INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS

DECEMBER 16, 2015

Veterans Homelessness Review
December 16, 2015

Montgomery County

Ending Veterans Homelessness

- One of the major goals of our Strategic Plan is to end veterans homelessness by December 2015, and to ensure that all instances of current and future homelessness for any Veteran in the County is rare, brief, and non-recurring.
- The County's has participated in two national campaigns focused on ending Veterans Homelessness:
  - Zero:2016 Campaign
  - Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness

We have achieved Functional Zero!

TARGET FOR 2015 –

To House <u>56</u> VETERANS Households

ACHIEVED AS OF DECEMBER 16 –

<u>54</u> VETERANS HOUSED

PROJECTED THROUGH DECEMBER 31 –

<u>58</u> VETERANS HOUSED

The Goal and Core Values

Goal –

Our goal is to achieve "Functional Zero," which means the number of Veterans experiencing homelessness will be no greater than the current monthly housing placement rate for Veterans experiencing homelessness.

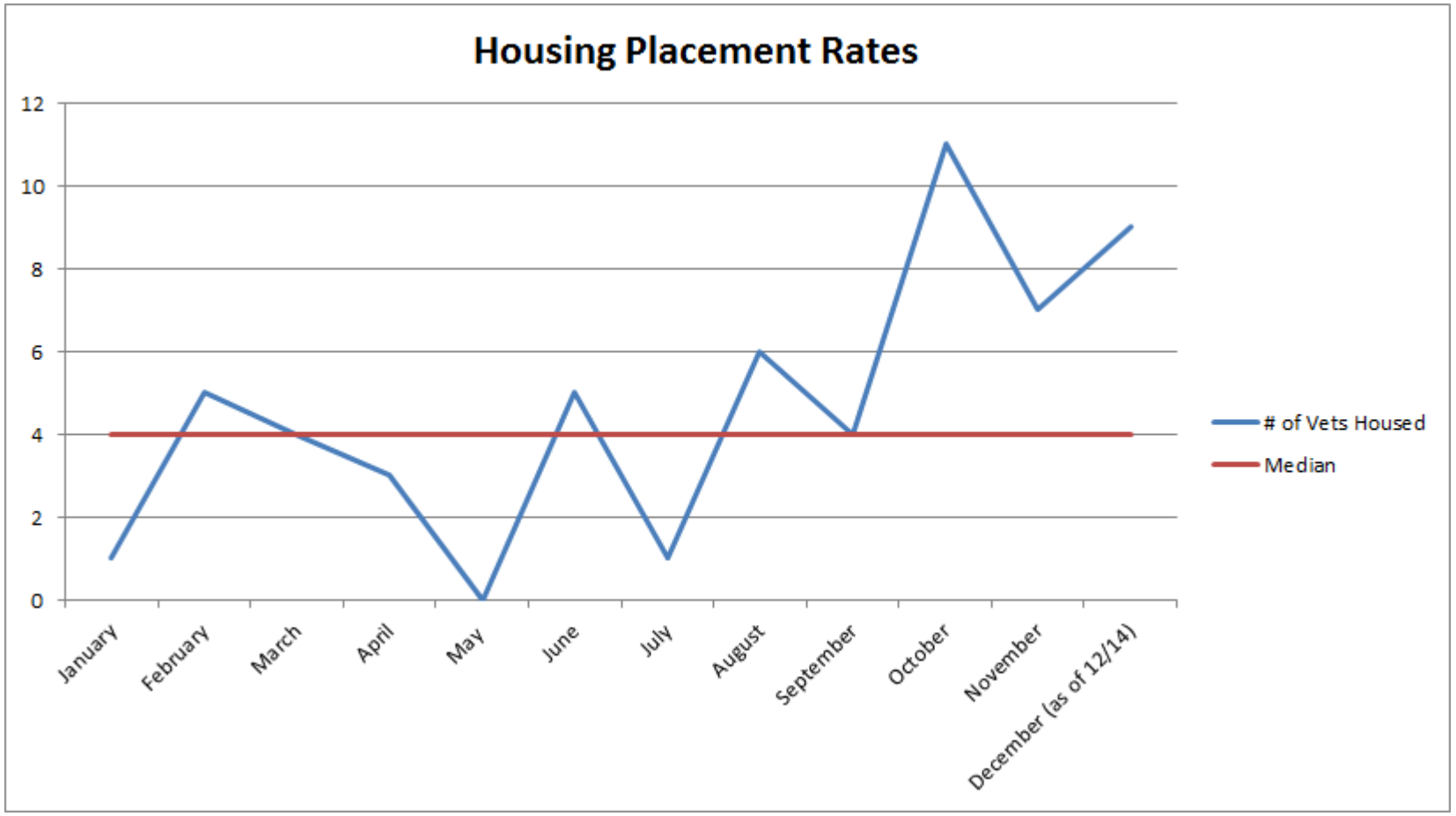
Core Values:

- Use a "Housing First" approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing people experiencing homelessness with housing as quickly as possible- and then providing services as needed. This approach has the benefit of being consistent with what most people experiencing homelessness want seek help to achieve

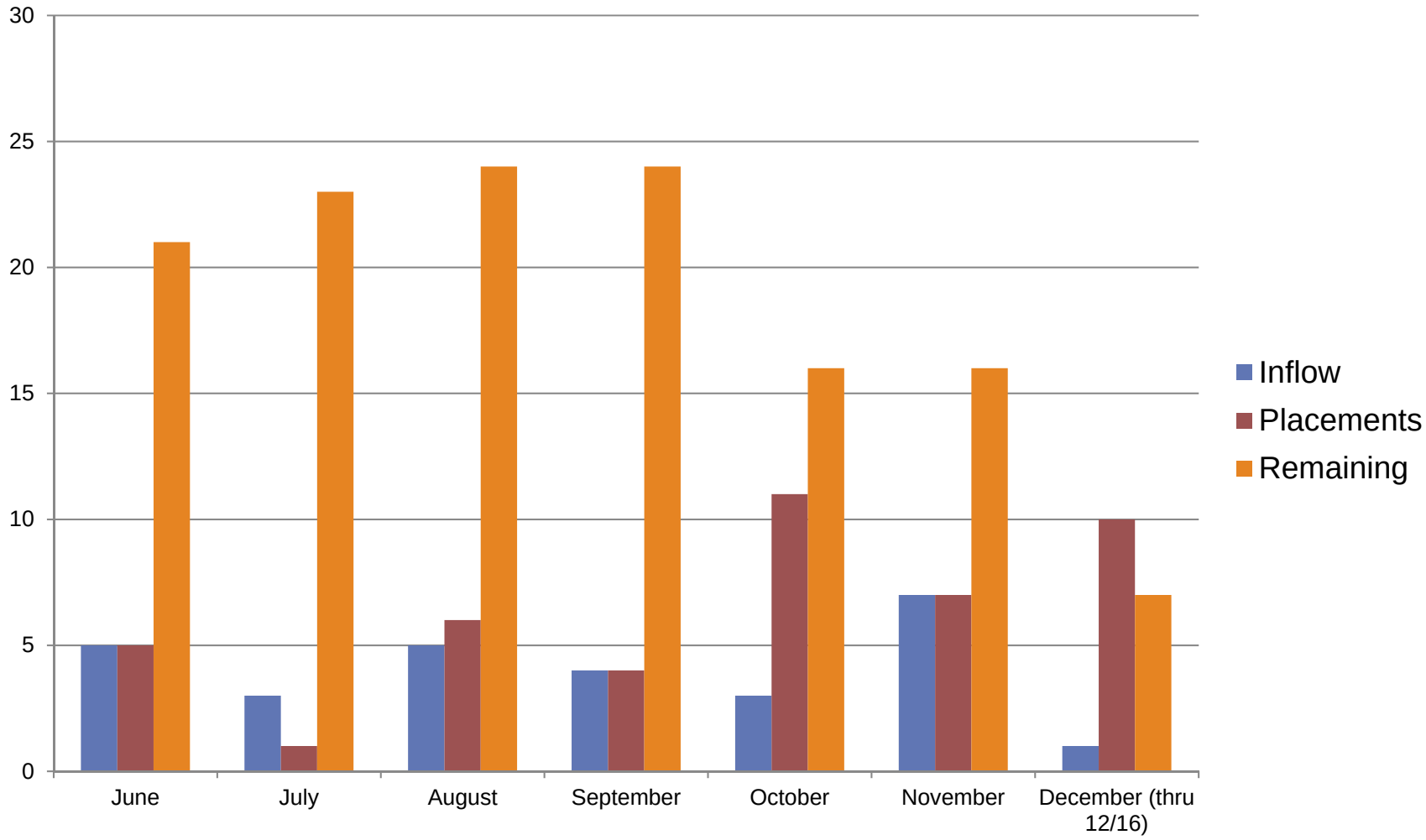
- Have all elements of the program be data driven.

Data

2015 Monthly Housing Placements

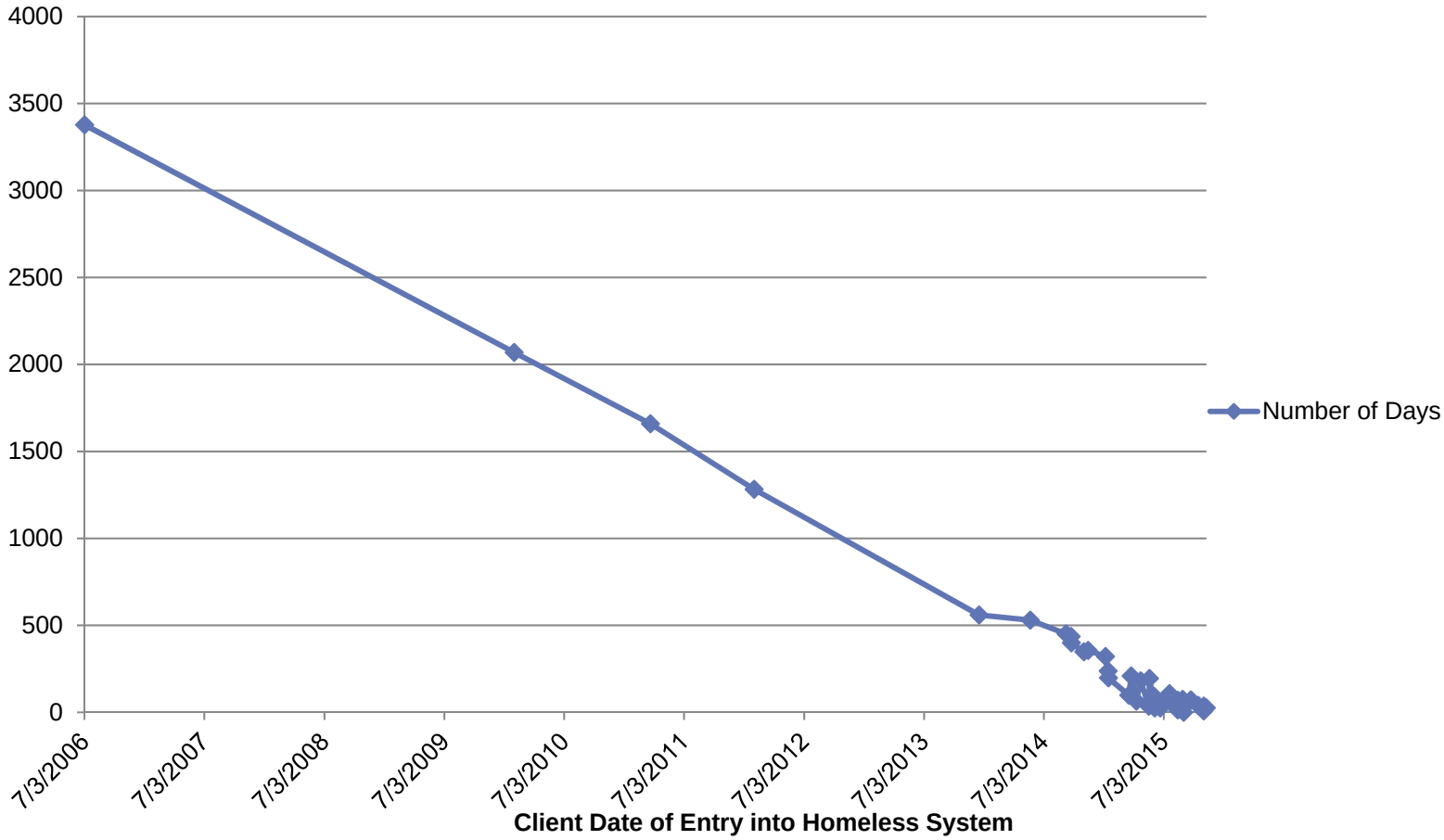


Tracking New Veterans, Placement Rate, and the Number Remaining to be Housed from June through December 16, 2015

