DENTON COUNTY
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS
LEADERSHIP TEAM
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
United Way of Denton County

Thursday, June 13, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Physical –UWDC Community Room: 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205

Virtual – Zoom Video Conference Link Attached in Email

Agenda:

I.	Welcome & Introductions	Chair/Co-chair	3 min.
II.	April Meeting Minutes	Chair/Co-chair	3 min.
	• **VOTE – Approval of Meeting Minutes**		
III.	Point-in-Time Count Data Reveal	Olivia Williams & Evelyn Sutton	25 min.
IV.	Strategic Plan Learning Labs	Dani Shaw	15 min
V.	Workgroup Updates		20 min.
	• Housing	Terry Widmer	
	• Data	Evelyn Sutton	
	• Healthcare	Isabel Rodriguez	
	• Diversion	Megan Ball	
	• Cross Care Collaborative	Megan Ball	
	• Coalition	Elena Shehan	
VI.	Backbone Support Update	UWDC	10 min.
	• Homelessness Initiatives	Olivia Williams	
	• Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team	Shelby Redondo	
	• Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team	Shelby Redondo	
VII.	Public Comment	Chair/Co-chair	5 min.
VIII.	New Business	Chair/Co-chair	5 min.
IX.	Adjourn	Chair/Co-chair	2 min.

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday, August 8, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | Hybrid Meeting

Physical – United Way of Denton County, 1314 Teasley Lane Denton TX 76205

Virtual – Zoom Video Conference Link Attached in Email

CITY OF DENTON

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HOMELESSNESS
LEADERSHIP TEAM
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Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team

8:00am Thursday April 11th, 2024.
Hybrid Meeting

Welcome and Introduction

Dani Shaw calls the meeting to order at 8:10 am. Approval of minutes, no changes.

Strategic Plan Update by Dani Shaw

Dani Shaw underlined in the strategic plan that the vision is to ensure everyone has a safe, affordable, and supported home. The mission focuses on coordinating homelessness prevention to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring. The primary goals for 2023-2025 are: Housing & Supports, Housing Crisis Response, Diversion & Prevention and Engagement & Collaboration.

Find Help by Alexandra Reed

Alexandra Reed presented CredibleMind, LINKS, Find Help Update. There has been a jump in search of zip codes, specifically Aubrey, due to outreach with an income-based qualifying housing community. About 51% of the searches initiated on Find Help are for housing, followed by food and health. Rent is the top inquiry, then by glasses, then help paying for housing and assistance from food pantries. Help-seekers doubled from February to March.

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Mental Health System Model Site Visits Update by Shelby Redondo

Shelby Redondo presented the Mental Health System Model Site Visits Update. They have been looking into different crisis response models from across the state and shared they are regulated by Health and Human Services. (Kerrville, TX) The crisis stabilization unit (CSU) serves high-risk and is a high acuity unit where the stay is up to 14 days. Feedback received from the agency would recommend a more affordable and flexible solution. The extended observation unit (EOU) in McKinney, operated by Life Path Systems is a combination of an EOU, Crisis Respite Unit, and Diversion center. Life Path receives funding from Collin County and are planning an expansion site that is double the size of their current facility. In Denton County, there are an estimated 12 beds at MHMR, and the option of a crisis respite unit. The crisis respite unit is for individuals who are at low risk for harming others and the max stay is 10 days. Mental health diversion is the newest model to be added into the Health and Human Services domain. Tarrant County Commissioners have supported this and have currently built into their criminal justice system and seen this in other communities being piloted. Gary suggested it would be interesting to see the cross-care collaboration team continue as there will be two lenses to take into consideration. One being coming from law enforcement; we want to find people a solution quickly that isn't jail. The other lens is from the mental health perspective, so it will be up to cross-care collaboration to find that balance in priorities to come up with a recommendation for those leadership teams.

Workgroup Updates

Housing:

Terry Widmer highlighted efforts to re-engage members of the cross-care collaborative. They are addressing engagement issues with veterans through case conferencing collaboration. Terry reported the biggest accomplishment is the advancement of the landlord engagement process, acknowledging Sharon Lee.

Data:

Evelyn Sutton reported from the data dashboard key statistics. New data on student homelessness from 5 counties revealed that 2 students in Argyle are now experiencing homelessness while there has been a decrease in student homelessness in McKinney-Vento, Lewisville and Denton Counties from February 2023 to March

2024. March also saw a large increase in inflows, with 20 referrals from Friends of the Family.

Healthcare:
Olivia Mata-Williams reported that the healthcare workgroup is exploring the gaps between hospital discharge for the unsheltered population and hospital discharge. THR has provided preliminary data and is working to isolate it specifically for Denton County. Additionally, Medical City has also come to the table to join collaboration efforts.

Diversion:
Megan Ball reported no major updates but noted an accomplishment with THN in revising the diversion workflow to include grant funding. This revision allows for conciseness when specifying that an individual was diverted by the Barriers Fund and identifies what funding assisted the individual in the diversion.

Cross Care Collaborations:
Megan Ball reported that the presentations at the last meeting went well. Liaisons from MHMR presented their roles within the jail system. To continue the process, the Sheriff County's office completes the intake process.

Backbone Support Update:
Shelby Redondo reported that the Behavioral Health Leadership team has developed a strategic planning committee which will begin at the start of May 2024.

Public Comment:
No Public Comments.

New Business:
No new business.

Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 9:31 am. **Next meeting is Thursday, June 13, 2024.**

DENTON COUNTY
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS
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Housing: June 2024

CHAIR: TERRY WIDMER

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Improve housing outcomes for those on the HPL*
- *Identify and plan trainings to support best practices in case managers i.e., motivational interviewing and stages of change*

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

Front door agencies participate weekly in problem-solving barriers to support the path to housing for individuals and families on the Housing Priority List.

