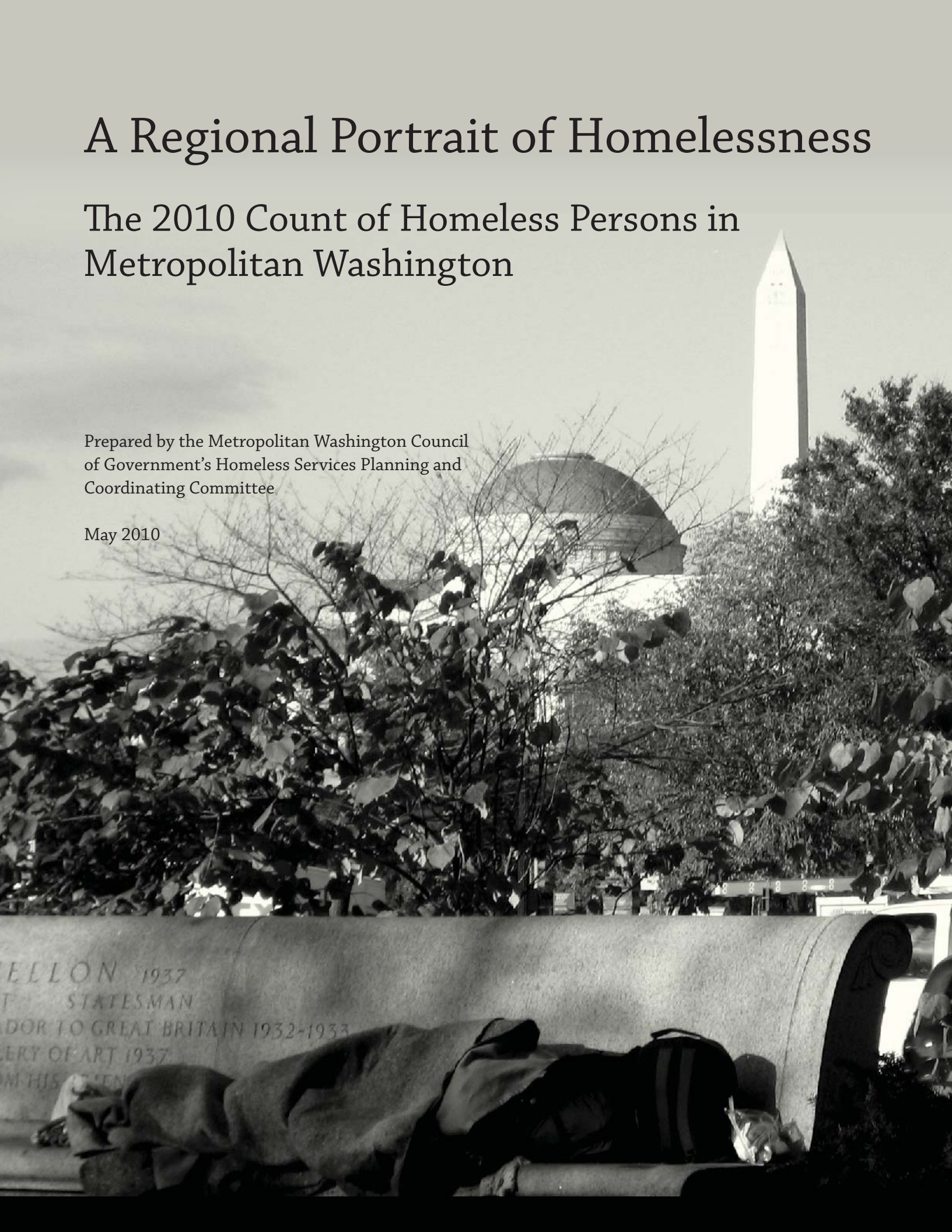
A Regional Portrait of Homelessness

The 2010 Count of Homeless Persons in Metropolitan Washington

Prepared by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee

May 2010



Cover Photo: Homeless man sleeping in John Marshall Park, Washington, D.C.
Cover Photo Credit: Robert Streibel

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May 2010

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INTRODUCTION

For the tenth consecutive year, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee has conducted a regional enumeration of the area's homeless and formerly homeless population. The 2010 Point-in-Time Enumeration provides information on the number of unsheltered persons in the region as well as figures on how many persons utilize Winter Shelters, Year-round Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing Facilities and Permanent Supportive Housing. Also provided are survey data that explore the extent to which homeless persons in each jurisdiction live with disabling conditions or belong to various subpopulations.

This year's enumeration and survey was conducted on January 27, 2010. The report's findings provide a one-day, "snapshot" of the region's homeless population within nine metropolitan Washington area jurisdictions. The report highlights three key themes: the growing impact of permanent supportive housing, the positive results demonstrated from shelter diversion and prevention programs and the need to sustain successes brought by federal Rapid Re-housing funds. Each of these factors had a major impact on keeping this year's literally homeless count from growing.

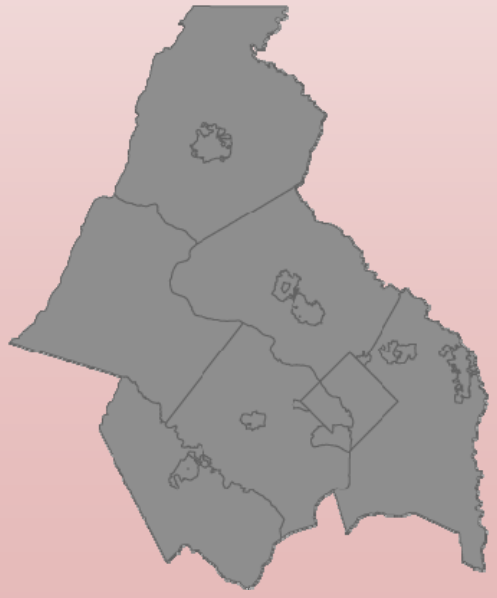
Each of the nine jurisdictions represents a local Continuum of Care (CoC) that receives federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program to assist the region's homeless population. Participating jurisdictions include Alexandria, Virginia; Arlington County, Virginia; the District of Columbia; Fairfax County, Virginia; Frederick County, Maryland; Loudoun County, Virginia; Montgomery County, Maryland; Prince George's County, Maryland; and Prince William County, Virginia.

Additional local governments are also captured as part of this report. Fairfax County's enumeration includes data from the City of Falls Church and the City of Fairfax. Frederick County's enumeration includes data from the City of Frederick, Maryland. Prince George's County's enumeration includes data from the City of Bowie. Prince William County's data includes information from the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, Virginia.

The report includes narratives that were prepared by each of the respective jurisdictions. The narratives briefly describe each jurisdiction's homeless Continuum of Care and provide detailed explanations of their respective enumeration results. Some of the region's jurisdictions used a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to count their homeless population. HMIS is an electronic data collection system that stores person-level information about homeless people who access the respective jurisdiction's homeless service system. HMIS can be used to produce an "unduplicated" count of homeless people, improve program operations, measure program performance, and coordinate services community-wide.

The following report includes a count of the region's residents who are:

- Living in transitional housing where they receive supportive services designed to help them move into some form of permanent housing;
- Staying in an emergency shelter, where many go back to the streets during the day;
- Visibly homeless living on the streets at all times, including parks, alleys and camp sites; and
- Formerly homeless people now living in permanent supportive housing and are receiving supportive social services.



Similar to past enumerations, the 2010 count *does not* include people who "double up" with relatives or friends, in accordance with HUD guidelines which mandate that jurisdictions conduct Point-in-Time counts at least biennially. HUD's requirements for conducting the annual point-in-time count can be found in its Standard and Methods for Point-in-Time Counts of Homeless Persons and Annual Housing Inventory Updates at www.hud.gov.

Due to local implications resulting from the national recession and housing foreclosure crisis, several local jurisdictions and service providers are concerned that many of the region's residents are "at risk" of becoming homeless. This report, as well as some of the jurisdictional narratives, provides data reflecting increases in the number of requests on the part of the region's residents for rental or utility assistance. Additionally, the nation's foreclosure crisis has slightly impacted this year's enumeration. A few homeless households report losing their rental units after their landlords' properties were foreclosed upon.

Future editions of this report may continue to track and include research into indicators suggesting potential vulnerability to homelessness. These indicators can include the number of household requests for rental or utility assistance, foreclosure notices, or increases in free and reduced school lunches.

How We Define Homelessness

The region's jurisdictions used HUD's definition of "homelessness," which is defined as people who reside in some form of emergency or transitional shelters, domestic violence shelters, runaway youth shelters, and places not meant for human habitation, which include streets, parks, alleys, abandoned buildings, and stairways.

HOW MANY LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE HOMELESS?

As of January 27, 2010, 11,774 people throughout the metropolitan Washington region indicated that they were homeless. This number reveals a 1.7 percent decrease from 2009 when 11,982 total people throughout the region were homeless. Table 1 illustrates the region's 2010 homeless enumeration across jurisdictions.

TABLE 1: LITERALLY HOMELESS BY JURISDICTION, 2006-2010

Jurisdiction	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Percent Change 2006 - 2010
Alexandria	377	375	348	360	359	-5%
Arlington County	477	462	410	511	531	11%
District of Columbia	6,157	5,757	6,044	6,228	6,539	6%
Fairfax County	1,766	1,813	1,835	1,730	1,544	-13%
Frederick County	212	223	302	324	303	43%
Loudoun County	184	211	170	152	157	-15%
Montgomery County	1,164	1,139	1,104	1,194	1,064	-9%
Prince George's County	1,291	1,168	943	853	789	-39%
Prince William County	498	614	550	630	488	-2%
TOTAL	**12,126**	**11,762**	**11,706**	**11,982**	**11,774**	**-3%**

The region's 2009 total has changed from the 12,035 figure provide in last year's report due to Montgomery County's count change. Also, Alexandria's 2009 count is different from last year's report.

Table 1 illustrates the numerical and percentage change in the region's homeless population between 2006 and 2010. Three of COG's CoC participating jurisdictions – Arlington, the District of Columbia and Frederick County – experienced increases in their homeless populations since 2006. According to the data, homelessness in both Fairfax and Prince George's Counties has decreased over the past year. For 2010, the Counties experienced a 10.7 and 7.5 percent respective decrease in homelessness. Prince George's County's decrease is smaller than its 9.2 percent decrease in 2009.

Frederick County, Maryland has the largest local percentage increase in homeless people. Between 2006 and 2010, the County's homeless population increased by 91 people or 43 percent. This increase may be attributed to the increased number of beds across Frederick County's shelter program. Since 2006, Frederick County opened a 25-bed shelter, added 12 beds in another shelter program, and increased its winter bed count by 10 beds.

THE REGION'S HOMELESS BY TOTAL POPULATION

The following table highlights the number of homeless people counted in the metropolitan Washington region as a percentage of its total population. Including the District of Columbia, there was a 0.25 percent incidence of homelessness in the region. This figure marks as a change of .01 in the percentage incidence of homeless in 2009 when the incidence was 0.26 percent. Excluding the District, the incidence of homelessness is 0.13 percent for the region's suburban population. This remains relatively unchanged from 2009.

HUD's 2008 Continuum of Care data states that there are 660,075 homeless people in the country. This figure represents 0.2 percent of the nation's total population of 295,812,890 in 2008. COG's regional comparison is slightly higher; 0.25 percent of the region's total population is homeless. While the region's homeless as a percent of the total population has decreased since 2009, the region has a higher percentage of homeless people than the country overall. In 2009, the region's 0.26 percent incidence of homelessness mirrored the country's incidence of homelessness.

TABLE 2: SHARE OF POPULATION WHO ARE HOMELESS

Jurisdiction	2008 Total Population	2010 Literally Homeless	Homeless as Percent of Total Population	Homeless Persons per 1,000 People
Alexandria	143,885	359	0.25%	2.5
Arlington County	209,969	531	0.25%	2.5
District of Columbia[1]	599,657	6,539	1.09%	10.9
Fairfax County	1,050,315	1,544	0.15%	1.5
Frederick County	225,721	303	0.13%	1.3
Loudoun County	289,995	157	0.05%	0.5
Montgomery County	950,680	1,064	0.11%	1.1
Prince George's County	820,852	789	0.10%	1.0
Prince William County	364,734	488	0.13%	1.3
Region with D.C.	**4,655,808**	**11,774**	**0.25%**	**2.5**
Region without D.C.	**4,056,151**	**5,235**	**0.13%**	**1.3**

[1]The District of Columbia's 2008 U.S. Census data was revised in 2009 to include an additional 7,824 people.

As evidenced in Table 2, most of the region's homeless population resides in the District of Columbia. This trend remains unchanged from 2001 when the region's enumeration survey began. As detailed in Table 2, of every 1,000 people throughout the region, 2.5 are homeless. This number has slightly decreased since 2009 when the figure was 2.6. The incidence of homelessness is greater for the District of Columbia. Of every 1,000 people in the District, 11 are homeless. This number has slightly increased since 2009 when the figure was 10.5.

At least three factors may explain the region's roughly two percent decrease in its homeless population for 2010. These factors include the impact of permanent supportive housing, shelter diversion programs and federal Rapid Re-housing funds on individual jurisdiction counts. Montgomery County's Housing First Initiative has been successful in increasing the supply of permanent supportive housing. According to the 2010 enumeration, the County's total number of homeless people that live in permanent supportive housing increased by 28 percent. Montgomery County presently has 1,495 permanent supportive housing beds in its year-round inventory. This number has increased 86 percent since 2008.

Prince George's County's Continuum of Care (CoC) includes a shelter diversion program. The program timely identifies households at risk of homelessness and prevents their need to be housed in local shelters. Following its 1999 implementation, the program produced positive quantifiable results. From February 2009 to January 2010, the County's shelter diversion program helped 452 households with approximately 438 children from entering the local shelter system.

In Prince William County, federal Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) grant funds have prevented 237 individuals or 64 households from experiencing homelessness. These stimulus funds along with a grant from the Office of Housing and Community Development allow the County to provide rental assistance to households in need. While these grants have been a valuable resource in Prince William County, they are time-sensitive and due to expire. Therefore, the gains Prince William County has experienced with reducing its homeless population might erode by the end of 2010 if other funding sources do not replace the County's federal HPRP allocation.

Household Composition

The following table compares the 2006 through 2010 enumeration survey responses from the region's residents who were counted as homeless. As of January 27, 2010, 11,774 single individuals and people in families were homeless. The number of homeless people reveals a 1.7 percent decrease from 2009 when 11,982 total single people and people in families throughout the region were homeless and a near 3 percent decrease from 2006.

