ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN MICHIGAN

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

A HOME FOR EVERYONE

Homeless services and housing programs provide a critical safety net for many people experiencing homelessness in Michigan.

All 83 counties in Michigan have access to a local organization designated as a Housing Assessment and Resource Agency. That means when people are homeless or at-risk of losing housing, there is a place for them to turn for help. These agencies provide standardized assessments, homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services. They coordinate care with key partners offering street outreach interventions, as well as shelter and permanent supportive housing. Connections are made between those in need and mainstream resources like disability benefits, Medicaid health insurance, food assistance, primary and behavioral health care, employment and affordable housing.

Our success begins and ends with housing. Housing families, unaccompanied youth, veterans, seniors, people surviving domestic violence and human trafficking, individuals with disabilities and the chronically homeless.

We will continue to dedicate services and resources to end homelessness in Michigan through our commitment to the values and practices of Housing First.

Kelly Rose

MSHDA Chief Housing Solutions Officer

Chair, Michigan Interagency Council on Homelessness

This report is dedicated to the 133 people who died while living on the streets, in shelters and in specialized housing programs in Michigan throughout 2016.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2016 annual report on the state of homelessness in Michigan reflects the realities of individuals and families experiencing literal homelessness meaning without a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. An inadequate primary nighttime residence is a publicly- or privately-operated shelter or a public or private place not intended for human habitation.

This report provides data and information collected by the Michigan Homeless Management Information System between 2014 and 2016. During this time the total homeless population in Michigan decreased by 9 percent and veteran homelessness decreased by 16 percent. These outcomes are attributed to improved coordination of care and prioritizing resources for those most in need.

Veterans, families with children and unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 are highlighted in this report.

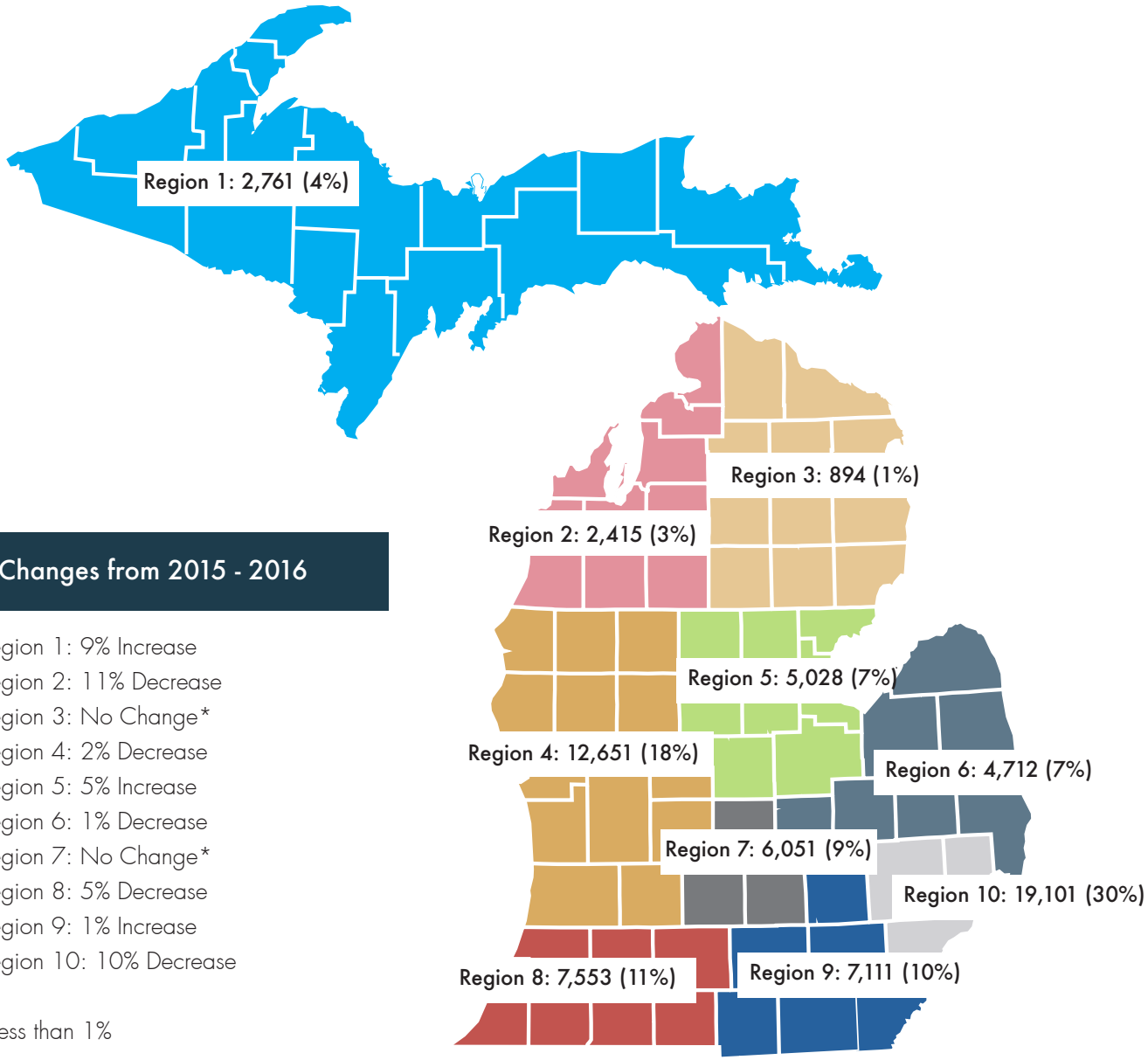
Analysis of the statewide aggregate data identified disparities when considering race, disability and age. More research and systems improvement is needed to address the impact homelessness has on the lives of African Americans, people with disabilities, senior citizens and single parent households with very young children.

MICHIGAN'S HOMELESS POPULATION

Homeless Individuals by Region in 2016 = 66,483

This map reflects the projected number of literally homeless individuals residing on the streets or in emergency shelters throughout Michigan during CY2016.

The sum of literally homeless individuals by region is greater than the total projected count because some individuals presented as homeless in more than one region at different points throughout the year.



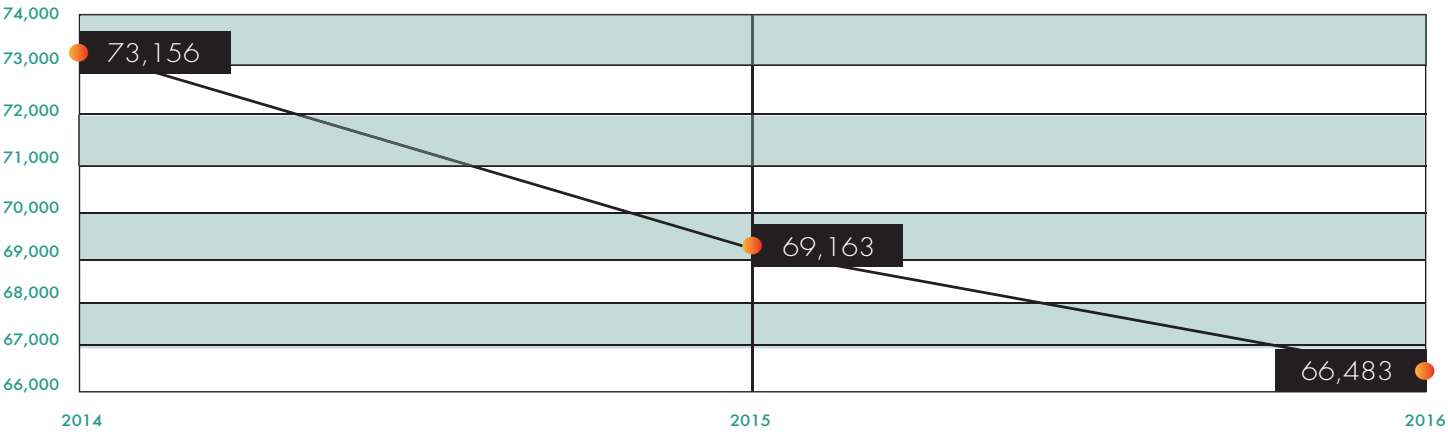
Changes from 2015 - 2016

Region 1: 9% Increase
Region 2: 11% Decrease
Region 3: No Change*
Region 4: 2% Decrease
Region 5: 5% Increase
Region 6: 1% Decrease
Region 7: No Change*
Region 8: 5% Decrease
Region 9: 1% Increase
Region 10: 10% Decrease

*less than 1%

DECREASING HOMELESSNESS STATEWIDE

Michigan Residents Experiencing Homelessness: Living in Shelters, on the Streets and in other Unsafe Places



QUICK FACTS

22,211 people secured permanent housing after transitioning from living on the streets or in shelters in 2016.

- 64% were successfully housed using primarily case-management services
- 36% were placed in housing with ongoing subsidy

The majority of the homeless population had health insurance in 2016, with Medicaid being the primary source.

- 85% of the total homeless population were covered under health insurance
- 91% of veterans, families with children and people experiencing chronic homelessness had health insurance

Michigan continues to reallocate transitional housing resources into rapid re-housing services because temporary housing assistance minimizes trauma and expensive sheltering costs. Data from 2014 to 2016 shows...

- 80% increase in rapid re-housing beds
- 38% decrease in transitional housing beds

African Americans are disproportionately impacted by homelessness in Michigan.