Short Term Action Items

- The facilitation group is wrapping up its recommendations to create interagency co-facilitation, incorporate Stages of Change, and Veteran workarounds to accessing Coordinated Entry Assessments.
- THN Vacancy Reporting pilot is being rolled out to make improvements to the Housing Priority List

Accomplishments

- Increased participation and involvement in weekly case conferencing; Denton Ambassadors in attendance

Concerns

- Identifying training resources to support agencies staff

Next Meeting Dates

Weekly on Mondays, 3 PM- 4 PM (excludes holidays)

Hybrid; UWDC and Zoom

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DATA Workgroup: June 2024

CHAIR: STEPHEN COFFEY

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

Identify ways to integrate data support for other HLT workgroups to advance funding and advocacy efforts

Meeting Summary

The data dashboard has been updated with data up to May 2024. There are currently 525 households actively experiencing homelessness on our Housing Priority List. The 525 total number for May breaks down into:

- 46 families
- 525 individuals
- 49 fleeing domestic violence
- 30 Veteran households
- 149 households experiencing chronic homelessness

Denton County school districts' data was updated in March 2024. The two largest school districts reported the following:

Denton ISD: 481 students (18% decrease from February 23; 587)
Lewisville ISD: 888 students (13% decrease from February 23; 1024)

Housing intervention prioritization breakdown:

Diversion Services: Households (13%; 66)
Rapid Rehousing Intervention: Households (60.3%; 305)
Permanent Supportive Housing Intervention: Households (26.7%; 135)

Short Term Action Items

Accomplishments

Concerns

Next Meeting Dates

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Healthcare: June 2024

CHAIR: ISABEL RODRIGUEZ

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Increase access to healthcare services for people experiencing homelessness*
- *Increase community resources for healthcare workers*
- *Identify data points from participating organizations and agencies in Denton County*

Meeting Summary

The workgroup met with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, Regional Advisor, Tamara Wright, inquiring about standards and baseline measures needs to support medical respite for Denton County.

Short Term Action Items

- Identify standards outlined for Medical Respite
- Continue to work with agencies and medical providers for healthcare needs assessment
- Continue to identify stakeholders and build membership

Accomplishments

- Addition of representation from hospitals, DFPS, and law enforcement

Concerns

- The gap in available healthcare services for people experiencing homelessness and unmet health needs are a growing concern for agencies.

Next Meeting Dates

- First Tuesdays, monthly excluding holidays
- August 6, 2024; Zoom

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Diversion: June 2024

CHAIR NAME: MEGAN BALL

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Implement and support Diversion workflow in HMIS for agencies*
- *Identify and apply for additional funding sources to expand Diversion efforts*
- *Increase community dollars sourced for Barriers Fund*

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

This group is in the data collection phase, identifying how existing funding is being spent on diversion efforts. The goal of the group is that this data will establish a baseline to support funding expansion and resources for diversion efforts.

Short Term Action Items

- Identify and track HMIS Diversion data; expand which variables are needed and identify additional data sources
- Establish next steps for agency support to improve data quality

Accomplishments

Concerns

- Availability of flexible funds to support diversion problem-solving efforts.

Next Meeting Dates

Monthly- a new scheduling poll is being sent out to gain alignment

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CROSS CARE COLLABORATION: June 2024

CHAIR(S): MEGAN BALL & LANDON DICKESON

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Update local Sequential Intercept Model map*
- *Educate key stakeholders on system processes*
- *Create and implement a planning team to coordinate discharge and care for individuals with high rates of crisis service utilization*

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

This group is currently in the knowledge-gathering phase, identifying gaps in the current system as it relates to the unhoused population and determining what can be done on a local level to address these gaps. Judge Jahn presented intercepts 1-5 from the judicial interactions, while also bringing to the group's attention that other counties in Texas are investing in a type of model to address the intermediary needs of mental health services (i.e., Extended observation unit, diversion center, respite combination, etc...).

Short Term Action Items

- Continue mapping of Behavioral Health and Housing Systems; current progress is mapping Intercept 1 and 2 to make corrections, update changes, and highlighted gaps.
- Continue identifying organizations at the response systems' primary integration level.

Accomplishments

- Completed review of SIM mapping 0,1,2,3

Concerns

- Understanding the volume of resources to the capacity of each organization
- There is a lack of adequate mental health diversion options for law enforcement
- New legislation that allows law enforcement to transfer responsibility of care

Next Meeting Dates

Thursday, August 1, 2024; (Meets the first Thursdays of each month; with exceptions of holidays)

11:30 AM- 1:00 PM Hybrid: UWDC office and Zoom

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Denton County Homeless Coalition: June 2024

CHAIR: ELENA SHEHAN

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Expand agency participation in PIT Count*
- *Strengthen education on housing efforts*
- *Increase funding to support housing stability*
- *Increased access to information*

Meeting Summary

The Denton County Homeless Coalition launched their planning efforts for the Point in Time Count State of the Homelessness data reveal. Additionally, the Coalition discussed organizing fundraisers for the year that launched in May.

Short Term Action Items

- Create a volunteer management and engagement strategy to leverage for Coalition events
- Finalize Advocacy opportunities and education outreach plan
- Recruit more volunteers to participate in planning and outreach
- Next planning events: Memorial and Fun Run

Accomplishments

- To date, the fundraising efforts have raised over $1,000 towards the Barriers Fund
- The creation of the buttons to promote the coalition and barriers fund have led to the success of fundraising efforts.
- The Denton County State of Homelessness data reveal had over 70 people (including agencies tabling the event)

Concerns

- Continue to focus on volunteer engagement and recruitment
- Explore opportunities for businesses and individuals to sponsor upfront costs, raffle items, signage, and other business needs as they arise

Next Meeting Dates

Meets monthly on the last Wednesday of each month, alternating between UWDC and Next Steps in Lewisville.

June 26, 2024- Next Steps Lewisville 9 AM – 10 AM

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2024 DENTON COUNTY STATE OF HOMELESSNESS