TABLE 3: SINGLE ADULTS AND PEOPLE IN FAMILIES WHO ARE HOMELESS

		Single Individuals	People in Families	Total
MWCOG REGION	**2010**	6,779	4,995	**11,774**
	2009	6,689	5,293	**11,982**
	2008	7,140	4,566	**11,706**
	2007	6,911	4,851	**11,762**
	2006	7,137	4,948	**12,085**
2006 - 2010 Percent Change		**-5.0%**	**0.9%**	**-2.6%**

Family Households

The following table illustrates the 2010 survey responses from the region's homeless families. As of January 27, 2010, 1,563 families were counted as homeless. This number is a 3.7 percent decrease from 2009 when 1,622 total families throughout the region were homeless. The decline in the number of homeless people in families corresponds with the region's overall decrease in its homeless population. Since last year, the number of adults in families decreased by 59 people or 4.5 percent and the number of children in families decreased by 207 people or 6 percent. Also, the number of homeless people in families decreased by 5.6 percent from 5,293 people in 2009 to 4,995 people in 2010. These decreases may also be attributed to the region's Continua of Care's increased program coordination, improved tracking of homeless families and greater provision of homeless prevention assistance and permanent housing supports.

TABLE 4: LITERALLY HOMELESS PEOPLE IN FAMILIES BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	Families	Adults in Families	Children in Families	People in Families
Alexandria	52	63	88	151
Arlington County	61	76	108	184
District of Columbia	800	988	1,535	2,523
Fairfax County	263	342	550	892
Frederick County	39	43	68	111
Loudoun County	25	34	52	86
Montgomery County	124	138	234	372
Prince George's County	102	130	240	370
Prince William County	97	113	193	306
ALL COG COCs	**1,563**	**1,927**	**3,068**	**4,995**

Children and Youth

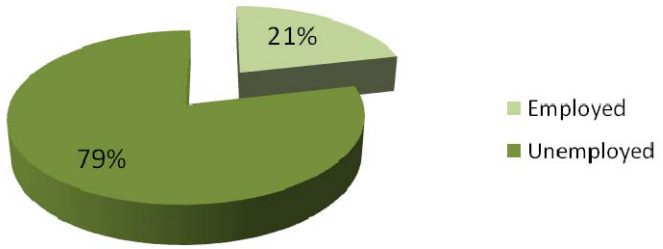
In the case of families, it is important to note that children are more adversely affected by homelessness. Children are often dislocated from familiar surroundings, family, friends, and neighborhood schools when their families become homeless. Children must also contend with the stigma associated with being homeless when navigating their new surroundings and when making friends. Children and youth homelessness decreased by one percent this year. COG's 2010 enumeration found that children represented 3,068 people or 61 percent of all people in homeless families. Additionally, children accounted for 26 percent of all homeless people. In 2009, 3,275 or 27 percent of the region's homeless population were children and youth. This figure does not include unaccompanied youth.

HOMELESSNESS AND THE WORKING POOR

Employment, or an adequate and reliable source of income, is crucial to a household's ability to either afford a place to live or move out of homelessness. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the metropolitan Washington region's unemployment rate for January 2010 is 6.9 percent, compared to 9.7 for the nation. The region's unemployment rate increased by 1.5 percentage points from 5.4 percent in January 2009. Based on 2008 U.S. Census data, the region's average poverty rate stands at 6.85 percent. This average includes the District of Columbia's 16.9 percent poverty rate (now at 18.9 percent) as well as Loudoun County's 3.1 percent poverty rate. Arlington and Prince George's Counties respective 6.7 percent poverty rates are near the region's average. The region's rising unemployment rate coupled with its high housing costs and increasing poverty rate highlight the challenges the area's homeless population face.

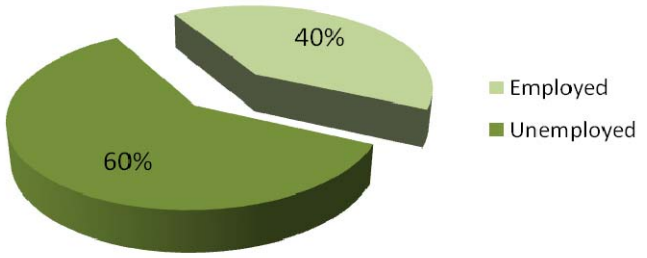
A common misunderstanding many people have is that persons experiencing homelessness are unemployed. Data from the metropolitan Washington region's 2010 enumeration, however, suggests that many homeless people – particularly those with families – are employed. The following figures illustrate the employment percentages (both full and part time) for homeless individuals and families throughout the region.

FIGURE 1: EMPLOYED SINGLE ADULTS
Source: COG 2010



According to this year's enumeration, 40 percent of all homeless adults in families are employed and at least one-fifth of all homeless single adults have jobs. These two statistics decreased between three and five percentage points from last year when 45 percent of all adults in families were employed and 23 percent of all homeless single adults had jobs. The region's lower rate of employment for its homeless single adults is attributed to higher incidences of substance abuse, mental illness, chronic health problems and physical disabilities for this population than for homeless adults in families.

FIGURE 2: EMPLOYED ADULTS IN FAMILIES
Source: COG 2010



The increased unemployment rate experienced by the region's housed residents also impacts its homeless population. While the Washington region – when compared to other national metropolitan areas – has an increasing, yet low unemployment rate, it remains one of the country's most expensive areas to live. Coupled with incidents of increasing unemployment, the area's high housing costs further constrain a low income household's ability to remain housed. The reality is stark for the region's homeless households as evidenced in the following charts. Figure 3 shows that in four of nine local jurisdictions nearly a third of all single homeless adults have jobs. Figure 4 illustrates that in six of nine local jurisdictions half or more of all homeless adults in families are employed.

FIGURE 3: EMPLOYED SINGLE ADULTS

Source: COG 2010

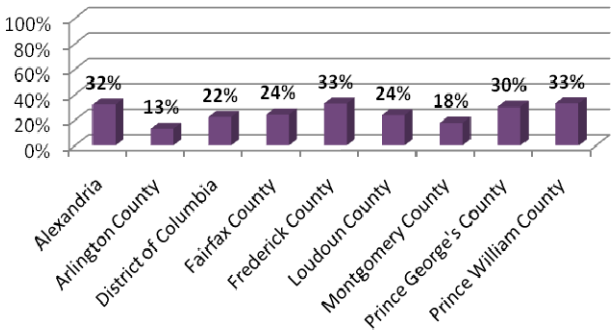
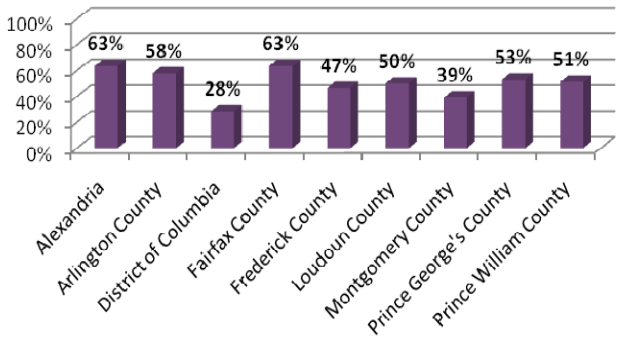


FIGURE 4: EMPLOYED ADULTS IN FAMILIES

Source: COG 2010



Income

While a portion of the region's homeless population reports receiving income, a large number of homeless people do not receive any income. More than 74 percent of adults in families reported having income, but only 36 percent of single adults reported income. While a significant percentage of single adults reported not having income, many of them did not provide income information to the enumerators this year. Therefore, it is unclear as to precisely how many single adults across the region have no income or how many single adults did not provide their income information.

Figure 5 shows the differences in the income distribution for homeless single adults and homeless adults in families who reported income. In the 30 days prior to the count, 43 percent of single adults reporting income had less than $500 and another 42 percent had between $501 and $1,000 of income. Only 15 percent of homeless single adults had more than $1,000 of income. Among adults in families reporting income, one-third had income greater than $1,000; more than one-third had income between $501 and $1,000; and less than one-third had income under $500. Less than 4 percent of homeless adults in families reported income below $250 in the last 30 days.

Nearly 50 percent of all adults who have income reported that employment wages and salaries were their primary source of income. The next largest sources of primary income following employment include Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Social Security and "other" sources of income. Figure 6 on the following page illustrates the primary source of income distribution for the region's 3,998 homeless people that provided this information.

FIGURE 5: INCOME DISTRIBUTION FOR ADULTS WITH INCOME > $0

Source: COG 2010

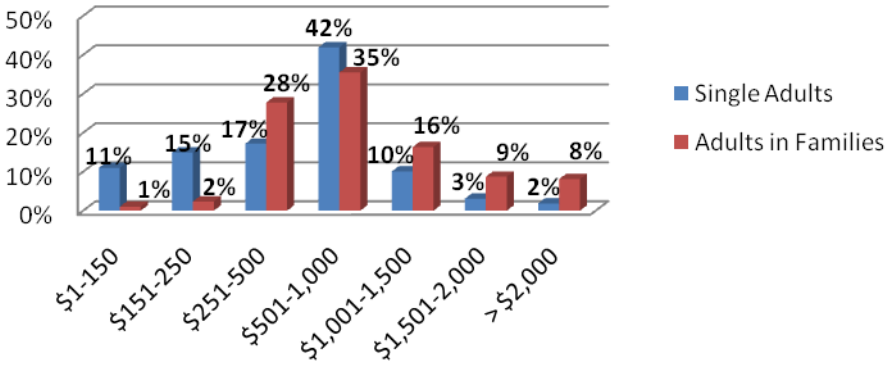
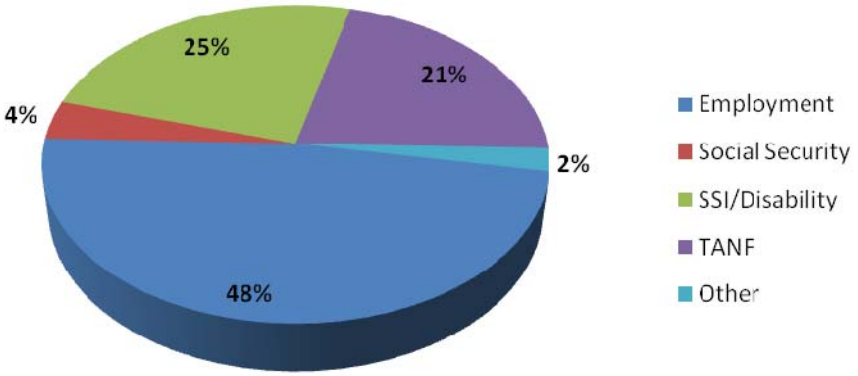


FIGURE 6: HOMELESS POPULATION SOURCE OF INCOME

Source: COG 2010

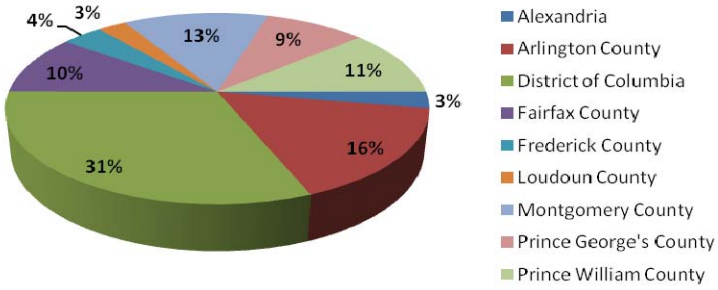


UNSHELTERED HOMELESS

On January 27, 2010, outreach workers for the region's Continua of Care went into several communities to count the area's unsheltered homeless population. Outreach workers counted people living on the streets, in alleys, under bridges, in local parks and camp sites and in other places frequented by homeless people. According to the 2010 count, 11 percent of the region's 11,774 homeless people live unsheltered. Figure 7 provides the distribution of the region's total unsheltered homeless population by locality.

FIGURE 7: DISTRIBUTION OF REGION'S UNSHELTERED PERSONS

SOURCE: COG 2010



A larger trend, also highlighted in a January 9, 2010 *Washington Post* article, "Homeless campers face added challenges weathering wintertime," is the prevalence of more homeless people living in wooded areas along the region's major highways. The article addressed the living conditions of a 21-year-old woman and her boyfriend. According to the Post, the couple lives in a tent in the woods near Potomac Mills shopping mall in Prince William County. Results of the 2010 enumeration confirm the article's statement that more suburban jurisdictions within the region's Continua of Care are proactively identifying, counting and engaging homeless people living in the region's wooded areas. As an example, Montgomery County reported a 43 percent increase in its unsheltered count. The County attributes part of this increase to the number of people counted living in encampments. The article noted that homeless campers predate the recession but that estimates are not available to determine whether the number of such groups is increasing. Figure 8 suggests that the region's unsheltered homeless count has modestly increased since 2009, yet without additional data or narrative accounts similar to that provided by Montgomery County, the enumeration does not determine whether this increase is primarily attributed to homeless campers.

FIGURE 8: DISTRIBUTION OF REGION'S UNSHELTERED PERSONS

Source: COG 2010

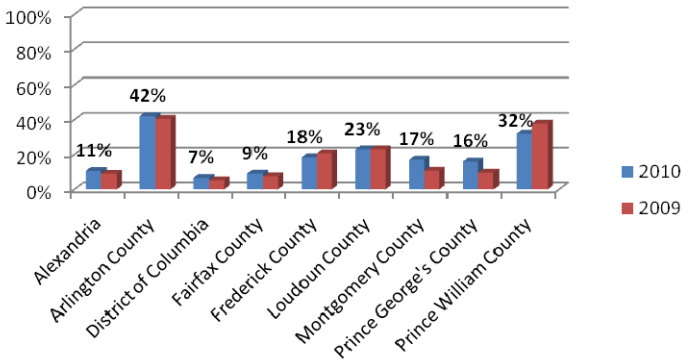


Figure 8 provides the breakdown of the percentage of unsheltered homeless people within each locality compared to its total homeless count for both 2010 and 2009. As evidenced in the bar graph, Frederick and Prince William Counties are the only local jurisdictions this year to report small decreases of one to three percent in the number of unsheltered homeless people from 2009. Loudoun County's numbers remained relatively stable since 2009. The region's other CoC jurisdictions experienced small increases in their unsheltered homeless populations.

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

As a result of federal policy, the nine COG jurisdictions that receive HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) grants are working to reduce the region's chronically homeless population. HUD defines individuals experiencing chronic homelessness as an unaccompanied, disabled individual who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. It should be noted that, at present, this definition excludes persons in families from being counted as chronically homeless. Serious physical and mental health issues are often present for people experiencing chronic homelessness and add to the challenges in serving this population. As illustrated in Table 5, the region is working to decrease its chronically homeless population.

TABLE 5: CHRONICALLY HOMELESS BY JURISDICTION, 2006 - 2010

Jurisdiction	Unsheltered	In Emergency and Winter Shelters	Percent of All Homeless Persons	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Alexandria	25	55	22%	80	90	75	114	76
Arlington County	79	34	21%	113	138	156	220	182
District of Columbia	387	1,710	32%	2,097	1,923	2,184	1,760	1,891
Fairfax County	103	139	16%	242	297	402	335	401
Frederick County	24	30	18%	54	66	55	23	39
Loudoun County	9	12	13%	21	19	21	52	16
Montgomery County	83	97	17%	180	152	208	231	206
Prince George's County	89	35	16%	124	107	216	264	239
Prince William County	36	25	13%	61	71	58	64	27
All COG CoCs	**835**	**2,137**	**25%**	**2,972**	**2,863**	**3,375**	**3,063**	**3,077**

Comparable to last year, roughly 25 percent of the region's homeless people are chronically homeless and the largest number of this population lives in the District of Columbia. While the urban core continues to house the greatest number of the region's chronically homeless residents, Montgomery County, Maryland has the largest increase of people experiencing chronic homelessness when compared to 2009. Montgomery County's chronically homeless population increased 18 percent from 152 people in 2009 to 180 people in 2010.