- 53% of the homeless population in Michigan are African American, yet make up just 14% of the state's overall population

The number of homeless seniors increased by 9% from 2014 to 2016. A total of 7,919 seniors experienced homelessness in 2016.

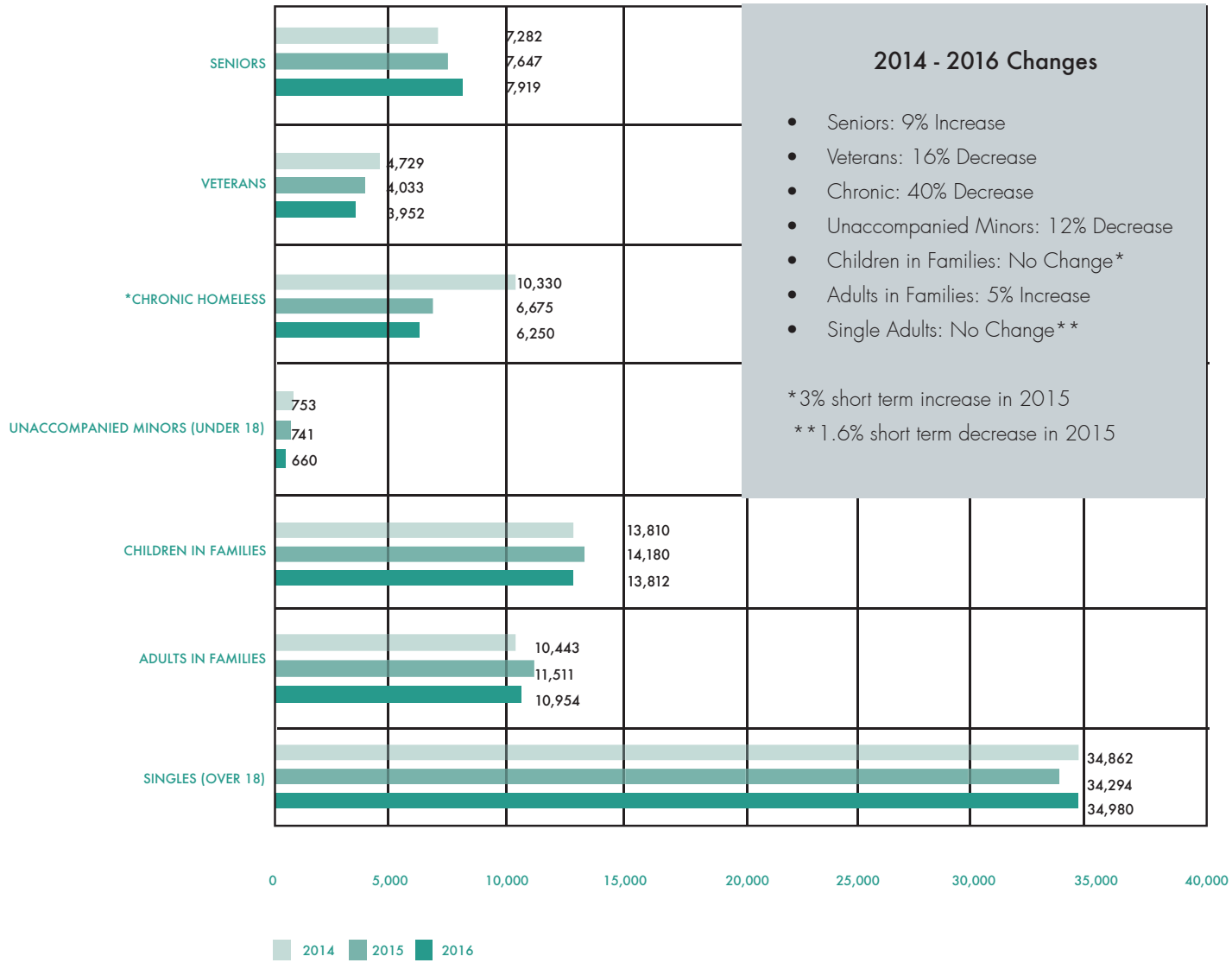
- 84% of seniors experiencing homelessness are between the ages of 55 and 64
- 16% of seniors experiencing homelessness are 65 or older
- 73% have a disability
- 58% have a mental health disability; 54% have a physical health disability
- 5% of Michigan's chronic homeless population are seniors

Nearly half of the homeless population in Michigan have a diagnosed disability.

- 44% of Michigan's homeless population have long-term disabilities, yet make up just 10% of the state's overall population
    - 67% experience mental health disabilities
    - 36% experience physical health disabilities
    - 29% experience substance use disorders

A LOOK AT SUBPOPULATIONS

People Experiencing Homelessness by Subpopulations (2014 - 2016)



2014 - 2016 Changes

- Seniors: 9% Increase
- Veterans: 16% Decrease
- Chronic: 40% Decrease
- Unaccompanied Minors: 12% Decrease
- Children in Families: No Change*
- Adults in Families: 5% Increase
- Single Adults: No Change**

*3% short term increase in 2015

**1.6% short term decrease in 2015

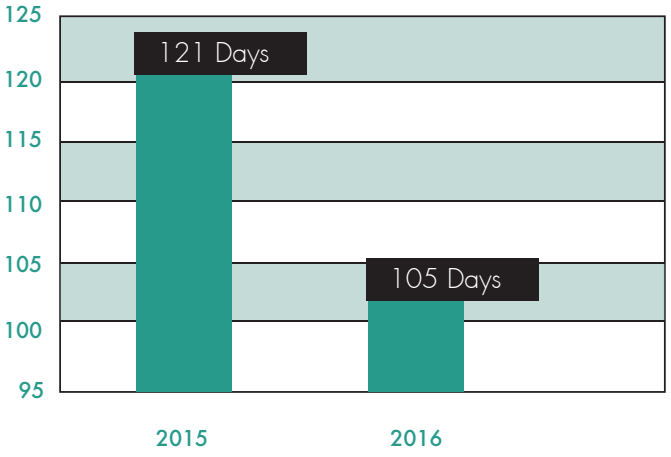
*In 2014, the interview that determines "chronic status" was restructured to remove issues identified in collecting housing history. This contributed to the reduction in chronic homelessness, however, the reduction also reflects effective prioritization and housing of people experiencing chronic homelessness.

ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

The Average Time to House a Veteran Experiencing Homelessness

Dropped by 16 Days

2015 - 2016



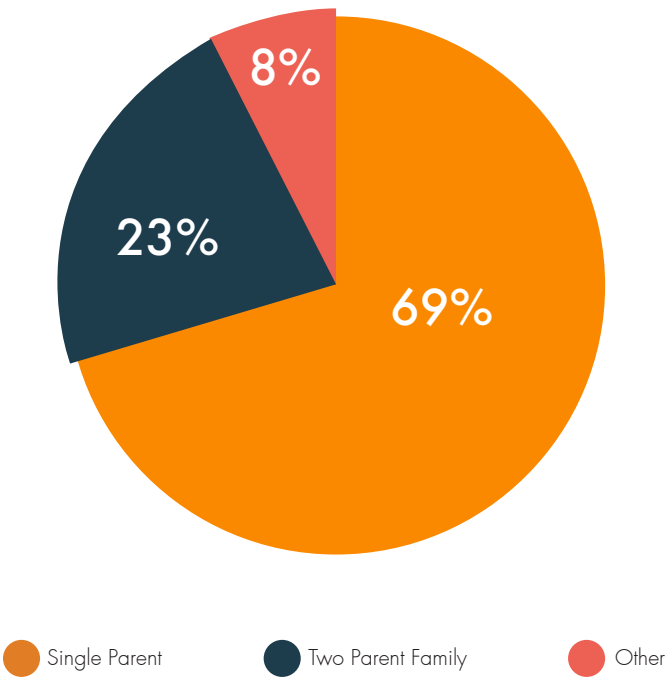
- The vast majority **(90%) of the 3,952 veterans** that **experienced homelessness** in Michigan during 2016 **were single males**.
- **494 veteran families** were homeless
- Homeless veterans have a **71% disability rate**
- **57% of all homeless veterans** in 2016 were **African American**

2016 Success

With the help of the Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness and Community Rebuilders Kent County is the first community in Michigan to achieve the Ending Veteran Homelessness designation from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. There are 50 other communities and three states across the nation that have received this remarkable designation.

FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND HOMELESSNESS

Household Composition



In 2016, there were **9,795 families with children who experienced homelessness.** These families were comprised of **10,954 adults and 13,812 children.**

Families experiencing homelessness are **primarily single-parent, female-headed households,** with the parent being young and having very young children.

- 3/4 of the adults within these families are women
- 65% of the adults are under the age of 35
- 75% of the children are under the age of 11 with the average age being 7

A recent report issued by the Michigan League for Public Policy states that the average single parent needs to make $3,680/month just to "make ends meet," yet the average income for homeless families at the time of program intake was $770 per month.

2016 Success

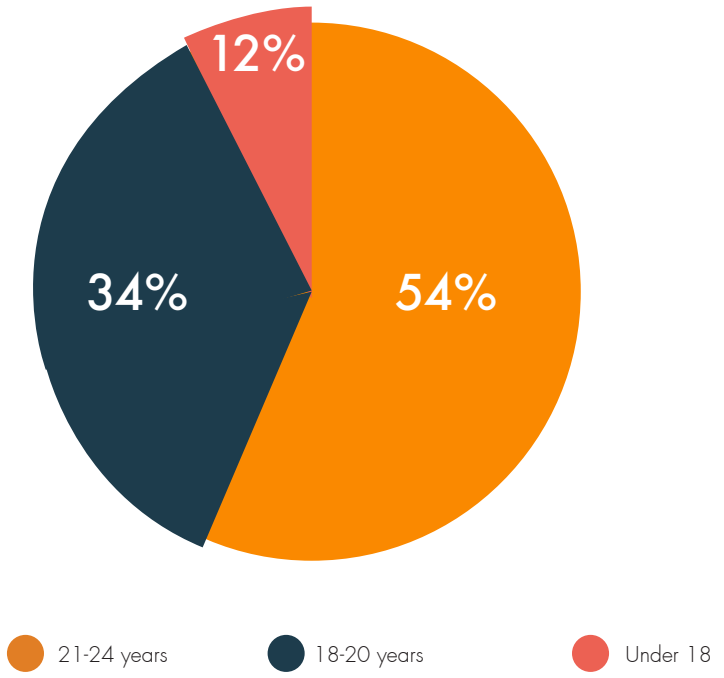
Of the 5,581 families that were discharged**, 3,397 families secured permanent housing** and **1,343 were discharged to temporary destinations** (family, friends, transitional housing and facility-based treatment centers).

The **average length of time to house a family with children** was **73 days**.

Among this subpopulation, **91% of the people were covered by health insurance**, with the **majority receiving Medicaid**.

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Age Groups



In 2016, **5,414 unaccompanied homeless youth under the age of 25*** sought homeless services. **12% were minors (under 18)**, while the majority **(88%) were young adults (18-24)**.

The **primary reasons for youth homelessness** include **family dysfunction, rejection and conflict,** as well as **economic hardship, lack of employment and residential instability**.**

- 1 out of every 7 youth identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered, increasing their risk of family rejection.
- 1 out of 15 youth reported coming from a home where one or both parents were incarcerated.
- Nearly 30% left home due to abuse and/or neglect

2016 Success

Of the 4,876 unaccompanied youth that were discharged**, 3,950 youth moved into permanent housing** and **1,790 youth transitioned to temporary housing placements**; some returned to their families and friends while other youth entered transitional housing and treatment centers.

The average length of time to house unaccompanied youth was **49 days**.

* In all other sections of this report, homeless youth are reported as unaccompanied minors if they are under 18 and presenting for services on their own, without a parent or guardian. Those 18-24 are reported as single adults.

** Statistics regarding the reasons for youth homelessness are based on critical issues identified by homeless youth receiving services under Michigan's Homeless Youth and Runaway (HYR) programming. Youth receiving HYR services are between the ages of 12 and 20.

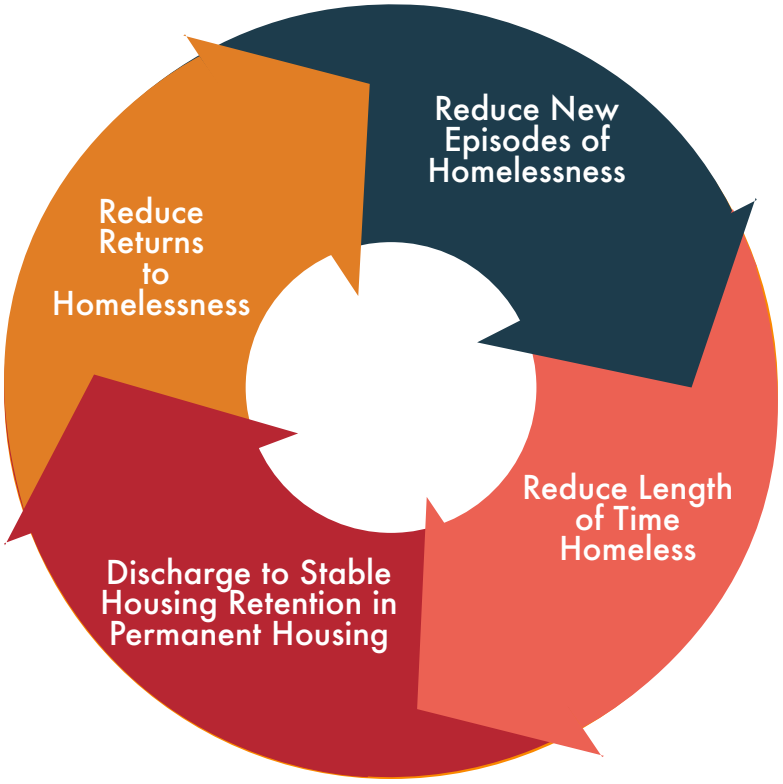
SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

HUD established a series of system performance measures in the reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to help communities evaluate how effective they are in preventing and ending homelessness. These measures help communities evaluate how they offer services and develop strategies to improve overall performance.

Michigan has determined that four core measures will form the basis for how it evaluates progress:

1. Reduce New Episodes of Homelessness
2. Reduce Length of Time Homeless
3. Increase the Percentage of Discharge to Stable Housing and Retention in Permanent Housing
4. Reduce the Returns to Homelessness

Regular evaluation of progress with these measures, coupled with a robust implementation of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) initiatives are key for preventing and ending homelessness in the State of Michigan. Evaluation based on these four key performance measures is a central part of the action plan for Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness.



2016 BASELINE PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

MEASURE 1: NUMBER OF PERSONS FIRST-TIME HOMELESS

DESCRIPTION: Number of persons who are homeless and did not have an additional homeless episode within the preceding 24 months.

OBJECTIVE: Decrease the number of people experiencing first-time homelessness.

Shelters and Transitional Housing Only: **26,634 persons**
Shelters, Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing: **30,004 persons**

MEASURE 2: LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS

DESCRIPTION: Total length of time within an individual homeless episode. It considers the amount of time spent in shelters, not including time spent on the streets or in places unfit for human habitation.

OBJECTIVE: Decrease the average length of time people experience homelessness.

Average Length of Time Homeless: **92 nights**

MEASURE 3: DISCHARGE TO STABLE HOUSING AND RETENTION

DESCRIPTION: For street outreach, shelters, transitional housing, rapid re-housing and permanent housing; percentage of clients exiting to stable housing.

OBJECTIVE: Increase the percentage of persons successfully exiting to stable housing or retaining permanent housing.

Street Outreach: **52%** • Shelters, Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing: **46%**
Permanent Housing (Rapid Rehousing Excluded): **95%**

MEASURE 4: RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS

DESCRIPTION: Number of persons who have a new homeless episode within a two-year period after exiting to stable housing.

OBJECTIVE: Decrease the percentage of persons who are returning to homelessness after exiting to stable housing.

Street Outreach: **28%** • Shelters: **32%** • Transitional Housing: **19%**
Permanent Housing: **16%** • Total % Returning within 2 years (All): **26%**

Data from 2015/2016 is benchmark data from which future performance targets will be set.

MICHIGAN'S CAMPAIGN TO END HOMELESSNESS

By working together since 2005, diverse partnerships between governments, service providers and advocates continue to improve care for people experiencing homelessness in Michigan. The Campaign's Action Plan is aligned with the federal plan to end homelessness which includes goals for reducing homelessness and action steps to achieve them by 2019.

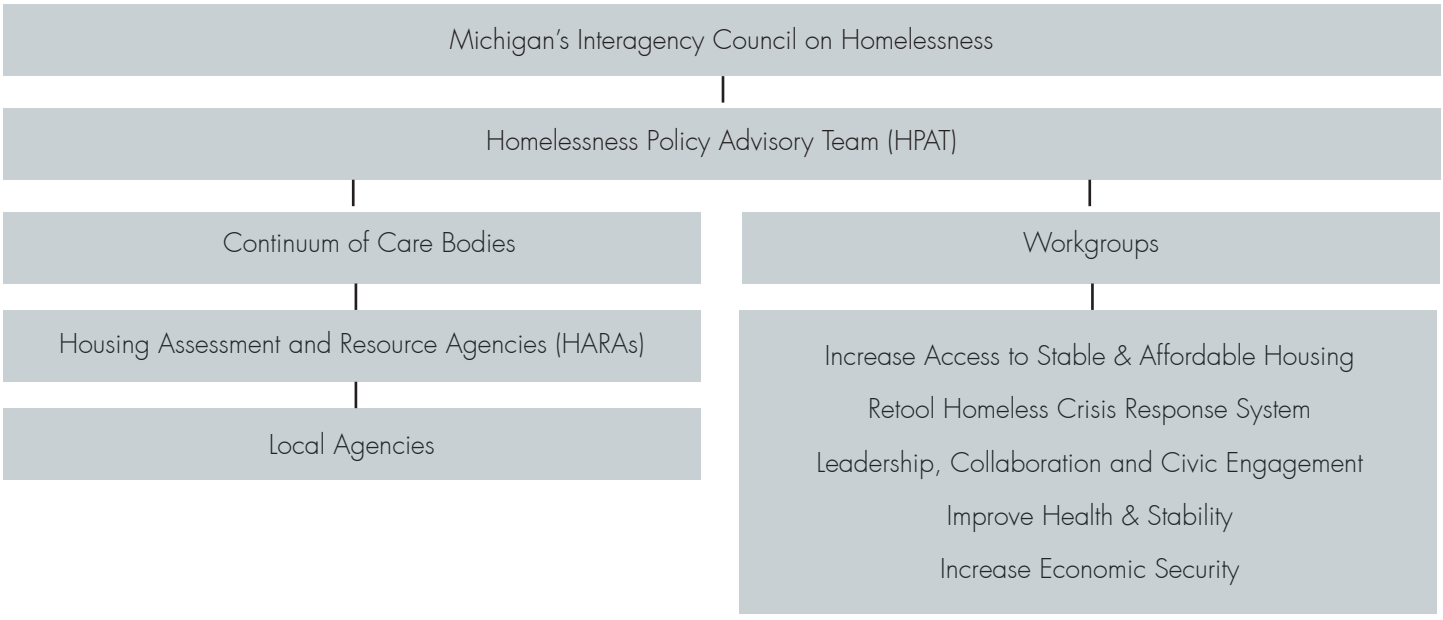
Vision

Housing should be a right and the elimination of homelessness is an achievable goal. No man, woman, or child should be forced to sleep on the streets, in the woods, or on a cot in a shelter on any night, in any town or city in Michigan. Any homeless experience should be rare, brief and non-recurring.

2017 - 2019 Action Plan Goals

- House all veterans experiecing homelessness
- Reduce chronic homelessness by 20% annually
- Reduce family homelessness by 10% annually
- Reduce individual homelessness by 10% annually
- Reduce youth homelessness by 10% annually

Campaign Structure



ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES THROUGH COORDINATED ENTRY

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, put forth requirements that all communities receiving federal funding targeting homelessness must implement coordinated entry into their local homeless service system known as the Continuum of Care (CoC), with the goal of targeting those most in need and improving access to services. In Michigan, coordinated entry is standardized throughout the state.

Programs & Resources

Emergency Solutions Grant - 1, 9
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness - 2, 10
Continuum of Care Program - 1
Emergency Shelter Program - 10
State of Michigan Leasing Assistance Program - 10
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS - 1, 10
SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery - 2, 6, 10
Housing Choice Voucher Program - 1,9
Low Income Housing Tax Credits - 9
Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals - 2, 9, 10
Supportive Services for Veteran Families - 5
Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative - 9,12
Runaway and Homeless Youth Grant - 7, 10
Domestic Violence Comprehensive Grant - 4, 9, 10
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant - 3, 11
Mich. Campaign to End Homelessness AmeriCorps - 8, 9, 10, 13
HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing - 1, 5, 9
Veteran Administration Homeless Providers Grant & Per Diem Program - 5
Michigan Veterans Trust Fund - 12
State Emergency Relief Program - 7, 10

Funders & Administrators

1. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
2. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
3. U.S. Department of Education
4. U.S. Department of Justice
5. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
6. Social Security Administration
7. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
8. Corporation for National and Community Service
9. Michigan State Housing Development Authority
10. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
11. Michigan Department of Education
12. Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
13. Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness

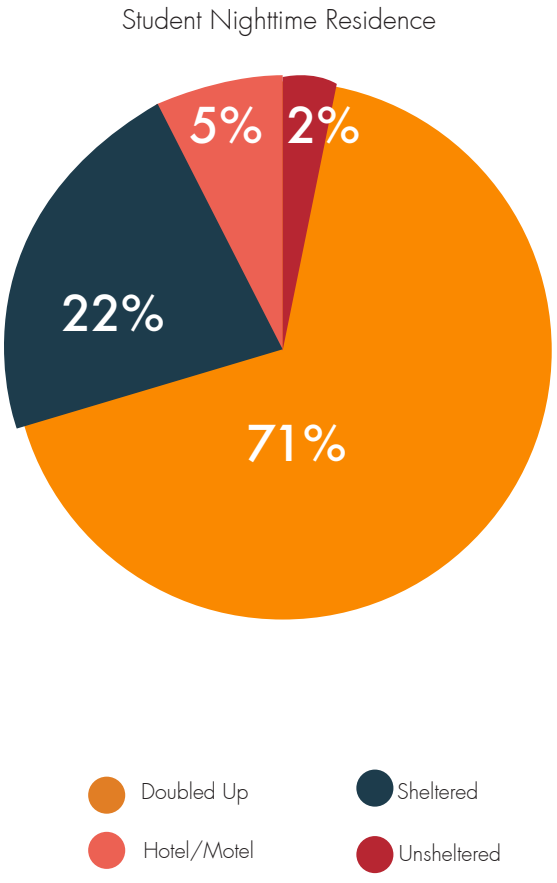
OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS CONNECTED TO ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Domestic and Sexual Violence Service Agencies in Michigan

- Provided **274,809 nights of shelter to 10,025 women, men and children in 2016**.
- Offer **critical interventions** to keep people **safe**.

Michigan Department of Education McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Program

Served **43,884** students who were at risk of becoming homeless or were homeless in 2016, documenting a **first time decrease in 10 years** with an overall **5%** decrease from 2014 – 2016.



DATA COLLECTED

Robust Data

The Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System

The primary tool used for the collection of homeless information is the Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System administered by the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness in partnership with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. This data system is robust and unique when compared with other states because all Michigan Continuums of Care enter data into one system. In 2016, the system captured data on 86 percent of the total homeless population in Michigan. Due to federal regulations, domestic violence shelters are not permitted to enter data. Nearly 600 homeless service agencies enter data throughout the year and include coverage of all 83 counties in Michigan. Through the use of one data system, Michigan is able to research statewide aggregate data while standardizing key coordinated entry processes.

One Night Snapshot

The Point-In-Time Count

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, and other researchers, often publish data generated through the United States Housing and Urban Development bi-annual Point-in-Time homeless count. The Point-in-Time Count is conducted annually during the last week of January. Michigan also publishes data based on the Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System that provides an annual count of those who are homeless in the state. While the two data sets overlap, they are not the same. Key differences include:

- The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Study data, based on the Point-in-Time Count, is a snapshot of those who are homeless, in a shelter, or on the street during one night.

- In addition to using data for that night provided by Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System participating shelters, the Point-in-Time Count also includes data from homeless shelters that do not participate with this data system, primarily domestic violence shelters, and individuals living on the street who are not counted through other programs.

MICHIGAN HOMELESS DEMOGRAPHICS SUMMARY

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (CALENDAR YEAR 2016)

Homeless Client Characteristics (HMIS Data Only)	Adults in Families	Children in Families	Singles (Over 18)	Unaccompanied Youth (under 18)*
Total in HMIS accounting for 86% of overall homeless	10,954 Adults in 9,795 households	13,812	34,980	660
Male	25%	50%	64%	43%
Female	75%	50%	36%	55%
Other (Transgender, Does Not Identify as Male, Female or Transgender)	<1%	<1%	<1%	2%
Age 0 to 4	N/A	39%	N/A	N/A
Age 5 to 10	N/A	36%	N/A	0%
Age 11 to 17	N/A	25%	N/A	100%
Age 18 to 24	23%	N/A	13%	N/A
Age 25 to 34	40%	N/A	21%	N/A
Age 35 to 54	33%	N/A	44%	N/A
Age 55+	4%	N/A	22%	N/A
Average age	33	7	42	16
White	46%	36%	45%	45%
African American	52%	61%	52%	51%
Other Race	2%	3%	3%	4%
Working Poor at Intake (adults)	19%	N/A	11%	N/A
Average Income at Intake (adults)	$770	N/A	$746	N/A
Disability of Long Duration	20% Mental 56% Physical 34% Develop. 24%	10% Develop. 49% Mental 34% Physical 23%	59% Mental 70% Develop. 37% Substance 33%	29% Mental 81% Develop 20% Substance 10%
Covered by Health Insurance	91% Medicaid 95% Medicare 6% Emp/Private 4%	91% Medicaid 97% State Ins. 6% Emp./Private 4%	81% Medicaid 86% Medicare 17% V.A. 10%	88% Medicaid 93% Emp/Private 14% State Ins. 4%

*In 2016, roughly 86% (57,028) of Michigan's total homeless population (66,483) were captured in the Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System. Those not captured in the system (9,455), were primarily served in domestic violence shelters, where the use of the Homeless Management Information System is prohibited to ensure client safety.

3,378 persons reported as part of a family and as a single person during the year.

Overall Homeless		Chronically Homeless	Veterans	Seniors
57,028		6,250 (5,783 Single and 730 in Families)	3,952 (3581 Single and 494 In Families)	7,919 (7644 Single and 441 In Families)
55%		66%	90%	76%
45%		34%	10%	24%
<1%		<1%	<1%	<1%
9%		N/A	N/A	N/A
9%		N/A	N/A	N/A
7%		<1%	N/A	N/A
11%		7%	2%	N/A
19%		17%	13%	N/A
31%		49%	40%	N/A
14%		27%	45%	100%
32		45	50	60
53%		57%	47%	55%
44%		40%	50%	42%
3%		3%	3%	3%
12%		8%	11%	8%
$750		$920	$1,425	$1,035
44% Mental 67% Physical 36% Substance 29%		100% Mental 50% Physical 26% Substance 22%	71% Mental 59% Physical 55% Substance 38%	73% Mental 58% Physical 54% Substance 35%
85% Medicaid 90% Medicare 12% V.A. 6%		91% Medicaid 89% Medicare 19% State Ins. 11%	91% V.A. 69% Medicaid 51% Medicare 21%	83% Medicaid 75% Medicare 30% V.A 22%

Subpopulations

STATE PARTNERS

CSH
Michigan Association of United Ways
Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness Community Partners
Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness
Michigan Department of Corrections
Michigan Department of Education
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget
Michigan League for Public Policy
Michigan State Housing Development Authority
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - Michigan Representative

MSHDA™
MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

www.mcteh.org
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Data is gathered from the Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System

thanks to the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

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