

# ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN THE FOX CITIES

---

Carrie Poser

CoC Director, WI Balance of State CoC

October 2020

# Purpose



- The mission of the WI Balance of State CoC is to end homelessness by supporting local coalitions throughout Wisconsin.
  - The Balance of State is comprised of 21 coalitions or members. The Fox Cities coalition is a member.
- “Ending Homelessness” means every community will have a systematic response in place that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible, or if it can’t be prevented, **it is a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience.**
  - **Quickly identify** and engage people at risk of and experiencing homelessness.
  - Intervene to **prevent** the loss of housing and divert people from entering the homelessness services system.
  - When homelessness does occur, provide **immediate access** to shelter and crisis services, without barriers to entry, while permanent stable housing and appropriate supports are being secured, and quickly connect people to housing assistance and services—**tailored** to their unique needs and strengths—to help them achieve and maintain stable housing.

# Data Driven Decision Making



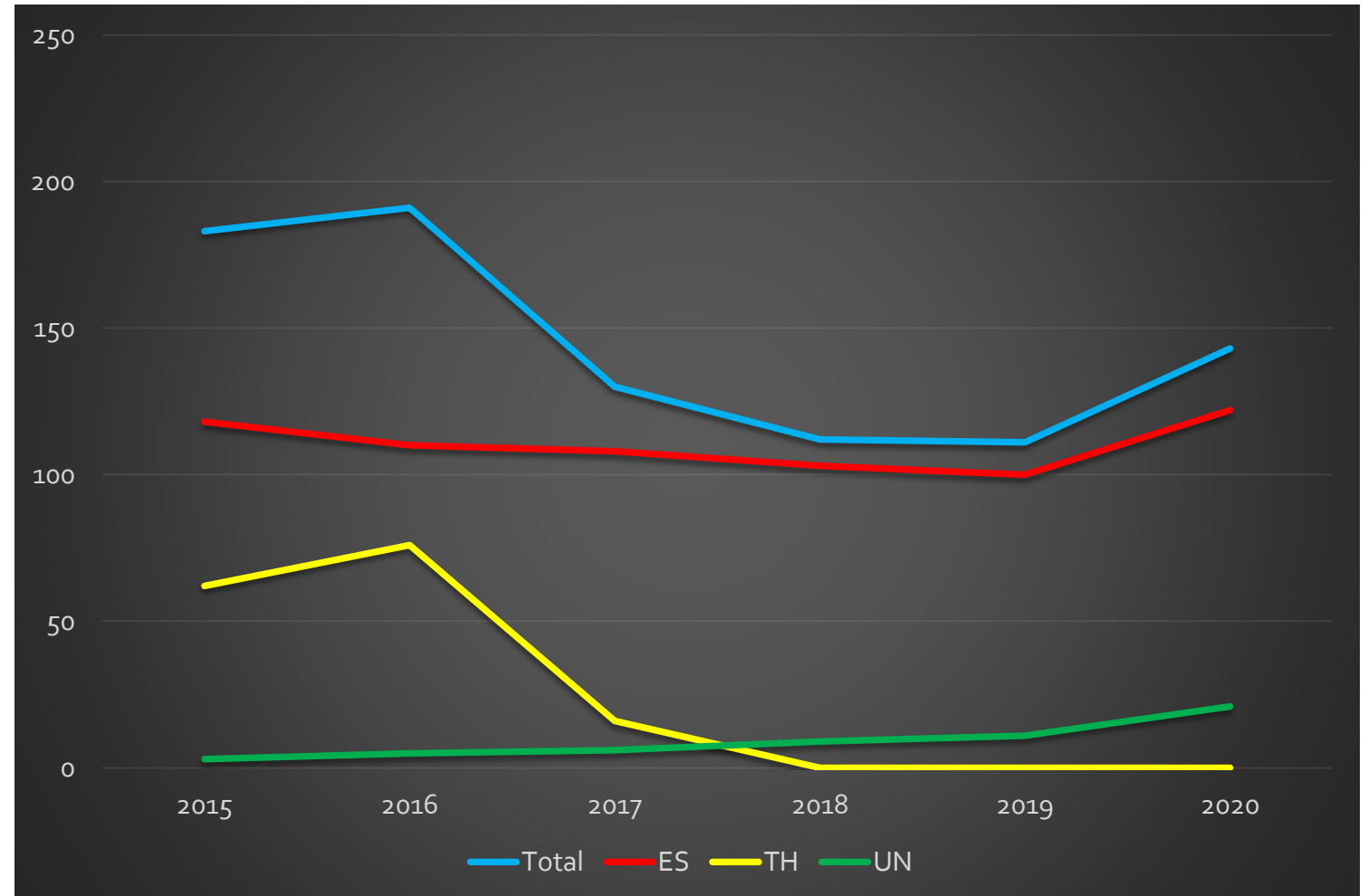
- **Point-in-Time**
  - Provides a snapshot of a community, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in January & July
  - Includes emergency shelter, motel voucher programs, transitional housing, and unsheltered people
  - Includes those projects that use the HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) database & those that do not including domestic violence providers
  - Only data point that combines unsheltered, providers that use the database and those that do not.
- **In Flow**
  - Shelter Demographics – who is entering the emergency shelter system (reported in HMIS)
  - Who is the typical client within the Fox Cities coalition?
- **Total Clients Served**
  - How many people were served by projects using HMIS in a 12 month period?
  - What percentage of people were in households with or without children, have a disability, chronic homeless, veterans, and fleeing domestic violence?
- **Coordinated Entry**
  - Provides real time data on who is identified as homeless & prioritized for assistance
  - No wrong door, access to anyone seeking housing assistance, does not require shelter first
- **System Performance**
  - Provides data on how a system is operating
  - Uses multiple angles to view the system

