





# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Amidst challenges, we continue to make progress in the Detroit Continuum of Care (CoC) towards our vision:



#### **STRENGTHS**

Overall homelessness continues to decrease with the greatest decline amongst veterans. Much of the decrease in veteran homelessness can be contributed to efforts of the Veteran Leadership Team whose commitment to reducing administrative burdens and inefficiencies in the housing process has resulted in positive outcomes.

In addition to the reduction in overall homelessness, households that were placed in permanent housing have remained in that housing or other permanent housing at a rate of 99%. This drills home the point that permanent housing ends homelessness!

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

Though overall homelessness decreased, unaccompanied youth and people who have experienced long or repeated episodes of homelessness (chronic homelessness) increased. Amongst chronic homelessness, some of this increase may be attributed to a 5% decline of placement into permanent housing for people who exit street outreach programs.

Lastly, our data has revealed some racial disparities in our system amongst black families who represent 97% of families experiencing homelessness even though they only comprise 79% of households living in poverty.

#### \*Numbers derived from the Veteran-By-Name list

#### **Overall Homelessness**

2018	2019
10,744	10,006

#### **Veteran Homelessness\***

2018	2019
279	183

#### **Unaccompanied Youth**

2018	2019
47	58

Chronic Homelessness					
2018	2019				
2,231	2,326				

#### **HOMELESSNESS IN DETROIT - OVERALL PICTURE**

The data contained within this report was collected during the 2019 calendar year through the Michigan Statewide Homeless Information System (HMIS).

Client Characteristics	*Overall Homeless	Single Adults (25+)	Unaccomp. Youth (under 18)	Youth (18-24)	Adults in Families	Children in Families	Senior (35+)	Chronically Homeless
Total in HMIS – Accounting for 96% of Overall Homeless in the Detroit Continuum	10,006	6,221	58	878	1,366	2,008	2,384	2,326
Male	64%	77%	22%	56%	22%	51%	82%	72%
Female	36%	23%	78%	43%	78%	49%	18%	28%
Other (Transgender/ Non-binary)	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Age 0-4	9%	-	-	-	-	45%	-	-
Age 5-10	7%	-	-	-	-	35%	-	-
Age 11-14	3%	_	25%	-	-	14%	-	-
Age 15-17	2%	-	75%	-	-	6%	-	-
Age 18-24	11%	-	-	100%	26%	-	-	7%
Age 25-34	15%	19%	-	-	37%	-	-	16%
Age 35-44	13%	17%	-	-	19%	-	-	16%
Age 45-54	17%	27%	-	-	11%	-	-	26%
Age 55-64	18%	29%	-	-	6%	-	77%	28%
Age 65+	5%	9%	-	-	1%	-	23%	7%
Average Age	36	48	15	21	33	6	61	46
African American	88%	85%	95%	88%	93%	97%	86%	87%
White	11%	14%	5%	10%	6%	2%	13%	12%
Other	1%	1%	-	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Disabling Conditions	48%	62%	35%	43%	43%	9%	69%	100%

<sup>\*</sup>Overall numbers are unduplicated numbers. 525 persons were reported in more than one sub population category during the year

# COORDINATED ASSESSMENT MODEL (CAM) IN THE DETROIT COC: 2019 REVIEW

In 2019, the Coordinated Entry (CE) system in Detroit, known locally as the Coordinated Assessment Model (CAM) continued to implement and function under the CAM 2.0 model.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2019**

#### Compliance and Oversight

- 1. Completed a comprehensive evaluation of the CAM Lead Agency and began to implement recommendations
- 2. Closed the "side doors" for Transitional Housing projects

#### Refining and Improving

- 1. Launched two new Access Point locations in a six-month "testing" phase
- 2. Completed a thorough assessment of the CAM prioritization process and implemented changes
- 3. Conducted considerable training for CAM staff, including training on working with specific populations (i.e. people fleeing Domestic Violence)
- 4. Created a new assessment tool specific to people fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking and seeking asylum
- 5. Began work on re-vamping a system for tracking (non-HMIS) CAM data based on the recommendation from the CAM evaluation and supported through private funds
- 6. Reviewed and utilized data to inform decision-making and identified areas of improvement

#### **Cross-System Partnerships**

- 1. Began strategizing for stronger cross-system linkage with the employment system through engagement with the Detroit Workforce Development Board and Heartland Alliance
- 2. Partnered with Poverty Solutions and Wayne Metro Community Action Agency to launch a referral process for school-aged youth to access McKinney-Vento resources



#### **2019 ACCESS POINT DASHBOARD\***

\*Reported numbers are unduplicated

Access Point Location	2019 Totals
Housing Resource Center (HRC)	3,184
Tumaini	2,961
NOAH Project	726
Other	92
TOTAL	6,963



