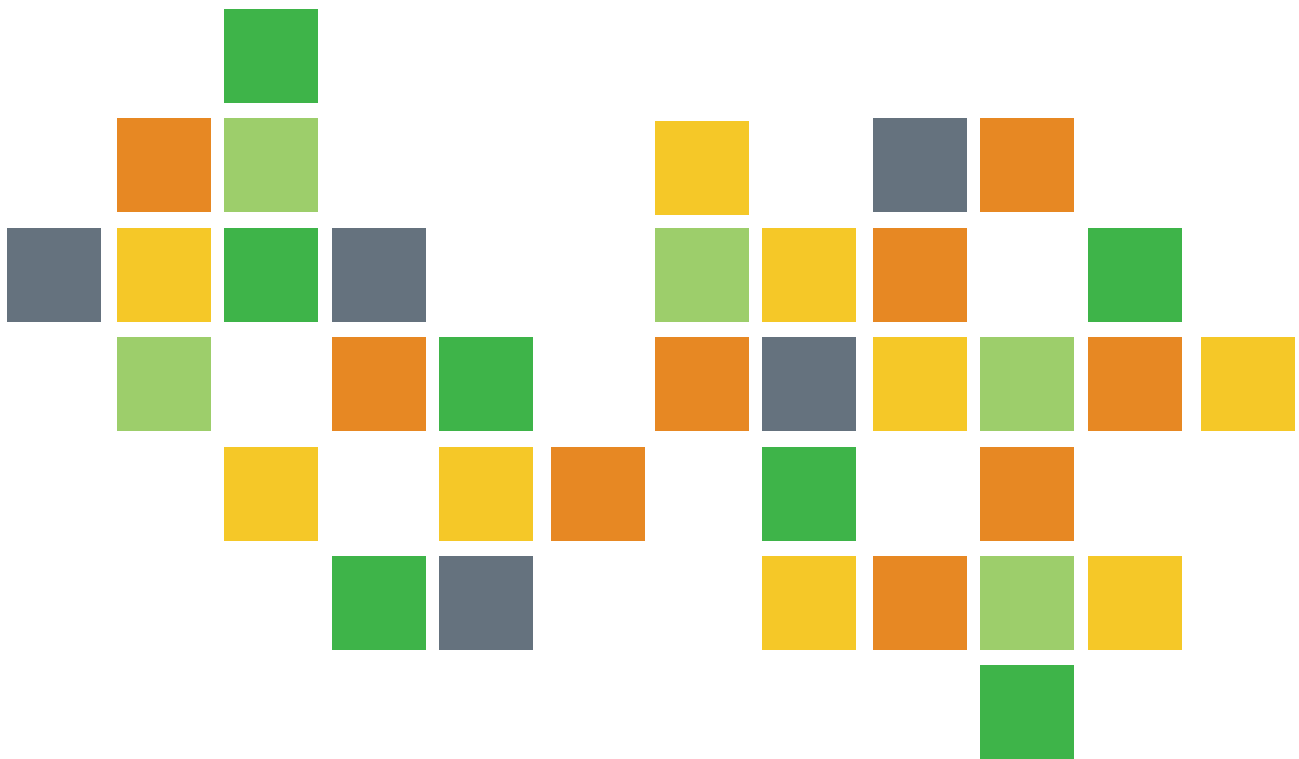




THE STREETS DON'T LIE: 2018 AUGUST SURGE

Northeast Florida | November 12, 2018



27%
DECREASE
SINCE

HOMELESSNESS

2009

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Changing Homelessness leads, advocates and manages funding to prevent and end homelessness. In partnership with local, state, and federal agencies; we administer, monitor as well as collect and report on data. We are one organization in the Northeast Florida Continuum of Care with numerous partners concentrating on different aspects of homelessness ranging from short, medium and long-term support. Working together, we address the nation's "one fundamental goal to end homelessness in America" by focusing on Clay, Duval, and Nassau Counties.

Because there is diversity in experience, challenges, household composition, and ages, our community must evaluate the various sub-populations as well¹:

- To end homelessness among Veterans
- To end chronic homelessness among people with disabilities
- To end homelessness among families with children
- To end homelessness among unaccompanied youth
- To end homelessness among all other individuals

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In January, Northeast Florida reported 1,794 people who were homeless during the Point-In-Time Count, a decrease of 27% since 2009. Most significant is the reduction in veterans who are homeless at 81% and the decrease of people who are chronically homeless at 57%. People defined as chronically homeless have a documented disability and have been continuously homeless for more than a year or have experienced four or more episodes that total 12 months or more.