# Point-in-Time: Households without Children



	January 2019	January 2020
Total Households	111	143
Unsheltered (people)	13	21
Veterans (people)	14	8
Chronic (HH)	25	37
Youth (people)	10	13

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
81%	74%	90%	83%	86%



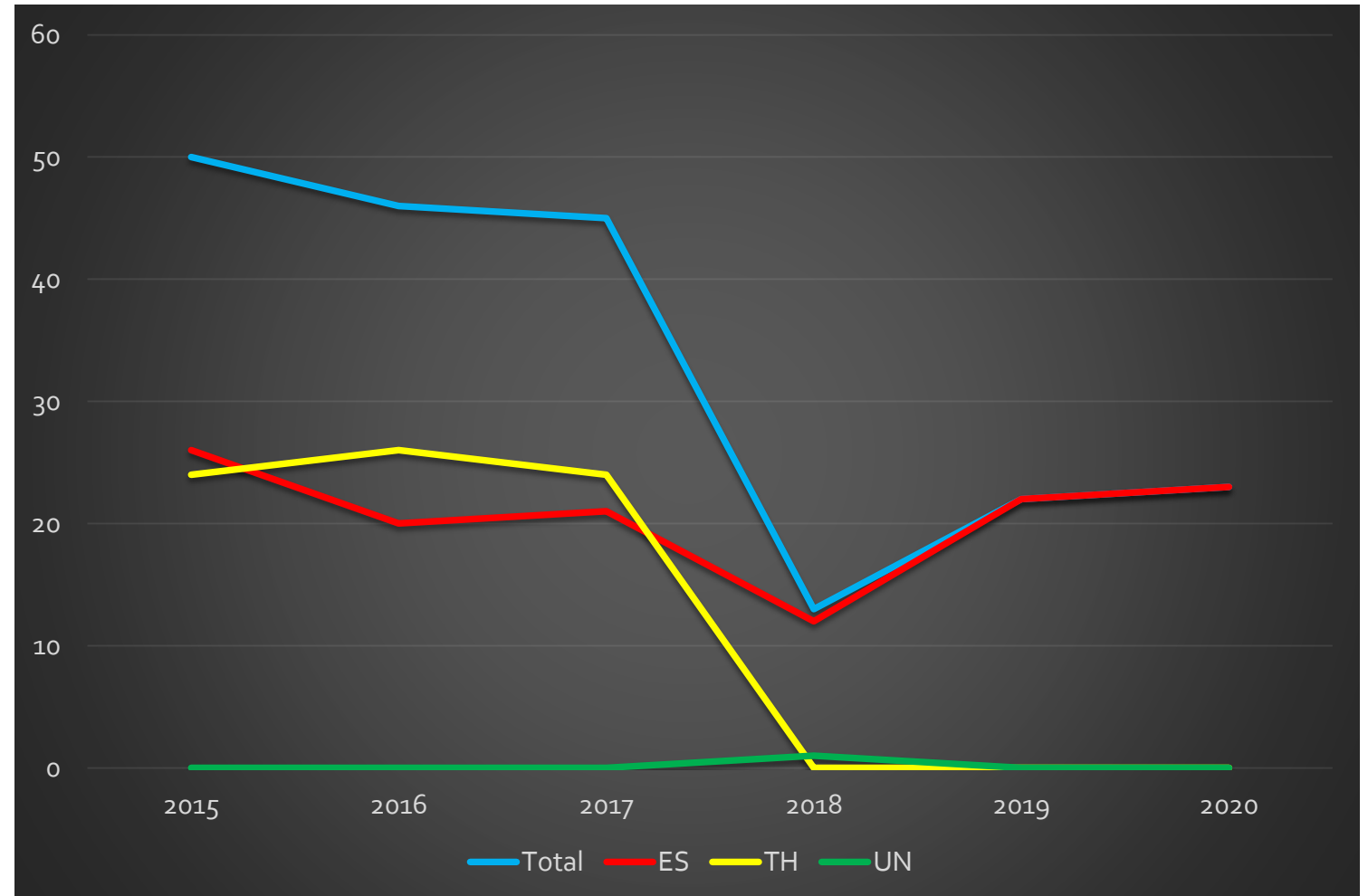
Definition: Household with no members under the age of 18