**6,963** total households presented at CAM Access Points in 2019

Avg. 28 households per day

#### by Population Details

#### **Parenting Youth (430)**

ratefully foull (43	30 <i>)</i>			
	72% (311)		19% (80)	9% (39)
Adult Family (1,534	)			
	75% (1,145)		14% (211)	11% (178)
Unaccompanied Yo	uth (815)			
20% (167)		71% (578)		9% (70)
Single Adult (4,184)	)			
14% (578)	73% (3,045)			13% (561)
■ Diverted ■ Refered to	Shelter Other Engagements*		Engagements include Follo nected with Other Services	

Connected with Street Outreach

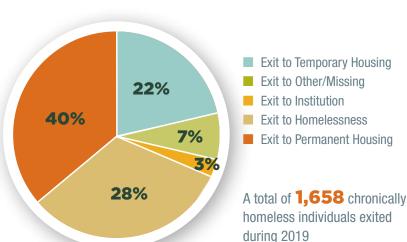
# CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

Over the course of 2019, a total of **2,326** people were identified as being chronically homeless.

A person is considered chronically homeless if they have been diagnosed with a long-term disabling condition and have been homeless 4 or more times in the past 3 years or have been or has been homeless one year continuously with that disabling condition. A family is also considered chronically homeless if one or more household members meets the requirements of the definition above. These individuals and families are often prioritized for intensive housing and supportive services, as they have significant barriers to housing, such as poor rental histories, no income, untreated mental health and/or substance abuse issues, chronic physical health concerns, unemployment, and more.

- 23% of our overall homeless population are chronically homeless
- 72% of the chronically homeless population are male
- 36% of the chronically homeless are seniors 55+

#### **EXIT DESTINATIONS**



40% of the chronically homeless population exited to Permanent Housing (PH) in 2019. Of that:

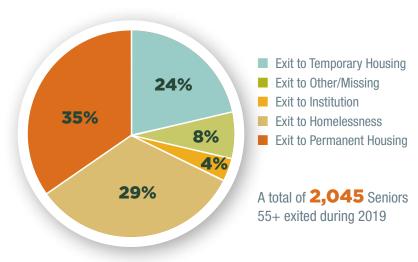
**56%** were exited with subsidy

# **SENIORS 55+**

Over the course of 2019, a total of **2,384** seniors 55+ experienced homelessness.

- Seniors 55+ represent 24% of our total homeless
- 23% of the seniors experiencing homelessness in the Detroit CoC are over the age of 65 years old
- 82% of the seniors experiencing homelessness are male
- 69% of the seniors experiencing homelessness had a disabling condition

#### **EXIT DESTINATIONS**

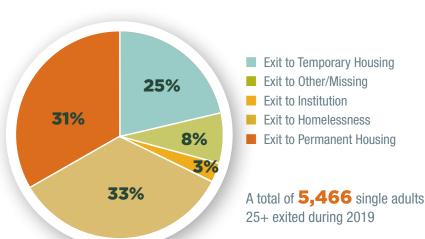


35% of the Seniors 55+ population exited to Permanent Housing (PH) in 2019. Of that:

**43%** were exited with subsidy



#### **EXIT DESTINATIONS**

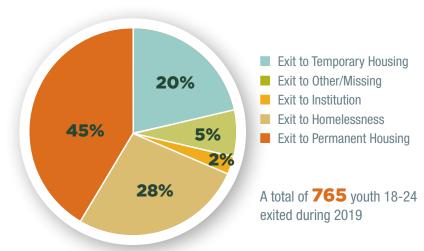


31% of the single adults 25+ exited to Permanent Housing (PH) in 2019. Of that:

**41%** were exited with subsidy



#### **EXIT DESTINATIONS**



45% of the youth 18-24 population exited to Permanent Housing (PH) in 2019. Of that:

17% were exited with subsidy

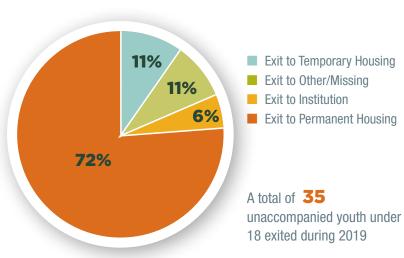
# UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH (UNDER 18)

Over the course of 2019, a total of **58** unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 experienced homelessness.

