

MMC HOMELESS COMMITTEE

Mission: *Remove barriers to collaboration and support efforts to reduce homelessness in the metro area.*

The **Metro Mayors Caucus Homeless Committee (MMC-HC)** has met monthly since March to study the issue of homelessness in metro Denver. MMC-HC has worked closely with the region’s HUD designated Continuum of Care provider, the **Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI)** to better understand the many facets of the issue and how the mayors may expand, accelerate or otherwise add value to efforts to both new and ongoing efforts to reduce metro area homelessness. MMC-HC & MDHI have agreed on the below common definition of homelessness and are developing several proposed areas for MMC engagement on which we are seeking feedback from the Caucus.

Homelessness in Metro Denver

MMC-HC has adopted the broader MDHI definition of homelessness that includes vulnerable citizens in unstable circumstances. This expanded definition incorporates families and individuals on the verge of homelessness as part of a more holistic and proactive long-term approach to reducing homelessness in the metro area. Included in the MMC-HC/MDHI definition are those in the following circumstances:

- Sleeping in places not meant for human habitation (i.e., cars, parks, or abandoned buildings)
- Sleeping in an emergency shelter
- Living in transitional housing or a hotel or motel
- Living temporarily with family members or friends
- Transitioning out of jail, prison, halfway house, foster care, hospital, detox or other types of residential programs without stable, permanent housing
- Facing eviction from permanent housing
- Loitering and congregating in public places due to a lack of a permanent residence

MMC-HC and MDHI have proposed the following initiatives for consideration of MMC

