

## MADRID`S PLEDGE TO THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

### Commitment to Principle 19: "Housing and Assistance for the Homeless"

The City Council of Madrid strongly supports the objectives of the Lisbon Declaration on the [European platform to combat homelessness](#) (June, 2021), considering homelessness to be one of the most extreme manifestations of social exclusion and one which requires a comprehensive, intersectional approach.

The approach to tackling homelessness in the city of Madrid has evolved over the years, constantly adapting the available resources to the specific needs and characteristics of those who are homeless. Because of this, we are both renovating existing shelters and implementing projects in line with the most innovative methodologies, appropriate to each reality encountered, at the same time.

In the last street counting conducted in the city of Madrid in 2018, 2,998 homeless people were located. Of these, 650 people were living on the streets, 675 in inclusion flats, 1,250 in public supported shelters, 189 in centres for foreigners and 234 in settlements.

The City Council of Madrid is deeply committed to the eradication of homelessness and to guaranteeing the basic rights of those suffering from it, having adopted recently the FEANTSA "[Homeless Bill of Rights](#)".

The key to achieving this double commitment is based on strategic lines of work focused on:

- Working with a preventive approach,
- Creating more specialised care resources and
- Improving the incorporation of these people into community life in the exercise of their rights as citizens.

Our aim is to improve how we help people in situations of maximum exclusion, focusing our efforts on creating more specialised, inclusive, quality resources with new methodologies.

This is why we currently have:

- 210 places available in individual housing to develop "**Housing First**" programmes,
- 180 places available in shared housing with **Housing Led** methodology,

The City Council of Madrid allocates a total of more than 6 million euros per year to projects with these methodologies.

Meanwhile, we have made serious efforts to:

- **Adapt the Shelter Centres that also make up the Municipal Network for the Homeless**, through the implementation of specific intervention projects: the **Harm**



**Reduction Programme, the Pet Intervention Programme,** among others, which represent an investment of more than 13 million euros.

- **Create specific care resources for new profiles** detected in street situations and increasing in recent years in Madrid, that is **women and young people**, for the amount of 4.4 million euros:

Two resources aimed specifically at women, have been implemented: The **"No Second Night" programme**, which guarantees preventive care, averting situations of greater vulnerability and violence suffered by women in street situations. Additionally, from a recovery and treatment perspective, the **Beatriz Galindo Shelter Centre** for homeless women who are victims of gender violence was launched in 2021. A pioneering, low-demand centre with a multidisciplinary technical team that guarantees a comprehensive, specialised space for women who have lived on the streets that may have been victims of violence.

With regard to intervention and care for young people in situations of maximum exclusion, one of the priority proposals for improvement is based on the implementation, in the coming months, of a **specific resource for the care of young homeless people**.

- Another important challenge is on-the-street intervention, with the creation of **multidisciplinary street teams** planned for December of this year, with an investment of 2.5 million euros.

In short, the City Council of Madrid's commitment to the eradication of homelessness amounts to more than 26 million euros across the different Centres and Projects.

Each of the centres and responses offered will be framed within the context of a **Municipal Strategy for the Care of Homeless People**, which is currently being developed and in which the improvement of coordination and collaboration with the different community resources will play a fundamental role in guaranteeing homeless people access to benefits, services and a restored life.

A life that aspires to be on a par, in terms of access to rights and opportunities, with that of any citizen of Madrid.

Madrid, 28th April 2022

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