- Unaccompanied youth under 18 make up <1% of the overall homeless population
- 78% of the unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness are female



#### **EXIT DESTINATIONS**

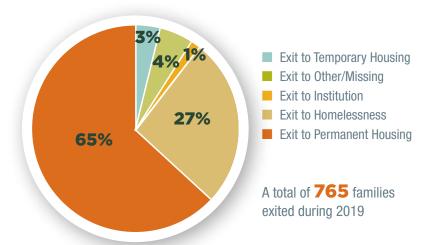


72% of the unaccompanied youth population exited to Permanent Housing (PH) in 2019. Of that:

**32%** were exited with subsidy



#### **EXIT DESTINATIONS**



65% of households with children exited to Permanent Housing (PH) in 2019. Of that:

**46%** were exited with subsidy

# **VETERANS ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

Detroit has reduced Veteran homelessness by **34%** since 12/31/2018: Started at **279** and have reduced to **183** 

Veterans Permanently Housed: 349

Inflow 462\*/Outflow 459

Total HUD VASH Veterans Housed: 145

\*Data Source: \_\_\_Veteran's By-Name-List (BNL)

#### **ROAD TO REDUCTION**

- Established an Improvement Team to develop and implement project improvements, ensuring forward movement to systematic changes towards ending Veteran homelessness.
- Implemented the Vital Document Project which improved the time it takes for a Veteran to obtain all vital documents needed to apply for housing programs.
- Reduced the VA assessment process from 3 hours to 1 hour.
- Implemented the Budgeting Project which resulted in techniques and resources being provided to all front-line staff to equip Veterans with the skills necessary to budget/repair credit and plan for permanent housing placement and sustainability.
- Fully aligned staff within the Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (HUD VASH) department, which increased referrals to the program and shortened the length of time to permanent housing placements.
- Developed the written Detroit Veteran Coordinated Entry System Policies and Procedures which standardized processes across the system to ensure all Veterans quickly move into permanent housing through a coordinated process that links them with customized interventions based on individual needs.

- Community Solutions hired an advisor dedicated solely to Detroit to assist our community in reducing and ending Veteran homelessness.
- Community partners attended various learning sessions throughout the year focusing on best practices of ending Veteran homelessness which included: improvement to case conferencing, shifting systems to better service homeless Veterans, diversion, quality improvement, and data analysis.
- Received guidance from Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN) & Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) resulting in full alignment of staff in HUD VASH, improving partnerships with RPI Management which is the local public housing authority and Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), gave the VA more authority with the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) sites in making the primary focus be a Veteran's Treatment and Permanent Housing Plan and increased collaboration between HUD VASH and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) specifically related to Progressive Engagement. All of which are significant system improvements supporting the goal of ending Veteran homelessness.

### **CHANGES IN HOMELESSNESS**

Over the course of 2019, a total of 10,006 people experienced homelessness at any given point in the year. While this number remains too high, we continue to see a decrease in the overall number of people who find themselves without a home in our community. In fact, over the past three years, we have seen a 24% decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness.

The continued overall downward trend in the number people experiencing homelessness continues to be attributed to our community's efforts to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place, from diverting them from shelter back to safe housing when accessing Coordinated Entry, and by prioritizing the most vulnerable households for Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing resources.

While overall the number of people experiencing homelessness decreased, we did see an uptick in the number of youth experiencing homelessness (both youth under 18 and youth up to 24) following significant decreases in numbers between 2017 and 2018. There continues to be limitations on homeless youth data, as youth may be more likely to avoid the homeless service system, choosing to stay in temporary and, at times dangerous, housing situations with friends, families, or acquaintances. The Committee on Youth Homelessness continues to develop strategies to identify, engage, and house the young people in our community.

We additionally saw an increase in the number of people who are chronically homeless. As this is the second year in a row we've seen an increase — albeit at a lesser rate than the previous year — this increase continues to point to the importance of ensuring our community has an adequate stock of Permanent Supportive Housing and that these resources are targeted to people experiencing chronic homelessness.



# **3 YEAR DATA COMPARISON**

The table below shows a comparison of homeless data over the past three years.

COMPARISONS	2017	2018	CHANGE 2017-2018	2019	CHANGE 2018-2019
Overall Homeless	13,175	10,744	-18%	10,006	-7%
Single Adults (25+)	*N/A	6,870	*N/A	6,221	-9%
<b>Youth</b> (18-24)	*N/A	869	*N/A	878	1%
Unaccompanied Youth (Under 18)	95	47	-51%	58	23%
Adults in Families	1,933	1,377	-29%	1,366	-1%
Children in Families	3,447	2,084	-40%	2,008	-4%
Seniors (55+)	2,501	2,613	4%	2,384	-9%
Chronically Homeless	1,700	2,231	31%	2,326	4%

<sup>\*</sup>The 2017 data placed all adults 18+ in one group so the breakout is not available for comparison.



### **SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

#### What are the System Performance Measures (SPMs)?

The SPMs are a series of measures intended to help a community gauge its progress towards reducing and ending homelessness. These measures tell us how well our projects are working together as a system to make an impact on homelessness.

