



BROTHERS BROOKS
VISION 2 MISSION LLC

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Special points of interest:

- **Trump admin looks at deep cuts to homeless housing program**
- **I was homeless. Trump's plan to criminalize people like me won't make you safer.**
- **Word on the Street**

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WE CARE NEWS!!!

An Informative Newsletter regarding the Homeless, Stranded and Down & Out in America

TRUMP ADMIN LOOKS AT DEEP CUTS TO HOMELESS HOUSING PROGRAM

The Trump administration is expected to dramatically cut funding for a permanent housing program — a move that could potentially reexpose tens of thousands of people to homelessness.

More than half of the 2026 funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's homelessness program designated for permanent housing projects will be cut and moved to transitional housing assistance with some work or service requirements, according to three HUD employees and a person with inside knowledge of the Continuum of Care program as well as internal HUD documents obtained by POLITICO confirming the cuts. All the people were granted anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

The funding cuts could put more than 170,000 people at risk of experiencing homelessness, according to the internal documentation and the people.

"When the subsidy and the support that goes along with those subsidies is removed, it

puts people at grave risk," said the person with inside knowledge of the CoC program. "And most of these folks without these supports will likely end up back in emergency shelters or back on our nation's streets."

The program partners with communities to provide housing and services to sheltered and unsheltered people with the goal of moving them into permanent housing. It often benefits families with children, and those who have experienced homelessness in the past in combination with being chronically ill or having a disability. The cuts could have a greater impact on rural areas that have less access to city and state dollars to supplement federal funding, the people said.

"HUD is no longer in the business of permanently funding homelessness without measuring program success at promoting recovery and self-sufficiency. There will be more news on this much needed paradigm shift soon," said a HUD spokesperson.

The change to the policy is the latest example of how the Trump administration is placing new rules on government benefits, often requiring work or other requirements for people seeking to tap federal subsidies. But those close to the program say the new policy could have severe repercussions, leaving those utilizing these services in a more dire situation if they have young children at home or are unable to work for a reason not recognized by the government as an exemption. Currently, 87 percent of all CoC program funds ending in 2026 are slated to support permanent housing in some capacity. Under the policy change, only 30 percent of the funds will be allowed to be used for that purpose.

The available funding for permanent housing for calendar



I WAS HOMELESS. TRUMP'S PLAN TO CRIMINALIZE PEOPLE LIKE ME WON'T MAKE YOU SAFER.

When I moved from New York to Miami for my new job in information technology, my future seemed bright. Four months later, the firm downsized and I was let go, setting off a chain of events that left me homeless. I was homeless

in Miami for two years, and I spent 10 months in a homeless shelter in New York City.

Growing up in Freeport, Long Island, where my family and I overcame redlining and school segregation, I was an honor-roll student and earned an athletic

scholarship to study business and restaurant and hotel management before I pivoted to IT.

Homelessness taught me that being unhoused is not a personal, moral failure. Homelessness is a market failure, a housing

poverty, the research offers

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SPOT LIGHT— TOOF—THE OTHER ONES FOUNDATION

Driven by a mission to invite our unhoused neighbors into an engaged community, TOOF has been offering humanitarian aid, case management, and extremely low-barrier employment opportunities to people experiencing homelessness since 2018. The Other Ones Foundation was born out of a desire to find new and innovative approaches to serving Austin's homeless community. TOOF's origins involve a deep dive of outreach and interviewing in encampments, asking unhoused people what THEY felt was missing from the homelessness re-

sponse system. In our initial encampment outreach, our most common finding was that people felt directionless and disempowered to connect with their community during the day, while waiting to get into shelters or access other services. This gave way to our Workforce First Program, which offers unhoused people an extremely low barrier opportunity to get a day's work. The dignity and empowerment of working in a group setting and giving back to your community, complemented by income and case management, serves as a major stepping stone to getting

our homeless friends on the path to a more fulfilling life.

OUR MISSION

The Other Ones Foundation creates sustainable pathways to stable housing and independence by providing reliable shelter, developing workforce skills and opportunities, and offering a supportive environment to our neighbors experiencing homelessness in Austin, TX

OUR VISION

A supportive community where everyone can reach their full potential with dignity and a greater sense of con-

St. Paul woman facing homelessness after housing program accused of fraud

The woman, who did not want to be identified due to the personal nature of her ordeal, said she found her downtown apartment via Housing Stabilization Services – a program the state shut down in August after the FBI raided multiple properties as part of a wide-ranging fraud investigation. In the case, eight suspects have been charged with federal crimes, and prosecutors said they expect to charge additional suspects.

