

Memo

To: Homeless Services Consortium (HSC) Members
From: Sue Wallinger, CDBG Office
Date: May 17, 2007 (Amends previous memo dated April 5, 2007¹)
Re: 2006 Year End Data, Previous Years End Data Comparisons

This report includes year-end totals for 2006. As is customary, the quarterly report compares the data to the same quarter in previous year. This report does not include data specific to the 4th quarter or 4th quarter comparison data; at this time of year I believe year-end totals are more useful than 4th quarter comparisons. If there is a need for some additional data, please let me know and I will try to accommodate your request.

Some of the data reported to the Community Development Office is collected by agencies using Wisconsin Service Point (WISP) homeless management information system. Other agencies have other methods for collecting the data submitted via the quarterly report. The CDBG Office is working with the state Bureau of Supportive Housing to use WISP data to replace the agency quarterly reporting. One benefit of using WISP is that duplication is minimized. It is of limited use in counting persons "turned away without service" since agencies generally do not enter this data in WISP. The goal will be to move to electronic reporting by the end of 2007 for HSC agencies, making paper reporting necessary only for agencies/programs that do not enter client data into WISP and for reporting of households turned away without services.

2006 Year End Totals Emergency Shelter

In 2006, there were a total of 3,487 individuals served in 308 emergency shelter beds, motel rooms paid for by vouchers, warming house mattresses, and volunteer host homes. During the same time period, the shelters reported that 3,207 individuals were turned away without shelter. Of those individuals turned away without shelter, a majority, 86%, were individuals in families. This number does not include those individuals who were counted as turned away but indicate they have a place to stay, are determined to be not eligible per program requirements, are under the influence or who declined services.

Sixty-three percent, 63%, of the total number of individuals were turned away from shelter because there was no shelter space or vouchers available. Twenty-nine percent (29%) of families and single adults were turned away as a result of having used the shelter days available to them, they indicated that they had some money or were put on a waiting list. There could be some duplication in the numbers reported as turned away. For example, Safe Haven, which provides short term housing for single men and women with mental illness, reported turning away 236 single adults for lack of shelter space. Many of those who request a bed or are referred to Safe Haven are currently in a shelter bed in other programs and awaiting the specialized assistance for mental illness at Safe Haven. This could

¹ The number of single men served at the Drop-In Shelter have been reduced to eliminate duplication. All numbers in this report have been revised as necessary.

mean that the turned away number is duplicated to some degree when reporting the Safe Haven turned-away numbers. It is also true that a family or single adult who is reported as turned away at one point in the calendar year is able to access shelter later in the year, but is counted both as having been served and turned away in the year-end cumulative numbers. The only way to eliminate this duplication is for each agency performing intake to enter every single adult/family into a shared data system. While this is necessary in analyzing the data for unmet need, it is difficult for homeless service agencies to dedicate the staff necessary to perform these data collection and entry tasks on households they are otherwise unable to assist.

	Total # Individuals²	# of Individuals in Families and # of Families	# Minor w/ Children	# Couples w/o Children	# Single Men	# Single Women	# Youth³
Served in Shelter in 2006	3,487	1,428 individuals 470 families w/ 873 children	4 individuals	8 individuals	1,481 individuals	523 individuals	43 < 18 yrs
Turned Away without Shelter in 2006 ⁴	3,207	2,770 individuals	NA	NA	280 individuals	1574 individuals	1

Single adult men make up the largest percentage (41%) of persons using emergency shelter followed closely by individuals in families (41%). Single adult women make up 15% while unaccompanied youth make up 1% of the total homeless served in shelter.

	Total # Individuals⁵	# of Individuals in Families and # of Families	# Minor w/ Children	# Couples w/o Children	# Single Men	# Single Women	# Youth⁶
Percent of Total Homeless Population in Shelters	100%	Individuals in Families – 41% Children in Families – 25%	<1%	<1%	42%	15%	1%

The number of homeless youth under 18 years of age has declined somewhat in 2006 to 43 youth provided with shelter. This compares with 61 youth provided with shelter in 2005, 67 youth in 2004, 65 youth in 2003 and 64 youth in 2002. Of those homeless youth provided with shelter through YSOSW, 29 were females and 14 were males. Nearly all who answered the question regarding the circumstances that brought them to seek shelter stated that family or roommate conflicts were the cause of their homeless situation. A smaller number indicated that violence or threat of violence was the primary reason. Thirty-three percent (33%) consider themselves non-white. All of the youth who received shelter in a YSOSW volunteer host home reported living on the street. According to crisis line calls to YSOSW Briarpatch, the primary provider of shelter and services to homeless youth, the number of homeless (runaway and “throw away”) youth may actually be much higher. In addition to the 43 youth that received shelter, 65 youth who identified themselves as homeless received services through YSOSW.

