

METRO DENVER HOMELESS INITIATIVE

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



www.mdhi.org

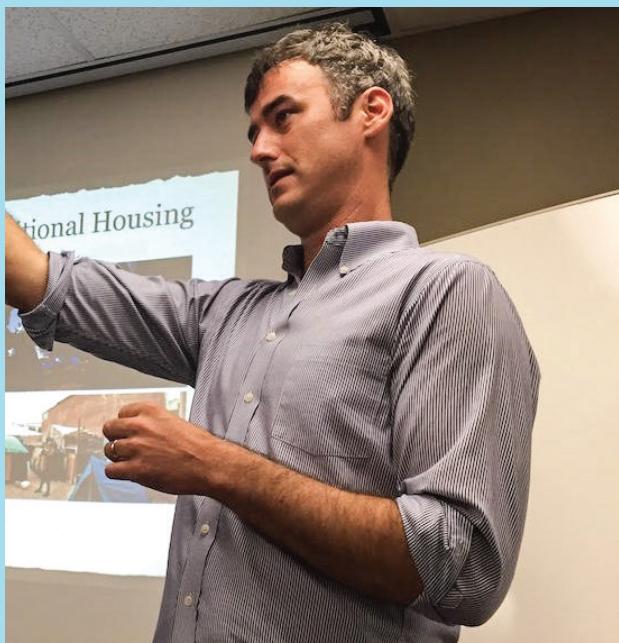
LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Monday, May 22, 2017

A few years ago, I was a street outreach worker in Nashville, TN. My job was to engage people sleeping outside while trying to be a nonjudgmental guide through the system of housing and homeless services.

During one of my morning rounds, I approached a man sitting on a stoop close to the riverfront. As I got closer, it became clear that he had passed away. I quickly called the police and waited, sitting quietly by his lifeless body. We never found out this man's name. He had no identification and he was not known to emergency shelter providers. He was not "connected," as we say in the field.

This experience helped me understand the lethality of homelessness and the urgency with which we need to approach our work each day. Since taking my post as Executive Director of MDHI, I have been getting to know key leaders and familiarizing myself with the regional work around homelessness. I have been impressed by the region's committed and innovative partners, who are essential to an effective response to homelessness.



Currently, the region seems to have a collection of programs designed to serve people experiencing homelessness who are seeking services and who are deeply "connected." This is not acceptable. We can build a "system to end homelessness" that efficiently responds to the dynamic realities of homelessness.

Creating a system to end homelessness is the vision that my team and I will strive to accomplish in the coming months and years. Significantly reducing, and functionally ending homelessness in Metro Denver is possible with a housing-focused, systems-based, data-informed approach.

To be successful, the MDHI team will continue to support the programs and interventions that are working well, sharpen those needing improvement, bring rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing programs to scale, implement performance outcome measures, and lead the community in creating a cohesive and unified homeless crisis response system.

Years of being a street outreach worker taught me that progress towards reducing homelessness cannot be made without the full support and commitment of service providers, public servants, the faith community, landlords, and local business people dedicated to reducing homelessness.

I look forward to leading the effort to develop a system to end homelessness based on data and best practices. I am confident that with the full commitment of our community, we can significantly and visibly reduce homelessness in Metro Denver.

Will Connelly, Executive Director
Metro Denver Homeless Initiative

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MDHI's Core Values

Data-Driven

We believe in open and transparent data to inform our work in the region.

Regional

MDHI serves as a regional leader to disseminate best practices related to housing and homeless services.

Housing-Focused

We work with housing providers to implement Housing-First and client choice policies.

POINT-IN-TIME 2016 FINDINGS

MDHI worked in partnership with local governments, non-profits, faith communities, foundations and volunteers to conduct the 2016 Point-in-Time survey.

The annual PIT survey deploys more than a hundred volunteers from the metro Denver region to capture the housing and service needs of persons experiencing homelessness on a single night of the year. Each year, the PIT effort is dependent upon volunteer turnout, local community organization, weather, and participation of those experiencing homelessness.

On January 25, 2016

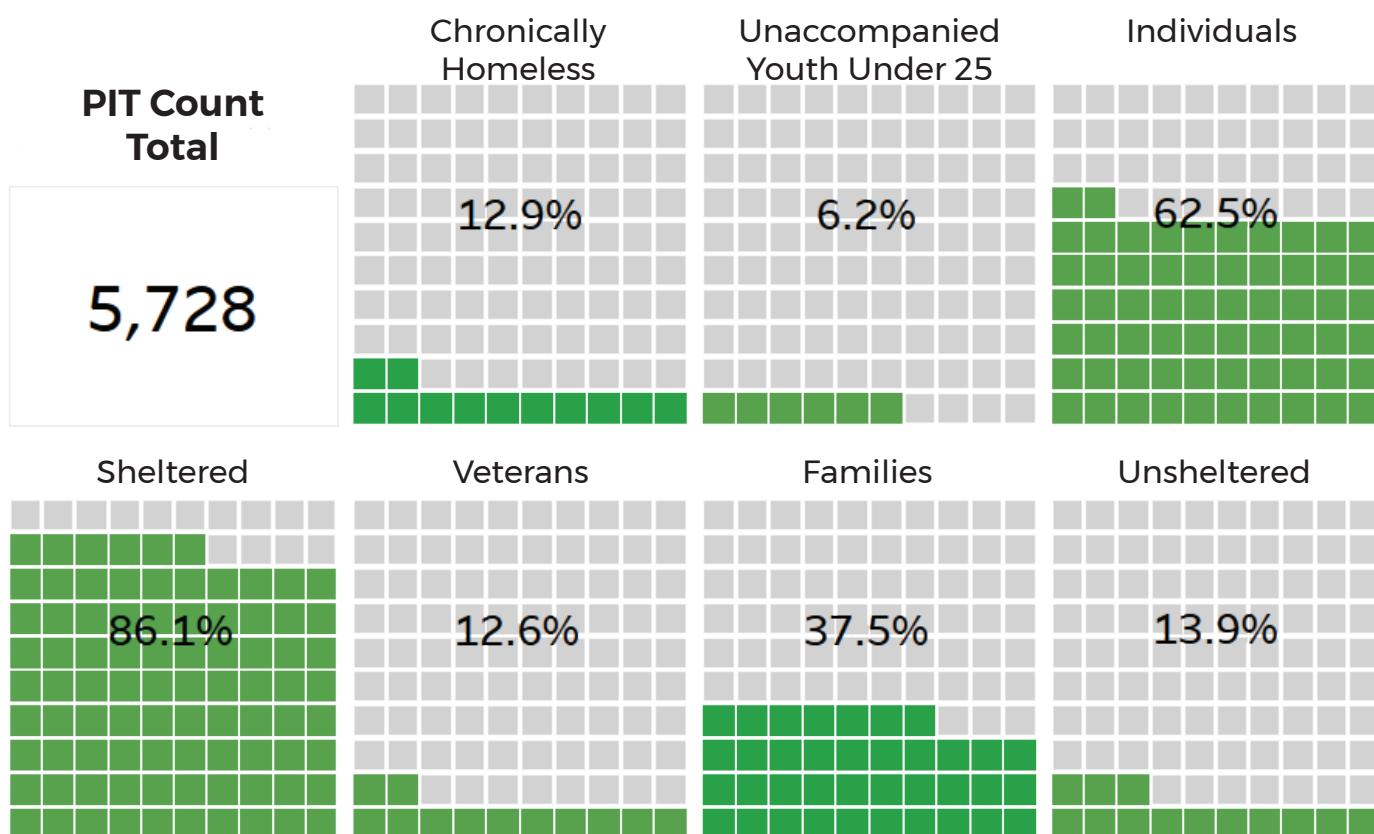
125 volunteers

surveyed

5,728 people

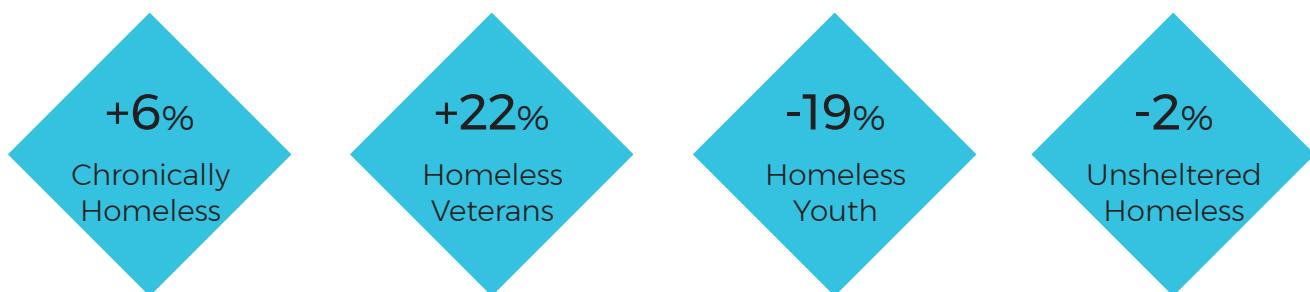
experiencing homelessness

2016 Point-in-Time Count Homeless Subpopulations by Percentage

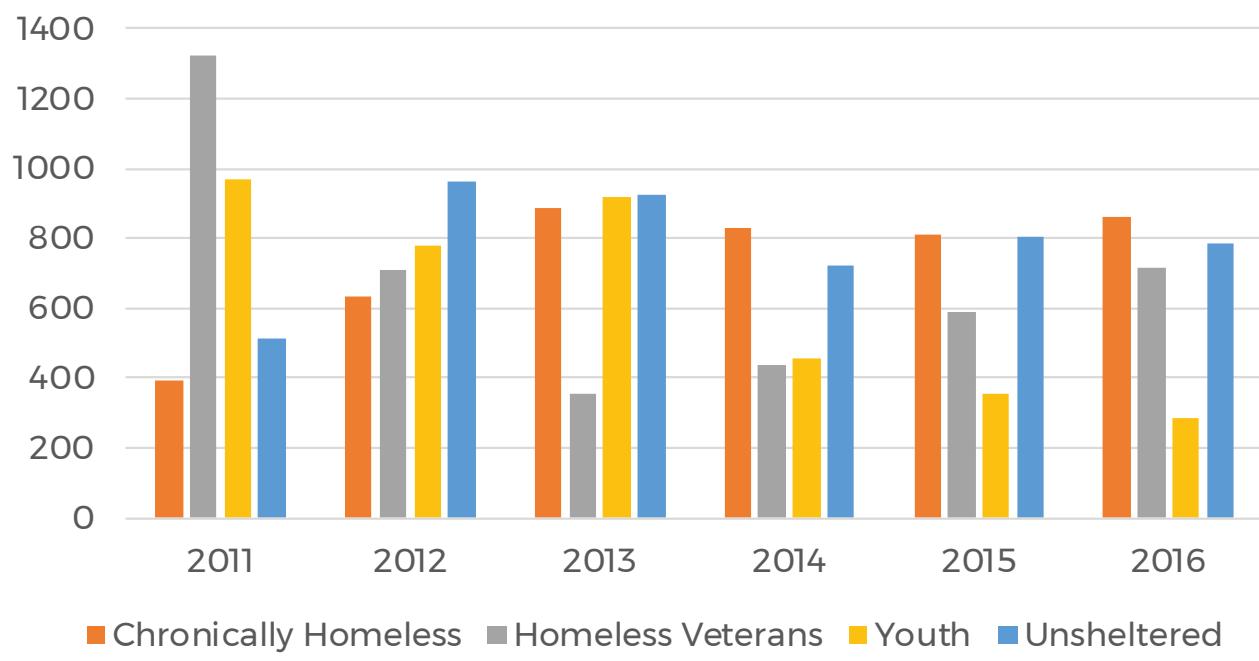


POPULATION DATA AT-A-GLANCE

Change in Homelessness by Subpopulation 2015 - 2016



Point-in-Time Subpopulation Counts



The full 2016 Point-in-Time report is available at mdhi.org

OneHome

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

From CAHPS to OneHome

Since 2014, dozens of community agencies and providers have worked together to build a coordinated access and housing placement system (CAHPS) in Metro Denver. In October 2016, the foundational efforts of that leadership culminated in OneHome, the newly branded name for the HUD-required coordinated entry system in Metro Denver.

Coordinated entry works as a triage system to match limited housing resources with those most in need, starting with Veteran and Chronic Homelessness in 2014 and adding Family and Youth Homelessness in 2016. Utilizing Housing First, OneHome seeks to reduce barriers for people experiencing homelessness, rapidly get them into housing and increase capacity across a cohort of housing providers.



