

Briefing Summary

2007 Point-in-Time Count/Homeless Needs Assessment

The 2007 Point-In-Time Count/Survey and the 2007 Needs Assessment were conducted by 2-1-1 Orange County. The Continuum of Care Leadership Cabinet has recommended the following two methodologies and results:

Primary Source - HUD Mandated Point-in-Time Count/Survey

Point-In-Time Count of Sheltered/Unsheltered Homeless

- The point-in-time enumeration included sheltered and unsheltered counts of homeless persons. 2-1-1 Orange County, in collaboration with the CSUF Social Science Research Center and OC Partnership, utilized a HUD recommended point-in-time methodology.
- As part of this process, data was collected resulting in the identification of 3,649 unduplicated persons that were found to be homeless in shelters and on the streets in Orange County on January 25, 2007.

Estimated Incidents of Homelessness in Orange County Over 12 Months

- According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the population of people using homeless services over time is different than the population at a single point in time. Point-in-time estimates capture a higher share of chronically homeless individuals and families who use shelters or transitional shelters for long periods of time and underrepresent people whose homelessness is episodic.*
- To account for this variation and in keeping with the methodology that was employed during the last point in time count in 2005, the point-in-time primary source data was multiplied by the average length of shelter stays (3,649 unduplicated point-in-time count number multiplied by the average number of homeless incidents per homeless client (7.6) as reported by shelter providers). This methodology resulted in an estimated total of 27,732 homeless incidents (incidents of homelessness) over a 12-month period.
- HUD required the Point in Time Count for use in the 2007 SuperNOFA Continuum of Care application. HUD does not require the Point in Time count to replace other methodologies a community may utilize to accurately count all of the homeless in a region.

Secondary Source - Administrative Records

- 2006 caseload data was collected from shelter providers and indicates the total number of times homeless persons were sheltered and turned away from shelter over a twelve-month period. Also included is the total number of chronically homeless (street homeless) individuals that typically do not seek shelter. The total number of homeless incidents reflected in this data collection process was 35,065.

* The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, February 2007, "Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress"