CITY OF PASADENA 2013

HOMELESS COUNT & SUBPOPULATION SURVEY: FINAL REPORT

MAY 2013

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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I.   Executive Summary

There are 772 adults and children who are homeless during a point-in-time in the City of Pasadena according to the City of Pasadena 2013 Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey, which represents a 15% decrease when compared to the number of homeless persons who were counted last year. The new number represents a 36% decrease when compared to the number of homeless persons who were counted in 2011. Details and number comparisons concerning the new number of persons counted and various subpopulations are provided in sections IV and V below.

> There was a 36% decrease in the number of homeless adults and children during the past two years.

What Contributed to the Decrease?

During the past two years, the City of Pasadena in partnership with the Pasadena Housing and Homeless Network[1] have implemented a Housing First approach, a Rapid Re-housing approach, and developed over 100 units of permanent supportive housing, which has largely contributed to the decrease in the number of homeless persons during the past couple of years. These accomplishments are in addition to the help that homeless individuals and families receive in order to exit homelessness from residential and non-residential homeless service providers.

Housing First is recognized as an evidence-based and best practice by national researchers and policymakers based on years of research and implementation. The implementation of a Housing First Approach has helped jurisdictions across the country significantly reduce their homeless population.

Implementation involves moving homeless persons, including chronically homeless individuals, from the streets and directly into housing and providing wrap-around services to ensure housing stability. This approach links chronically homeless persons to permanent supportive housing which in turn provides subsidized housing and appropriate supportive services. This approach is in contrast to a "housing readiness model" which emphasizes that a homeless individual or family must address other issues such as substance abuse and mental illness through case management in a shelter or transitional housing program prior to entering affordable permanent housing.

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[1] The Pasadena Housing and Homeless Network (PHHN) consist of more than 50 public and private active members who serve persons who are homeless within the City of Pasadena.

Rapid Re-housing has also been recognized as an evidence-based and best practice by national researchers and policymakers based on years of research and implementation. The implementation of Rapid Re-housing has also helped jurisdictions across the country significantly reduce their homeless population.

Rapid re-housing helps families and individuals who are not chronically homeless obtain permanent housing immediately and to stabilize themselves as soon as possible. Such households have not been living on the streets for years with physical disabling conditions such as serious mental illness, substance abuse disorders, and/or chronic physical illness. They have lived independently in permanent housing in the past and are in need of temporary assistance for several months instead of years. During this time they are able to become increasingly self-sufficient through public assistance and/or employment. They may need long-term non-monetary assistance to prevent the loss of their housing such as free or low cost clothing, food, health care, household supplies, and transportation.

Permanent Supportive Housing provides long-term affordable rental housing and a broad range of on-site and/or off-site wrap-around supportive services. The goal during residency is to increase independent living skills of residents who pay no more than 30% of their monthly income for rent so that they are able to maintain their housing. Persons without permanent disabling conditions may ultimately become self-sufficient and pay 100% of their rent and may or may not need supportive services.

What Are the Next Steps?

Next steps should include adopting the 2013 homeless count and subpopulation survey statistics for unsheltered adults and their children as baseline numbers and to establish annual "reduction" benchmarks that will serve as markers by which progress towards ending homelessness can be measured. The table below provides the baseline numbers for the 501 unsheltered adults.

Table 1. Unsheltered Adults

	#	%
Total # of Unsheltered Adults	501	100
Breakdown by Subpopulation:		
Chronically Homeless Individuals	205	41
Mentally Ill	130	26
Persons w/HIV/AIDS	10	2
Seniors age 62+	35	7

Substance Abusers	85	17
Veterans	45	9
Victims of Domestic Violence	95	19
Youth age 18 – 24	35	7
Youth Under Age 18	2	0.5
Persons Released from Jail*	70	14

*This subpopulation was determined by the following survey question "During the last 12 months, were you recently released from a correctional institution such as a jail or prison after serving a court-mandated sentence?"

When establishing benchmarks it is important to note that the numbers of persons by subpopulation are not mutually exclusive. A chronically homeless person may also be a veteran and between 18 and 24 years of age. Thus, the percentages add up to more than 100%. Also, more importantly, permanently housing one person may reduce the total number for more than one subpopulation category.

Next steps include continuing the Housing First and Rapid Re-housing approaches, which are essential in order to achieve benchmarks. The homeless count and survey data revealed that 41% of the unsheltered homeless population is chronically homeless and in need of longer-term assistance such as rental assistance and wrap-around social services. Conversely, the data showed that 59% of the unsheltered homeless population is not chronically homeless and will likely need shorter-term assistance such as a few months of rental assistance with minimal reliance on social services. Next steps should also include increasing the number of permanent supportive housing units. Models of development should include multi-family complexes and scattered-site units.