A Collective Impact Project of

DENTON COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION

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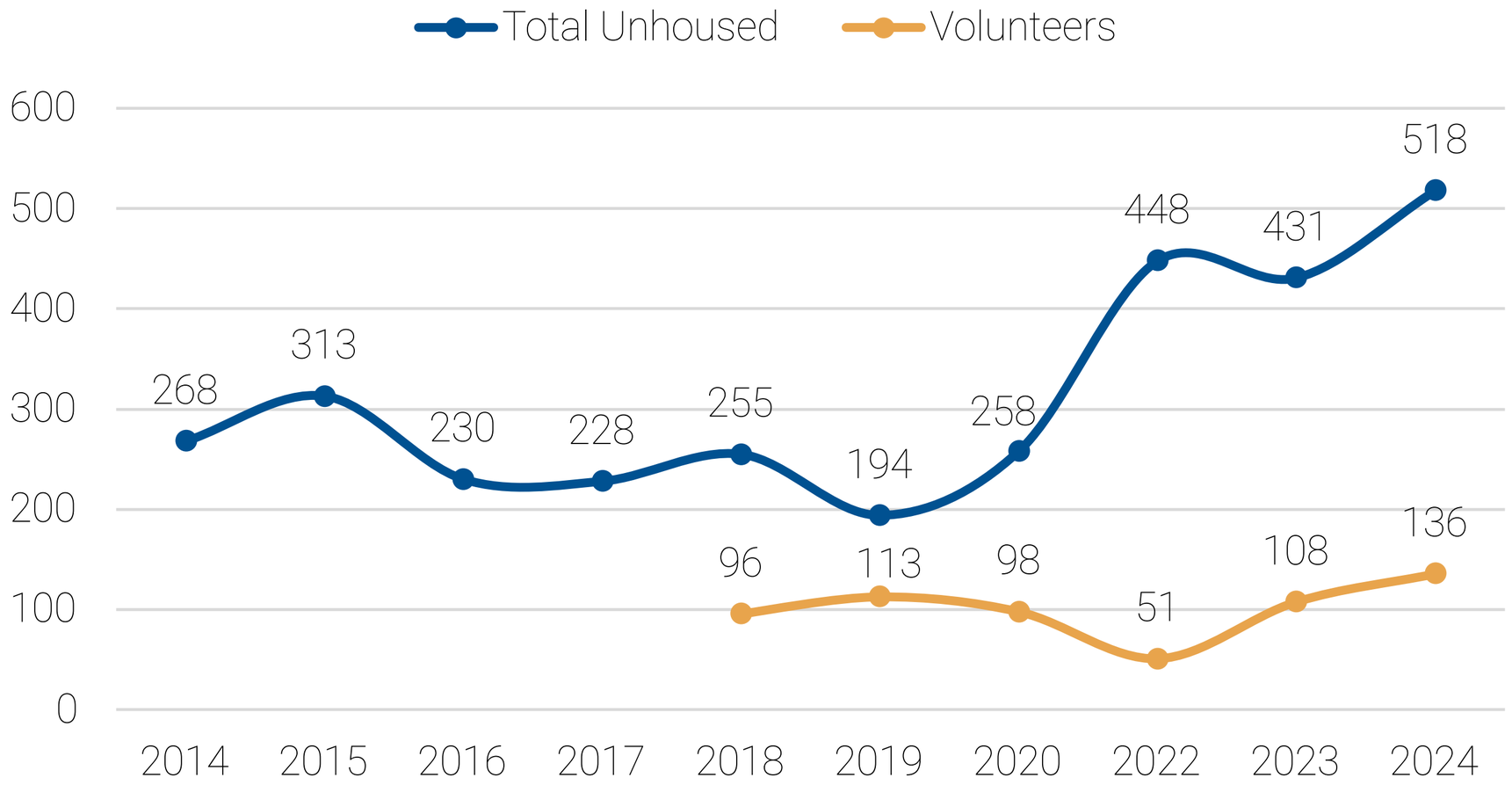
WHERE WE ARE TODAY

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT DATA

DENTON COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

United Way
Denton County

A Decade of Data: Point-in-Time Count Through the Years



DC Pop. 752,355

*In 2021, only a shelter count was conducted due to COVID-19. The sheltered total was 176.

DC Pop. 906,422

2024:
1,006,492 population

2024:
PIT change: +87 person increase (20%)

Point-in-Time Count Data Totals

Unsheltered:

Denton County cities: Carrollton, Denton, Frisco, Lewisville, Roanoke, The Colony

Sheltered:

Our Daily Bread (**Adults**)

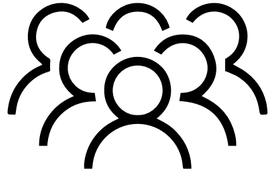
Salvation Army (**Adults + 2 Family Rooms**)

Denton County Friends of the Family (**Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault survivors & children**)

Journey to Dream (**Teens: 14-19 years**)

235 Unsheltered

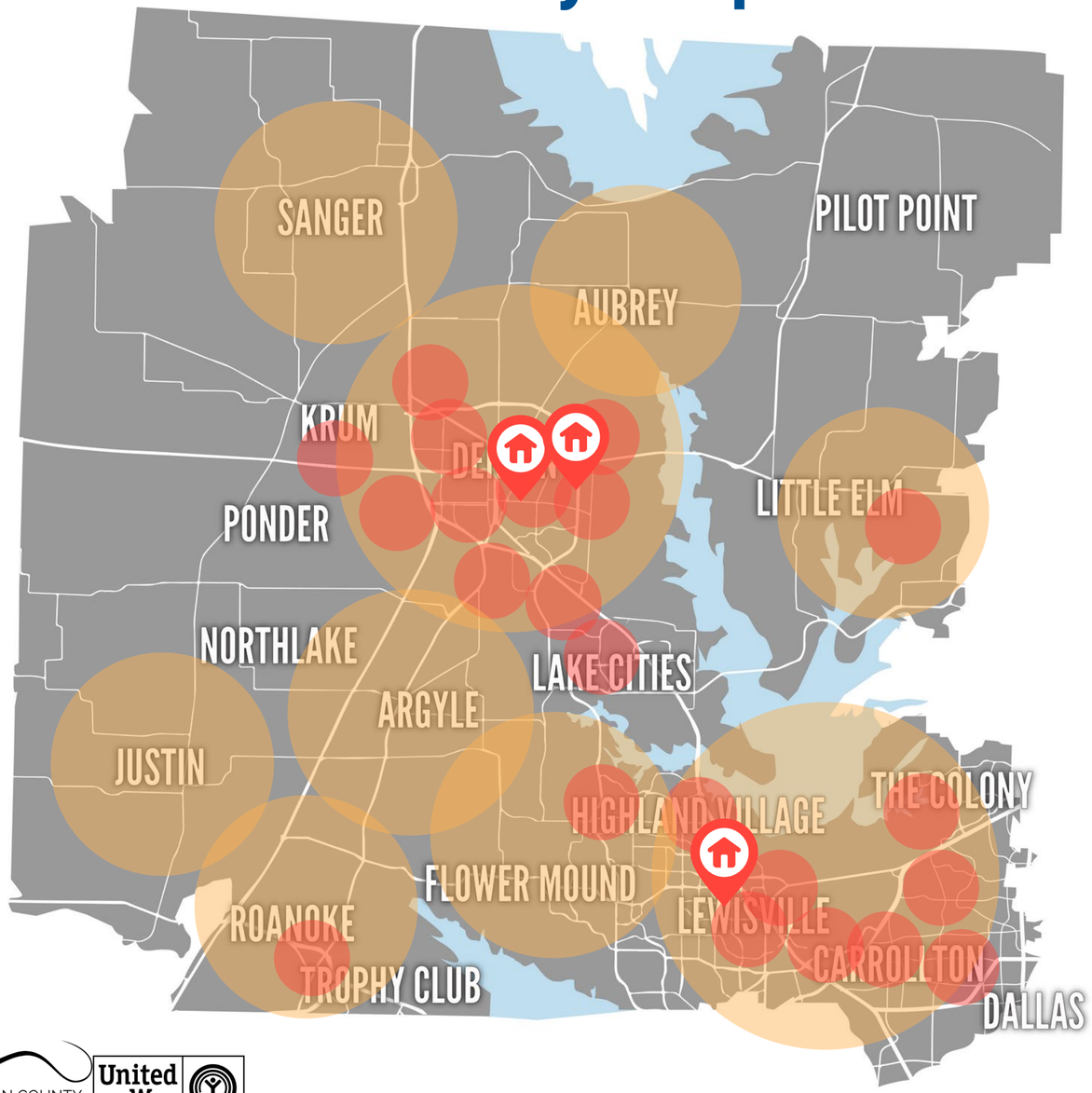
283 Sheltered



457 Adults

61 Children

Point-in-Time Count Survey Hotspots



136 Registered Volunteers

Known areas that experience homelessness

PIT Surveys completed

Emergency Shelter

DENTON COUNTY HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS LEADERSHIP TEAM
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Point-in-Time Count by Zip Code

Zip Code	2024
75007 (Carrollton)	5
75010 (Carrollton)	1
75028 (Flower Mound)	
75033 (Frisco)	2
