Purpose of SOHA

• To collectively review data, information and derive knowledge about the nature and extent of homelessness
• To inform our decisions on how to move forward and build an effective homeless response system
• To be honest with one another about the challenges, barriers and obstacles our homeless residents face and as providers own up to what role we play in removing or creating them
• To welcome ideas and insights from all persons on how to make homelessness rare, brief and non recurring in our community
:60 second tutorial

• **MDHA** = Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance
• **SOHA** = State of the Homeless Address
• **PIT** = Point in Time census of the homeless
• **HUD** = US Department of Housing and Urban Development
• **HMIS** = Homeless Management Information System (the database of homeless persons and programs)
• **CoC** = Continuum of Care which is *BOTH* a local Board of Directors of stakeholders and professionals charged with our homeless response system AND a federal grant from HUD
• **UN** = Unsheltered  **ES** = Emergency Shelter  **TH** = Transitional
Homeless Count Thank you

• Geographic Coverage Blitz Style = Improved Accuracy
• Sheltered data came from HMIS and agency data
• Unsheltered from Volunteer Interviews and Observations
• Just over 700 volunteers in both counties
• + Police Officers

It was big, but it needs to be bigger

Goal was 750 volunteers

We need 1,000 in Dallas to improve geographic coverage in 2017
### All Homeless – 2016 PIT

*REVISED after PIT HDX verification*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UN</th>
<th>ES</th>
<th>SafeHaven</th>
<th>Transitional Housing</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>3,810</td>
<td>21% +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1,007</td>
<td>3,141</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **2014 National AHAR 31% of homeless are unsheltered.**
PIT GIS Maps Dallas County

- Total CoC Area Density Map
- Dallas Area Density Map
## Unsheltered Homeless

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL UNSHELTERED</th>
<th></th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irving</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garland</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas County</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plano</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frisco</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKinney</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wylie</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collin County</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Age of Unsheltered

Average Age: 47.5
Youngest: 19
Oldest: 79

48% of Unsheltered 40-61
Gender of Unsheltered

Total Responses: 562

Men: 440
Women: 119
Transgendered: 3

Been Attacked While Homeless?

Women: 19 16%
Men: 86 20%
Race and Ethnicity of Unsheltered
Unsheltered Veterans

Total Veterans: 54
Men: 54
Women: 0

Discharge Status
Honorable: 25
General: 6
Dishonorable: 6
Bad Conduct: 2
## Total Veterans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UN</th>
<th>ES</th>
<th>SH</th>
<th>TH</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with Children</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3/11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5/15</td>
<td>8/15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Of the 307 Veterans, 189 directly connected to a Veterans program.
- Significant improvement in VA and emergency response system collaboration
- **7.7%** of all homeless
Experience in Criminal Justice System

Total Responses: 358
Served in Jail or Prison: 267

75% have exited in some capacity from the criminal justice system
Total Responses: 202
From Dallas: 87%
From Dallas County: 3%
From Texas: 4%
From Other Stats: 5%
This is a typical distribution.
Hierarchy of Needs

- Self-actualisation
  - Morality, creativity, spontaneity, problem solving, lack of prejudice, acceptance of facts
- Esteem
  - Self-esteem, confidence, achievement, respect of others, respect by others
- Love/belonging
  - Friendship, family, sexual intimacy
- Safety
  - Security of body, of employment, of resources, of morality, of the family, of health, of property
- Physiology
  - Breathing, food, water, sex, sleep, homeostasis, excretion
What I Need Tonight - Unsheltered

- Food: 111
- Shelter: 82
- Warmth/Blanket: 76
- Housing: 53
- Clothes: 42
- Money: 27
- Job: 20
- Transportation/Gas: 18
- Water: 10
- Get Some Sleep: 9
- ID: 8
- Shower/Bath: 7
- Hygiene Items: 6
- Medical Care: 3
What I Need Tonight

“Medicine for my friend”

“Freedom”

“To be loved by God”

“To be a blessing to somebody”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-actualisation</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Morality, creativity, spontaneity, problem solving, lack of prejudice, acceptance of facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esteem</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Self-esteem, confidence, achievement, respect of others, respect by others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love/belonging</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Friendship, family, sexual intimacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>Security of body, of employment, of resources, of morality, of the family, of health, of property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>Breathing, food, water, sex, sleep, homeostasis, excretion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do unsheltered homeless want help?