Another state housing program,

Integrated Community Supports, provided the woman with housing services. But when that program became the target of fraud allegations in September, the Minnesota Department of Human Services stopped paying 11 providers.

Now, the woman must find another place to live. She said she will likely end up homeless – again. Audits preceded funding pull, provider says

"For three years now, I have been grounded, and life was finally feeling very comfortable and normal, and now it's thrown

back out on the street and homeless again," she told FOX 9.

"Zero compassion, zero consideration, zero thought. And it is – the human cost is huge. It's huge, and this time it's my life."

"He did say that he had been audited six times in the last two years, which is beyond excessive, and that nothing was ever found in all of those six times and yet funding was pulled while the DHS memo that they put out said, 'If you can provide proof there's no fraud, we will reinstate your funding,' which has yet to happen for him," she says.

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TRUMP'S PLAN TO CRIMINALIZE PEOPLE LIKE ME WON'T MAKE YOU SAFER.

problem. Rent prices have exceeded income gains by 325% nationally since 1985. Rates of homelessness are tied to rental affordability. Here in New York City, in 2023, rents skyrocketed, more than seven times faster than wages, the largest gap in the country. Stigma distorts these truths. The White House's recent moves toward the criminalization of homelessness and forced institutionalization ignore decades of

research and real-world outcomes. They reject proven models like permanent supportive housing and will raise costs in lives and tax dollars for communities nationwide. Permanent supportive housing emerged in the United States three decades ago with bipartisan support, then championed by the George W. Bush administration as a solution to chronic homelessness, rooted in a philosophy called Housing First. Housing First stabilizes people experi-

encing homelessness in permanent housing and provides them with case management support and social services based on the theory that housing stability is most people's prerequisite for success. Crucially, Housing First does not require mental health treatment, sobriety or a job. It is difficult to focus on recovery for people living with a disability when they do not know where they will sleep tonight, and I know firsthand how hard it is to search for a job without a mailing address.

THE MILLIPEDE EFFECT

Several years in the making, "The Millipede Effect" has been released by Authorhouse Publishing this past January. The book lays out BBV2M LLC founder and President Rodney Brooks quest to understand the homeless, stranded and down & out. From movies to our own perceptions, it all shapes how we approach this situation. Brooks looks at Government, Civic Organizations and religion (the Church) as all play a major part in finding ways to help the plight of the homeless. These different groups

display on a daily basis their commitment to service, financial giving and voluntary work. Like the millipede with its many body parts/ compartments (government, civic, religion) and its many legs (the people driving these various groups); there are many misconceptions about those that are homeless. The book looks at those various challenges as well hear from several of those that are homeless, stranded and down & out. Brooks introduces us to his spirit filled purpose and calling in helping the homeless, stranded and down & out

as well he walks us through what the various religions say about each individual of faith and their role in being a part of the solution. The book can be ordered through [Authorhouse Publishing](http://bookstore.authorhouse.com/Products/SKU-001092211/The--Millipede-Effect.aspx) at <http://bookstore.authorhouse.com/Products/SKU-001092211/The--Millipede-Effect.aspx> or [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/) at <https://www.amazon.com/>

Word on The Street— Lawyers who hit L.A. City with whopping bill on homeless case to get millions more

The Los Angeles City Council on Wednesday approved a fivefold increase to its contract with a law firm that drew heated criticism for the invoices it submitted in a high-stakes homelessness case.

Three months ago, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher billed the city \$1.8 million for two weeks of legal work, with 15 of its attorneys billing nearly \$1,300 per hour. By Aug. 8, the cost of the firm's work had jumped to \$3.2 million.

The price tag infuriated some on

the council, who pointed out that they had approved a three-year contract capped at \$900,000 — and specifically had asked for regular updates on the case. Despite those concerns, the council voted 10 to 3 Wednesday to increase the firm's contract to nearly \$5 million for the current fiscal year, which ends in June 2026. Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky supported the move, saying Gibson Dunn's work has been "essential to protecting the city's interests."