#### What are the measures and how are we performing?

There are six SPMs that Detroit is currently measured on:

- 1. Length of time homeless
- 2. Returns to homelessness
- 3. Overall number of persons experiencing homelessness
- 4. Employment and income growth for persons served in CoC-funded programs
- 5. Number of first time homeless
- 6. Exits to, or retention of, permanent housing

Each of these measures is often additionally broken down into sub-measures. Full details on the CoC's performance on the SPMs can be found at www.handetroit.org/reports. You can also find information on Detroit's performance as compared to other Continuum of Care at www.handetroit.org/spms.

#### **How does HUD use this information?**

HUD evaluates a CoC's performance on the SPMs in the annual CoC competition, with an expectation that a CoC's performance will improve from year to year. For two of the three priority measures detailed below (Length of Time Homeless and Returns to Homelessness) in the 2019 CoC competition, the Detroit CoC either demonstrated improvement or no change from the FY2018 to FY2019 reporting periods. For the third priority measure — Exits to Permanent Housing — there was a slight decrease in performance for projects other than Permanent Supportive Housing.

Detroit's performance is highlighted on three key priority measures. The data in these measures is from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.



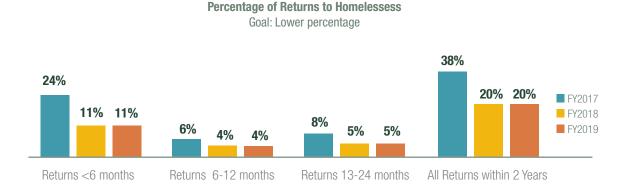
#### **MEASURE #1: LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS**

This measure is the length of time (in days) that a person spends in either an Emergency Shelter (ES) or Safe Haven (SH) program, and then in either an ES, SH, or Transitional Housing (TH) program. It is expected that lengths of stay in TH programs will be longer than other program types given the nature of the program. The average length of time persons have stayed in the ES and TH programs has decreased slightly between FY18 and FY19. The average length of time persons stayed in the ES, SH and TH programs remained the same over the FY18 and FY19 reporting periods.



#### **MEASURE #2: RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS**

This measure looks at the extent to which persons who leave a program to Permanent Housing (PH) subsequently return to homelessness. The chart below demonstrates that persons who return to homelessness after being housed are more likely to do so within the first six months of being housed. Knowing this fact should result in additional attention being given to after-care services for persons exiting from homelessness, to help ensure housing stability during those first few critical months. Detroit's performance on this measure has remained unchanged from the FY2018 to FY2019 reporting periods.

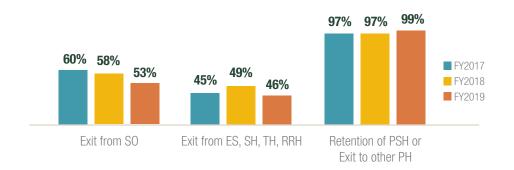


#### **MEASURE #7: PERMANENT HOUSING PLACEMENTS**

This measure considers successful housing placements differently, depending on the program type that the person is exiting from. Although exits from the program types SO and ES, SH, TH, and RRH have decreased, the retention of PSH or Exit to other PH programs have increased by 2%. The continuum will review systems and develop a plan to increase exits from the SO, ES, SH, TH, and RRH program types to PH programs.

- For Street Outreach (SO) programs, a successful housing placement includes placements into permanent housing, temporary placements, and some institutional settings. Performance on this measure has decreased by 5% from FY2018 vs FY2019.
- The measure for exits from ES, SH, TH, and RRH only considers placement into permanent housing destinations as a positive outcome. Low rates of exit from shelter to permanent housing impacts this measure. Performance on this measure has decreased by 3% from FY2018 vs FY2019.
- The measure for PSH looks at the percentage of persons who retain their PSH placement or move to another permanent housing destination. Detroit's PSH programs consistently perform well in assisting people with retaining permanent housing. Performance on this measure has improved by 2% from FY 2018 vs FY2019.

#### Exits from Program Type to Successful Placement or Permanent Housing Goal: Higher Percentage



#### **COMPARISON TO NATIONAL DATA**

The charts below compare the Detroit CoC's performance on the three key SPMs as compared to national averages for the FY2018 (10/1/2017 - 9/3/2018), the most recent publicly available national data. Comparing Detroit's performance to national SPM data should be done with a note of caution, as many factors contribute to differences in performance between communities, including HMIS coverage rates, local data quality, local housing stock, and local economic factors. Additionally, HUD does not compare a CoC's performance on the SPMs to national averages; rather, HUD compares a CoC's performance only to itself.

#### System Performance Measure #1: Length Of Time In ES, SH, and TH

While Detroit's average length of time people are homeless in shelters, Safe Havens, and transitional housing programs is lower than the national average, it is important to note there are many factors impacting this measure, including differences in HMIS vendor interpretation of report logic, which makes comparing performance on this measure to other communities challenging.

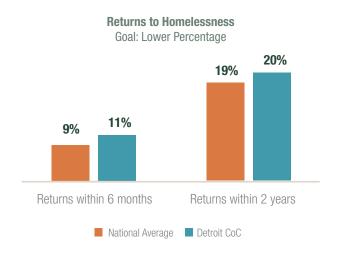






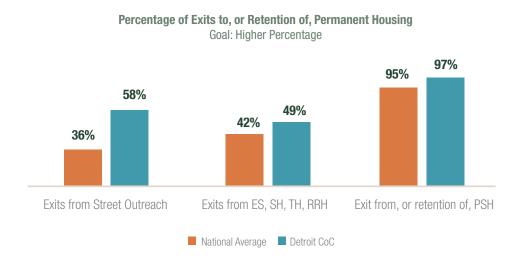
#### System Performance Measure #2: Returns to Homelessness After Exit to Permanent Housing

Detroit's performance on the percentage of people who return to homelessness after exiting to permanent housing is comparable to the national average.



#### System Performance Measure #7: Exits to, or Retention of, Permanent Housing

Detroit's performance is comparable to, or better than, the national average when it comes to exits to, or retention of, permanent housing. It is important to note that the data for exits from Street Outreach programs includes exits to some temporary locations, such as shelters or institutions, in additional permanent housing.



### 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS<sup>1</sup>

# PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING OUTCOMES

One of the primary goals of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is to help people remain housed, including either remaining in PSH or moving to another permanent housing placement. The PSH programs in Detroit historically perform very well in this area.

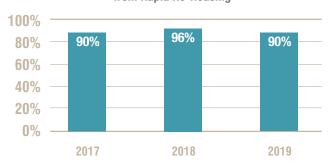
#### **Percentange PSH Residents Remaining Permanently Housed**



#### **RAPID RE-HOUSING**

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) provides temporary rental assistance; therefore, one of the key performance factors for this project type is the extent to which people exit the program to permanent housing. While project performance between 2018 and 2019 did decrease slightly, overall performance continues to remain very high. There were more people served by RRH in 2019 than in 2018, which may contribute to the slight decrease in performance.

# Percentage of People Exiting to Permanent Housing from Rapid Re-Housing

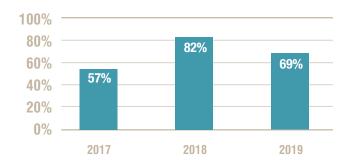


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A different method of generating the reports from HMIS was used for the 2019 report than in prior years, which may contribute to some of the differences in the data.

#### TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Like RRH, Transitional Housing (TH) is a temporary program, with a primary performance expectation that people exit to permanent housing. After seeing an improvement in performance from 2017 to 2018, overall project performance went down in 2019. This change in performance may be due to more persons being served in TH in 2019 than in 2018, and due to a greater proportion of people in 2019 (as compared to 2018) with an exit destination of "other".

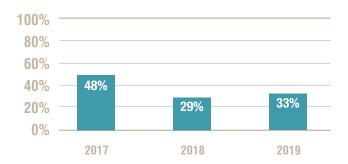
#### Percentage TH Clients Moving to Permanent Housing Destinations



#### **EMERGENCY SHELTER**

Emergency Shelter (ES) is a temporary program, with a performance expectation that people exit to permanent housing. While shelters have typically struggled to exit people to permanent housing, there was a slight increase in performance from 2018 to 2019. The data also shows that a significant proportion of people exit shelter to other shelter, although the extent to which this occurred in 2019 decreased from 2018. In 2018, close to 50% of exits from shelter were to another shelter, while in 2019 this decreased to 30%.

#### **Percentage Exiting Emergency Shelter to Permanent Housing**





#### STREET OUTREACH

Street Outreach (SO) is a program focused on engaging persons experiencing homelessness in places not meant for human habitation, with a performance expectation to assist individuals in getting off the streets and into a positive destination. Positive destinations include both permanent and temporary housing. Unfortunately, overall performance for SO programs worsened over the past year. Considering the challenging nature of engaging unsheltered individuals, approximately 40% of the clients exited from programs were exited to a destination of "Client Doesn't Know, Client Refused, or Data Not Collected". This lack of data may be impacting the performance rate, with the acknowledgement that exit destination data can be difficult to collect in SO programs.

#### **Percentage Exiting Street Outreach to Positive Destinations**



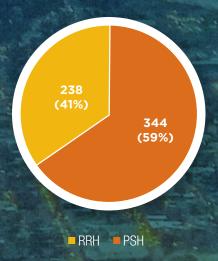


# PERMANENT HOUSING: PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING & RAPID RE-HOUSING 2019 OVERVIEW

There were 618 households housed in the Detroit CoC Permanent Housing programs in 2019

Since 2017, all Permanent Housing (PH) projects have accepted and prioritized referrals to their projects strictly through our community's coordinated entry process.

