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## EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-05

**WHEREAS**, New Castle County Government is committed to ensuring that all residents have a safe and affordable place to live; and

**WHEREAS**, Homelessness continues to impact 600 New Castle County residents according to the 2021 State of Delaware Point in Time Count, and a lack of housing remains a barrier to the health, safety, well-being, employment, and education for these individuals and families; and

**WHEREAS**, More than 580,000 people on a given night were experiencing homelessness in America when the COVID-19 pandemic began and had to endure the COVID-19 pandemic without the safety and protection of a stable home, while the homelessness crisis has been further impacted and/or exacerbated during and due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, The most effective approach to solving homelessness is the Housing First approach, which entails identifying and assisting households experiencing homelessness to obtain permanent housing quickly—without treatment or sobriety pre-conditions and with few to no barriers—through housing counseling and navigation assistance, tailored levels of rental assistance, and/or wrap-around supportive services, as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Rescue Plan provides communities with significant new resources to address homelessness, including 70,000 emergency housing vouchers and \$5 billion in grants through the HOME Investment Partnerships program; and \$350 billion in State and Local Recovery Funds through the Department of the Treasury; and

**WHEREAS**, *House America*, launched on December 15, 2021, is a partnership between the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), states, and communities to respond with urgency to address the crisis of homelessness; and


**WHEREAS**, Through *House America*, HUD Secretary Marcia L. Fudge calls on state and local leaders to set and achieve ambitious goals for re-housing households currently experiencing homelessness and developing new supportive and affordable housing units;

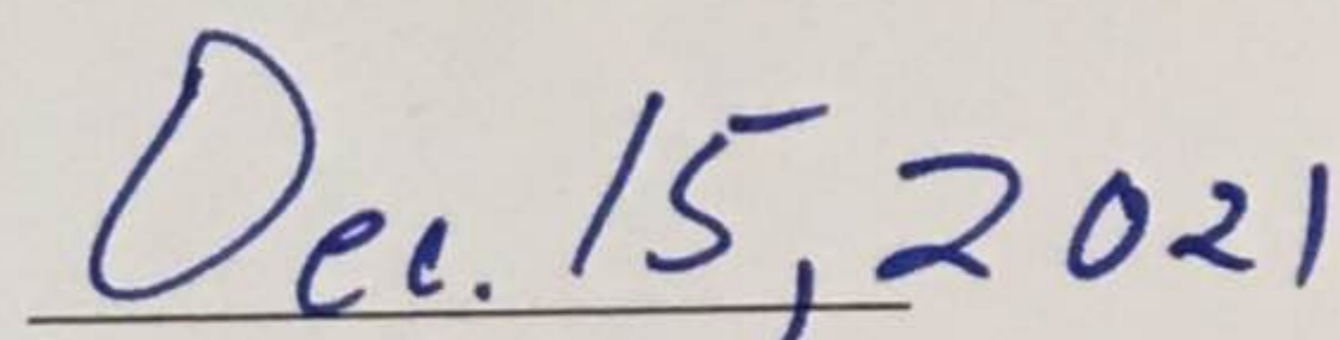
**WHEREAS**, New Castle County Government, is committed to working with HUD and USICH to use American Rescue Plan resources and other federal, state, and local resources to make progress towards ending homelessness;

### NOW THEREFORE,

I, the County Executive of New Castle County Delaware, do hereby announce and proclaim to all citizens that, as of December 15, 2021, New Castle County proudly joins *House America* and pledges to respond with urgency to homelessness in our community by setting and achieving ambitious re-housing and housing creation goals.

So Ordered:

  
Matthew Meyer  
New Castle County Executive

  
Date