Sixty-eight percent (68%) of homeless households that were served by Consortium agencies identified themselves as non-white. The majority of the non-white population identify themselves as Black/African American (83%). The largest sub-population of homeless minorities are individuals in families. By sub-population, 87% of families, 63% of single women, 52% of single men, and 33% of unaccompanied youth identified themselves as minority. The percentage of non-white households served rose in 2006 over 2005 in all sub-populations.

Fifty-seven percent (57%) of all those homeless served indicated that their current episode of homelessness had been less than one month. Twenty-three percent (23%) of all households reported that their current episode of

² Includes shelter programs operated by YSOSW, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, Interfaith Hospitality Network, The Salvation Army, Porchlight, Dane County Parent Council, and the YWCA.

³ Youth served through Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin – Briarpatch. HUD uses the term “unaccompanied youth”, term used by agencies working with the population is “runaway/throw away youth”.

⁴ No specific data collected on whether those turned away are couples without children or minors with children. Safe Haven reports a total of 236 turned away; men are estimated to be 72% of those turned away and women estimated at 28%, based on breakdown of those served. DAIS reports a total of 89 turned away; single women are estimated to be 51% of those turned away and women with children estimated to be 49% based on breakdown of those served.

⁵ Includes shelter programs operated by YSOSW, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, Interfaith Hospitality Network, The Salvation Army, Porchlight, Dane County Parent Council, and the YWCA.

⁶ Youth served through Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin – Briarpatch.

homelessness has lasted between one and six months, while 20% reported their current homeless episode has lasted more than six months.

It is not known from the data submitted from the Consortium agencies which homeless individuals meet the HUD definition of chronic homelessness⁷. It might be closely parallel to the number of homeless who indicated that their episode of homelessness was 6 months or more. The percentages of long-term homeless listed in the table below translate into approximately 63 families, 298 single men, and 70 single women with extended episodes of homelessness. These numbers indicate that the number of families homeless over six months has risen to 63 from 49 families in 2005. The number of single women homeless over six months has declined slightly to 68 from 70 in 2005. The number of single men who report being homeless more than six months has increased greatly to 298 from 88 reported in 2005. It is unclear whether this is a real spike in numbers or whether this indicates an adjustment to the single men's shelter numbers to a more accurate reflection of the population. In 2005, more than half of the single homeless men did not answer this question.

	Percent Homeless Less Than 1 month	Percent Homeless 1 – 6 months	Percent Homeless More Than 6 months	Percent Homeless Episode Unknown
Families	57%	30%	13%	1%
Single Men	45%	19%	22%	15%
Single Women	51%	15%	13%	9%

A warming shelter for families was operated in 2006 at The Salvation Army shelter building on East Washington for families with no other options for shelter either because they are no longer eligible for shelter or because there is no availability at the shelter. The Salvation Army provided over-night staff to provide a safe and secure place for homeless families to sleep on mattresses on the floor. Families are able to spend the daytime hours at the Interfaith Hospitality Network day center. The warming shelter operates only during the coldest months of the year: January through the end of March and October through the end of December if funds are available. During the 2006 calendar year, 53 families with 97 children spent an average of 4 nights on mattresses at the warming shelter. This is an increase from 2005 when 47 families with 87 children, but still below 2004 when 55 families used the warming shelter. Of the 53 families, 13 were two-parent households with children, 37 were headed by a single female and three were headed by a single male. Ninety-one percent (91%) reported being non-white – the majority being African American. This compares to 80% reported being non-white in 2005. Prior to coming to the warming shelter, 73% of families reported that they had doubled up with friends or families, 14% of families reported having stayed in emergency shelter and 13% of families reported sleeping on the street or in a vehicle. In 2006, the majority of families reported being new to the area: 62% reported living in Dane County for less than 1 year (42% less than one month) and 62% reported living in Wisconsin for less than 1 year (38% less than one month). These numbers indicate a slight decrease in the number of families using the warming shelter who are new to the area.

The reasons most frequently given for seeking emergency shelter vary somewhat by sub-population. Families most often said that “violence or threat of violence” (36%) brought them to seek emergency shelter as do single women (23%). Single men reported that they were seeking shelter as a result of “no or low income” (24%). For runaway/throw away youth, “conflicts with family” was mentioned by 89% of those seeking shelter. These results have changed somewhat over time, however, single women and women with children continue to cite the threat or real probability of violence that created their homeless situation.

	Families w/Children	Single Men	Single Women	Unaccompanied Youth Runaway/Throw away Youth
Reasons Given for Seeking Shelter	Violence or threat of violence (36%) Evicted/lease not renewed (17%) Family conflicts (14%) Low/no income (13%) All Other (20%)	Low/no income 24% Roommate/family conflicts (10%) Institutional discharge (8%) Evicted/lease not renewed (7%) Transient/ In transit (7%) All Other (44%)	Violence or threat of violence (23%) Roommate/family conflicts (18%) Transient/ In transit (15%) Low/no income (10%) Evicted/lease not renewed (9%) All Other (25%)	Family conflicts (89%) Violence or threat of violence (11%)

⁷ Four episodes of homelessness in three years, or being homeless continually for 12 months or more.

Where members of households slept prior to seeking shelter is also different depending on the sub-population. Two out of three families were likely to have been doubled up with friends or family. This is a decrease from 2005 when 75% were doubled up prior to seeking shelter. Almost half of single women and one-quarter of single men said that they were doubled up. The number of households who reported sleeping on the street or in a vehicle differed by sub-population: 100% of all runaway/throw away youth, 16% of single women, 16% of families and 17% of single men reported sleeping on the street or in a vehicle. These numbers reflect an increase in the number of single men who came to shelter from the street (families and unaccompanied youth numbers remain steady, single men increased). These percentages translate into roughly 79 families with children, 256 single men, 68 single women and 43 runaway/throw away youth spent time on the street or in a vehicle prior to seeking shelter.

Prior to Seeking Shelter.....	Families w/Children	Single Men	Single Women	Runaway/Throw away Youth
Doubled up with friends/family	63%	26%	43%	0%
Emergency Shelter ⁸	15%	17%	8%	0%
Street/vehicle	16%	17%	16%	100%
Institutional/treatment facility discharge	1%	2%	5%	0%
Other	5%	38%	28%	0%

In 2006, 52% of families and 52% of single women reported that they had lived in Dane County for one year or more. For families and single women, this is about the same as reported in 2005. In 2006, few single men answered this question, so there is little data. Reporting issues have been corrected and longevity data for single men will be available for 2007 and the future.

For families, slightly less than half (48%) reported living in Dane County for less than one year; 33% report living in Dane County for less than one month. There is a slight change in the percentages as reported for families in 2005, but not statistically relevant.

Forty-three percent (43%) of single women in shelter reported living in Dane County for less than one year with 28% reported living in Dane County for less than one month, exactly the same as reported in 2005.

When comparing the data on residency prior to shelter, it indicates that more than one-half of households lived in Wisconsin for more than one year, with fewer households living in Dane County for the same length of time. This would indicate that of the households who relocate to Madison, they come from both out-of-state and from other locations in Wisconsin.

Prior to Seeking Shelter.....	Families w/Children	Single Women
Lived in Dane County for One Year or More	52%	52%
Lived in Wisconsin for One Year or More	56%	65%

Veterans make up a relatively small number of the homeless served in shelters and to date have not shown an increase. Fourteen percent (14%) of single men are reported as veterans, followed by 1% of families have one or more veterans in the household and 4% of single women are veterans.

Thirty percent (30%) of families reported that they have one or more members who suffer from mental illness; 12% report that someone in the family has an alcohol or drug abuse issue; and 46% report that someone in the family has a physical disability or existing medical problems (other than or in addition to mental illness or AODA).

Fifty-one percent (51%) of single women reported having issues with mental illness and 30% reported issues with alcohol and/or drug abuse. Forty-nine percent (49%) of single women reported that they have a physical disability or an existing medical problem (other than or in addition to mental illness or AODA).

Twenty-seven (27%) of single men reported issues with mental illness and 41% reported alcohol or other drug abuse issues. Twenty-one percent (21%) indicate that they have a physical disability or existing medical problems.

⁸This answer could indicate that they stayed in another Dane County shelter or a shelter in another part of the state or region.

The numbers reported for mental illness, AODA issues and physical disabilities/existing medical problems have fluctuated over the years, showing no pattern. It is difficult to know whether this is a data reporting issue or a true change in the barriers presented during intake.

Ten percent (10%) of single women, 10% of families and 8% of single men reported they are on probation or parole. What we do not know is how many homeless individuals served in shelter are ex-offenders, released but not on probation or parole.

