



Interoffice Memorandum

AGENDA ITEM

January 17, 2019

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
-AND-  
Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John Goodrich, Acting Director *J. Goodrich*  
Health Services Department

FROM: Donna Wyche, Manager *D. Wyche*  
Mental Health and Homeless Issues Division  
**Contact: 407-836-7608**

SUBJECT: Permanent Supportive Housing Update  
**Work Session Agenda – January 29, 2019**

In 2014, Orange, Seminole, and Osceola Counties, along with the Cities of Orlando, Kissimmee, and Sanford, agreed to adopt the "housing first" model to address our chronic homeless problem. This best practice model, which is supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, calls for housing those who are most vulnerable and likely to be the first to die on our streets.

In 2015, Florida Hospital donated \$6M over three years to assist in transitioning the community to this new model, also referred to as permanent supportive housing. The funding was primarily used to house and support chronically homeless individuals in our region, and it was also used to build a system to collect and report data, as well as manage the process of locating appropriate housing.

Over the last four years, housing first has shown promising results. As Florida Hospital's commitment is ending, the counties in our region are being asked for funding in order to continue to provide these services to the chronically homeless. Orange County's share is \$1.8M, based on the county of residence for individuals housed.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Approval of \$1.8M to fund Orange County's share of the regional permanent supportive housing program.  
**(Mental Health and Homelessness Issues Division)**

C: Linda Weinberg, Deputy County Administrator