

Region 9 Strategic Plan

The strategic plan for Region 9 establishes a vision, mission, goals, and strategies to guide the work ahead. It is designed to be responsive to the complex nature of housing instability and homelessness and is built to reflect stakeholder desires as well as system strengths and limitations. Meeting this ambitious vision will take the concerted effort of Regional Planning Council leaders and members.

Vision

All Region 9 residents will have access to safe, stable, quality, and affordable homes and community connections that allow them to be self-sufficient and active citizens.

Mission

The Region 9 Planning Council (Wayne, Rush, Union, Fayette, and Franklin) will work collaboratively to build the capacity of partners to improve access to quality housing and provide person-centered, need-based interventions to households that are currently experiencing or at risk of homelessness.



Goal 1: Efforts to End Homelessness are Well-Coordinated & Resourced

Rationale: Improving housing security across a diverse region requires effective collaboration, information-sharing, and a multi-pronged approach.

3-year Vision: In three years, the Regional Planning Council (RPC) will have a strong governance committee with approved bylaws and will have representation from each county, workgroups, professional development opportunities and funding.

Key Strategies

1. Share the role of the Balance of State Continuum of Care (BoSCoC), Regional Planning Councils (RPCs), and partner agencies as part of the Regional Planning Council (RPC). [Ongoing]
2. Provide education to the community about the role of the Regional Planning Council and the benefits of participation. [Ongoing]
3. Engage in outreach to bring stakeholders to the table, especially in underrepresented counties [Ongoing]
4. Provide professional development/learning opportunities for those working in the housing and homeless service sphere. [Ongoing]
5. Educate RPC members about funding opportunities to support housing and related services. [Ongoing]
6. Establish a subcommittee to review and propose changes to by-laws. [Short term]
7. Establish workgroups to make progress on priority areas. [Short term]
8. Fund a coordinator position. [Within three years]
9. Develop a web presence. [Within three years]

Goal 2: Homelessness is Acknowledged, Safe, and Short-Term

Rationale: Ending homelessness begins with acknowledging that it exists and providing resources to ensure that those who experience homelessness are safe and receive shelter quickly.

3-year Vision: All counties in the region participate in the Point-in-Time Count and have emergency shelter/warming options. A team of individuals will respond to instances of homelessness to provide rapid connection to available resources.

Key Strategies

1. Coordinate Point-in-Time Count efforts, including supporting counties that have not previously participated. [Ongoing]
2. Support capacity building for the formulation of county specific teams or work groups to lead Point-In-Time Counts. [Ongoing]
3. Support the establishment of warming & cooling stations. Collect and disseminate warming/cooling stations across the region. [Ongoing]
 - a. Support the subsequent sharing of information to clients at these cooling/warming stations through referrals to relevant services. [Ongoing]
 - b. Support the establishment of protocols for sharing information. [Ongoing]
4. Build a case conferencing committee and schedule. [Short-term]
5. Provide connections and support to encourage data sharing between agencies. [Ongoing]
6. Increase year-round street outreach efforts. [Within three years]



Goal 3: Homelessness is Prevented

Rationale: Ending homelessness for persons experiencing mental health challenges and addiction requires community collaboration and support. For the next three years, the RPC will prioritize individuals experiencing mental health needs or needing addiction services.

3-year Vision: Region 9 will have increased manpower and resources to address mental health needs and to provide addiction services.

Key Strategies

1. Form a prevention/outreach workgroup to address key strategy points 2-4 under this goal. [Short-term]
2. Identify and build out a community partner network (e.g., property managers, human resource and apartment managers, religious organizations, correctional facilities), with the goal of preventing homelessness through increasing awareness and access to resources for at risk individuals. [Ongoing]
3. Create materials or resources (e.g., consolidation of information, knowledge) for a homelessness prevention program and build awareness of existing mental health and addiction services. [Within three years]
4. Educate community partner network of homelessness prevention program. [Ongoing]

Goal 4: We Increase Choice & Affordability in Housing

Rationale: Promoting housing stability requires a focus on adding new beds and housing units and encourage property managers to participate in housing programs.

