



# **ELDER HOUSING SUMMIT SUMMARY REPORT**

February 25, 2025



## ELDER HOUSING DIALOGUE SUMMARY REPORT

### Overview

The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition hosted and conducted an Elder Housing Summit in Tampa, Florida on February 25, 2025. The objectives of this Summit were to (1) examine existing elder housing challenges, needs, and conditions; (2) share current aging network priorities and efforts; (3) explore opportunities and solutions to increase affordable and supportive housing options for older adults; and (4) generate direction and consensus for collective action on statewide initiatives. This report provides a summary of attendees' recommendations, strategies, and action plans.

### Elder Housing Stability & Homelessness in Florida

Presently, elderly Floridians face numerous risks to their housing stability. These risks increase older adults' likelihood of experiencing homelessness. Florida homelessness data demonstrates increased numbers of elders among the homeless population. The following table highlights the current prevalence of homeless older adults within Florida Homeless Continuums of Care:

Homeless CoC		Age 55-64	Age 65+	Total
FL-600	Miami-Dade County	612	501	1113
FL-601	Ft Lauderdale/Broward County	616	269	885
FL-502	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County	519	219	738
FL-605	West Palm Beach/Palm Beach County	414	203	617
FL-507	Orlando/Orange, Osceola, Seminole Counties	398	144	542
FL-501	Tampa/Hillsborough County	290	156	446
FL-511	Pensacola/Escambia, Santa Rosa Counties	285	129	414
FL-500	Sarasota, Bradenton/Manatee, Sarasota Counties	239	124	363
FL-508	Gainesville/Alachua, Putnam Counties	223	90	313
FL-513	Palm Bay, Melbourne/Brevard County	205	98	303
FL-504	Deltona, Daytona Beach/Volusia, Flagler Counties	183	105	288
FL-510	Jacksonville-Duval, Clay Counties	215	71	286
FL-509	Fort Pierce/St. Lucie, Indian River, Martin Counties	171	108	279



FL-517	Hendry, Hardee, Highlands Counties	164	110	274
FL-606	Naples/Collier County	221	33	254
FL-603	Ft Myers, Cape Coral/Lee County	165	69	234
FL-506	Tallahassee/Leon County	148	57	205
FL-520	Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter Counties	126	40	166
FL-503	Lakeland, Winterhaven/Polk County	83	73	156
FL-602	Punta Gorda/Charlotte County	93	55	148
FL-515	Panama City/Bay, Jackson Counties	102	36	138
FL-519	Pasco County	90	39	129
FL-514	Ocala/Marion County	80	34	114
FL-505	Fort Walton Beach/Okaloosa, Walton Counties	80	27	107
FL-512	St. Johns County	44	28	72
FL-518	Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Suwannee Counties	42	29	71
FL-604	Monroe County	0	12	12
<b>Totals</b>		<b>5808</b>	<b>2859</b>	<b>8667</b>

### Statewide Initiative Recommendations

Attendees discussed working collectively to increase capacity to meet elders' housing needs and recommended the following statewide priorities and initiatives:

- Establish a single elder housing data clearinghouse to improve unified data collection, management, and availability; facilitate impactful messaging
- Propose elder housing stability legislation (*permitting prioritization due to housing instability by AAAs; provide flexibility in the use of current State funds; provide flexible funding for seniors at risk of losing their housing and housing navigation services at AAAs; provide emergency accommodation funding; establish unified application for FHFC assisted housing*)
- Establish additional local collaboration efforts to address elder housing needs in areas of the state with the highest concentration of elders experiencing homelessness



## Statewide Initiative Action Plans

Attendees articulated the following strategies and developed the following action plans for each of their identified statewide solution priorities:

<b>Recommended Initiative:</b> Elder Housing Data Clearinghouse			
<b>Suggested Action Steps</b>	<b>Suggested Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Suggested Time Frame</b>	<b>Any Needed Resources</b>
Add numbers to <i>Elders At-risk Population</i> matrix	University of Florida Shimberg Center	April 2025	
Define data to collect	Data Sub- Committee	May 2025	
Determine what data can be extracted from existing sources	Data Sub- Committee	May 2025	Existing data platforms and sources
Determine what questions to ask to collect required additional data	Data Sub- Committee	May 2025	
Determine single clearinghouse platform for data management	Data Sub- Committee	June 2025	
Gather existing and required data to formulate profile of actual at-risk elders	Data Sub- Committee	July 2025	
Convert data into compelling communication narrative/briefs to present actual needs statewide and locally	Data Sub- Committee	August 2025	
Disseminate data and narratives/briefs	Data Sub- Committee	September 2025 and Ongoing	
Continue ongoing data collection, management, and reporting activities	Data Sub- Committee	October 2025 and Ongoing	



