**Definitions and Acronyms related to Homelessness and Housing**

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| **Acronym** | **Meaning** |
| BoS | Balance of State – the 96 counties in Iowa that share a Continuum of Care |
| Category 1 | Literally homeless individuals and families |
| Category 2 | People at imminent risk of homelessness (within 14 days) |
| Category 3 | Unaccompanied youth or families with children who meet the homeless definition under a different federal statute (i.e. families who are “doubled up” with others) |
| Category 4 | People fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence |
| CDBG | Community Development Block Grant (City of Cedar Rapids) |
| CI/CE | Coordinated Intake/Coordinated Entry: unifying the intake process across several agencies |
| CoC | Continuum of Care |
| CoC PPC | Linn County Continuum of Care Planning and Policy Council |
| COWSS | Community Overflow Weather Shelter System |
| CVAD | Crime Victim Assistance Division – funds victims of crime & domestic violence |
| EFSP | Emergency Food and Shelter Program – funds from Dept. of Homeland Security |
| ESG | Emergency Solutions Grant |
| FIP | Family Investment Program |
| FMR | Fair Market Rent |
| FQHC | Federally Qualified Health Center |
| HCB | Housing Cost Burden – paying more than 30% of your monthly income on rent |
| HCH | Health Care for the Homeless |
| HEARTH Act | Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing – federal legislation outlining expectations and funding priorities for homeless assistance, adopted in 2009 |
| HFfLC | Housing Fund for Linn County |
| HMIS | Homeless Management Information System – Federally sanctioned database |
| Housing First | An approach to help every person find housing as soon as possible, no exceptions |
| HRSA | Health Resources and Services Administration – in U.S. Health & Human Services |
| HUD | United States Department of Housing and Urban Development |
| ICH | Iowa Council on Homelessness |
| IFA | Iowa Finance Authority |
| LHCB | Linn County Local Homeless Coordinating Board – manages EFSP funds |
| McKinney-Vento | Renamed in 2000, the McKinney-Vento Act is federal legislation that regulates funding. This act included requirements for school systems to provide transportation and other services to children experiencing homelessness |
| Opening Doors | Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness |
| PIT | Point in Time – bi-annual count of how many people are homeless on one night |
| Prevention | Homeless Prevention – assisting “Category 2” households to avoid homelessness |
| RRH | Rapid Re-Housing |
| SAF | Shelter Assistance Funds (State of Iowa) |
| SAMHSA | Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration |
| Service Point | The Iowa HMIS |
| SSDI | Social Security Disability Income |
| SSI | Supplemental Security Income |
| SSVF | Supportive Services for Veteran Families (Dept. of Veterans Affairs). Local program is named “Operation Home” |
| VA | Veterans Administration |

**Linn County Housing for People Experiencing Homelessness**

Emergency Shelter (ES)

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| St. John of the Cross Catholic Worker House (CWH) | Single women with/without children  Married couples with/without children |
| Cedar Valley Friends of the Family | Individuals & families experiencing domestic violence |
| Family Promise of Linn County (FPLC)  (TEMPORARILY INACTIVE) | Families with children |
| Foundation 2 Youth Shelter | Youth aged 11-17 years |
| Mission of Hope (MOH) | Single men |
| The Salvation Army Emergency Lodging | Individuals & families |
| Waypoint – Madge Phillips Center (MPS) | Single women with children |
| Willis Dady Emergency Shelter (WDES) | Single men with/without children  Couples with children |

Transitional Housing (TH)

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| Abbe | Individuals with a severe mental illness |
| Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC) | Adult men and women, and women with children who are in early recovery from substance abuse |
| Catherine McAuley Center (CMC) | Single women |
| Foundation 2 | Transitional living program for youth aging out of the foster care system |
| HACAP (Inn Circle) | Individuals & families |
| Safe Place Foundation | Single men in recovery from substance abuse |

Permanent Supported Housing (PSH) – Housing with case management support for formerly homeless households

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| HACAP Maniccia House | Single men who were chronically homeless |