3-Year Vision: The region will approve and start new affordable housing developments, new transitional housing options will be established, individuals seeking housing will be supported by navigators, and more property managers will accept housing subsidies.

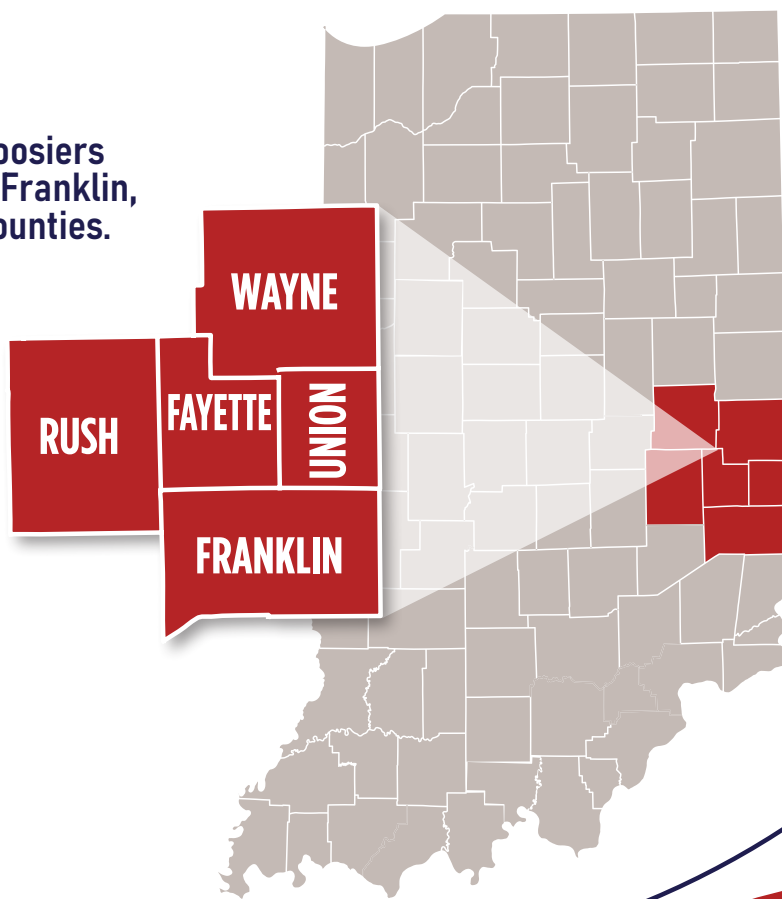
Key Strategies

1. Serve as a connection point for individuals or organizations seeking to establish new housing options or programs to expand access to housing in the region. [Ongoing]
2. Recruit property managers to accept HCV & other forms of assistance. [Ongoing]
3. Promote options for Regional Planning Council (RPC) members to attend the Indiana Supportive Housing Institute.¹ [Ongoing]
4. Organize advocacy to support affordable housing development. [Short-term]
5. Educate members about the opportunity to become a Community Housing Development Organization (CHODO).² [Within three years]

¹ The Indiana Supportive Housing Institute is a yearly training event with the aim of navigating attendees through the process of developing affordable housing that has access to both supportive and preventative services related to homelessness.

² A Community Housing Development Organization (CHODO) is a private, community-based nonprofit organization with the core purpose of developing housing that is affordable for the area served

Region 9 serves Hoosiers in Wayne, Fayette, Franklin, Rush, and Union counties.



Leadership Team

The Region 9 RPC is currently led by:

- **Jessica Burton, Co-Chair**
Practice Manager, Meridian Health Services
- **Donielle Harleman, Co-Chair**
Residential Coordinator of Permanent Supportive Housing, Centerstone
- **Donna Tegeler, Coordinated Entry Lead**
Assistant Manager for Supportive Housing, Centerstone
- **Elisa Worland, Secretary**
Community Development/Health & Human Sciences Extension Educator, Purdue Extension

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month from 2:30-3:30 pm.

