

Overview of Funding to Address Homelessness

The City Commission remains committed to ensuring that all neighbors have access to safe shelter and the resources needed to achieve long-term stability. These efforts also support the City’s compliance with state law prohibiting public camping on public property. To deliver these outcomes, the City is focusing on person-centered strategies that drive measurable, positive results.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, the City of Fort Lauderdale is advancing a range of initiatives to reduce homelessness, supported by both the General Fund and grant funding. These efforts – totaling \$14,106,644 – reflect a coordinated, multi-departmental approach focused on outreach, shelter access, health care, emergency services, and legal and social support programs.

Furthermore, the City is strengthening its partnerships with Broward County and local nonprofit organizations while continuing to enhance its services to be more coordinated, effective, and compassionate. Together, these initiatives – as outlined below – reflect the City’s ongoing dedication to addressing homelessness with fairness, respect, and dignity for every neighbor.

Total Funding to Address Homelessness
\$14.1M FY 2027 Preliminary

General Fund Supported

FY 2027 Amount	Description
Community Services Department	
\$ 646,471	The Community Services Department budget includes funding for five (5) positions to support homeless-related initiatives, including the Community Court Program.
330,000	The Community Services Department budget includes funding for the continuation of the Emergency Shelter Bed Access Program, which provides twenty (20) designated beds at The Caring Place for temporary shelter for neighbors experiencing homelessness. These beds are reserved for individuals referred by the Fort Lauderdale Homeless Outreach Team, ensuring timely access to safe shelter and comprehensive, hands-on support services.
270,000	The Community Services Department budget includes funding for a dedicated bus service, in partnership with the Rotary Connection, to provide individuals experiencing homelessness with transportation and relocation assistance.
250,000	The Community Services Department budget includes funding for the continuation of mental health and substance abuse treatment programs in coordination with two (2) providers of condition specific housing services for unsheltered individuals. Funding will provide a capacity of approximately twenty (20) individuals in each program at any given time.
247,500	The Community Services Department budget includes funding to expand access to an additional fifteen (15) shelter beds through Broward Partnerships' Central Homeless Assistance Center.
210,895	The Community Services Department budget includes funding for the continuation of the Community Court Program, which helps individuals receive services tailored to their needs and link participants to restitution projects and onsite social services and treatment providers, accommodating approximately 130 participants weekly.

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FY 2027 Amount	Description
Fire Rescue Department	
315,774	The Mobile Integrated Health Program – Homeless Action Team connects frequent users of emergency medical response, defined as individuals with three or more calls annually, to a network of public and private support resources. This team works proactively to reduce call volume and better the health of our community.
Police Department	
1,366,004	The Homeless Outreach Team is a dedicated group of six (6) police officers who directly engage with people experiencing homelessness within Fort Lauderdale. The team logs every interaction to ensure follow-up with service providers and continuity of care. They also manage the reunification funds used to buy bus tickets, airfare, and food vouchers to allow individuals experiencing homelessness to return to their families, friends, or jobs outside of Fort Lauderdale.
\$ 3,636,644	Total General Fund Financial Support

Grant Funded

In addition to the support provided by the General Fund, the City also capitalizes on state and federal resources to address homelessness. The programs outlined below represent recurring funding sources for these targeted initiatives.

FY 2027 Amount	Housing and Community Development Division
\$ 8,300,000	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funding will assist with facility-based housing, various rent programs, mortgage assistance, and utilities.
1,400,000	The City anticipates continuing to receive State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) funding to be used in part to assist those experiencing homelessness and to prevent homelessness.
640,000	HOME Investment Partnerships funding will be used in part to support affordable housing initiatives and homelessness prevention programs.
130,000	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding will provide support to local organizations' homelessness assistance and prevention programs including Rotary Connect, Broward House, Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Inc. and Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman JFS of Broward County.
\$ 10,470,000	Total Grant Funded Support
\$ 14,106,644	Total FY 2027 Funding to Address Homelessness