

**Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida Announces the
Foundations Project: Building. Pathways. Home.**

A transformative capital initiative to construct a new Center for Women and Families, expanding services and helping to build pathways to stable housing.

Orlando, FL — **May 6, 2026** — The Coalition has officially launched the Foundations Project, a transformative capital initiative designed to expand services, modernize the downtown campus, and help more women and families move from crisis to stable housing.

For more than 30 years, The Coalition’s downtown campus has been a lifeline for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Central Florida. As community needs have grown, the aging facilities now limit the level of care we are able to provide our guests, particularly women and families. The Foundations Project will create a modern, safe, and family-centered environment built to meet the realities of today’s housing crisis.

The new Center for Women and Families will add 112 short-term residential beds, bringing the total to 352 beds, giving women and families more privacy, safety, and calm spaces where they can stabilize quickly. An on-site health clinic will offer preventive care, primary care, mental health support, and dental services — helping women and families stay healthy and avoid unnecessary emergency visits. A modern kitchen and dining hall will support a 30 percent increase in meal preparation each year, ensuring consistent nutrition for children and adults working toward stability. The project will also include more than 20 new bridge housing units with over 75 beds, offering home-like spaces that support women and families as they move from shelter to permanent housing. Expanded childcare and youth programs will create more stability for the children who represent about 40 percent of the individuals The Coalition serves each day.

The Foundations Project will allow The Coalition to serve more women and families each year, shorten the time they spend in shelter, and create stronger, lasting pathways toward long-term stability.

“This project is not simply about construction — it’s about transformation,” says Brad Butterstein, President and CEO of The Coalition. “Our current facilities have helped us serve thousands of families, but they were not built for the needs we see today. The Foundations Project will give women and families a place where they feel safe, have access to the services they need, and can move forward with confidence.”



With strong support from the City of Orlando, Orange County, and the federal government, the Foundations Project reflects a shared belief in creating stronger pathways to permanent housing for families across Central Florida.

"Homelessness and housing affordability are urgent challenges impacting Central Florida, with too many working families just one unexpected bill away from losing their homes," said Congressman Maxwell Frost, "I was proud to secure \$3 million in Community Project Funding to support the Coalition for the Homeless' new Center for Women and Families, and I'm proud to stand with them as they continue this life-saving work—providing not just shelter, but a pathway for our most vulnerable neighbors to rebuild their lives."

Thanks to the incredible partnership of our community, we are one step closer to building pathways home. This partnership underscores the importance of investing in solutions that help women and families rebuild their lives.

For more information on the Foundations Project, please contact Dr. Leon Kirkpatrick, leon.kirkpatrick@cflhomeless.org

About The Coalition

The Coalition is the largest provider of homeless services in the region, offering shelter, meals, and comprehensive support to help individuals and families move toward permanent housing and self-sufficiency. Its mission is to transform the lives of men, women, and children by providing crucial services to end their crisis of homelessness.