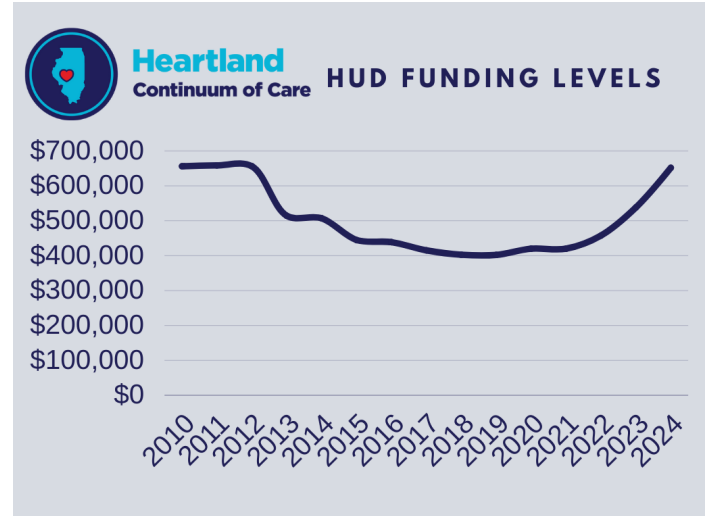




### **HUD Funding**

- HUD CoC Program Awards were announced in January. The award amount for the Heartland Continuum of Care for FY 24 is \$651,696. This is an increase of \$113,560 from the previous year and marks the first time HUD CoC funding for Springfield/Sangamon County has been over \$650,000 since 2012. HUD CoC Funding has increased by \$249,568 in the past five years (62%).



- We continue to monitor federal developments and anticipate changes to HUD's Continuum of Care program. At this point, we don't know the full extent of how the changes will impact funding levels or program design. Heartland HOUSED and the Heartland Continuum of Care have elevated the need for a Flexible Housing Pool and Housing Problem Solving Flexible Fund to mitigate potential funding changes at the federal level.



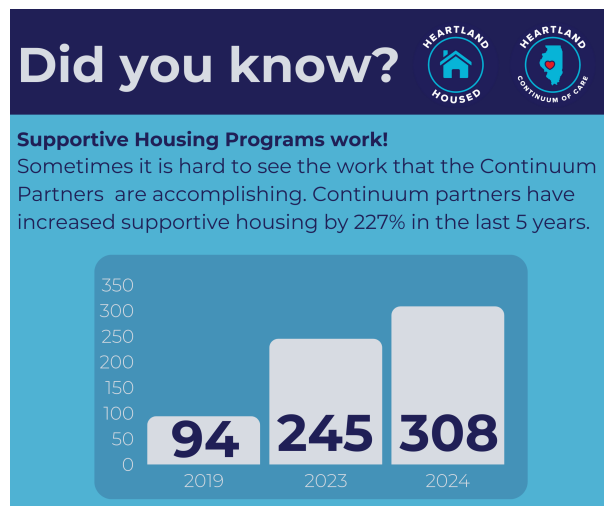
### **Point in Time Count**

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night usually in January. Over thirty volunteers from twelve different organizations participated in the annual count on January 22nd. The process with HUD to finalize the count is delayed at this time but will be made public when completed.

## **Record Number of People Supported in Housing in 2024**

Last year, HCoC partners supported 308 people in supportive housing (permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing). This is the highest number in Springfield/Sangamon County history.

Josh highlighted this growth and the implications of housing on improving community health in his most recent IT article.

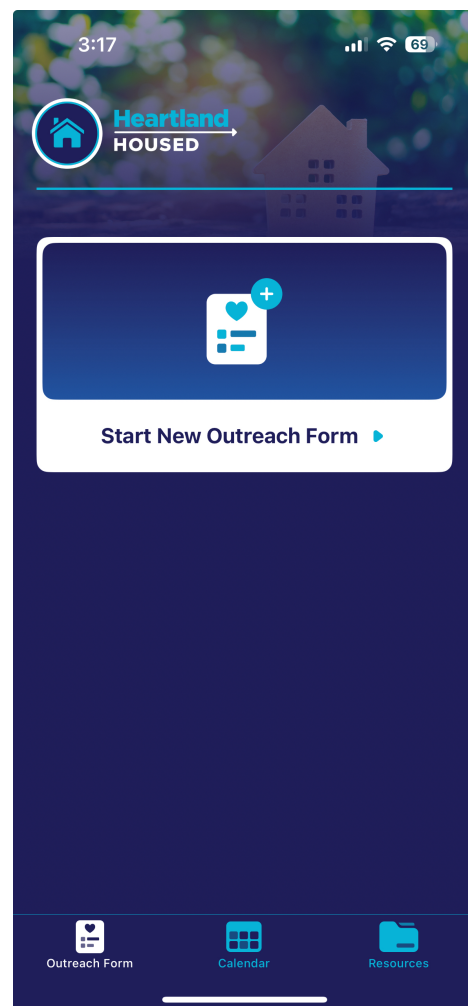


## **New Heartland HOUSED Staff**

Heartland HOUSED welcomed Molly McDonald to our team as our System Support Administrator in January and Ronetta Buckner as our Street Outreach Coordinator in February! In the coming months we will be hiring part-time street outreach staff focused on night and weekend hours.

## **HCoC Connect iOS Phone App**

In partnership with LRS and the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln, we have created an iPhone App to support outreach efforts and community resource navigation. We are creating training now and will push the app out to the community in March. You can download the app here.



## **Projects and Ongoing Efforts**

- 2025 HCoC Needs Assessment Completed
- Community Solutions Quality Data Technical Assistance work is ongoing to develop quality data for single person households.
- 100 Day Challenge on Veteran Homelessness Planning Started in February. Challenge will launch in March.
- Establishing Heartland Flexible Housing Pool and Housing Problem Solving Flexible Fund and fundraising for these efforts to create additional supportive housing opportunities, provide security for housing partners, and support prevention and initiatives to address system gaps.