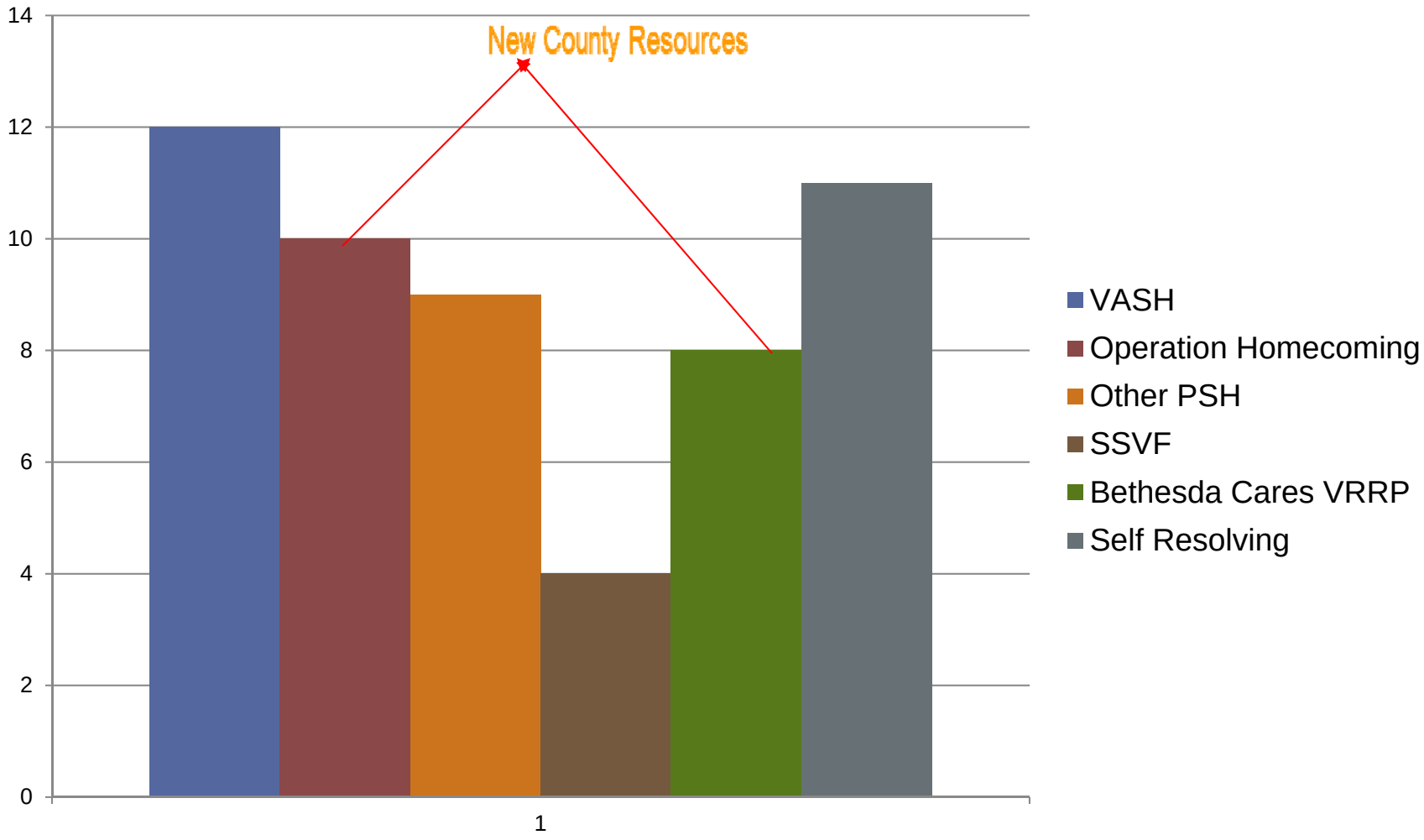


Results

Length of Stays in Homelessness (Veterans Housed June 1 - December 16, 2015)



Types of Housing Placements, January - December 2015



Key Funding and Service Partners

Throughout 2015, the progress on Veterans homelessness in the County has been made through a collaborative effort of several stakeholders, including:

- Department Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC)
- Homeless services providers
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) providers
- Veterans groups

New Local Resources

- As part of Montgomery County's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget, an appropriation in the amount of $500,000 was approved to provide housing and supportive services to homeless Veterans in the County through two new programs:
  - Operation Homecoming
  - Veterans Rapid Rehousing Program

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless - Operation Homecoming program

Permanent Supportive Housing for 20 Veteran households who have disabilities and need ongoing rental assistance and case management to maintain housing stability

Operation Homecoming tenants either do not meet criteria for HUD-VASH or Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) programs, or would be significantly unlikely to obtain a HUD-VASH voucher.

Rental Assistance:

- 10 HOC Housing Choice Vouchers: 5 dedicated to families and 5 to single adults
- 10 Health and Human Services (HHS) rental assistance opportunities for single adults

Client Needs Fund for expenses related to individual client housing stability essentials

Donated furniture and household items fully equipping each veteran's new home leveraged from local corporations and faith based partners that adopted individual veterans on "Move-In" day

Bethesda Cares – Veterans Rapid Rehousing Program