Five CoC jurisdictions have experienced substantial double digit decreases in their chronically homeless populations. The number and percentage of people experiencing chronic homelessness living in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Frederick, and Prince William Counties have decreased. Fairfax experienced an 18 percent decrease in its chronically homeless population followed by 18 percent in both Arlington and Frederick Counties, 11 percent in Alexandria and 10 percent in Prince William County.

Eliminating chronic homelessness is challenging; yet, it is a major goal for many of the region's Continuum of Care jurisdictions. Most chronically homeless residents suffer from severe physical health, mental health and domestic violence related impediments. Health impediments may include substance abuse and physical disabilities. The problem is more acute when individuals suffer from multiple challenges. For example, to provide appropriate services for a person experiencing chronic homelessness, jurisdictions and service providers must ensure that individuals are adequately screened and diagnosed. Additionally, in many cases, people need medical assistance and/or other regimented methods of care and counseling. People may not immediately respond to the care they receive or their care may be required for the remainder of their lives. In such instances, proper case management services are essential. Challenges to caring for people experiencing chronic homelessness are heightened because many do not have permanent places to live. Diagnosing and following up with people who do not have fixed addresses or who may have mental conditions or safety concerns can be extremely difficult and expensive.

SUBPOPULATIONS

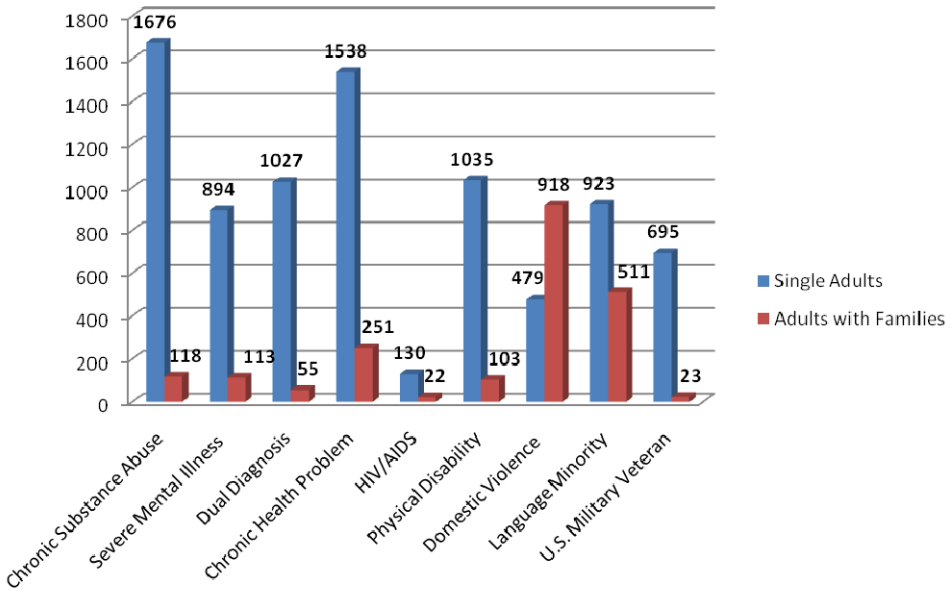
According to the 2010 enumeration, the majority of the region's homeless population suffers from substance abuse, mental and physical health problems, language barriers, domestic violence and other challenges. For example, 66 percent of Alexandria's homeless population report having mental illness, substance use and chronic health problems. Also, in Prince George's County, chronic substance abuse and chronic health problems created the greatest barriers for homeless individuals and adults in families. A total of 251 homeless adults – or 46 percent of this group – reported chronic substance abuse problems. Additionally, more than 25 percent of the County's homeless adults suffer from chronic health problems.

Montgomery County experiences similar challenges with its homeless population. This year, physical disabilities, chronic health problems, chronic homelessness and the combination of substance abuse and serious mental health problems posed the greatest challenges for the County's homeless population. Forty percent of the County's 692 homeless individuals report having physical disabilities or chronic health problems. Thirty-one percent of the County's homeless individuals are chronically homeless and 27 percent of its homeless individuals report having a combination of substance use and serious mental health challenges. Also staggering is the prevalence of domestic violence among Montgomery County's homeless families. Thirty-five percent of the County's 124 homeless families report being victims of domestic violence.

Homeless people who do not speak English as their primary language is another subpopulation captured in this year's enumeration. Twelve percent of the region's homeless subpopulations report that English is not their primary language compared to nine percent in 2009. In 2010, the greatest percentage of language minority homeless people was counted in northern Virginia. For example, Arlington County's language minority homeless subpopulation grew by 64 percent from 2008. This year, 126 homeless people in the County are members of the language minority population compared to 77 homeless people in 2008. Fairfax County's language minority homeless subpopulation grew by 33 percent from 2009. This year, 499 homeless people in the County are members of the language minority population compared to 374 homeless people in 2009. Figure 9 further illustrates the subpopulation groups characterizing many of the region's homeless people.

FIGURE 9: THE REGION'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS

Source: COG 2010



CONTINUA OF CARE IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION

The metropolitan Washington region's inventory of facilities to shelter the homeless and house the formerly homeless has moved well beyond the 1980s model which primarily focused on emergency shelters. The current multi-faceted Continuum of Care (CoC) model focuses heavily on transitional and permanent supportive housing while continuing to provide emergency shelter. The model for assisting the homeless population has changed because it is difficult to adequately address the systemic and personal problems many homeless people have utilizing an emergency shelter based model. Emergency shelters cannot provide the intensive longer term assistance many homeless families need in order to become more self sufficient. Transitional and permanent supportive housing programs provide this assistance. As a result, homeless individuals and families positively respond to interventions and supports received as part of a stable, permanent housing model.

The table on the following page provides the region's 2010 distribution of emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing beds for homeless individuals and people in families. These facilities were available in the winter months during the point-in-time enumeration and during the year's warmer months from April to October.

Between 2006 and 2010, the region added 2,490 permanent supportive housing beds to its year-round homeless facility inventory. This represents a 55 percent increase over five years. The region's increased supply of permanent supportive housing beds is consistent with the national initiative to use a Housing First model and Rapid Re-housing techniques to reduce homelessness. In terms of its transitional bed inventory, the region added 182 transitional beds from 2006 through 2010. This represents a 3.7 percent increase in the number of transitional beds the region provides. Over the past five years, the region has added 868 winter/hypothermia beds to its winter homeless facility inventory. This represents a 70 percent increase since 2006.

In 2009, transitional housing beds accounted for 32 percent of the region's winter homeless facility inventory. The distribution this year rests at 27 percent. This may be attributed to the region's increase in supportive housing beds and decrease in transitional housing beds over the last five years. The region currently has 5,071 transitional housing beds in its winter inventory, compared to 5,474 last year or 4,889 in 2006.

TABLE 6: WINTER AND YEAR ROUND INVENTORY OF BEDS IN THE WASHINGTON REGION							
		Beds for Individuals	Beds for Persons in Families	All Beds: Winter	Percent Distribution in Winter	All Beds: Warm Months	Percent Distribution in Warm Months
Winter Beds	**2010**	**1,465**	**636**	**2,101**	**11%**		
	2009	1,239	478	1,717	10%		
	2008	1,193	297	1,490	9%		
	2007	1,198	160	1,358	9%		
	2006	1,074	159	1,233	8%		
Emergency Shelter Beds	**2010**	**2,965**	**1,315**	**4,280**	**23%**	**4,280**	**26%**
	2009	3,135	1,277	4,412	26%	4,412	27%
	2008	3,383	1,439	4,822	29%	4,822	32%
	2007	2,934	1,668	4,602	29%	4,602	31%
	2006	3,569	1,715	5,284	33%	5,284	33%
Transitional Housing Beds	**2010**	**1,826**	**3,245**	**5,071**	**27%**	**5,071**	**31%**
	2009	1,858	3,616	5,474	32%	5,474	33%
	2008	1,967	3,787	5,754	34%	5,754	38%
	2007	1,944	3,089	5,033	32%	5,033	35%
	2006	1,874	3,015	4,889	31%	4,889	31%
Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	**2010**	**4,139**	**2,916**	**7,055**	**38%**	**7,055**	**43%**
	2009	3,555	1,914	5,469	32%	5,469	33%
	2008	2,806	1,893	4,699	28%	4,699	31%
	2007	2,629	2,307	4,936	31%	4,936	34%
	2006	2,440	2,125	4,565	29%	4,565	29%
TOTALS	**2010**	**10,395**	**8,112**	**18,507**		**16,406**	
	2009	9,787	7,285	17,072		16,610	
	2008	9,349	7,416	16,765		15,275	
	2007	8,705	7,224	15,929		14,571	
	2006	8,957	7,014	15,971		14,738	
Percent Change Since 2006		**16%**	**16%**	**16%**		**11%**	

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING – THE FORMERLY HOMELESS

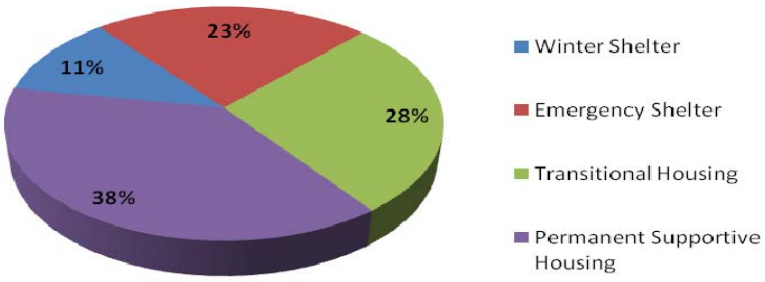
Homeless service providers and government housing officials are often asked "How many people are now housed who were once homeless?" The question was harder to answer when governments followed the emergency shelter model of the 1980s. Under this model, chronically homeless people comprised the majority of homeless people and were less likely to receive permanent housing.

Housing First or Rapid Re-housing is a newer alternative to the emergency shelter or transitional housing model. A core principle of the Housing First model is that the vulnerably homeless are more responsive to interventions and social services support after they are in their own housing, rather than while living in temporary or transitional housing facilities. Under a Housing First model homeless individuals and families at risk of homelessness can obtain the confidence and skills to manage challenges and control their lives.

The ultimate goal of the metropolitan Washington region's homeless continua of care is to move people out of homelessness into a level of independent living. Permanent supportive housing facilities provide homeless residents with much needed wrap-around services to assist them in their efforts to live as independently as possible. Some of these services may include substance abuse counseling, life skills training, health care, mental health services and job training. Many of these crucial supportive services and housing subsidies are provided by the region's CoCs comprised of local governments, nonprofits and other human services agencies. Figure 10 provides information on the region's formerly homeless residents.

According to the 2010 enumeration, permanent supportive housing comprises nearly 40 percent of the region's homeless bed inventory. Approximately 6,739 of the region's formerly homeless people reside in permanent supportive housing. Transitional housing comprises nearly 30 percent of the region's homeless bed inventory. Approximately 28 percent of the region's literally homeless people reside in transitional housing. According to Figure 10, more than a third of the region's literally homeless people utilized winter and emergency shelter as of January 27, 2010.

FIGURE 10: REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF BEDS BY FACILITY TYPE
Source: COG 2010



Between 2006 and 2010, the metropolitan Washington region's supply of permanent housing beds increased by 55 percent or 2,490 beds. The region presently has 7,055 permanent supportive housing beds. Last year, the number stood at 5,469 beds; this figure represents a nearly 30 percent increase in the region's supply of permanent supportive housing beds from 2009 to 2010. The District of Columbia has 4,814 permanent supportive housing beds; this represents close to 70 percent of the region's total number of permanent supportive housing beds. The District's strategic plan identifies the need for increased permanent supportive housing dedicated to housing homeless individuals and families as the solution to homelessness. Montgomery County has more than 20 percent of the region's permanent supportive housing beds. The County increased its beds to 1,495 in 2010 from 958 in 2009. This increase supports the County's commitment to its Housing First Initiative which gives priority to the continued creation of more permanent supportive housing. Table 7 cites the region's number of formerly homeless adults living in permanent supportive housing.

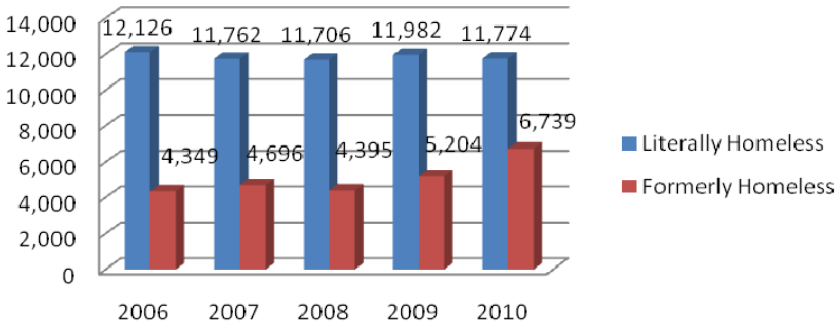
TABLE 7: FORMERLY HOMELESS PEOPLE IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING				
		Single Adults	**People in Families**	**TOTAL**
MWCOG REGION	**2010**	**3,871**	**2,868**	**6,739**
	2009	3,308	1,896	**5,204**
	2008	2,650	1,745	**4,395**
	2007	2,484	2,212	**4,696**
	2006	2,320	2,029	**4,349**
Percent Change Since 2006		**66.9%**	**41.4%**	**55.0%**

Table 11 compares the literally homeless and formerly homeless populations from 2006 through 2010. The total number of literally and formerly homeless adults is mutually exclusive and should not be combined. According to HUD, formerly homeless people living in permanent supportive housing are not counted as part of the literally homeless that live on the streets, in emergency shelter or in transitional programs. By definition, the formerly homeless includes people presently living in permanent supportive housing following a period of living on the street or in emergency or transitional shelter.

Since 2006, there has been a decrease in the region's literally homeless population and an increase in the number of people living in permanent supportive housing. In just the past year, there were 208 fewer literally homeless people, but 1,535 more formerly homeless persons living in permanent supportive housing.

FIGURE 11: REGION'S LITERALLY AND FORMERLY HOMELESS

SOURCE: COG 2010



CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The metropolitan Washington region's homeless population has decreased by 1.7 percent from 2009. As of January 27, 2010, 11,774 people throughout the metropolitan Washington region indicated that they were homeless. In 2009, a total of 11,982 people throughout the region were homeless. Three factors explain the region's near two percent decrease in its homeless population. These factors include the impact of permanent supportive housing, prevention and shelter diversion programs and federal Rapid Re-housing funds.