Seventeen percent (17%) of homeless families reported that at the time they earned wages at the time they entered shelter, 16% received SS/SSI/SSDI, 9% received W-2 payments, and 26% reported no income or other. About one third of families did not provide an answer to the question. Fifty percent (50%) of families reported receiving medical assistance and 57% received food stamps. These numbers are fairly consistent with what was reported in 2004 and 2005.

Single women were as likely as families to earn wages at the time they entered shelter. Seventeen percent (17%) of single women reported earning wages, 22% reported receiving SS/SSI/SSD, and 41% reported no income. One in four single women said that they received medical assistance and one-third reported that they received food stamps.

Eighteen percent (18%) of single men reported earning wages at the time they entered shelter, 15% were receiving SS/SSI/SSDI while 67% reported no income. A small number reported receiving medical assistance (11%) and food stamps (7%).

Shelter Comparisons 1997-2006

The following table compares the number of individuals who had contact with providers of emergency shelter from 1997 – 2006:

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Individuals Served in Shelter	5,145	4,884	4,498	4,728	3,417	3,356	3,727	3,342	3,039	3,487
Individuals Turned Away without Shelter	3,409	5,604	6,729	10,746	7,542	4,277	8,192	2,484	2,476	3,207
Total Estimated Homeless in Dane County ⁹	8,554	10,488	11,227	15,474	10,959	7,749	11,919	5,826	5,515	6,694

Individuals in Families	2,796	3,147	2,995	2,025	1,865	1,928	1,701	1,466	1,355	1,432
Families in Shelter ¹⁰	963	898	1,012	595	576	576	469	432	447	472
Children in Shelter	1,966	2,058	1,522	1,242	1,121	1,216	982	865	834	875
Single Women in Shelter	467	436	445	416	453	463	433	464	482	523
Single Men in Shelter	1,397	1,301	1,046	1,087	1,016	939	1,520	1,343	1,129	1,481
Unaccompanied Youth ¹¹	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	64	65	67	61	43
Couples w/o Children ¹²	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	4 ¹³	1	6	4

⁹ This number assumes that there is no duplication between those who are turned away from shelter and those who are served in shelter. It is likely that some households are counted more than once because they have been turned away more than once during 2005 or because they were both turned away and served at different point in time during 2005.

¹⁰ Includes minors with children.

¹¹ Most unaccompanied youth are served by volunteer host homes, but female youth may be served at the YWCA.

¹² Couples without children are served in motel rooms through the use of vouchers, or otherwise served as individuals in the single men's and single women's shelter.

¹³ Couples include two adult individuals.

In nearly all categories of homeless served, the numbers were up from 2005. The total number of homeless individuals served in 2006 was a 46% over 2005. Looking at each of the sub-populations of homeless served, there were 77 more individuals in families with children (6% increase), 352 more single men (31% increase) and 118 more single women (24% increase). The only sub-population that did not experience an increase was unaccompanied youth. In 2006, there were no additional shelter beds available, nor were there significantly more vouchers. The average days spent in shelter for families decreased slightly, decreased significantly for single men, but increased slightly for single women. It is likely that a combination of factors accounted for the increase in homeless served: 1) there was a concerted effort not to turn away single men, but rather find space as was possible and 2) shelters serving families improved coordination to fill vacant beds quickly.

While the 2006 number of individuals in families with children increased over 2005, it was still less than the number served in 2004 and all years previous. The 2006 number of families served increased to 472 over 227 in 2005. The number of children in 2006 increased over the 2005 number. While it is troubling that the number of families has risen over the number served in the previous year, that year did see a slight decrease over previous years in most all sub-populations. The single female head of household makes up the largest number of homeless families. The next largest families are two adult households, followed by single male head of household and minors with children.

	Number of Households				
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Single Female Head of Households	443	398	341	337	380
Two Parent Households	92	74	85	74	74
Single Male Head of Household	18	22	19	33	13
Minor Households with Children	0	0	1	3	2

The number of homeless single men served in shelter increased in 2006 over 2005. This may be as a result of allowing more single men access to the shelter (e.g. not enforcing the 12 month 90 day limit, economic factors locally and the region, incorrect data collection). Porchlight, the agency that provides shelter to the majority of homeless single men, is investigating all of the possibilities and attempting to adjust their service delivery to meet the need. The number of single women in shelter continued to increase. While there have been slight decreases over the last ten years, the number continues to grow from 467 in 1997 to 523 in 2006.

