



The face of homelessness: Tyler, Texas



Findings from the Mayor's Homelessness Task Force

January 2012

## Introduction

On Oct. 26, 2011 City of Tyler Mayor Barbara Bass launched the Mayor Homeless Task Force to begin looking at the state of homelessness in the City of Tyler. This action was prompted by a growing dialogue about the homeless issue and recent cases that have come before the Planning and Zoning Commission involving facilities to serve the homeless.

The Task Force, which is chaired by Councilmember Martin Heines, held their first meeting on Nov. 8. The group is comprised of primary stakeholders who provide services to the homeless, as well as an additional City Councilmember, Jason Wright.

The Task Force examined the current state of homelessness in Tyler to determine what services are currently offered, who is providing those services, and if there are gaps in services.

Task Force members reviewed reports, summaries of physical counts, and anecdotal information to attempt to measure how many homeless there are in Tyler. Members also visited facilities and met one-on-one with agencies who provide services to the homeless.

“There was a lot of information that needed to be assessed during this process,” said City Councilmember Martin Heines. “There are so many groups offering assistance to the homeless that it is important to piece together where the gaps in services are.”

Also important to the Task Force was arriving on a shared definition of homelessness. Some think of homelessness as just those people who actually are sleeping without shelter. However, other definitions include people who are living in shelters or transitional housing.

“One of the biggest challenges is determining what services are available and where they are,” added Heines. “I am not surprised that there are so many groups that are trying to help their fellow Tylerites who are in need because Tyler is such a giving community. However, I believe we can do a better job of communicating where these services are available as well as identifying if there are unmet needs.”

The Task Force ultimately developed recommendations for addressing homelessness in Tyler that are noted in the conclusions and recommendations portion of this report.

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## Stakeholders

Initial stakeholders who provide primary services to the homeless in Tyler and the surrounding area were invited to attend a meeting of the Mayor's Homelessness Task Force in the week following its inception and the appointment of Councilmember Martin Heines as the chairperson. During subsequent meetings, attendees were encouraged to identify additional stakeholders who were then invited to join the Task Force. Additional parties were contacted for information purposes, however they did not participate directly on the Task Force.

Stakeholders include:

The City of Tyler

- City Manager's Office

- External Relations

- Parks Department

- Police Department

- Neighborhood Services Department

- Planning and Zoning Department

Andrews Center

Cornerstone Assistance Network

East Texas Crisis Center

Gateway to Hope

Highway 80 Rescue Mission

Mayor's Veterans Roundtable

PATH

The Salvation Army

211 Texas: East Texas Region

Tyler Independent School District

## Current Conditions

On October 26, 2011, City of Tyler Mayor Barbara Bass formed the Homeless Task Force to examine the state of homelessness in the Tyler area. The Task Force was charged with four primary goals:

- I. Establishing a shared definition of homelessness among members of the Task Force.
- II. Identifying the extent of homelessness in the Tyler area.
- III. Determining the needs of the homeless that are currently unmet by the providers in the area.
- IV. Proposing goals and strategies that the community can pursue that will close the gap between services currently available and those that are still needed to prevent homelessness.

The Task Force held its first meeting on Nov. 8 and service providers were invited to attend and share information about the services they provide, other providers and resources they were aware of, key challenges they face, data they had collected about homelessness in Tyler, gaps in services they have identified, and potential actions that could improve the situation. Additional service providers and stakeholders were invited during subsequent meetings to add to this evaluation.

Additionally, Task Force members visited several facilities where homeless services are provided to see firsthand what resources are available and what gaps in services may be present.

### A Shared Definition

One of the first undertakings of the Task Force was to arrive at a shared definition of homelessness. Although this seems a remedial action, it was surprising how differently members of the Task Force defined homelessness.

For example, some Task Force members defined a homeless person as one who simply had no where to sleep at night. This is the person who is seen sleeping on a bench, in a cardboard structure, under a bridge or even in a doorway for protection from the elements. Other Task Force members saw a homeless person as one who had no permanent residence. Clearly there is a great discrepancy between these two definitions which led to a difficulty in agreement upon the number of homeless in Tyler.

Ultimately, for purposes of this evaluation, the Task Force utilized the Federal definition of homelessness which is:

***An individual who lacks fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.***

# Current Conditions Continued

## The Extent of Homelessness in Tyler

Task Force members reviewed and discussed available data and anecdotal information to attempt to measure how many homeless there are in the Tyler area.

One of the few sources of data available to the Task Force is the **2011 Point-In-Time Study** conducted by the Texas Homeless Network with the assistance of the Smith County Coalition for the Homeless.

The “known location” methodology was used by volunteers to survey persons found at sites identified by the community as places where those who are homeless are known to congregate. The report indicated that up to **243 people -192 adults and 51 children - were homeless** in the Tyler area. The report is nearly a year old; however, a new survey will be conducted on Jan. 26, 2012.

The Tyler Police Department was able to contribute counts of homeless that actually are sleeping outdoors. They estimate that there are from **12 to 30 individuals that are currently living in places not meant for human habitation.**

The Tyler Independent School District also collects data on the number of students who self identify as homeless. Currently there are **96 children identified.** It is thought that some of these children are in shelters, some staying with friends or family, some are sleeping in the homes of non-family members, some sleeping in cars and some staying at motels.

Information from two local motels thought to be utilized by homeless families was obtained. The first motel shared that they have an average of **35 people per night**, but they have a maximum occupancy of 80-100 (40 rooms total). They currently have no small children staying at the motel but have approximately **10 families** with teenage children. They usually have about seven families at any given time that stay an average of two weeks and that as far as they knew the children attended school. On average two homeless people were checked in at any given time and only stay one or two nights. A single room is \$35 and a double room is \$45. The second motel reported that they have an average of **five to six people a night** with a maximum occupancy of 30-50 people (30 rooms total). They currently have no children staying at the motel. They average **one or two homeless people** per night that will only stay one or two nights; most guests rent for at least a week. A single room is \$40 and a double room is \$50.

The Gateway to Hope (501c3 )reported that they are currently having 30-50 homeless present each week seeking assistance. The Salvation Army provides shelter to approximately 100 each night with a 200 person capacity; however, their emergency capacity is as high as **500.**

The 2011 Point in Time Homeless Survey found that those self identifying as homeless cited unemployment and the inability to pay rent or mortgage as the two primary reasons for their homelessness. Reasons for unemployment included:

- An inability to find work;
- Permanent physical disability; and
- A lack of transportation.

## Current Conditions Continued

Of the respondents to the survey, 24% did not complete high school; 39% have a high school diploma; and 37% have education past high school.

The top ten needs reported by those who completed the survey include:

- Job training and placement;
- Affordable housing;
- Transportation assistance;
- Clothing and/or food;
- Food stamps;
- Case management;
- Emergency shelter;
- Permanent supportive housing;
- Transitional housing;
- Legal aide; and,
- Budgeting assistance.

### Services and Resources Available to the Homeless

One of the objectives of the Task Force was to identify gaps in services available to the homeless in the Tyler area. Consequently an exhaustive evaluation of services was conducted. Following are the services identified. ***Please note: All services are subject to change and eligibility requirements. Please contact the agency for the latest information.***

#### TYLER MEAL SITES AND GROCERIES:

- Azleway Boys Ranch (15892 CR 26) 903-565-0215  
*Groceries Monday – Thursday, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. By appointment only. Only serves individuals in the 75707 zip code.*
- Church of the Living God (Corner of Baxter and Dawson) 903-939-3966  
*Groceries the fourth Tuesday of every month, 5:00 – 6:15 p.m.*  
*Must live in Smith County and have a form of ID.*
- Christ Episcopal Church (118 Bois D' Arc) 903-597-9854  
*Serves a meal on Thursdays between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. Just show up.*

## Current Conditions Continued

- Colonial Hills Baptist Church (7330 S. Broadway Ave) 903-561-9995

*First Monday and Thursday of every month, 9:00 a.m. – Noon.*

*No appointment necessary. Only once per month per family.*
- Good Samaritan Outreach (200 N. Beckham) 903-592-0868

*Must fill out an application between 2 and 4 p.m.*

*Supper is served every night (M-F) at 5:30 p.m.*
- Grace Community Church (3215 Old Jacksonville Hwy.) 903-560-0084

*Groceries every Thursday at 9:00 a.m.*

*Appointments can be made Tuesday or Wednesday. Walk-ins are welcome.*
- Karing Kitchen: West Erwin Soup Kitchen (215 S. Bonner) 903-592-0809

