# MNCSL

# HHS Chairs: Housing and Homelessness

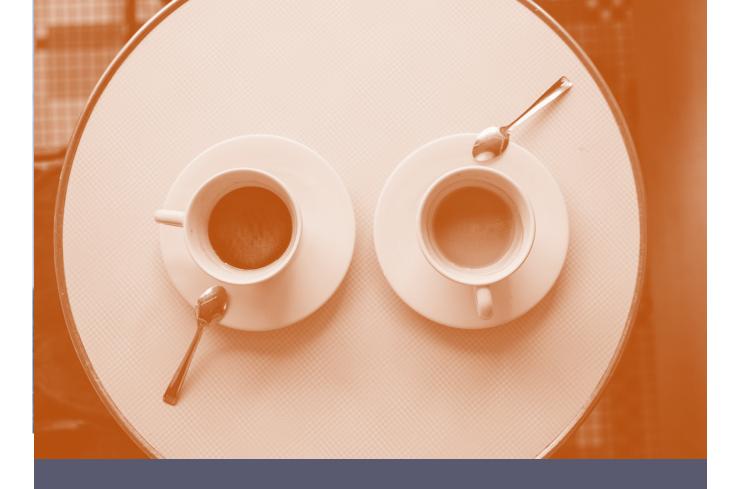
Kelsie George, Policy Analyst

Cameron Rifkin, Policy Associate



# Turn to the person next to you and share:

- Your name
- Your state
- What challenges your state or community is facing related to housing or homelessness



### Pair & Share!



# The state's role is growing rapidly

- 2019 → Legislators in 38 states and D.C.
  introduced 283 bills
- 2021 → Legislators in 49 states and D.C.
  introduced 1,416 bills

# Six-fold increase in two years



## Housing

A growing trend among state legislatures

### Housing = Health



- Housing instability can adversely impact psychological wellbeing.
- Environmental factors are correlated with poor health.
- Cost-burdened = spending more than 30% income on housing.
- Physical and social characteristics can impact health outcomes.



Source: Housing and Health: An Overview of the Literature, Health Affairs (2018)



- Combines affordable housing assistance with wrap-around services for people experiencing homelessness.
  - Non-time-limited
  - Voluntary
  - Safe and affordable
  - Community-based

#### • Outcomes:

- Increased housing stability
- Improved health outcomes
- Lower public costs



## Supportive Housing

# Nine states have introduced 19 bills on supportive housing in 2022.





### State Perspectives: Colorado and Georgia





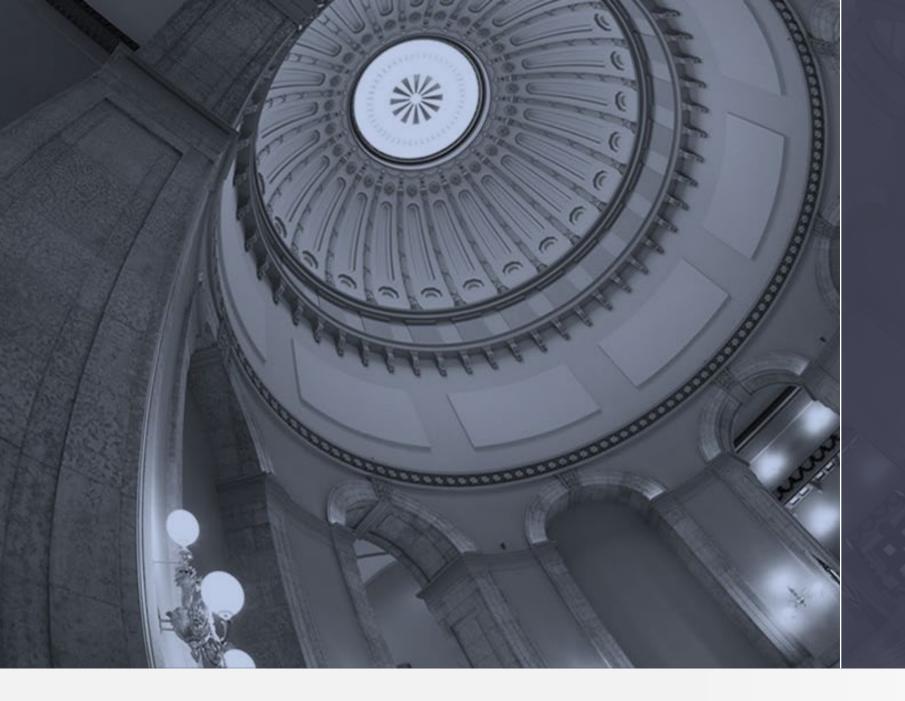
#### Zac Schaffner

Colorado Department of Local Affairs



#### Maxwell Ruppersburg

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities



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### Four Corners

Choose a subtopic and join a corner!



#### Front Left: Medicaid Reimbursement

 What can Medicaid reimburse? How have states approached reimbursement for housing-related services?

#### **Front Right: ARPA Funds**

 How have states allocated funding for supportive housing? What will happen when ARPA funding ends?

#### **Back Left: Engaging Stakeholders**

• Who should be at the table to discuss supportive housing? How can you work across agencies and sectors to achieve common goals?

### **Back Right: Opioid Settlements**

• How are states ensuring funds from opioid legal settlements are put toward opioid prevention and treatment? Where does housing fit in?



Kelsie George Policy Analyst, Health Program

Cameron Rifkin Policy Associate, Children and Families Program



### **Reach out anytime!**

Email Phone

kelsie.george@ncsl.org 303.856.1424

cameron.rifkin@ncsl.org 303.856.1427