



# MAYOR BOWSER'S FISCAL YEAR 2020 PROPOSED BUDGET

## A FAIR SHOT

Mayor Bowser's FY 2020 Budget builds on her first term leadership to ensure all DC residents have a fair shot by making continued investments in the solutions we know work to end homelessness, support at-risk youth, and improve program delivery. Below is a summary of proposed enhancements and initiatives that impact the Department of Human Services (DHS) and its programs.

### Growing investments in the solutions that we know work to end homelessness

In alignment with our strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, *Homeward DC*, the Mayor's Budget provides more than \$37 million in operating funds to transform the homeless services system. These new investments will build on funding over the past four years which totaled more than \$100 million.

#### **Families: \$23.9 million**

- \$6.3 million for 180 new Permanent Supportive Housing vouchers with services
- \$2 million for 80 new Targeted Affordable Housing vouchers
- \$11.2 million for operating and wrap-around services at the new and recently opened Short-Term Family Housing sites
- \$3 million to account for revised cost modeling
- \$798,000 to provide prevention and diversion services to approximately 300 families

#### **Individuals: \$10.8 million**

- \$8.8 million for 325 new Permanent Supportive Housing vouchers with services
- \$420,720 for 20 new Targeted Affordable Housing vouchers
- \$875,000 to provide prevention and diversion services to approximately 500 individuals

#### **Youth: \$2.5 million**

- \$513,540 for 15 new Permanent Supportive Housing vouchers with services
- \$975,000 for 30 new Rapid Rehousing subsidies
- \$966,000 for 23 additional transitional housing beds

### Transforming our emergency shelter system for individuals

In addition to the \$66 million investment previously allocated for new and upgraded emergency shelter facilities, the Mayor's Budget includes:

- \$30 million to support replacement of the Harriet Tubman Shelter for women;
- \$8 million – building on \$40 million in FY19- to support replacement of the 801 East Men's Shelter;
- \$3 million for the rehabilitation of NY Avenue Men's Shelter; and
- \$3.8 million for critical upgrades to other low barrier shelters.

The investments will ensure the emergency shelters serve our customers in a safe and dignified setting that facilitate connections to meaningful services and programming, including those offered at the new Downtown Day Services Center.

### **Aligning agency responsibilities with core mission to bolster continuum of support**

As part of the *Adult Protective Services Transfer Amendment Act of 2019*, the Adult Protective Services (APS) Division of DHS will transition to become part of the Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL), formally the Office on Aging. Co-locating APS and DACL is an important opportunity to create a more integrated continuum of services and supports for seniors and vulnerable adults in one Department. This structure will also facilitate a closer connection between identifying trends around exploitation and the implementation of preventative measures that will enable the District to more proactively reduce risks of abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults and seniors.

### **Ensuring existing flexible rent subsidies serve the right clients**

The *Flexible Rent Subsidy Amendment Act of 2019* will enable the existing DC Flex Pilot Program to better support the long-term housing and economic stability of District families by removing current income level restrictions for participating in the Pilot, which is currently limited to 40% of area median income (AMI).

### **Ensuring limited resources reserved for those most in need**

The *Redetermining Homeless Services Eligibility Clarification Amendment Act of 2019* will align the process for ending Continuum of Care services after a redetermination of eligibility with the process established for ending services when an individual or family is found ineligible for such services after an interim eligibility placement. This subtitle also provides a right to continuation of services pending a timely appeal. Clarifying legislation will ensure that the Department's limited resources are not being used to support ineligible individuals or families, or tied up in unduly lengthy administrative processes when a family is not using or in need of a resource.