HOMELESS TO HOUSED
BUSTING BARRIERS TO HOUSING IN DENTON COUNTY

A REPORT OF COMMUNITY DATA AND 2018 PIT COUNT SURVEY RESULTS

For years, the Point In Time (PIT) count was the single source of shared community data about the number of people experiencing homelessness. Through continuous improvements in homelessness data management and the implementation of Coordinated Entry (CE) in Denton County, it is now possible to track, in real-time, data that is critical to the overall understanding of housing needs for people experiencing homelessness and the ability to identify gaps in housing in Denton County. CE is the system and process that ensures people who are experiencing homelessness are quickly identified, assessed, and connected to housing assistance and supportive services that promote housing stability.

CE is the system that produces real-time data to get people housed and the PIT COUNT is a key snapshot of what is happening in a single day.

HOUSING PRIORITY LIST (HPL)

The HPL is the "pot at the end of the Coordinated Entry rainbow". CE coordinates efforts, maximizes the number of people contributing data and produces the HPL that tracks people in real time including first time and returning users. In addition it identifies the housing support needed to help someone resolve their homelessness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Metric</th>
<th># of Single Households</th>
<th># of Family Households</th>
<th>Total Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Households Assessed</td>
<td>ACTIVE HOUSEHOLD</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Status</td>
<td>ACTIVE HOUSEHOLD</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NEED IDENTIFIED:

| DENTON COUNTY HOUSING NEEDS        | Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)  | 400                    | 59                     | 459             |
|                                    | Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)| 149                  | 51                     | 200             |

TOTAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NEED        | 549                     | 110                    | 659                    |

OTHER HOUSING ASSISTANCE:

| Diversion                          | 170                     | 29                     | 199                    |

* Data produced by VI-SPDAT and F-SPDAT Reports; RRH and PSH HPL; As of 2/7/2018

In Denton County, there are 659 people who are currently identified in need of either short-term (RRH) or long-term (PSH) supportive housing assistance.

An additional 199 have been identified for Diversion. Diversion helps people with additional assets to resolve their homelessness without the need for shelter or housing assistance.

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Analysis of available data and survey tools helps the community better understand the complex issue of homelessness. The data provides vital information for the community: to make informed decisions; to track how the housing response system is performing; to track our progress toward our System Performance Measures; to identify challenges; and to create solutions.

DOWNLOAD REPORT: https://endhomelessnessdenton.com/infodata/
THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS IS HOUSING

COMMON HOUSING BARRIERS
For the 659 people currently on the Denton County Housing Priority List, including many of the estimated 255 people experiencing homelessness surveyed in Denton County on January 25, 2018, housing is the single most significant challenge they face. The reason someone becomes homeless often create barriers to obtaining future housing and the longer a person stays homeless increases the chances that the person may face additional obstacles that will limit their access to a permanent housing solution.

GAPS IN HOUSING
Similar to the barriers faced by people experiencing homelessness, there are also challenges to the system’s ability to meet the demand. In addition to traditional housing obstacles of affordability, availability and accessibility of housing (p. 5) for people with high barriers, there is also a shortage of financial and human resource in Denton County. Using our existing data for RRH and PSH needs, we estimate the gap is significant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Current Capacity¹</th>
<th>Gap</th>
<th>Estimated Cost to fill Housing Gap²</th>
<th>Estimated Cost of Supportive Staff³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Re-Housing (short-term rental assistance &amp; case management support)</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>459 units</td>
<td>84 units</td>
<td>304 units</td>
<td>$2,207,331.00 - $4,414,662.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>42 units</td>
<td>7 units</td>
<td>25 units</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Supportive Housing (long-term rental assistance &amp; case management support)</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>200 units/yr</td>
<td>0 units/yr</td>
<td>200 units/yr</td>
<td>$3,847,200.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fortunately, there are a number of great ideas from many of our neighboring communities to find programs to help us break down some of these barriers and lower obstacles. The Barriers Fund and Doors for Denton County are programs developed locally borrowing from the best practices of others. By increasing access to new financial resources, the Barriers Fund lowers barriers and increases access to affordable, safe, decent housing through three key strategies: (1) LANDLORD OUTREACH; (2) FAMILY SUPPORT; and (3) COMMUNITY ADVOCACY. We are encouraging those who want to help someone who is homeless to find a home to give to the Barriers Fund.

SPRING INTO ACTION (March 20 - April 20)
Join our Spring giving campaign to reduce barriers to housing for families in Denton County.

DENTON COUNTY BARRIERS FUND
is an innovative, collaborative fund that promotes HOUSING STABILITY + SELF SUFFICIENCY through

FAMILY SUPPORT
LANDLORD OUTREACH
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

DONATE: https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/homelessness

DOWNLOAD REPORT: https://endhomelessnessdenton.com/infodata/
Every January during the last ten days of the month, communities across the country conduct a count of people experiencing homelessness. On January 25, 2018, Denton County identified 255 people with 43% staying in emergency shelter and 57% living unsheltered on the street or other place not fit for human habitation.

