

2022 YWCA USA

National Program Inventory and Impact Summary

Impact Area - Housing and Housing Programs

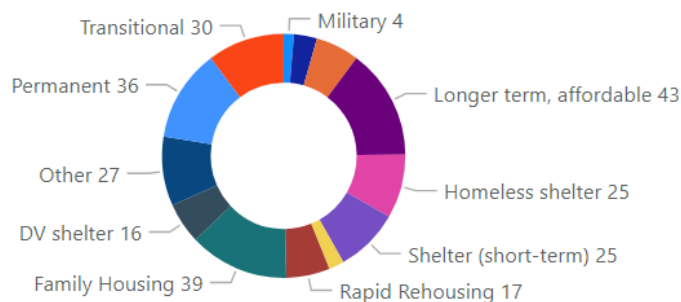
About

YWCA USA is a strong network nationwide of 196 local associations. Local associations are asked yearly to provide program-level data for collective impact evaluations. In 2022, 135 (68.9%) local associations reported on their programs and impact. Impact data provided throughout recognizes those who submitted and is not the collective 196.

Summary

Housing and Housing programs are designed to assist the people in the communities in which they live. Local associations who completed the survey were allowed to select which sub-area the program was being reported on fell into. The graph below shows how many programs were reported per sub-area.

Breakdown of Program Sub-Areas



Forty-eight associations reported having a housing/housing program, and these associations said:

- 99 programs
- Served 31,890 people
- 59.46% of people served were people of color
- 70.90% of people served were Women and Girls

In the 2021 YWCA National Program Inventory and Impact Survey, Housing and Housing Programs served a total of 25,189 people. Compared to the 31,890 people served in 2022, these programs were able to serve 6,701 more people in one year!

According to The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which wrote the 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, “In 2022, more than half a million people experienced homelessness on a given night”. The report also acknowledges a “1.3% increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness from 2020 to 2022”. HUD concludes that COVID-19 forced communities to find creative housing solutions to lessen the risk of spreading this deadly disease.

This could indicate why there was an increase in the number of people served through YWCA Housing and Housing Programs. Another factor that could influence the number of people seeking shelter and housing during COVID-19 is people who lost their jobs.² In March of 2022, it was reported that 2.5 million people lost their jobs or worked less due to company closures and loss of business. Millions of people losing their financial income could lead to homelessness.

Five thousand seven hundred twenty (5,720) individuals receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) are also involved in YWCA Housing and Housing Programs across the network. Almost four times more people are receiving SNAP benefits than those receiving Public Housing Vouchers (1,815). This could be a direct correlation between 2022 and Covid-19.

The most reported program area for Housing and Housing Programs is longer-term, affordable housing. In the State of Homelessness: 2023 Edition by the National Alliance to End Homelessness, they reported, ³“Permanent housing makes up 60% of all beds connected to homeless services systems. The number of such slots has consistently trended upward since data collection began, with a 26% growth over the last five years. Despite these investments, homelessness (including unsheltered homelessness) is still rising. Available resources are insufficient to ensure permanent housing for everyone who needs it”.

During the 2023 Racial Justice Challenge, housing was one of the topics explored by participants through previously selected videos, articles, and more. On day 7 of the Challenge, a video entitled “The Intersections Between Domestic and Sexual Violence, Racism, and Homelessness” was developed by Safe Housing Partnerships. The video discussed homelessness and pointed out that people of color tend to face homelessness more than people who are white. The video explains that 78% of people who identify as

¹ “HUD Releases 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report.” U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. December 19, 2022.

² “2.5 Million Unable to Work in March 2022 because Employer Closed or Lost Business Due to COVID-19.” U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 19, 2022. <https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2022/2-5-million-unable-to-work-in-march-2022-because-employer-closed-or-lost-business-due-to-covid-19.htm>.

³ 1. State of Homelessness: 2023 Edition, accessed July 25, 2023, <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness/#indicators-of-risk>.

⁴ 1. *The Intersections Between Domestic and Sexual Violence, Racism, and Homelessness* (Safe Housing Partnerships), accessed July 24, 2023, <https://youtu.be/XRTNvWIL1sU>.

homeless are people of color (Indigenous and African American individuals are included in the 78%), and 22% are white.

Network impoverishment occurs when someone homeless attempts to stay with a friend or a family member. The friend or family member now has the emotional, physical, and financial strain of adding a person to their family by taking on another person.

Housing and Housing Programs Trends

Programs: The following programs/initiatives are consistently found throughout the survey submissions for Housing and Housing Programs:

- Domestic Violence Shelter/Housing
- Emergency Rental Assistance
- Family Housing
- Homeless shelter/ Shelter (short-term)
- Long-term, affordable
- Permanent
- Transitional Housing

Challenges: To program delivery reported by the associations:

- Criminal background, income, credit, and housing history are all barriers to obtaining housing for individuals.
- Finding qualified staff (social worker/caregiver)
- Funding and a way to pay for furniture, linens, and other items needed for housing.
- Individuals do not have the needed documentation for low-income housing like birth certificates, ID, social security card, etc.
- Lack of affordable quality housing and competitive wages
- Long-term case management for residents and transportation for clients with disabilities

Opportunities: The associations reported the following opportunities for greater impact

- Additional Funding and Strengthening community partnerships.
- Advocating for legislators to make housing one of the 2023 statewide budget priorities.
- Enhance, Grow, Locate, or Build a new location.
- Eviction Prevention Program/ Looking for ways to meet the needs of the community and the victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking.
- Having clients move into permanent housing/ Providing stable housing to increase the number of healthy-term babies born.
- Implementing Trauma-Informed Care and increasing support to the whole family

- Outreach to communities to provide financial education, homebuyer education, and post-purchase resources.