75034 (Frisco)	
75056 (The Colony)	1
75057 (Lewisville)	8
75067 (Lewisville)	46
75077 (Lewisville)	24
75287 (Dallas)	4
76201 (Denton)	40
76205 (Denton)	120
76207 (Denton)	17
76208 (Denton)	52
76209 (Denton)	187
76210 (Denton)	6
76249 (Denton)	2
76262 (Roanoke)	3
76266 (Sanger)	
Grand Total	518

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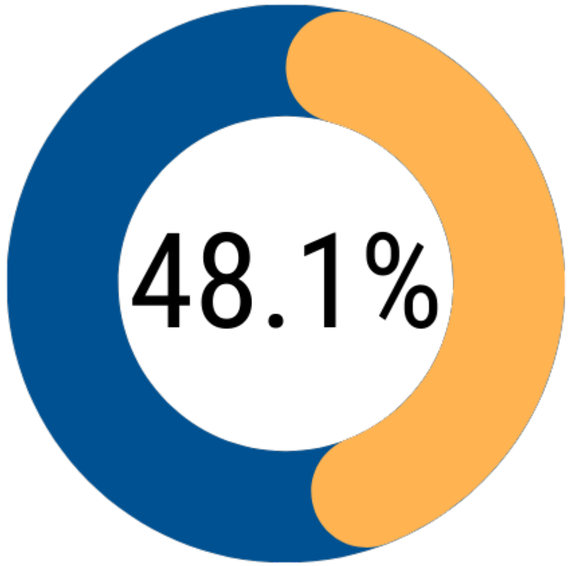
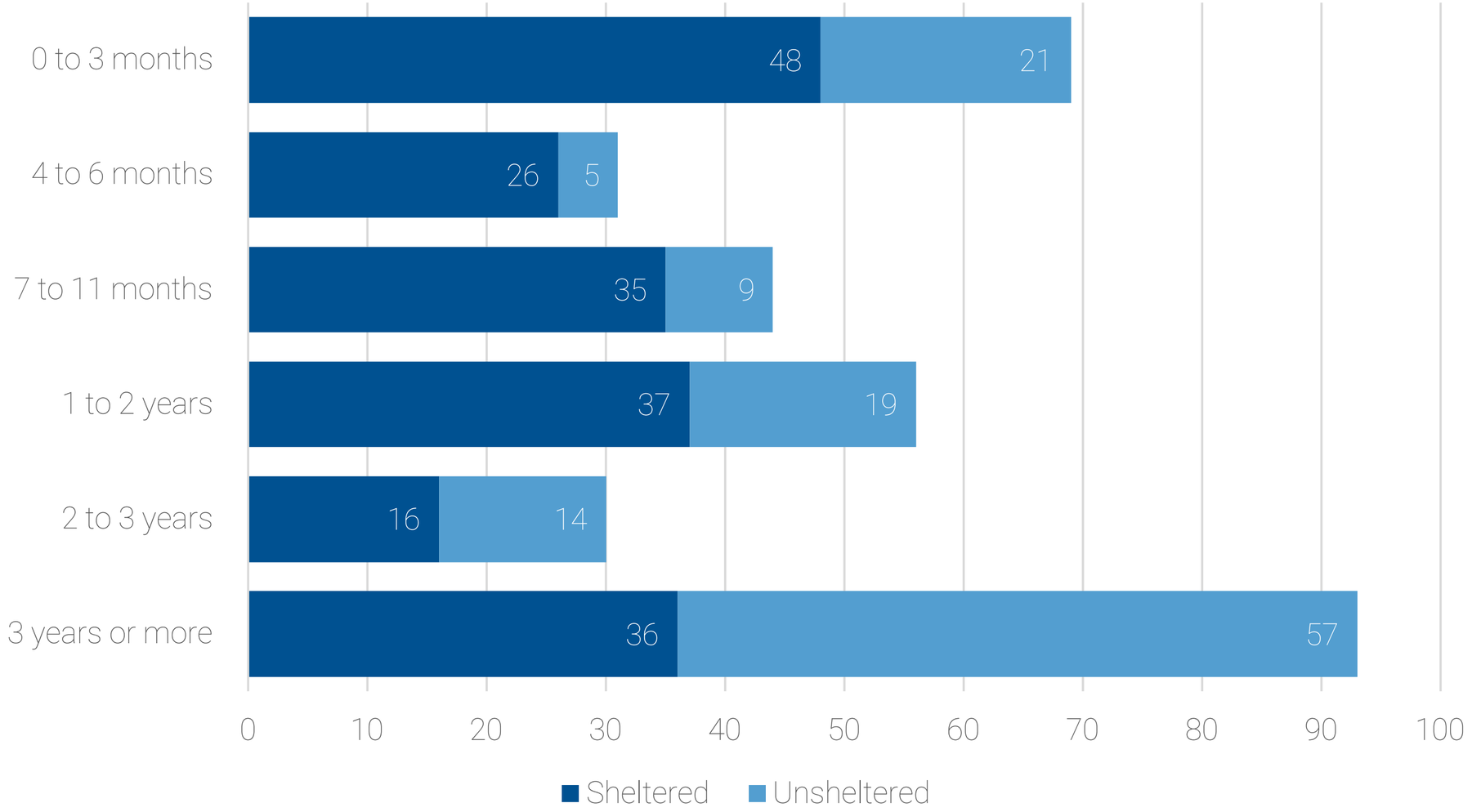
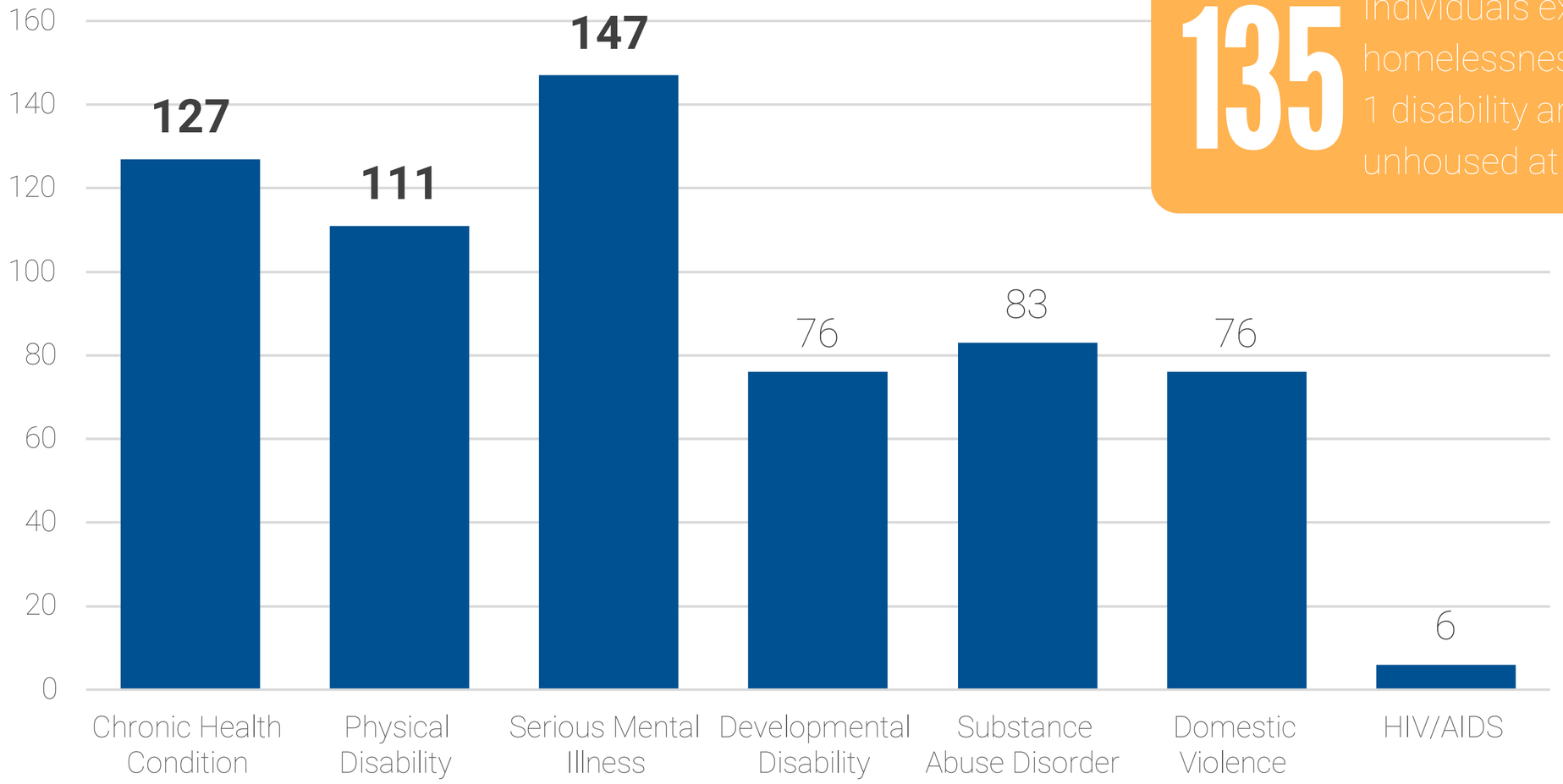
Frequency and Length of Experience

