

Family Homelessness in Richland County

The Scope and Scale from 2004 to 2015

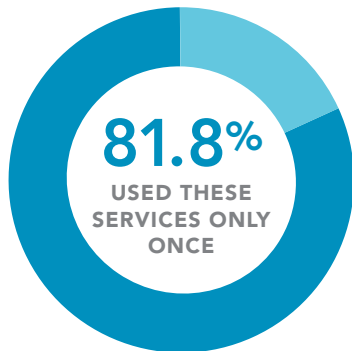
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Homelessness has been a concern in Richland County for over 25 years. A 1989 report organized by Columbia Mayor Patton Adams was one of the first to examine needs for housing, services, and existing capacity to address these needs. *It is time for another systematic examination of family homelessness.*

4,113

PERSONS USED FAMILY HOMELESS SERVICES IN RICHLAND COUNTY FROM 2004 – 2015

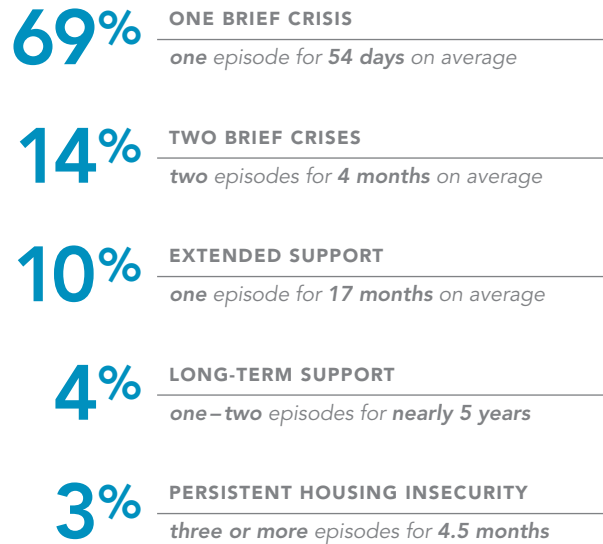


ONLY 4%

USED THESE SERVICES THREE TIMES OR MORE

according to the HUD-funded Homeless Management Information System

Analyses of the number and length of homeless episodes reveal **five distinct patterns of homeless service** used by families in Richland County over 12 years:



Different types of family homelessness would best be served with different interventions tailored to family needs.

Analyses of requests for homeless services document that **need for services clearly out paces our current capacity.**

- » Need for much more affordable housing.
- » Develop rapid re-housing for large majority of families who have one crisis.
- » Expand emergency housing capacity with rapid re-housing.
- » Target transitional housing for families most in need of extended support.

Family homelessness services need coordination across a continuum of care.

