2016 Annual Homeless Assessment Report Summary

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, “The Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) is the only source of data that is available annually on the extent and nature of homelessness nationwide.” Chicago’s report counts all sheltered homeless people from October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.

On any given night, 10,499 people were in emergency, transitional, or permanent supportive housing. A total of 25,869 people stayed in these housing units during 2016.

Demographics
- Two-thirds of people experiencing homelessness were single adults and one-third were families with children.
- 78% of single homeless individuals were men; 22% were women.
- 83% of women who were homeless were with children in family housing.
- 31.5% of people experiencing homelessness were aged 24 and under. 20% were under age 18.
- 7% of people experiencing homelessness were aged 62 and over.
- Black or African American Chicagoans were disproportionally affected by homelessness:
  - 91% of all people in families with children experiencing homelessness were Black or African American (84%) or White Hispanic/Latino (7%).
  - 75% of all people experiencing homelessness were Black or African American.
  - 92% of Whites who experienced homelessness were single adults.
  - 10% of all people experiencing homelessness were Hispanic/Latino. 38% were in families (compared to 31% for Blacks or African Americans and Whites).
  - Less than 1% of all people experiencing homelessness were Asian, American Indian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander.

A single homeless person in Chicago was generally male and Black or African American. A homeless family in Chicago was generally a mother with two or three children who was Black or African American.
• 49% of all adults experiencing homelessness had a disability.
• 2,100 veterans experienced homelessness at some point during 2016.

**A Trail of Unstable Housing**
• More than a third (36%) of all people were in an emergency shelter the night before program entry.
• 51% of people in transitional housing for families entered from emergency shelters.
• 42% of all families and 27% of individuals in emergency shelters had been doubled-up with friends or family.
• The vast majority (60%-74%) of those in emergency shelters had been at their last address for less than a year.
• 5% of individuals in emergency shelters and transitional housing came from jail, prison or juvenile detention.
• Barely one half of one percent of all homeless people came from housing they owned.
• 6% of all homeless people had just left their rental housing.

**Permanent Supportive Housing is Home**
• 82% of single adults and families who started in permanent supportive housing were still in place after nine months.
• 26% of all people experiencing homelessness were in permanent supportive housing (with 36% in emergency shelters and 38% in transitional housing).
• More individuals than families were in permanent supportive housing.
• 22% of single adults in permanent supportive housing entered directly from street homelessness.
• 28% of those placed in permanent supportive housing entered directly from emergency shelters.
• 91% of single adults and 71% of persons in families in permanent supportive housing had a disability.
• 79% of veterans experiencing homelessness were living in transitional or permanent supportive housing.
• 93% of people in emergency shelters left within 6 months. 85% of people in transitional housing left within 9 months.

*Learn more and join us in our effort to end homelessness at allchicago.org.*

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ii *The Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) provides counts only of sheltered homeless persons and includes those in permanent supportive housing (PSH). This data does not include persons served by domestic violence or sexual assault programs, rapid re-housing, nor those doubled-up or couch-surfing in others’ homes. It describes their demographic characteristics and service use patterns. The AHAR is based on local data from Point-in-Time (PIT) counts (which excludes PSH), Housing Inventory Counts (HIC), and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).*