Emergency shelters may not provide the intensive longer-term assistance many homeless persons need in order to become more self sufficient. As a result, CoC's in the metropolitan Washington region's approach to shelter the homeless and house the formerly homeless has moved beyond the 1980s emergency housing model and focuses on permanent supportive housing while continuing to provide emergency shelter. The Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee recommends that each of the region's CoC jurisdictions continuously increase its permanent supportive housing inventory. The provision of supportive wrap-around services as part of this approach helps homeless people become more confident and independent once their challenges are diagnosed and addressed.

Efforts for some of the region's jurisdictions to outreach, diagnose and house unsheltered homeless people have increased. However, the Committee recommends that the region's Continua of Care improve their outreach efforts to unsheltered homeless people. The region's CoCs have in place, or are developing, systems to rapidly re-house homeless people from emergency shelters into appropriate permanent housing. The CoCs should outreach more to the region's unsheltered homeless population to improve the lives of people living on the streets, in alleys and in encampments.

The metropolitan region's unemployment rate increased to 6.9 percent in January 2010. Understanding the area's current economic climate, the region's Continua of Care need to identify funds to sustain and increase their Rapid Re-housing programs. Progress made for at least one jurisdiction may be lost once its federal stimulus funds expire. The Committee recommends that the region's jurisdictions find additional resources to replace temporary supportive housing funds. If additional funds are not found, COG's 2011 enumeration may report an increase homelessness which would eliminate the gains made in 2010.

Several local jurisdictions and homeless service providers are concerned that many of the region's residents are "at risk" of becoming homeless. This concern stems from the region's current economic state. Therefore, the Committee recommends the region's Continua of Care gather data reflecting increases in the number of requests on part of the region's residents for rental or utility assistance. Also, since the nation's foreclosure crisis has slightly impacted this year's enumeration, the Committee recommends that the region's CoCs track and include data related to the impact of foreclosure on the area's homeless population. The region's foreclosure challenges may not end this year; therefore, next year's enumeration should better gather data detailing homelessness as a result of foreclosure.

Last, and equally important, HUD's definition of homeless will change by the end of the year. This change may adversely impact COG's enumeration statistics for the region's homeless population across all household composition and shelter typologies. As a result, the Committee recommends that COG's Continua of Care timely obtain HUD's forthcoming definition of housing. Additionally, it is recommended that the region's CoC study the definition's proposed impact on its annual enumeration and remedy any potential conflicts.

In conclusion, the metropolitan Washington region successfully reduced its homeless count by 1.7 percent from 2009. The nine jurisdictions comprising COG's Continuum of Care worked hard to decrease the region's homeless rate over the past year. Before this year's count, the CoCs implemented HUD's Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless – many due to the economic crisis – and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are homeless. The federal government's stimulus funds were a critical support to the region's efforts to provide more permanent housing and supportive services to its homeless population and to prevent homelessness. The region's CoCs are encouraged to continue efforts to reduce and eliminate homelessness throughout the metropolitan Washington region. Member local jurisdictions' Housing First models and emergency rental assistance programs have proven successful and the region must continue these efforts in order to realize the goal to provide permanent homes for all of its residents.

TABLE 8: LIVING UNSHELTERED, IN WINTER BEDS, IN EMERGENCY SHELTER, OR IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING				
Jurisdiction/Year		**Single Persons**	**Persons in Families**	**All Persons**
Alexandria	**2010**	208	151	359
	2009	223	137	360
	2008	221	127	348
	2007	230	145	375
	2006	238	139	377
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-12.6%**	**8.6%**	**-4.8%**
Arlington County	**2010**	347	184	531
	2009	322	189	511
	2008	284	126	410
	2007	325	137	462
	2006	329	148	477
2006-2010 Percent Change		**5.5%**	**24.3%**	**11.3%**
District of Columbia	**2010**	4,016	2,523	6,539
	2009	3,934	2,294	6,228
	2008	4,208	1,836	6,044
	2007	3,717	2,040	5,757
	2006	4,112	2,045	6,157
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-2.3%**	**23.4%**	**6.2%**
Fairfax County	**2010**	652	892	1,544
	2009	663	1,067	1,730
	2008	744	1,091	1,835
	2007	730	1,083	1,813
	2006	667	1,099	1,766
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-2.2%**	**-18.8%**	**-12.6%**
Frederick County	**2010**	167	111	278
	2009	186	138	324
	2008	166	136	302
	2007	142	81	223
	2006	150	62	212
2006-2010 Percent Change		**11.3%**	**79.0%**	**31.1%**

Jurisdiction/Year		Single Persons	Persons in Families	All Persons
Loudoun County	**2010**	71	86	157
	2009	50	102	152
	2008	49	121	170
	2007	81	130	211
	2006	72	112	184
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-1.4%**	**-23.2%**	**-14.7%**
Montgomery County	**2010**	692	372	1,064
	2009	668	526	1,194
	2008	694	410	1,104
	2007	640	499	1,139
	2006	693	471	1,164
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-0.1%**	**-21.0%**	**-8.6%**
Prince George's County	**2010**	419	370	789
	2009	419	434	853
	2008	573	370	943
	2007	806	362	1,168
	2006	801	490	1,291
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-47.7%**	**-24.5%**	**-38.9%**
Prince William County	**2010**	182	306	488
	2009	224	406	630
	2008	201	349	550
	2007	240	374	614
	2006	118	380	498
2006-2010 Percent Change		**54.2%**	**-19.5%**	**-2.0%**
MWCOG REGION	**2010**	6,779	4,995	11,774
	2009	6,689	5,293	11,982
	2008	7,186	4,566	11,752
	2007	6,911	4,851	11,762
	2006	7,137	4,948	12,085
Percent Change Since 2006		**-5.0%**	**0.9%**	**-2.6%**

TABLE 9: FORMERLY HOMELESS LIVING IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING				
Jurisdiction/Year		Single Individuals	People in Families	Total
Alexandria	**2010**	24	8	32
	2009	25	8	33
	2008	25	5	30
	2007	21	9	30
	2006	24	8	32
2006-2010 Percent Change		**0%**	**0%**	**0%**
Arlington County	**2010**	68	13	81
	2009	58	4	62
	2008	30	4	34
	2007	15	2	17
	2006	10	0	10
2006-2010 Percent Change		**580%**	**0%**	**710%**
District of Columbia	**2010**	2,902	1,700	4,602
	2009	2,463	1,006	3,469
	2008	1,963	1,043	3,006
	2007	1,937	1,605	3,542
	2006	1,772	1,440	3,212
2006-2010 Percent Change		**64%**	**18%**	**43%**
Fairfax County	**2010**	310	34	344
	2009	294	119	413
	2008	250	32	282
	2007	242	31	273
	2006	267	44	311
2006-2010 Percent Change		**16%**	**-23%**	**11%**
Frederick County	**2010**	20	10	30
	2009	19	7	26
	2008	16	11	27
	2007	4	9	13
	2006	15	9	24
2006-2010 Percent Change		**33%**	**11%**	**25%**

Jurisdiction/Year		Single Individuals	People in Families	Total
Loudoun County	**2010**	2	0	2
	2009	3	0	3
	2008	3	0	3
	2007	14	0	14
	2006	10	0	10
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-80%**	**0%**	**-80%**
Montgomery County	**2010**	442	957	1,399
	2009	345	619	964
	2008	268	469	737
	2007	218	358	576
	2006	190	391	581
2006-2010 Percent Change		**133%**	**145%**	**141%**
Prince George's County	**2010**	94	135	229
	2009	94	133	227
	2008	91	181	272
	2007	28	181	209
	2006	24	124	148
2006-2010 Percent Change		**292%**	**9%**	**55%**
Prince William County	**2010**	9	11	20
	2009	7	0	7
	2008	4	0	4
	2007	5	17	22
	2006	10	0	10
2006-2010 Percent Change		**-10%**	**0%**	**100%**
MWCOG REGION	**2010**	3,871	2,868	6,739
	2009	3,308	1,896	5,204
	2008	2,650	1,745	4,395
	2007	2,484	2,212	4,696
	2006	2,320	2,029	4,349
Percent Change Since 2006		**67%**	**41%**	**55%**

HOMELESS ENUMERATION NARRATIVE REPORTS

ALEXANDRIA 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

The City of Alexandria's Continuum of Care (CoC) is a collaboration of a cross section of community stakeholders comprised of 27 member agencies from the public, private non-profit, faith-based, educational, and advocacy sectors as well as individual citizens and "formerly homeless" consumers. Cooperatively, continuum members have worked to address the immediate and long-term needs of the people at-risk of homelessness and the homeless, with a goal of promoting permanent affordable housing.

Alexandria's Continuum of Care was developed and is managed by the Homeless Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC). The CoC includes the following components: outreach, prevention, winter and emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and permanent housing. Outreach program include intake and assessment, service linkage and coordination, eviction storage, day shelter, meal programs, and the distribution of information. Preventive services include: financial assistance, landlord-tenant intervention, and budget and housing counseling. Emergency Shelter includes housing and case management services for single men and women, and families, with programs specifically targeting victims of domestic violence. Transitional Housing includes housing and case management services for single men and women and families. The transitional housing programs target single people with substance abuse and/or mental health issues and female ex-offenders. These programs help consumers develop the skills they need to live in permanent housing. Permanent Supportive Housing includes housing with comprehensive supportive case management services designed to allow single people and head of households with substance abuse and/or mental health issues to live in the community as independently as possible. Permanent Housing support includes publicly-assisted housing, "affordable" housing units, financial assistance, and support services.

This year the HSCC revised Alexandria's *Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Other Forms of Homelessness* that was approved by City Council in March 2005. This Ten Year Plan set an ambitious agenda for the City of Alexandria's homeless services providers to end homelessness by implementing strategies outlined in the Plan's chapters such as, Planning for Outcomes-Data Collection and Analysis; Closing the Front Door-Preventing Homelessness; Opening the Back Door-Creating Permanent Housing; and Building the Infrastructure-Maximizing Mainstream Resources. Having reached the midway point of the Ten Year Plan, the HSCC resolved to modify and simplify the goals and strategies, making them more realistic and achievable by 2014, and to integrate the Ten Year Plan with the City Council's Strategic Plan initiatives. The *Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Other Forms of Homelessness* identifies goals in the following three areas, Prevention, Coordination, and Advocacy. Action plans for these three goals will be developed annually and will be incorporated into the city's Consolidated Plan action planning process.

The HSCC conducted the 2010 point-in-time count by collecting data through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), as well as through manual surveys completed by shelter staff and volunteers. The Emergency Shelters such as Alexandria Community Shelter, ALIVE! House, Christ House, Carpenter's Shelter, and Domestic Violence Shelter provide 192 emergency shelter beds for singles, couples without children, and families. From November 2009 thru April 2010, an additional 67 beds are provided for winter shelter. On the night of the count, Transitional Housing administrators such as Alexandria Community Services Board, Guest House, Salvation Army, Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless, Carpenter's Shelter, and Community Lodgings provided 58 beds for singles and 94 beds for families.

TABLE 10: ALEXANDRIA'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS				
	Beds for Individuals	**Beds\Units for People in Families**	**All Year-Round Beds**	**Winter Beds**
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	67	0	0	67
Emergency Shelter Beds	88	104	192	0
Transitional Housing Beds	58	94	152	0
TOTAL	**213**	**198**	**344**	**67**

Permanent supportive housing programs, also operated by the Alexandria Community Services Board (ACSB), provide 25 beds for singles and 8 beds for families who meet HUD's homeless definition. Compared to 2009, there has been a 2.9 percent decrease in the number of year around available beds. The Safe Haven facility is currently in its last stages of construction and is projected to open before the end of 2010. Operated by the ACSB, it will serve 12 individuals, eight of whom must meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless.

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

For Alexandria's 2010 count, 359 individuals and families were identified as homeless. This number does not represent a significant change from the 2009 enumeration when 360 total people were counted. In terms of individuals versus families, the 359 people represent 208 single men and women and 151 people in families. In comparison to 2008, Alexandria's homeless population increased by 3.1 percent from 348 to 359 people. Twenty-eight percent of the city's homeless single men and women met the HUD's definition of chronically homeless. Equally notable, 66 percent of all households were people with mental illness, substance use, and chronic health problems, which are high risk factors for homelessness. From 2009, the number of unsheltered single men and women increased by 15.7 percent from 32 to 38 people. There was also a 36 percent decrease in the number of individuals accessing emergency shelter. That number fell from 87 people in 2009 to 64 people in 2010. The number of families also increased this year by 10.2 percent. Additionally, the City of Alexandria experienced a 14.5 percent increase in the number of adults in families and 7.3 percent increase in the number of homeless children.

Single men and women's employment rate appears to be directly related to the stability of their housing; the more stable the housing situation, the more likely they are employed. Thirty-two percent of single men and women were employed part-time or full-time. In terms of employment by accommodation, 20 percent of winter shelter residents were employed, 44 percent of emergency shelter residents were employed, and 52 percent of people living in transitional housing were employed. All unsheltered homeless people were unemployed. Fifty-two percent or 107 single men and women reported having a monthly income. The monthly income for fifty percent of the city's homeless single men and women range from $501 to $1000. The primary sources of income were as follows: 57 percent reported income from employment; 35 percent reported income from disability benefits; 5 percent reported income from Social Security retirement, and 3 percent reported their income coming from other sources. There were no significant differences between this year's and the 2009 enumeration employment rate.

The employment rate of adults in families and household income reflected the setting in which the families resided. Over 63 percent of adult family members were employed part-time or full-time; this figure represents a 10 percent decrease from 2009. Of adult family members, 50 percent residing in emergency shelters were employed and 73 percent residing in transitional housing were employed. Close to 82 percent of family households reported receiving a monthly income of which 37.7 percent is in the $501 to $1000 range. The primary sources of income for families are employment 82.2 percent, TANF 13.3 percent, and disability benefits 4.4 percent.

TABLE 11: ALEXANDRIA'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY

Category	2010	2009	2008	Percent Change 2009 to 2010
Total Number Counted	359	360	348	-0.3%
Total of Singles	208	223	221	-6.7%
Total Number of Families	52	44	42	18.2%
Total of People in Families	151	137	127	10.2%
Total Adults in Families	63	55	46	14.5%
Total Children in Families	88	82	81	7.3%

TABLE 12: ALEXANDRIA'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families**	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	75	0	0	75
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	26	1	0	25
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	44	0	0	44
Chronic Health Problem	62	5	0	67
HIV/AIDS	4	0	0	4
Physical Disability	24	1	0	25
Domestic Violence	3	16	0	19
Language Minority	7	14	0	21
U.S. Military Veteran	18	1	0	19

This year the HSCC added "reason for homelessness" to the Point-in-Time Survey for shelter families. The purpose was to capture data on the effects of the economic downturn on homelessness and possibly derive an explanation for the increase in number of homeless families in the past two years. The results showed that the primary and secondary reasons for homelessness are the lack of affordable housing and underemployment/low income. This corresponds to the disparities between the salaries offered to work in Alexandria and the lack of affordable housing aimed at the city's workforce. Mortgage foreclosure was the primary reason for one family.