Additionally, next steps should focus on supporting street outreach and engagement efforts to focus on identifying chronically homeless persons in need of a housing first approach. Such attention should be given to the most visible and hardest-to-reach individuals. These actions should have the support of various public and private partners who can help identify, house, and provided social services in order to help implement a housing first approach.

II.   Background Information

Since the year 2005 the Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD) has asked local jurisdictional applicants to conduct a "one night point-in-time" homeless count every other year during the last 10 days of January as part of its requirements for local jurisdictions to continue to receive continuum of care funding for homeless persons.. The City of Pasadena, however, conducts a one night point-in-time count every year. This year, the "City of Pasadena 2013 Homeless Count" was conducted on Wednesday January 23. The following table compares the homeless counts since 2005.

Table 2: City of Pasadena Homeless Counts from 2005 – 2013.

Year	Total # of Homeless Persons	% of Increase or Decrease from Previous Year
2005	1,064	n/a
2006	1,001	-6
2007	825	-18
2008	836	+1
2009	1,004	+17
2010	1,137	+13
2011	1,216	+7
2012	904	-26
2013	772	-15

The City of Pasadena's first attempt to fully understand the nature and extent of homelessness within its boundaries was through "The 1992 City of Pasadena Homeless Count." The City, in conjunction with the Pasadena Housing and Homeless Network (PHHN), conducted its own homeless count in September of 1992. The methodology of the count was designed to find out how many people were homeless on a given night. Approximately 250 volunteers went out into the streets and into homeless facilities and counted 1,017 on September 23 and 24, 1992.

Table 2: City of Pasadena Homeless Counts from 1992 - 2013:

Homeless Counts	# of Homeless Persons
1992	1,017
2000	879
2003	853
2005	1,064
2006	1,001
2007	825
2008	836
2009	1,004
2010	1,137
2011	1,216
2012	904
2013	772

- **When the 2013 Count was Conducted**

The homeless count was conducted throughout the day on January 23, 2013. The count was <u>carried out on the streets</u> throughout the day and evening. The count was also <u>conducted at the seasonal Bad Weather Shelter</u>. Data for other shelters and transitional housing programs was collected through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

- **Who was Counted in 2013**

A person was considered homeless, and thus counted, only when he/she fell within the following HUD-based definition by residing in one of the places described below:

    a. in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings;
    b. in an emergency shelter including those persons who received a voucher for a motel;
    c. in transitional housing (only homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelter were included in the count).

HUD does not consider the following persons to be homeless—persons who are "doubled up," or persons who are "near homelessness—but considers them to be at-risk of homelessness. Such persons were <u>not</u> included in the city's homeless count.

The City of Pasadena, like many other largely populated cities, has a substantial number of households that are <u>at-risk of homelessness</u>. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2011, there were approximately 15,000 residents who were members of a household whose income was $15,000 a year or less. Of these households, approximately half (8,000 residents) were members of a household whose income was less than $10,000. The Census Bureau also noted, through the 2011 American Community Survey, that 13 percent of Pasadena residents or approximately 18,000 residents lived below poverty level.

Many of these persons can become homeless because of social structural issues such as increases in rent, loss of job, and rising health care costs. In addition, personal experiences such as domestic violence, physical disabilities, mental illness, and substance abuse can cause members of a low income household or an entire household to become homeless as well. Often, one or more of these experiences factor into a household's homeless experience.

- **Who Carried Out the Count in 2013**

The City of Pasadena Housing Department and the Pasadena Housing and Homeless Network consulted with Urban Initiatives, a community-based non-profit research organization, to plan and coordinate the count (see www.urban-initiatives.org). Urban Initiatives also enlisted twenty two students and staff from Fuller Theological Seminary's Office for Urban Initiatives along with other volunteers from faith-based organizations and the community at large participated in the count by forming teams to count on the streets and in facilities. Students also helped with gathering data, entering data, and Office for Urban Initiatives staff contributed to writing this report.

The Housing Department oversees the development of the Consolidated Plan, Homeless Continuum of Care System, and the City of Pasadena 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness. In addition, the Department implements several housing and community development programs such as the HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance, Inclusionary Housing, Homeownership Opportunities Program, and the provision of financial assistance to create and preserve affordable housing throughout the city. The City of Pasadena Housing Department is also responsible for the administration of numerous federal entitlement and competitive grant programs including: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP), and the Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance Programs (Supportive Housing Program and Shelter Plus Care).