The Veterans Rapid Re-Housing Program (RRH) provides housing relocation and stabilization services to help up to 15 homeless veterans (both individuals and families) move into permanent housing. This is a “time limited” 12 month program that provides housing locator assistance, case management, and financial assistance to help homeless veterans rapidly exit homelessness.

Funding is available to help homeless veterans obtain housing. Services include:

a. Financial Assistance
- Rental Deposit
- Monthly subsidy (based on household need and income): $600-$800 for single adult households, $800 - $1000 for family households

b. Supportive Services
- Housing Locator services to identify unit.
- Case management services focused on housing stability and benefits coordination

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Lessons Learned

- Systems for quickly sharing information can significantly reduce the amount of time that a person remains homeless

- Strong relationships between providers and landlords are crucial to reducing barriers to both getting a person into permanent housing and these relationships also create a foundation for the tenant's long-term housing stability

- Use of a data-driven assessment and tracking process can increase the efficiency and the consistency of the engagement between provider and client

- Collaborations with community groups are key to leveraging necessary resources and also helps to ensure housing stability

Questions

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND | CITY OF GAITHERSBURG HOMELESS RESOURCE DAY REPORT | UPDATE

Thursday, November 19, 2015
Activity Center at Bohrer Park
Gaithersburg, Maryland

Homeless Resource Day 2015

HRD is a "one-day, one stop" event where individuals and families experiencing homelessness can access:

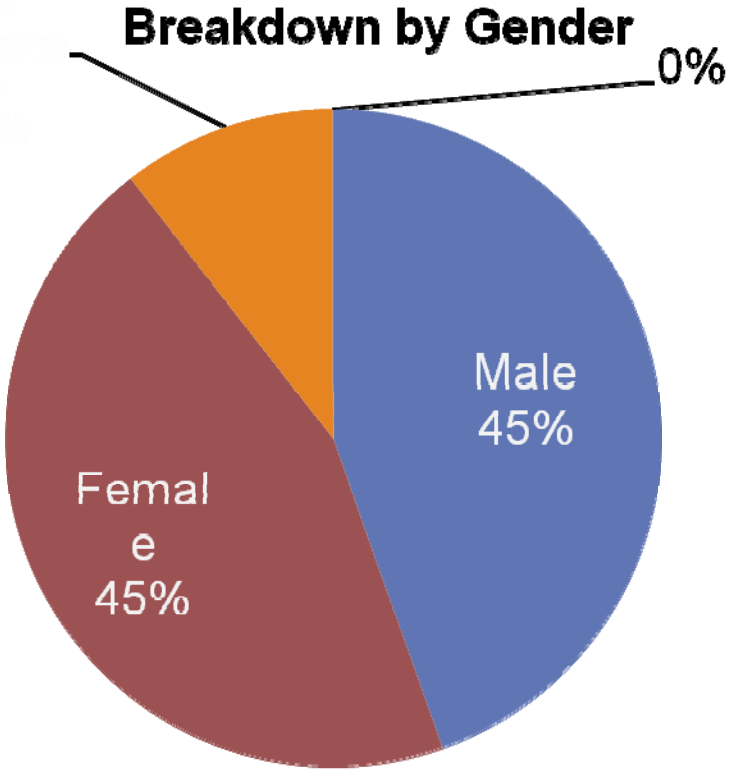
- benefits,
- medical care,
- behavioral health,
- resources,
- veteran services,
- a variety of social services,
- giveaways/donations, and
- personal care.