The City of Alexandria had one of the lowest rates of foreclosure in the metropolitan Washington region in 2009, with only 1.2 percent of all mortgages in the area's foreclosure inventory. The number of foreclosures in 2009 declined to 289 from a high of 365 in 2008. The majority of the city's residential foreclosures occurred in condominium units, representing 65 percent of foreclosures in 2009. The City of Alexandria provides foreclosure prevention counseling services in English and Spanish, primarily through contract services through Housing Counseling Services. Housing Counseling Services offers ongoing foreclosure prevention clinics which may be followed by individual counseling to homeowners facing foreclosure. Limited financial assistance is also available through the Homeless Intervention Program (HIP).

In 2009, prevention and intervention assistance was provided to 815 households through programs such as HIP, Emergency General Relief, and Emergency Shelter funds which are administered by the City of Alexandria. Twenty-four percent more households were assisted this year than were assisted in 2008. The city continues to see the level of need increase and has allocated $512,214 awarded under HUD's Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) to stabilize housing for renters. Alexandria's HPRP, called Renter's Assistance Plus (RAP), was implemented in August 2009 with the goal of providing homeless prevention assistance to households who would be homeless but for this assistance and can remain stably housed at the end of assistance. The program also focuses on rapidly

re-housing people who meet HUD's definition of homeless. To date, RAP has helped 39 households or 110 people maintain or obtain stable housing.

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PLACEMENTS

The CSB currently operates 25 permanent supportive housing beds for individuals and three permanent supportive housing units for families with substance use and/or mental health issues who would otherwise be homeless. On the night of the point-in-time, 96 percent of the beds were occupied. At the time of the count, an additional 72 individuals and 2 families were in need of permanent supportive or permanent housing.

The City of Alexandria continues to be faced with the challenge of providing affordable permanent housing options for low income households and the local workforce. From 2000 to 2008, the City of Alexandria lost more than 10,000 affordable rental units due to development and increased rents. The Affordable Housing Initiatives Work Group (AHIWG), created by City Council to recommend tools to be adopted or created to maximize and sustain the production and preservation of affordable and workforce housing, submitted its final report in May of 2009. The Group recommends that the city focus on the preservation of the current inventory of affordable housing. Failing to use this approach, the city could potentially lose another 1,000 affordable housing units over the next five years. One of the action plans in the revised *Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Other Forms of Homelessness* specifically includes advocating the City Council to adopt the recommendations of the Affordable Housing Initiatives Work Group May 2009 report.

ARLINGTON COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

Arlington County has a 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness with two distinct governing bodies: the Leadership Consortium and the Implementation Task Force (ITF). The plan's four major goal areas include the development of various components of affordable housing, integrated supportive services, comprehensive prevention services, and increased access to income and training for homeless people. Four committees have been developed to address each one of above-mentioned goals. The committees will use services and resources within Arlington County's Continuum of Care (CoC) to meet the needs of its homeless residents. The task of conducting the 2010 Point-in-Time (PIT) survey was the responsibility of the ITF's Data and Evaluation Subcommittee. The goal of Arlington's 10 Year Plan is to assist homeless individuals and families in obtaining and maintaining permanent housing and also to prevent homeless recidivism.

Arlington County's homeless point-in-time survey was conducted on January 27, 2010. The following table illustrates the County's inventory of beds that day.

TABLE 13: ARLINGTON'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS				
	Beds for Individuals	**Beds\Units for People in Families**	**All Year-Round Beds**	**Winter Beds**
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	73	0	0	73
Emergency Shelter Beds	46	82	128	0
Transitional Housing Beds	16	127	143	0
TOTAL	**135**	**209**	**271**	**73**

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

As part of the PIT survey on January 27, 2010, the Implementation Task Force (CoC) counted a total of 531 people as being homeless. The break down by category is as follows:

TABLE 14: ARLINGTON'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY				
Category	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**Percent Change 2008 to 2010**
Total Number Counted	531	511	410	29.5%
Total of Singles	347	322	284	22%
Total Number of Families	61	56	42	45%
Total of People in Families	184	189	126	46%
Total Adults in Families	76	71	46	65%
Total Children in Families	108	118	81	33%

Over the past two year period, Arlington County's CoC has experienced a 29 percent increase in homelessness. This can be attributed to the County's expansion of shelter and transitional housing programs and better identification of homeless people on the street. In addition to the increase in homeless people counted, Arlington County has had approximately a 30% increase in requests for services like food stamps, rental assistance, food assistance, and our local housing grants program compared to this time last year. Arlington believes these increases are due to the economic climate which has impacted other local jurisdictions as well. Due to the current times, it will be imperative that Arlington County intensify its homeless prevention methods through marketing to various community churches, civic associations, and businesses the availability of assistance that can be provided to people at risk of homelessness.

The 2010 PIT survey also yielded information about sub sub-populations of homelessness. In Table 15, please find a comparison of subpopulations between 2010 PIT Survey and 2008 PIT Survey.

TABLE 15: ARLINGTON'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS			
	2010	**2008**	**Change from 2008 to 2010**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	93	70	33%
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	13	75	-83%
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	35	44	-20%
Chronic Health Problem	58	66	-12%
HIV/AIDS	6	6	0%
Physical Disability	18	34	-47%
Domestic Violence	80	69	16%
Language Minority	126	77	64%
U.S. Military Veteran	17	26	-35%

Arlington County's decreases in the numbers of clients listed as SMI and dually diagnosed (CSA and SMI) clients may be attributed to its improved case management training and resources as well as verifying a client's diagnosis and disability. The County's increase in the percentage of language minority homeless people may be attributed to the fact that Arlington County has a large Spanish speaking population.

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PLACEMENTS

Arlington County currently has eight (8) permanent supportive housing programs that are supported via federal and local funding. The County was recently awarded additional funding as part of the annual HUD application process to add another permanent supportive housing program that will house an additional three households. The continuum currently houses 81 people. The majority, 68, of these individuals are single adults. The continued goal of Arlington County is to develop and move in an additional 30 households per year.

Arlington County continues to make progress in placing homeless people with disabilities into permanent supportive housing programs. Through the collaboration of community stakeholders that include the Arlington County Board, affordable housing developers, and homeless services providers, Arlington County currently has 81 people in permanent supportive housing programs. Over the next year, the County intends to add approximately 30 more units of housing. Another significant factor to report is the number of chronically homeless people counted has decreased over the past three year period. In 2010, there were 115 people counted, 140 in 2009, and 156 in 2008. The decrease can be attributed to increased placements in Arlington permanent supportive housing programs.

FORECLOSURES

Arlington County has the lowest foreclosure rate in the Washington metropolitan region. The total number of foreclosures in Arlington County, according to Arlington County Real Estate Assessments, is 28 in 2006, 140 in 2007, 306 in 2008 and 109 from January to May 2009.

Table 16 illustrates Arlington County's overall low foreclosure rate compared to the Commonwealth of Virginia and other local jurisdictions.

TABLE 16: NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S FORECLOSURE RATE

Jurisdiction	Foreclosure Rate June 2009	Foreclosure Rate December 2008
Arlington	0.77%	0.55%
Alexandria	1.33%	0.77%
Fairfax	1.31%	0.73%
Loudoun	1.63%	0.88%
Prince William	2.72%	1.56%
Virginia Total	0.92%	0.50%

The figures in Table 16 include pre-foreclosure, auction and bank owned properties. Arlington County's Homeownership Staff and Nonprofit Homeownership Staff have taken numerous steps to address the foreclosure issue which includes conducting homeownership and financial literacy classes; outreach at community events; providing direct loss mitigation counseling; and providing initial intake information to individuals facing foreclosure and referral to Foreclosure Prevention Counselors. For homes that are foreclosed upon, the houses are not on the market for long periods of time and typically sold back into the private market.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

The Continuum of Care (CoC) in the District of Columbia provides prevention programs, supportive services, outreach services, emergency shelter, and transitional and permanent supportive housing to homeless and formerly persons in the city. The District's CoC attempts to relieve the immediate suffering of people without shelter and help them obtain and maintain permanent or permanent supportive housing in the most integrated setting possible.

The District's CoC is operated by the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness. As a part of that role, The Community Partnership conducts the annual Point in Time enumeration on behalf of the District.

The Community Partnership used the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), an online data collection tool that stores client level data, to count and survey nearly 85 percent of the literally and formerly homeless persons counted in this year's enumeration. The remaining persons were counted by programs that submitted data through paper surveys or phone interviews with TCP staff. With such a high rate of HMIS participation, the Community Partnership is able to ensure that its annual count is both comprehensive and accurate. The District of Columbia CoC was one of the first jurisdictions nationwide to use the HMIS to complete Point in Time.

The District's Continuum includes 2,470 emergency shelter beds and 1,235 transitional housing beds that are available to single persons year-round.

From November through March each winter, 358 additional emergency shelter beds for single are opened nightly and another 215 "hypothermia alert" beds open on nights when the temperature drops below 32 degrees (which occurred on the night of Point in Time). Persons seeking shelter during these alerts cannot be turned away, and these additional resources are credited with keeping many from having to sleep outside or in other places not meant for habitation.

The District also opened a winter shelter for families this year as it has in the past. In doing so, the District is one of the few jurisdictions in the region to dedicate sizable additional resources for families during the winter. The capacity of the facility is flexible to meet demand; on the night of the 2010 enumeration the shelter housed 155 families.

The District's emergency shelter inventory also includes 160 year-round units for families as well as 543 units of transitional housing for families. More than 200 of these transitional housing units exist as a result of the city's System Transformation Initiative, which began in 2007. This project moves families out of emergency shelter and in to scattered-site private apartments throughout the city. While in the program, families receive two-year rental subsidies, case management and wrap-around services that help prepare them for more permanent living arrangement.

TABLE 17: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS			
	Beds for Individuals	**Units for Families**	**Winter Beds**
Hypothermia/Winter Shelter	573	155	1,053
Emergency Shelter	2,470	160	n/a
Transitional Housing	1,235	543	n/a
TOTAL	**4,278**	**858**	**1,053**

The District's inventory of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) continues to increase in accordance with the goals outlined in the city's strategic plan to end homelessness. This year's point-in-time enumeration showed the District added some 400 beds of PSH for singles and nearly 200 units of PSH for families since the 2009 count was completed.

The bulk of this new inventory comes from the continued expansion of the Mayor's Permanent Supportive Housing Program (PSHP). Since it began in 2008, 683 of the city's most vulnerable homeless men and women and 138 families with lengthy and repeated episodes of homelessness have been housed through this program. Indeed, PSH now makes up 41 percent of the CoC's resources with multiple projects, funded by a variety of sources, moving toward completion.

HOMELESS POINT IN TIME RESULTS

The 2010 Point-in-Time count of literally homeless persons living in the District of Columbia was 6,539, which is a five percent increase from the count conducted in 2009. As was the case during the 2009 count, the largest area of growth within the District's CoC was at the emergency shelter level for families. This is due to increased utilization of emergency shelter during the winter months. A total of 78 families that utilized winter shelter during the winter months were subsequently moved from shelter in to District-funded transitional and permanent supportive housing by the end of March.

The District has also utilized Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing (HPRP) funds, awarded by the federal government, to re-house 25 individuals and persons and families that were experiencing homelessness. Most of these placements occurred after the point-in-time count was conducted. Additionally, HPRP funds have prevented some 200 individuals and families from becoming homeless to date.

Another increase was seen in the number of unsheltered persons counted in the 2010 enumeration. This increase is largely due to the increased presence of outreach workers and volunteers working to count unsheltered homeless persons in more parts of the city. Emergency shelters for single persons appear to have been utilized by fewer persons during the 2010 count (as compared to last year), which may also account for the increase in persons counted outside on the night of Point in Time.

Though there was an overall increase in literally homeless persons, the count of formerly homeless persons in the District increased as well. As previously mentioned, the District has increased its stock on permanent supportive housing resources in the last year and as such, the number of formerly homeless persons has increased by 33 percent from the count conducted in 2009.

TABLE 18: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY			
Category	**2009**	**2010**	**Percent Change 2009 to 2010**
Total Number Counted	6,228	6,539	5.0%
Total Number of Singles	3,934	4,016	2.1%
Total Number of Families	703	800	13.8%
Total of Persons in Families	2,294	2,523	10.0%
Total Adults in Families	868	988	13.8%
Total Children in Families	1,426	1,535	7.6%

Disabling conditions continue to be prevalent among literally homeless persons living in the District, though the rates at which these conditions are seen has does not appear to have changed drastically from past enumerations. Thirty-three percent of the city's literally homeless adults report a chronic substance abuse problem. Twenty-three percent report mental health issues, 24 percent experience chronic health problems, and 16 percent are physically disabled. Homelessness often worsens these conditions; dedicated permanent housing and supportive service resources are needed to help provide stability.

Housing resources are also needed for persons who belong to other homelessness subpopulations. There are 719 homeless victims of domestic violence in the District, including children in families. There are also a total of 497 homeless U.S. military veterans living in the city, though that number appears to be down significantly from past counts, thanks in part to increased PSH programs that target veterans.

TABLE 19: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families**	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	940	72	6	1,018
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	503	40	24	567
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	545	32	1	578
Chronic Health Problem	1,041	94	52	1,187
HIV/AIDS	106	7	5	118
Physical Disability	719	54	21	794
Domestic Violence	330	149	240	719
Language Minority	455	30	26	511
U.S. Military Veteran	497	15	0	512

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

Point-in-Time data revealed that 50 percent of single, unaccompanied homeless persons and 18 percent of adults in families in the District have no regular income of any kind. Median income among all homeless adults with at least one income source is just $608 per month.

Income from employment and from Social Security are the most common primary income type among single homeless men and women, while Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is the most common primary income source among adults in families.

Twenty-four percent of homeless adults in the District report that they are employed which is a slight increase from the number reported in 2009. Of those that are employed, 45 percent state that they are working full time, 48 work part time, and the remainder was employed on the date of Point in Time though they categorized their employment as "seasonal."

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PLACEMENTS

A total of 4,602 formerly homeless persons were counted in permanent supportive housing throughout the District on the night of this year's enumeration. This includes some 2,902 single, unaccompanied persons as well as 473 families (which were made up of 626 adults and 1,074 children). As stated, this accounts for a 33 percent increase in persons counted from 2009 and the current PSH inventory accounts for more than 40 percent of the District's Continuum of Care.

The District recognizes Permanent Supportive Housing as the solution to homelessness, and our strategic plan identifies the need for increased permanent supportive housing dedicated to housing homeless individuals and families. To that end, the District continues to change the nature of its homeless services in order to end and prevent further homelessness in the city.