**PIT COUNT CENSUS**

12% Increase in 2018

- 2016: 230
- 2017: 228
- 2018: 255

**GENDER**

- 64.3% Men
- 31.8% Women
- >1% Other

From year to year, there is little variation in the distribution of people experiencing homelessness by gender.

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

(Top 4 Reported)

- 21.5% Hispanic or Latino (19.2%)
- 76% White (77.9%)
- 16% Black (10%)
- 3% American Indian (<1%)
- 5% Multiple (2.6%)

Minorities are often disproportionately impacted by incidents of homelessness. Rates of homelessness in the population above compares PIT Count versus Denton County (DC) Data. In 2018 there is a drop in the percentage of blacks experiencing homelessness (15.9%) compared to 2017 (24.7%).

**AGE DISTRIBUTION**

- 11 Children
- 27 18-24
- 211 25+
- 238 Adults

Average Age: 48

Adult Age Range: 18 yrs. - 84 yrs.

**SLEEPING LOCATION**

- 43% Sheltered
- 57% Unsheltered

14% increase in unsheltered

Most Common Unsheltered Sleeping Locations

- Encampment: 35%
- Street or Sidewalk: 32%
- Vehicle: 26%

**SUBPOPULATIONS**

- Chronic Homeless: 33
- Veterans: 21

Chronically Homeless Defined: An individual with a disabling condition or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition who:

- Has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more and/or;
- Has experienced 4 or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

(Cumulative total of the four episodes is at least one year.)
2018 DENTON COUNTY POINT IN TIME SURVEY RESULTS

REASON FOR HOMELESSNESS

TOP 6 REPORTED*

- 38% Unemployment
- 38% Other
- 27.8% Unable to pay rent/mortgage
- 14.1% Domestic Violence
- 11.5% Criminal Record
- 11.1% Physical Health

*individuals were able to choose multiple responses

COUNT LOCATIONS

The Counting Us app provided real-time tracking and location data showing where surveys were completed to help us see how much of Denton County was covered during the count. There have been improvements to coverage but we still have a long way to go to identifying people experiencing homelessness throughout the entire County.

QUICK FACTS

- 48.5% are experiencing homelessness for the first time
- 2% are homeless because of natural disaster
- 25% have social security disability benefits

If we were able to prevent people from becoming homeless for the first time, we could reduce homelessness by half.

- 18% are victims of domestic violence
- 45% have a GED or high school diploma
- 40% have education beyond a high school diploma

WHERE YOU BECAME HOMELESS

Over the last few years, the survey has consistently asked, “where did you become homeless this time”. Homelessness is transient and people move in and out of places they are staying more frequently than people who are housed.

In 2017 there was a spike in people reporting becoming homeless in Dallas (which was up from less than percent in 2016 to just over 20% in 2017).

The level of people reporting where they became homeless in the 2018 count has seen a return to levels more consistent with previous counts prior to 2017.

CHRONIC DISABILITY

DOWNLOAD REPORT: https://endhomelessnessdenton.com/infodata/

DENTON COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION
**THE CHALLENGE OF AFFORDABLE - AVAILABLE - ACCESSIBLE**

With gaps in housing options that low-income households can afford (Affordability); high occupancy rates that limit the number of housing units available resulting in higher rental rates (Availability); and housing that is not accessible to people with little or no income and who have higher barriers (Accessibility); there is a housing issue that contributes to the number of individuals and families who are at-risk of becoming homeless and limits a homeless household’s ability to return to housing stability.

**HOUSING AFFORDABILITY**

The National Low Income Housing Coalition’s Out of Reach, Texas Dashboard provides data on housing affordability in Denton County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denton County Facts</th>
<th>National Low Income Housing Coalition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Wage</td>
<td>$7.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Rent Wages</td>
<td>$13.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-Bedroom Housing Wages</td>
<td>$19.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Renters Households</td>
<td>91,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Renters</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rent Affordable for Low Income Households**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Wage Worker</th>
<th>$377</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household at 30% AMI</td>
<td>$551</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fair Market Rent**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1-Bedroom FMR</th>
<th>$837</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-Bedroom FMR</td>
<td>$1,031</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AMI 30% Income Level**

| 30% of AMI | $22,020 |

**HOUSING AVAILABILITY**

In a rental market with higher occupancy rates, there is a shortage of units and the market rate for units is not affordable to homeless and cost burdened low-income renters.

**Denton County Occupancy Rate**

94.5%

American Community Survey 2016

**Making Homelessness Rare, Brief & Non-Recurring**

Learn More:
- EndHomelessnessDenton.com
- UnitedWayDenton.org/Homelessness

**Data Sources**

- https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/dentoncountytexas/PST120216
- http://dentonedp.com/data/housing-income
- https://endhomelessnessdenton.com/infodata/
- http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh-t
- http://nihc.org/coo/texas

**Download Report**

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