

## The Homeless Crisis in Orange County

21,000+ homeless people in Orange County

Public school districts identified 22,000 Orange County students living in unstable housing conditions

There are only 3,400 shelter beds available

High-entry qualifications at many agencies leave many homeless people on the streets.

### Root Cause:

A critical shortage of affordable permanent housing

A minimum wage worker has to work 125 hour/week to afford a one-bedroom apartment

A shortage of affordable housing for renters can instigate a cycle of poverty

### Cost to taxpayers:

*"...150,000 chronically homeless people in the U.S cost \$10.95 billion per year in public funds, if these individuals were all permanently housed, the expense would be expected to fall to \$7.88 billion..."*

*-Forbes Magazine August 2006*

## The Illumination Foundation

**Mission: Bridge the gap in existing services for the most underserved to break or prevent the cycle of homelessness.**

### Why We Exist

Existing gaps in the system leave many homeless families and individuals without shelter and services

Homelessness prohibits families and individuals from accessing services and benefits they are eligible to receive.

The cycle of Homelessness is caused by a myriad of issues that are unique to each case and can negatively impact a family or individual for generations to come.

### Illumination Foundation Guiding Principles

**Offer a low-entry threshold to provide safety net for homeless families with children.**

**Connect homeless or at-risk families and individuals with services they are eligible to receive.**

**Address the crisis of homelessness through multiple services that provide appropriate solutions.**

**Empower adults to become self-sufficient; inspire children to grow into independent, productive adults.**

## Integrated Solutions

### Community Awareness

Build awareness that a homeless problem exists in Orange County and empower the community to work towards alleviating the problem.

### Community Outreach

The Mobile Multi-Service Center (MMSC) travels throughout Orange County providing free medical care and wrap-around services.

The Family is Home Partnership (FHP) Program provides case management and vital connections to families living in motels.

### Interim Housing and Wrap-Around Program

Bridge the gap between emergency shelters and permanent housing to provide stable housing and comprehensive services to underserved homeless families with children.

### Permanent Housing Program

Transition families and individuals into affordable permanent housing to facilitate long-term stability.

### Recuperative Care Program

Manage the discharge of homeless patients from hospitals to help them successfully transition back into the community.