

# Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland

## Housing First Initiative of Cuyahoga County

**Launched:** 2002

**Public Partners:** the City of Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland works to improve the lives of those most in need with special attention to families and women and children living in poverty. Its funding priorities are in ending homelessness, reducing health and education disparities and supporting the ministries of women religious. In conjunction with many partners, the foundation is also the lead convener for a Promise Neighborhood in Cleveland's Central Neighborhood. The foundation carries forward the mission of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, who have served Ohio and South Carolina for over 160 years through a number of health and human services.

The Housing First Initiative of Cuyahoga County was convened in 2002 by the Sisters of Charity Foundation, in partnership with Enterprise Community Partners and the City of Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services, to develop a strategy to address long-term and chronic homelessness among single adults in Cuyahoga County—a problem that had reached crisis proportions.

### **Sisters of Charity Foundation of**

**Cleveland:** For more than 15 years, the Sisters of Charity of Cleveland has worked to improve the lives of those most in need with special attention to families, women and children living in poverty.

[www.socfdncleveland.org](http://www.socfdncleveland.org)



SISTERS of CHARITY FOUNDATION  
OF CLEVELAND

*A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System*

The Housing First Initiative was established with the goal of producing 1,000 units of permanent supportive housing. The City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County were early and strong champions of the Initiative, making significant funding commitments, solidifying the public-private partnership from the beginning.

Today, there are 471 permanent supportive housing units across Cleveland, another 105 units slated to open this year and another 400 more in future years. Most significantly, since opening the first building in 2006, chronic homelessness in Cuyahoga County has decreased by 62%. With this success, the Initiative is working to end chronic homelessness among single adults, families and young people by 2020.