#### **RRH & PSH Referrals for 2019**



**582 TOTAL REFERRALS** 

#### **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

PSH coordination continues to happen through the robust matching process. Coordination efforts post referral made sure that clients and providers were connected as soon as possible.

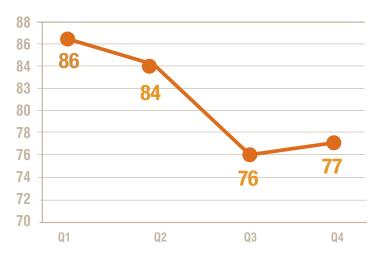
In 2019, **RAPID RE-HOUSING** launched a joint comprehensive Policy & Procedure manual developed by the CoC and the City of Detroit. This manual serves as a guide to ensure better understanding of the allowable activities as well as promoting better coordination amongst providers.



# PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DATA SNAPSHOT

The CoC is committed to focusing on individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Chronic households represented 92% of the total households referred to PSH in 2019.

#### Number of Households Housed in a PSH Program in the Detroit CoC\*





Source: HMIS Housed Data

#### **RAPID RE-HOUSING DATA SNAPSHOT**

#### Number of Households Housed in a RRH Program in the Detroit CoC





Source: HMIS Housed Data

<sup>\*</sup>number of people housed in PSH includes people referred in a previous year.

<sup>\*</sup>number of people housed in RRH includes people referred in a previous year.

### **RACIAL EQUITY**

This is an introduction of the CoC Analysis Tool which draws on Point-In-Time (PIT) Count and American Community Survey data to facilitate analysis of racial disparities among people experiencing homelessness. This tool includes data on all persons, persons in poverty, persons experiencing homelessness and other pertinent information by the CoC and State.

Such an analysis is a critical first step in identifying and changing racial and ethnic bias in our systems and services. It helps show us where there may be gaps so that we can act accordingly.

In reviewing this tool, we noticed that in the Detroit CoC, black families with children represented 79% of people experiencing poverty. However during the PIT Count, black families represented 97% of people experiencing homelessness. White families with children represent 14% of people experiencing poverty, whereas during the PIT Count white families with children represented only 2% of people experiencing homelessness. We also see higher rates of Hispanic ethnicity when we look at the 10% of families in poverty. However, Hispanic families experiencing homelessness represented only 1% during the PIT Count.

This demonstrates a large racial disparity in homelessness of families with children, beyond the impact of poverty alone.



As a community, we would need to consider other factors that may contribute to this disparity and move to work at diminishing those factors.

The number of people experiencing homelessness represented in this tool is drawn from the 2019 PIT Count data reported in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to the U.S. Congress. PIT Counts are unduplicated one-night estimates of sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations conducted by CoCs nationwide during the last week of January each year.

To see a complete breakdown of this CoC Analysis Tool, you may visit the HUD Exchange website at: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5787/coc-analysis-tool-race-and-ethnicity/

