



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

Executive Order No. 2023-20

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is committed to addressing the current homelessness crisis in Chicago through comprehensive and coordinated efforts that leverage the full force of government; and

WHEREAS, There are many ways an individual may experience homelessness, including sleeping in a shelter, on the street, at a train station, and being doubled up with others; and

WHEREAS, The City's Department of Family and Support Services' (DFSS) 2023 Point-in-Time Count, an annual federally required assessment of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness at one moment in time, found 6,139 residents were experiencing homelessness in homeless shelters, encampments, and unsheltered areas on one night in January of 2023; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 Point-in-Time Count found disparities across race and ethnicity of people experiencing homelessness in Chicago, with 69 percent identifying as Black, 14 percent identifying as Hispanic or Latinx, and 14 percent identifying as white; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 Point-in-Time Count found significant impacts on Chicago's youth, with 27 percent of residents having children in their household while experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, According to the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, an estimated 68,440 Chicagoans were experiencing homelessness at the beginning of 2022. This estimate is inclusive of more than 44,000 people experiencing an often-hidden form of homelessness: doubling up, or temporarily staying with others; and

WHEREAS, According to the Chicago Public Schools, 17,773 public school students were experiencing literal or doubled-up homelessness during the 2022-2023 school year; and

WHEREAS, In order to eliminate homelessness in the City, senior-level leadership is needed within the Mayor's Office to coordinate efforts across all City departments and work in partnership with county, state, and federal government agencies; now, therefore,

I, BRANDON JOHNSON, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby order as follows:

SECTION 1. The above "WHEREAS" clauses are incorporated into and made an integral part of this Order.

SECTION 2. A Chief Homelessness Officer (the "Officer") is established in the Mayor's Office.

SECTION 3. The Officer is responsible for addressing the complexities of homelessness and housing insecurity in Chicago, fostering greater policy and operational coordination across City departments and sister agencies, and providing strong leadership to effect improvements in this realm.

SECTION 4. The powers and duties of the Officer include:

- 1) In coordination with the Chicago Continuum of Care, to develop and implement a community-driven, City-wide plan to prevent and end homelessness.
- 2) To coordinate funding and personnel across City departments and sister agencies related to service delivery and policy and to ensure that all responses to homelessness are aligned with the vision and values of the community and the Mayor's Office.
- 3) To build trust and foster collaborative relationships with stakeholders outside of government, including people with lived experience, lived expertise, service providers, advocates, and community organizers.

SECTION 5. All City Department Heads are directed to undertake whatever efforts are feasible pursuant to their powers and duties, and to direct their employees accordingly, to work with the Officer consistent with the purposes of this Order.

SECTION 6. This Order shall take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.

Chicago City Clerk-Council Dir.
2023 DEC 5 PM 12:28



Mayor

Received and filed December 5, 2023



City Clerk