First Time





Point-in-Time Disabilities & Chronicity



135 Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. They have at least 1 disability and have been unhoused at least a year.

55% Report 1 or more

41% Report 2 or more

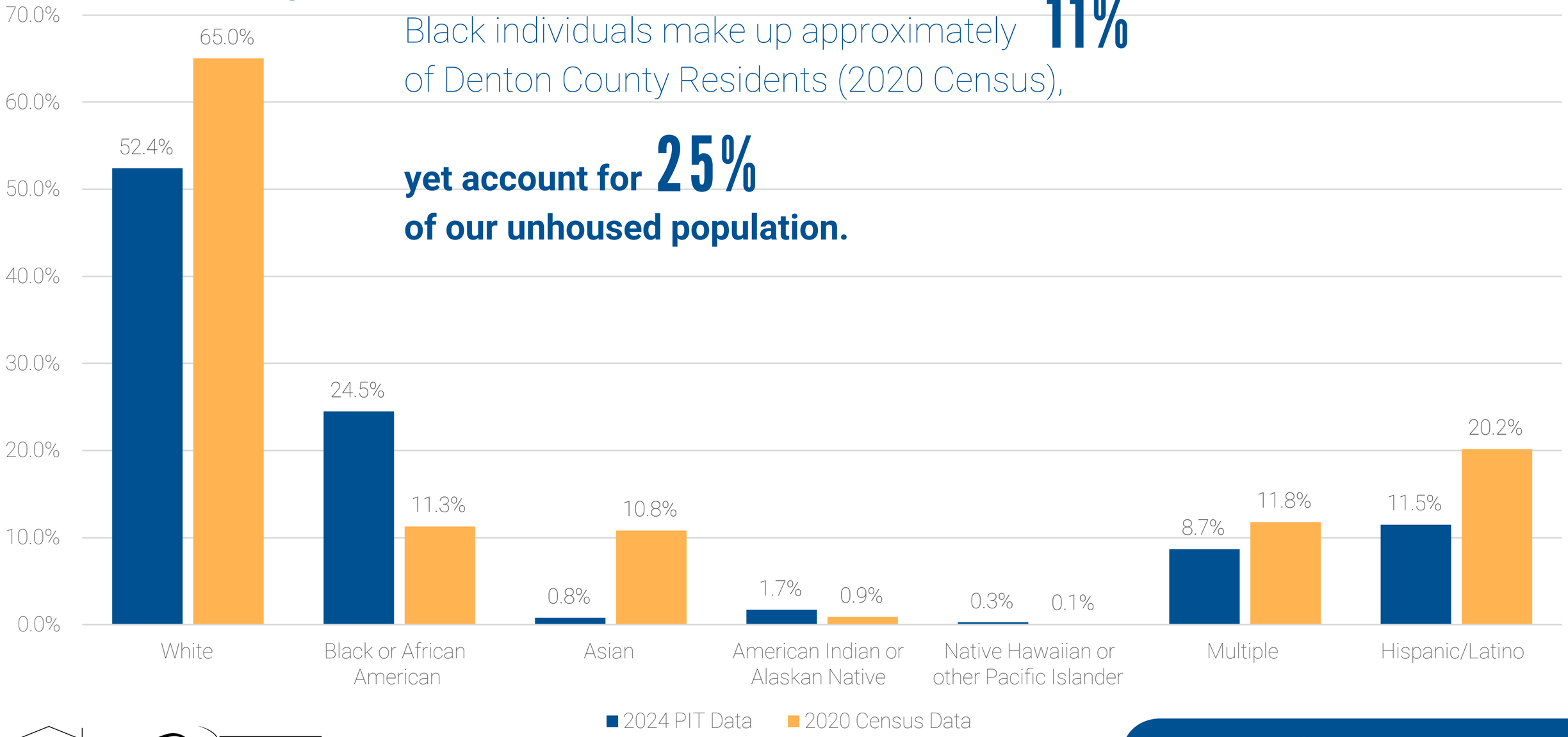
22% Report 3 or more

The data allows for self-reporting of more than one condition; some individuals may be represented in several data points.

Racial Inequity

Black individuals make up approximately **11%** of Denton County Residents (2020 Census),

yet account for 25% of our unhoused population.



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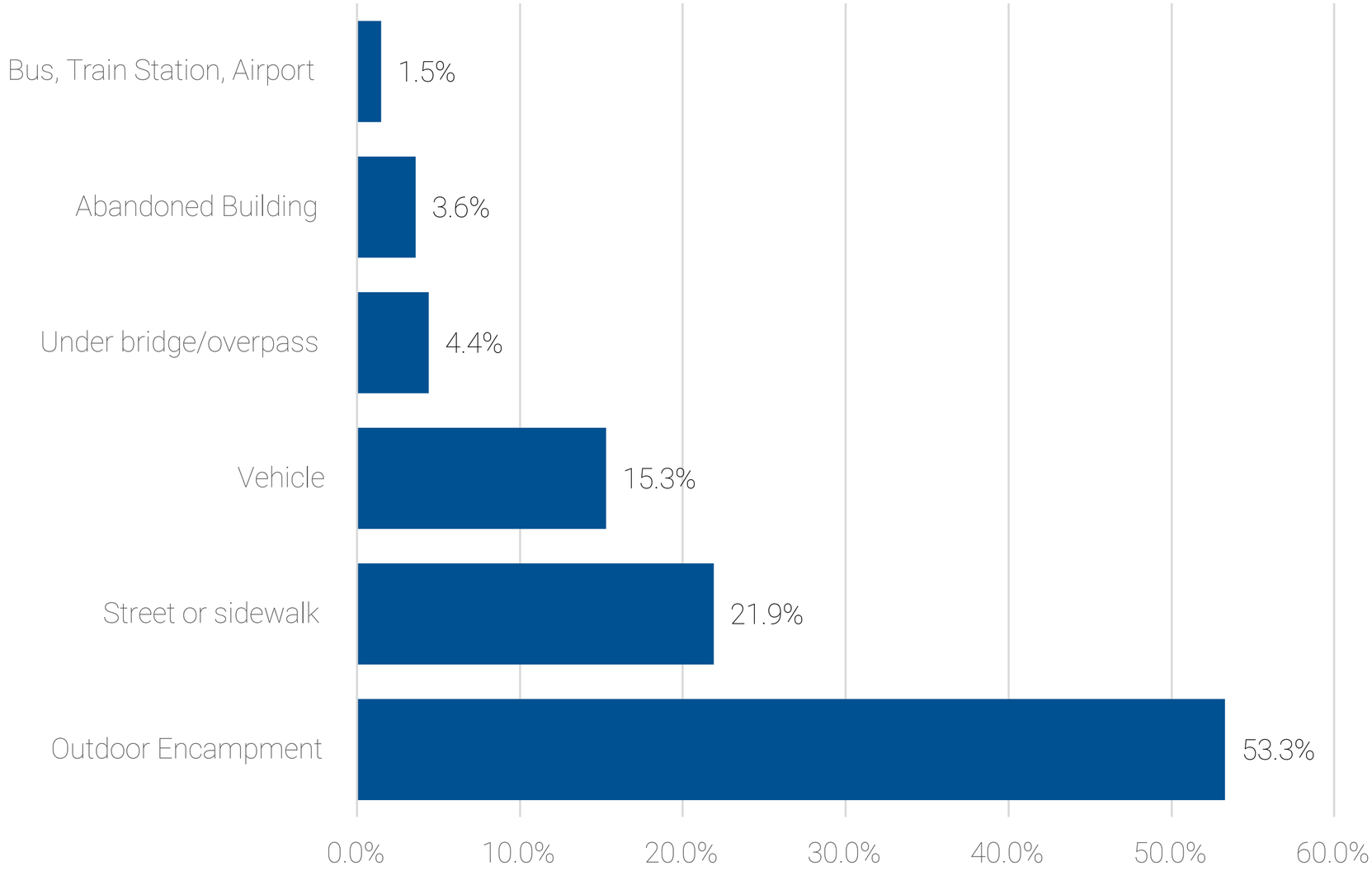
DENTON COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION

United Way Denton County

Where are you sleeping tonight?