The Pasadena Housing and Homeless Network (PHHN) is made up of more than 50 public and private agencies that provide community services to residents including homeless persons. The Network has served as the primary community planning entity concerning housing and homeless needs and services throughout the past 20 years. Such planning includes the Consolidated Plan, City of Pasadena 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness, and every Continuum of Care application submission to HUD since 1995.

The Institute for Urban Initiatives is a community-based 501 (c) (3) non-profit research agency that has completed many housing and homeless assessments including several homeless counts for cities and counties throughout Southern California. It is closely affiliated with Fuller Theological Seminary's Office for Urban Initiatives.

Together, the aforementioned agencies coordinated a community-wide effort of approximately 80 volunteers that culminated in a homeless count on January 23. Volunteers counted persons both on the streets and at the Pasadena Bad Weather Shelter.

III   Methodology

The 2013 homeless count was a city-wide effort that divided the city into 16 zones in which homeless people were counted. The count was carried out in the streets throughout the day and evening within each zone. The count was also conducted in facilities that serve homeless persons throughout the day and evening, including the Bad Weather Shelter. In addition, professional outreach teams also canvassed areas of the City no readily accessible to the average volunteer.

The count instrument that was used required counters to collect the following information from every homeless adult encountered: first initial of first name, first initial of last name, gender, ethnicity[2], age by code[3], and state born as noted below. All information remained confidential.

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[2] The code for ethnicity was 1=African American or Black; 2=American Indian or Alaskan Native; 3=Asian or Pacific Islander; 4=Hispanic or Latino; 5=White; and 6=Other.
[3] The code for age included: 1=under age 18; 2=age 18-24; 3=age 25-29; 4=30-39; 5=40-49; 6=50-61; 7=62-69; 8=70-79; and 9=80+.

	First Initial	Last Initial	Gender	Ethnicity	Age	State Born
Example:	J	H	F	5	6	CA

This enumeration activity created an identifier that prevents a person from being included in the final tally of the count more than once. During the enumeration, counters record the initials, gender, ethnicity, age, and state born of each individual homeless person encountered. If the same person was encountered again, counters would establish the same code. However, this person was counted only once in the final tally.

The information for every person encountered every time was loaded into a data base. The information was then used to code each person. For example, a homeless person may have the following code of "WTMW6CA. This meant that this person's first name began with "W", his last name began with "T", he was male "M", he was White "5", "6" which means he is between 50 and 61 years old, and "CA" born in California.

An example to illustrate how the process described above worked can be found within the table below. Numbers 6 and 7 (shaded in gray) would be considered the same person. Therefore, the person would only be counted once in the final tally that answered the question "how many homeless persons are there in Pasadena during a given day." If for some reason there was doubt that numbers 6 and 7 were the same person, other collected data was used to address the doubt which included veteran status and number of children living with you.

Number of Person	First Initial	Last Initial	Gender	Ethnicity	Age	State Born
1	J	H	F	5	6	CA
2	H	T	M	4	7	CA
3	R	K	F	4	5	TX
4	K	N	M	1	4	CA
5	F	A	M	3	3	CA
6	J	F	M	5	5	CA
7	J	F	M	5	5	CA
8	S	G	F	4	2	NY
9	D	T	M	5	6	CA
10	O	R	M	5	7	CA

IV. Count Comparisons

A comparative look at the limited data (gender, ethnicity, age, marital status, and family composition) collected during past homeless counts between 2005 and 2013 is provided below. Please note that the homeless counts in 2006 and 2008 were not included because they were based on a count that sampled the homeless population whereas the other counts noted below were based upon a complete count of the homeless population.

- **Gender**

Year of Count	Men		Women		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
2005	516	66	266	34	782	100
2007	504	67	251	33	755	100
2009	628	69	283	31	911	100
2010	651	68	306	32	957	100
2011	804	75	274	25	1,078	100
2012	512	64	286	36	798	100
2013	448	69	205	31	653	100

The percentage of men and women did not vary between 2005 and 2010. Women made up about a third of the homeless population and men about two-thirds. However, in 2011 men made up 75% of the homeless population and women 25%. In 2012 and 2013, women once again made up about a third of the homeless population and men about two-thirds.

- **Ethnicity**

Of the three largest ethnic groups, Hispanics/Latinos have remained the most constant making up about one of four (4) homeless persons or approximately 25% of the homeless population as noted in the table below. African Americans/Blacks or Whites have been the largest of the ethnic groups. Either group has made up either a little less or little more than one-third or about one out of every three (3) homeless persons.