Source: HUD Exchange https://www.hudexchange.info/

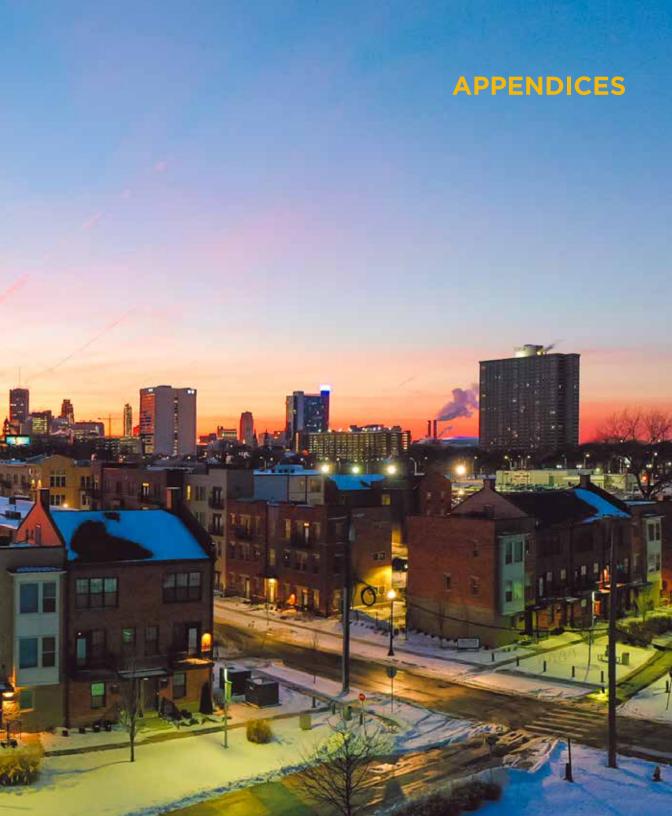
#### **RACIAL EQUITY BREAKDOWN**

	All (A	ACS)	In Poverty (ACS)			
Race and Ethnicity	All	In Families with Children	All	In Families with Children		
All People	679,865	292,435	252,897	139,553		
RACE						
White	14%	13%	14%	13%		
Black	79%	78%	79%	78%		
Native American/ Alaskan	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%		
Asian/ Pacific Islander	2%	2%	2%	2%		
Other/ Multi- Racial	5%	7%	5%	6%		
ETHNICITY						
Hispanic	8%	11%	8%	10%		
Non-Hispanic	92%	89%	92%	90%		

Data Source: Detroit MI-501 CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool - American Community Survey

	Experiencing Homelessness (PIT)		She	iencing Itered sness (PIT)	Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness (PIT)	
Race and Ethnicity	All	In Families with Children	All	In Families with Children	All	In Families with Children
All People	1,965	565	1,879	565	86	0
RACE						
White	9%	2%	9%	2%	14%	0%
Black	89%	97%	89%	97%	80%	0%
Native American/ Alaskan	<1%	0%	<1%	0%	1%	0%
Asian/ Pacific Islander	<1%	0%	<1%	0%	0%	0%
Other/ Multi- Racial	2%	1%	2%	1%	5%	0%
ETHNICITY						
Hispanic	2%	1%	1%	1%	5%	0%
Non-Hispanic	98%	99%	99%	99%	95%	0%

Data Source: Detroit MI-501 CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool - Point-In-Time (PIT) Count



### **Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND)**

Since 1996, the Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND) has served as the lead agency for the CoC for Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park. HAND is governed by a Board of Directors composed of representatives from the community. In its role as the lead agency for the CoC, HAND carries out the following activities:

- Promote integrated, community-wide strategies and plans to prevent and end homelessness;
- Provide coordination among the numerous local organizations and initiatives that serve the homeless population, and
- Manage the CoC's single, comprehensive grant application to HUD for McKinney-Vento funding which includes Continuum of Care funds and State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.



### THE DETROIT CONTINUUM OF CARE

In 2009, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and codified in law the role and functions of the Continuum of Care (CoC). Each community had to establish a CoC in compliance with the new CoC Program Interim Rule, published by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on July 31, 2012.

The Detroit CoC coordinates the implementation of a housing and service system that meets the needs of all persons experiencing homelessness throughout its geography. The Homeless Prevention and Response System includes:

- Outreach, engagement, and assessment
- Shelter, housing, and supportive services
- Homelessness prevention and diversion strategies

The Detroit CoC is a year-round planning body of representative stakeholders in the community's work toward ending homelessness. Its work includes gathering and analyzing information in order to determine the local needs of people experiencing homelessness, implementing strategic responses, and measuring results.

The Detroit CoC Board is a group of elected and appointed leaders of the CoC who have authority to make decisions on behalf of the CoC. The CoC Committees are the action planning components of the continuum. In the Committees, strategies are developed, deepened, and expanded into timed workplans.

Seven standing CoC Committees were designated in the CoC governance charter established by the Detroit CoC — the Data Committee, Performance and Evaluation Committee, Coordinated Access Model (CAM) Governance Committee, Development and Communications Committee, Housing Resource Committee, CoC General Membership Committee, and Values and Funding Priorities Committee.

Program sub-committees established by the CoC Committees review programmatic and fiscal data performance, recommend expectations and coordination, scan the environment for best practices and innovations, and evaluate the outcomes of the Continuum overall and projects funded under HUD. Sub-committees are designed to be representative of the funded service categories within the CoC.

The CoC Lead Agency provides technical, administrative, and meeting support to the CoC, CoC Board, and the Committees. The Collaborative Applicant is designated by the CoC to prepare and submit the CoC funding application to HUD each year. The HMIS Lead is designated to provide oversight and implementation support to the Detroit CoC's HMIS. In 2015, the Detroit CoC established a Memorandum of Understanding with the Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND) to serve as the CoC Lead Agency, Collaborative Applicant, and HMIS Lead.

More details about the Detroit CoC including the Governance Charter are posted on HAND's website at https://www.handetroit.org/continuum-of-care.

# CONTINUUM OF CARE FUNDING FOR HOMELESS SERVICES

The Detroit Continuum of Care received a total of \$26,921,844 in Continuum of Care funds to support projects serving people experiencing homelessness. The funding for these projects were utilized over the course of 2018 and 2019.

