To end family homelessness and housing insecurity, we need to create additional permanent housing resources for families.

Racial equity and economic justice should be central in the provision of housing for Illinois children and families.

Maintain current state funding for housing for young children and pregnant persons.

The Illinois State Legislature should form a taskforce/body to study the needs of low-income children (particularly those under 6 years of age) and families experiencing housing insecurity and make statewide recommendations.

Families comprising children ages birth to six and pregnant persons with housing insecurity should be prioritized for homelessness prevention services because they are the most vulnerable to long-term harm to both their physical and mental health.

Within Illinois’ Continuums of Care (CoCs), households in which someone is pregnant or has delivered an infant within the last 12 months should receive priority for rapid rehousing to mitigate the health impacts of housing insecurity.

Social supportive services should be provided to children and families experiencing housing insecurity.

Families must be considered in the design, development, and/or expansion of supportive and affordable housing.

Barriers to housing, such as credit scores, onerous security deposits, and income requirements, must be addressed in order to increase safe and accessible housing for low-income families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Of all homeless persons nationwide are families with children

33% of all homeless persons nationwide are families with children

3 Most cited reasons for family homelessness are:
1. Lack of affordable housing
2. Unemployment
3. Poverty

Homeless families are often hidden from our view—they are living in shelters, cars, campgrounds, or doubled-up in overcrowded apartment

1 in 5 (15 million) children under age 18 live in poverty
HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING INSECURITY IN ILLINOIS

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Collaborative on Child Homelessness Illinois

START EARLY Champions for Early Learning

The Collaborative for Children’s Health Policy

Center for Childhood Resilience

VOICES FOR ILLINOIS CHILDREN

Illinois Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago

Ever Thrive Illinois Champions for Healthy Communities

Facing Forward to end homelessness

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