Ethnic Group:	African American or Black		American Indian or Alaskan Native		Asian or Pacific Islander		Hispanic or Latino		Other		White		Total	
Year of Count	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
2005	288	36.9	18	2.3	20	2.5	181	23.2	48	6.1	227	29.0	1,217	100
2007	220	29.2	16	2.2	4	0.5	177	23.4	52	6.8	286	37.9	**969**	**100**
2009	303	33.3	18	2.0	16	1.7	242	26.5	57	6.3	275	30.2	**911**	**100**
2010	297	31	29	3	9	1	230	24	38	4	354	37	**957**	**100**
2011	381	35	22	2	51	5	266	25	49	4	309	29	**1,078**	**100**
2012	279	35	16	2	24	3	183	23	40	5	256	32	798	100
2013	235	36	13	2	13	2	144	22	33	5	215	33	653	100

- **Age**

Children (17 years of age or less)

Year of Count	Children		Adults		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
2005	435	36	782	64	1,217	100
2007	214	22	755	78	969	100
2009	233	20	911	80	1,144	100
2010	180	16	957	84	1,137	100
2011	138	11	1,078	89	1,216	100
2012	106	12	798	88	904	100
2013	119	15	653	85	772	100

The percentage of children declined among the homeless population between 2009 and 2012. Children made up a fifth (20%) of the homeless population in 2009 and in 2012 less than a fifth (12%). There has been an increase over last year. In 2012 the percent of children was 12% and in 2013 it was 15%.

Youth (ages 18-24)

Year of Count	Youth		Other Adults		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
2005	89	11	693	89	782	100
2007	53	7	702	93	755	100
2009	65	7	846	93	911	100

2010	63	7	894	93	957	100
2011	137	13	941	87	1,078	100
2012	103	13	695	87	798	100
2013	46	7	607	93	653	100

The number of youth ages 18 – 24 decreased this year. Last year there were 103 youth ages 18 – 24 and this year 46. This represents a reversal over the past couple of years.

Seniors (age 62+)

Year of Count	Seniors		Other Adults		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
2005	62	8	720	92	782	100
2007	63	8	692	92	755	100
2009	61	7	850	93	911	100
2010	64	7	893	93	957	100
2011	71	7	1,007	93	1,078	100
2012	48	6	750	94	798	100
2013	32	5	621	95	653	100

The number of seniors that make up the homeless population has remained nearly the same except during the past three years. The percentage of seniors has ranged between five percent (5%) to eight percent (8%) over the years.

- **Family Composition**

Year of Count	Members of Families		Non-Members of Families		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
2005	599	49	618	51	1,217	100
2007	294	30	675	70	969	100
2009	322	28	822	72	1,144	100
2010	262	23	875	77	1,137	100
2011	203	17	1,013	83	1,216	100
2012	239	26	665	74	904	100
2013	209	27	563	73	772	100

The number of members of families continues to decrease. In 2005, members of families made up nearly half (49%) of the homeless population. However, in 2007 members of families made up less than one-third (30%) of the population, a little more than one-fourth (28%) in 2009, and a little less than one-fifth (17%) in 2011. In 2012 members of families made up 26% of the homeless population and 27% in 2013.

V.   Subpopulations

In 2013 there were a total of 772 unsheltered and sheltered adults and children counted. The unsheltered count included 560 persons—501 adults and 59 children. The sheltered count included 212 persons—152 adults and 60 children.

Unsheltered Population

The methodology was also designed to compile information concerning several pre-determined unsheltered sub-populations required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that included:

- chronic homeless individuals;
- chronic homeless families;
- families[4] (persons in households with at least one adult and one child);
- persons with HIV/AIDS;
- persons with mental health problems;
- single individuals (persons in households[5] without children);
- substance abusers;
- unaccompanied youth under age 18 (persons in households with only children)[6];
- veterans;
- victims of domestic violence;
- youth age 18 – 24.

In addition, to the required subpopulations above, data was collected concerning other subpopulations.

Data concerning the following subpopulations was collected in order to determine if an

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[4] Families are defined as having two or more persons with at least one child under the age of 18.
[5] Households are defined as one adult or more.
[6] This includes only persons under age 18, including unaccompanied children, adolescent parents and their children, adolescent siblings, or other household configurations composed only of children.

adult had a disabling condition, which is required to determine status as chronically homeless. The questions that were used to gather this data were taken from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). A disabling condition also included HIV/AIDS, mental illness, and substance abuse. Data used to determine these three disabling conditions were also based on questions from HMIS and also used to determine the related subpopulations noted above.