"At the same time, we put new oversight in place to ensure any additional funding requests come back to council before more money is allocated," said Yaroslavsky, who heads the council's budget committee.

A Gibson Dunn attorney who heads up the team that represents the city did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Meanwhile, an aide to City Atty. Hydee Feldstein Soto welcomed the council's vote.

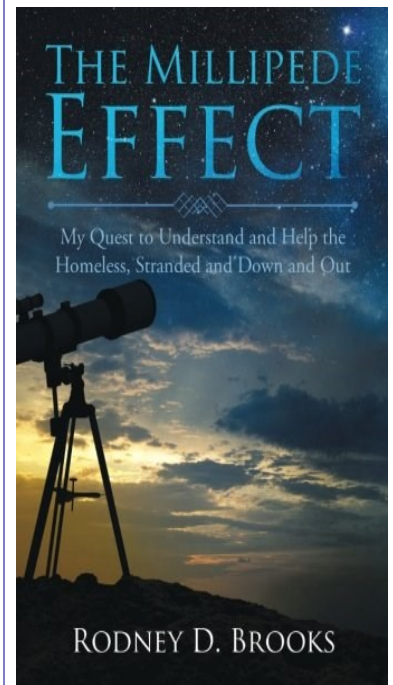
FAMILY PROMISE NONPROFIT OPENS COMPLEX FOR FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Tonya Jones was days away from being evicted when she began scouting out bridges and tunnels around Southern Nevada where she and her 3-year-old daughter could potentially sleep if they couldn't find a place to stay. Jones had been able to work from home since the pandemic. But in the summer of 2022 when she unexpectedly lost her child care, she couldn't make it to work, lost her job, and quickly fell two months behind on rent. "I found a job in the middle of September, a week before my

actual eviction day," she said. "I just needed a little bit more time." On a rainy September morning as a lockout of her apartment loomed, Jones remembered calling and emailing countless resources looking for help when she stumbled upon Family Promise of Las Vegas, a nonprofit that provides shelter and support services for families and children experiencing homelessness.

The organization put Jones and her daughter in an extended stay motel for the next several

weeks until she was able to save up money and move into her own place. Jones, 43, and her now 6-year-old daughter, have been stably housed ever since. The number of families experiencing homelessness has grown over recent years in Southern Nevada, but there aren't a lot of shelter options, especially private rooms, available for them, said Family Promise's chief operations director, Marisa Cervantes.



HOMELESS
Give them a hand
not the boot



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*A Heritage of Excellence
in Helping Others!!!*

Brothers Brooks
Vision 2 Mission LLC

"WE CARE PROGRAM"

Helping the Homeless, Stranded and Down & Out



WE ARE.....

At BBV2M LLC our vision is to help all people excel in all aspects of life. The challenges facing the homeless, stranded and down & out is such a daunting task. There are great organizations in both the public and private sector with many wonderful people who are on the frontline in ensuring that these individual are taken care of and have a voice. Our goal is to due our part by assistance , education and support. Although our organization was founded in 2015 our heritage stretches back over seven decades of assisting and helping others. The patriarchs of the family instilled the values and beliefs of helping others through the biblical teaching of God's word. Our goal is to be the bridge that helps those in need that are homeless, stranded and down & out get to the proper resources to assist them in their endeavors. This has been spiritually rewarding for us as we truly look to fulfill our purpose of helping others.

You Can Help.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

James says it best "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed or lacks daily food, and one of you say to them , "Go in peace, keep warm and eat well," but does not give them what the body needs, what good is it? (James 2:15-16) Those of us who have been given the ability to practice our faith through our works should do so. The opportunity to help our brothers and sisters in need are tremendous. If you are already doing so then I salute you and ask as well as pray that you continue to do so. If you are not or have wondered how then let me give you a couple of suggestions. Your preference in helping is based how you feel in your heart assist.

There are many national and local charitable agencies that work with the homeless. Each of these organizations have a platform and plan on who and how they help those that are homeless. Most organization do take financial donations but they also look for volunteers and advocates. Your local Church or other places of worship also has various types of ministries that are deigned to help the poor and down trodden. Your local or national Wounded Warrior chapter that is designed to help our veterans who are homeless. Whatever your preference in helping; it all starts with you. Let's each do our part in 2022 and be exceptional stewards of Love!



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Founder of Brothers Brooks
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