	Average Number of Days in Shelter				
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Families with Children	21.21	27.58	31.60	32.84	32.10
Single Men ¹⁴	31.66	18.30	21.30	26.36	25.14
Single Women ¹⁵	18.33	21.89	22.85	18.93	20.20

Other Wisconsin COCs have reported that the number of older people (62 years old and over) in shelter has been increasing. In Dane County, the number reported by HSC agencies had been sharply declining until 2006.

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total Number of Persons in Shelter Aged 62 or Older	50	29	62	22	38	7	7	5	8	44

In 2006, 68% of the homeless served identified themselves as non-white. Fifty-four percent (54%) identified themselves as black/African American. The number of households who identify themselves as non-white fluctuates by sub-population. Families are more likely to be non-white than single women or single men. Nearly nine out of ten families reported that they are non-white, with the majority being African American. For all sub-populations, the numbers of minorities who seek shelter remained somewhat steady.

¹⁴ Calculated using Porchlight Drop-In Shelter data.

¹⁵ Calculated using The Salvation Army Single Women's shelter data.

	Non-white Population									
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total Percent Who Identify Themselves as Non-white	69%	68%	67%	68%	70%	69%	69%	71%	65%	68%
Percent of Individuals in Families Who Identify Themselves as Non-White	85%	85%	83%	83%	85%	83%	84%	86%	84%	87%
Percent of Single Men Who Identify Themselves as Non-White	51%	51%	51%	51%	53%	50%	56%	50%	48%	52%
Percent of Single Women Who Identify Themselves as Non-White	61%	46%	48%	42%	54%	51%	50%	55%	61%	63%

The trend appears to be somewhat steady on the length of homeless episode. What this data does not indicate is how many homeless episodes a household has had previously, if any.

More than one-half of families with children served in shelter reported that their recent episode of homelessness was less than one month. While there was a slight increase in 2006, this number has been slowly decreasing in the last few years (data available 2000 through the present). There has been a slight increase in 2006 in the number of families who reported being homeless for more than six months.

Percent of Families	Length of Current Homeless Episode - Families						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Homeless episode < 1 month	57%	59%	57%	58%	56%	52%	55%
Homeless episode 1-6 months	28%	25%	30%	28%	26%	36%	29%
Homeless episode > 6 months	10%	11%	13%	11%	14%	11%	13%
Homeless episode unknown	5%	5%	0%	3%	4%	1%	3%

For 2006, the numbers are somewhat steady indicating that the majority of single men reported being homeless less than six months. In 2005, the data reported from single men was insufficient with which to identify any new or continuing trends. Slightly more than one in five report being homeless more than six months.

Percent of Single Men	Length of Current Homeless Episode – Single Men						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005¹⁶	2006
Homeless episode < 1 month	37%	49%	51%	59%	50%	18%	45%
Homeless episode 1-6 months	13%	23%	29%	25%	29%	17%	19%
Homeless episode > 6 months	49%	15%	12%	12%	14%	8%	22%
Homeless episode unknown	1%	13%	8%	4%	7%	57%	15%

Single women report the highest percentage of homeless episodes lasting less than 1 month.

Percent of Single Women	Length of Current Homeless Episode – Single Women						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Homeless episode < 1 month	61%	63%	57%	50%	57%	63%	62%
Homeless episode 1-6 months	21%	18%	24%	21%	15%	15%	19%
Homeless episode > 6 months	18%	19%	18%	22%	23%	16%	16%
Homeless episode unknown	0%	0%	1%	7%	5%	6%	3%

¹⁶ Over half of the single men in shelter did not respond to this question.

In 2006, about half (48%) of all families requesting shelter had lived in Dane County for one year or less (one-third of those requesting shelter had lived in Dane County for one month or less). This has held relatively steady since 2000.¹⁷

Families w/Children	Length of Time in Dane County – Families with Children						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Lived in Dane County for less than one month	33%	39%	34%	33%	34%	31%	33%
Lived in Dane County for less than one year	46%	53%	50%	50%	51%	52%	48%
Lived in Dane County from one to two years	7%	5%	8%	7%	10%	10%	10%
Lived in Dane County for two or more years	47%	42%	42%	40%	39%	38%	42%

For homeless single men, the 2005 and 2006 data is incomplete. Changes in intake at the men's shelter will make this information available again in 2007. Prior to 2005, there was little or no change in the number of single men who were new to Dane County and those who have lived in the county for longer periods. Approximately two-thirds of the single men who are served in shelter have lived in the county for less than one year (over one-half reported living in the county less than one month).