- Persons with Chronic Illness;
- Persons with Developmental Disabilities;
- Persons with Physical Disabilities.

Data was also collected concerning other subpopulations. The questions used to collect this data also helped to create the unique identifier described on pages 10 and 11.

- African American/Black;
- American Indian/Alaskan Native;
- Asian/Pacific Islander;
- Hispanic/Latino;
- Men;
- Seniors age 62+;
- State Born;
- White;
- Women.

Lastly, data was also collected for one other subpopulation because community stakeholders were concerned about realignment which involved releasing "low-level" offenders.

- Persons Released from Correctional Institutions during the past 12 months;

An analysis of the data reveals the following for the HUD required subpopulation information for the 501 unsheltered adults.

Subpopulation	#	%
Chronically Homeless Individuals	205	41
Adult Members of Chronically Homeless Families*	10	2
Adult Members of Families**	40	8
Persons w/HIV/AIDS	10	2
Persons with Mental Health Problems	130	26
Single Adult Individuals	461	92
Substance Abusers	85	17

Unaccompanied Youth Under Age 18	2	0.5
Veterans	45	9
Victims of Domestic Violence	95	19
Youth 18 – 24	35	7

*There were nine chronically homeless families that consisted of 10 adults and 11 children.
**There were 32 unsheltered families that consisted of 40 adults and 59 children.

An analysis of the data reveals the following for the HUD required subpopulation information for the 501 unsheltered adults. The categories below are not mutually exclusive.

Subpopulation	#	%
Persons w/ Chronic Illness	155	31
Persons w/ Developmental Disabilities	65	13
Persons w/ Physical Disabilities	140	28
Persons Released from Correctional Institution*	70	14
African American/Black	175	35
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	10	2
Hispanic/Latino	105	21
Men	371	74
Seniors age 62+	35	7
State Born: California	255	51
White	145	29
Women	130	26

* Unsheltered persons within this subpopulation were included if they stated "yes" to the following question—"Were you were released from a correctional institution such as a jail or prison after serving a court-ordered sentence during the past 12 months?"

Sheltered Population

The methodology was also designed to compile information from HMIS concerning several pre-determined sheltered sub-populations required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that also included:

- chronic homeless individuals;
- chronic homeless families;
- families[7] (persons in households with at least one adult and one child);

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[7] Families are defined as having two or more persons with at least one child under the age of 18.

- persons with HIV/AIDS;
- persons with mental health problems;
- single individuals (persons in households[8] without children);
- substance abusers;
- unaccompanied youth under age 18 (persons in households with only children)[9];
- veterans;
- victims of domestic violence;
- youth age 18 – 24.

An analysis of the data reveals the following for the HUD required subpopulation information for the 152 sheltered adults.

Subpopulation	#	%
Chronically Homeless Individuals	10	0
Adult Members of Chronically Homeless Families	2	0
Adult Members of Families*	64	42
Persons w/HIV/AIDS	0	0
Persons with Mental Health Problems	30	20
Single Individuals	88	58
Substance Abusers	49	32
Unaccompanied Youth Under Age 18	0	0
Veterans	7	5
Victims of Domestic Violence	31	20
Youth 18 – 24	18	12

*There were 22 sheltered families that consisted of 29 adults and 35 children.

VI.   Conclusion

The City of Pasadena 2013 Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey was the product on a unique relationship between the City of Pasadena, local coalitions and committees, housing and homeless service providers, members of the homeless community, and community volunteers. The count and subpopulation survey contributes to a distinctive relationship between these groups that sets the City of Pasadena apart and creates new possibilities for ending homelessness for adults and children.

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[8] Households are defined as one adult or more.
[9] This includes only persons under age 18, including unaccompanied children, adolescent parents and their children, adolescent siblings, or other household configurations composed only of children.

The count and subpopulation survey provides valuable data concerning homelessness. The information will serve as a foundation to the 10-Year Strategy Plan to End Homelessness which continues to help the City of Pasadena formulate findings and make recommendations to substantially reduce the incidence of homelessness within the city. These sources of data will also provide important information for the City's annual Continuum of Care Application to HUD and the City of Pasadena Consolidated Annual Action and CAPER Plans which are required submissions to HUD if Pasadena is to continue to receive substantial funding to end homelessness within its jurisdiction.

Continuum of Care funding has provided funding for street outreach, case management, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing through its Supportive Housing and Shelter Plus Care programs. Funding related to the consolidated plans include Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, HOME, and Housing for Persons with AIDS funds which have also been used for case management, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing and emergency shelter.

The count and subpopulation survey is available on the following web sites: www.phhn.org and www.urban-initiatives.org.