The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (HAB), formerly known as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Coalition for Housing, is a volunteer appointed board charged with educating, advocating, engaging and partnering with community stakeholders to end and prevent homelessness and ensure a sufficient supply of affordable housing throughout the community. Members are appointed by the Mayor, City Council and the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners. 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 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.

Cover photo: Courtesy of Peter Safir
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Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Point-in-Time Count Planning Committees
FUNDING PROVIDED BY:
Mecklenburg County Community Support Services

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Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners
Mecklenburg County Community Support Services
Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Count Planning Committees
Point-in-Time Count Volunteers
The 2017 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.

The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg outlined three key reporting areas that, together, comprise the 2017 series of reports for community stakeholders. The three 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 and the capacity of the system to shelter and house them.

2. **HOUSING INSTABILITY**
   An annual report focusing on the characteristics and impact of housing instability in the community. During the 2017 reporting cycle, this report will feature innovative affordable housing preservation and rehabilitation strategies that other communities have implemented.

3. **SPOTLIGHT**
   An annual focus on a trend or specific population within housing instability and homelessness. During the 2017 reporting cycle, this report will focus on evictions within Mecklenburg County.

The 2017 reporting cycle is completed by the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute. Mecklenburg County Community Support Services provides funding for the report series.
These definitions are based on guidelines from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**Child Only Households**
Households with all members 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, safe haven, or 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.

**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**
Households that have at least one adult over the age of 18 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 snapshot of the number of beds and units on one night that are dedicated to persons experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless people.

**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 a form of permanent housing.

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

**Other Permanent Housing**
Long-term permanent housing that is not otherwise considered permanent supportive housing or rapid re-housing.

**Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**
A program that provides short- or medium-term (up to 24 months) financial assistance and services to help those experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. This is considered a form of 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 are between the ages of 18 and 24.

**Unsheltered Homeless People**
People with a primary nighttime residence that is 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.
Introduction

This report highlights the findings from the 2017 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count). The 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 persons experiencing homelessness.

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

For the first time, this report also includes data from the Housing Inventory Count (HIC). The HIC provides a snapshot of the number of beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness (emergency shelter and transitional housing beds) or formerly experiencing homelessness (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing beds) on the night of the PIT Count. The HIC provides context to the PIT Count data by showing how the capacity to house persons experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness changes over time. By combining these datasets, it provides information on how capacity is being utilized and how the community is prioritizing its resources for ending and preventing homelessness.

Another change to this year’s PIT Count report involves enhancements to the historical data. Historical PIT Count and HIC data from 2010 to 2016 were adjusted to reflect the most current HUD guidelines around project type classifications. Adjusting the project types to be consistent across years allows for more accurate analysis of historical trends.

The findings provided in this report are estimates of the number of people that are homeless on a given night in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, which includes the City of Charlotte. There are several limitations to the 2017 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 1,476 people experiencing homelessness on the night of Wednesday, January 25, 2017. This was a 26% (519 person) decrease from 2010 and a 12% (198 person) decrease from 2016.
Key Findings

PIT Count

1,476

People experiencing homelessness on one night in January 2017 in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

- 15% Unsheltered (215)
- 18% Transitional Housing (270)
- 67% Emergency Shelter (991)

Since 2016
- 12%

Since 2010
- 26%

* Historical data adjusted. See methodology for more details.

1,011 People in households with ADULTS ONLY

5 People in households with ONLY CHILDREN

460 People in households with ADULTS & CHILDREN

137 VETERANS

66 UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

147 CHRONICALLY Homeless

21% Children

79% Black

4% Latino

44% Female

Since 2016

Since 2010

* Historical data adjusted. See methodology for more details.
Key Findings

There is an increasing shift of resources towards rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing and away from transitional housing.

1,389 Emergency shelter and transitional housing beds

15% Since 2016

2,595 Permanent housing beds

16% Since 2016

Historically, emergency shelters were at or near capacity on the night of the count, while transitional housing programs were relatively under capacity.

Bed Utilization on Night of Count
2010-2017

ES TH
87% 84%

100% 105% 105% 102% 101% 97% 96%

97% 92% 96% 92% 82% 77% 75%

215
People experiencing unsheltered homelessness on one night in January 2017 in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

60% Slept on the street
32% Chronic
62% Homeless 12+ months
70% Have income

The majority (68%) of unsheltered persons have lived in Charlotte-Mecklenburg for more than 2 years.

Of the 32% (60) of unsheltered persons that moved in the last 2 years

35% Came for job opportunities
48% Moved from within North or South Carolina
67% Did not have housing when they moved
Since 2010, the gap between need (people) and capacity (ES and TH beds) has decreased.

### Key Findings

#### Trends

Since 2010, the gap between need (people) and capacity (ES and TH beds) has decreased.

#### PIT

**2016-2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness rate per 1,000 residents</td>
<td>▼ 0.22</td>
<td>1.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total homeless people</td>
<td>▼ 198 (12%)</td>
<td>1,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelter type</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered people</td>
<td>▲ 28 (15%)</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in emergency &amp; seasonal shelter</td>
<td>▼ 85 (8%)</td>
<td>1,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in transitional housing</td>
<td>▼ 141 (34%)</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Household and population types</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in households with adults and children</td>
<td>▼ ▼ 47 (9%)</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in households with adults only</td>
<td>▼ ▼ 148 (13%)</td>
<td>1,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in households with only children</td>
<td>▼ ▼ 3 (38%)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless veterans</td>
<td>▼ 12 (8%)</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically homeless</td>
<td>▼ 23 (14%)</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied Youth (under 25)</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= Increase  = Decrease
## Key Findings

### Trends contd.

#### HIC Beds 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All beds</td>
<td>▲ 108 (3%)</td>
<td>3,876</td>
<td>3,984</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency shelter and transitional housing</td>
<td>▼ 252 (15%)</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>1,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency shelter</td>
<td>▼ 81 (7%)</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>1,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional housing</td>
<td>▼ 171 (32%)</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permanent Housing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Permanent housing</td>
<td>▲ 360 (16%)</td>
<td>2,235</td>
<td>2,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid re-housing</td>
<td>▲ 168 (18%)</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>1,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent supportive housing</td>
<td>▲ 188 (17%)</td>
<td>1,097</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other permanent housing</td>
<td>▲ 4 (2%)</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community efforts are guided by the four goals outlined in the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness plan, "Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness." The plan was originally released in June 2010 and then amended in 2015. Below is Charlotte-Mecklenburg's progress on each of the four goals based on the January 2017 PIT Count.

**END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS**
- On a night in January 2017, 147 people were identified as chronically homeless, 69 (47%) of which were unsheltered.
- The number of people experiencing chronic homelessness has decreased by 14% (23 people) since 2016.

**PREVENT AND END FAMILY, YOUTH, AND CHILD HOMELESSNESS**
- The number of people in homeless households with adults and children decreased 9% (47 people) since 2016.

**PREVENT AND END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS**
- On a night in January 2017, 138 homeless veterans were identified, 17% (24) of which were unsheltered.
- The number of homeless veterans has decreased 7% (11 people) since 2016.

**SET A PATH TO ENDING ALL TYPES OF HOMELESSNESS**
- On a night in January 2017, 1,476 people experienced homelessness, with 1,261 (85%) sleeping in a shelter.
- Since 2016, homelessness decreased by 12% (198 people).
**Data & Methodology**

The PIT Count uses the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness in Federal regulation 24 CFR §578.3. The PIT Count estimates 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 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.

The HIC is a snapshot of the number of beds dedicated to people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness on the night of the PIT Count. Beds are considered dedicated to people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness if: “A. The primary intent of the project is to serve homeless persons; B. The project verifies homeless status as part of its eligibility determination; and C. The actual project clients are predominantly homeless (or, for permanent housing, were homeless at entry).”

### Table 1. Changes in PIT Methodology and Data Collection from 2011-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methodology</th>
<th>Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2011</strong></td>
<td><strong>2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<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>Unaccompanied children now considered a separate household type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>2014</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Method</td>
<td>Chronically Homeless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
<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>2015</strong></td>
<td><strong>2015</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Discharges Removed</td>
<td>Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The decision was made by the PIT Count Planning Committee in 2015 to no longer collect information or report on institutional discharges, such as from jails and hospitals, due to concerns over discrepancies in question phrasing between the sheltered and unsheltered counts.</td>
<td>Option to select transgender male to female or female to male was added. Gender now collected for parenting and unaccompanied youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Training Expanded</td>
<td>Race / Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal volunteer trainings now provided.</td>
<td>Race and ethnicity now collected for parenting and unaccompanied youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Outreach</td>
<td>Veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased coordination with The Relatives and Time Out Youth to improve the count of unaccompanied youth.</td>
<td>Chronically homeless status of veterans now reported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional details collected on unaccompanied youth, parenting youth, veterans, and the chronically homeless.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued on next page
**2016**

**HMIS**
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.

**CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**
HUD modifies the definition of “chronically homeless” and requires chronically homeless status of heads of households that are under 18.

**GENDER**
Option to select transgender male to female or transgender female to male was removed based on feedback received by HUD.

**2017**

**HMIS**
Chronically homeless status and veteran status were cross-referenced with the chronically homeless registry and veteran registry.

**HISTORICAL DATA**
Adjustments made to historical PIT and HIC data so that project type guidelines are consistent across years.

**CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**
HUD expands data collection for chronically homeless households to include all members of the household.

**GENDER**
The response categories for gender expanded to include “Don't identify as male, female, or transgender.”
Local Context

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community has been active in its efforts to end and prevent homelessness. From January 2010 to January 2017, 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 2017. 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 2010 to 2017.

TABLE 2. OVERVIEW OF 2016-2017 INITIATIVES AND STRATEGIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS</th>
<th>INITIATIVES</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End chronic homelessness</td>
<td>Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg</td>
<td>• Community coordination and collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Coordinated assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Engagement and advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Low barrier rapid re-housing initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent and end family, youth, and</td>
<td>A Way Home Housing Endowment</td>
<td>• Permanent Supportive Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child homelessness</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Data, research, and best practice informed decision making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent and end veteran homelessness</td>
<td>Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Our Heroes</td>
<td>• Use of by-name registries for chronically homeless and veterans experiencing homelessness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 3. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT AND HISTORICAL EFFORTS

2010
HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG AND THE TEN-YEAR PLAN TO END AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS
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.

2013
A WAY HOME HOUSING ENDOWMENT
The City of Charlotte and Foundation For The Carolinas establish A Way Home housing endowment.

ACCELERATION TO HOUSING 100 IN 100 DAYS INITIATIVE
Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days initiative begins. From May 2013 to May 2014, 442 chronically homeless persons are housed.

2014
CHARLOTTE HOUSING AUTHORITY HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITING LIST
Charlotte Housing Authority’s Housing Choice Voucher waiting list opens.

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG HOUSING OUR HEROES
Charlotte-Mecklenburg accepts the Mayors Challenge with a goal of housing 204 Veterans by the end of 2015.

COORDINATED ASSESSMENT
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care launches Coordinated Assessment.

HOUSING TRUST FUND
Charlotte voters approve a $15 million bond for the Housing Trust Fund.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY HOUSING STABILITY PARTNERSHIP
Mecklenburg County Housing Stability Partnership forms.

2015
HOUSING FIRST CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

MECKLENBURG COUNTY HIRES TWO NEW POSITIONS
Mecklenburg County hires two new positions committed to improving data and research.

2016
HOUSING TRUST FUND
Charlotte voters approve a $15 million bond for the Housing Trust Fund.
Trends in Capacity and Utilization

Historical Overview
The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) gives a one-night snapshot of the number of beds that are dedicated to people currently experiencing homelessness or formerly experiencing homelessness. The HIC includes emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), rapid re-housing (RRH), permanent supportive housing (PSH), and other permanent housing (OPH) beds. When combined with the PIT Count, the HIC can provide greater insights into the capacity to shelter people experiencing homelessness on one night and how resources are being utilized.

In 2017, there were 3,984 beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. Of those, the majority (65% or 2,595) were permanent housing of some form (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing) and the remaining beds were 26% (1,029) emergency shelter, and 9% (360) transitional housing.

The historical data point to an increasing shift of resources towards rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing options and away from transitional housing. Since 2010, the number of permanent supportive housing beds increased 270% (from 347 beds in 2010 to 1,285 in 2017). Rapid re-housing increased significantly from 2013 to 2014 as HUD funding priorities started placing greater emphasis on rapid re-housing. From 2010 to 2017 the number of rapid re-housing beds increased by 879% (1,011). During this same time period, emergency shelter increased slightly (7% or 63 beds), while transitional housing decreased 26% (124 beds). The decrease in the number of transitional housing beds from 2016 to 2017 is partially due to Hope Haven’s 180 transitional housing beds no longer being included in the HIC Count.

Housing Inventory Count
2010-2017
Capacity and Utilization

System Capacity

By combining the HIC and PIT Count it is possible to estimate the number of beds that were utilized on the night of the count. When there are more people experiencing homelessness on one night than the number of beds dedicated for people currently experiencing homelessness, it indicates a bed shortfall. Since 2010, the bed shortfall has decreased substantially (84%), however the shortfall has increased since 2014. On the night of the January 2017 count, there were 1,389 emergency shelter and transitional beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness and 1,476 people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. This indicates that there was a capacity shortage of approximately 87 beds. In the winter, seasonal shelter is available through Room In The Inn (RITI). During the months in which RITI is not open, there may be an increase in the shortage of beds. Despite a bed being dedicated to a person experiencing homelessness, it does not necessarily mean that the bed was occupied on the night of the count. Additionally, there are differences between emergency shelter and transitional housing utilization (see page 27 for more details).
Emergency Shelter Utilization

Emergency shelter beds are consistently at or near capacity. Since 2011 shelters have been more than 90% occupied each year. In 2017, 96% of emergency shelter beds were utilized. One factor contributing to the underutilization of beds is that someone could be signed up to hold a bed for the night, but then did not show up for the bed on the night of the Count.

Transitional Housing Utilization

In contrast, transitional shelter beds have been consistently underutilized since 2013, despite a decrease in the number of transitional housing beds since 2010. In 2017, only 75% of transitional housing beds were being utilized on the night of the count.
Bed Utilization
2010-2017

ES  87%
TH  84%
2017 Overview

Per Capita

- The per capita homelessness rate (homeless persons per 1,000 people in Mecklenburg County) decreased from 2.17 in 2010 to 1.37 in 2017 as the Mecklenburg County population grew.

Mecklenburg County population*
2010-2017

Homeless persons per 1,000 people*
2010-2017

2016 population projection obtained from the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management.
Overall, 2010-2017

- The 2017 count identified **1,476** homeless persons.

- **2010 to 2017:** There was a **26%** (519 people) decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness from 2010 to 2017. During this time, the overall number of HIC beds decreased by **4%** (61 beds). The decrease in homeless persons since 2010 is largely due to a decrease of **136** people in transitional housing and a decrease of **536** unsheltered persons.

- **2016 to 2017:** There was a **12%** (198) decrease in homeless persons from 2016 to 2017. During this same time, the number of emergency shelter and transitional housing HIC beds decreased **15%** (252 beds). The decrease in homeless persons since 2016 is due to a decrease of **141** people in transitional housing and a decrease of **85** people in emergency shelter.
15% (215 people) of homeless persons identified were unsheltered, and the remaining 85% (1,261) of homeless were sheltered.

Unsheltered homelessness increased by 17% (31 people) and sheltered homelessness decreased by 22% (360 people) from 2016 to 2017.

The proportion of people experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters has increased since 2014 as the proportion in transitional housing has decreased.
Household Type, 2017

Adult only households
- **1,011** people identified as homeless in households with adults only represented approximately **68.5%** of all homeless people on a single night.
- This represents a **13%** (148 person) decrease from 2016.
- **79%** (800 people) of individuals identified in households with adults only were sheltered.

Households with adults and children
- There were **460** homeless people identified in **148** households with adults and children, representing **31.2%** of all homeless people on a single night.
- This represents a **9%** (47 person) decrease in people in homeless household with adults and children since 2016.
- **98.7%** (147) of households identified with adults and children were sheltered.

Child only households
- There were **5** unaccompanied homeless children identified on a single night in January 2017, representing **0.3%** of the population.
- **100%** of the identified child only households were sheltered in 2017.

Persons by Household Type 2017

- Adults Only: 68.5%
- Adults and Children: 31.2%
- Child Only: 0.3%

N=1,476

Persons by Household and Shelter Type 2017

- Emergency & Seasonal: 63% (Adults Only), 36% (Adults and Children), 1%
- Transitional Housing: 64% (Adults Only), 36% (Adults and Children)
- Unsheltered: 98% (Adults Only), 2% (Adults and Children)

N=1,476
Chronically Homeless, 2017

- 10% (147 people) of the homeless population identified as chronically homeless.
- 53% (78 people) of people experiencing chronic homelessness were in emergency or seasonal shelter and 47% (69 people) were unsheltered.

Homeless Veterans, 2017

- There were 137 homeless veterans identified in Mecklenburg County. Veterans experiencing homelessness accounted for nearly 12% of all homeless adults.
- The majority (82% or 113 people) of homeless veterans were sheltered.

### Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type 2017

- Emergency & Seasonal: 53%
- Unsheltered: 47%

### Veterans by Shelter Type 2017

- Emergency & Seasonal: 46.4%
- Transitional Housing: 36.2%
- Unsheltered: 17.5%
Race, 2017

- **79%** (1,170 people) of the total homeless population identified as Black. This is disproportionately high considering only **31%** of the general population in Mecklenburg County identifies as Black. In Mecklenburg County, **23%** of people who identify as Black lived under the poverty line accounting for **46%** of all people under the poverty line in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-year estimates.

- **61%** (132 people) of the unsheltered homeless population identified as Black.

- People who identify as White comprised about **18%** of the homeless population (272 people) but **57%** of the general population and **37%** of all people in poverty in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-year estimates.

- An overwhelming proportion of people in households with adults and children identify as Black (**92%** or **1,170** people). A large proportion of unaccompanied youth (**82%** or **59** people) identify as Black as well.

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**Homeless People by Race 2017**

- Black: 79%
- White: 18%
- American Indian: 2%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 1%

**N=1,476**

**Homeless People by Race and Household Type 2017**

- **Adults Only**: 74% (24% Black, 2% White, 1% American Indian, 1% Asian or Pacific Islander)
- **Adults and Children**: 92% (7% Black, 1% White, 1% American Indian, 1% Asian or Pacific Islander)
- **Child Only**: 100%
- **Unaccompanied Youth**: 82% (15% Black, 3% White, 1% American Indian, 1% Asian or Pacific Islander)

**N=1,476**
• **4%** (60 people) of the total homeless population identified as Hispanic/Latino. In comparison, the Hispanic/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’s American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-year estimates.

• **4%** (9 people) of the unsheltered homeless population identify as Hispanic/Latino.

• **85%** (51 people) of homeless people who identify as Hispanic/Latino were sheltered.

• **5%** (24 people) of people in Households with Children identify as Hispanic/Latino.
Gender, 2017

- **56.2%** (829) of all homeless people identified were male in 2017, yet males accounted for **85%** (182 people) of the unsheltered homeless population.

- **43.6%** (644) of all homeless people identified were women in 2017, however women accounted for **64%** (296) of people in households with adults and children.

- **0.1%** (2) of all homeless people identified as transgender; one person was in emergency and seasonal housing and the other was unsheltered.

- **0.1%** (1) of all homeless people identified did not identify with a gender. This individual was unsheltered.
• **21%** (311 people) of all homeless people identified on a single night in January 2017 were under the age of 18.

• **101** people (7%) were ages 18 to 24. Of the 101 youth ages 18 to 24, **66** (or 65%) were unaccompanied youth and **29** (29%) were part of a household with an adult and child.

• The majority of homeless people identified (**72%** or 1,064 people) were age 25 or older.
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.”

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

- The HUD definition of homelessness used in the PIT Count differs from the definition used by U.S. Department of Education to identify students experiencing homelessness and housing instability that qualify for McKinney-Vento services. Due to this difference in definition, comparisons cannot be made between the two numbers. See “Limitations” section for more details. For McKinney-Vento data refer to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Family Homelessness Snapshot report.
On A Single Night in January 2017

- There were **460** homeless people identified in **148** households with adults and children, representing **31%** of all homeless people on a single night.

- **78%** (359 people) identified in households with adults and children were in emergency and seasonal shelter.

- **99%** (146) of households with adults and children were sheltered.

Shelter Type, 2017

People in Homeless Households with Adults and Children by Shelter Type 2017

- **Emergency & Seasonal** 78.0%
- **Transitional Housing** 21.1%
- **Unsheltered** 0.9%

N=460
Age of Homeless People in Households with Adults and Children, 2017

- **66%** (305) of all homeless people identified in households with adults and children were under the age of 18.
- **6%** (29) of all homeless people in households with adults and children were between the ages of 18 and 24.
- **27%** (126) of people in households with adults and children were 25 years or older.
- **98%** (305) of homeless children were part of a homeless household with adults and children.

Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults and Children, 2017

- **64%** (296) of people in homeless households with adults and children were females. **36%** (164 people) of people in households with adults and children were males.
- Females made up **66%** (or 64 people) of those in transitional housing and **64%** (or 230 people) of those in emergency and seasonal shelter. An even share of males and females were unsheltered.
- There were **0** people in households with adults and children who identified as transgender.
- **22%** (or 64 people) of females were in transitional housing and **78%** (or 230 people) were in emergency and seasonal shelter.
Since 2016

- The number of people in households with adults and children decreased by 9% (47 people). This decrease from 2016 to 2017 was mostly due to a decrease in the number of people in households with adults and children in transitional housing, which decreased by 25% (32 people), compared to emergency shelter which decreased 4.5% (16 people).

- The number of unsheltered people in households with adults and children increased from 3 people in 2016 to 4 people in 2017 and the number of sheltered people in households with adults and children decreased by 10% (48 people).

### People in Households with Adults and Children 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ES</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TH</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unsheltered:
- 3 people in 2016
- 4 people in 2017
Households with Adults Only

DEFINITION

Single adults and adult couples unaccompanied by children. Also referred to as “individuals” or “households without children.”

- Given changes in methodology for the unsheltered count since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.
- From 2014 to 2017, 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 re-housing initiatives. See “Local Context” section for more details.
On A Single Night in January 2017

- 1,011 people were homeless in households with adults only in Mecklenburg County, representing 68.5% of all homeless people on a single night.

### People in Homeless Households with Adults Only by Shelter Type 2017

- **Emergency & Seasonal**: 62%
- **Transitional Housing**: 17%
- **Unsheltered**: 21%

**Shelter Type, 2017**

- People in households with adults only comprised 68.5% (1,011) of the total homeless population.
- 62% (627 people) of individuals were in emergency and seasonal shelters, 17% (173 people) were in transitional housing.
- More homeless individuals were sheltered (79% or 800 people) than unsheltered (21% or 211 people).
Age of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2017

- Approximately 8% (or 78) of people in households with adults only were between the ages of 18 and 24.
- 92% (or 933) of people in households with adults only were 25 years or older.

Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2017

- 66% (or 663) of people in households with adults only identified as male and 34% (or 345 people) identified as female. Two people identified as transgender. One person did not identify with a gender.
- The majority (85.3% or 180 people) of unsheltered individuals identified as male.
- Males were more likely to be unsheltered (27% or 180 people) or in emergency and seasonal shelters (61% or 404 people) than in transitional housing (12% or 79 people).
- Females were more likely to be counted in transitional housing (27% or 94 people) or in emergency and seasonal shelters (64% or 222 people) than in unsheltered locations (8% or 29 people).

Age of Homeless Households with Adults Only 2017

- Persons age 18-24: 8%
- Persons age 25 or older: 92%

Total Homeless Households with Adults Only by Gender and Shelter Type 2017

- Emergency & Seasonal: Male 64.4%, Female 35.4%, Transgender 0.2%
- Transitional Housing: Male 45.7%, Female 54.3%
- Unsheltered: Male 85.3%, Female 13.7%, Transgender 0.5%

N=1,011
Since 2016

- The number of homeless individuals decreased by **13%** (from 1,160 people in 2016 to 1,011 people in 2017).

- The number of sheltered homeless individuals decreased by **18%** (from 975 individuals in 2016 to **800** individuals in 2017).

- The number of homeless individuals in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by **10%** (from 693 individuals in 2016 to 627 individuals in 2017), while the number in transitional housing decreased by **39%** (from 282 individuals in 2016 to 173 individuals in 2017).

- The number of unsheltered homeless individuals increased **15%** (from 184 individuals in 2016 to 211 individuals in 2017).
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.

- As part of the 2015, 2016, and 2017 PIT Counts, organizations that work with child only households were involved with PIT Count planning in an effort to improve the count.

- 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 2017

- There were 5 children in 5 child only households on a single night in January 2017—less than 1% of the total homeless population.

5

Homeless children in child only households

<1%

Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in child only households

Shelter Type, 2017

- None of the child only households were unsheltered in 2017. All (100%) of the child only households were in emergency and seasonal shelters.

Homeless Child Only Households by Shelter Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=5
Gender of Homeless People in Child Only Households, 2017

- **Three** (60%) people in child only households were females. **Two** (40%) people in child only households were males.
- **Zero** people in child only households identified as transgender.

Since 2016

- The number of people in child only households decreased **37.5%** (from 8 in 2016 to 5 children in 2017).
- The number of people in child only households in transitional housing was **zero**.
- The number of unsheltered people in child only households was **zero**.
Unaccompanied & Parenting Youth Households

DEFINITION

**Unaccompanied youth:** People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and who are under the age of 25.

**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.

- 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 experiencing homelessness.

- 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 2017

- There were 66 unaccompanied youth on a single night in January 2017—approximately 4% of the total homeless population.
- 24% (24) of all youth were parents.

Shelter Type, 2017

- 61% (40 people) of the unaccompanied homeless youth were in emergency and seasonal shelters.
- 12% (8 people) were in transitional housing.
- 27% (18 people) of the unaccompanied youth were unsheltered in 2017.
Gender of Homeless People in Unaccompanied Youth Households, 2017

- **59%** (39) of people in unaccompanied youth households were males and **39%** (26) were females.
- **One** (2%) person in an unaccompanied youth household did not identify with a gender.
- Unaccompanied youth that identified as female were predominantly in emergency and seasonal shelters (**65%** or 17 people) or in transitional housing (**31%** or 8 people).

Due to adjustments to the 2010-2016 data, no historical comparisons can be made in this category.
From 2015 to 2017, 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.

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.

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

DEFINITION

Individual or head of household with a disability who lives in a place not meant for human habitation 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.
On a Single Night in January 2017

- **147** people were identified in chronically homeless households, representing **10%** of all homeless people on a single night.

- **53%** (78) of the 147 chronically homeless people experiencing homelessness were individuals and **47%** (69) were in households with other adults. There were **0** chronically homeless households with adults and children.

- Chronically homeless individuals in adult only households represented **15%** of the total number of people in adult only households and **10%** of all homeless people.

Shelter Type, 2017

- **53%** (78 people) of chronically homeless people were identified in emergency and seasonal shelters. The other **47%** (69 people) were unsheltered.

Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type 2017

- Emergency & Seasonal: **53%**
- Transitional Housing: **0%**
- Unsheltered: **47%**

N=147
Since 2016

- The number of chronically homeless people decreased by **14%** (from 170 people in 2016 to 147 people in 2017).

- The number of unsheltered chronically homeless people increased by **17%** (from 59 people in 2016 to 69 people in 2017) and the number of sheltered chronically homeless people in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by **29%** (from 110 people in 2016 to 78 people in 2017).
From 2015 to 2017, community initiatives and policies that specifically targeted decreasing the number of homeless veterans included the Housing Our Heroes effort to end veteran homelessness and the A Way Home Housing Endowment, which prioritizes veteran households with adults and children. 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 2017

- There were 137 homeless veterans in Mecklenburg County. Homeless veterans accounted for nearly 12% of all homeless adults.
- 12% (17 people) of veterans are chronically homeless.

Shelter Type, 2017

- The majority of homeless veterans were sheltered in emergency shelters (46% or 63 people) or transitional housing (36% or 50 people). The remaining 18% (24 people) were in unsheltered locations.
- Homeless veterans comprised about 9% (113 people) of the overall sheltered homeless population and 11% (24 people) of the overall unsheltered population.

Homeless Veterans by Shelter Type 2017

- Emergency & Seasonal: 46%
- Transitional Housing: 36%
- Unsheltered: 18%

N=137

Veterans experiencing homelessness: 137
Of all adults experiencing homelessness were veterans: 12%
8% From 2016 to 2017
Race of Homeless Veterans, 2017

- Approximately **70%** (96 people) of homeless veterans were Black, **24%** (33 people) were White, **6%** (8 people) were American Indian.

- **49%** (47 people) of Black homeless veterans were in emergency and seasonal shelter compared to **38.5%** (37 people) in transitional housing.

- **42%** (14 people) of White homeless veterans were in emergency and seasonal shelters. A slightly lower proportion **27%** (or 9 people) were in transitional housing.

- **30%** (10 out of 33) of White homeless veterans were counted in unsheltered locations, while **12.5%** (12 out of the 96) of Black veterans were counted in unsheltered locations and **25%** (2 out of the 8) of American Indian veterans were counted in unsheltered locations.

- **2%** (3 people) of the homeless veterans identified as Hispanic/Latino.

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Homeless Veterans by Race 2017

- Black: 70%
- White: 24%
- American Indian: 6%

Number of Homeless Veterans by Ethnicity 2017

- Non-Hispanic/Latino: 98%
- Hispanic/Latino: 2%
Gender of Homeless Veterans, 2017

- **87%** (119 people) of homeless veterans were males and **13%** (18 people) were females.
- **80%** of homeless male veterans (95 people) and **100%** of homeless female veterans (18 people) were sheltered.

Household Type of Homeless Veterans, 2017

- **4%** (6 people) were in veteran households with adults and children and **96%** (131 people) of homeless veterans were in veteran households with adults only.
- **37.4%** (49 people) of homeless veterans in veteran households with adults only were in transitional housing. The remaining **44.3%** (58 people) were in emergency and seasonal shelter and **18.3%** (24 people) were unsheltered.

Homeless Veterans by Gender

- Male: **87%**
- Female: **13%**

N=137

Homeless Veterans by Household Type

- Adults and Children: **4%**
- Adults Only: **96%**

N=137
Since 2016

- The number of homeless veterans decreased by 8% (from 149 people in 2016 to 137 people in 2017).
- The number of homeless individual veterans in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by 5% (from 66 people in 2016 to 63 people in 2017). The number of veterans in transitional housing decreased, by 14% (from 58 people in 2016 to 50 people in 2017).
- The number of unsheltered veterans stayed relatively the same (25 in 2016 and 24 in 2017) and the number of sheltered veterans decreased by 9% (from 124 people in 2016 to 113 people in 2017).
In 2016 and 2017, the PIT Count Steering 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.

Because answering these survey questions was not required, response rates may vary for each question depending on whether the person chose to answer the question.
The overwhelming majority of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness were men (84.7% or 182 people).

The majority of unsheltered individuals slept on the street (60% or 130 people) or in a camp (29% or 63 people) on the night of the count. Other places not fit for human habitation (7% or 14 people) include places like abandoned buildings and bus stations.

The majority (91% or 195 people) of individuals were age 25 or older. The average age of unsheltered persons was roughly 45 years.

Note: The average age does not include individuals whose ages were observed by the person implementing the survey.
Race of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- Race of unsheltered individuals differed from the larger homeless population. Unsheltered individuals were 34% (or 74 people) White and 61% (or 132 people) Black compared to 18% (or 272 people) White and 79% (1,170 people) Black in the larger homeless population.

Ethnicity of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The ethnicity of unsheltered individuals is the same as the larger homeless population. Unsheltered individuals were 4% (9 people) Hispanic/Latino.

Veteran Status of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- 11% (or 24 people) of the unsheltered individuals were veterans.
The majority (70% or 130 people) of individuals have a source of income.

The majority of individuals received income from employment (55% or 72 people) or disability income (24% or 31 people).
Chronic Homelessness Status of People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness, 2017

- **68%** (146) of those unsheltered were not chronically homeless and **32%** (69) were chronically homeless.

Length of Current Homelessness Episode of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The overwhelming majority (**62%** or 101 people) of unsheltered individuals' current episode of homelessness was more than 12 months.

Note: While unsheltered persons' current length of homelessness may be for more than 12 months, they are not classified as chronically homeless unless they also have a disability.

Length of Current Homelessness Episode of Unsheltered Persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12+ months</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 6 months</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 3 months</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 11 months</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 30 days</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A week or less</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=163
Whether Unsheltered Persons had Stayed in a Shelter in the Last 2 years

- **Yes**: 47%
- **No**: 53%

N=182

**Why Unsheltered Persons were not in a Shelter, 2017**

- **30%** (or 52 people) of unsheltered individuals said the main reason they did not stay in a shelter was because they were full or unclean.

Note: 15% of unsheltered individuals stated a reason of “Other” however there was not enough information to provide analysis of this category.

**Why Unsheltered Persons were not in a Shelter**

- Shelter is full: 17%
- Other: 15%
- Unclean shelters: 13%
- I do not feel safe: 11%
- I am afraid my things will be stolen: 10%
- Too many people to feel comfortable: 7%
- Banned/not eligible: 7%
- Too structured/Lack of control: 7%
- Lack of privacy / fear of crowds: 6%
- I do not want to be separated from companion/pet: 3%
- Hours do not work with job schedule: 2%
- Shelter does not allow substance use: 1%

N=176
Persons Moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in Last 2 Years, 2017

- The majority (68%) of unsheltered persons have lived in Charlotte-Mecklenburg for more than 2 years. The remaining 32% moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last two years.

- The majority of individuals that moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years moved from North/South Carolina (48% or 29 people) and other parts of the U.S. (40% or 24 people).

- Of those that moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg within the last two years, the majority relocated for job opportunities (35% or 21 people) or family/friends (30% or 18 people).

- Roughly two-thirds (or 38 people) of the unsheltered people who came to Charlotte-Mecklenburg within the last two years did not have housing when they arrived.

Note: 12% of unsheltered individuals stated a location of “Other” however there was not enough information to provide analysis of this category.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N=185</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those who moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years, where did they move from?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surrounding County</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other part of NC</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other part US</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N=60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those who moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years, did they have housing when they moved?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Status</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did not have housing</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had housing</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N=57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those who moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in last 2 Years, why did they move?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Job Opportunities</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family / Friends</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want a fresh start</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am from here</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Services / Resources</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like it here</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am fleeing an abusive situation</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N=60</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix

DATA & METHODOLOGY

Unsheltered PIT 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 25, 2017.

The 2017 PIT Count occurred with the assistance of over 170 volunteers on 24 survey teams. Volunteers went out Thursday morning to ask people where they had slept the night before to identify people sleeping in places unfit for humanhabitation.

Two volunteer training sessions were held to familiarize volunteers with the PIT Count and survey. Survey locations included uptown streets, homeless camps, greenways, soup kitchens, libraries, and hospital waiting rooms.

As part of a nationwide effort to establish baseline data for youth, special data collection strategies were employed to address the unique data collection needs of unsheltered homeless youth. Strategies included targeting known locations for unsheltered youth, utilizing youth-specific providers and including screening questions that differentiate between youth who are homeless under non-HUD definitions and those homeless under the HUD definition.

Data collection

For the unsheltered data collection in 2017, volunteers collected data on a printed form. Volunteers were divided into teams that were headed by a captain. Each team was assigned to a specific geographic area within Mecklenburg County and received a map to ensure maximum coverage of the geographic area. Street outreach staff from Urban Ministry Center with assistance from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department coordinated the unsheltered count and provided information of where camps are located throughout the county so that teams could target those areas.

Recognizing that verifying chronic homelessness status requires multiple responses to survey questions, volunteers had access to a hotline during the count in order to verify chronic homelessness status of unsheltered persons in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The unsheltered persons being interviewed provided consent before HMIS records were checked. 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.

Once collected, the data were entered into an Excel spreadsheet by a staff person. These data were cross-referenced with HMIS data to improve accuracy and prevent duplicate entries for the sheltered and unsheltered count. Final data sets were reviewed by a data quality review committee comprised of local agency volunteers.
Weather
The 2017 PIT Count occurred on a night that was warmer than normal, which may have resulted in a higher number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations.²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overnight Low</td>
<td>10°</td>
<td>27°</td>
<td>32°</td>
<td>57°</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sheltered PIT 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.”³

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.

Data collection
For the sheltered count data in 2017, 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, 14 agencies, representing 21 projects, participated in the sheltered count.

HIC
The housing inventory count provides a one-night snapshot of the capacity to house people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness. The HIC includes the number of beds designated for people experiencing homelessness (emergency and seasonal shelter and transitional housing) and formerly experiencing homelessness (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing).

Data collection
All agencies in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) were required to participate in the HIC. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg HMIS Database was used to compile the data for CoC agencies that use HMIS. Data were checked by CoC staff and reviewed by the PIT Count Steering Committee. 23 agencies and 57 projects are represented in the HIC. The number of agencies and programs included in the HIC is larger than the number included in the PIT Count because the PIT does not include permanent housing, while the HIC does.

² Source: https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/usa/charlotte/historic?month=1&year=2017
Changes in data and methodology in 2017

Data requirements and definitions are established by HUD and have changed from year to year as the HUD PIT Count data collection requirements have expanded, 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 2017:

- **Chronically homeless:** Chronic homelessness is now reported by household type. For households with multiple individuals, all members of the household should be counted as chronically homeless.

- **Gender:** The response categories for gender expanded to include “Don’t identify as male, female, or transgender.”

**Methodology**

- **Additional survey questions added:** Based on community feedback, the PIT Count Steering Committee decided to collect additional information on people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, specifically related to: source of income and whether the person or household had ever stayed in a shelter in Mecklenburg County in the past 2 years.

- **Adjustments to historical data:** Historical PIT Count sheltered data and HIC data from 2010 to 2016 were adjusted to use consistent project type classifications. Since 2010, HUD has provided additional guidance on how to define project types and what project types should be included or excluded from the PIT and HIC. The result is that project types were historically included in the PIT and HIC that would not be included under HUD’s current guidelines. The adjusted data uses consistent project type classifications, allowing for more accurate analysis of historical trends. The adjusted PIT data from 2010 to 2015 are available by shelter type but are not available by household type. Data at the household type level are only available for 2016 and 2017. While this limits the ability to look further back historically, it allows for more accurate trend data from 2016 to 2017 and creates the foundation for more accurate historical data moving forward. The result of the adjustments is that the overall homeless count decreased for each year, as did the inventory. Over time, the trend is still a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness, however the decrease is at a slower rate compared to the unadjusted numbers. See the Appendix for more details on the differences between the original and adjusted numbers.

- **Data verification:** Both sheltered and unsheltered count data were cross-referenced with the chronic and veteran homelessness registries to verify status for each.

- **Planning:** The planning process for the PIT Count was informed by a feedback session held in 2016. Infrastructure for the PIT Count was also established that included a steering committee and five working groups: sheltered count, unsheltered count, data/HMIS, communication, and volunteer recruitment and training.

**Agencies that participated in the 2017 PIT and HIC**

1. ABCCM *(HIC only)*
2. Another Choice for Black Children *(HIC only)*
3. Carolinas CARE Partnership *(HIC only)*
4. Charlotte Family Housing
5. Community Link *(HIC only)*
6. Community Support Services *(HIC only)*
7. Family Endeavors *(HIC only)*
8. Family Forum, Inc.
9. Florence Crittenton
10. Friendship Missionary Community Development Corporation
11. HomeCare of the Carolinas
12. Hope Haven *(HIC only)*
13. Hope House Foundation
14. Men’s Shelter of Charlotte
15. Safe Alliance
16. Salvation Army Center of Hope
17. Samaritan’s House of Charlotte
18. Sunshine Village
19. Supportive Housing Communities *(HIC only)*
20. The Relatives
21. Urban Ministry Center
22. Veterans Administration *(HIC only)*
23. YWCA of the Central Carolinas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agencies</th>
<th>PIT &amp; HIC</th>
<th>HIC Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ES</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another Choice for Black Children</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolinas CARE Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte Family Housing</td>
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<td>Community Link</td>
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<td>Community Support Services</td>
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<td>Family Endeavors</td>
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<td>Florence Crittenton</td>
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<td>Friendship Missionary CDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>HomeCare of the Carolinas</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hope Haven</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hope House Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Shelter of Charlotte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samaritan House</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Village</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Supportive Housing Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Relatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Ministry Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Veteran’s Administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Changes in data and methodology 2009 - 2016

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.

2014-2016
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. 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.
LIMITATIONS

There are several limitations to the 2017 PIT Count and HIC, as well as the PIT Count and HIC overall. Given its limitations, the 2017 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 projects are categorized may have an impact on findings. For example, a program that is transitional housing units may be reclassified the next year 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, which 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 may be considered homeless under the other definitions of homelessness.

Methodology changes. Because of the unsheltered 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 and observed data. Self-reported data should not be viewed as an exact number. Individuals may choose whether or not to answer these highly personal questions and to do so truthfully or not. 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. 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.

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)
ADJUSTMENTS TO THE HISTORICAL PIT COUNT NUMBERS
Historical PIT Count sheltered data and HIC data from 2010 to 2016 were adjusted to use consistent project type classifications. Since 2010, HUD has provided additional guidance on how to define project types and what project types should be included or excluded from the PIT and HIC. The result is that project types were historically included in the PIT and HIC that would not be included under HUD’s current guidelines. The adjusted data uses consistent project type classifications, allowing for more accurate analysis of historical trends. The adjusted PIT data from 2010 to 2015 are available by shelter type but are not available by household type. Data at the household type level are only available for 2016 and 2017. While this limits the ability to look further back historically, it allows for more accurate trend data from 2016 to 2017 and creates the foundation for more accurate historical data moving forward. The result of the adjustments is that the overall homeless count decreased for each year, as did the inventory. Over time, the trend is still a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness, however the decrease is at a slower rate compared to the unadjusted numbers. Table 5 summarizes the differences between the original PIT Count numbers and the adjusted numbers.

TABLE 5. ORIGINAL AND ADJUSTED PIT COUNT NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Adjusted</th>
<th>Difference</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2824</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2848</td>
<td>1983</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2567</td>
<td>1739</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2418</td>
<td>1454</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1551</td>
<td>-463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1530</td>
<td>-471</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>1487</td>
<td>-331</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

NATIONAL CONTEXT
In the last eight years, federal policy governing the national response to homelessness has 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 (USICH) 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, which was amended in 2015, established the following goals:

- Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in five years.
- 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.

LOCAL CONTEXT

2016-2017 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 2017, four agencies receive funds through the pilot program: Charlotte Family Housing, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Salvation Army Center of Hope, 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
- Case management meetings to expedite veteran housing
- Accelerating and streamlining existing operational processes
- Agency coordination and outreach
- Active engagement of landlords
- Expediting determination of veteran status

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, focusing on the Housing First model.

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4 The original goal for ending chronic homelessness was 2016. In February 2015, the USICH extended this goal to 2017.
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 more permanent supportive housing units, and develop additional leadership and staff support for the Housing First model.

2016-2017 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 (or within 14 days in the case of families). For people identified as experiencing chronic homelessness, an additional assessment called the Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) is administered. In 2016, social workers began administering a VI-SPDAT assessment specific to families that are literally homeless or at risk of homelessness within 14 days.

Low Barrier Rapid Re-Housing Initiatives
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community is shifting to fund 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 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

- **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**
  Both the public and private sectors of Charlotte-Mecklenburg are investing in and working to strengthen research and evaluation efforts to better understand homelessness and housing instability.
### TABLE 6. SUMMARY DATA TABLES

#### TOTAL PERSONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2010-2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>1076</td>
<td>991</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>-34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>215</td>
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<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1674</td>
<td>1476</td>
<td>-26%</td>
<td>-12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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#### HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS AND CHILDREN

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<tr>
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<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>375</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>-25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>507</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>-9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>-39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1159</td>
<td>1011</td>
<td>-13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>79%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### CHILD ONLY HOUSEHOLDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PARENTING YOUTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>-29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>169</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>-13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VETERANS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>149</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Sheltered</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unsheltered</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### AGE - 2017

<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>680</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>1064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons age 18-24</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons age 17 or younger</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GENDER - 2017

<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>535</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not identify</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RACE/ETHNICITY - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Emergency &amp; Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>1416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>