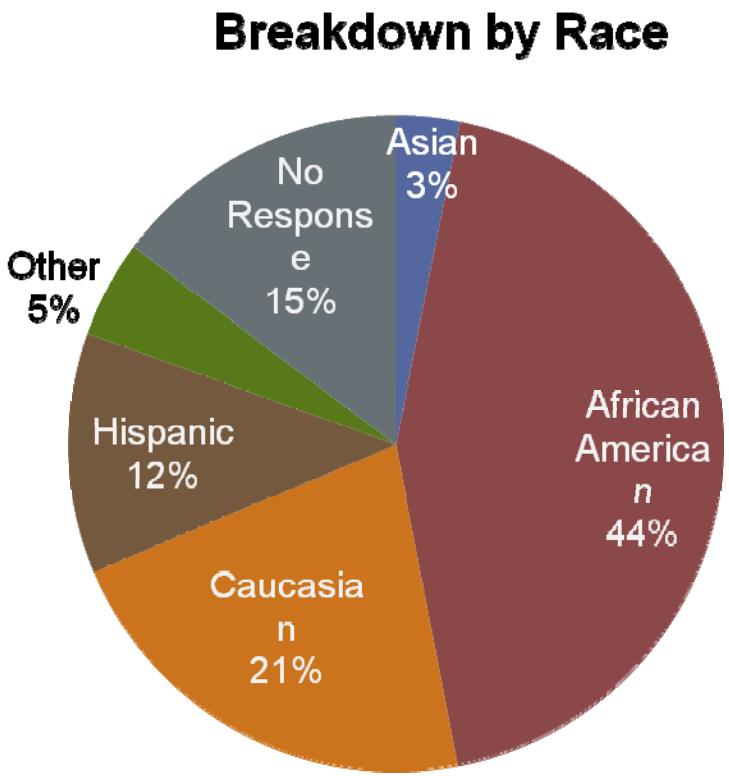
Health Services

Haircuts and Personal Care

Homeless Resource Day 2015 Guest

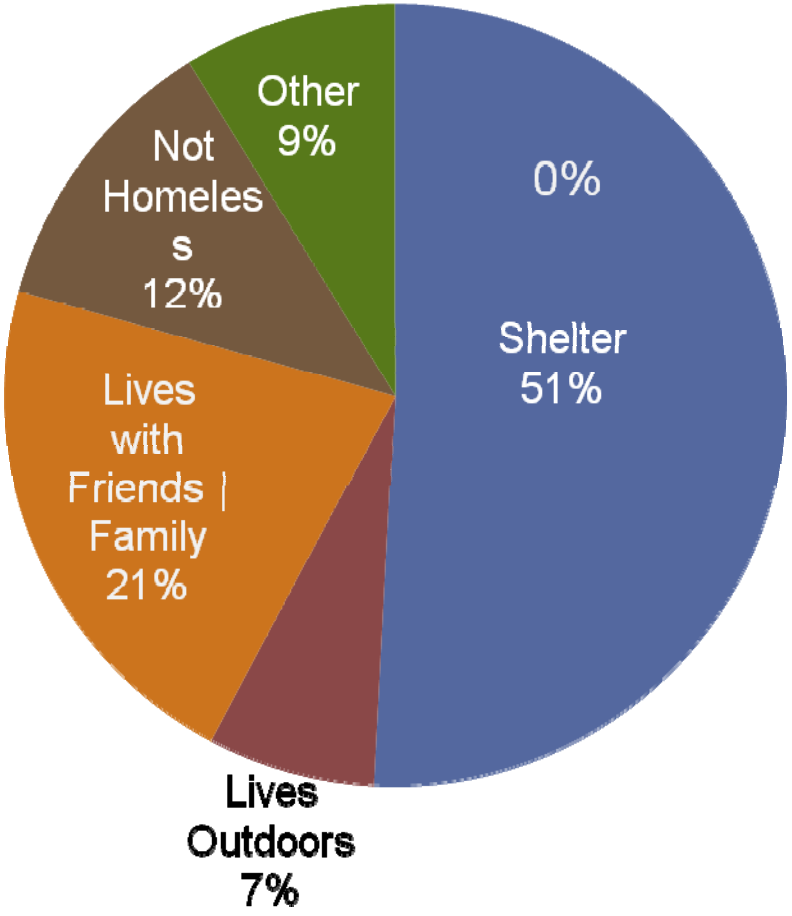
Guest Attending	
Total Number of Households	373
Total Number of Individuals Guided	448
Reporting as Veterans	18 (5%)