- 365 persons gave us their full name
- 216 asked for a street outreach follow up visit
- 186 gave detailed contact information
- 136 let us take their picture for the HMIS

Yes.
Why are you not staying in an Emergency Shelter?

- Criminal Record: 2
- Too Many Possessions: 3
- Have a Car: 3
- Barred: 4
- Have Pet: 4
- Too Many Rules: 4
- Hate/Dislike Shelter: 5
- Sanitation/Bugs: 5
- Separation from Partner: 6
- Feels Like Jail: 6
- No ID: 7
- Personal Safety: 13
- Uncomfortable/People/Stress: 15
- Don't Know Where: 16
- Prefer Outdoors to Shelter: 17
- No Transportation: 29
- Shelter Full: 39
Chronic Homeless

Definition:
Homeless at least 1 year or homeless four or more times in the last 3 years where the cumulative time homeless is at least 1 year AND Possess a documented disabling condition.

Goal:
End chronic homelessness moved, again, to December 2017.
Length of time homeless - Unsheltered

Total Responses: 293
Homeless less than 30 days: 13%
**Homeless over one year: 47%**
First Time Homeless: 147
Health and Unsheltered Homelessness

- Irregular or no proper administration of prescription drugs (lost, no storage, stolen, sold)
- Insufficient, irregular nutrition
- Irregular access to clean water
- Unsanitary living conditions
- **Sleep deprivation**
Health and Unsheltered Homelessness

• Poor physical health is associated with poverty in general but is more pronounced among those who are without homes (APA, 2010).
• Rates of mental illness among people who are homeless in the United States are twice the rate found for the general population (Bassuk et al., 1998).
• 47% of homeless women meet the criteria for a diagnosis of major depressive disorder—twice the rate of women in general (Buckner, Beardslee, & Bassuk, 2004).
• When compared with the general population, people without homes have poorer physical health, including higher rates of tuberculosis, hypertension, asthma, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS (Zlotnick & Zerger, 2008), as well as higher rates of medical hospitalizations (Kushel et al., 2001).

• Housing is Healthcare
Total Responses: 387

Significant health condition(s) reported: 185 48%
Chronic Homeless – Disabling Conditions

**133 Chronic Unsheltered** (34% of the 387 interviewed )*

- 64 with 1 disabling condition
- 51 with 2 disabling conditions
- 15 with 3 disabling conditions
- 3 with 4 disabling conditions

*HUD report will include only the actual identified. For local CoC Planning, the 34% rate applied to the total unsheltered would yield an estimated additional 118 chronically homeless.*
## Total Chronically Homeless

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>UN</th>
<th>ES</th>
<th>SafeHaven</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronically Homeless Individuals</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>566</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically Homeless Families</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Where the Chronic live:**
- Unsheltered – 22%
- Metrocare Safehaven – 4%
- The Bridge – 5%
- Austin Street – 28%
- Dallas Life Center – 19%
- The Salvation Army – 19%
- Union Gospel Mission – 3%
Chronic Homeless – Disabling Conditions

133 Chronic Unsheltered

- 62 with 1 disabling condition 53 do not have SSI/SSDI
- 49 with 2 disabling conditions 39 do not have SSI/SSDI
- 15 with 3 disabling conditions 9 do not have SSI/SSDI
- 2 with 4 disabling conditions 1 does not have SSI/SSDI
Access to Mainstream Benefits for the Disabled

- SSI/SSDI = $733
- SNAP (food stamps) = $194

Establishing a household income for the homeless disabled. $11,124
Documentation of Priority Status – DOPS and Coordinated Assessment System

• CoC Housing Prioritization Policy set July 2016

• DOPS Coordinator position added at MDHA March 2016

• In 2016: Set priority definitions for Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Other Permanent Housing
# Families with Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>UN</th>
<th>ES</th>
<th>SH</th>
<th>TH</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Households</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Adults</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Children</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied Youth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,511</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21.7% of total homeless are under 18.
National 2014 average was 23%.
LESSONS FROM TENT CITY
**I-45 Encampment – “Tent City”**

- 4.5 FTE Case management since Feb 28
- 156 case files established, entered into the HMIS, vulnerability and housing barrier assessments complete
- 2 complete, and subsequent weekly ID Blitz at City Square
- 60 + persons in Case Management caseloads
- Daily contact, *daily problem solving*
- Weekly resident Town hall starting 3/21
- Weekly ID/Community Court services
- Weekly SSI/SSDI services
- 14 moved out through services, 12 scheduled in next 10 days
- Self-selecting and camp migration
Tent City Communication Targets

Dallas

Neighborhood

Homeless Response System

Street Outreach Case Management

I-45 Residents
Lessons from I45 Encampment

- Dallas *must* increase professional Street Outreach/ACT Teams
- ID access cannot be funneled to ONE agency when it is a pervasive need
- **HMIS HMIS HMIS** – must document episodes of unsheltered homeless
- Interagency collaboration saves time, money, and improves care.
- **Interagency staffing** breaks down barriers, stops service ‘shopping’ and focuses on problem solving
- Homeless can and should when possible be housed *directly from the street.*
2015-2016 Accomplishments – COCSWP 3Q

• **Addressing the Data Gap**: IRIS as the new HMIS, built HUD latest standards. Mapping pathways between clinical and social information.

• **Improving quality of care** through professional development and interagency communication

• **Building the system** infrastructure: Data, Inventories and Prioritization

• **Reinforcing the policy infrastructure**: amended bylaws, leadership
Resources Available

- An Environment of Scare Resources
- It’s okay to flip flop: we are expected to change the path when the path is not leading to the results we need
What do we do in the **Short Term**?

- Pervasive top to bottom mantra “*What is your Housing Plan?*”
- Paid professional real estate Apartment Finder Brokers – change our social work approach to real estate
- Aggressive implementation of Coordinated Assessment System to *prioritize* resources
- Improve Tenancy with Ready-to-Rent curriculum
- *Real-time housing inventories* within HMIS
Case Managers assist client at **every step** of the housing process **till the key is in the door**
And Long Term Housing solutions?

• More dedicated DHA Vouchers *WITH* supportive services
• Policy Changes: NIMBY
• **Urban Land Institute** Recommendations
• Housing Trust Fund and Development Incentives
• ‘Matching Funds’ Trust for State and Federal RFPs
• Capital Improvement Program **General Obligation Bond Election: Affordable Housing** (Austin example)
Supply – Emergency Shelter Beds

100 beds in an Emergency Shelter
Average Length of Stay is 180 days.
Can serve 200 people in a year.

OR

100 beds in an Emergency Shelter
Average Length of Stay is 90 Days
Can serve 400 people in a year
Supply – Emergency Shelter Beds

*How many beds do we need?*

More.

But, to plan properly, more data is required to ‘right-size’:

- Number of *new* homeless each month
- *Length of Stay* in the emergency system (UN, ES, TH)
- Recidivism rates

Shelter leadership needs to consider a comprehensive examination and consultation of the emergency shelter system. Inventories, coordination and population right-sizing.
More work in 2016-2017

Understand the nature and extent of **Youth Homelessness**
- ISD record
- Needs assessment from education and child welfare professionals

**Affordable Housing Market Analysis** inventory of our subsidized housing resources and organize criteria and eligibility standards and agree to prioritization before we can produce an accurate market analysis of the **unmet need in affordable housing for persons between 0-30% AMI** (annual income of $0-$14,800 for 1 person) We are woefully behind, but we need numbers.
THE TAKE-AWAYS
But nobody ever gives us any Referrals
**WHO** is our customer?

**HOW** do we deliver our services?

**HOW** do we describe our services?
Final Thoughts

CoC **Data** Infrastructure will transform in next 24 months

Long Term success dependent on State and local **housing policy** decisions and funding priorities now

Without **interagency cooperation, collaboration and coordination** of information and services, we will keep people homeless longer

*Each of us can do better.*