District of Columbia
ICH Executive Committee

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March 12, 2019

Meeting Agenda

I.   Welcome & Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting & Agenda Review

III. Discussion Items

   ❖ Employment Data Analysis: Evaluation Plan

IV. Items for Approval/Adoption

   ❖ Homeless Youth Census Report

V.   Updates and Announcements

   ❖ Homeward DC Progress Report

   ❖ Other?

VI. Summary & Adjournment

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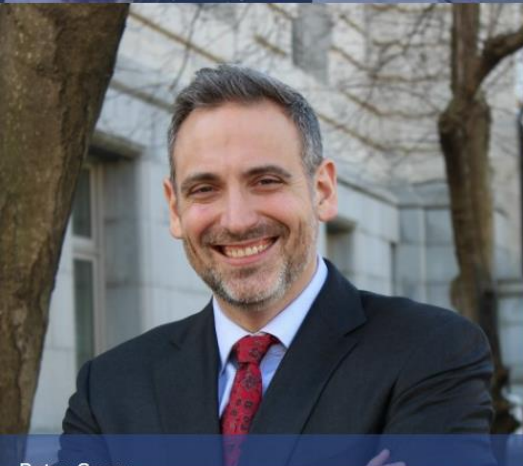
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WASHINGTON
DC

The Project

The goal of this project is to identify opportunities to expand employment services participation among people experiencing homelessness in DC.

The first step is to analyze data from HMIS and DOES to understand:

1. how people experiencing homelessness are using employment services; and
2. how their income varies with program participation.

Some exciting "firsts"

First time merging HMIS and DOES data

First DUA between DOES and The Lab

First time examining how people experiencing homelessness use employment services

First time validating HMIS self-reported income data

Our Big Questions

1. How many people in the CoC participate in employment services and how regularly? How large is the eligible population who are not participating in employment services?

2. Do income and employment vary with program participation and by how much?

3. How many people in the CoC are earning wages? What is the breakdown of annualized earnings and unemployment?

4. What are the characteristics of people utilizing employment services?

5. How accurate is the self-reported earnings and employment data in HMIS, when compared to unemployment insurance data?

6. How do participation rates vary across employment programs? What program characteristics are associated with higher participation rates?

7. How does income vary over the course of a person's time in the CoC?

Known unknowns

Data Considerations	Effect on Estimates
We are only examining data from people who CHOOSE to participate in employment services.	Cannot make causal inferences
The HMIS and DOES data match will be imperfect.	↓ employment services participation ↓ workforce participation ↓ earnings Biased estimates
We only have employment services data from DOES, and are missing it from DHS.	↓ employment services participation
We only have homelessness data from HMIS, and are missing it from DHS.	unknown
We only have unemployment insurance data from DC, and are missing MD and VA data.	↓ workforce participation ↓ earnings

Next Steps

Next Steps:

1. Gather feedback on analysis questions and update plan
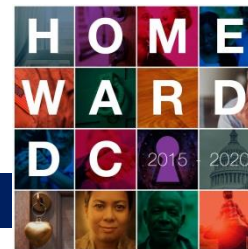2. Share completed analysis with Executive Committee to determine path forward

We'd love your feedback on:

1. Are these the correct questions for analysis?
2. Which questions are the most important to you? How should we sequence our analysis?
3. What specific decisions will this analysis inform? How can we gather evidence that new policies are effective?
4. From your perspective as programmatic and issue experts, what else should we consider as we analyze and explore the data?

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Background

❖ Pursuant to the End Youth Homelessness Act and the Homeless Services Reform Act §4-753.01(i), the District is required to conduct an annual youth census to determine the scale and scope of youth homelessness in the District.

❖ TCP has completed the Homeless Youth Census – aka "Youth Count DC" – on behalf of DHS every year since its inception in 2015.

Background

❖ Information gathered informs Solid Foundations DC, the District's strategic plan to prevent and end youth homelessness.

❖ Planned and conducted in coordination with Through the Eyes of Youth (Youth Advisory Board).

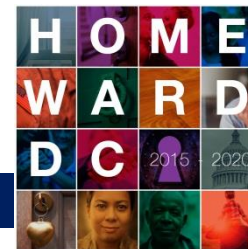❖ Improvements made to the survey tool in 2018 to more accurately capture data on the fluidity of youth homelessness.

Methodology

Population Surveyed

❖ Age
  ➢ Transition Age Youth (TAY): 18 to 24 years old
  ➢ Unaccompanied Minors: under 18 years old

❖ Housing Status
  ➢ Literally Homeless (unsheltered or in emergency shelter/transitional housing)
  ➢ Unstably-housed (i.e. "doubled-up" or "couch surfing")

❖ Household Type
  ➢ Unaccompanied
  ➢ Young families (Head of household is under 25)

Methodology

Data Collection Methods

❖ Demographic Survey

➢ Takes places over the course of nine days (Sept. 21st to 29th, 2018)

➢ Field-based surveys and site-based surveys

❖ HMIS

➢ Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing programs

➢ Virginia Williams/Family Prevention sites

➢ Permanent Housing programs (for de-duplication)

2018 Youth Count DC: Totals

Nighttime Locations, *most often stayed at in previous 30 days*

Population	Total Population	Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing†	Unsheltered Location	Doubled-Up or Unstably-Housed	Permanent Housing††	Institutional Setting††	*Unknown Location‡*
All Persons							
All Persons	**1328**	**51%**	**9%**	**36%**	**3%**	**1%**	**257**
Household Composition							
Singles	**782**	**52%**	**14%**	**30%**	**3%**	**1%**	**177**
Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)	712	55%	15%	28%	2%	1%	149
Unaccompanied Minors (Under 18)	70	21%	10%	55%	7%	7%	28
Family Heads of Household	**546**	**48%**	**3%**	**45%**	**4%**	**0%**	**80**
Transition Age Youth (18 - 24)	534	49%	3%	44%	4%	0%	79
Minors (Under 18)	12	9%	9%	73%	9%	0%	1

† Includes youth counted in ES/TH program if they stayed there most often during the previous 30 days, using HMIS records.

†† Respondent mostly stayed in a permanent housing arrangement or institutional setting but indicated that they will not have safe & stable housing in the next 30 days; they are in imminent risk of homelessness.

‡ Respondent did not provide most often nighttime location, but indicated that they mostly did not have safe and stable housing in the previous 30 days and/or will not have safe and stable housing in the next 30 days. Unknown locations are not included in prevalence.

2018 Youth Count DC: Totals

Sheltered

❖ Emergency or Temporary Shelter

❖ Transitional Housing Program

Unsheltered

❖ Car, vehicle, train/bus, or train/bus station

❖ Abandoned building/vacant unit

❖ 24-hr restaurant/laundromat/other business
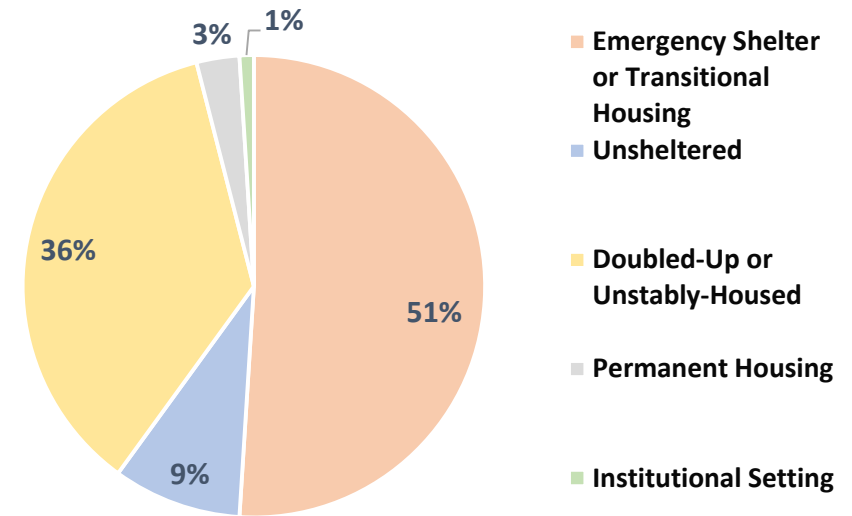
❖ Anywhere outside (street, park, riverbed, etc.)

Unstably-Housed

❖ Couch-surfing with friends or relatives

❖ Staying with someone the youth doesn't know well

❖ Hotel or motel paid for by youth or other person

Permanent Housing

❖ Own house or apt. that you pay rent for

❖ House or apt. of parent/guardian or significant other where you can stay long-term as part of a household

Nighttime Locations,
most often stayed at in past 30 days

- 51% — Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing
- 9% — Unsheltered
- 36% — Doubled-Up or Unstably-Housed
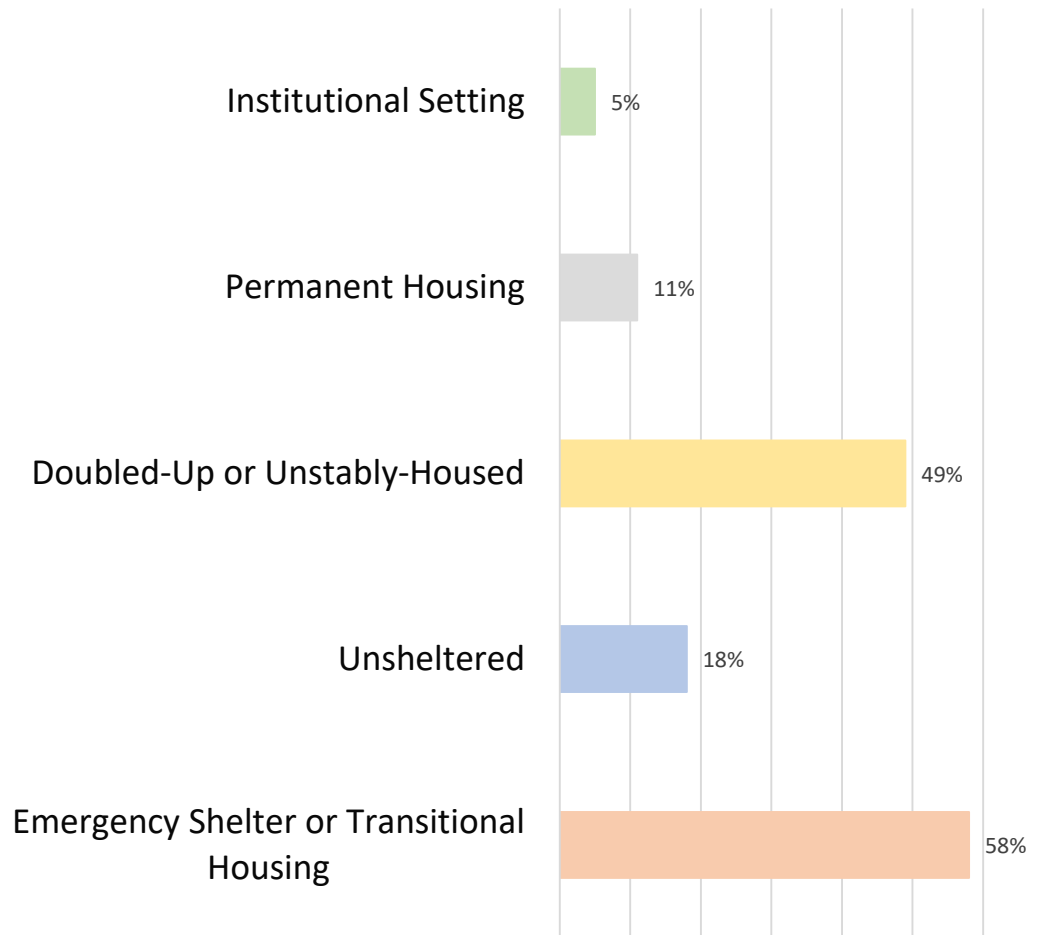- 3% — Permanent Housing
- 1% — Institutional Setting

Institution

❖ Hospital/emergency room/detox/rehab/other treatment facility

❖ Juvenile detention/jail/prison

❖ Group home or foster family home

2018 Youth Count DC: Totals

Nighttime Locations,
All locations stayed at in past 30 days

Institutional Setting — 5%
Permanent Housing — 11%
Doubled-Up or Unstably-Housed — 49%
Unsheltered — 18%
Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing — 58%

❖ 28% of youth surveyed stayed in more than one of the four nighttime locations in the previous 30 days.

❖ Movement within each category was also very common.

# Nighttime Locations	%
One	**72%**
Two	**19%**
Three	**7%**
Four	**2%**
Five	**.3%**

2018 Youth Count DC: Demographics

Age

- ❖ Transition Age Youth (TAY) make up the largest share of the count: 94%
- ❖ Minors make up only 6%

Household Status

- ❖ Over half of the youth counted in the 2018 youth count were single (59%)
- ❖ Young families headed by a TAY or minor HoH make up 41% of the population

Race/Ethnicity

- ❖ Largely Black/African-American (87% total); though families tended to be more so than singles (93% compared with 83%)
- ❖ Mostly Non-Hispanic/Non-Latinx (91% total); higher rate of Hispanic/Latinx singles than families (11% compared with 5%)

LGBTQ

- ❖ 38% of single youth identify as LGBTQ+
- ❖ 14% of youth heads of household identify as LGBTQ+

Gender: Families

The family system is typically thought of as female & heterosexual; however, according to Youth Count DC, there is more diversity than reported through HMIS.

❖ 49 households headed by a man;
❖ 10 households headed by a trans parent.

Things to Consider:
❖ Do we have the resources necessary to serve all families, regardless of gender identity?

❖ What barriers stop certain families from seeking services?

Gender	HMIS	323	100%
Female	318	98%
Male	5	2%
Trans Female (MTF or Male to Female)	0	-
Trans Male (FTM or Female to Male)	0	-
Gender Non-Conforming	0	-
Data Not Collected	0	

Gender	Survey	223	100%
Female / Woman	165	75%
Male / Man	44	20%
Trans Female	9	4%
Trans Male	1	0.5%
Genderqueer/Non-Binary	2	1%
Different Gender	0	-
Data Not Collected	2	

2018 Youth Count DC: Demographics

Sexual Orientation: Single Youth & Families

Families:
- ❖ HMIS: 97% Heterosexual
- ❖ Youth Count Survey: 78% Heterosexual

Singles:
- ❖ HMIS: 76% Heterosexual
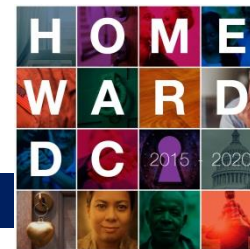- ❖ Youth Count Survey: 62% Heterosexual

Things to Consider:
- ❖ Do we assume sexual orientation in the family and/or youth systems?
- ❖ Do we need to revisit policy/practice to ensure families stay together?

	Total	Families	Singles	
Sexual Orientation HMIS	**475**	**323**	**152**	**100%**
Heterosexual	290	200	90	90%
Gay	12	0	12	4%
Lesbian	6	2	4	2%
Bisexual	10	4	6	3%
Questioning/Unsure	6	0	6	2%
Don't Know	0	0	0	-
Data Not Collected	151	117	34	

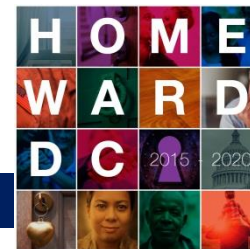|	Total	Families	Singles	
Sexual Orientation Survey	**853**	**223**	**630**	**100%**
100% Heterosexual	541	167	374	67%
Mostly Heterosexual	41	11	30	5%
Bisexual	105	23	82	13%
Mostly Gay or Lesbian	38	5	33	5%
100% Gay or Lesbian	65	5	60	8%
Not sexual attracted to males or females	13	1	12	2%
Other Orientation	10	1	9	1%
Don't Know My Orientation	0	0	0	-
Data Not Collected	40	10	30	

Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence

❖ 31% have experienced violence from a parent or guardian.

❖ 32% have experienced violence from an intimate partner or spouse.

❖ Well over half (59%) of those who have experienced any type of domestic/intimate partner violence attribute their current housing situation to that violence.

Sex Trafficking & Survival Sex

Rates are similar between families and singles for both engaging in survival sex and having a lifetime experience of sex trafficking. These are considered low estimates considering the sensitive nature of questions.

❖ Survival Sex: Singles: 15%, Family HoH: 14%

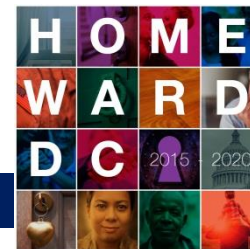❖ Sex Trafficking: Singles: 7%, Family HoH: 10%

Health Conditions and Disabilities

- ❖ Single youth reported higher rates of all conditions and disabilities than youth-headed families.
- ❖ Mental health conditions were most reported health issue among both household types.

	All	Singles	Family
Mental Health	28%	32%	20%
Chronic Health (includes HIV/AIDS)	8%	10%	5%
Developmental Disability	6%	8%	3%
Physical Disability	3%	4%	1%
Substance Use	14%	20%	5%
Other Condition	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%

Alcohol & Drug Use

Combined (Surveys and HMIS)

	All	Singles	Family
Yes	14%	20%	5%

Youth Count Surveys

	All	Singles	Family
Yes	20%	23%	11%

HMIS Records Only

	All	Singles	Family
Yes	2%	6%	.4%

❖ 20% of single youth reported having issues with drugs or alcohol, compared with only 5% of youth heads of family households.

❖ HMIS records for both singles and families show much lower rates of problems with alcohol and drugs than responses to the youth count survey.

Systems Involvement

Child Welfare	All	Singles	Family
Lifetime Experience	26%	30%	20%
*Housing issues immediately after leaving**	69%	65%	79%

* Subset of "Yes" Lifetime Experience.

Juvenile Justice/Prison	All	Singles	Family
Lifetime Experience	28%	40%	31%
*Housing issues immediately after leaving**	67%	68%	62%

*Subset of "Yes" Lifetime Experience.

Things to Consider:

- ❖ What does this mean for transition planning from other youth-serving systems?
- ❖ Do we have sufficient resources for youth who have exited from other youth-serving systems?

Education:

❖ 32% of TAY singles and young families do not have a High School diploma

Employment:

❖ 29% of singles and young families reported receiving income from some kind of employment.

Benefits:

❖ 3 out of 4 young families reported receiving some kind of public benefits.

❖ Less than half (46%) of single youth are receiving some kind of public benefits.

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   ❖ **Other?**

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Homeward DC Progress Report

❖ Purpose: To reflect back on progress & lessons learned over the past four years of implementation.

➢ Goal is to share with full Council for approval on April 9.

➢ Strategic Planning Committee has provided two rounds of input; will receive final version next week (for meeting on the 3/26).

➢ Will share final draft with Exec Committee members when it goes to Strategic Planning.

➢ Send written comments or join us at Strategic Planning meeting for final review.

Homeward DC Progress Report

- ❖ Separately, the Strategic Planning Committee is working on Homeward DC 2.0.
  - ➢ Single and Family System Work Groups are finalizing recommendations re: modeling this week; will share with Strategic Planning Committee on 3/26.
- ❖ Original goal was to have an updated plan for June full Council.
  - ➢ PIT+ and employment analysis won't be ready until May
  - ➢ Should we plan for a September release so we can incorporate findings from both efforts into updated plan?

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