FAIRFAX COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

During 2009, significant progress was made to implement the Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community that was approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on March 31, 2008, with a goal of ending homelessness in the community by December 31, 2018. The Office to Prevent and End Homelessness was established in March 2009 and became fully operational in Fiscal Year 2010. The Governing Board for the Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness was formed in June 2009 and began work to examine how to advance the strategic initiatives envisioned in the Implementation Plan. The Fairfax-Falls Church Continuum of Care system includes all of the fundamental components of prevention, outreach, intake and assessment, emergency shelter, transitional housing with necessary support and rehabilitative services, permanent supportive housing, and linkage to permanent housing, with a full range of supportive services. Under the Implementation Plan the organization and service delivery philosophy for this system is being re-examined with an emphasis on Housing First and community-based supports focused on strong outcomes in prevention and housing stability.

A number of task groups worked on key strategies and actions in the Plan, including implementation of the Housing Opportunity Support Team (HOST) strategy in the Plan and development of Housing Option strategies. The Office was assigned responsibility to implement the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These funds are being utilized to implement the HOST strategy in the Plan, which became operational in November 2009. By the end of the first 44 business days on January 22, 2010, this new program had prevented 216 people in 76 households from becoming homeless. By the end of 75 business days on March 12, 2010, those numbers had increased to 374 people in 136 unique households. Clearly this prevention initiative is having an impact in keeping people from adding to the number of homeless people in the community.

In addition to the implementation of HOST, the Department of Housing and Community Development, working in partnership with the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, developed a Housing Blueprint that spelled out specific goals to be achieved to address four key housing initiatives, one of which is ending homelessness. A Housing Options workgroup developed annual targets for the next 10 years to reach the goals in the Ten-Year Plan, with specific action plans for the first four years through Fiscal Year 2013. The targets for Fiscal Year 2011 are included in the Housing Blueprint, which the Board of Supervisors endorsed on January 26, 2010. The work to redefine how homeless services are provided and how connections are made to permanent housing is already underway. The Housing Options work group defined several levels of housing and supports, ranging from permanent supportive housing with intensive support, to moderate support, to limited support. In addition, a new type, permanent housing with supports was defined, to identify programs serving households, primarily families, that do not have a long-term disabling condition and need permanent housing that is not time limited, but with supportive services to ensure housing stability. This type is distinct from transitional housing in that the services may be reduced over time, but the housing is retained by the household. Since the housing is permanent, these households are no longer considered homeless and are not included in the count of literally homeless.

TABLE 20: FAIRFAX COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS				
	Beds for Individuals	**Beds\Units for People in Families**	**All Year-Round Beds**	**Winter Beds**
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	236	35 / 10*	35	236
Emergency Shelter Beds (Includes DV and teen shelter)	155	208 / 70	363	(included in winter overflow)
Transitional Housing Beds	145	816 / 230	961	N/A
TOTALS	**536**	**1059 / 310**	**1359**	**236**

**Overflow for families is a year-round voucher based program.*

Shelter programs include seven facilities which are funded through contracts with Fairfax County and additional funds raised by the nonprofit operators. For single individuals, 11 beds were converted from seasonal to year-round status, resulting in 147 year-round beds in four adult shelters serving men and women. Also, there is an eight-bed shelter for homeless youth owned and operated by a nonprofit, although youth served in that facility do not always meet the HUD definition of homeless. During winter months, an additional 44 seasonal beds were available at three of the singles shelters and one additional winter only location in Falls Church; however, some of these seasonal programs are often over capacity during the coldest part of the winter. The hypothermia prevention program was again operated through four locations, with two fixed sites in addition to two rotating faith-based sites. A total of 230 individuals were counted in overflow and hypothermia prevention and related programs. One eight-bed singles shelter and one eight-bed safe haven are targeted to assist chronically homeless individuals. A total of 145 beds of transitional housing for singles were available in the point-in-time count, most through Community Services Board and nonprofit operated programs.

In the 2010 count, the four main family shelters had a total capacity to serve 54 families with 174 beds, and an additional 34-bed domestic violence shelter program could serve up to 16 families, however, some of that capacity was occupied by women fleeing domestic abuse but not accompanied by their children. The shelters are operated with County and private funding through contracts with nonprofit agencies, and the domestic violence program is operated through the Office for Women Domestic and Sexual Violence Services. The administration of domestic violence programs in Fairfax County was re-organized during 2008 into this new office. A total of 230 units of transitional housing with a capacity of 816 beds for people in families were counted in 2010, including several programs serving victims of domestic violence. Most of this capacity is operated by nonprofit agencies with various combinations of HUD funds, private funding, and contracts with Fairfax County. The number of transitional housing units and beds for families is reduced from 2009 due largely to one program, with over 50 units, converting its model to providing permanent housing with supports. Those families are no longer considered to be homeless. Additional programs are looking at converting some transitional units to permanent supportive housing for families with a disabled head of household.

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

During 2009, significant strides were made to expand utilization of HMIS, which resulted in nearly 75 percent of the client-level data in the count coming from the automated system. As shown in the table below, the point-in-time count for 2010 decreased by 186 people or -10.8 percent since 2009 and by 291 people or -15.9 percent since 2008. However, most of the decrease was in families, largely as a result of program changes to implement permanent housing with supports for a significant number of families. The decrease for single individuals from 2009 to 2010 was only 11 people or -1.7 percent, although the count of single individuals dropped by 81 people or -10.9 percent between 2008 and 2009. The mortgage foreclosure crisis does not seem to have had a direct impact on the number of homeless people, but 2009 was a third consecutive year of record levels of requests for emergency food, rent, utility, and eviction prevention assistance. New cases in Coordinated Services Planning, which provides centralized access to emergency assistance, have increased by 40 percent since 2006 to a record of 526 new cases per month in Fiscal Year 2009, which has increased again to 554 cases per month in the first half of Fiscal Year 2010. However, this strong emphasis on prevention services, coupled with the implementation of HPRP discussed above, has helped to keep many families from becoming homeless, even though the resources are not sufficient to meet all of the needs. In spite of this success, there are approximately 50 additional families on the waiting list for family shelters who are living in doubled up or precarious housing situations, but who are not included in the count of literally homeless. It should be noted, however, that the implementation by HUD later this year of an expanded definition of homelessness under the HEARTH Act passed by Congress in 2009 may result in some families and individuals being counted in the future who are currently not included in the count.

The number of homeless individuals sheltered through overflow and hypothermia prevention programs was fewer than in 2009, decreasing from 267 to 230 on the day of the count, with 71 seen in overflow programs and 159 counted at hypothermia prevention sites. The count was prior to the major February blizzards. During the 10 days following the first snow storm, an average of 234 people were sheltered each night in hypothermia programs, which operated on a 24-hour/day basis during the storms, and the shelters maintained a “no turn away” policy for in-shelter overflow in addition to the number sheltered through the hypothermia prevention programs. The number of individuals who were identified as unsheltered increased slightly from 129 to 140, but the number identified as chronically homeless decreased from 45 percent in 2009 to 37 percent in 2010, however, information obtained from people seen in drop-in and hypothermia programs is not always complete. In addition, there are indications that the number of people living in temporary, doubled-up arrangements may have increased, but these people are not counted as literally homeless. One drop-in program reported seeing 22 people who were not unsheltered that night, and the Homeless Liaison Office for Fairfax County Public Schools reported 100 youth who they were serving who did not have a stable residence. None of these 122 people are included in the count, since they do not meet the current HUD definition of literally homeless.

TABLE 21: FAIFAX COUNTY'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY				
Category	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**Percent Change 2008 to 2010**
Total Number Counted	1,544	1,730	1,835	-15.9%
Total of Singles	652	663	744	-12.4%
Total Number of Families	263	315	311	-15.4%
Total of People in Families	892	1,067	1,091	-18.2%
Total Adults in Families	342	438	418	-18.2%
Total Children in Families	550	629	673	-18.3%

Overall, 36 percent of all homeless people counted were children under age 18. Single adults comprised 42 percent of the total number of homeless, and people in families comprised 58 percent of the total count. Among single individuals, 74 percent were male and 26 percent were female. Most people age 18 and over in families are female (80 percent), while the percentages for children under 18 are 49 percent male and 51 percent female.

Among single adults, 23 percent were reported as employed, but only 32 percent of these worked full-time. These percentages are slightly lower than in 2009. Nearly 56 percent had no income reported but 25 percent reported employment as the primary source of income. Just over 17 percent had income under $500 per month, 20 percent had incomes between $500 and $1,000 per month, and only 7 percent had incomes over $1,000 per month.

In families, 62 percent of people age 18 and over were employed, and 60 percent of these worked full-time, which is slightly lower than the two-thirds who worked full-time in 2009. Only 20 percent had no income reported, 37 percent had income under $1,000 per month (compared to only 27 percent last year), 30 percent had incomes between $1,000 and $2,000 per month (up from 26 percent last year), but only 13% had income of more than $2,000 per month (compared to 24 percent last year). Income was reported for each person in the family, not for the household as a whole. The average family household size in 2010 was 3.4 people, the same as 2009, but slightly less than the average of 3.5 people in most prior years.

The major subpopulations are noted in Table 22. For single individuals, 60 percent were reported as chronic substance abusers, seriously mentally ill, or both (the same as 2009). Among all people in families, 29 percent were victims of domestic violence and 39 percent were in a language minority, while 36% had no identified subpopulation. The increase in those identified as language minority, from 22 percent overall in 2009 to 32 percent of the total homeless population in 2010, is a significant shift in this characteristic.

TABLE 22: FAIRFAX COUNTY'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families***	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	172	8	0	158
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	97	10	5	129
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	122	1	0	147
Chronic Health Problem	83	17	19	119
HIV/AIDS	3	4	1	8
Physical Disability	54	5	3	62
Domestic Violence	45	92	165	302
Language Minority	147	173	179	499
U.S. Military Veteran	62	4	N/A	66
*Children under 18. Adult children 18 and over living in families counted with adults.				

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PLACEMENTS

There was a net increase of 18 beds in permanent supportive housing beds available for single individuals in the 2010 count compared to 2009. One nonprofit expanded a Housing First apartment program for single adults by adding four beds targeted to chronically homeless women, and there was an increase of 11 people in the utilization of a permanent housing program operated by the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. Changes in utilization of other programs serving both homeless and non-homeless individuals resulted in an additional three beds available for this population.

A new HUD Continuum of Care grant funded from the 2008 competition was in the process of being implemented in January, and will provide an additional nine beds for chronically homeless single adults when it is fully operational. Exploration of converting one transitional housing program to permanent supportive housing for families is underway, but the actual timing for the conversion has not yet been determined.

FREDERICK COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

Frederick County, Maryland is fortunate to have a wide-range of governmental, private, non-profit, and faith-based organizations that together have established an almost seamless service delivery system targeted to addressing the needs of homeless individuals and families. However, despite the coalition's efforts major gaps in homeless services exist. These gaps include the lack of 1) year-round emergency shelter for single adults; 2) emergency shelter for families; and 3) more diverse permanent supportive housing options for both individuals and families. The network's current emergency shelter for adults is only open during the winter season. Also, families in need of emergency housing are presently placed in motels and/or transitional housing.

Major homeless services providers include the Frederick Community Action Agency, Advocates for Homeless Families, Heartly House, Frederick Rescue Mission, Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs, Gale Houses, Hope Alive, Mental Health Management Agency of Frederick County, and Frederick County Department of Social Services. Each of these agencies is active members of the Frederick County Coalition for the Homeless.

Established in 1983, the Frederick County Coalition for the Homeless (FCCH) is the oldest local coalition working to end homelessness in Maryland. The FCCH is a coalition comprised of governmental and non-profit human service and community development organizations, religious institutions, for-profit businesses such as banks, local government officials, interested citizens, and homeless and formerly homeless people. The FCCH meets monthly in order to coordinate the planning of local homeless services, discuss local needs, approve new projects, and advocate for additional resources to address homelessness.

TABLE 23: FREDERICK COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS

	Beds for Individuals	Beds\Units for People in Families	All Year-Round Beds	Winter Beds
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	80	0/0	0	80
Emergency Shelter Beds	9	20/7	29	0
Transitional Housing Beds	78	132/48	210	0
TOTAL	**167**	**152/55**	**239**	**80**

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

The most recent Point-in-Time Survey for both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations was conducted on January 27, 2010. Survey tools were distributed and thoroughly discussed at a regular monthly meeting of the Frederick County Coalition for the Homeless (FCCH). All shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and motel placement providers were instructed on how to use the survey instrument and when to conduct the Point-in-Time Survey. Whenever possible, surveys were to be completed directly by homeless people; however, the shelter staff could utilize administrative or HMIS data if a person was unable to directly complete the survey. A total of 303 homeless people (comprised of 235 adults and 68 children) completed the point-in-time survey. The largest family or household type was 192 single-individuals; single-parent families accounted for the second largest type or family group.

The Point-in-Time Survey instrument contains specific questions regarding all HUD-defined homeless subpopulations (e.g., veteran, alcohol abuse problem, drug abuse problem) and contains specific questions about the length of time that a respondent has been homeless. With regard to disabling conditions, the following data was reported: 74 adults reported a substance abuse problem or addiction; 35 adults and children reported chronic health problems; 23 adults reported severe mental health problems; 30 adults reported substance abuse problems and co-occurring mental health problems; 47 adults and children reported that they are survivors of domestic violence; 12 adults reported that they are veterans; and 1 adult reported a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS.

TABLE 24: FREDERICK COUNTY'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY

Category	2010	2009	2008	Percent Change 2009 to 2010
Total Number Counted	303	324	302	7%
Total of Singles	192	186	166	12%
Total Number of Families	39	55	47	17%
Total of People in Families	111	138	136	1%
Total Adults in Families	43	56	51	10%
Total Children in Families	68	82	85	-4%

TABLE 25: FREDERICK COUNTY'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families**	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	66	8	0	74
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	23	0	0	23
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	28	2	0	30
Chronic Health Problem	27	6	2	35
HIV/AIDS	1	0	0	1
Physical Disability	21	2	1	24
Domestic Violence	13	16	18	47
Language Minority	1	0	0	1
U.S. Military Veteran	12	0	0	12

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PLACEMENTS

Subsidized permanent housing is provided by the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick (public housing and Housing Choice Vouchers), Frederick County Department of Housing and Community Development (Housing Choice Vouchers), Frederick Community Action Agency (Project-Based Section 8), Interfaith Housing Development Partnership, and by private landlords under contract with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Housing Authority of the City of Frederick is currently in the midst of an ambitious $16 million HOPE VI project that is committed to providing one-for-one replacement housing for all subsidized rental housing currently being demolished for redevelopment.

The Frederick County Government recently enacted a Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) ordinance, but most of the housing units being developed are targeted for homeownership and remain out-of-reach for homeless families. The City of Frederick recently enacted its own version of an MPDU ordinance that stands to provide additional affordable rental housing units. Special needs housing providers include the Way Station, Family Services Foundation and Community Living. The Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration administers 19 HUD Shelter Plus Care vouchers in Frederick County and the Frederick Community Action Agency administers 5 units of HUD permanent supportive housing under a Housing First model for individuals who are disabled and chronically homeless. The following table provides additional data on formerly homeless people now residing in permanent supportive housing.