Changes in Point-in-Time Count Special Populations

Population	2023	2024	Change	% change
Adults 18-24	20	**27**	**7**	**35%**
Adults 25-34	75	**106**	**31**	**41%**
Adults 55+	106	**99**	**-7**	**-7%**
Identify as LGBTQ+	26	**42**	**16**	**62%**
Veterans	29	**26**	**-3**	**-10%**
Families	14	**27**	**13**	**93%**
Victims of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault	64	**76**	**12**	**19%**

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WHERE WE ALIGN

HOMELESSNESS IN REAL TIME

DENTON COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

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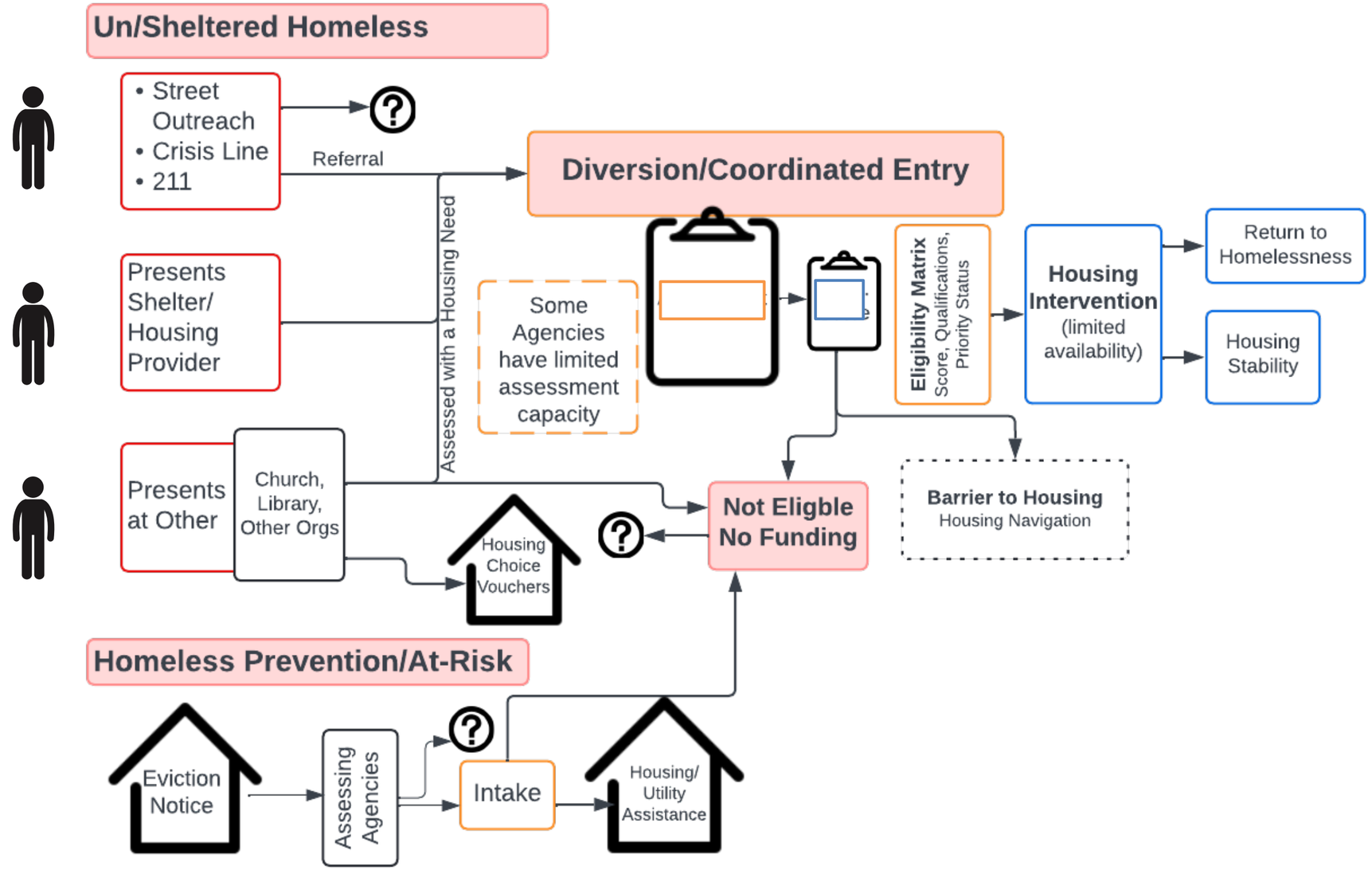
Denton County

Housing Crisis Response System



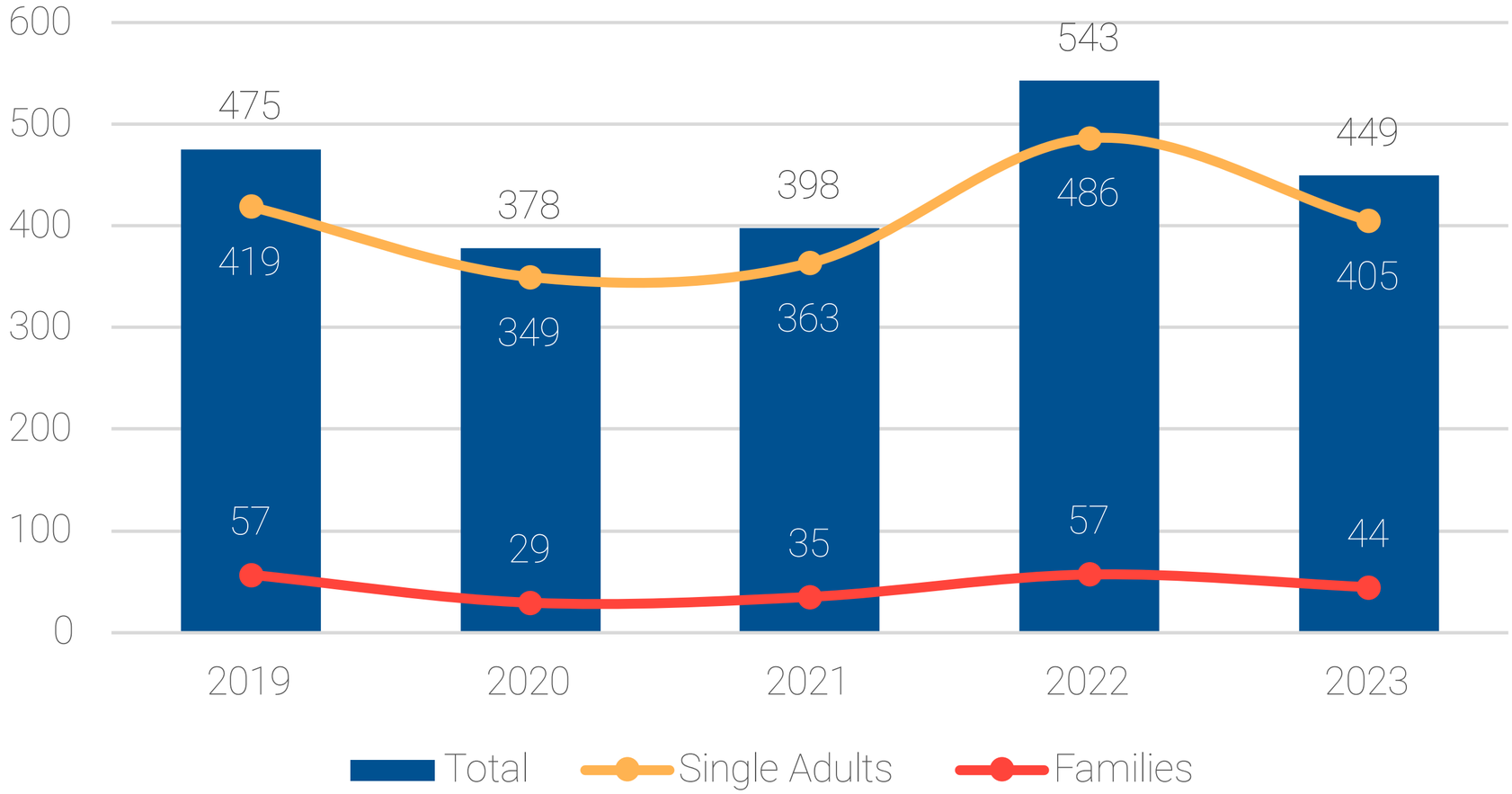
Agencies:

Christian Community Action
Denton County Friends of the Family
Giving Grace
Journey to Dream
Denton County MHMR
Our Daily Bread
The Salvation Army
Denton Housing Authority

Terms:

Denton Housing Authority
Nonprofit Organization
Coordinated Entry
Housing Priority List
Permanent Supportive Housing
Rapid Rehousing
Supportive Housing
Emergency Shelter
Other Permanent Housing

Denton County Data Dashboard, 2019-2023



Annual average represented for each year.

A **real-time data dashboard** tracks who is actively accessing services within the Housing Crisis Response System.

Offering a more dynamic and monthly view of homelessness in Denton County.

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983 INDIVIDUALS

have moved through the Housing Crisis Response System to be successfully housed in the last 7 years.

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2024 State of Homelessness Address

DENTON COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DENTON COUNTY
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS
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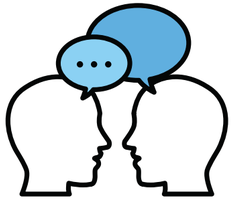
VOLUNTEER

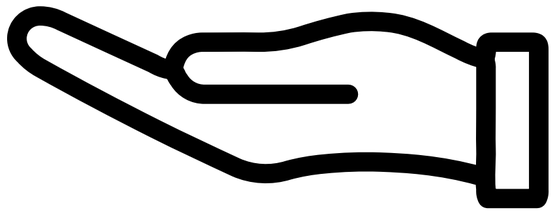
Event Heroes Wanted! Plan & raise funds for impactful causes. Share your skills in event planning & fundraising.



Spread the Word! Educate & raise awareness for important issues. Volunteer your time for impactful outreach.

Be a Volunteer Connector! Help us match passionate people with the causes they care about. Volunteer for coordination & recruitment.

Our Agencies Need You! Scan to connect to local opportunities



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DONATE TODAY

113,000 Households live paycheck to paycheck and are at-risk of losing housing in Denton County.

Your support helps people **maintain and obtain** stable housing!

$25
Critical Documents

$50
Job tools

$75
New housing basic needs

$150
Bus ticket

$300
Healthcare necessities

Denton County Homeless Coalition Fund Impact

DENTON COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

2024 State of Homelessness Address

ADVOCATE

General Homelessness

- Increase in financial support for local nonprofits and current programs
- Protection against criminalizing homelessness (Johnson vs. Grants Pass Supreme Court)
- Creating and maintaining attainable housing

Family Stability

- Extend & expand shelter access for families
- Organize new efforts and funding to divert new households entering homelessness
- Support H.R. 7024 - Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act

Employment & Workforce

- Increase in Second Chance Employers
- Expand apprenticeship options across Denton County
- Promote low cost or free certification courses

Medical& Mental Health Care

- Expand access to Medicaid
- Initiate Extended Observation Unit and Respite Care
- Increase in medical providers accepting Medicaid and offering indigent services.

Tiers of Involvement

- Local
- State
- Federal

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HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS
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OUR PATH FORWARD

STRATEGIC PLAN

DENTON COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

United Way
Denton County

Strategic Plan for Reducing Homelessness

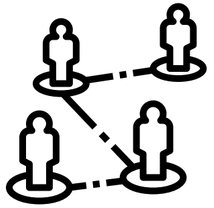
Community Wide Goals for Measurable Impacts 2023-2025

Housing Supports

Scale housing and supports that meet demand

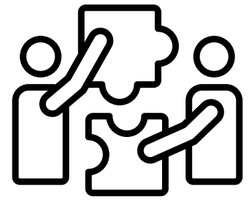
Housing Response

Improve Effectiveness of Housing Crisis Response System



Diversion & Prevention

Expand efforts to divert and prevent homelessness



Engage & Collaborate

Create & implement a detailed advocacy plan

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GOVERNMENT

SANGER TEXAS

CITY OF DENTON

The Unique Dining Capital of Texas est 1881 Roanoke

DCTA DENTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Denton Housing Authority

Denton County PUBLIC HEALTH

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Aubrey, Texas

DENTON COUNTY TEXAS 1846

FLOWER MOUND POLICE DEPARTMENT

LEWISVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

DENTON SINCE 1873 POLICE INTEGRITY • RESPECT • PROFESSIONALISM • DEDICATION • EXCELLENCE

BUSINESS

ATMOS energy

DENTON CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital DENTON

DENTON COUNTY HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS LEADERSHIP TEAM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

United Way of Denton County

EDUCATION

Sanger Indians
Dedicated to Students - Committed to Excellence

LISD
REAL INNOVATION
LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITY
LEWISVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

NCTC

UNT UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

NONPROFIT

DENTON AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATION

Denton County Friends of the Family

HEALTH SERVICES OF NORTH TEXAS
Medical Care for You

United Way Denton County

THE SALVATION ARMY

SERVE DENTON

Metro Relief

Giving Grace

cca
Christian Community Action

JOURNEY TO DREAM

OUR DAILY BREAD
Together with Monsignor King Outreach Center

metrocrest services
building a stronger community together