

# A PLACE TO CALL HOME

*for everyone*



A Comprehensive Community Assessment on Homelessness in Columbus & Franklin County

Population growth and changing economic dynamics are widely predicted, including a highly anticipated impact on the availability of affordable housing throughout Franklin County and this region. Anticipated changes to our community's economic and demographic landscape require thoughtful and intentional planning for a future that promotes community wellbeing and housing equity, mitigates structural disparities and ensures residents countywide have access to safe, quality, affordable homes.

Community Shelter Board (CSB) is proud to partner with the community, along with the City of Columbus, Franklin County, and the Columbus Partnership, to lead a coordinated process focused on solutions rightly aligned to the changing needs of diverse communities. The Comprehensive Community Assessment includes diverse perspectives and voices, provider organizations, and community stakeholders to assess the current state in Franklin County and chart a path responsive to our community's values and identity.

## **PURPOSE**

- Build understanding of how housing and homelessness response systems work.
- Build understanding of anticipated economic and demographic changes affecting our response to homelessness and the housing market in Central Ohio.
- Disrupt current systems that exacerbate disparities.
- Above all, develop solutions that promote community wellbeing and fairness for all, advance racial equity, and ensure residents countywide have access to safe, decent, affordable homes.

## **EXPERTISE**

Focus Strategies, a national consulting firm, is leading the analytic process. They are assessing a series of data, processes, and policy. Analyses is informing our conversations to craft recommendations tailored to our community. RAMA Consulting is leading efforts to gather critical input from community members and stakeholders to ensure the Assessment and its resulting recommendations are grounded in community. We will test the feasibility of potential solutions and make real decisions about how to move forward together, as a community.

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## STEERING COMMITTEE

Barbara Benham  
Huntington  
EVP & Chief Public Affairs Officer  
CSB Board Member

Carlie Boos  
Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio  
CEO

Susan Carroll-Boser  
White Castle  
Chief Information Officer  
CSB Board Member

Elizabeth Brown  
YWCA Columbus  
President & CEO

Tony Collins  
YMCA of Central Ohio  
President/CEO

Lisa Courtice  
United Way of Central Ohio  
President & CEO

The Honorable Erica Crawley  
Franklin County Board of Commissioners  
Commissioner

The Honorable Shannon Hardin  
Columbus City Council  
President

Stephanie Hightower  
Columbus Urban League  
President & CEO

Shannon TL Isom  
Community Shelter Board  
President & CEO

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Rachel Lustig  
Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio  
President & CEO

Kenny McDonald  
Columbus Partnership  
President & CEO

Sheila Prillerman  
Retired Veteran & Homeless Advocate  
CSB Board Member

Michael Stevens  
City of Columbus  
Director of Development  
CSB Board Member

Sonya Thesing  
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Executive Director

Kenneth Wilson  
Franklin County Board of Commissioners  
County Administrator