TABLE 26: FREDERICK COUNTY'S FORMERLY HOMELESS PEOPLE NOW RESIDING IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	
People served as single individuals	20
People served as members of a family (adults and children)	10
Chronic Substance Abuser (CSA)	3
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	8
Dually Diagnosed (CSA & SMI)	13
Chronic Health Problem	8
Living With HIV/AIDS	1
Physical Disability	8
Domestic Violence Victim	5
Language Minority	0
U.S. Veterans	3

LOUDOUN COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

Loudoun County's continuum of homeless services includes seasonal cold weather shelter, emergency shelter and transitional housing provided by Loudoun's Department of Family Services (DFS). DFS contracts out operation of these services to Volunteers of America (VOA). Non-profit organizations in the County provide additional shelter and services to the homeless.

Within the non-profit community, Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS) operates a 12-bed shelter for women and children who are domestic violence victims. Another organization, Good Shepherd Alliance has two emergency shelter sites providing 30 beds for single women and families.

Loudoun DFS opened its new emergency shelter in September 2009. The new shelter provides 32 beds for women and families – increasing family bed capacity by 8 – and brings a 13-bed men's shelter into the continuum of care. The men's shelter component fills a gap in care that had existed since the summer of 2006.

Cold Weather Shelter for adults is provided from November 15th through March 31st. Drop In services are available at the facility during weekdays. The new shelter and aforementioned programs are collocated at the same site that also houses a homeless transitional program. The co-location of these programs provides continuity of services to homeless individuals within the County. DFS provides clinical social work support at the shelter each week.

Transitional housing options are available through Volunteers of America, under contract with the Loudoun Department of Family Services (DFS), and Good Shepherd Alliance. The Department of Family Services provides 55 transitional beds for families and singles. Good Shepherd Alliance operates a 6-bed program serving single pregnant women and pregnant women with one infant or toddler. Also new in 2009 is Good Shepherd's 4-bed transitional house for single women.

TABLE 27: LOUDOUN COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS

	Beds for Individuals	Beds\Units for People in Families	All Year-Round Beds	Winter Beds
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	21	0	0	21
Emergency Shelter Beds	19	68	87	0
Transitional Housing Beds	14	51	65	0
TOTAL	**54**	**119**	**152**	**21**

Loudoun County's homeless prevention service is a strength of its continuum of care. Loudoun DFS has local funds that can be used for first month's rent or eviction prevention. Additionally, the State of Virginia's Homeless Intervention Program (HIP) allows the County to provide rental security deposits and several months' rent aid, in some instances to residents in need. As of November 2009, the County has added the Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) as a continuum service.

Loudoun DFS is a state sub-grantee of HPRP funds and is operating the program through a partnership with VOA – which provides housing location – and INMED Partnerships for Children – which provides some households with intensive case management. Both families and individuals are served with HPRP funds.

The Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) is focusing on the development of a Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness during the 2009/2010 fiscal year. The Ten Year Plan Workgroup has been meeting since summer 2009, and will continue its efforts to draft a plan during 2010. Another focus area related to homelessness in Loudoun County is community education. The CoC Outreach committee is developing presentation materials related to homeless issues and services in Loudoun. These materials will be used to educate and outreach to the community.

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

The 2010 count identified 157 people –71 singles and 86 people in families – experiencing homelessness on January 27, 2010. Compared to 2009 results, this number reflects a 3 percent overall increase in the number of homeless people; there were 152 homeless people counted as part of the 2009 enumeration. Between 2008 and 2010, Loudoun County has experienced an 8 percent decrease in overall homelessness; there were 170 homeless people counted as part of the 2008 enumeration.

The most significant change in this year's count is an increase in the number of single individuals. The number of homeless singles has increased from 49 people in 2008 to 71 people this year. This increase may be due, in part, to the fall 2009 opening of a men's emergency shelter in the County. The number of chronically homeless individuals has remained stable at 21 people in both 2008 and 2010; there were 19 homeless individuals counted as part of the 2009 enumeration.

This year's enumeration results for Loudoun County show a continued decline in the reported number of homeless families. Between 2008 and 2010, family homelessness decreased by 29 percent. From 2009 to 2010 family homelessness decreased by 17 percent. Table 28 illustrates Loudoun County's enumeration results for individuals and families.

TABLE 28: LOUDOUN COUNTY'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY

Category	2010	2009	2008	Percent Change 2008 to 2010
Total Number Counted	157	152	170	-8
Total of Singles	71	50	49	44
Total Number of Families	25	30	35	-29
Total of People in Families	86	102	121	-16
Total Adults in Families	34	41	43	-17
Total Children in Families	52	61	78	-15

Loudoun County's employment rate is lower among all homeless adults as compared to last year. The County's homeless adult employment rate is 32 percent and was 41 percent in 2009. This year, only 24 percent of homeless single adults work, whereas in 2009 the employment rate for singles was 38 percent. The County's enumeration results from 2008 through 2010 show that homeless singles are more likely to work part-time than full-time.

Adults in homeless families show a 50 percent rate of employment for 2010. This figure represents a significant increase from 2009 when 44 percent of adults in families worked. In contrast, 56 percent of adults in families were employed in 2008. Higher rates of employment among homeless adults in families may be attributed to the fact that stabilizing shelter and transitional housing options are greater for families.

According to this year's enumeration results, employment is the most common source of income among *all* homeless adults. Consistent with 2009 results, 20 percent of families report having no source of income in 2010. The number of homeless single adults with no income has risen to 59 percent in 2010; the figure was 52 percent in 2009. Detailed income information for Loudoun County's homeless population is shown in the following table.

TABLE 29: LOUDOUN COUNTY'S HOMELESS POPULATION INCOME DATA

Monthly Income	$0	$1-150	$151-250	$251-500	$501-1000	$1001-1500	$1501-2000	>than $2000
Individuals	42	1	0	9	15	3	0	1
Families	5	0	1	6	6	4	1	2

The top three sub-populations among the homeless surveyed in 2010 (listed in decreasing order) are Language Minority, Severe Mental Illness, and Chronic Health Problem. In 2009, the top three sub-population groups were Language Minority, Domestic Violence Victim, and Chronic Health Problem. Chronic Health Problem was the largest reported sub-population in 2008. This year's decline in the reported number of Domestic Violence Victims is partly due to vacancies in the domestic violence shelter on the date of the count. The increase in the number of people reporting Severe Mental Illness this year occurred in the single individual population; this figure rose from 8 people in 2009 to 14 people in 2010. This increase is accompanied by a large increase in the overall number of single homeless individuals in this year's count. Table 30 provides more detail on Loudoun County's homeless sub-populations.

TABLE 30: LOUDOUN COUNTY'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families**	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	6	1	0	7
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	14	4	1	19
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	10	1	0	11
Chronic Health Problem	11	4	0	15
HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0
Physical Disability	8	3	2	13
Domestic Violence	4	4	5	13
Language Minority	8	11	13	32
U.S. Military Veteran	3	1	0	4

The overall number of homeless people within Loudoun County increased slightly from 152 people in 2009 to 157 people in 2010. There are however, striking differences in the make-up of the County's homeless population. Homelessness among single individuals increased from 50 people in 2009 to 71 people in 2010, representing a 44 percent increase for this group. The decline of the number homeless families is consistent with the decline seen in 2009. Five fewer families were homeless in 2009 and 2010 from the prior year. Many factors may help to account for the increase in the number of homeless individuals identified in 2010. Several new sites participated in this year's enumeration count which may have helped in identifying more homeless singles. The rise in the number of homeless singles is also accompanied by increases in the number of singles reporting Severe Mental Illness. Additionally, many singles have chronic health issues impacting their ability to support themselves which may result in homelessness. Also, the number of single individuals reporting "no income" for 2010 has increased by 61 percent from that reported in 2009. This change may also contribute to the County's rise in homeless singles.

It is difficult to predict the future of homelessness in Loudoun County, but there is some evidence of an increase in the number of people who are precariously housed. During this year's PIT count, there were many reports of single individuals living in doubled-up or temporary situations. Also, Loudoun County Public Schools reported a 97 percent increase in the number of students who qualified for McKinney Vento services between 2009 and 2010. Although these people cannot be included among the literally homeless number for Loudoun County, their situations may be indicators of a rise in housing instability across the County.

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Mental Health Residential Services provides 14 permanent supportive housing (PSH) beds for individuals in group homes, supervised apartments, and in private residences. This housing is not specifically for homeless people, but homeless people with severe mental illness can be served if there

are openings, and if they meet all program criteria. The two formerly homeless people who received housing in this program in 2009 are no longer receiving housing. As of January 2010, one new homeless individual was housed in the program. Loudoun's one-unit Housing First Pilot Program is presently serving one individual. This year, the count reported 12 homeless individuals and 3 families in need of PSH. The Continuum of Care recognizes the need for additional supportive housing resources; however, the high cost of providing both housing units and supportive services presents a great challenge to public and private agencies in an economic climate where funding resources are scarce. The need for PSH units, especially for single individuals, is a key housing goal noted in Loudoun County's forthcoming plan to end homelessness.

Access to affordable housing is limited in Loudoun County. The federally funded Housing Choice Voucher Program currently serves 681 households while another 279 households are on the wait list. The wait list is currently closed to new applicants. It is important to note that Loudoun has 763 HCV vouchers; however, the County lacks the funding to lease up all of these vouchers due to the high cost of market rents. Three of ten "homeless set-aside" HCV vouchers are currently in use. Three small subsidized senior housing projects also exist, serving people aged 60 and over. The County's local Affordable Dwelling Unit (ADU) rental program provides reduced rent to those who qualify at income levels between 30 and 50 percent of Area Median Income (AMI). The majority of Loudoun's homeless have income levels at 0 to 30 percent of AMI, a level too low to qualify for the ADU rental program. The Loudoun CoC continues to advocate and explore funding sources for the development of housing options affordable to people with incomes at 0 to 30 percent of AMI. The County Board of Supervisors' increased awareness of the need for more affordable housing options in the County is quite promising.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

The Montgomery County Continuum of Care is a public-private partnership that includes County and other government agencies, non-profit service providers, landlords and other stakeholders who have a role in the County's housing market. As the lead agency, the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) manages the homeless intake and assessment process as well as the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The County continues to emphasize the creation of more permanent supportive housing while keeping the homeless safe during the winter season. Its full continuum of housing programs and services to homeless people include outreach services, emergency shelter services, and transitional and permanent supportive housing programs. Case management is provided at all levels with an emphasis on achieving housing solutions and linking homeless people with housing, employment, disability entitlements and other services. The continuum also includes a range of homelessness prevention initiatives including emergency financial assistance, case management, shallow rent subsidies and energy assistance designed to prevent the loss of permanent housing.

As part of the 2010 enumeration, 197 beds sheltered 59 families with children. Sixty-two of these total beds were in motels. Motels were used as an overflow resource when shelters met capacity. These 62 beds represent a 64 percent decrease from the number of overflow beds the County used in 2009 to shelter families with children. This year, individuals occupied 363 emergency shelter beds, of which 250 are designated as temporary or hypothermia beds. Among both families and individuals, the use of emergency shelter rose from 2008 to 2009 and then decreased in 2010.

In terms of transitional housing, there were 373 transitional beds counted as part of the 2010 enumeration. One hundred eighty five of these beds were for individuals and 188 sheltered families with children. These 373 transitional beds represent a 29 percent decrease from 2008 when the County's continuum provided 526 transitional housing beds. As part of Montgomery County's implementation of Housing First, 20 transitional housing beds for families converted to permanent supportive housing in 2010.

The decrease in the utilization of both emergency and transitional shelter may be due to Montgomery County's implementation of its 2008 Housing First plan. The plan's model includes both prevention and intervention activities to help individuals and families exit homelessness rapidly with the primary goal of placement in permanent supportive housing.

TABLE 31: MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS				
	Beds for Individuals	**Beds\Units for People in Families**	**All Year-Round Beds**	**Winter Beds**
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	250	62/19	0	312
Emergency Shelter Beds	113	135/45	248	0
Transitional Housing Beds	185	188/59	373	0
TOTALS	548	385/123	621	312

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

Montgomery County's homeless point-in-time survey was conducted on January 27, 2010. A total of 1,064 homeless people were counted that day. The total number of homeless people counted this year reflects an 11 percent decrease from the 2009 count. Table 32 reflects this decrease.

TABLE 32: MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY				
Category	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**Percent Change 2008 to 2010**
Total Number Counted	1064	1194	1104	-4%
Total Singles	692	668	694	0%
Total Number of Families	124	168	130	-5%
Total of People in Families	372	526	410	-9%
Total Adults in Families	138	191	138	0%
Total Children in Families	234	335	272	-14%

The total number of homeless people residing in permanent supportive housing increased this year by 28 percent. The number of unsheltered individuals increased by nearly 43 percent; this figure likely reflects the County's efforts to outreach to and count homeless people living in local encampments. This year's count of homeless individuals residing in emergency and overflow shelters decreased by nearly 12 percent. The County also experienced a near 19 percent decrease in homeless people living in transitional housing/shelters.

Per the 2010 enumeration, the total number of homeless families decreased by 27 percent. Other decreases were seen in the number of families that resided in emergency and temporary shelters. This number decreased by 34 percent. Additionally, the number of families living in transitional housing decreased this year by nearly 17 percent. The only increases seen for homeless families were the total residing in permanent supportive housing. This figure increased by 57 percent this year.

SUBPOPULATIONS

This year, physical disabilities or chronic health problems, chronic homelessness and the combination of substance abuse and serious mental health problems posed the greatest challenges for homeless individuals. Forty percent of the County's 692 homeless individuals report having physical disabilities or chronic health problems. Thirty-one percent of the County's homeless individuals are chronically homeless and 27 percent of homeless individuals report having a combination of substance use and serious mental health challenges. Additionally, English is not the primary language of 20 percent of the County's homeless individuals.

TABLE 33: MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families**	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuser (CSA)	72	5	N/A	77
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	151	12	N/A	163
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	189	9	N/A	198
Chronic Health Problem	149	13	N/A	162
HIV/AIDS	5	2	N/A	7
Physical Disability	128	2	N/A	130
Domestic Violence	54	48	N/A	102
Language Minority	140	16	N/A	156
U.S. Military Veteran	55	1	N/A	56

This year, domestic violence posed the greatest challenges for homeless families. Thirty-five percent of the County's 124 homeless families report being victims of domestic violence. English is not the primary language for 12 percent of the County's homeless families. Additionally, 11 percent of the County's homeless families report having physical disabilities or chronic health problems.

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The availability of permanent supportive housing beds has dramatically increased over the past three years from 800 beds in 2008 to 958 in 2009 and 1,495 beds in 2010, representing an 86 percent increase. This increase supports the County's commitment to its Housing First Initiative which gives priority to the continued creation of more permanent supportive housing.

The economic downturn which began in 2008 intensified in 2009 and continues this year, has led to an increase in housing emergencies. This has strained the financial and staff resources of Montgomery County's homelessness prevention program. Through a combination of emergency grants, rental and home energy assistance, the County provides critical assistance to households to avert the loss of permanent housing. The County has also received $2.1 million dollars in stimulus grant monies for its Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The HPRP grant combines case management with financial assistance to help homeless households move into and retain permanent housing as well as to help households at imminent risk of homelessness maintain their housing. This

funding is a valuable resource which has helped Montgomery County meet the increased demand for assistance from households who have been negatively impacted this severe economic downturn.

