

## **2021 Missouri Statewide Homelessness Study Glossary of Terms**

The following definitions have been established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

### **Chronic Homelessness**

Chronic homelessness is defined as “a homeless individual with a disability who lives either in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, or in an institutional care facility if the individual has been living in the facility for fewer than 90 days and had been living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter immediately before entering the institutional care facility.” A chronically homeless family is one where the adult head of household meets the definition for chronic homelessness. (24 CFR 578.103)

It is important to note that changes to the definition of Chronic Homelessness went into effect for 2017. The change may correspond with an increase or decrease in the number of people defined as experiencing chronic homelessness.

### **Emergency Shelter (ES; Shelter)**

Emergency shelter (ES or Shelter) is defined as “any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.” (24 CFR 576.2) Emergency shelters often provide minimal social services.

### **Institutional Care Facility**

An institutional care facility may be a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility. (24 CFR 578)

### **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

Permanent supportive housing (PSH) is defined as “permanent housing in which housing assistance (e.g., long-term leasing or rental assistance) and supportive services are provided to assist households with at least one member (adult or child) with a disability in achieving housing stability.” (24 CFR 578.37(a)(1)(i))

### **Rapid Rehousing (RRH)**

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) is permanent housing that provides short-term (up to 3 months) and medium-term (4-24 months) tenant-based rental assistance and supportive services to households experiencing homelessness. (24 CFR 578.37(a)(1)(ii))

**Safe Haven (SH)**

A safe haven is a form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who come primarily from the streets and have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services. (Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Act as amended by Public Law 102-550 in 1992). This program was repealed by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009, although safe havens established before the HEARTH Act may continue to operate.

**Transitional Housing (TH)**

Transitional housing “is designed to provide homeless individuals and families with the interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. Transitional housing may be used to cover the costs of up to 24 months of housing with accompanying supportive services. Program participants must have a lease (or sublease) or occupancy agreement in place when residing in transitional housing.” (24 CFR 578)