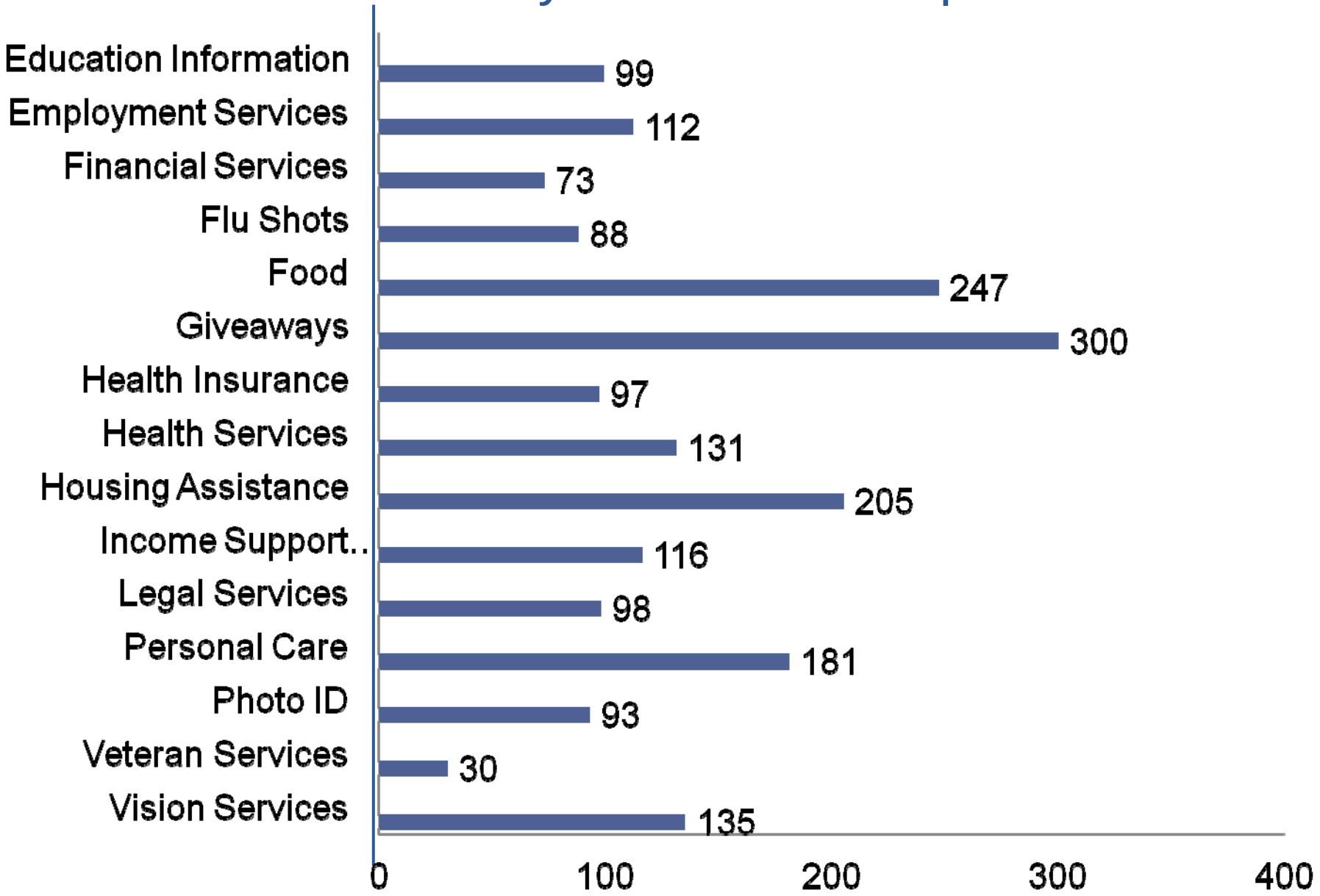


Homeless Resource Day 2015 Guest Breakdown by Specific Living Situation

Specific Living Situation	Total
Shelter Resident	184
Lives Outdoors (Street | Car)	25
Lives with Friends or Family	78
Not Homeless	43
Other (Group Home | Rehab Center, etc.)	32



Homeless Resource Day 2015 Guest Requested Services



Service Providers | Donors | Sponsors

Services Providers (Attended as service providers, donors, information sharers)	75
Donors (In-kind donors but did not attend)	7
Sponsors (Monetary and in-kind donors of at least $500 up to $5,000)	9

Homeless Resource Day Sponsors

COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MONTGOMERY VILLAGE

Agenda

- Pay for Success Opportunities
- Family Homelessness in general
- Young Family Homelessness and Two Generation Poverty
- ReACH Status Update

Pay for Success Financing

- A Pay for Success or PFS is an innovative financial tool that enables government agencies to pay for programs that deliver results. In a PFS agreement, the government sets a specific measure outcome that it wants achieved in a population and promises to pay an external organization-sometimes called an intermediary- if and only if the organization accomplishes the outcome.

Best Policy Areas for Social Impact Bonds

- PFS is a potentially powerful tool for policymakers to use resources more efficiently and improve services for disadvantaged populations, even in the face of shrinking public budgets.
- SIBS are most appropriate for areas in which:
  1) Outcomes can be clearly defined and historical data are available
  2) Preventive interventions exist that cost less to administer than remedial services
  3) Some interventions with high levels of evidence already exist
  4) Political will for traditional direct funding can be difficult to sustain.
- Examples of such areas include jail recidivism, homelessness, workforce development, preventive health care, and early childhood and home-visiting programs , among others

Projects in play

- P3 for transition age youth – round two
- Rapid Re-Housing for Young Adults
- APHSA – locals council Kresge pilot
- HUD-DOJ PFS

Questions