Homelessness in the District of Columbia
The 2013 Point in Time Enumeration

On January 31, 2013, The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness (TCP) conducted the Point in Time (PIT) census and survey of homeless persons in the District of Columbia. This single-day survey of the homeless services Continuum of Care informs future program planning and gives TCP and our partners in District government an opportunity to identify gaps in the current portfolio of services and. TCP has completed PIT annually since 2001; the project is conducted in accordance with the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development’s reporting standards.

Homelessness in the District

- **6,865** homeless persons were counted during PIT 2013 including:
  - **512** unsheltered persons (i.e. persons “on the street”),
  - **4,010** persons in Emergency Shelters, and
  - **2,343** persons in Transitional Housing facilities

- The number of persons counted during PIT 2013 **decreased by 1.4 percent** from PIT 2012
  - The number of unaccompanied homeless individuals counted decreased by **1.9 percent** from 2012
  - The number of families decreased by **3.1 percent**, but due to the demand for shelter among larger families, the number of **persons in families** decreased by just **0.6 percent**

- This is the second time since 2001 that an overall, year-to-year decrease has been recorded during the District’s Point in Time count.
  - The number of unaccompanied homeless persons has decreased each year since 2010 though the number of families increased by 18 percent between 2011 and 2012

- The Community Partnership credits the decreases seen in the 2013 count to the CoC’s investment in Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing resources
  - The count of unaccompanied persons now in Permanent Supportive Housing has grown by **21 percent** in the last year, and the count of formerly homeless families in PSH has increased by **9 percent**
  
  - To date, **643 families** and **762 unaccompanied persons** are stably housed due to Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing programs funded by the District Dept. of Human Services, HUD and the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. These individuals and families were either homeless or would have become homeless but for this assistance.
Quick Facts from Point in Time

- **1,764** of the unaccompanied persons and **83** adults in families assessed met HUD’s definition of “chronic homelessness” – living with a disabling condition while being homeless for more than a year or four times in three years.

- Median age of unaccompanied homeless persons was **51 years** while median age among adults in homeless families was **28**.

- **Six** unaccompanied minor children were counted in shelter and transitional housing; this is down from 13 counted during PIT 2012 and 26 counted in 2011. **1,868** children in families were residing with their parents in family programs; this consistent with the 2012 count of 1,880.

- **There were no unsheltered minor children or unsheltered families.**

- **12 percent** of homeless adults surveyed reported having served in the United States Armed Forces.

- **45 percent** of unaccompanied homeless adults and **18 percent** of adults in families reported that they have no income.

- **23 percent** of homeless adults surveyed have histories of substance abuse or mental illness; **one in ten** reported living with both conditions. **Ten percent** of adult homeless persons reported a chronic health problem, and **18 percent** reported a physical disability.

- **15 percent** of homeless adults reported that had histories of domestic violence, with **three percent** stating that domestic violence had directly caused their homelessness.