On August 28, Changing Homelessness joined forces with our partner agencies and conducted the community's 2nd Annual Surge with a primary focus on people who were living on the streets in the urban core and at the beaches. On that day, nearly 100 volunteers interviewed and observed 315 people that identified as homeless. The 2nd Surge provided a better understanding of the data as we compared the previous year's count, the Point-In-Time counts and the Downtown Street counts.

WHAT ARE WE CONCERNED ABOUT?

Both the Point-In-Time and the Surge, highlight an increase in the number of youth who are homeless. From 2017 to 2018, the Point-In-Time showed a 65% increase for youth living on the streets while the Surge revealed a shocking 145% increase during the same period.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Change is possible and homelessness is solvable. Our vision to end homelessness is a bold aspiration but without clarity of focus we cannot affect change. We've witnessed a dramatic reduction with the number of veterans who are homeless. Now it is time to implement our best practices and data-driven, evidenced-based solutions to do the same for youth.

Ending homelessness impacts the lives of real people, your family, your friends, and your neighbors. The report data, insights, and conclusions are the result of dedicated and committed community representatives, stakeholders, staff, volunteers, and provider agencies. We can change homelessness together.

¹Home Together: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, July 19, 2018, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)

POINT-IN-TIME, JANUARY 2017

United States Total | 553,742

Household Type

- Individuals | 369,081
- Families w/children | 184,661

Subpopulation

- Veterans | 40,056
- Chronic | 86,962
- Youth | 40,799

Florida Total | 32,109

Household Type

- Individuals | 22,768
- Families w/children | 9,422

Subpopulation

- Veterans | 2,817
- Chronic | 4,951
- Youth | 2,019

Northeast Florida Total | 1,869

Household Type

- Individuals | 874
- Families w/children | 425 (135 HH*)

Subpopulation

- Veterans | 130
- Chronic | 319
- Youth | 135



*HH = Households

U.S. and Florida Totals - Part 1: Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness The 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress
 Northeast Florida Continuum of Care (Clay, Duval and Nassau) - The 2017 Annual Point-in-Time Report

HOMELESSNESS IN NORTHEAST FLORIDA

In our community, the population of people who are homeless comprises five categories: unaccompanied youth, individuals (all other), families with children, chronic, and Veterans. We've made progress with chronic and Veterans, **and with the right resources we know how to make the same advances with youth homelessness.**

THREE WAYS WE TRACK OUR PROGRESS.

1. Annual Point-In-Time Count, began in early 1990s | targets people who are sheltered and unsheltered

In January 2017, we counted 1,869 people who were homeless. In January 2018, we counted 1,794 people, 75 fewer people or a 4% decrease from the prior year.

2. Annual August Surge, started in 2017 | targets people who are unsheltered

During the 2017 Veterans Surge (first ever), we counted 291 of people with no place to call home. This year at our 2nd annual Street Surge we counted 315 people, or an 8.3 percent increase from the prior year.

3. Monthly Downtown Street Count, implemented in 2018 | targets people who are unsheltered

In April 2018, we partnered with Downtown Vision and Friends of Hemming Park to conduct a Downtown Monthly Street Count. At the first monthly count, we identified 25 people who were homeless. In May and September, we counted 15 people for each month. In addition to confirming the impact of the # of volunteers to people counted ratio, we have identified at least 13 people that are new to database, 14 people that we do not have enough information to validate and 28 people who were already in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

The next generation of homelessness has emerged. Unaccompanied youth ages 18-to-24 years old and unaccompanied children (under age 18) are the fastest growing segment of people living **unsheltered** on our streets.

POINT-IN-TIME

During our 2017 count, the baseline year for the youth count, we found a total of 126 youths who were homeless. In Florida, only two other CoCs, Miami-Dade and Pasco Counties, reported more youth homelessness than our community. In the 2018 count, we identified a total of 138 youth, which depicts a 10% increase from year to year.

More concerning is the steady increase of youth who are homeless. Since the first youth count in 2015, we have witnessed a 31% increase (approximately 10% each year) in the overall total number (in shelter and on the streets). **But even more disturbing is the number of youth living on the streets, which increased by 65% from the 2017 to 2018 Point-In-Time counts.**

YOUTH STREET HOMELESSNESS 2017 TO 2018

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

65%
INCREASE

AUGUST SURGE

145%
INCREASE



AUGUST SURGE

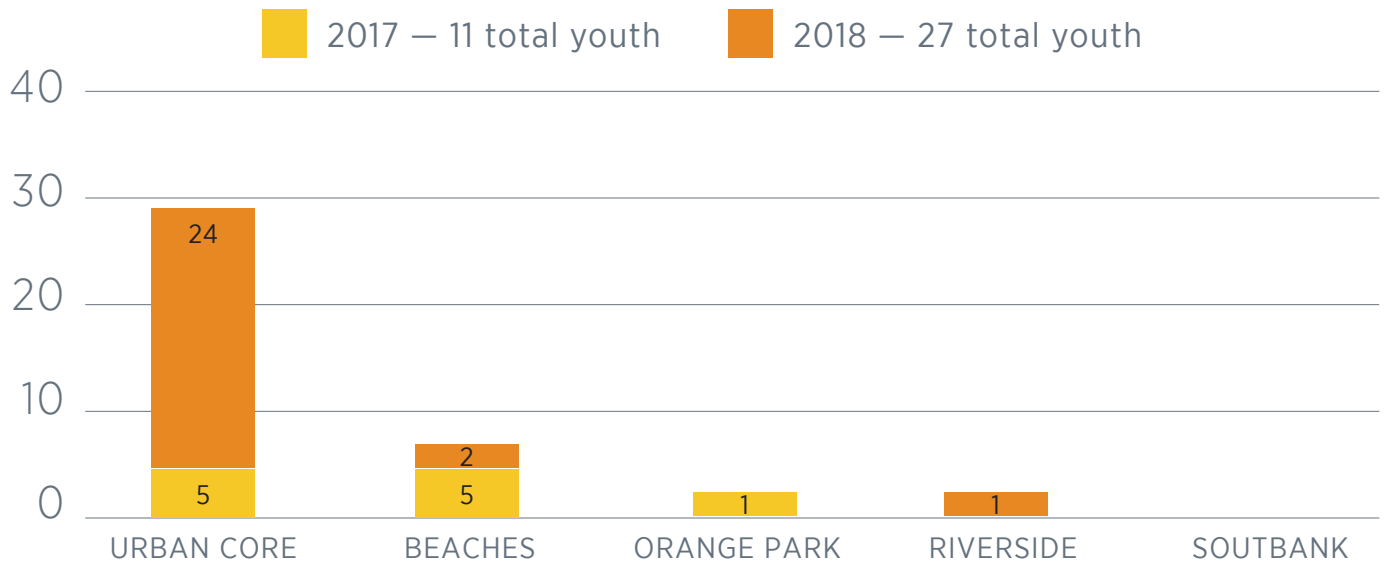
During our 2017 Veterans Surge, we identified a total of 11 youth who were living on the streets. Twelve months later, during the 2018 Surge, we counted 27 youth.

Now, we find ourselves facing an even more staggering milestone as the **number of youth living on the streets increased by 145% from the 2017 to 2018.**

DOWNTOWN STREET COUNT

During the Street Counts held in April, May and September, we identified a total of 3 youth in the Central Business District as defined by Downtown Vision. On previous counts, this area is not a known location for youth to congregate.

TOTAL YOUTH BY SURGE LOCATION



INDIVIDUALS HOMELESSNESS

All other individuals represent individuals who were not counted as one of the four defined subpopulations (youth, families with children, chronic or Veterans).

POINT-IN-TIME

In 2009, Changing Homelessness counted 499 individuals that were homeless. During our 2018 Point-in-Time Count, we identified 824 individuals which represents a dramatic 65% increase from 2009, and a 5.7% decrease from 2017 to 2018.

AUGUST SURGE

The 2017 Veterans Surge revealed a total of 214 individuals who were homeless while the 2018 count identified 252 individuals, an 18% increase from the prior year.

DOWNTOWN STREET COUNT

During the Street Counts held in April, May and September, we identified a total of 42 individuals in the Central Business District.

INDIVIDUALS REPRESENT THE BIGGEST UNMET NEED
at 50% of the total number of people who are homeless!



VETERANS HOMELESSNESS

With more than 50,000 military personnel serving in seven installations across the first coast, Veterans represent approximately 25% of the total population.

POINT-IN-TIME

In 2009, Changing Homelessness counted 647 veterans who were homeless. Since then the number of veterans who are homeless has declined dramatically. During our 2018 Point-in-Time count, we identified 120 veterans, or a dramatic 81% reduction in the number of veterans who are homeless in and around Jacksonville, and a 2.4% decrease from 2017 to 2018.

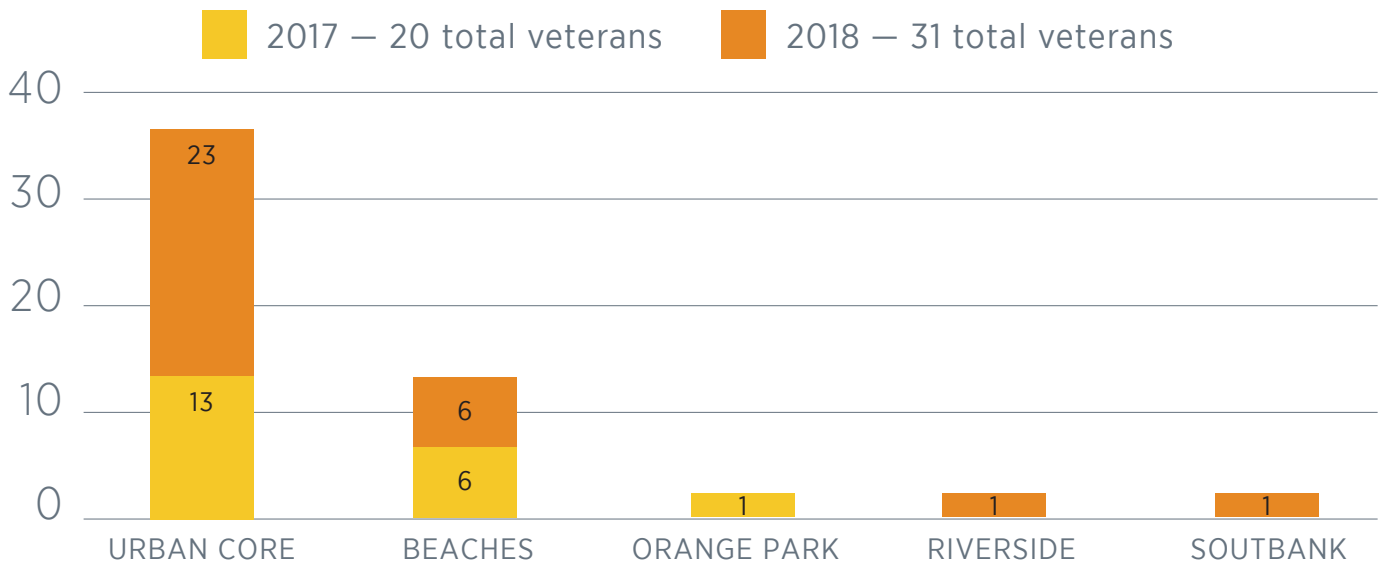
AUGUST SURGE

During our 2017 Veterans Surge, we identified 20 people who claimed to be veterans. However, the Veterans Administration only verified 11 veterans. The remaining nine individuals did not provide enough information to confirm their veteran status. The 2018 August Street Surge identified 31 people who claimed to be veterans, with 20 being verified by the Veterans Administration, revealing a 45% increase from 2017 to 2018 in the number of veterans who are unsheltered.

DOWNTOWN STREET COUNT

During the Street Counts held in April, May and September, we counted a total of 5 veterans in the Central Business District.

TOTAL VETERANS BY SURGE LOCATION



CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

People who are chronically homeless are those individuals who have a documented disabling condition and have been continuously homeless for one year or more, or have been homeless four or more times in a three-year period with a total of 12 months or more for all occasions. In other words, these people are the most vulnerable members of the homeless population and without intervention could literally die on our streets.

POINT-IN-TIME

In 2009, there was a total of 756 people defined as chronically homeless peaking at 1,104 in 2011. The 2018 Point-In-Time count found 327 people who are chronically homeless, a 56% decrease since 2009, but a slight 2.5% increase since 2017.

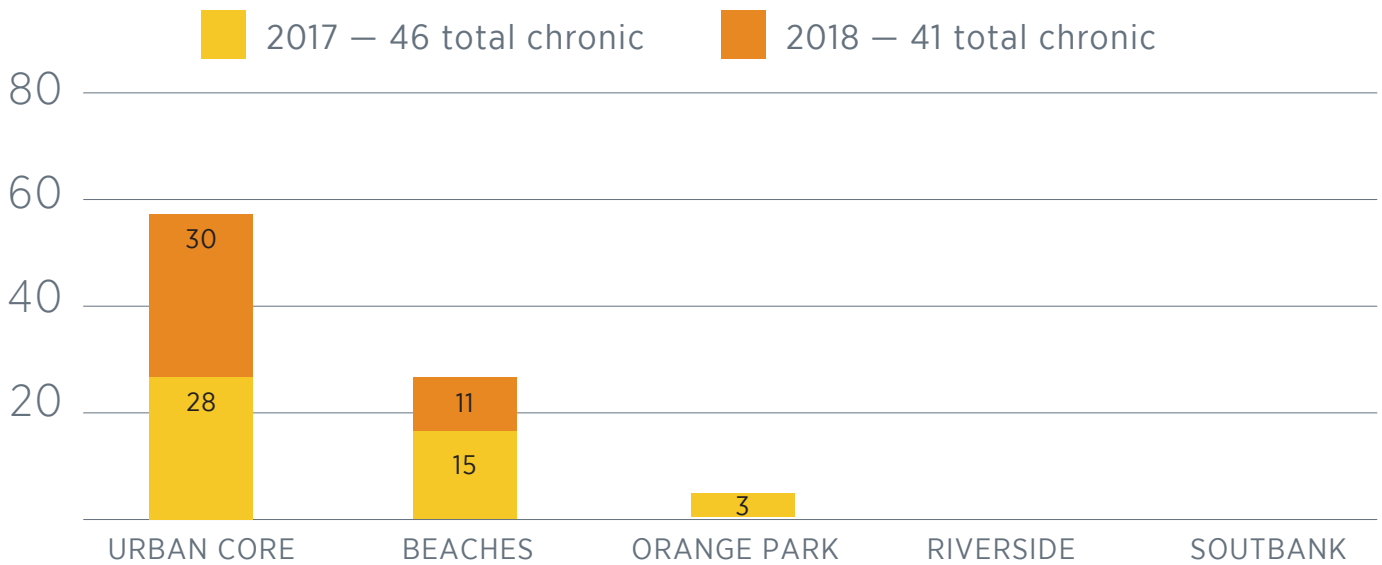
AUGUST SURGE

The 2017 Veterans Surge Count revealed a total of 46 people who were chronically homeless while the 2018 count identified 41 people, an 11% decrease since the prior year.

DOWNTOWN STREET COUNT

During the Street Counts held in April, May and September, we identified a total of 5 people who are chronically homeless in the Central Business District.

TOTAL CHRONIC BY SURGE LOCATION



FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN HOMELESSNESS

Word in the community is that agencies providing emergency shelter such as Sulzbacher, City Rescue Mission, Trinity Rescue Mission, Salvation Army and Hubbard House are seeing increasing numbers of single women with multiple children needing access to emergency housing. According to these agencies, they are sleeping people on the floor to accommodate them.

POINT-IN-TIME

The 2009 Point-In-Time count identified 150 households of families with children which represented 540 people. During the 2018 Point-In-Time, we counted 126 households of families with children which represented 384 people who were homeless, a 16% decrease in number of households and a 29% decrease in the number of people. From 2017 to 2018, the number of households decreased by 6.7% and 9.6% in the number of people.

AUGUST SURGE

The families with children subpopulation does not present during the Surge as we are counting the unsheltered (at least not in the Surges conducted so far).

DOWNTOWN STREET COUNT

As with the Surge, the same is true for the Street Count. We are not finding families with children because we are counting people who are unsheltered. However, we are hearing repeatedly of an increase in housing needs for this subpopulation and it is our recommendation that we implement a more in depth review and evaluation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the whole system working together that will create a visible difference in our community — just as it takes multiple agencies collaborating to serve the most vulnerable populations and move them into housing.

To mirror the success demonstrated with the veteran population, which included collaboration and best practice initiatives, we must build or strengthen the features best suited for each subpopulation of Northeast Florida's system of care.

THE SEVEN ELEMENTS OF A ROBUST SYSTEM OF CARE.

1. Diversion — Access to flexible spending that diverts and keeps people out of the homeless system of care.
2. Emergency Shelter — Provide temporary shelter.
3. Expanded Outreach coupled with Low-barrier Shelter — Engage with people who are experiencing a housing crisis after hours or on the weekend with a safe place for them to go.
4. Host Homes — Offer family-like environments for youth who are homeless
5. Transitional Housing — Deliver a place to stay for up to 24 months (with supportive services).
6. Rapid Re-housing Assistance — Approach to housing for persons who are not veterans and do not have minor children in their households.
7. Permanent Supportive Housing — Expand this type of housing stock to quickly move the most vulnerable individuals and families off the street.

METHODOLOGIES

We evaluate our numbers in real-time snapshots. These appraisals include interviews and observations. With the interviews, we can categorize subpopulation type while observations simply provide the observers' best estimate of ages and ethnicities. To ensure the integrity and consistency of data, all teams have an experienced staff member accompany them and are trained to count incidentally most volunteers are employed with provider agencies.

POINT-IN-TIME:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires Continuums of Care (CoC) to conduct an annual Point-In-Time count of all sheltered individuals every year. For Northeast Florida (FL-510), which represents Clay, Duval and Nassau Counties, we must report to HUD all people who are residing in our local shelters including all Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing. The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) characterizes an inventory of ALL the beds and units serving various homeless populations within our CoC regardless of funding support.

Every other year, CoCs are required to count the number of people living on the streets/unsheltered. In our CoC, we choose to count both the sheltered and unsheltered populations every year and have

done so since the early 1990s. In fact, our community was one of the first three to implement the Point-In-Time count. Each Point-In-Time averages more than 100 volunteers.

AUGUST SURGE:

On August 28, 2017, the Northeast Florida CoC carried out our first Surge, which concentrated on three key areas: the Urban Core, Beaches and Clay County. Additionally, the first Surge focused on Veterans as our community was closing in on nearly ending homelessness for this population. While there was a focus on finding Veterans, all people who were homeless and living on the streets were counted. This year's Surge targeted people who were living on the streets in the Urban Core, Riverside, San Marco and the Beaches. Each Surge had approximately 100 volunteers.

DOWNTOWN MONTHLY STREET COUNT:

On April 24, 2018, the Northeast Florida CoC partnered with Downtown Vision and Friends of Hemming Park to conduct a Downtown Monthly Street Count in the Central Business District as defined by Downtown Vision. At the first monthly count, there were 25 volunteers and in subsequent months there were 8 volunteers.

HOUSING EXAMPLES

EMERGENCY SHELTER

- City Rescue Mission
- Family Promise
- Hubbard House (Domestic Violence - DV)
- Sulzbacher
- Micah's Place (DV)
- Quigley House (DV)
- Salvation Army
- Trinity Rescue Mission
- Youth Crisis Center

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

- Clara White Mission
- City Rescue Mission
- Daniel Inc.
- Gateway Community Services
- Jacksonville Reentry Center
- Mercy Network of Clay County
- Salvation Army
- Trinity Rescue Mission
- Volunteers of America
- Youth Crisis Center

RAPID REHOUSING

- Sulzbacher
- Changing Homelessness
- Catholic Charities
- Hubbard House (DV)
- Micah's Place (DV)
- Quigley House (DV)
- Salvation Army

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE

- Ability Housing
- Presbyterian Social Ministries
- River Region
- Sulzbacher
- Jacksonville Housing Authority

DEFINITIONS

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS —

homelessness that involves a person (individual or head of household) with a documented disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for one year or more or has been homeless four or more times in a three-year period and those occasions total more than 12 months.

COORDINATED ENTRY —

standardization of the entry process for individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homeless to ensure quick and easy access.

CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC) —

community-wide collaboration committed to ending homelessness which includes local government staff/officials, law enforcement, jails, hospitals, mental health service organizations, substance abuse service organizations, affordable housing developers, disability service organizations, public housing authorities, youth-focused organizations, school administrators, domestic violence organizations, LGBTQ organizations and other community representatives and advocates.

DOWNTOWN MONTHLY STREET COUNT —

a non-mandated population-specific Point-in-Time count to validate the number of unsheltered people who were homeless at a specific time.

HOUSING FIRST —

an approach to ending homelessness that focuses on providing housing as quickly as possible. Once housing is secured supportive services are added as needed and agreed upon. The guiding principle of the “housing first” model is that people are better able to overcome problems in their lives if they are housed first.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT (PIT) —

an annually mandated count of both sheltered (sleeping at night in temporary shelters) and unsheltered homeless people on a single, designated night in January. The Department of Housing and Urban Development requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual PIT count.

SHELTERED —

refers to people who are staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing

SURGE —

a non-mandated population-specific Point-in-Time count to validate the number of unsheltered people who were homeless at a specific time.

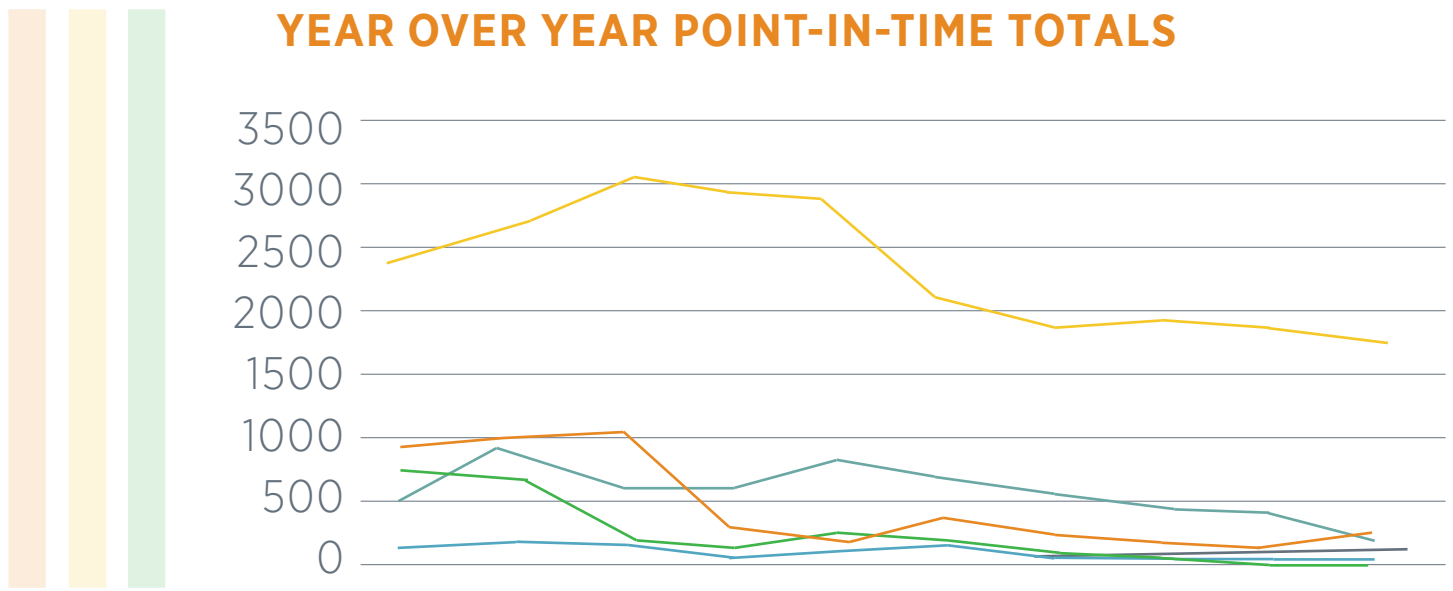
UNSHelterED —

refers to people whose primary nighttime location is not meant for human habitation such as streets, parks or vehicles.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS —

impacts individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 who lack a fixed, regular, nighttime residence or who have primary nighttime residences that are public shelters or facilities providing only temporary shelter.

APPENDIX A: YEAR OVER YEAR POINT-IN-TIME TOTALS



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	2442	3241	3025	2861	2768	2049	1853	1959	1869	1794
Chronic	756	998	1104	363	276	399	327	325	319	327
Veterans	647	513	345	292	324	224	184	130	125	121
Families (with child) Households	150	237	220	202	232	242	170	164	135	126
Families (with child) # of people	540	896	648	567	830	674	513	493	425	384
Youth							105	107	126	138



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