



2007

DATA REPORT



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## Introduction to the 2007 Data Report


The Cincinnati/Hamilton County Continuum of Care for the Homeless, Inc. (CoC) with the support of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has implemented a local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The community HMIS uses the locally owned and managed VESTA<sup>®</sup> software system to collect data.

Those included are:

- All **Street Outreach Programs** – engaging homeless persons who live on the streets or in places unfit for human habitation.
- All **Emergency Shelters** – facilities which provide temporary housing for homeless families and single individuals.
- All **Transitional Housing Programs** – site-based and scattered-site housing programs which provide homeless families or single individuals coming from the streets or shelter up to two years to implement their plans to move from homelessness to permanent housing.
- All **Permanent Supportive Housing** – site-based and scattered-site housing programs which provide disabled homeless families or single individuals the opportunity to live permanently in a housing unit with the support necessary to facilitate their stay.

Many specialized homeless services also use VESTA and HMIS to gather data about their programs and clients. Those programs are not identified within this report and consumers who have only utilized a special services program in 2007 and were not otherwise housed within the CoC have not been counted.


An important qualification to this report is the count includes only **HOMELESS** persons as defined by the federal government under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as interpreted through HUD. Though the CoC recognizes that many other persons within Cincinnati and Hamilton County have severe housing issues, including those persons who are living “doubled-up” with family or friends, have exited long-term institutions or prisons, or are precariously housed, this report does not include them in the count. Additionally, HMIS does not record data on programs which are not solely designed to serve/house homeless persons (e.g. treatment programs, non-homeless transitional housing, etc.).



**The Cincinnati/Hamilton County HMIS program has 100% participation by all street outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing providers, making the data in this report all-inclusive.**

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## Count of Persons Served




Across all program types – Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing there were a total of

**8,392 unduplicated persons**  
served in 2007.\*



### Total number of persons served in each program type\*\*

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- Persons served in all Street Outreach programs = 870
  - Persons served in all Emergency Shelter programs = 6,444
  - Persons served in all Transitional Housing programs = 1,051
  - Persons served in Permanent Supportive Housing programs = 1,577
  - Combined and unduplicated persons served in both Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter = 6,900
  - Combined and unduplicated persons served in Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing = 7,298

\* No matter how many programs a person participated in or how many times that person entered the same program they are only counted one time for the unduplicated count of persons served.

\*\* Persons in a program type are counted once in each type of program they participated in. An individual may have been in more than one type of program in 2007.

## Basic DEMOGRAPHIC Data For all 7,298\*

(the unduplicated count of homeless persons in Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing)

### Gender

Adults	Female	1,830	Total Adults 5,498
Adults	Male	3,668	
Children	Female	950	Total Children 1,800
Children	Male	850	

### Age Groups (by age at first intake in 2007)

0 (Under 1)	182
1 to 5	642
6 to 12	513
13 to 17	463
18 to 30	1,347
31 to 50	3,022
51 to 64	1,049
65 or older	70
Adults missing date of birth	10

\* In 2007 when all persons in Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter and Transitional housing are combined AND unduplicated a total of 7,298 persons were served.

### Race (The General Accounting Office enables persons to identify as many races as are appropriate to themselves.)

American Indian/Alaskan Native	20
American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Black/African American, White	1
American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Black/African American	11
American Indian/Alaskan Native, White	11
Asian	17
Asian, Black/African American	5
Asian, Black/African American, White	1
Asian, White	2
Black/African American	5,007
Black/African American, White	93
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	18
White	2,063
Unknown/client refused	49
Plus Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino	119
Plus Ethnicity: Appalachian	358

## Basic DEMOGRAPHIC Data For all 7,298

(the unduplicated count of homeless persons in Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing)

### Household types\*

Individual adult males	3,604
Individual adult females	1,139
Unaccompanied youth	284
Adults in families with child(ren)	755
Children in families with adult(s)	1,516

### Veteran status (adults only\*\*)

A veteran	728	13.2%
Not a veteran	4,341	79.0%
Missing this information	429	7.8%

### Special Needs (adults only\*\*)

Alcohol abuse	2,431	44.2%
Drug abuse	2,382	43.3%
Mental illness	2,088	38.0%
Dually diagnosed	1,337	24.3%
HIV	135	2.5%
Domestic violence	901	16.4%
Physical/sensory disability	1,162	21.1%
Developmental/cognitive disability	357	6.5%
Illiterate	118	2.1%
Non-English speaking	24	0.4%

\* How a person presents in a program determines how they are recorded in household types. For example, if a mother with children leaves her children and comes to a shelter, she is typed as an Individual Female for purposes of that stay rather than an Adult in Families with children.

HUD requires HMIS to record persons who present at a program as a couple (married or unmarried) to be reported as Individuals, rather than in the Families with children type. There is no category for "Family—no children."

\*\* In 2007, there were 5,498 unduplicated adults served in Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter and/or Transitional Housing.

***24% of all adults served in outreach, shelter and transitional housing were identified with both mental health and substance abuse special needs.***

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## About the Chronically Homeless

By **federal definition** a Chronically Homeless person is an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for more than one year or who has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

In 2007 there were **1,614** different people who had been identified as chronically homeless through participation in Street Outreach and/or Emergency Shelter programs. 30.8% of the 5,240 adults who found themselves on the streets or in emergency shelters in Cincinnati were Chronically Homeless.

### Special Needs of the 1,614 Chronically Homeless (one individual may have multiple special needs)

Alcohol abuse	1,157	71.7%
Drug abuse	1,138	70.5%
Mental illness	896	55.5%
HIV	56	3.5%
Physical/sensory disability	565	35.0%
Developmental/cognitive disability	153	9.5%

**44% (706 individuals)**  
of the Chronically Homeless  
were identified with *both*  
Mental Illness & Substance  
Abuse needs.

### The problem is homelessness...the answer is housing...

**CHIP, the Chronic Homeless Identification Program of VESTA**, follows an individual identified as chronically homeless by outreach or shelter, through all subsequent program entries for purposes of longitudinal data. The following data represents CHIP client data:

- ⇒ Of the 763 adults housed in Transitional Housing in 2007, 226 persons (29.6%) were identified through CHIP as chronically homeless.
- ⇒ Of the 1,238 adults housed in Permanent Supportive Housing in 2007, 320 persons (25.8%) were identified through CHIP as chronically homeless.

## About Homeless Families With Children

*31% of all homeless persons in Cincinnati are in Families with Children*

### Families Served:

- 656 families with children were served in Emergency Shelter
- 150 families with children were served in Transitional Housing
- 189 families with children were served in Permanent Supportive Housing

### Emergency Sheltered Families:

- 85% of families (555 families) in Emergency Shelter were connected with Job and Family Services and received one or more welfare benefits including Food Stamps, Medicaid, CHIP, or TANF (OWF).

### Income Sources for Sheltered Families – at exit

Families with children by household size	In Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing	In Permanent Supportive Housing
2	259	74
3	203	53
4	119	34
5	87	18
6	29	6
7	9	4
8	9	0
9	2	0

Cash Income Source	At Intake	At Exit
Child Support	55	51
Earned Income	92	140
Social Security disability (SSI/SSDI)	74	82
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF/OWF)	119	191
Other cash income (pension, unemployment, etc.)	9	13
No cash resources indicated	239	157

## Financial Outcomes:

### OUTCOMES MATTER

***Obtaining an income or increasing skills to improve income potential along with finding and maintaining permanent housing are the main goals of the Continuum of Care for the Homeless.***

### Income:

- \$ Income for single individuals increased by 43%, on average, from their first homeless intake to their exit from their last program encounter.
- \$ Income for families increased by 27%, on average, from their first homeless intake to their exit from their last program encounter.
- \$ At exit from street outreach, emergency shelter or transitional housing the average income for individuals was \$739, and for families was \$793 per month.

<b>Income sources for primary clients/ households that exited Outreach, Shelter* or Transitional Housing during 2007 and did not return:</b>	<b>Source at First Intake</b>	<b>Source at Last Program Exit</b>
Earned Income	288	460
Social Security (elderly or death benefits)	8	8
Social Security Disability Benefit: SSI or SSDI	232	259
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF/OWF)	151	222
Veterans Administration (Disability or Pension)	47	50
Other Income	115	129
No cash income reported	1,198	938

\* All programs with intake/exit data are reported. Excludes drop-in facilities which do not collect exit data on clients due to the nature of their programs.



## Financial Outcomes— continued

### Non-CASH Benefits Reported:

Sources for primary clients/households that exited Outreach, Shelter* or Transitional Housing during 2007 and did not return:	Source at First Intake	Source at Last Program Exit
<b>FOOD BENEFITS:</b>		
Food Stamps	652	848
WIC—Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	63	82
<b>MEDICAL:</b>		
Medicaid (including Children’s Health Insurance Program)	532	651
Medicare Health Insurance	81	81
Other Insurance Public and/or Private	15	58
VA Medical Services	208	212

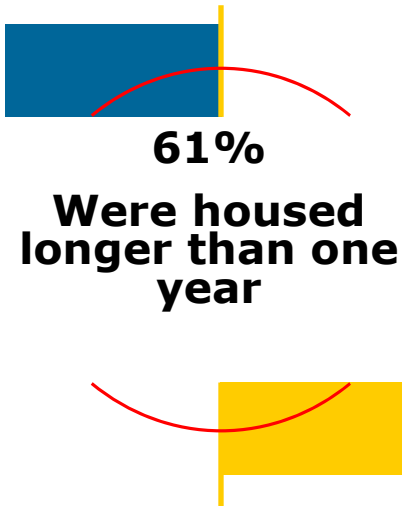
\* All programs with intake/exit data are reported. Excludes drop-in facilities which do not collect exit data on clients due to the nature of their program.

## Housing Outcomes:

### Where did they move to?

<b>Housing Exit by Type: exit destinations for 3,674 clients who exited Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing with exit data recorded</b> (excludes drop-in facilities which do not record exit data; clients with multiple exits during the year are counted only as of their last exit):	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination	1,918	52%
Exited to Transitional Housing	835	23%
Exited to an Institution (hospital, jail, treatment program, etc.)	105	3%
Exited to another place, includes persons with unknown exit destinations.	816	22%

### Maintaining housing is key...



<b>Length of stay for all persons housed in Permanent Supportive Housing during 2007</b> <b>(those staying and exiting)</b>	<b>1,577 Persons Total</b>
Less than 6 months (including new intakes)	246 people - 16%
Six months to one year (including new intakes)	367 people - 23%
One to two years	361 people - 23%
Two to four years	348 people - 22%
Four to six years	189 people - 12%
Six to ten years	45 people - 3%
More than ten years	21 people - 1%

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## Permanent Supportive Housing Demographics

- 1,577 unduplicated individuals lived in Permanent Supportive Housing in 2007
- 65.7% (1,036) were single individuals
- 34.3% (541) were families with a total of 339 children
- 71% were Black/African Americans, 26% were White and 3% were other races.
- Primary clients residing in supportive housing have documented disabilities. Those disabilities and special needs were recorded as:

Alcohol abuse	498	40.2%
Drug abuse	504	40.7%
Mental illness	851	68.7%
HIV	121	9.8%
Domestic violence	114	9.2%
Physical/sensory disability	235	19.0%
Developmental/cognitive disability	105	8.5%

- 29% (364 persons) were identified as “dual-diagnosed” with both mental illness and substance abuse

## How the 2007 Data Report compares to the 2006 Demographic Report

In 2006, Cincinnati/Hamilton County became the first and only Continuum of Care for the Homeless in the country to achieve 100% participation in HMIS by all HUD funded and non-funded homeless providers. At the end of 2006, we produced our first ever system-wide report. It said that 9,448 clients had used CoC housing *and services* during the year, and provided some basic demographic data about those 9,448 people. This was accurate, but we have re-thought our reporting methodology for the 2007 report. This year, we are only counting clients who were active in Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and/or Permanent Supportive Housing programs. We are not including people whose only contact with the CoC in 2007 was through a service program.

Because of this change and the tendency to want to compare what we've done and who we've served with previous years, we provide here selected data for 2006 produced with 2007 methodology for purposes of comparison.

<b>Unduplicated count of clients by program type</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
OVERALL— UNDUPLICATED TOTAL	8,965	8,392
Outreach	516	870
Emergency Shelter	7,282	6,444
Transitional Housing	870	1,051
Permanent Supportive Housing	1,494	1,577
Outreach and Emergency Shelter, unduplicated	7,545	6,900
Outreach, Emergency Shelter, and Transitional Housing	7,936	7,298

Some noteworthy changes within the Outreach, Shelter and Transitional Housing data that have made the results different include: 1) the creation of the "Street Population" program that all outreach workers can use to log in a homeless person on the streets that may not be associated with their particular program and therefore were unregistered, increased the outreach count. 2) a change in the quick access process Drop Inn Center uses to intake a client, and the unduplication of records in that process, lowered the shelter count; 3) a significant increase in the number of transitional housing programs identified to serve homeless persons by Lighthouse Youth Services increased the transitional housing count..



2007 Data Report was produced and published by The Partnership Center, Ltd., providers of the **VESTA**® software system. The Partnership Center, Ltd. is under contract to the Cincinnati/Hamilton County Continuum of Care for the Homeless.



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### **Programs with Participants Counted in this Report:**

Bethany House Services Family Shelter (ES)  
Bethany Place (TH)  
Bethany Transitions (TH)  
Caracole House (TH)  
Caracole Recovery Community (TH)  
Caracole Shelter Plus Care (PH)  
Center for Respite Care (ES)  
Center for Respite Care—Permanent Housing (PH)  
Center for Independent Living—Permanent Housing (PH)  
City Gospel Mission (ES)  
City Ministries—Exodus (TH)  
DCI—Block-by-Block Outreach (SO)  
Drop Inn Center Men’s Dorm (ES)  
Drop Inn Center Men’s Recovery Program (TH)  
Drop Inn Center Transitional Housing (TH)  
Drop Inn Center Shelter Plus Care (PH)  
Drop Inn Center Women’s Dorm (ES)  
Excel Development Corporation Shelter Plus Care (PH)  
FreeStore/FoodBank Permanent Housing 1 & 2 (PH)  
First Step Home Permanent Housing (PH)  
Grace Place Catholic Worker House (TH)  
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health PATH Outreach (SO)  
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Shelter Plus Care (PH)  
Hamilton County JFS Children’s Services Hotel (ES)  
Hamilton County MHRS Board—Homeless Housing & Treatment (TH)  
House of Hope Permanent Housing (PH)  
Interfaith Hospitality Network (ES)  
Joseph House (TH)

Joseph House—Moses 2 & 3 (TH)  
Justice Watch—Garden Street Transitional Housing (TH)  
Lighthouse Youth Crisis Center (ES)  
Lighthouse Youth Outreach (SO)  
Lighthouse Youth Services—Bramble, DHHS Scattered Sites, HUD Scattered Sites, ODOD TLP, Outreach TLP, Reading (TH)  
Lighthouse Youth Services—Shelter Plus Care (PH)  
Mercy Franciscan at St. John Temporary Housing (ES)  
Mercy Franciscan at St. John at Anna Louise Inn (ES)  
Mental Health Access Point—Quick Service Beds (ES)  
Mount Airy Shelter (ES)  
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries—Dormitory (TH)  
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries—Permanent Housing 1 and 2 (PH)  
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries—Transitional Hsg. Leasing Pool (TH)  
Over-the-Rhine Community Housing—Sharp Village, Buddy’s Place, Recovery Hotel, Spring Street (PH)  
Salvation Army Family Shelter (ES)  
Salvation Army Transitional Housing (TH)  
St. Francis St. Joseph Catholic Worker House (ES)  
Street Population (SO)  
Tom Geiger Guest House—Bokenkotter House (PH)  
Tom Geiger Guest House—Geiger House & Gertrude House (TH)  
Talbert House Shelter Plus Care (PH)  
Tender Mercies Permanent Housing (PH)  
Tender Mercies Transitional Housing (TH)  
YWCA Battered Women’s Shelter (ES)\*\*  
YWCA Transitional Living Programs (TH)\*\*

Codes: SO = Street Outreach, ES = Emergency Shelter, TH = Transitional Housing and PH = Permanent Supportive Housing

\*\*Does not participate in HMIS per VAWA. Agency does participate in VESTA – a community based system designed to support clients’ access to housing, services, and case management though maintenance of vigorous confidentiality protocols and procedures.