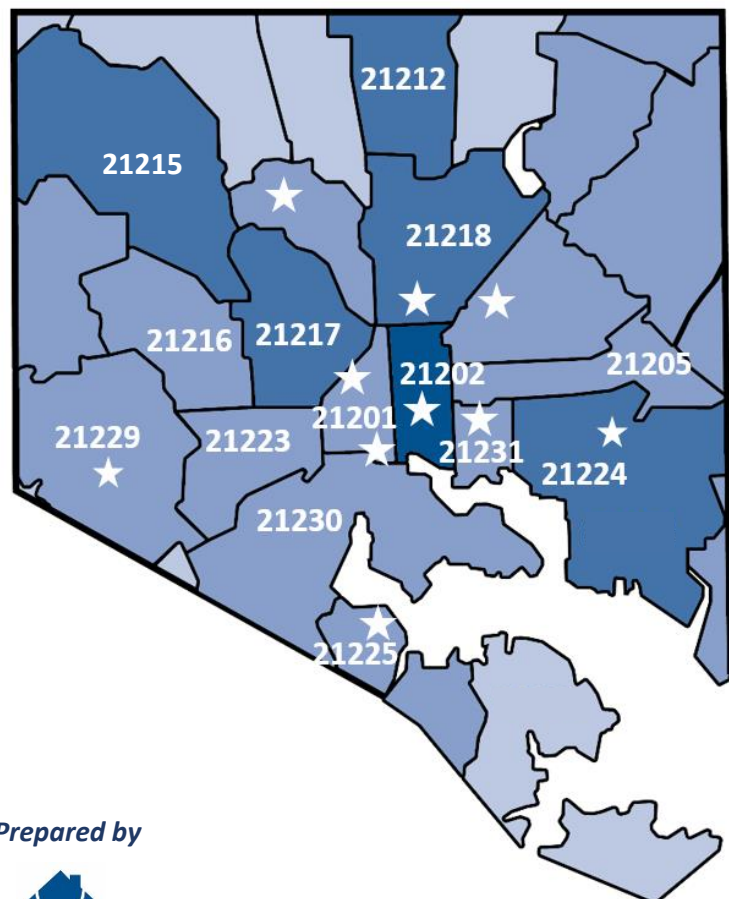
### Supportive Housing Works



- Better connection to primary care
- Higher likelihood of staying housed
- Better medication management
- Fewer ER visits

## ACIS in Baltimore

Zip	Units
21217	30%
21215	14%
21202	11%
21225	7%
21216	6%
21212	3%
21218	5%
21223	4%
21224	4%
21201	3%
21230	3%
21205	3%
21231	2%
21229	2%
21237	1%



★ Partner hospitals

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