

HOMELESSNESS FUNDING IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Continuity of Federal Homelessness Assistance and Regional System Stability

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Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

Protect Continuity of CoC Funded Housing and Services

- Adopt a resolution to urge HUD and Congress to take prompt, time-limited action to ensure continuity of existing Continuum of Care (CoC)-funded housing and services during the FY2025 funding transition.
- Purpose is to prevent avoidable disruption to existing housing and services during the FY2025 transition for the region's CoCs.



Federal Funding Process Disruption Creates Timing Risk

CONTEXT

The CoC program is built on a predictable annual renewal cycle that supports continuous operations for housing and services.

- In November–December 2025, the NOFO process was disrupted (new NOFO issued, withdrawal, litigation, court-ordered pause), creating severe uncertainty on timing and steps for continued funding.
- FY 2025 CoC funds are appropriated, but obligation timing drives whether renewals can be executed without interruption.
- Local grant terms expire on fixed dates. Delays at the federal level can create a gap even when funding is ultimately available.

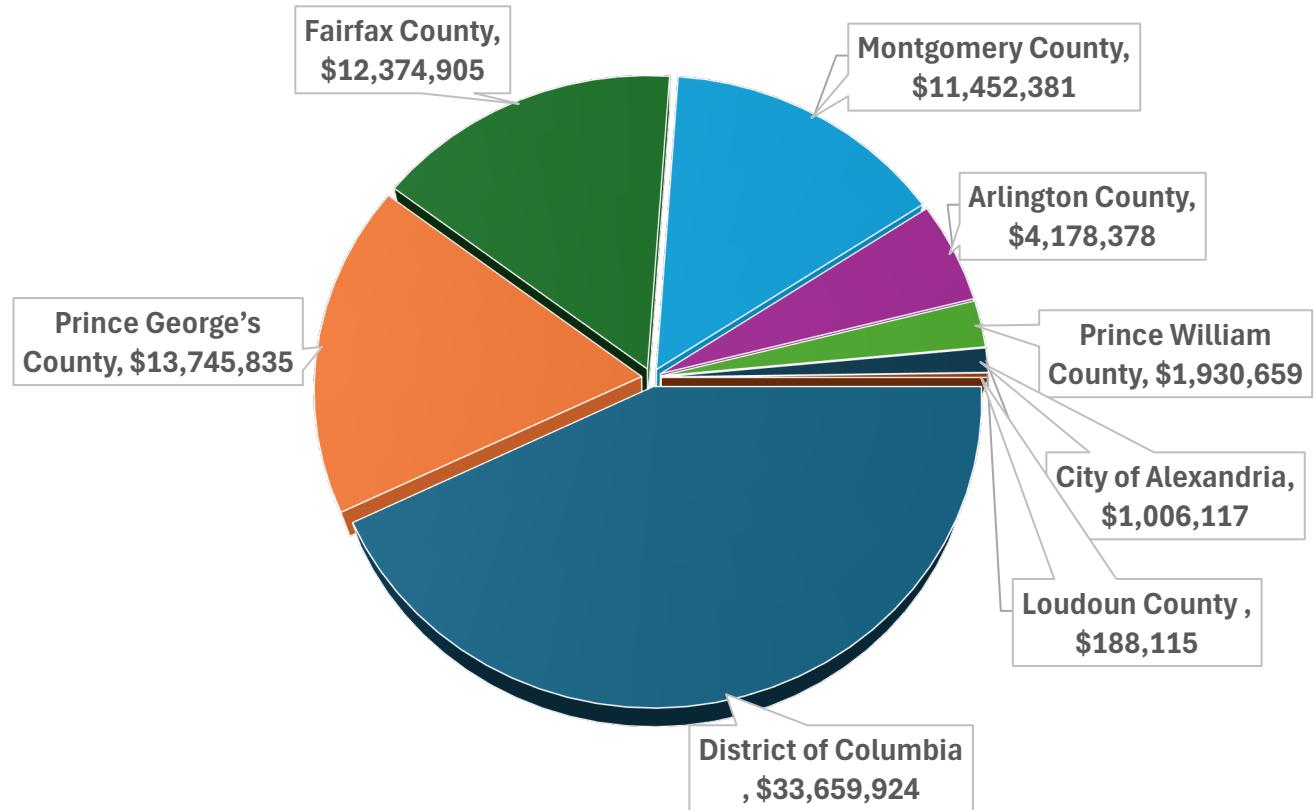
RISK TO REGIONAL SYSTEM OF CARE

- Disrupted or discontinued housing and services, provider cash-flow strain, and preventable instability for households and homeless services system health and efficacy.

Magnitude of Risk: National Exposure and Regional Scale

- National estimates suggest roughly one-third of CoC grants expire between January and June 2026.
- Metropolitan Washington received approximately **\$77.4 million** in CoC funding in FY2024.
- Even short funding gaps would affect leases, staffing, and housing stability.

FY2024 HUD CoC Total Awards



Context: How Many People Are Experiencing Homelessness in our Region?

People Experiencing Literal Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021-2025*							
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change in Number of Persons 2021 - 2025	Percent Change 2021 - 2025
City of Alexandria	106	120	152	187	166	60	57%
Arlington County	171	182	213	243	271	100	58%
District of Columbia	5,111	4,410	4,922	5,616	5,138	27	1%
Fairfax County	1,222	1,191	1,310	1,278	1,322	100	8%
Loudoun County	80	99	220	303	252	172	215%
Montgomery County	577	581	894	1,144	1,510	933	162%
Prince George's County	537	571	659	658	608	71	13%
Prince William County	282	241	326	345	392	110	39%
TOTAL	8,086	7,395	8,696	9,774	9,659	1,573	19%

Source: COG

* Totals for 2021-2023 have been revised to reflect the regional number without the City and County of Frederick.

What a Funding Gap Means on the Ground: Montgomery County

- Contract expirations;
- Funding gaps for providers, impacting their ability to provide rental assistance and to pay staff salaries;
- Decrease in the total number of housing placements available to households seeking to exit homelessness;
- Increase in length of shelter stays, fewer open beds;
- Increase in unsheltered homelessness.



Board Action Requested

Action

- Adopt the resolution and authorize transmittal of letters to HUD and Congress.
- Urge HUD to take prompt, time-limited steps to prevent interruptions to existing CoC-funded housing and services during the FY2025 process.
- Urge Congress to take immediate, time-limited action, including appropriations or other legislative vehicles, to direct and support HUD in maintaining continuity of existing CoC-funded housing and services.

Purpose

- Prevent avoidable disruption to housing stability, provider operations, and regional system performance while the FY2025 CoC funding process is completed.



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