In addition, the expansion of permanent supportive housing in Montgomery County through the Housing First Plan has enabled the County to move homeless households into permanent housing more quickly than in the past. The County's ability to continue to expand the supply of permanent supportive housing will be dependent on the availability of funding in fiscal year 2011.

EMPLOYMENT AND PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME

Employment – Of the 692 homeless individuals counted, 18 percent are employed. Fifty-eight percent of homeless individuals work part time while the remaining 42 percent work full time. Of the 138 homeless adults in families counted, 39 percent are employed. Fifty-two percent of homeless adults in families work full time while the remaining 48 percent work part time.

Primary Source of Income – Fifty two percent of the County's homeless individuals did not report income. Seventeen percent of homeless individuals report employment income. Another 17 percent of the County's homeless individuals report disability income as their primary income source. Six percent reported TANF/Public Assistance as their primary source of income. For the County's homeless adults in families, 36 percent report employment income as their primary income source. Twenty five percent report TANF/Public Assistance as their primary source of income. Of the County's homeless adults in families, 21 percent did not report income and 11 percent reported "other" as their primary income source.

Monthly Income – Of the total number of homeless individuals counted, 50 percent reported they had no income; 24 percent had incomes ranging from $501 - $1,000; eight percent had incomes ranging from $151 - $250; six percent had incomes ranging from $251 - $500; five percent had incomes ranging from $1,001 - $1,500; three percent had incomes ranging from $1,501-$2,000 and two percent had incomes ranging from $1 - $150 per month.

Of the total number of homeless adults in families, 27 percent had incomes ranging from $501 - $1,000; 17 percent had incomes ranging from $251 - $500; fifteen percent had incomes ranging from $1,001 - $1,500; 13 percent had no income; nine percent had incomes of more than $2,000; eight percent had incomes ranging from $1,501 - $2,000; seven percent did not report income; three percent had incomes ranging from $151 - $250 and one percent had incomes ranging from $1 - $150.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

Prince George's County Continuum of Care is coordinated through the Homeless Services Partnership (HSP). The HSP is an umbrella organization designed to foster an inclusive strategy to effectively address issues of homelessness, through on-going coordination, collaboration, planning, development and evaluation. Membership includes public and private non-profit agencies, faith-based organizations, service providers, mainstream programs, consumers and concerned citizens. The HSP sets all strategic priorities, approves decisions by vote, oversees the development and implementation of strategic goals, and serves as the Homeless Advisory Board to the County Executive and the County Council. The Prince George's County Department of Social Services Office of Housing and Homeless Services facilitates the County's Continuum of Care homeless services and the annual grant application process.

The County's Continuum of Care is implemented through *outreach, prevention*, *emergency shelter*, *transitional housing*, *permanent housing* and *permanent supportive housing*.

Outreach, intake and assessment services are provided to assist special needs and chronic homeless people living on the streets or people experiencing mental health crisis. *Prevention* services assist individuals and families who are at-risk of homelessness to maintain their housing. These efforts are carried out through community outreach, mediation, eviction prevention, legal assistance, rental or mortgage assistance and linkage to available supportive services.

Emergency shelters are accessed through the *Homeless Hotline* by calling a toll-free number 24/7 throughout the year. The single point of entry allows homeless individuals and families to access shelter without having to navigate several shelter systems. Using the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database, the residents are screened, assessed and linked to either the *Shelter Diversion Counselor* or to appropriate emergency shelters based on gender, family composition and need. From February 2009 to January 2010, the *Shelter Diversion* provided prevention services that successfully helped 452 households with approximately 438 children from entering the shelter system. Implemented in 1999, the Shelter Diversion has had over 95 percent success rate in helping households with minimal barriers avoid entry into the shelter system. The program received an Honorable Mention for Best Practices in 2004 from the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development.

In the winter, *hypothermia shelters* (Warm Nights Program) are provided through local government grants and partnerships with a network of over 30 community faith-based organizations. Comprehensive intake, assessment and case management services are provided to link chronically homeless individuals and families to appropriate shelters or permanent supportive housing programs. Based on the 2010 point time survey, the County's homeless services network and Continuum of Care system has 318 emergency shelter and hypothermia beds of which 110 are seasonal beds for individuals and families. According to the County's HMIS, 329 homeless households with approximately 469 children were moved from emergency shelters into permanent housing between February 2009 and January 2010.

Transitional housing programs provide housing, case management and support services for very low income homeless families and individuals for up to 24 months, while addressing underlining causes of homelessness. Based on the 2010 point-in-time survey, the County's community homeless services network and Continuum of Care system has approximately 470 transitional housing beds, of which 173 are for individuals and 297 are for families. Based on the County's HMIS approximately 110 people were moved from transitional housing programs into permanent affordable housing between February 2009 and January 2010.

TABLE 34: PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS				
	Beds for Individuals	**Beds\Units for People in Families**	**All Year-Round Beds**	**Winter Beds**
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	105	5	0	110
Emergency Shelter Beds	44	164/23	208	0
Transitional Housing Beds	173	297/72	470	0
TOTAL	**322**	**466/95**	**678**	**110**

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

The Prince George's County homeless point-in-time survey was conducted on January 27, 2010. The survey covered *unsheltered* homeless people living on the streets, and *sheltered* individuals and families staying at overnight hypothermia shelters, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. A diverse group of volunteers and providers met weekly to plan and develop strategies for conducting the annual point-in-time survey. For the street count, volunteers were divided into teams, each targeting specific zip codes and locations in the County. The unsheltered count included an interview component to gather pertinent demographic, subpopulation, employment and other relevant data to generate comparable data for this report. All s*heltered* homeless individuals and families living at emergency shelters and transitional housing programs were counted using the *Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).*

On January 27, 2010, a total of 789 homeless individuals and families were counted in Prince George's County. This number includes 419 individuals, 130 adults in families and 240 children. Of the total number of homeless people counted, 126 people (sixteen percent) were unsheltered and living on the streets and 663 people (eighty four percent) were sheltered and living in temporary emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. The total number of homeless people counted reflects a decrease of 64 people (eight percent) from the 2009 count of 853 people; the 2010 total also reflects a decrease of 154 people (16 percent) from the 2008 count of 953 people. The total number of homeless families counted decreased from 121 people in 2009 to 102 people in 2010. This number reflects a decrease of 19 homeless families (sixteen percent). The total number of homeless children decreased from 294 youth in 2009 to 240 youth in 2010. This number reflects a decrease of 54 homeless children (eighteen percent).

TABLE 35: PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY				
Category	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**Percent Change 2009 to 2010**
Total Number Counted	789	853	943	-7.5%
Total number of Singles	419	419	573	0%
Total Number of Families	102	121	104	-15.7%
Total of People in Families	370	434	370	-14.8%
Total Adults in Families	130	140	125	-7.1%
Total Children in Families	240	294	245	-18.4%

SUBPOPULATIONS

This year, chronic substance abuse problems and chronic health problems created the greatest barriers for homeless individuals and adults in families. A total of 251 homeless adults (forty six percent) reported chronic substance abuse problems while 146 homeless adults (twenty seven percent) suffered from chronic health problems.

TABLE 36: PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS				
	Individual Adults	**Adults in Families**	**Children in Families**	**TOTAL**
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	242	9	N/A	251
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	37	15	N/A	52
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	49	7	N/A	56
Chronic Health Problem	131	15	N/A	146
HIV/AIDS	5	3	N/A	8
Physical Disability	51	7	N/A	58
Domestic Violence	12	17	N/A	29
Language Minority	39	5	N/A	44
U.S. Military Veteran	31	1	N/A	32

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

According to the 2010 point-in-time survey, the County's Continuum of Care system has approximately 252 permanent supportive housing beds.

In addition, the Prince George's County Department of Family Services/Mental Health and Disability Administration (DFS/MHDA) implemented a "Housing First" permanent supportive housing for severely mentally ill homeless individuals in 2006. The program currently serves 105 chronically homeless individuals. Services include street outreach and engagement, permanent supportive housing, psychiatric evaluation, medication management, independent living skills assessment, health promotion and training, psychotherapy and supportive counseling, substance abuse treatment, vocational counseling, 24-hour crisis intervention, case management and advocacy. The DFS also provides 383 residential and permanent supportive housing beds primarily for homeless people with severe mental illness.

EMPLOYMENT AND PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME

Employment – Of the total number of homeless adults counted, 196 (thirty six percent) were employed and 353 (sixty-four percent) were unemployed. Of the total number of homeless adults that were employed, 81(forty-one percent) had full time jobs and 115 (fifty-nine percent) had part time jobs. The majority of homeless individuals and adults in families that were employed lived in transitional housing programs.

Primary Source of Income – 196 (thirty six percent) of adults counted reported employment as their primary source of income; 30 (five percent) reported SSDI/SSI /Disability Income; and 21 (four percent) reported TANF/Public Assistance as their primary source of income.

Monthly Income – Of the total number of homeless adults counted, 231 (forty two percent) reported they had no income; 73 (thirteen percent) had incomes ranging from $151 - $250; 56 (ten percent) had incomes ranging from $251 - $500; 70 (thirteen percent) had incomes ranging from $501 - $1,000; 16 (3 percent) had incomes ranging from $1,001 - $1,500; 13 (2 percent) had incomes ranging from $1,501-$2,000 and 14 (3 percent) had more than $2,000 per month.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY 2010

DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

The Prince William Area Continuum of Care includes Prince William County, VA; the City of Manassas, VA; and Manassas City Park, VA. The Continuum houses three emergency shelter facilities for the homeless, two emergency domestic violence shelters, and an emergency winter shelter which operates from November 1st through March 31st. Two of the emergency shelters are government run facilities; the remainder of the facilities is operated by local non-profit organizations. Based on the 2010 enumeration, 94 emergency beds were occupied by single individuals and 102 emergency shelter beds were occupied by families. The Winter Shelter experienced an 8 percent population increase from last year's count and an 89 percent increase from 2008. On the night of the 2010 enumeration, homeless families occupied 157 beds at eight Prince William area transitional living programs. Good Shepherd Housing Foundation provided 20 permanent supportive housing beds for mentally ill individuals. Last year, the organization provided 15 beds for mentally ill homeless individuals. SERVE, Inc. recently opened its four bed program. Four programs (2 transitional and 2 permanent supportive) receive partial HUD funding as well as the HMIS program which provides data supports to all of the above and a supportive services program which provides mental health services to the programs.

The Cooperative Council of Ministries (CCoM) in partnership with the Prince William County Department of Social Services operates a year-round Drop-In Center, serving 50 people daily, many of them chronically homeless. A PATH (Projects for the Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) therapist from Community Services provides mental health services to both the Winter Shelter and Drop-In Center households. Table 37 illustrates the number of beds provided in the Prince William County area between February 2009 and January 2010.

TABLE 37: PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS

	Beds for Individuals	Beds\Units for People in Families	All Year-Round Beds	Winter Beds
Hypothermia/Overflow/Other (Additional winter Capacity)	54	0	0	54
Emergency Shelter Beds	40	102	142	0
Transitional Housing Beds	0	192	192	0
TOTAL	94	294	334	54

The Prince William Area Continuum of Care is in the final phase of adopting its Ten Year Plan. The plan's four main areas include Prevention, Supportive Services, Employment and Training, and Affordable Housing. While the County has a number of chronically homeless individuals, much of its homeless population is comprised of families and single individuals. A number of the County's families have similar characteristics as the chronically homeless single adults. As a result, many of the County's Ten Year Plan goals and recommendations affect this group.

HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

The Prince William County area homeless point-in-time survey was conducted on January 27, 2010. A total of 488 homeless people were counted that day. The total number of homeless people counted this year reflects a decrease of 149 people (twenty three percent) from the 2009 count of 637 people. Table 38 depicts this increase as well as others.

TABLE 38: PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY'S HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY				
Category	**2010**	**2009**	**2008**	**Percent Change 2009 to 2010**
Total Number Counted	488	637	554	-20%
Total of Singles	191	231	205	-17%
Total Number of Families	100	130	106	-23.5%
Total of People in Families	306	406	349	-24.6%
Total Adults in Families	116	158	134	-26.5%
Total Children in Families	201	248	215	-19%

According to the 2010 enumeration results, 40 fewer adults were homeless this year than in 2009. This decrease may be attributed to the metropolitan Washington region experiencing one of the coldest and snowy winters on record. Since the winter presented life/death situations for unsheltered individuals, many area churches provided space for the homeless and families that are typically hesitant to accommodate homeless relatives made room for them through the worst of the winter.

PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

This year, the Continuum of CARE applied for and received a 2-year, $700,000 Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) grant. This grant began in November 2009 and quickly picked up speed in December and January preventing many evictions and helping families obtain housing. The program prevented 237 individuals, representing 64 households, from experiencing homelessness.

The Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funds as well as a separate grant to the Office of Housing and Community Development will allow the Prince William Continuum of Care to provide rental assistance to a significant number of households as a homeless prevention tool. Both funding sources, however, will expire; as a result, the Continuum will be hard pressed to find funds to continue this homelessness prevention program.

Similar to HPRP, federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds are helping the Continuum assist households in need of affordable housing options. Two local non-profit organizations received NSP funds to acquire and rehabilitate five foreclosed properties which will provide affordable rental

housing for households at or below 50 percent of the area's median income (AMI). Five non-profit organizations are currently competing for the remaining two million dollars awarded to members of the Prince William Continuum of Care.

EMPLOYMENT AND PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME

While the employment percentages of single adults (33%) and families (58%) employed remained almost identical to last year, the income was lower. Fewer adults have full-time employment as their jobs were either reduced to part-time opportunities or they experienced a layoff. Layoffs and lack of employment is an ominous trend as we look at families and single individual's incomes being further reduced. This lack of and reduction in pay impacts a households ability to find affordable housing. Of particular concern are the options for households with incomes between 30 and 50 person of the area median.

To conclude, this past year permanent supportive housing in the Prince William County area increased by a few beds. The need, however, for this support remains as intense as it has been in the past. The area's Ten Year Plan addresses both the need for permanent supportive housing as well as for affordable housing. Both housing options are needed for residents that provide valuable services to the Prince William area community but fail to receive living wages.

TABLE 39: PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY'S HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS

	Individual Adults	Adults in Families	Children in Families	TOTAL
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	26	2	N/A	28
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	30	4	N/A	34
Dual Diagnosis (CSA and SMI)	7	2	N/A	9
Chronic Health Problem	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HIV/AIDS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Physical Disability	16	1	N/A	17
Domestic Violence	9	25	N/A	34
Language Minority			N/A	
U.S. Military Veteran	30	4	N/A	34

There may be a higher incidence of chronic substance abuse and mental illness, but the Continuum is reluctant to guess or estimate until it receives qualified opinions.

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