Single Men	Length of Time in Dane County – Single Men						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Lived in Dane County for less than one month	53%	48%	53%	55%	53%	NA	NA
Lived in Dane County for less than one year	62%	56%	64%	69%	68%	NA	NA
Lived in Dane County from one to two years	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%	NA	NA
Lived in Dane County for two or more years	34%	27%	27%	26%	25%	NA	NA

Homeless single women are more likely than any other homeless sub-population to have lived in Dane County for two years or more. One-half of single women have lived in Dane County for less than one year. One-third of homeless single women are new to Dane County with less than one month residency.

Single Women	Length of Time in Dane County – Single Women						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Lived in Dane County for less than one month	40%	40%	31%	37%	33%	31%	33%
Lived in Dane County for less than one year	51%	54%	40%	50%	48%	45%	49%
Lived in Dane County from one to two years	3%	7%	4%	4%	5%	4%	5%
Lived in Dane County for two or more years	46%	40%	33%	47%	48%	51%	47%

Before seeking emergency shelter, the percentage of families with children who reported that they had doubled up with friends and family fluctuated between 2000 and 2005 and does not indicate a specific trend. However, the percentage of families who reported having slept on the street or in vehicles has increased from a low of 9% in 2000

¹⁷ Some columns do not add up to 100%. In some cases, not all agencies reported data on this question.

and 2002 to 16% in 2006. Seventy-nine (79) families reported sleeping in a vehicle or on the street in 2006 compared to 74 families in 2005.

Families w/children	Prior to Seeking Shelter.....						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Doubled up with friends/family	71%	58%	74%	67%	71%	70%	63%
Slept in an uninhabitable place	9%	15%	9%	19%	15%	17%	16%
Number of Families sleeping in uninhabitable places	18	98	71	94	67	74	79

The percentage of single men who doubled up with friends and family has stayed relatively steady until 2006 when the number decreased significantly. The percentage who slept outside or in a vehicle also decreased. However as the number of single men reported served by the shelter increased in 2006, the number of single men who reported sleeping in an uninhabitable place significantly increased. As data collection improves at the Drop In Shelter, we will continue to watch to determine if any trends emerge.

Single Men	Prior to Seeking Shelter.....						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Doubled up with friends/family	57%	55%	55%	53%	58%	60%	26%
Slept in an uninhabitable place	18%	28%	27%	29%	20%	23%	17%
Number of Single Men sleeping in uninhabitable places	65	266	200	191	79	97	256

The percentage of single women who reported they doubled up with friends and family decreased in 2006 to its lowest point. The percentage of single women who reported sleeping in an uninhabitable place also decreased. In 2006, there were 20 fewer women reporting that they slept in a vehicle or other uninhabitable place than in 2005.

Single Women	Prior to Seeking Shelter.....						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Doubled up with friends/family	59%	56%	59%	52%	49%	59%	43%
Slept in an uninhabitable place	14%	17%	18%	24%	26%	25%	16%
Number of Single Women sleeping in uninhabitable places	24	67	76	101	107	88	68

In summary, the total number of homeless individuals rose in 2006 over the number served in 2005. This was consistent for families, single men and single women. The only subpopulation that did not increase was unaccompanied youth (43 served in 2006 down from 61 served in 2005). With the exception of single men, the increase in the number of individuals served in 2006 over 2005 did not returned to the levels reported in the late 1990's and early 2000's. It will take at least another year or two of data to determine if this is a real increase from previous years, previous years were under-reported, or there is some duplication in the numbers. There was also an increase in the number of individuals who were turned away without shelter. This number has widely fluctuated over the last ten years.

Year End 2006 Totals Transitional and Supportive Permanent Housing

Individuals and families access transitional or supportive permanent housing units directly or through referrals from emergency shelters. During 2006, there were 1,289 individuals who were served in 514 transitional and supportive permanent housing units. These numbers are slightly higher than last year, in part as a result of new units available. Pheasant Ridge Trail, St Vincent de Paul, and Housing Initiatives reported on new occupied units during 2006.

	Total # Individuals	# of Individuals in Families and # of Families	# Single Men	# Single Women
Persons Served in Transitional or Supportive Permanent Housing¹⁸	1,289	588 individuals 180 families w/ 383 children 2 couples w/o children	701 individuals	
Percent of the Total	100%	46%	54%	

Fifty-seven percent (57%) of transitional and supportive permanent housing residents consider themselves to be non-white. Forty-seven percent (47%) identify themselves as Black/African American. Forty-six (46) individuals identify themselves as over the age of 62. This is an increase from the 29 individuals served over the age of 62 in 2005.

