A Solvable Problem

By every measure, homelessness is more costly to ignore than to solve.

- More than **1.5 million people experience homelessness** each year in the United States. Globally, estimates exceed 100 million.

- Homelessness is among the most visible manifestations of **poverty and racial inequity**, disproportionately impacting people of color.

- Being homeless undermines people's personal **safety**, their ability to **complete school, retain jobs, remain healthy and hold their families together.**

- Homelessness is a **matter of life and death** for those trapped in it, with long term homelessness reducing average life expectancy by more than 25 years.

- People experiencing long-term homelessness are **more likely to be arrested and become sick** than those with a safe place to live. The costs of jails and emergency health services create enormous and avoidable financial burdens for communities.

- Despite its brutal impacts, the numbers of those experiencing homelessness are **limited at less than a fraction of 1% of local populations**.

- **Solutions exist, but have not been widely adopted.**

HOMELESSNESS IS SOLVABLE

Twelve communities in the United States have ended chronic homelessness, veteran homelessness, or both since 2015, with more close behind.

They are part of the Built for Zero network led by Community Solutions, which is showing the way toward a future where homelessness is a rare and brief experience for a person or family in crisis, and never an enduring or recurring way of life.

HOMELESSNESS AT THE TIPPING POINT

- More than 110 cities or regions in four countries – 85 in the US alone – are **using the Built for Zero methodology to reach a lasting end to homelessness that leaves no one behind.** They are using a powerful approach to local, data-driven collaboration and targeted housing investments adapted from successful global health initiatives.

- With 100&Change, **75 US communities, including five of the country's largest, will end homelessness** for some or all populations by 2025.

- They will create **reliable and equitable local housing systems that prevent and quickly end homelessness** for historically marginalized people. This overwhelming shift will establish new expectations of leaders for results. Our network and approach will be primed for expansion throughout the U.S. and internationally.

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS: A RECORD OF SUCCESS

Our 100,000 Homes Campaign (2010-2014) trained 186 communities in coordinating and streamlining their housing efforts, securing homes for

105,570 **VULNERABLE AND CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS.**

Received the 2013 World Habitat Award.

12 **COMMUNITIES HAVE ENDED HOMELESSNESS** for veterans, people experiencing chronic homelessness, or both.

Since January 2015,

BUILT FOR ZERO COMMUNITIES HAVE HOUSED **117,000** **AMERICANS.**

80+ **US COMMUNITIES** are part of our current Built For Zero network.

30+ **INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES** have adopted the Built for Zero methodology.

50+ **COMMUNITIES HAVE REDUCED HOMELESSNESS** since joining Built for Zero.

We have trained partners in parallel large-scale change efforts to **END HOMELESSNESS IN OTHER COUNTRIES AND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE U.S.**

HOW YOU CAN HELP

To get 75 communities over the finish line and prime our work for expansion:

- **$1 million** funds targeted communications and education campaigns aimed at key influencers to shift the perception of homelessness as an intractable problem, drive new expectations of leaders, and establish new community norms around homelessness.

- **$5 million** funds the development of enhanced data collection and management tools, developing data-enabled insights for testing for and correcting racial bias in housing, improving governance of local housing systems and developing platforms for training local implementation teams at scale.

- **$10 million** funds the development, tests, and tracking of innovations in areas of knowledge gaps, especially homelessness prevention and new housing and finance models.

To learn more, visit **www.community.solutions** or contact **apdelja@community.solutions**.

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS