Youth Count 2020

Allison Grant & Sarah Lim
HSC Committee to End Youth Homelessness
Youth homelessness

1 in 10
young adults ages 18 to 25 endures some form of homelessness in a year. Half of the prevalence involves couch surfing only.

1 in 30
adolescent minors ages 13 to 17 endures some form of homelessness in a year. A quarter of the prevalence involves couch surfing only.

Rates of youth experiencing homelessness were similar in rural and nonrural areas.

- Youth 13-17: 4.2% Household prevalence in urban counties.
- Young Adults 18-25: 9.6% Population prevalence in urban counties.
- 4.4% Household prevalence in rural counties.
- 9.2% Population prevalence in rural counties.

About half of the youth who experienced homelessness over a year faced homelessness for the first time.

Particular subpopulations are at higher risk for homelessness

- **346%**: Youth with less than a high school diploma or GED had a 346% higher risk
- **162%**: Youth reporting annual household income of less than $24,000 had a 162% higher risk
- **83%**: Black or African American youth had an 83% higher risk
- **120%**: LGBT youth had a 120% higher risk
- **33%**: Hispanic, non-White youth had a 33% higher risk
- **200%**: Unmarried parenting youth had a 200% higher risk
What do we know about youth homelessness in Dane County?

- 2019 January PIT
  - 42 persons age 18-24 identified as literally homeless on PIT night
  - Included 23 parenting youth
  - No unaccompanied youth under age 18 were identified.
2019 HMIS data

414 persons age 12-24 served in street outreach, day shelter, emergency shelter, transitional housing, diversion and prevention programs during the 2019 youth count period, January 25-February 15, 2019
Homeless Services Consortium of Dane County
Youth Count 2019
Homeless Services Consortium 2019 Youth Count

- HSC’s first survey targeting youth experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness who were not entered into Homeless Management Information System
- Survey modeled after the Voices of Youth Count by Chapin Hall
- Planned and carried out by the HSC Committee to End Youth Homelessness
- January 25 – February 15, 2019
- Surveyed youth age 12-24 identified as experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness by partner agency volunteers

Total 190 surveys completed
How old are you today?

- Age 18-24: 66%
- Age 12-17: 31%
- No Response: 3%
Race? Please check all that apply.

- Black / African American: 59%
- White: 19%
- Mixed race: 18%
- Asian: 2%
- American Indian: 2%

Total: 100%
When a person’s sex and gender do not match, they may think of themselves as transgender or non-binary... Which one response best describes you?

- Not transgender or non-binary: 76%
- Transgender; non-binary; or questioning: 19%
- No response: 5%
Are you currently pregnant or parenting?

- No: 69%
- Yes: 20%
- No Response: 11%
Have you ever been in foster care?

- Yes: 31%
- No: 67%
- No response: 2%
Have you ever been in juvenile detention, jail, or prison?

- Yes: 59%
- No: 38%
- No response: 3%
Where did you stay last night?

- Unsheltered: 12%
- Sheltered: 26%
- Potentially Permanent: 52%
- Other: 10%

Stable: 5%
Not Stable: 36%
Don't Know: 6%
No Response: 5%

164 youth age 12-24 stayed at temporary or unstable place the night before.
Did you feel safe where you stayed last night?

- Yes: 49%
- No: 41%
- No response: 10%

Only 49% felt safe at the place they stayed the night before.

19 (10%) respondents stayed with someone that they were having sex with or working for in exchange for a place to stay. Additional 8 (4%) respondents stayed with someone they didn’t know or met that week.
2020 Youth Count
Overview

- To identify youth age 12-24 experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in all household types
- Survey modeled after the Voices of Youth Count by Chapin Hall, adopted by the HSC Committee to End Youth Homelessness with input from Youth Action Board (Safe House)
- To be administered by HSC partner agency staff and volunteers

- **January 22 (Wed) – February 4 (Tue), 2020**
Who should be counted?

- Youth age 12-24 in all household types (single or family) who are
  - Unsheltered
  - In emergency shelter, transitional housing
  - Lacking “fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence” including doubled-up situations
  - In hotels or motels
  - Runaway youth
Coordination with Point in Time Count

- For youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness identified during PIT, youth count form will be used.

- For youth using emergency shelters, shelter staff and/or youth count volunteers will conduct youth survey at shelters.
How HSC members can help

If you have contact with youth age 12-24 experiencing homelessness or housing instability,

○ Administer the survey and return the youth count form to Sarah Lim

OR

○ Contact Allison Grant to arrange a volunteer to come and meet with youth and administer the survey (Allison.grant@usc.salvationarmy.org)
Survey protocols

● Volunteers will administer the survey; do not hand out the form to youth for self-administration.
● Introduce yourself and provide a brief introduction to what we are doing.
● Be sure to note they can skip any questions that they do not want to answer.
● Ask the questions exactly as they are written.
● For “#3. Where did you sleep last night?” question, do not read off all the options, just ask the question and check one response that best matches the answer.
After the survey

- Answering these questions can be very stressful for youth. Allow sufficient time after the survey to provide emotional support and connection to appropriate services as needed.

- Briarpatch 24-hour Help Line: (608) 251-1126

- Return completed surveys to Sarah Lim by 2/14 (Fri)
If you have any questions

Contact:

Allison Grant (Allison.grant@usc.salvationarmy.org)
or
Sarah Lim (slim@cityofmadison.com)
Thank you!