

# HELPING FAMILIES HOME ROADMAP: A REPORT CARD ON DC'S PROGRESS IN HELPING HOMELESS FAMILIES

December 9, 2014

The District has made improvements to services for homeless families in response to the crisis that occurred last winter, but progress has been uneven and large gaps remain. In April 2014, twenty-five organizations released a community plan – *Helping Families Home: A Roadmap for the District* – outlining their recommendation on what DC should do immediately to start on a path to a high-quality homeless services system.<sup>1</sup>

This report card provides a six-month update on progress toward the key goals laid out in the *Roadmap*. The grading system is as follows:

- **A:** The goal has been substantially fulfilled.
- **B:** The District is making progress toward the goal.
- **C:** The District is taking steps, but it is too soon to determine if they will result in significant progress.
- **D:** There has been no significant progress made toward the goal.
- **F:** There has been no progress made at all toward the goal.

Progress on Goals for Improving DC's Family Homelessness System	
Goal	Grade
<b>Goal 1: All Families Currently in Shelter Should Be Moved Into Safe Housing Before November 1<sup>st</sup>.</b>	C
<b>Goal 2: Specific Improvements in Case Management and Services at Virginia Williams Family Resource Center and DC General.</b>	D
<b>Goal 3: Develop new and strengthen existing prevention and diversion efforts.</b>	B
<b>Goal 4: Explore ways to improve assistance for youth-headed households.</b>	C
<b>Goal 5: Shelter all families safely until alternative housing can be identified.<sup>2</sup></b>	C
<b>Goal 6: Ensure DHS has sufficient resources to deploy any of its tools to end a family's homelessness in a timely manner.</b>	C
<b>Goal 7: Strengthen Rapid Re-housing.</b>	C
<b>Goal 8: Better data reporting on performance measures, budgeting and planning, and spending.</b>	D
<b>Goal 9: Create affordable housing that meets families' needs.</b>	C
<b>Goal 10: Plan for new family homeless shelters in DC.</b>	C

The full report card is available at <http://www.dcfpi.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/12.9.14-Roadmap-Update1.pdf>

<sup>1</sup> Available at: <http://www.dcfpi.org/helping-families-home-a-roadmap-for-the-district>

<sup>2</sup> This goal is intended to address the problems of the District using recreation center placements for homeless families last winter and for placing families for just one night at a time and only during hypothermic weather.