#### **HUD FY2018 DETROIT CONTINUUM OF CARE AWARDS**

	New Awards	Renewal Awards	
Permanent Housing			
Permanent Supportive Housing	\$ 330,005	\$ 17,667,615	
Rapid Re-Housing	\$ 275,526	\$ 3,010,382	
Transitional Housing-Rapid Re-Housing	\$ 910,646	N/A	
Transitional Housing	N/A	\$ 2,245,558	
Supportive Services Only			
Coordinated Entry Services	\$ 154,052	\$ 1,652,827	
Homeless Management Information System	\$ 100,000	\$ 290,233	
CoC Planning	\$ 285,000	N/A	
TOTAL	\$ 2,055,229	\$ 24,866,615	
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 26,921,844		

The amount of CoC funding received in FY2018 is a 5.7% increase from the amount received in FY2017, largely due to an increase in the amount of RRH funding received between those two years.

#### WHAT IS HMIS

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a web-based software application that homeless assistance providers use to coordinate care, manage their operations, and better serve their clients.

Such software applications record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless persons. HMIS implementations can encompass geographic areas ranging from a single county to an entire state. An HMIS knits together homeless assistance providers within a community and creates a more coordinated and effective housing and service delivery system.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other planners and policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels use aggregate HMIS data to obtain better information about the extent and nature of homelessness over time. Specifically, an HMIS can be used to produce an unduplicated count of homeless persons, understand patterns of service use, and measure the effectiveness of homeless programs.

HMIS was first developed in the late 1990s in response to a mandate by Congress requiring states to collect this data as a condition of receiving federal money from HUD to serve homeless populations. The impetus behind this mandate was to reduce and eventually solve homelessness, a problem which could never be solved if it was not understood and if progress toward that goal was not tracked. The Detroit CoC's HMIS was implemented in August 2004 in collaboration with the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH). The Detroit CoC is part of the Michigan Statewide HMIS implementation

and uses WellSky Community Services (ServicePoint) as their HMIS application.

The Detroit CoC's HMIS also serves as an outcomebased system that facilitates timely, efficient, and effective access to needed services and supports for persons who experience and are at risk of homelessness.

#### **Data Included in This Report**

This report gives a review of data collected through the HMIS during the 2019 calendar year. Based on our estimates, the date data in this report represents approximately 95% coverage of persons experiencing homelessness in the Detroit CoC from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

#### **Data Limitations**

The data in this report is not intended to provide a complete count of the homeless population in the Detroit CoC due to the circumstances noted below.

- 95% of homeless providers in Detroit use HMIS however, there are some organizations and programs that do not report into the HMIS, including domestic violence programs which are prohibited from using the HMIS by federal statutes.
- A response may not have been recorded for all clients to some questions, which contributes to some responses not adding up to 100%. We continue to work to improve data completeness and accuracy.
- The data for this report was pulled from the HMIS
  using several reporting queries. As each query may
  have pulled the data slightly different from the
  system there, may not always be a one-to-one
  match of data among the graphs and tables.
- The percentages displayed throughout the report are rounded to the nearest whole number.

#### **AGENCIES USING THE SYSTEM**

Over the course of 2019, there were 38 agencies actively entering or reviewing data in the HMIS.

Alternatives for Girls	Legal Aid and Defender Association
Blue Water Center for Independent Living	Love Outreach
Cass Community Social Services	Mariners Inn
Central City Integrated Health	Michigan Veterans Foundation
City of Detroit Health Department	Neighborhood Service Organization
City of Detroit Housing and Revitalization Department	NOAH Project
Coalition on Temporary Shelter	Operation Get Down
Community & Home Supports	Pope Francis Center
Community Social Services of Wayne County	Positive Images
Corp. for Supportive Housing (CSH)	Ruth Ellis Center
Covenant Community Care Center	Salvation Army
Covenant House	Southwest Solutions
Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries	St. John Community Center
Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (DWMHA)	Traveler's Aid Society of Detroit
Development Centers, Inc.	United Community Housing Coalition
Emmanuel House	Veterans Administration Medical Center
Faith Love N Kindness	Volunteers of America
Freedom House	Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services
The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW)	Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency

HAND continues to work to implement HMIS data collection and reporting at additional agencies and within additional programs to help ensure the most complete and robust data possible for the Detroit CoC.

#### **COMMITTEES & SUB-COMMITTEES**

In addition to the data collected through the HMIS, a number of CoC Committees and sub-committees coordinated initiatives and reviewed data related to the content presented in this report. They include:

#### **Detroit CoC Committees/Sub-Committees**

CAM Governance
Chronic Leadership Committee
Veterans Leadership Committee
Committee on Youth Homelessness
Performance and Evaluation Committee
Values & Funding Priorities Committee

#### **Provider Workgroups**

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
Transitional Housing (TH)
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
Shelter
Outreach



Mission:
PROVIDING LEADERSHIP TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

handetroit.ord