



COMMIT TO  
NO CUTS TO HOUSING AND HOMELESS SERVICES  
IN ILLINOIS

Governor Rauner's **proposed budget recommends cuts** to homeless services that **would leave over 12,500 Illinoisans without help**. These programs have already been cut by nearly \$10 million. Current funding levels cannot address the level of need and further reductions are simply UNACCEPTABLE.

**Legislators MUST generate the revenue needed to prevent cuts** to human services, healthcare and other programs that would be catastrophic to families, communities and our state's economic future.

#### **A CUT OF \$3.1 MILLION WAS PROPOSED TO HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES**

This cut would reduce funding by 55% to only \$2.5 million in FY16 and would leave 1,326 unaccompanied homeless young people without services. This cut would lead to increased victimization for these vulnerable young people and no support to become self-sufficient adults.

#### **A CUT OF \$1 MILLION WAS PROPOSED TO HOMELESS PREVENTION FUNDING**

This reduction would leave 955 households without access to emergency grants to prevent homelessness. The result will be increased costs of emergency shelter, displaced families, lost employment and work hours, and lost academic time for children in school.

#### **A CUT OF \$14.1 MILLION WAS PROPOSED TO SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SERVICES**

If enacted this cut would leave 10,311 vulnerable people without the services they need to remain stably housed. It would increase costs in incarceration, emergency room visits and institutionalization.

#### **THE HOMELESS EDUCATION PLACEHOLDER LINE ITEM WAS ELIMINATED**

\$3 million for homeless education has been recommended by ISBE every year for the past four years. The number of homeless students identified in Illinois public schools has skyrocketed by 121% since FY09 to a record 59,112 in the 2013-2014 school year. These students need supports to ensure their academic success and graduation.

#### **EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING WAS RECOMMENDED TO BE MAINTAINED AT ITS FY15 FUNDING LEVEL AT \$9.4 MILLION**

This program provides basic life-saving shelter and transitional housing that prevents adults and children from being on the street. Even at this funding level, people were turned away 45,302 times due to lack of resources.

# ILLINOIS CAN'T AFFORD TO GO BACKWARD: ADEQUATE STATE REVENUE IS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR FUTURE

## Homeless services are cost effective

- **Homeless Youth** – The average cost of providing services to a homeless youth in Illinois is \$16,700. The cost to the state to incarcerate a youth is \$111,000 and the cost to provide care in DCFS is \$48,328.
- **Homeless Prevention** – This program is highly effective in preventing households from becoming homeless through small one-time emergency grants of an average of \$1,048. When these households receive help 88% stay housed.
- **Supportive Housing** – The average annual cost per person in supportive housing is \$4,000. It is vastly more affordable than housing an individual in a mental hospital, prison, or nursing home with an average annual cost savings of \$37,000 per person.

## Homeless families would be further impacted by the drastic cuts proposed to healthcare and human services including:

- **\$1.5 billion cut to Medicaid** - Thousands of Illinois residents would lose healthcare services including ending coverage of adult dental and podiatry services and kidney transplants for undocumented children. This cut would also result in 12,591 jobs lost and \$1.75 billion in lost economic activity statewide.
- **Services and housing eliminated for all DCFS wards ages 18-21** - 2,067 wards would lose housing and services.

## FACT: WITHOUT NEW REVENUE, ILLINOIS WILL SUFFER.

Without adequate revenue, critical programs face painful cuts in FY15 and in FY16 massive, unprecedented cuts will be required, as evidenced in the Governor's proposed budget. Illinois families and communities will suffer.



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