Many households, especially single homeless adults, come directly from homelessness into transitional and supportive permanent housing, rather than through emergency shelter. Twenty-six percent (26%) indicated then their current homeless episode, prior to their current living arrangement, was less than one month which is a slight increase over 21% in 2005. However, 17% (a slight increase from 16% in 2005) reported that their previous homeless episode had lasted six months or more. While increasing slightly, the percentage of households who indicated longer-term homeless episode (more than 6 months) declined from 26% in 2004.

Of those who were homeless prior to being admitted into a transitional or supportive permanent housing program, 55% reportedly slept at an emergency shelter (up from 22% in 2005 and 44% in 2004) and 21% reportedly slept in a vehicle or on the street (up from 12% in 2005 and 18% in 2004). Ten percent (10%) reported they had been recently discharged from a treatment facility which is down from 15% in 2005 and 2004. The remaining households were either doubled up with friends and/or family or had some other unknown housing arrangement.

The majority of individuals housed in transitional or supportive permanent housing in Dane County are single adults who make up 54% of the total. Unlike family units, many of the transitional and supportive permanent units for single adults are SRO units (sleeping room only), efficiency units and dormitory beds with shared common space and cooking/dining areas. The remaining housing opportunities are self-contained apartment units; of the total units available, 43% are SRO units, 51% are apartment units, and 6% are dormitory beds.

Individuals and families who reside in transitional or supportive permanent housing tend to have spent more time in the state and specifically the greater-Madison area than households utilizing emergency shelter. Of those persons who answered the question, 83% indicated that they had lived in Wisconsin (76% in Dane County) for more than two years. Only 3% of those who answered the question reported living in Wisconsin / Dane County for less than one month.

Approximately 40% of households report earning income from wages, 40% report income from social security and related entitlement programs and 10% report having no income.

The data on the number of individuals in households who reside at transitional or supportive permanent housing has been consistent since 2002, accommodating for data from agencies that had not previously reported data and new units. It is unclear from the data why the 2002 and 2003 numbers appear to mirror the more recent trends. Diligent data collection and reporting by HSC agencies will show if the more recent year's numbers are truly the most accurate.

Household Type	Individuals in Transitional/Supportive Permanent Housing				
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Single Adults	728	478	674	713	701
Families w/Children	693	349	394	481	588

Year End 2006 Totals Eviction Prevention / Support Services

¹⁸ Includes Porchlight, Inc. (scattered sites and Brooks Street), Tellurian (SOS and THP), Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Port St. Vincent and Seton Houses), Housing Initiatives (scattered sites and S+C slots), The Salvation Army (Holly House), IHN/YWCA (Second Chance Apartment Project), Veterans Assistance Foundation (Green Avenue) and the YWCA (Third Street). Does not include data from AIDS Resource Center of WI, ARC Community Services, Hope Haven/REBOS United, Rodney Scheel House, Tellurian (groups homes and Willie Street SRO), Goodwill Industries (Northport) and Women in Transition which contain an additional 269 beds/units. Year-end totals for these agencies will be included in the 2006 Annual Report on Homeless Served.

In 2006, six agencies¹⁹ reported assisting 1,977 households with services and financial assistance to help them maintain stable housing. This is a reported decrease from the 2,366 households served in 2005 and 2,207 households served in 2004. Activities include: support services; budget counseling; financial assistance in the form of back rent, first months rent, short-term rental subsidies and utility assistance; legal advocacy; landlord/tenant mediation; and tenant education. It is unclear what accounts for the decrease in numbers served. It could be: 1) less money was available for financial assistance and services, 2) each request required more financial assistance than in the past, 3) incorrect data reported, or 4) some combination of factors.

Year	Received Support Services Only				
	Total # Households ²⁰	# Families	# Single Men & # Single Women	# Runaway/ Throw Away Youth	# Couples w/o Children
2006	1,977	1,101 families w/ 1,267 children 2 minors w/ children	638 individuals	54 individuals	184
2005	2,366	1,248 families w/ 1,402 children 5 minors w/ children	684 individuals	176 individuals	253
2004	2,207	1,225 families w/ 1,137+ children 5 minors w/ children	615 individuals	182 individuals	185

Sixty-one percent (61%) of those receiving services reported having income less than 30% of the area median income. For example, the household income for approximately two thirds of those receiving services was equal to or less than \$15,350 for a single individual, \$19,750 for a three person household, or \$25,450 for a six person household. Of those households that reported income, 58% indicated that they received income from wages, 19% received income from SSI/SSDI, with the balance reporting income from a variety of other sources including unemployment and child support. Fifty-nine percent (59%) receive food stamps, 51% receive medical assistance and 19% receive WIC food coupons.