# Households with Children



	January 2019	January 2020
Total Households	22	23
Unsheltered (people)	0	0
Veterans (people)	0	0
Chronic (HH)	1	4
Youth (people)	5	5

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
19%	26%	10%	17%	14%



Definition: Household with at least 1 child under the age of 18 and 1 person over the age of 18

# In Flow: Shelter Demographics

HMIS data  
9/1/19 – 8/31/20



	Total Clients	Clients in HH without kids	Clients in HH with kids	Vets	Clients with disabilities	Under 18 yrs old	65 or older
<b>Fox Cities</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>17</b>
Brown	1,773	1,003	770	69	477	884	42
Waukesha	761	551	210	27	126	439	26
Winnebago	450	371	79	27	50	173	14
Dairyland (Eau Claire)	652	422	230	32	375	128	15

Compared to 18-19 data:

Decrease 13.8%  
Decrease 5.4%  
Decrease 21.3%  
Increase 18.11%  
Decrease 8.4%

## Typical client in Fox Cities coalition:

41 year old  
White  
non-Veteran  
Household without children

Male  
non-Hispanic/non-Latino  
**without a disability**

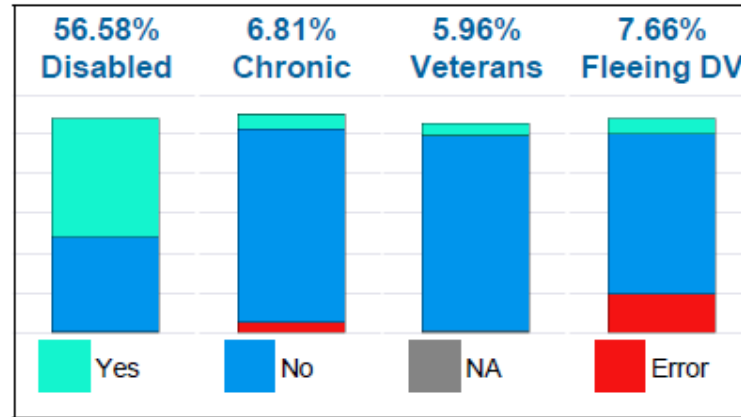
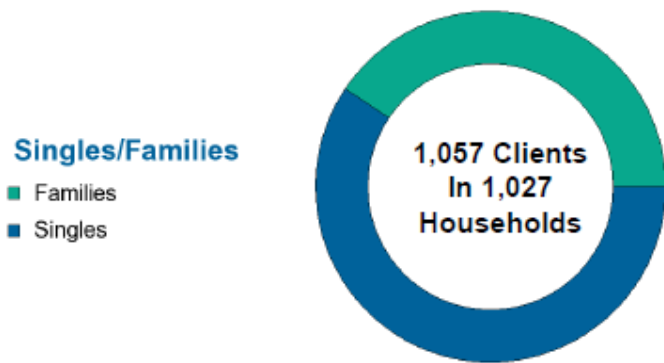
## Typical clients in other coalitions:

White, Male, non-Hispanic/non-Latino, Not in HH with Children, non-Veteran

- Brown = 38 years old, with disabilities
- Waukesha = 41 years old, with disabilities
- Winnebagoland = 44 years old, without disabilities
- Dairyland = 40 years old, with a disabilities

## Total Clients Served in HMIS (10/1/2018 – 9/30/2019)

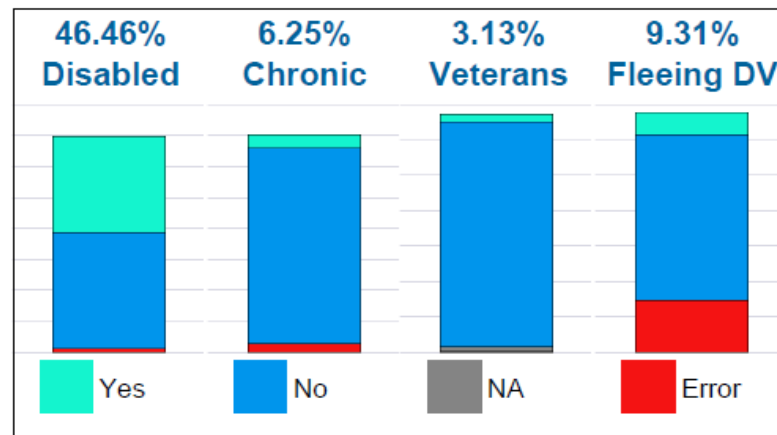
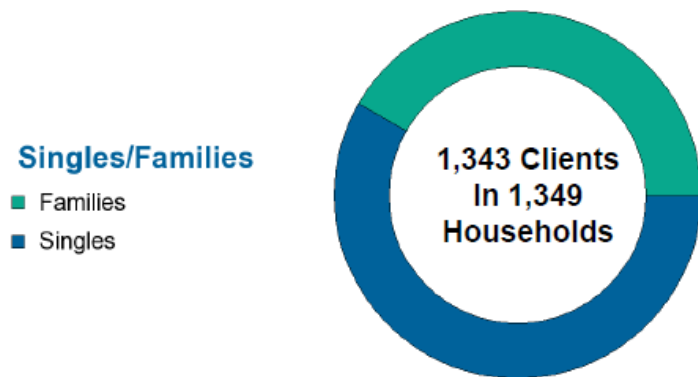
### BOS - Fox Cities CoC



31% increase in total HH served

Decrease % of Disabled  
Similar % of Chronic  
Decrease % of Veterans  
Increase % of Fleeing DV

## Total Clients Served in HMIS (9/1/2019 – 8/31/2020)



# Fox Cities Coordinated Entry



3/9/2020

10/4/2020

HH without Children	PL
Currently waiting	129 people
Chronic Homeless	23 people
Veterans	9 people
Youth 18-24	9 people
Average length of time on list	140 days
Longest length of time on list	661 days

HH without Children	PL
Currently waiting	106 people
Chronic Homeless	32 people
Veterans	2 people
Youth 18-24	5 people
Average length of time on list	108.5 days
Longest length of time on list	692 days

HH with Children	PL
Currently waiting	18 HH
Chronic Homeless	4 HH
Veterans	0 HH
Average length of time on list	95 days
Longest length of time on list	411 days

HH with Children	PL
Currently waiting	24 HH
Chronic Homeless	3 HH
Veterans	0 HH
Average length of time on list	68.4 days
Longest length of time on list	178 days

## Household Without Children

Accepted	165	14.82%
Accepted on Wait List	4	0.36%
Canceled/Declined For Unknown Reason	16	1.44%
Canceled/Declined Other Reasons	53	4.76%
On List	101	9.07%
Self-Resolved	510	45.82%
Unable to Contact Client	459	41.24%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1113</b>	<b>76.55%</b>

Outcome/Reason	Total Clients:	% of All Clients
----------------	----------------	------------------

## Household With Children

Accepted	124	34.25%
Canceled/Declined For Unknown Reason	4	1.10%
Canceled/Declined Other Reasons	30	8.29%
On List	24	6.63%
Self-Resolved	127	35.08%
Unable to Contact Client	74	20.44%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>24.90%</b>



# Fox Cities Coalition - Need

HMIS Prioritization List as of 10/4/2020



Household without Children	#	VISPDAT	Average Time on List	# Youth	# fleeing DV	# Veterans
Chronic with disability (more than 12 months homeless)	32	<4 = 2 4-8 = 15 9+ = 15	5.7 months	1	2	1
Non-Chronic with disability & more than 12 months homeless	4	<4 = 0 4-8 = 1 9+ = 3	4.7 months	0	0	0
Non-Chronic with disability & less than 12 months homeless <u>or</u>	29	<4 = 4 4-8 = 15 9+ = 27	2.0 months	1	2	1
Non-Chronic without a disability & more than 12 months homeless	11	<4 = 1 4-8 = 10 9+ = 0	4.2 months	0	0	0
Non-Chronic without a disability	23	<4 = 4 4-8 = 16 9+ = 3	2.1 months	3	2	0
<b>Total (includes 7 errors)</b>	<b>106</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>

## Since March 2020

Increase CH: 23 to 32

Decrease 2<sup>nd</sup> priority: 13 to 4

Decrease: 48 to 29

Decrease: 12 to 11

Decrease: 26 to 23

Decrease errors: 46 to 7

Decrease total: 122 to 106

Decrease youth: 8 to 5

Increase DV: 2 to 6

Decrease Vets: 8 to 2

- 90% of referrals came from 3 agencies
  - Pillars, TSA, ADVOCAP
- 10% of referrals came from other agencies

# Fox Cities Coalition - Need

HMIS Prioritization List as of 10/4/2020



Household with Children	#	VISPDAT	Average Time on List	# Youth	# fleeing DV	# Veterans
Chronic with disability <b>(more than 12 months homeless)</b>	3	<4 = 0 4-8 = 1 9+ = 2	2.7 months	0	1	0
Non-Chronic with disability & <b>more than 12 months homeless</b>	1	<4 = 0 4-8 = 0 9+ = 1	2.7 months	0	0	0
Non-Chronic with disability & less than 12 months homeless <u>or</u>	11	<4 = 1 4-8 = 4 9+ = 6	2.4 months	1	3	0
Non-Chronic without a disability & <b>more than 12 months homeless</b>	2	<4 = 0 4-8 = 0 9+ = 2	3 months	0	1	0
Non-Chronic without a disability	7	<4 = 1 4-8 = 4 9+ = 2	1.7 months	1	0	0
<b>Total (includes 0 errors)</b>	<b>24</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>

## Since March 2020

Decrease CH: 4 to 3

Increase 2<sup>nd</sup> priority: 0 to 1

Increase: 2 to 11

No Change: 2

Decrease: 8 to 7

Decrease errors: 19 to 0

Increase total: 16 to 24

Increase youth: 1 to 2

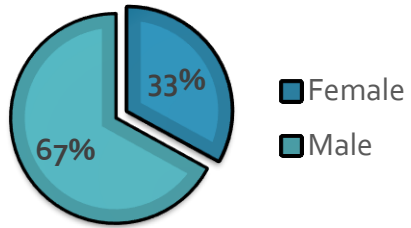
Increase DV: 3 to 5

No Change Vets: 0

- 62.5% of referrals came from 2 agencies
  - ADVOCAP , Pillars, and TSA
- 37.5% of referrals came from other agencies

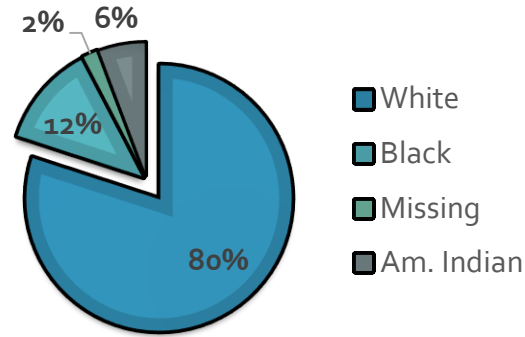
Households without Children

Gender



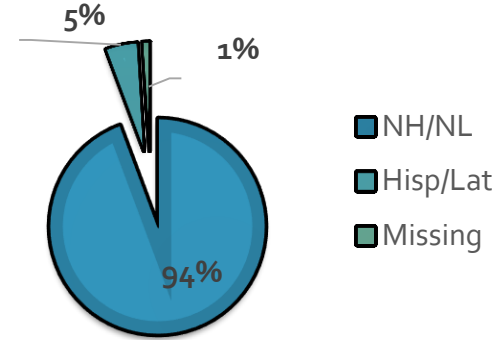
**Since March 2020**  
 Male: decrease 77 to 67%  
 Female: increase 23 to 33%

Race



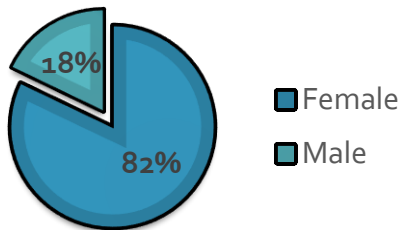
**Since March 2020**  
 White: increase 74 to 80%  
 Black: decrease 19 to 12%

Ethnicity



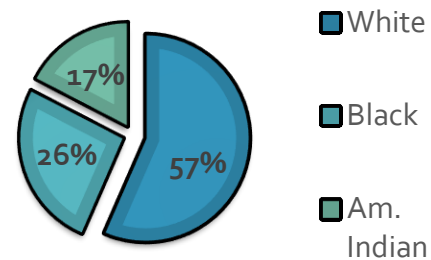
**Since March 2020**  
 No significant change

Gender



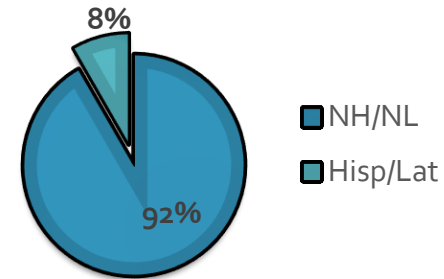
**Since March 2020**  
 Male: decrease 28 to 18%  
 Female: increase 72 to 82%

Race



**Since March 2020**  
 White: decrease 82 to 57%  
 Black: increase 18 to 26%

Ethnicity



**Since March 2020**  
 Non Hispanic: increase 89 to 92%  
 Hispanic: increase 0 to 8%

Households with Children

# What does all this mean?

## Realistic look at need in Fox Cities Coalition:

- Increase permanent support housing (PSH) units and/or enhance moving up strategies to free up units
  - HH w/out children ( $32 + 4 = 36$ )      HH w/children ( $3 + 1 = 4$ )      **Total = 40 units**
- Increase rapid re-housing units with intensive case management (similar to PSH level if needed)
  - HH w/out children ( $29 + 11 = 40$ )      HH w/children ( $11 + 2 = 13$ )      **Total = 53 units**
- Focus other rapid re-housing units on lower barrier (less than 12 mo of homeless, no disability)
  - HH w/out children (23)      HH w/children (7)      **Total = 30 units**

	Youth	Fleeing DV	Veterans
PSH level	$1 + 0 = 1$	$2 + 1 = 3$	$1 + 0 = 1$
RRH ICM	$1 + 1 = 2$	$2 + 4 = 6$	$1 + 0 = 1$
RRH	$3 + 1 = 4$	$2 + 0 = 2$	$0 + 0 = 0$

In March 2020, need:

PSH = 40

RRH ICM = 64

RRH = 34

# System Performance Measure #1: Length of Time Homeless



How long do people stay in emergency shelter?

