

**EXHIBIT A**  
**Project Plan to Reduce Homelessness and**  
**Mitigate the Impacts of Homelessness in Lancaster City**

**Introduction**

The City of Lancaster is proposing an intergovernmental agreement between Lancaster County and the City of Lancaster, in support of the PA 510-COC, to address the needs of the homeless population in the City for the next 3 years. The City seeks to support the Office of the Homelessness Coalition administered under the authority of the Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority, to fulfill their established mission: Together, the Coalition provides quality, personalized human and housing services for all individuals and families facing or experiencing homelessness, and ensures homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

**Current Status/Unmet Community Needs**

- Emergency shelter has been continuously operating at or near capacity.
  - An estimated 30-40 individuals remain unsheltered in Lancaster City and surrounding areas, as evidenced by data gathered during Code Blue pop-up shelter operations.
  - An estimated 80 emergency shelter beds in total are needed in the City of Lancaster (excluding available beds at Water Street Mission).
  - Additional shelter capacity (40 more beds) is needed to supplement the low-barrier shelter operated by the Food Hub at Ebenezer Baptist Church (40 existing beds) for a 2-year period until a permanent center for providing homelessness services, shelter, and transitional housing is completed.
  - The existing shelter operated by the Food Hub at Ebenezer Baptist Church (40 beds) is temporary due to site conditions.
- The Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority and the Homelessness Coalition purchased a permanent space at 134 - 136 S. Prince Street to serve as a center for providing homelessness services, shelter, and transitional housing.
- The community needs longer-term solutions to increase access to transitional and permanent supportive housing to alleviate pressure on emergency shelters and provide next step options for those exiting homelessness.
- The Homelessness Coalition is working in good faith to develop a longer-term action plan inclusive of the County and City that takes into consideration the best practices, data collection, goals and benchmarks, current funding and assessment of funding opportunities and gaps, and capacity building for existing and new community partners.

**Joint Project Objectives**

1. Establish new emergency, low barrier shelter (or shelters) with a minimum of 40 shelter beds by August 2023.
2. Ensure 80 total emergency, low-barrier shelter beds in the City by August 2024 and maintain this number of beds over time.
3. Establish permanent center for providing homeless housing and services with a minimum of 60 beds by April 2024 (this may be a combination of emergency shelter and transitional housing).

## City and County Commitments

In support of the joint project objectives, the City of Lancaster commits to providing a total of \$1.6 million in ARPA funds for the following purposes:

1. Expanding emergency, low-barrier shelter capacity in the City.
  - a. The City and County will work together to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify and select a provider for additional low-barrier shelter capacity in the City of Lancaster for the period of August 2023 – August 2025, based on requirements to be provided by the Coalition/County detailing specific requirements
  - b. No City ARPA funds can be used for operating costs for existing shelter beds (40) or to sustain existing levels of service. Funds may only be utilized to provide new/expanded low-barrier shelter, with the provider to be selected through an RFP process.

*\*\$800,000 in City ARPA funds will be made available for this purpose upon the identification of a site approved by the City and County and the completion of a joint, public RFP process to select service provider(s), and submission of a detailed operating budget.*

2. Supporting the development of a permanent center for homelessness services, shelter, and housing.
  - a. The center will provide for a minimum occupancy of 60 persons experiencing homelessness, plus supporting services.
  - b. The City will have a designated representative on the committee guiding the planning, design, and operation of the center.

*\*\$800,000 in City ARPA funds will be made available for this purpose contingent upon the submission of final construction documents and building permits; plus RFP documentation and results for the selected service provider.*

In support of the joint project objectives, the County of Lancaster, on behalf of the Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority and Homelessness Coalition, commits to:

1. Providing funding and organizational capacity to complete the joint project objectives in the timeframes specified.
2. Maintaining existing emergency, low-barrier shelter capacity in the City of Lancaster (specifically 40 shelter beds).
3. Increasing emergency, low-barrier shelter capacity in the City of Lancaster by at least 40 additional beds.
4. Developing a plan and design for the homelessness center at 134 -136 S Prince Street and completing the necessary renovations. The County will provide detailed plans and designs specifying the number and type of units, such as congregate emergency shelter, non-congregate emergency shelter, transitional housing units for individuals, transitional housing units for families, etc.