

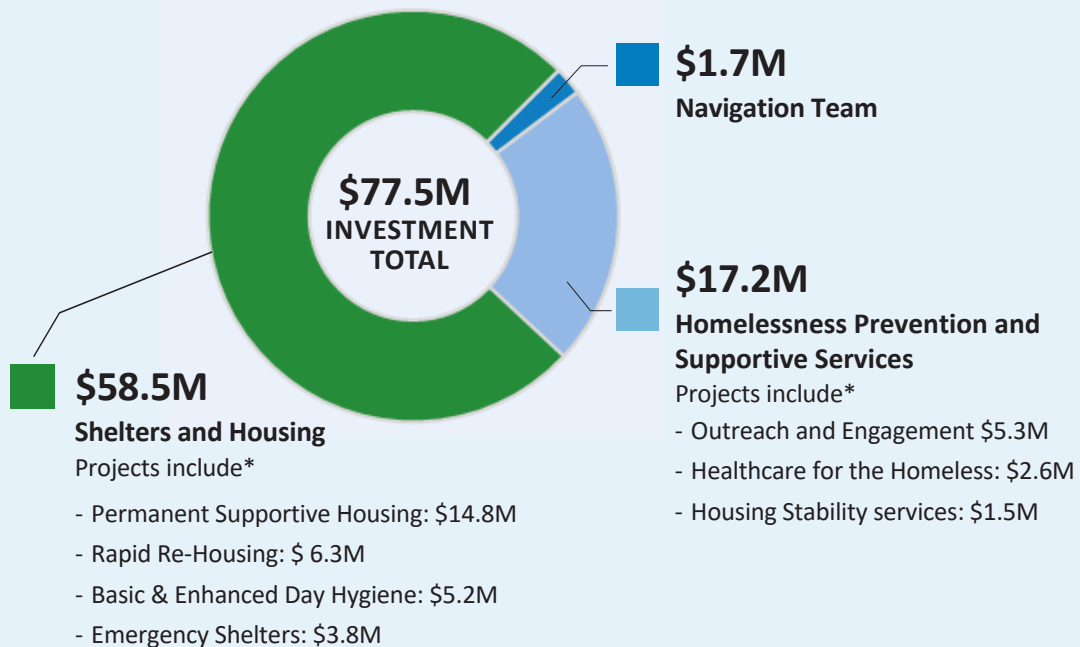
# Addressing Homelessness



HSD's Homeless Strategy and Investment (HSI) Division assists individuals in maintaining or securing permanent housing to end their experiences of homelessness. The division aims to make the experience of homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Services provided in three investment areas—prevention, emergency response, and housing—assist people who are at imminent risk of falling into homelessness or who are living without housing. In 2019, HSD investments served 24,043 unique households, representing 28,847 individuals (unduplicated).

## 2019 Budget



*\*Projects mentioned do not reflect all services funded for this impact area.*

## Homelessness Prevention

Prevention programs assist people who are currently housed but face an imminent risk of becoming homeless by helping them to remain in their housing, with the use of one-time financial assistance or case management services.

The investments in homelessness prevention programs seek to make homelessness **rare**.



### Rare

789 unique households, representing 1,401 individuals, were prevented from becoming homeless, an increase of 12% over 2018.



### Brief

3,350 unique households, representing 5,514 unduplicated individuals, moved from homelessness to housing in 2019.

The rate of exit to permanent housing among households increased slightly to 22% in 2019, from 21% in 2018.

## Emergency Response

Emergency response services provide shelter and a connection to housing for people experiencing homelessness. This includes shelters, tiny house villages, transitional housing, day centers, and outreach programs that focus on providing support for those living unhoused.

These investments seek to make the experience of homelessness **brief** by supporting people in moving to housing as quickly as possible.

The city has a Navigation Team, comprised of outreach workers, operations and site coordinators, and specially trained police officers. The team works closely with other departments—such as Seattle Parks and Recreation and Seattle Public Utilities—to ensure people living in homeless encampments receive connections to shelters and other services and trash pickup. When necessary, the team removes unsafe encampments found on public rights-of-way, sidewalks, and in parks to protect public health and safety and to maintain sidewalk accessibility.

## Housing

HSD invests in Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing programs that provide financial assistance, supportive services, or permanent housing to help people leave the homeless services system.

These investments seek to make homelessness **non-recurring**.

1,292 unique households received rapid re-housing, and 81% of program completions resulted in someone successfully obtaining permanent housing, making rapid re-housing one of the most effective interventions to address homelessness in 2019.



### Non-Recurring

2,221 unique households, representing 2,321 individuals who had previously experienced chronic homelessness, were supported to remain stably housed in permanent supportive housing, an increase of 13% over 2019.