Average days (start, exit, bed nights)	2019 - 2020	2018- 2019	2017- 2018
Emergency Shelter	74	64	56.14

## From the HEARTH Preamble

“...to establish a Federal goal of ensuring that individuals and families who become homeless return to permanent housing within 30 days.” HEARTH Act Purpose – Sec. 1002 (b)

Days in Shelter	2018-2019	2019-2020
a. 1 to 7 days	175	122
b. 8 to 14 days	54	61
c. 15 to 21 days	66	58
d. 22 to 30 days	81	65
e. 31 to 60 days	205	150
f. 61 to 90 days	116	98
g. 91 to 180 days	171	160
h. 181 to 365 days	55	70
i. 365+	9	7

## System Performance Measure #2: Reoccurrence (successful exit)



Coalition	Total Number of People who exited to permanent housing destination	Number Returning in Less than 6 months	Number Returning in 6-12 months	Number Returning in 2 years
Fox Cities	455	66 (14.5%)	29 (6.4%)	120 (26.4%)

2018 – 2019: 29.1%  
2017 – 2018: 32.6%

Housing Programs	Exits	Return in Less than 6 months	Return in 6-12 months	Number Returning in 2 years
Emergency Shelter	347	63 (18.2%)	21 (6.1%)	106 (30.1%)
Transitional Housing	59	0 (0%)	7 (11.9%)	7 (11.9%)
Permanent Housing (Permanent Supportive Housing & Rapid Re-housing)	44	2 (4.6%)	0 (0%)	4 (9.09%)

Coalition	Exits to PH with Return in 2 years
Brown	41.16%
Kenosha	15.84%
Waukesha	39.96%

### Fox Cities 17-19

ES = 32.93%  
TH = 23.08%  
All PH = 8.57%

## Reoccurrence (after any exit)



Coalition	All Exits and Return in 2 years	10/1/2015 – 9/30/2017	10/1/2017 – 9/30/2019
Fox Cities	55.3%	38.75%	53%

Housing Programs	All Exits	Return	% of Returns	10/1/2015 – 9/30/2017	10/1/2017 – 9/30/2019
Prevention	1767	215	12%	4%	8.4%
Rapid Rehousing	233	76	33%	14%	18.75%
Permanent Supportive Housing	57	22	39%	29%	23%
Emergency Shelter	5281	3836	73%	67%	67.9%
Other (diversion, CM, PATH, SOAR, VORP)	1180	716	61%	53%	43%
Transitional Housing	101	39	39%	24.5%	n/a

# Reoccurrence: Experiencing Homelessness Again within 2 years



## Successful Exit

- 75% from all projects (total) do not reoccur
- 70% from emergency shelter do not reoccur
- 91% from permanent housing projects do not reoccur

Successful exits means that the person exited to a permanent housing destination. This could be a family or friend, own apartment, or housing subsidy.

## All Exits

- 45% from all projects (total) do not reoccur
- 27% from emergency shelter do not reoccur
- 67% from rapid rehousing do not reoccur
- 61% from permanent supportive housing do not reoccur



# System Performance Measure #1: First Time Homeless



Entering Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing without prior enrollment in HMIS database in the 2 years prior.

2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018
71%	66%	62%

How does outreach need to change when 71% of the people accessing services are new?

2018-2019

Brown	Kenosha	Waukesha
72.7%	84%	71.4%

Said another way, 29% of the people entering shelter have been homeless before (recently). 71% have not.

2019 -2020

Brown	Kenosha	Waukesha
65.9%	82%	65.8%

## System Performance Measure #7: Exits to Successful Destinations



	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018
Emergency Shelter Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing	30.16%	29.5%	38.2%
Permanent Supportive Housing	88.64%	97.6%	90.9%

2018-2019	Brown	Kenosha	Waukesha
Emergency Shelter Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing	51.6%	47.2%	29%
Permanent Supportive Housing	94.9%	100%	100%

2019-2020	Brown	Kenosha	Waukesha
Emergency Shelter Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing	39.19%	47.8%	27.74%
Permanent Supportive Housing	98.24%	96.43%	90.32%

# Final Thoughts



- Homelessness is a complex problem.
- The response to homelessness is complicated.
- But the solution or cure is simple.

## HOUSING

Carrie Poser  
CoC Director  
Wisconsin Balance of State CoC  
[carrie.poser@wibos.org](mailto:carrie.poser@wibos.org)

PO Box 272, Eau Claire, WI 54702  
Phone: 715-598-3301

Website: [www.wiboscoc.org](http://www.wiboscoc.org)