<b>Recommended Initiative:</b> Elder Housing Stability Legislation			
<b>Suggested Action Steps</b>	<b>Suggested Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Suggested Time Frame</b>	<b>Any Needed Resources</b>
Create framework for policy*	Florida Supportive Housing Coalition / Coordinating Committee	August 2025	2022 Bill language, State Plan on Aging, DCF Challenge Grant
Draft proposed legislative act	Coordinating Committee	August 2025	
Engage, mobilize, and leverage existing coalitions to support proposed legislation	Coordinating Committee	September 2025	
Identify Florida House and State champions to ambassador and sponsor legislation	Partner Coalitions	September 2025	
Meet with applicable state agencies and obtain support for legislation	Partner Coalitions	September 2025 through legislative session	
Meet with legislative staff and committee members and obtain support for legislation	Partner Coalitions	October 2025 through legislative session	
Develop and launch a narrative campaign	Coordinating Committee	October 2025 through legislative session	
Testify during advocacy days	Partner Coalitions	Through legislative session	
Get legislation passed and signed by Governor	Partner Coalitions	Through legislative session	
Support legislation enactment	Coordinating Committee	Post legislative session	

*\*Policy recommendations to minimally include standardized screening for housing stability, eviction prevention, housing stabilization, housing navigation, educational services, appropriations act, data collection, interagency collaboration, single platform to coordinate housing application and placement, working group, evaluation*



<b>Recommended Initiative:</b> Statewide Collaboration on Elder Housing			
<b>Suggested Action Steps</b>	<b>Suggested Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Suggested Time Frame</b>	<b>Any Needed Resources</b>
Obtain Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Florida Department of Elder Affairs representation on Florida DCF Council on Homelessness and Council's Special Population Committee	Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging	March 2025	Council on Homelessness support
Identify top 10 CoCs that have highest elder homeless population	Florida Supportive Housing Coalition	March 2025	Homeless Management Information System (Point-in-Time) data
Create local taskforces ( <i>CoCs, Area Agencies on Aging, key stakeholders</i> ) within the top 10 CoCs to address elder homelessness	Coordinating Committee	June 2025	Council on Homelessness support, Florida Coalition to End Homelessness support
Pilot local interagency collaboration, communication, data management, and data sharing to mitigate elder homelessness	Local Taskforces	July 2025 and Ongoing	Area Agency on Aging of Pasco Pinellas experience
Provide recommendations for the DCF annual report	Local Taskforces	December 2025	

## Coordinating Committee

Attendees decided to form a Coordinating Committee comprised of the following organizations to continue to advance the identified priorities and associated activities:

- Florida Supportive Housing Coalition (*Co-Lead*)
- Leading Age Southeast (*Co-Lead*)
- Area Agency on Aging Pasco Pinellas (*Co-Lead*)
- Florida Coalition to End Homelessness (*and key Homeless CoCs*)
- United Ways (*in key communities*)
- Florida Hospital Coalition
- City of St. Petersburg
- Florida Housing Coalition



- AARP
- Group Victory

## Summit Participants

This Elder Housing Summit was attended by the following individuals and affiliations:

Attendee	Affiliation
Maria Barcus	Florida Supportive Housing Coalition
Sandra Newson	Florida Supportive Housing Coalition / Carrfour
Diana Ferguson	Florida Supportive Housing Coalition
Caleb Enget	Florida Supportive Housing Coalition
Kirstie Clinton	Florida Hospital Association
Melissa Craig	Bay Area Legal Services
Will Evans	Changing Homelessness
Cassandra Gallion	City of St. Petersburg
Doug Griesenauer	United Way Suncoast
Jack Humburg	Boley Centers
Linda Levin	Elder Source
Rhanda McKown	Leading Age Southeast
Susan Morgan	Gracepoint Wellness
Thomas O'Connor Bruno	Coalition for Homelessness of Pasco
Katie Parkinson	Senior Connection Center
Anne Ray	University of Florida Shimberg Center
Leeanne Sacino	FL Coalition to End Homelessness
Janet Stringfellow	Volunteers of America - Florida
Ann Marie Winter	Area Agency on Aging of Pasco Pinellas Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging

This Elder Housing Summit was facilitated by Dr. Stephen Ferrante, Group Victory Principal Partner.