*Groceries provided every Wednesday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.*

*A hot meal is served every Monday and Sunday at 6:00 p.m.*
- Liberty Baptist Church (2506 N. Broadway Ave) 903-593-5632

*Only on the Thursday following the second Sunday of every month, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.*
- Meals on Wheels 903-593-7386
- Mt. Calvary Church (806 Duckenfield Ave) 903-595-3969
- New Jerusalem (1300 N. Border Ave) 903-593-4436

*Groceries on the second Tuesday of every month, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.*
- Primera Asamblea de Dios (407 E. Queen St.) 903-593-6631
- St. Louis Baptist Church (4000 Frankston Hwy.) 903-561-2167
- St. Paul's Children's Foundation (1358 E. Richards) 903-531-9455

*Groceries Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – Noon and 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.*
- St. Vincent De Paul (423 S. Broadway Ave.) 903-592-0027

*Assists with food once a month per family on Tuesday afternoons, as well as Thursday mornings and afternoons.*
- PATH 903-597-4044

*Assists with groceries Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PATH produce distribution is on Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to noon at the East Texas Fairgrounds.*

## Current Conditions Continued

- Salvation Army (633 N. Broadway Ave.) 903-592-4361

*Food services (Under age 18 must have parents with them in order to be served.)*

*They provide between 4,200 to 4,800 meals per week at their site and 280 meals per week through their mobile kitchen. Mobile kitchen sites include Oakwood Nazarene and Douglas Elementary one day per week .*
- Sylvania Baptist Church (2801 SSE Loop 323) 903-592-1591

*Food pantry every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Documents required, proof of residency.*
- Tyler Dream Center-Women Only 815-713-0126
- Trinity Fellowship (10344 Hwy 31 East) 903-566-4226

*Every Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.*
- Tyler Family Assistance Center (301 W. Ferguson St.)

*Must have Tyler address.* 903-592-0252
- Voices of Victory (201 S. Baxter Ave.) 903-533-8959

*Third Saturday of every month, 10:00 a.m. – Noon.*
- Victory Temple Church (1700 N. Moore Ave.) 903-592-2471

*Every Wednesday, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- East Texas Food Bank 903-597-3663

### TYLER SHELTERS/TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:

The Salvation Army Emergency Shelter (limited to one to three days unless there are extreme weather conditions).

The Salvation Army Transitional Housing: provides housing for three to six months for two subpopulations: work program members and substance abuse treatment program participants.

East Texas Crisis Center: provides an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence (women and children). Progress is assessed on a weekly basis to determine if the resident is working their program.

Highway 80: recently opened an office in Tyler and will staff three days per week. Their resident facility is located in Longview. They are currently looking into a mobile medical clinic.

Fresh Start Veterans Transitional Housing (Andrews Center): provides transitional housing for veterans.

Bright and Fair Home: typically placed by Child Protective Services (girls only).

New Beginnings Veterans Residence (Andrews Center and PATH): provides case management and transitional housing for veterans.

It is believed that other housing programs exist throughout the community with fewer than six occupants.

# Current Conditions Continued

## LONG TERM AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

Tyler has five Project Based Developments (HUD funded), including:

1. Grand Manor – 120 units – 95 % leased;
2. William Booth (The Salvation Army) – 132— 100% leased;
3. Catherine Booth (The Salvation Army) — 71— 100% leased;
4. Rose Valley – 160— 98% leased; and,
5. Liberty Arms – 100 — 100% leased.

There are nine Tax Credit Developments in Tyler, including:

1. North Chase Pinnacle — 140 units under construction;
2. North Chase Lakeview —120 units under construction;
3. Southwest Pines – 248 units – 78% leased;
4. Parkview Townhomes – 120 Units – 95% leased;
5. Pine Creek; - 114 units – 95% leased;
6. Villa of Pine Ridge – 148 units – 100% leased;
7. The Park at Shiloh – 176 units – 98% leased;
8. Town Park– 96 units – 97% leased; and,
9. Moore Grocery Lofts – 88 units – 98% leased.

There are five applicants for tax credit projects in the current assessment round. In addition, there are 54 rentals units available through PATH (100% leased). The City of Tyler administers 935 Housing Voucher Rental Units (within the City – 92%; Outside of City – 8%). The Housing Voucher program is administered by the City of Tyler through its Neighborhood Services Department and funding is provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program is at 100% of its capacity and the waiting list is currently closed. Habitat for Humanity and the City of Tyler also build affordable homes available for ownership and there are many private sector property owners who lease affordable housing units in the market.

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

**Clothes:** Tyler also has several agencies that provide clothes including Good Samaritan Outreach Center, St. Paul's Children's Foundation, St. Vincent De Paul, The Salvation Army and West Erwin Church of Christ Benevolence Center.

**Rent/Utilities:** Several agencies provide rent and utility assistance including Community Action, PATH, The Salvation Army, First Baptist Church, Tyler AIDS, the Andrews Center and St. Vincent De Paul.

## Current Conditions Continued

**Education/Job Placement Assistance:** Organizations who provide education and job placement assistance include Christian Men's and Women's Job Corps, Community Work Force for Texas, Goodwill, Labor Ready, PATH, and Tyler Dream Center (women only).

**Medical Assistance:** Medical assistance is provided by the Northeast Texas Public Health District, PATH, Smith County Indigent Health Care, St. Paul's Children's Foundation, TJC Dental Clinic, Bethesda Clinic, Total Healthcare Center, local hospitals and Tyler Dream Center (women only).

**Mental Health:** The Andrew's Center provides mental health services to Tyler and five other counties. They have a mobile crisis outreach center that provides screening and intake services. They refer patients to East Texas Medical Center Behavior Health per contract. They can also refer to the State Hospital if it is a severe situation and there is room available. Outpatient services for former inmates is also handled by the Andrew's Center. The Green Zone Program is run through the Andrew's Center. This program is funded through a State grant and provides assistance to veterans to access services.

**Transportation Services:** The City of Tyler provides paratransit services to the disabled.

**Referral Services:** Dial 211 for the United Way's referral services. Toll free alternate access number is 1-877-541-7905. For TTY access, dial 1-877-833-4211.

## Gaps in Services

Based upon the data collected, assessment of current resources available in the community and information provided by the key stakeholders and providers, the following critical gaps in services were identified by the Mayor's Homeless Task Force:

- **Transitional Housing**  
Although the community currently has adequate emergency shelter capacity (one to three days), transitional housing for stays from three days to 24 months is extremely limited.
- **Mental Health Services**  
The 2011 Point in Time Homeless Study indicates that 29% of Tyler's identified homeless need mental health care; however, only 13% received it. Additionally, the chronically homeless are in need of mental health services.
- **Tracking Mechanism for Homeless Receiving Services**  
The majority of service providers who participated on the Task Force reported that their agency tracked data about services delivered to the homeless; however, all said that the information is not shared with each other.
- **Post Hospital Services Including Housing Needs**  
Task Force participants cited patients leaving the hospital as an unfilled need in the community. Patients are being discharged from local hospitals and dropped off at local shelters with little coordination of care or services.
- **Casework/Social Worker Connection (Coordination of Services)**  
Although there are many services available to the homeless in Tyler, there are limited central points of assessment and referral to connect the homeless to these services.
- **Housing for Those With Criminal Records**  
Although there is adequate emergency shelter capacity for the homeless population in Tyler, those with certain criminal records are not permitted to access this service. Sheltering options for those with criminal records is an unmet need in the community.
- **Additional Affordable Housing Opportunities**  
Affordable housing options for certain populations needs further exploration.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

Homelessness is a problem that continues to grow in our country, particularly with challenging economic times and cuts in Federal and State funding to address the issue. According to the *National Alliance to End Homelessness, State of Homelessness in America 2011 Report*, the number of homeless in America grew 3% between 2008 and 2009, with the number of homeless families growing at a faster rate of 4%. There are more than 643,000 homeless in the United States, with only 17% of those considered chronically homeless. Unemployment in the U.S. grew by 60% between 2008 and 2009 alone. And although Tyler weathered the economic recession of the last three years better than most, our most vulnerable certainly have been impacted.

The cost of homelessness can be quite high. Hospitalization, medical treatment, incarceration, police intervention, and emergency shelter expenses can add up quickly, making homelessness surprisingly expensive for municipalities and taxpayers. The homeless are more likely to access costly medical care and are shown to stay hospitalized an average of four days longer than the non-homeless, according to a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

A recent HUD study found that the cost of providing emergency shelter to families is generally as much or more than the cost of placing them in transitional or permanent housing. Studies have shown that – in practice, and not just in theory – providing people experiencing chronic homelessness with permanent supportive housing saves taxpayers money.

Although effort has been made to define the breadth of the problem in Tyler, the exact number of homeless is not known at any given time because the number of homeless is constantly changing.

The assessment of the Task Force shows that there are key organizations that are playing a critical role in meeting the needs of the homeless in the Tyler area. The Salvation Army has played a vital role in meeting the needs of the homeless in Tyler — as have the myriad of organizations that provide food, clothing and shelter. Anecdotal information from some locations serving meals is that the majority of those receiving services are not homeless, but rather are in need. Therefore these services can play an important role in preventing the loss of a home by reducing food costs for a family in jeopardy.

In Tyler, the entire community including faith-based organizations, local and county governments, the private sector, non-profits and individual citizens will all need to play a part in helping to overcome homelessness.

Addressing Tyler's long term homeless concerns is not a short term undertaking. Ongoing, concerted effort must be made in a multi-disciplinary approach to end homelessness in our community and to evolve from consumption based problem solving to transforming lives.

## Conclusions and Recommendations Continued

Recommendations from the Mayor's Homeless Task Force to begin this process include the following:

1. Establish an ongoing **Homeless Roundtable**, that serves as the local continuum of care organization, to implement these recommendations and plans that are developed to end homelessness in Tyler. The Roundtable will be chaired by an appointee of the Mayor and a City staff liaison will be appointed by the City Manager.
2. Undertake the development of a local continuum of care plan to serve as the community's five- and ten-year plans to end homelessness for veterans and the general population.
3. Examine client discharging practices for institutions – including, foster care, jail/prison and health facilities—and develop interventions to provide transitional support.
4. Support the opening of a Day Resource Room to provide the homeless with services such as showers, lockers, haircuts, phone messages, etc. (such as Gateway to Hope).
5. Support the efforts of groups like Cornerstone Assistance Network, and others, to provide support and casework/referrals to services for individuals dealing with homelessness—assisting them with gaining independence and self sufficiency.
6. Implement enhanced (or more integrated) software to better track services related to the homeless. Use this data to better identify subgroups and higher-risk populations in this community.
7. Develop enhanced access for behavioral health/mental services.
8. Seek funding from all available sources to provide for gaps in services and to end homelessness (Federal, State, and private foundations, including, but not limited to, HUD and the VA).
9. Support efforts of 211 to update resource database.
10. Support the efforts of faith-based organizations and non-profits to combat homelessness in the community.

# Appendix



**Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study**

**Number of Homeless Persons Identified during the Point in Time Homeless Survey and Count**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Vari
<b>Number of Homeless Persons Identified</b>	244	204	261	306	243	
<b>Number of Homeless Children</b>	34	43	62	68	51	

**Surveys Completed**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Vari
<b>Number of Surveys Recorded</b>	100	148	169	183	159	

**Age of Respondent**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Median</b>	43	38	41.7	44.1	

Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study

Where did you spend the night last night?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Emergency Shelter	56	97	103	128	43	
Transitional Housing	12	11	17	10	3	
Domestic Violence Shelter	7	2	11	9		
Permanent Supportive Housing					14	
On the street, under a bridge, etc.	5	9	3	3	8	
Substance Abuse Treatment Center	5	1	2		2	
Other	4	11	11	15	6	
Hotel/Motel	3	2		3	1	
Living with Family		5	7	1	7	
Subsidized Housing			2		0	
In a place you were evicted from			2	1	0	
Substandard Housing		4		1		
Your own home/apartment					8	
Correctional Facility/jail		1			1	
Foster care home or group home					1	
Living with Friends	2	5	13	4		

Respondents' Gender (observed)?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Male	67	97	110	141	81	
Female	32	51	58	39	40	

Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
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903.597.4044 x107

Christina Fulsom, President

Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study

What is your race?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
White	64	85	85	107		
Black/African American	24	48	61	63		

Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
No, Not Hispanic or Latino	72	125	124	132	65	
Yes, Hispanic or Latino	12	13	22	9	17	

Have you ever been in the U.S. military?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
No	79	121	105	138	70	
Yes	13	20	26	32	13	

How long was your service?			
	2007	2008	2009
6 years		3	3
Median			4

How long have you been homeless?		
	2007	2008
Median	1.5	3
		3 months

Which of the following best describes your situation?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
1st time homeless in the past 3 years	60	98	97	94		
2-3 episodes in the past 3 years	19	33	32	38		
Continuously homeless for a year or more	11	7	5	28		
At least 4 episodes in the past 3 years	4	5	30	8		

Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
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Christina Fulsom, President

**Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study**

Have you had another separate homeless episode within the past twelve months?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	Variance
No	63	105	113	127	64
Yes	27	36	45	36	9

Reason respondent BECAME homeless						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Unemployment	51	60	88	106	42	
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	35	67	75	87	30	
Divorce	29	31	38	32	15	
Addiction	26	30	34	38	8	
Domestic Violence	20	18	21	14	14	
Incarceration	20	26	37	29	15	
Moved to seek work	16	17	26	41	17	
Physical/Mental Disabilities	15	20	33	22	17	
Family/Personal Illness	13	18	14	19	20	
Evicted within past week	3	6	5	6	21	

Reason respondent REMAINS homeless						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Unemployment	40	53	85	86	37	
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	32	64	69	88	29	
Addiction	18	15	25	30	10	
Domestic Violence	12	13	11	12	6	
Divorce	9	16	21	21	6	
Physical/Mental Disabilities	9	14	25	16	11	
Bad credit					12	
Other					2	
Family/Personal Illness	8	7	10	15	7	
Incarceration	6	4	19	10	5	

**Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study**

How old were you when you first became homeless						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Median	38	38	38	40	39	

How far did you go in school?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
High School diploma	29	57	57	53	35	
Some high school	22	30	31	47	15	
Some College	16	30	32	42	20	
1st-8th grade	6	6	23	11	6	
College Graduate	4	11	7	14	5	
Technical school	2	4	3	7	6	
Never attended	1	2	6	1	0	
Post Graduate Degree	1	1	2	2	2	

Are you able to work?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Yes	79	120	125	149	69	
No	17	23	35	26	20	

What best describes your job status?						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Unemployed	42	56	73	95	36	
Regular full time	24	48	30	27	13	
Day labor	8	13	12	8	2	
Regular part time	5	6	30	8	9	
Temporary job					10	
Retired					3	
part time	3	5	7	18		
		82	152			

Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study

	Reason Respondent is not Working					2011	ce
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
No transportation	26	25	35	53	16		
Other	18	27	12	42	1		
Permanent physical disability	13	12	29	25	20		
Drug/alcohol problem	13	19	17	20	5		
Lack of permanent address	13	23	1	31	9		
Criminal background	10	20	22	21	9		
Mental health problem	9	12	22	18	13		
Poor health	9	16	19	17	9		
Lack skills/education	4	15	14	18	10		
Temporary Physical Disability	4	7	10	3	3		
Learning/developmental disability	4	1	2	2	6		
Lack of proper clothing	2	11	6	9	8		
Lack of US documents	2	9	8	4	1		
Don't want to	1	4	2	3	0		
Can't find work					31		
Laid off					9		
Lack child care	1	4	4	3	1		

	In an average month, how much income do you earn now?			2010	Variance
	2007	2008	2009		
\$0	31	31	53	Median	
\$1-\$100	3	2	5	730	
\$101-\$500	20	36	20		
\$501-\$1000	20	34	48		
\$1001- \$2000	8	26	12		
\$2000+	7	5	1		

Smith County Coalition for the Homeless  
2007, 2008, 2009 2010 Homelessness Study

Where Respondent receives income/resources						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Employer Wages	27	60	48	37	23	
Other	19		10	9	10	
Family or Friends	12	31	23		3	
TANF					1	
Food Stamps	10	18	28			
Social Security	10	8	13		11	
Medicaid	9	18	19			
SSDI	6	10	19	13	10	
Medicare	3	2	2			
SSI	3	2				
Asking for money on the streets	3	10	9	11	2	
Child Support	1	9	2	1	1	
illegal activity					0	
Prostitution	1	6	1	3		
Unemployment Benefits	1	3	2	4	0	
VA Benefits		1	4	2		
TEA		1				
Pension/Retirement			2		2	

Treatment/Services respondent is receiving or has received						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Have not or do not receive treatment or services	35	62	64	65		
Drug Abuse	24	27	24	34	14	
Mental Illness	18	20	28	23	9	
Other physical condition	15	14	23	20	9	
Alcohol Abuse	15	21	21	27	13	
HIV/AIDS related illnesses	2	6	1		1	

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Services respondent reports needing						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	ce
Permanent Housing	62	104	103			
Transportation Assistance	62	70	78	107	44	
Dental Care	60	95	94			
Medical Care	55	76	73			
Basic Needs (Clothing and/or Food)	55	79	91	100	43	
Job Training and Placement	50	71	66	107	48	
Emergency Shelter	45	98	85		24	
Transitional Housing	44	61	63		22	
Affordable Housing					45	
Food Stamps	42	56	70	74	42	
Housing Placement Services	38	61	73			
Permanent Supportive Housing	36	67	50		24	
Case Management	34	41	38	59	28	
Life Skills Training	28	34	26	50		
Mental Health Treatment	22	24	33			
Legal Aid	19	21	23	33	21	
GED or Educational Training	17	21	30	42	20	
SSI or SSDI	15	23	31			
Substance Abuse Treatment	13	25	26			
Pension or Social Security	13	14	13			
TANF	8	14	5			
Budgeting class					21	
Child Care	5	18	14	13	6	
Veterans Benefits	4	5	10	14	5	
Do not need any services	3	5	6	10	4	
English as a Second Language	1	2	1	7	1	

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	Services respondent reports receiving					2011	ce
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
Emergency Shelter	60	103	120		42		
Dental Care		5	13				
Basic Needs (Clothing and/or Food)	37	43	69	97	29		
Transitional Housing	18	14	26		4		
Affordable housing					3		
Case Management	14	22	27	33	20		
Substance Abuse Treatment	14	22	21				
Medical Care	11	19	23				
Food Stamps	9	16	31	38	29		
SSI or SSDI	8	11	22				
Job Training and Placement	6	5	7	9	11		
Mental Health Treatment	6	9	18				
Transportation Assistance	5	18	22	18	13		
Pension or Social Security	4	5	10				
Veterans Benefits	4	1	4	6	3		
Legal Aid	4	2	6	1	1		
Housing Placement Services	3	0	9				
GED or Educational Training	2	3	9	11	2		
Permanent Supportive Housing	1	1	5		5		
Permanent Housing	1	1	7				
Budgeting class					10		
English as a second language					0		
Life skills training		3	4	5			
TANF		1	4				
No services needed					3		
Child Care	1	1	7	4	5		

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<b>Have you ever been in:</b>						
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>ce</b>
<b>State Hospital/long term care facility</b>	39	13	64	24	6	
<b>Jail/Prison</b>	32	77	31	98	42	
<b>Other</b>	25	3	62	1		
<b>Drug or Alcohol Abuse Treatment</b>	19	50	25	59	15	
<b>Foster Care</b>	6	10	7	9	3	

<b>When released did you have a place to stay?</b>					
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Yes</b>	42	66	86	61	19
<b>No</b>	24	27	32	46	22

<b>In the past year have you needed Medical Care?</b>						
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>ce</b>
<b>Yes</b>	64	95	95	112	58	
<b>No</b>	31	36	53	62	31	

<b>Were you able to get Medical Treatment?</b>						
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>ce</b>
<b>No</b>	39	70	68	46	15	7
<b>Yes</b>	30	28	40	75	35	45

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In the past year have you needed Dental Care?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Yes	67	105	95	112	59
No	29	31	55	62	27

Were you able to get Dental Care?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
No	62	89	87	99	33
Yes	7	19	24	18	14

In the past year have you needed Mental Health Care?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
No	56	95	109	129	59
Yes	32	33	40	40	24

Were you able to get Mental Health Care?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
No	39	24	41	45	13
Yes	18	25	23	20	10

In the past year have you needed drug and/or substance abuse treatment?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
No					68
Yes					14

Were you able to get drug and/or substance abuse treatment?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
No					3
Yes					12

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Which of the following best describes your family/household?					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	Variance
I am a single individual	86	101	121	128	42
One parent family with children	5	17	17	25	20
Other type of family	3	7	3		
Two parent family with children	1	8	8	7	6
Couple without children	1	7	3	10	9

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