Of those assisted, 64% consider themselves non-white. Households receiving assistance have generally lived in the area for some time. Of those who reported, 66% say that they have lived in Dane County, and 79% say they have lived in Wisconsin, for two or more years. One Hundred percent (100%) of unaccompanied youth served through YSOSW indicate that they currently live in a vehicle or on the street.

Point In Time Survey January 2005 and 2006

The Point in Time Survey is a required part of the annual Continuum of Care (COC) Homeless Assistance Programs grant application. In 2005 and 2006, each COC was to pick a date in the fourth week of January to collect data on those homeless persons who were living in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or who were unsheltered. Prior to 2005, each COC could chose their own date; previous surveys have been conducted during the late spring or summer to coincide with the application process. Since the 2005 and 2006 surveys were both conducted during the last week in January (1/25/05 and 1/26/06), it is the first time that point in time data is available for comparison.

The number of single individuals served in shelter in 2006 has increased over the same week in 2005. This increase is primarily as a result of additional individuals served through Porchlight's Safe Haven and Drop-In Shelter. An additional 9 individuals were added in 2006 with the inclusion of the Tellurian operated Detox unit in the one-day count. Otherwise, the number of shelter beds has remained steady (186 beds for single individuals) with the only change in the number of volunteer host homes available for runaway/throw away youth served by YSOSW Briarpatch.

The number of families served in shelter has remained steady (122 beds for individuals in families), however the number of individuals in families served increased by 20 in 2006 from the same week in 2005.

¹⁹ Community Action Coalition Financial Services, Legal Action of WI Advocacy Program, Porchlight DIGS Program, Tenant Resource Center Mediation Services, Youth Services of Southern WI – Briarpatch Crisis Services, and YWCA Second Chance Tenant Education Workshops.

²⁰ The number of individuals affected by support services not always available. For example, Legal Action serves an adult in a household that might also include children on whom data is not collected.

The number of transitional and supportive permanent housing units has remained steady between January 2005 to January 2006 when there were a total of 255 transitional and 541 supportive permanent units. The only change was the addition of Shelter Plus Care (S+C) units operated by Housing Initiatives. While these units are considered supportive permanent housing for the purposes of the Consortium agency inventory, HUD requests that S+C slots not be counted in the Point-In-Time survey. Those additional units were not a factor in the numbers listed in the table below.

The number of single adults served in transitional/supportive permanent housing units decreased slightly from 2005 to 2006, while the number of families served in transitional/supportive permanent housing units remained steady.

The largest increase in the Point In Time survey is reflected in the number of individuals and families who were reported as unsheltered. In 2005, the numbers on unsheltered homeless were collected by HSC agencies, based on individuals and/or families staff believed to be unsheltered on the selected night. In 2006, a group of about 40 volunteers physically surveyed a number of locations with the specific purpose of counting unsheltered homeless, in addition to HSC agency staff reporting on individuals and/or families they believed to be unsheltered. In 2006, an attempt was made to reduce duplication in the unsheltered numbers by also reporting the general location where the individual spent the night as well as the individual's initials, if known. It is not known whether 2006 was actually an increase in unsheltered homeless or is the 2005 number was under-reported.

Homeless Population	Sheltered/Housed				Unsheltered/Living in Uninhabitable Place		Total	
	Emergency		Transitional/Supp Permanent		2005	2006	2005	2006
	2005	2006	2005	2006				
Single Adults	149	185	393	378	55	68	597	631
Families with Children	46	47	102	103	1	6	149	156
Individuals in Families with Children	158	138	331	289	3	26	492	453

HUD mandates that the number of chronically homeless individuals also be counted as part of the Point In Time survey. Chronically homeless person is defined as an individual (does not include families) who is disabled and has been homeless continuously for one year or has had four or more homeless episodes in three years. Many HSC agencies do not have the data base sufficient to accurately identify chronically homeless as defined by HUD, but rather make an estimate based on what they know about the individual. It is not known from the information reported by HSC agencies whether there is actually a drop in the number of chronically homeless individuals reported in 2006 from the same time reported in 2005.

	Sheltered/Housed		Unsheltered/Living in Uninhabitable Place		Total	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Chronically Homeless Single Adults	152	71	41	56	193	127