CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT
2009-2016
The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (HAB), formerly known as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Coalition for Housing, is a community-based board appointed to implement the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Ten Year Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness. Members are appointed by the Mayor, City Council, and the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners. HAB works with service providers and community stakeholders to determine comprehensive, data-driven strategies to prevent and end homelessness. HAB looks to national best practices and local research to make its recommendations to community stakeholders and providers and advocates and advises on a strategic level to reduce homelessness and increase affordable housing. In addition, HAB is responsible for the governance of the Continuum of Care in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, which carries out all activities as specified in 24 CFR part 578.5(b) of the Federal Register of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The UNC Charlotte Urban Institute is a nonpartisan, applied research and community outreach center at UNC Charlotte. Founded in 1969, it provides services including technical assistance and training in operations and data management, public opinion surveys, and research and analysis around economic, environmental, and social issues affecting the Charlotte region.

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Mecklenburg County Community Support Services
Point-in-Time Count Planning Committee
Point-in-Time Count Volunteers
About

The 2016 Housing Instability & Homelessness Report Series is a collection of local reports designed to better equip our community to make data-informed decisions around housing instability and homelessness. Utilizing local data and research, these reports are designed to provide informative and actionable research to providers, funders, public officials and the media as well as the general population who might have an interest in this work.

In 2014, the Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg outlined four key reporting areas that, together, would comprise an annual series of reports for community stakeholders. The four areas include:

1. **Point-in-Time Count**
   An annual snapshot of the population experiencing homelessness in Mecklenburg County. This local report is similar to the national report on Point-in-Time Count numbers, and provides descriptive information about both the sheltered and unsheltered population experiencing homelessness on one night in January.

2. **Cumulative Count**
   An annual count of the population experiencing sheltered homelessness over twelve months. Like the Point-in-Time Count Report, this local report is similar to the national report on annual counts of sheltered homelessness, providing descriptive information about the population experiencing sheltered homelessness throughout the year. The Point-in-Time Count and Cumulative Count Reports are complements, and together help paint a picture of homelessness and trends in our community.

3. **Housing Instability**
   An annual report focusing on the characteristics and impact of housing instability in the community. During the 2016 reporting cycle, this report will feature innovative affordable housing strategies that other communities have implemented.

4. **Spotlight**
   An annual focus on a trend or specific population within housing instability and homelessness. During the 2016 reporting cycle, this report will focus on households with adults and children experiencing homelessness within Mecklenburg County.

The 2016 reporting cycle is completed by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Urban Institute. Mecklenburg County Community Support Services provided funding for the report series. The reports can be viewed at [http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/HomelessServices/reports/Pages/2016-Reports.aspx](http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/HomelessServices/reports/Pages/2016-Reports.aspx)
Key Definitions

These definitions are based on guidelines from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Child Only Households**
Households where all members are under the age of 18.

**Chronically Homeless***
Individual or head of household with a disability who lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and who has either been continuously homeless for at least 12 months or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years where the combined occasions total at least 12 months. Occasions are separated by a break of at least seven nights. Stays in institutions of fewer than 90 days do not constitute a break.

**Continuum of Care (CoC)**
Local planning body responsible for coordinating the full range of homelessness services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or even an entire state.

**Emergency / Seasonal Housing (ES)**
A facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless people.

**Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**
A software application designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless people. Each CoC maintains its own HMIS, which can be tailored to meet local needs, but must also conform to HUD’s HMIS Data and Technical Standards.

**Households with Adults and Children**
People who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child under the age of 18.

**Households with Adults Only**
Households with single adults and adult couples unaccompanied by children under the age of 18.

**Housing Inventory Count (HIC)**
A report on the capacity to house persons who are homeless.

**Parenting Youth**
Youth (under age 25) who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent.

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**
Designed to provide housing and supportive services on a long-term basis to formerly homeless people. This is considered permanent housing.

**Point-in-Time Count (PIT)**
An unduplicated one-night estimate of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations.

**Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**
A program that provides financial assistance and services to help those experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. This is considered permanent housing.

**Transitional Housing (TH)**
A program that provides temporary housing and supportive services for up to 24 months with the intent for the person to move towards permanent housing.

**Sheltered Homeless People**
People who are living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals.)

**Unaccompanied Youth**
People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and who are between the ages of 18 and 24.

**Unsheltered Homeless People**
People with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

**Veteran**
Someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

* This definition is new in 2016 and reflects revisions made by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
Introduction

The Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count) is federally mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for all communities receiving federal funds through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants Program. The PIT Count takes an annual unduplicated census of people experiencing homelessness—sheltered or unsheltered—on a given night in January and helps communities better advocate for additional federal, state, and local resources to provide services for the homeless population.

There are two components to the PIT Count using HUD’s definition of homeless: a sheltered count of how many people are in shelters (transitional housing, emergency and seasonal shelter, and safe havens) and an unsheltered count of how many people are living in places unfit for human habitation (e.g. streets, camps, abandoned buildings).

This report highlights the findings from the 2016 Charlotte-Mecklenburg PIT Count and provides a longitudinal examination of PIT data from 2009 to 2016. To provide context to the changes seen in the PIT data, this report includes a section on national and local changes happening around homelessness funding, policies, and programs.

The findings provided in this report are estimates of how many people are homeless on a given night in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, which includes the City of Charlotte. There are several limitations to the 2016 PIT Count, as well as the PIT Count overall. Given its limitations, the PIT Count should not be viewed as an exact number, but rather a useful tool that can be used to estimate characteristics of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg homeless population and gauge changes in the homeless population over time (see “Limitations” section for more details).

The PIT Count in Mecklenburg County identified 1,818 people experiencing homelessness on the night of Wednesday, January 27, 2016. This was a 36% decrease from 2010 and a 9% decrease from 2015.
Key Findings

On a single night in January 2016 in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS</td>
<td>1,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with Adults Only</td>
<td>1,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with Adults &amp; Children</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with Only Children</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied Youth Households</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parenting Youth</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically Homeless</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Unsheltered (10%)**: 187
- **Transitional Housing (27%)**: 482
- **Emergency Shelter (63%)**: 1,149

- 23% Children
- 78% Black
- 3% Latino
- 44% Female
# Trends

- ▲ = Increase  ▼ = Decrease

## PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ON A GIVEN NIGHT
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG, 2016

### OVERALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010 - 2016</th>
<th>2015 - 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness rate per 1,000 residents</td>
<td>▼ 1.4  Decreased from 3.1 to 1.7</td>
<td>▼ 0.2  Decreased from 1.9 to 1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total homeless people</td>
<td>▼ 1,006 (36%)  Decreased from 2,824 to 1,818</td>
<td>▼ 183 (9%)  Decreased from 2,001 to 1,818</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HOUSEHOLD TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010 - 2016</th>
<th>2015 - 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People in households with adults and children</td>
<td>▼ 23 (3%)  Decreased from 673 to 650</td>
<td>▼ 108 (14%)  Decreased from 758 to 650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with adults only</td>
<td>▼ 991 (46%)  Decreased from 2,151 to 1,160</td>
<td>▼ 71 (6%)  Decreased from 1,231 to 1,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in households with only children</td>
<td>▼ 9 (53%)  Decreased from 17 to 8</td>
<td>▼ 4 (33%)  Decreased from 12 to 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless veterans</td>
<td>▼ 19 (11%)  Decreased from 168 to 149</td>
<td>▼ 36 (19%)  Decreased from 185 to 149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically homeless</td>
<td>▼ 137 (45%)  Decreased from 307 to 170</td>
<td>▼ 110 (39%)  Decreased from 280 to 170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied Youth (under 25)</td>
<td>No data available in 2010.</td>
<td>▼ 7 (8%)  Decreased slightly from 85 to 78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SHELTER TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010 - 2016</th>
<th>2015 - 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered people</td>
<td>▼ 54 (75%)  Decreased from 751 to 187</td>
<td>▲ 7 (4%)  Increased slightly from 180 to 187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in emergency &amp; seasonal shelter</td>
<td>▲ 187 (19%)  Increased from 962 to 1,149</td>
<td>▼ 34 (3%)  Decreased from 1,183 to 1,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in transitional housing</td>
<td>▼ 629 (57%)  Decreased from 1,111 to 482</td>
<td>▼ 156 (24%)  Decreased from 638 to 482</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition to Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s “Ten-Year Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness,” community efforts are also guided by the four goals outlined in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's June 2010 plan, “Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.” Below is Charlotte-Mecklenburg's progress on each of the four goals based on the January 2016 PIT Count.

### Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **End Chronic Homelessness by 2017**                                 | - On a night in January 2016, 170 people were identified as chronically homeless, 60 (35%) of which were unsheltered.  
- The number of people experiencing chronic homelessness has decreased by 45% (137 people) since 2010. |
- The number of people in homeless households with adults and children decreased 3% (23 people) since 2010. |
| **Prevent and End Veteran Homelessness by 2015**                     | - On a night in January 2016, 149 homeless veterans were identified, 25 (17%) of which were unsheltered.  
- The number of homeless veterans has decreased 11% (19 people) since 2010. |
| **Set a Path to Ending All Types of Homelessness**                  | - On a night in January 2016, 1,818 people experienced homelessness, with 1,631 (90%) sleeping in a shelter.  
- Since 2010, homelessness decreased by 36% (1,006 people). The decrease is largely due to a decrease of 991 people in households with adults only. |

*The original goal for ending chronic homelessness was 2016. In February 2015, the Obama Administration extended this goal to 2017.*

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The PIT Count uses the HUD definition of homelessness in Federal regulation 24 CFR §578.3 to estimate the number of people “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground” or residing in a shelter (emergency/seasonal shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing). While the federal government determines the PIT reporting requirements for both the unsheltered and sheltered counts, the methodology for conducting the unsheltered count is up to each individual community to develop and implement.
UNSHELTERED COUNT

The unsheltered portion of the PIT Count attempts to estimate the number of persons living in places unfit for human habitation on the night of Wednesday, January 27, 2016.

The 2016 PIT Count occurred with the assistance of over 150 volunteers on 27 survey and data entry teams. Volunteers went out on Wednesday night to identify people sleeping in places unfit for human habitation and early Thursday morning to ask people where they had slept the night before. In an attempt to strengthen the identification of unaccompanied children and youth households, two agencies that specifically work with unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness, were involved in planning for the PIT Count.

Volunteers received training for the unsheltered count through either an in-person training or through materials sent electronically. Survey locations included uptown streets, homeless camps, greenways, soup kitchens, the library, and hospital waiting rooms.

Data collection

For the unsheltered count data in 2016, volunteers collected data on a printed form. Once collected, the data were entered into a specially-designed electronic form that could be exported into Excel. If a person was homeless but unwilling to answer all the questions for the PIT Count, volunteers were allowed to answer the following items through observation: age, gender, race, and ethnicity. For the first time, these data were cross-referenced with HMIS data to improve accuracy and prevent duplicate entries for the sheltered and unsheltered count.

SHELTERED COUNT

The sheltered count provides census data on all households with adults and children, households with adults only, and child only households sleeping in “a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals) on the night designated for the count.”

The sheltered count excludes persons who are precariously housed, such as staying with family or friends, living in a motel or hotel paid for without a voucher, living in permanent housing units, receiving temporary assistance while living in conventional housing, or staying at a hospital, residential treatment facility, foster care, or detention facility.

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**Data collection**
For the sheltered count data in 2016, all agencies in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) were required to submit their census data for the PIT Count.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg HMIS database was used to compile the sheltered count data for CoC agencies that use HMIS. Reports pulled from HMIS were checked for data quality issues and to verify that data were accurate. For CoC agencies that do not use HMIS and domestic violence agencies, forms were provided for data entry. Once the forms were collected, the data in the forms were reviewed for completeness and accuracy before being entered into HMIS as project entries. In total, 15 agencies, representing 18 programs, participated in the sheltered count.

**CHANGES IN DATA AND METHODOLOGY**
Data requirements and definitions are established by HUD and may change from year to year as the HUD PIT Count data collection requirements expand and strengthen, and as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community makes enhancements to the data collection methodology. See Table 1 for a summary of changes made to the PIT Count data and methodology from 2009 to 2016. The following changes to data collection occurred in 2016:

- **HMIS:** In 2016 the Charlotte-Mecklenburg HMIS data were used for the first time to assist in cross-referencing unsheltered count data with sheltered count data to ensure there were no duplicate entries.

- **Chronically homeless:** HUD revised the definition for chronically homeless in 2016. The revised definition adds language specifying that for those people who have 4 episodes of homelessness in 3 years, those 4 episodes have to total at least 12 months in order to be considered chronically homeless. For the PIT Count, the revised definition for chronically homeless is an individual or head of household with a disability who lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and who has either been continuously homeless for at least 12 months or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years where the combined occasions total at least 12 months. Occasions are separated by a break of at least seven nights. Stays in institutions of fewer than 90 days do not constitute a break.³

- **Gender:** After expanding the transgender category to specify transgender male to female (M-F) or female to male (F-M) in 2015, in 2016 HUD decided to return to the gender categories included in the 2014 count and collapse the option to specify transgender M-F or F-M into one “transgender” reporting category. This change was made based on feedback HUD received.⁴

- **Additional survey questions added:** Based on feedback from the community, the decision was made by the PIT Count Planning Committee, to collect additional information on people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, specifically related to: whether a person lived anywhere besides Charlotte-Mecklenburg during the last 2 years, where a person lived prior to Charlotte-Mecklenburg, why they came to Charlotte-Mecklenburg, and why they were not sleeping at the shelter.

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### TABLE 1. CHANGES IN PIT METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION FROM 2011-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>METHODOLOGY</th>
<th>DATA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior to 2014, the unsheltered count used estimates of homeless persons living in places unfit for human habitation that were provided by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN</strong></td>
<td>Unaccompanied children now considered a separate household type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OUTREACH METHOD</strong></td>
<td>Beginning in 2014, volunteer outreach groups were used for the unsheltered count instead of using information provided by the police force. The increased effort to locate and count unsheltered individuals may partially account for the rise in unsheltered homelessness since 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHRONICALLY HOMELESS</strong></td>
<td>HUD strengthened chronically homeless data reporting requirements in HMIS. This may have contributed to an increase in the number of homeless people identified as chronically homeless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GENDER</strong></td>
<td>Transgender was added as a gender option.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RACE / ETHNICITY</strong></td>
<td>Race and ethnicity now collected for parenting and unaccompanied youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VETERANS</strong></td>
<td>Chronically homeless status of veterans now reported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISCELLANEOUS</strong></td>
<td>Additional details collected on unaccompanied youth, parenting youth, veterans, and the chronically homeless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HMIS</strong></td>
<td>For the first time, unsheltered count data were checked against HMIS to ensure no individuals were counted more than once. Chronically homeless status was also checked against Coordinated Assessment data in HMIS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHRONICALLY HOMELESS</strong></td>
<td>HUD modifies the definition of “chronically homeless” (see Key Definitions), and requires chronically homeless status of heads of households that are under 18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GENDER</strong></td>
<td>Option to select transgender male to female or transgender female to male was removed based on feedback received by HUD.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIMITATIONS
There are several limitations to the 2016 PIT Count, as well as the PIT Count overall. Given its limitations, the 2016 PIT Count should not be viewed as an exact number, but rather an estimate that can be used to examine characteristics of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg homeless population and trends over time. Limitations include:

Changes in categorization of housing types. Changes at the agency level for how housing units are categorized may have an impact on findings. For example, units classified as transitional housing units may be reclassified as rapid re-housing, which would result in a decrease in the number of people counted in transitional housing for the PIT Count.

Changes in definitions. HUD may occasionally change the definition of certain elements. These changes in definition may expand or reduce the number of people who get included in the count.

Homeless definition. The HUD definition of homelessness may be narrower or different from other definitions of homelessness, and caution should be used in making direct comparisons with estimates of homelessness using different definitions of homelessness. For example, the HUD definition does not include those who are unstably housed in hotels or living doubled up with relatives or friends, however those people would be considered homeless under the Federal McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness.

Methodology changes. Because of the methodological changes beginning in the 2014 PIT Count, caution should be used in interpreting changes over time. Beginning in 2014, volunteer outreach groups were used for the unsheltered count instead of solely using information provided by the police force. The increased effort to locate and count unsheltered individuals may partially account for the rise in unsheltered homelessness since 2013.

Self-reported data. Self-reported data should not be viewed as an exact number. Individuals may choose whether or not to answer these highly personal questions or to do so truthfully. Therefore, the numbers provided in this report are only reflective of those who chose to answer these questions. Due to the potential inaccuracies of self-reported data, the findings provided in this report regarding self-reported data should be used with caution.

Unaccompanied children and youth. Unaccompanied children and youth are typically undercounted because they tend to not reside in the same areas as older adults experiencing homelessness, not self-identify as homeless, stay on friends’ couches, or try to blend in.

Undercount. The PIT Count is a useful tool in understanding homelessness at a point in time and overall trends, but does not capture all the people who:

- Experience periods of homelessness over the course of a year
- Are unsheltered but not visible on the day of the count
- Fall under a broader definition of homelessness (ex. living in motels, staying with family/friends, in jail or in a treatment facility)
National Context

In the last seven years, federal policy governing the national response to homelessness shifted from a focus on programs that manage the problem of homelessness to local systems that prevent and end the problem of homelessness.

### Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition (HEARTH) Act of 2009

The HEARTH Act reauthorized McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Programs that provide funding to states and local communities to address homelessness. The Act requires local Continuums of Care to incorporate a number of changes that will impact local service delivery, including:

- **System responses instead of program responses to homelessness**
  As a system, communities that receive federal funding will have to coordinate their response to homelessness and use system and program level data to inform decision-making.

- **Measuring outcomes instead of reporting activities**
  Communities that receive federal funding will be expected to show progress on key outcomes including the reduction in overall homelessness, the reduction of people who return to homelessness, increased access to housing and services through outreach, and job and income growth.

- **Permanent housing instead of shelter**
  Funding decisions will be weighted toward housing solutions, specifically Permanent Supportive Housing opportunities for chronically homeless households and rapid re-housing opportunities for those who are not chronically homeless.

### Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness

In 2010, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness launched the Federal Strategic Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness “as a roadmap for joint action” by 19 member agencies and state and local partners. The plan established the following goals:

- Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in five years.\(^5\)
- Prevent and end homelessness among veterans in five years.
- Prevent and end family homelessness in 10 years.
- Set a path toward ending all types of homelessness.

The plan also established strategies for meeting its goals, including increased leadership, collaboration, and civic engagement; increased access to and provision of stable and affordable housing; expanding opportunities for sustainable employment; improving health by linking health care with homeless assistance and housing programs; and, transforming homeless service systems into crisis response systems that prevent homelessness and return people quickly to stable housing.

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\(^5\) The original goal for ending chronic homelessness was 2016. In February 2015, the Obama Administration extended this goal to 2017.
Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness by 2015

In 2014, First Lady Michelle Obama and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary announced the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. This initiative challenged communities to end homelessness among their veteran population by the end of 2015. In October 2015, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), HUD and the Department of Veterans Affairs adopted a vision of what it means to end all homelessness and released the Federal Criteria and Benchmarks Review Tool and the Master List Template and Benchmark Generation tool for ending homelessness among veterans. The tools have been updated for consistency with revised Federal partner specifications. To date, 22 communities and 2 states have achieved this goal. Charlotte-Mecklenburg accepted this challenge. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing our Heroes is the local expression of this national initiative. See “Local Context” section for additional details.

100,000 Homes and Zero:2016 Campaigns

Community Solutions led two national campaigns to organize communities around housing the chronically homeless. The “100,000 Homes Campaign” was an effort to permanently house 100,000 of the country’s most vulnerable homeless individuals by July 2014. Communities across the nation, including Charlotte-Mecklenburg, set the goal to house 100 homeless individuals in 100 days as part of this initiative. The term “housed” in this case refers to an individual placed in permanent housing or permanently living with family or friends. In 2014, as a follow up to the 100,000 Homes Campaign, the Zero:2016 campaign began, with the goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015 and chronic homelessness by 2016. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is the local expression of the Zero:2016 national initiative to end chronic homelessness. See “Local Context” section for additional details.
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community has been active in its efforts to end and prevent homelessness. From January 2009 to January 2016, there were a number of initiatives, developments, and programs aimed at addressing homelessness in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community. This historical context and combination of current strategies and initiatives help provide context for the PIT Count findings. Table 2 provides an overview of the initiatives and strategies to end and prevent homelessness that were in place in 2015. This list is intended to provide an overview of system-wide initiatives, however there are many agency-specific initiatives that contribute to this work as well. Table 3 provides a historical overview of community efforts from 2009 to 2015. Additional details can be found in the Appendix.

**TABLE 2. OVERVIEW OF 2015-2016 INITIATIVES AND STRATEGIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS</th>
<th>INITIATIVES</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End chronic homelessness by 2017</td>
<td>Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg</td>
<td>• Community coordination and collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent and end family, youth, and child homelessness by 2020</td>
<td>A Way Home Housing Endowment</td>
<td>• Coordinated assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent and end veteran homelessness by 2015</td>
<td>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Our Heroes</td>
<td>• Engagement and advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Low barrier rapid-rehousing initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Permanent Supportive Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Data, research, and best practice informed decision making</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2015-2016 COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

**A Way Home Housing Endowment**

In 2013, the City of Charlotte and Foundation For The Carolinas established the A Way Home housing endowment, which will be fully funded in 2018. This $20 million endowment, funded through public and private dollars, will be aimed at providing housing and rental assistance for families at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness, with veteran households receiving priority. In 2014, a group of local faith leaders raised operational funds, along with grant dollars from the Foundation For The Carolinas, to begin a pilot program until the endowment is fully funded. As of January 2016, four agencies receive funds through the pilot program: Charlotte Family Housing, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Salvation Army, and Renaissance West Community Initiative. In addition, Mecklenburg County Community Support Services partnered with A Way Home by providing grants to Charlotte Family Housing and Salvation Army that cover the cost of supportive services for families receiving housing subsidies through A Way Home.
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Our Heroes

On Veterans Day 2014, the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and the W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center accepted the Mayors Challenge with a goal of housing 204 Veterans by the end of 2015. As part of this initiative, best practices adopted in Charlotte-Mecklenburg include:

- Creating a by-name registry of homeless veterans in our community
- Accelerating and streamlining existing operational processes
- Agency coordination and outreach
- Active engagement of landlords
- Expediting determination of veteran status

As of January 2016, Charlotte-Mecklenburg surpassed the goal of housing 204 veterans and in total housed 385 veterans. Charlotte-Mecklenburg continues to work with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to meet the federal criteria of ending veteran homelessness.

Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg, launched in January 2015, is a collaboration between business, city, county and non-profit agencies to end chronic homelessness by 2016, focusing on the Housing First model. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is the local expression of the Zero:2016 national initiative.

As part of this effort, a by-name registry of the chronically homeless coincided with the PIT Count in January 2015. This registry is used to help target outreach efforts and interventions, as well as prioritize housing placements to the most vulnerable. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is also working to expand outreach efforts, create 250 permanent supportive housing units, and develop additional leadership and staff support for the Housing First model. As of December 2015, Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg had housed 214 chronically homeless individuals.

2015-2016 COMMUNITY STRATEGIES

Coordinated Assessment

Coordinated Assessment seeks to better connect households currently experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness with the services that are best able to serve them. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care launched Coordinated Assessment in 2014, with funding from Wells Fargo through the United Way of Central Carolinas and funding from Mecklenburg County Community Support Services for five positions. The National Alliance to End Homelessness and the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness provided assistance in developing and implementing the new system. Social workers stationed at three sites administer a standardized assessment that helps identify the services that can best address the housing needs of households experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness within 72 hours.

Engagement and Advocacy

The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (HAB) and the Homeless Services Network (HSN), a network of agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness, have developed a collaborative working relationship to support community engagement and advocacy on affordable housing and homelessness issues and research and evaluation of the community’s homelessness and affordable housing efforts.

Low Barrier Rapid Re-Housing Initiatives

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community is shifting to funding rapid re-housing initiatives with low barriers to program entry. These initiatives help households with adults and children successfully exit homelessness and maintain permanent housing by integrating employment assistance, case management and housing services. Community Link, Men’s Shelter of Charlotte and the Salvation Army of Greater Charlotte’s Center of Hope are currently engaged in low-barrier rapid re-housing programs.
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
The community is using a system-wide Housing First model, which creates permanent supportive housing for a household that is experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and has a condition of disability such as mental illness, substance abuse, chronic health issues or other conditions that create multiple and serious ongoing barriers to housing stability. PSH units are provided through community agencies and scattered-site programs located throughout the community.

Data, Research, and Best Practice Informed Decision-Making

- **Mecklenburg County hires two new positions committed to improving data and research**
  The Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners approved two management analyst positions within Mecklenburg County Community Support Services to serve the roles of an HMIS System Administrator (data in) and a Housing and Homelessness Research Coordinator (data out). The City of Charlotte assisted with the initial funding.
  
The HMIS Administrator is responsible for overseeing the data entry process for Charlotte-Mecklenburg's HMIS system. This includes providing regular training to agencies to ensure accurate and consistent data entry. It also includes monitoring data quality and completeness and creating reports to provide timely, relevant and quality data on the community's progress to end and prevent homelessness.
  
The Housing and Homelessness Research Coordinator's primary role is to help the community engage with data and research around housing instability and homelessness in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. On an agency level, this includes providing technical assistance in order to strengthen agency outcome measurement and evaluation work and connect data to decision-making. On a system level, this includes connecting actionable data and research with all community stakeholders.

- **Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s Research and Evaluation Committee**
  The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's Research and Evaluation committee coordinates and advocates on issues concerning data collection, research on homelessness and housing instability, and system level outcomes to measure progress.

- **Housing Data Consortium**
  In 2013, the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute received funding from Foundation For The Carolinas through a Catalyst Grant to create a Homeless and Housing Data Consortium within the Institute for Social Capital (ISC). ISC houses Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data along with other key data from agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

- **Research and Evaluation efforts**
  The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community is working to strengthen research and evaluation efforts to better understand homelessness and housing instability.
TABLE 3. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT AND HISTORICAL EFFORTS (SEE APPENDIX FOR DETAILS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td><strong>HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG AND THE TEN-YEAR PLAN TO END AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Charlotte City Council and Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners create the Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board (formerly known as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Coalition for Housing) to oversee the ten-year plan to end and prevent homelessness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td><strong>A WAY HOME HOUSING ENDOWMENT</strong>&lt;br&gt;The City of Charlotte and Foundation For The Carolinas establish A Way Home housing endowment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td><strong>ACCELERATION TO HOUSING 100 IN 100 DAYS INITIATIVE</strong>&lt;br&gt;Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days initiative begins. From May 2013 to May 2014, 442 chronically homeless persons are housed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td><strong>CHARLOTTE HOUSING AUTHORITY HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITING LIST</strong>&lt;br&gt;Charlotte Housing Authority’s Housing Choice Voucher waiting list opens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td><strong>CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG HOUSING OUR HEROES</strong>&lt;br&gt;Charlotte-Mecklenburg accepts the Mayors Challenge with a goal of housing 204 Veterans by the end of 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td><strong>COORDINATED ASSESSMENT</strong>&lt;br&gt;Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care launches Coordinated Assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td><strong>HOUSING TRUST FUND</strong>&lt;br&gt;Charlotte voters approve a $15 million bond for the Housing Trust Fund.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td><strong>MECKLENBURG COUNTY HOUSING STABILITY PARTNERSHIP</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mecklenburg County Housing Stability Partnership forms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td><strong>MECKLENBURG COUNTY HIRES TWO NEW POSITIONS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mecklenburg County hires two new positions committed to improving data and research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall

- The per capita homelessness rate (homeless persons per 1,000 people in Mecklenburg County) decreased from 2009 to 2016 as the Mecklenburg County population grew.

Mecklenburg County Population and Rate of Homelessness (per 1,000)
2009 - 2016*

- Meck County Population
- Homeless persons per 1000

2016 population projection obtained from the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management.
Shelter Type

- 90% (1,631) of homeless persons identified were sheltered, and the remaining 10% (187 people) were unsheltered.

- Unsheltered homelessness increased by 4% (7 people) and sheltered homelessness decreased by 10% (190 people) from 2015 to 2016.
2016 Overview

1,818
Homeless Persons Identified On a Night in January

- ▼ 36% From 2010 to 2016
- ▼ 9% From 2015 to 2016

Overall

- The 2016 count identified 1,818 homeless persons on the night of January 27, 2016.
- There was a 9% decrease in homeless persons from 2015 to 2016 and a 36% decrease from 2010 to 2016.

Shelter Type

- 90% (1,631) of homeless persons identified were sheltered, and the remaining 10% (or 187 people) were unsheltered.
- Unsheltered homelessness increased by 4% and sheltered homelessness decreased by 10% from 2015 to 2016. From 2010 to 2016 unsheltered homelessness decreased 75% from 751 to 187 individuals.
Household Type

Households with adults and children
- There were 650 homeless people identified in 226 households with adults and children, representing 36% of all homeless people on a single night.
- This represents a 12% (30 household) decrease in homeless households with adults and children from 2015 and a 7% (17 household) decrease from 2010.
- 99.6% (225) of households identified with adults and children were sheltered.

Adult only households
- 1,160 people identified as homeless in households with adults only represented approximately 64% of all homeless people on a single night.
- This represents a 6% (71 person) decrease from 2015 and a 46% (991 person) decrease from 2010.
- 84% of people identified in households with adults only were sheltered.

Child only households
- There were 8 unaccompanied homeless children identified on a single night in January 2016.
- This represents a 9 person (53%) decrease from 2010.
- 100% of the identified child only households were sheltered in 2016.

Persons by Household Type 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Type</th>
<th>Adults and Children</th>
<th>Adult Only</th>
<th>Child Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Persons by Household and Shelter Type 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Type</th>
<th>Adults and Children</th>
<th>Adults Only</th>
<th>Child Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered Homeless</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>60.3%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Chronically Homeless**

- **9%** (or 170 people) of the homeless population identified as chronically homeless.
- This is a **39%** (110 person) decrease from 2015, and a **45%** (137 person) decrease since 2010.

Note: In 2014 and 2015, the volunteer effort to count homeless individuals expanded and in 2014, HUD strengthened data reporting requirements for identifying the chronically homeless, resulting in changes in how the chronically homeless were identified in HMIS. This could have contributed to an increase in the number of chronically homeless.

**Homeless Veterans**

- There were **149** homeless veterans identified in Mecklenburg County. Homeless veterans accounted for nearly **11%** of all homeless adults.
- This represents a **19%** (36 person) decrease from 2015 and a **11%** (19 person) decrease from 2010.
• **78%** (1,415 people) of the total homeless population were Black. This is disproportionately high considering only **32%** of the general population in Mecklenburg County was Black. In Mecklenburg County, **24%** of Blacks lived under the poverty line accounting for **47%** of all people under the poverty line in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-Year American Community Survey.

• **55%** (103 people) of the unsheltered homeless population were Black.

• Whites comprised about **19%** of the homeless population (338 people) but **56%** of the general population and **35%** of all people in poverty in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-Year American Community Survey.

### Homeless People by Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Races</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Homeless People by Race and Household Type

#### Unaccompanied Children and Youth
- White: 12%
- Black: 81%
- Multiple Races: 7%

#### Child Only
- White: 13%
- Black: 88%

#### Adult only Households
- White: 25%
- Black: 71%
- Multiple Races: 1%

#### Households with Children
- White: 7%
- Black: 90%
- Multiple Races: 2%

0% | 100%
Ethnicity

- 3% (60 people) of all homeless people identified on a single night were of Hispanic/Latino descent. In comparison, the Latino population comprises 13% of the general population and 23% of people below the poverty level in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-Year American Community Survey.

- 17% (177 people) of homeless people of Hispanic/Latino descent were unsheltered.

- 5% (10 people) of the unsheltered homeless population were Hispanic/Latino.
Gender

- **56%** (1,016) of all homeless people identified were male in 2016, yet males accounted for **85%** of the unsheltered homeless population.

- **44%** (800) of all homeless people identified were women in 2016, however women accounted for **66%** of people in households with adults and children.

- **0.1%** (2) of all homeless people identified were transgender, 1 of which was in emergency and seasonal housing and 1 was unsheltered.
23% (414 people) of all homeless people identified on a single night in January 2016 were under the age of 18.

The majority of homeless people identified (71% or 1,289 people) were age 25 or older.

Persons age 25 or older were predominantly (61%) in emergency and seasonal shelter, but had the highest proportion (13%) of unsheltered persons of all the age groups (versus 10% for ages 18-24 and 0.5% for under 18).
Households with Adults & Children

**DEFINITION**
People who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child. Also referred to as “families.”

**CONTEXT**

- Given changes in methodology for the unsheltered count since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

- Due to Charlotte Family Housing’s transition to reporting its transitional housing units as rapid re-housing or other unit types in 2013 and Community Link’s programmatic change from providing transitional units to rapid re-housing units in 2014, the decrease in people identified in transitional housing in 2014 and 2015 should be interpreted with caution.

- In 2013 the A Way Home housing endowment was established. A Way Home is aimed at providing housing and rental assistance for families at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness, with veteran households receiving priority.

- The HUD definition of homelessness used in the PIT Count differs from the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness. Due to this difference in definition, comparisons cannot be made between the two numbers. See “Limitations” section for more details.
### On A Single Night in January 2016
- There were **650** homeless people identified in **226** households with adults and children, representing **36%** of all homeless people on a single night.

### Shelter Type, 2016
- **69%** (448 people) identified in households with adults and children were in emergency and seasonal shelter.
- **99%** of households with adults and children were sheltered.

### Homeless Households with Adults and Children by Shelter Type
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Type</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency and Seasonal</td>
<td>66.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Age of Homeless People in Households with Adults and Children, 2016

- 62% of all homeless people identified in households with adults and children were under the age of 18.
- 7% of all homeless people in households with adults and children were between the ages of 18 and 24.
- 31% of people in households with adults and children were 25 years or older.
- 98% (or 406 people) of homeless children were part of a homeless household with adults and children.

Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults and Children, 2016

- 66% (431 people) of people in homeless households with adults and children were females. 34% (219 people) of people in households with adults and children were males.
- Females and males were more likely to be sheltered. 34% of females were in transitional housing and 70% were in emergency and seasonal shelter. 27% of males were in transitional housing and 75% were in emergency and seasonal shelter.
- There were 0 people in households with adults and children who were transgender.

Total People in Homeless Households with Adults and Children by Gender 2016

- **Unsheltered**: Male 33%, Female 67%
- **Transitional**: Male 29%, Female 71%
- **Emergency and Seasonal**: Male 36%, Female 64%
Since 2010

- The number of homeless people in households with adults and children decreased by **3%** (from 673 people in 2010 to 650 people in 2016) and the number of households decreased by **7%** during the same time period (from 243 households with adults and children in 2010 to 226 households with adults and children in 2016).

- The number of unsheltered people in households with adults and children increased from **0** people in 2010 to **3** people in 2016 and the number of sheltered people in households with adults and children decreased **4%** (from 673 people in 2010 to 647 people in 2016).

Since 2015

- The number of homeless households with adults and children decreased by **12%** (from 256 households in 2015 to 226 in 2016) and the number of people in those households decreased by **14%** (108 people). This decrease from 2015 to 2016 was due to a decrease in the number of people in households with adults and children in transitional housing, which decreased by **42%** (143 people), compared to emergency shelter which increased **8%** (32 people).

- The number of unsheltered people in households with adults and children increased from **0** people in 2015 to **3** people in 2016 and the number of sheltered people in households with adults and children decreased by **15%** (111 people).

- The number of people in households with adults and children identified as chronically homeless decreased by **9%** (2 people).
DEFINITION
Single adults and adult couples unaccompanied by children. Also referred to as “individuals” or “households without children.”

CONTEXT
- From 2014 to 2016, community initiatives and policies that include efforts to decrease the number of individuals experiencing homelessness include: Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days campaign, Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg effort to end chronic homelessness, Housing Our Heroes effort to end veteran homelessness, and expansion of low barrier permanent supportive housing and low barrier rapid-rehousing initiatives. See “Local Context” section for more details.

- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.
On A Single Night in January 2016

- 1,160 people were homeless in households with adults only in Mecklenburg County, representing about 64% of all homeless people on a single night.

Shelter Type, 2016

- People in households with adults only comprised 60% of the total sheltered homeless population.

- More homeless individuals were sheltered (84%) than unsheltered (16%). Of those sheltered, 71% were in emergency and seasonal shelters and 29% were in transitional housing.

Homeless Households Adults Only by Shelter Type 2016

- Unsheltered: 16%
- Transitional: 24%
- Emergency and Seasonal: 60%

Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in a household with adults only

From 2010 to 2016

From 2015 to 2016

1,160

Homeless people in households with adults only

46% 6%

64%

Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in a household with adults only
Age of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2016

- **94%** (or 1,090) of people in households with adults only were 25 years or older.
- Approximately **6%** (or 70) of people in households with adults only were between the ages of 18 and 24.

Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2016

- **68%** (or 791) of people in households with adults only were males and **32%** (or 367 people) were females.
- **Two** people identified as transgender.
- Males were more likely to be in emergency and seasonal shelters (**61%** or 480 people) than in transitional housing (**19%** or 153 people) or in unsheltered locations (**20%** or 158 people).
- Females were more likely to be counted in emergency and seasonal shelters (**58%** or 212 people) or in transitional housing (**35%** or 130 people) than in unsheltered locations (**7%** or 25 people).
Since 2015

- The number of homeless individuals decreased by 6% (from 1,231 people in 2015 to 1,160 people in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered homeless individuals increased only slightly from 2015 to 2016 (from 180 individuals in 2015 to 184 individuals in 2016).
- The number of sheltered homeless individuals decreased by 7% (from 1,051 individuals in 2015 to 976 individuals in 2016).
- The number of homeless individuals in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by 9% (from 758 individuals in 2015 to 693 individuals in 2016), while the number in transitional housing decreased by 3% (from 293 individuals in 2015 to 283 individuals in 2016).

Since 2010

- Individual homelessness on a single night declined by 46% (from 2,151 individuals in 2010 to 1,160 individuals in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered homeless individuals decreased by 76% (from 751 individuals in 2010 to 184 individuals in 2016), and the number of sheltered individuals decreased by 30% (from 1,400 individuals in 2010 to 976 individuals in 2016).
- The number of homeless individuals in emergency and seasonal shelters declined by 3% (from 714 individuals in 2010 to 693 individuals in 2016).
- The number of homeless individuals in transitional housing declined 59% (from 686 individuals in 2010 to 283 individuals in 2016).

People in Homeless Adult Only Households by Shelter Type

2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional Housing</th>
<th>Unsheltered Homeless</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>547</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>751</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>927</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>927</td>
<td>315</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>813</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>155</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>180</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>184</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Child Only Households

**DEFINITION**
People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and who are under the age of 18.

**CONTEXT**
- As part of the 2015 and 2016 PIT Counts, special events were held at organizations that work with unaccompanied children in an effort to improve the count of unaccompanied children, which may have contributed to the increase in child only households identified in 2015 and 2016.
- Homeless unaccompanied children and youth are especially hard to identify. As a result, this population is likely undercounted. Additionally, unaccompanied children and youth often do not meet the PIT Count definition of “homeless” but may be considered homeless under other definitions. See “Methodology” section for more details.
- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.
On A Single Night in January 2016

- There were 8 children in 8 child only households on a single night in January 2016—less than 1% of the total homeless population.

Shelter Type, 2016

- None of the child only households were unsheltered in 2016. 8 (100%) of the child only households were in emergency and seasonal shelters.

Homeless Child Only Households by Shelter Type 2016

- Unsheltered Homeless: 0%
- Transitional Housing: 0%
- Emergency & Seasonal: 100%

Homeless children in child only households

- ▼ 53% From 2010 to 2016
- ▼ 33% From 2015 to 2016

<1%

Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in child only households
Gender of Homeless People in Child Only Households, 2016

- **Six** (75%) people in child only households were males and **2** (25%) were females.
- **Zero** people in child only households identified as transgender.
- **100%** of children in child only households were in emergency and seasonal shelters.

Total People in Homeless Child Only Households by Gender 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Since 2010

- The number of people in child only households on a single night decreased by 9 children (from 17 children in 2010 to 8 children in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered unaccompanied people in child only households remained constant at zero children for the past six years.
- The number of sheltered people in child only households decreased by 53% (from 17 children in 2010 to 8 children in 2016).
- The number of children in child only households in emergency and seasonal shelters remained constant at 8 from 2010 to 2016.
- The number of people in child only households in transitional housing decreased from 9 children in 2010 to 0 children in 2016.

Since 2015

- The number of people in child only households decreased from 12 in 2015 to 8 children in 2016.
- The number of people in child only households in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased only slightly from 9 in 2015 to 8 in 2016.
- The number of people in child only households in transitional housing decreased from 3 in 2015 to 0 in 2016.
- The number of unsheltered people in child only households was zero in 2014 and 2015.
Unaccompanied & Parenting Youth

Households

DEFINITION
People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and who are under the age of 25.

CONTEXT
- As part of the PIT Count, special events were held at organizations that work with unaccompanied youth in an effort to improve the count of unaccompanied youth.
- Homeless unaccompanied children and youth are especially hard to identify. As a result, this population is likely undercounted. Additionally, unaccompanied children and youth often do not meet the PIT Count definition of “homeless” but may be considered homeless under other definitions. See “Methodology” section for more details.
- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.
- Prior to 2011, unaccompanied youth were not considered a separate household type, so changes since 2010 cannot be analyzed.
On a Single Night in January 2016

- There were 78 unaccompanied youth on a single night in January 2016—approximately 4% of the total homeless population.
- There were 34 parenting youth.

Shelter Type, 2016

- 14% (11 people) of the unaccompanied children were unsheltered in 2016. 74% (58 people) of the unaccompanied homeless youth were in emergency and seasonal shelters while the remaining 12% (9 people) were in transitional housing.

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth 2016

- Unsheltered Homeless 14%
- Transitional Housing 12%
- Emergency & Seasonal 74%
Age of Homeless People in Unaccompanied Youth Households, 2016

- **10%** (or 8) of people in unaccompanied youth households were under the age of 18.
- Approximately **90%** (or 70) of people in unaccompanied youth households were ages 18 to 24.

Gender of Homeless People in Unaccompanied Youth Households, 2016

- **63%** (49) of people in unaccompanied youth households were males and **36%** (28) were females.
- **One** person in an unaccompanied youth household identified as transgender.
- More males were identified in emergency and seasonal shelters (**82%** or 42 people) than in unsheltered locations (**12%** or 6 people) or in transitional housing (**2%** or 1 person).
- More females were identified in emergency and seasonal shelters (**53%** or 16 people) or in transitional housing (**27%** or 8 people) than in unsheltered locations (**13%** or 4 people).

Total People in Homeless Unaccompanied Youth Households by Gender, 2016

- **Male** **63%**
- **Female** **36%**
- **Transgender** **1%**
Since 2015

- The number of people in unaccompanied youth households decreased slightly from 85 youth to 78 youth.

- The number of people in unaccompanied youth households in emergency and seasonal shelters remained constant at 58 from 2015 to 2016.

- The number of people in unaccompanied youth households in transitional housing decreased by 47% (from 17 in 2015 to 9 in 2016).

- The number of unsheltered people in unaccompanied youth households increased slightly from 10 to 11.
Ch$\textit{chronically homeless}$

**DEFINITION**
Individual or head of household with a disability who lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and who has either been continuously homeless for at least 12 months or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years where the combined occasions total at least 12 months. Occasions are separated by a break of at least seven nights and stays in institutions of fewer than 90 days do not constitute a break.

**CONTEXT**

- From 2015 to 2016, community initiatives and policies that specifically targeted decreasing the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness included: Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg effort to end chronic homelessness and a focus on permanent supportive housing and housing first models. See “Local Context” section for more details.

- Unique to the 2015 PIT count was that it coincided with a Chronically Homeless Registry (the Registry) effort by Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is a collaborative initiative to end chronic homelessness by 2016. It is important to note that the number of people counted as chronically homeless through the PIT Count will differ from the number of chronically homeless people identified in the registry. The PIT Count is a snapshot of those experiencing homelessness on a given night, whereas the registry was initially developed over three days and continues to be updated throughout the year.

- In 2014 HUD strengthened data reporting requirements for identifying the chronically homeless, resulting in changes in how the chronically homeless were identified in HMIS. In 2016, HUD modified the definition of chronically homeless. This change in definition could have contributed to changes observed in the number of sheltered chronically homeless in 2015 and the number of unsheltered homeless in 2016. See “Methodology” section for more details.

- Since 2013, the volunteer effort to count unsheltered homeless individuals expanded. As a result, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

- Only certain data fields were collected on the chronically homeless.
On a Single Night in January 2016

- 170 people were identified in chronically homeless households, representing 9% of all homeless people on a single night.
- 87% of the 170 people identified as chronically homeless were individuals (148) and 12% (21) were in households with adults and children.
- Chronically homeless individuals in adult only households represented 13% of the total number of people in adult only households.

Shelter Type, 2016

- 65% (110 people) of chronically homeless people were identified in emergency and seasonal shelters. The other 35% (60 people) were unsheltered.

Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type 2016

- Unsheltered: 35%
- Transitional Housing: 0%
- Emergency and Seasonal: 65%

170 Chronically Homeless People Experiencing Homelessness

- ▼ 45%  From 2010 to 2016
- ▼ 39%  From 2015 to 2016
- 9% Of all homeless people
Since 2010

- The number of chronically homeless decreased by 45% (from 307 people in 2010 to 170 people in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered chronically homeless people increased by 5% (from 57 people in 2010 to 60 people in 2016) and the number of sheltered chronically homeless decreased by 56% (from 250 people in 2010 to 110 people in 2016).

Since 2015

- The number of chronically homeless people decreased by 39% (from 280 people in 2015 to 170 people in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered chronically homeless people decreased by 47% (from 111 people in 2015 to 60 people in 2016) and the number of sheltered chronically homeless decreased by 35% (from 170 people in 2015 to 110 people in 2016).

Total Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type 2009-2016

A chronically homeless registry coincided with the PIT Count, increasing the number of volunteers for the unsheltered portion of the count. See “Context” for more details.
**Veteran Households**

**DEFINITION**
Someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

**CONTEXT**

- From 2015 to 2016, community initiatives and policies that specifically targeted decreasing the number of homeless veterans included: The A Way Home Housing Endowment, which prioritizes veteran households with adults and children, and the Housing Our Heroes effort to end veteran homelessness. See “Local Context” section for more details.

- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology from 2014 to 2016, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.
On A Single Night in January 2016

- There were 149 homeless veterans in Mecklenburg County and 168 people in homeless veteran households. Homeless veterans accounted for nearly 11% of all homeless adults.
- 3% (4 people) of veterans are chronically homeless.
- 16% of homeless veterans were female (24 people).

Shelter Type, 2016

- Homeless veterans comprised about 8% of the total sheltered homeless population.
- The majority of homeless veterans were sheltered in emergency shelters (44% or 66 people) or transitional housing (39% or 58 people). The remaining 17% (25 people) were in unsheltered locations.

Homeless Veterans by Shelter Type 2016

- Emergency & Seasonal: 44%
- Transitional Housing: 39%
- Unsheltered Homeless: 17%

149 Homeless Veterans

- From 2010 to 2016: ▼ 11%
- From 2015 to 2016: ▼ 19%

11% Of all adults experiencing homelessness were veterans
Race of Homeless Veterans, 2016

- Approximately 64% (95 people) of homeless veterans were Black, 30% (45 people) were White, 2% (3 people) were Other, and approximately 4% (6 people) were Multiracial.

- 49% (47 people) of Black homeless veterans were in emergency and seasonal shelter compared to 35% (33 people) in transitional housing.

- About 36% (16 people) of White homeless veterans were in emergency and seasonal shelters. A slightly higher proportion (47% or 21 people) were in transitional housing.

- 18% (8 out of 45) of White homeless veterans were counted in unsheltered locations, while 16% (15 out of the 95) of Black veterans were counted in unsheltered locations.

- 2% (3 people) of the homeless veterans were Hispanic/Latino.
Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2016

- 84% (125 people) of homeless veterans were males and 16% (24 people) were females.
- 80% of homeless male veterans (100 people) and 100% of homeless female veterans (24 people) were sheltered.

Household Type of Homeless Veterans, 2016

- 95% (142 people) of homeless veterans were in veteran households with adults only and 5% (7 people) were in veteran households with adults and children.
- Nearly half, or 44% (66 people) of homeless veterans in veteran households with adults only were in emergency and seasonal shelter. The remaining 39% (58 people) were in transitional housing and 17% (25 people) were unsheltered.
Since 2010

- The number of homeless veterans decreased by 11% (from 168 people in 2010 to 149 people in 2016).
- The number of sheltered homeless veterans decreased by 21% (from 157 people in 2010 to 124 people in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered veterans increased by 127% (from 11 people in 2010 to 25 people in 2016).

Since 2015

- The number of homeless veterans decreased by 19% (from 185 people in 2015 to 149 people in 2016).
- The number of unsheltered veterans remained constant at 25 from 2015 to 2016 and the number of sheltered veterans decreased by 23% (from 160 people in 2015 to 124 people in 2016).
- The number of homeless individual veterans in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by 39% (from 108 people in 2015 to 66 people in 2016). The number of veterans in transitional housing increased, by 12% (from 52 people in 2015 to 58 people in 2016).

Total Homeless Veterans
2009-2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>66</td>
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<td>251</td>
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</table>

Veteran Households | 55
Residence

**DEFINITION**
Self-reported survey data on residence are only available for people interviewed during the unsheltered portion of the PIT Count.

**CONTEXT**

- In 2016, the PIT Planning Committee added additional questions to the unsheltered count survey in order to better understand additional characteristics of this population. These are not questions required by HUD.
Why are you not staying at a shelter?

35% of unsheltered people reported they did not stay in a shelter on the night of the count for reasons related to comfort or safety.

- Other: 27%
- Too many people for me to feel comfortable: 19%
- I do not feel safe: 16%
- Shelter is full (not enough space): 13%
- Too structured of an environment: 10%
- Not eligible (other than banned): 8%
- Banned from a shelter: 6%

N=158

Over half of the unsheltered people who came to Charlotte-Mecklenburg within the last two years did not have housing when they arrived.

Did not have housing: 60%

Had housing: 40%

N=40

Have you lived anywhere else besides Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years?

Only a little more than a quarter of unsheltered homeless moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last two years.

- Yes: 26%
- No: 74%

N=156

The majority (72%) that moved in the last two years came from a surrounding county or the Carolinas.

<table>
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<th>Other part of the United States</th>
<th>Surrounding County</th>
<th>Other part of North Carolina</th>
<th>South Carolina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=37

Of those that moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg within the last two years, one of the main reason cited was relocating for job opportunities.

- Job Opportunities: 33%
- Other: 30%
- Family/Friends: 18%
- Access to Services/Resources: 13%
- I like it here: 8%
- Good Weather: 0%

N=40

N=40
Appendix

Expanded Local Context
Listed below are expanded details on the strategies, initiatives, and historical efforts that are outlined in the “Local Context” section of the report.

- **A Way Home Housing Endowment**
  In 2013, the City of Charlotte and Foundation For The Carolinas established the A Way Home housing endowment, which will be fully funded in 2018. This $20 million endowment, funded through public and private dollars, will be aimed at providing housing and rental assistance for families at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness, with veteran households receiving priority. In 2014, a group of local faith leaders raised operational funds, along with grant dollars from Foundation For The Carolinas, to begin a pilot program until the endowment is fully funded. As of January 2016, four agencies receive funds through the pilot program: Charlotte Family Housing, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Salvation Army, and Renaissance West Community Initiative. In addition, Mecklenburg County Community Support Services partnered with A Way Home by providing grants to Charlotte Family Housing and Salvation Army that will cover the cost of supportive services for families receiving housing subsidies through A Way Home.

- **Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days Initiative**
  The “Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days” campaign was part of a national effort, “100,000 Homes Campaign,” to permanently house 100,000 of the country’s most vulnerable homeless individuals. As part of this national initiative, our community set the goal to house 100 homeless individuals in 100 days. From May 2013 to May 2014, the Charlotte community surpassed its goal and housed 442 chronically homeless persons. In large part, this was due to a commitment that all new Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers would go to chronically homeless veterans and that all new units at McCreesh Place (a permanent supportive housing community) would be prioritized for chronically homeless men. In Charlotte, this effort was a collaboration between the Veterans Administration, the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and local service providers in conjunction with the national 100,000 Homes Campaign. The work of this initiative has continued through Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg and Housing our Heroes, which continue to address chronic homelessness among veterans and individuals.

- **Charlotte Housing Choice Voucher Waitlist Opened**
  After being closed for seven years, the Charlotte Housing Authority opened its waitlist for housing choice vouchers and public housing from September 22 – 26, 2014. Over 34,000 households applied by the time the waitlist closed. Homelessness is considered a prioritization tool for housing placement within this waitlist.

- **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Our Heroes**
  On Veterans Day 2014, the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and the W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center accepted the Mayors Challenge with a goal of housing 204 Veterans by the end of 2015. As part of this initiative, Best practices adopted in Charlotte-Mecklenburg include:
  - Creating by-name registry of homeless veterans in our community
  - Accelerating and streamlining existing operational processes
  - Agency coordination and outreach
  - Active engagement of landlords
  - Expediting determination of veteran status
As of January 2016, Charlotte-Mecklenburg surpassed the goal of housing 2014 veterans and in total housed 385 veterans. Charlotte-Mecklenburg continues to work with USICH to meet the federal criteria of ending veteran homelessness.

**Coordinated Assessment**
Coordinated Assessment seeks to better connect households currently experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness with the services that are best able to serve them. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care launched Coordinated Assessment in May 2014, with funding from Wells Fargo through the United Way of Central Carolinas and funding from Mecklenburg County Community Support Services for five positions. The National Alliance to End Homelessness and the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness provided assistance in developing and implementing the new system. Social workers stationed at three sites administer a standardized assessment that helps identify the services that can best address the housing needs of households experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness within 72 hours.

**Engagement and Advocacy**
The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (HAB) and the Homeless Services Network (HSN), a network of agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness, have developed a collaborative working relationship to support community engagement and advocacy on affordable housing and homelessness issues and research and evaluation of the community’s homelessness and affordable housing efforts.

**Housing Data Consortium**
In 2013, the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute received funding from Foundation For The Carolinas through a Catalyst Grant to create a Homeless and Housing Data Consortium within the Institute for Social Capital (ISC). ISC houses Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data along with other key data from agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

**Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg**
Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg, launched in January 2015, is a collaboration between business, city, county and non-profit agencies to end chronic homelessness by 2016, focusing on the Housing First model. The goal of ending chronic homelessness will be achieved by reaching a “functional zero,” which means that the number of chronically homeless people at any time will be less than the current average monthly housing placement rate for the chronically homeless. As part of this effort, a registry of the chronically homeless coincided with the PIT Count in January 2015. This by-name registry is used to help target outreach efforts and interventions, as well as prioritize housing placements to the most vulnerable. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is also working to expand outreach efforts, create 250 permanent supportive housing units, and develop additional leadership and staff support for the Housing First model. As of December 2015, Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg had housed 214 chronically homeless individuals.

**Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program**
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community received $1.9 million in Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) federal funds from 2009-2012. These funds helped promote coordination among agencies active in the community to use the funds for prevention and rapid re-housing responses. The programs continue with support from other funding sources.
Housing Trust Fund

In 2014, Charlotte voters approved a $15 million bond for the Housing Trust Fund, which is administered by the City of Charlotte's Neighborhood and Business Services. Recognizing the connection between lack of affordable housing and homelessness, the Charlotte Housing Trust Fund uses these funds to support the development of affordable housing for low and moderate income households.

Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte Mecklenburg and the Ten-Year Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness

In 2010, the Charlotte City Council and Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners created the Housing Advisory Board (HAB) of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, formerly known as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Coalition for Housing Board, to oversee the ten-year plan to end and prevent homelessness. The goals of HAB include moving homeless households into appropriate and safe permanent housing as soon as possible; linking the chronically homeless to housing, treatment and services through intensive outreach and engagement; and promoting housing stability for households at risk of becoming homeless. HAB is supported by the City of Charlotte's Director of Neighborhood and Business Services, Mecklenburg County's Director of Community Support Services and the Charlotte Housing Authority's Chief Executive Officer. In 2014, HAB released "Forward Movement: Ending and preventing Homelessness in Charlotte-Mecklenburg," a progress report on the 10-Year Plan.

Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s Research and Evaluation Committee

The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s Research and Evaluation committee coordinates and advocates on issues concerning data collection, research on homelessness and housing instability, and system level outcomes to measure progress.

Low Barrier Rapid Re-Housing Initiatives

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community is shifting to funding rapid re-housing initiatives with low barriers to program entry. These initiatives help households with adults and children successfully exit homelessness and maintain permanent housing by integrating employment assistance, case management and housing services. Community Link, Men's Shelter of Charlotte and the Salvation Army of Greater Charlotte's Center of Hope are currently engaged in low-barrier rapid re-housing programs.

Mecklenburg County Hires Two New Positions Committed to Improving Data and Research

The Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners approved two management analyst positions within Mecklenburg County Community Support Services to serve the roles of an HMIS System Administrator (data in) and a Housing and Homelessness Research Coordinator (data out). The City of Charlotte assisted with the initial funding for these positions.

The HMIS Administrator is responsible for overseeing the data entry process for Charlotte-Mecklenburg's HMIS system. This includes providing regular training to agencies to ensure accurate and consistent data entry. It also includes monitoring data quality and completeness and creating reports to provide timely, relevant and quality data on the community's progress to end and prevent homelessness.

The Housing and Homelessness Research Coordinator’s primary role is to help the community engage with data and research around housing instability and homelessness in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. On an agency level, this includes providing technical assistance in order to strengthen agency outcome measurement and evaluation work and connect data to decision-making. On a system level, this includes connecting actionable data and research with all community stakeholders.
Mecklenburg County Housing Stability Partnership

The Mecklenburg County Housing Stability Partnership is a partnership between the City of Charlotte, the Charlotte Housing Authority, Foundation For The Carolinas, and Mecklenburg County. Formed in 2014, the partnership coordinates funding processes for supportive housing development, supportive services, and rental subsidies. As of January 2016, Mecklenburg County Community Support Services had allotted, through a competitive request for proposal process, over $2.3M in supportive services funding to four local agencies. These agencies will serve over 250 homeless households over a two to three-year period.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

The community is using a system-wide Housing First model, which creates permanent supportive housing for a household that is experiencing homeless or at risk of homelessness and has a condition of disability such as mental illness, substance abuse, chronic health issues or other conditions that create multiple and serious ongoing barriers to housing stability. PSH units are provided through community agencies and scattered-site programs built throughout the community.

Zero:2016

Zero:2016 is a national campaign organized by Community Solutions to end chronic homelessness by 2016. Charlotte was selected as a participating community and is working closely with the Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg initiative.

Expanded Data & Methodology

Agencies that participated in the PIT Count

- Charlotte Family Housing
- Family Forum
- Florence Crittendon
- Friendship Community Development Corporation
- Homecare of the Carolinas
- Hope Haven
- Hope House Foundation
- Men's Shelter of Charlotte
- Safe Alliance
- Salvation Army Center of Hope
- Samaritan's House of Charlotte
- Sunshine Village
- The Relatives
- Urban Ministry Center
- YWCA of the Central Carolinas

2009-2013

Prior to 2014, the unsheltered count used estimates of homeless persons living in places unfit for human habitation that were provided by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. This approach was used because police officers are often very familiar with the locations of homeless people within their service areas. The North Tryon, Central, and Metro service areas were excluded from the unsheltered count since the persons identified in those areas were often simultaneously being served in shelters. In addition, outreach volunteers interviewed people experiencing homelessness in uptown Charlotte and at a local soup kitchen the following day to collect demographic data.
Beginning in 2014, the unsheltered methodology was expanded to include a larger outreach effort by service providers and volunteers. Prior to the Count, there was outreach to community members in an effort to gather information on the locations where they believed there might be homeless persons. Police officers also provided information for each of their districts on where homeless people might reside. Teams of volunteers were organized to cover each police district and went out the day of the PIT Count to identify (and count) people experiencing homelessness at services centers, soup kitchens, and places unfit for human habitation.

In an effort to improve the count of unaccompanied youth, in 2015 the PIT Count Planning Committee coordinated with The Relatives’ On Ramp Center and Time Out Youth to have events on the date of the PIT Count in an effort to attract unaccompanied youth that may not have been found through traditional outreach efforts. For the first time, two volunteer training sessions were held to better equip volunteers in administering the PIT Count and to gain comfort with approaching people and asking sensitive questions.

Unique to the 2015 count was that it coincided with a Chronically Homeless Registry (the Registry) effort by Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is a collaborative initiative to end chronic homelessness by 2016. Whereas the annual PIT Count identifies people experiencing homelessness on one night, the Registry sought to connect with chronically homeless individuals over the course of three days and administer the Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). It is important to note that the number of people counted as chronically homeless through the PIT Count differed from the number of chronically homeless people identified in the Registry. This is because the PIT Count is a snapshot of those experiencing homelessness on a given night, whereas the Registry was developed over three days and continues to add individuals as they are identified as chronically homeless. The PIT Count is used to help identify trends and is a static number each year, whereas the Registry will grow and change as more chronically homeless people are identified and housed over the course of the year.

The 2016 Count occurred with the assistance of over 150 volunteers on 27 survey and data entry teams. Volunteers went out on Wednesday night to identify people sleeping in places unfit for human habitation and early Thursday morning to ask people where they had slept the night before. In an attempt to strengthen the identification of unaccompanied children and youth households, two agencies that specifically work with unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness, were involved in planning for the PIT Count. Volunteers received training for the unsheltered count either through an in-person training or through materials sent electronically. Survey locations included uptown streets, homeless camps, the greenway, soup kitchens, the library, and hospital waiting rooms.
### Data Tables

#### TOTAL PERSONS

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<th>2016</th>
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#### HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS AND CHILDREN

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#### HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN

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<td>-1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>-55%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### CHILD ONLY HOUSEHOLDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>% change 2010-2016</th>
<th>% change 2015-2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-53%</td>
<td>-33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>% change 2010-2016</th>
<th>% change 2015-2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>78</td>
<td></td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PARENTING YOUTH

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>% change 2010-2016</th>
<th>% change 2015-2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-56%</td>
<td>-35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>-47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>-45%</td>
<td>-40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>-20%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>-13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## VETERANS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>% change 2010-2016</th>
<th>% change 2015-2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>-39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>127%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>155%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### AGE - 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persons age 25 or older</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>1289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons age 18-24</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons age 17 or younger</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GENDER - 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>1016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RACE/ETHNICITY - 2016

#### Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino</td>
<td>1110</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>1758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>928</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Races</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>