OneHome

Together, bringing people home

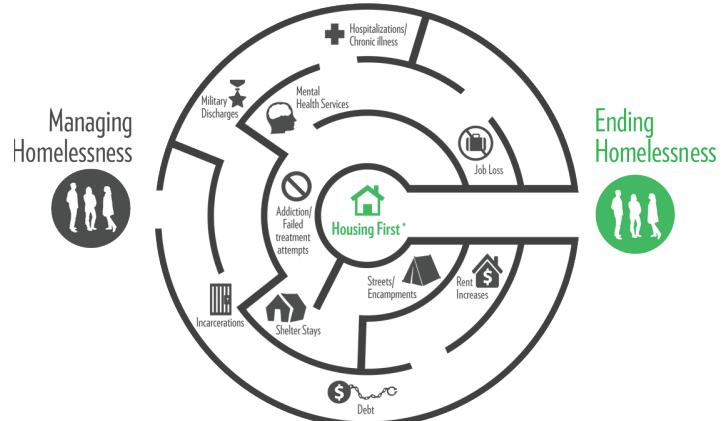


Image Credit: Destination Homes
Santa Clara County, CA

2016 Recap

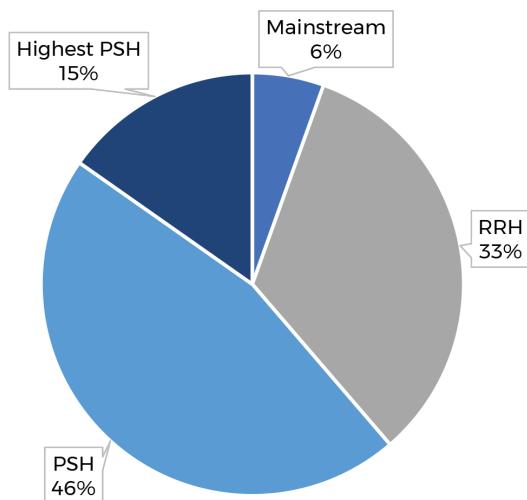
MDHI hired Ian Fletcher as the OneHome Program Manager in 2016 to lead and coordinate the efforts to not only meet, but exceed the guidelines set forth by HUD and the MDHI community to achieve a robust coordinated entry system.

Additional capacity beyond the dedicated OneHome system staff at Denver's Road Home is furthered by contracts with Volunteers of America Colorado and Colorado Coalition for the Homeless to operate the day-to-day processes for individuals, youth, and families, respectively. The OneHome interagency team provides expertise and incorporates best practices to maintain, evaluate, and improve coordinated entry in the Metro Denver region.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

VI-SPDAT

Individual VI-SPDAT Scores 2016



HOUSED
in 2016

196

People experiencing
chronic homelessness

687

Veteran households
experiencing homelessness

Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

This survey assessment tool identifies who should be recommended for specific housing and support interventions, moving the discussion from simply who is eligible for a service intervention to who is eligible and in greatest need of that intervention.

Over 80 communities in the U.S. and Canada utilize the VI-SPDAT to match participants to the most appropriate, rather than the most intensive, housing interventions available.

OneHome has been using the Individual VI-SPDAT as a component of the coordinated entry system for three years, while the Family VI-SPDAT and the youth version, known as the TAY-VI-SPDAT, started as pilot programs in 2016.

Types of Interventions

Mainstream: scores in this range allow households with lower acuity to self-resolve their housing crisis with a minimal amount of case management and navigation using market rate housing.

Rapid Rehousing (RRH): these scores allow households with moderate acuity to work with robust case management and financial assistance to obtain rental housing within several months.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH): scores in this range allow households with high acuity, and chronic homelessness, including a disability and longer stays in homelessness, to find housing stability through intensive supportive services and a subsidized voucher.

REGIONAL CAPACITY

Peer Navigator Program

MDHI's Peer Navigator Program hires individuals with lived experience in homelessness to provide direct service to clients who may otherwise be reluctant to engage with service providers. These navigators establish a rapport with clients and connect individuals experiencing homelessness to housing, healthcare, employment, and other resources. A secondary goal of this program is to provide professional development opportunities to these navigators through supportive employment.

Program Vision

Agency Change -> Work with homeless service providers to develop paid opportunities for individuals with lived homeless experience.

Systems Change -> Work with health care and housing providers to help individuals access resources and create best practices for accessing resources.

Transformational Change-> Support peer navigators to stabilize their lives, provide career development, and assist them in securing more permanent career opportunities.

Project Outcomes

In 2016, peer navigators assisted over 300 (unique) individuals experiencing homelessness with healthcare, housing, benefits, and other services. These peers helped clients with federal benefits (such as WIC, SNAP, SSI), housing, immediate needs, identification documents, legal issues, and accessing healthcare (such as mental health services, prescriptions, and doctor's visits).

Thank you to our Peer Navigator Program partners:

- Bridge House (Boulder, CO)
- Metro Community Provider Network (Regional)
- H.O.P.E. (Longmont, CO)
- Rocky Mountain Center for Positive Change (Regional)

This program is supported by:



Behavioral Health & Wellness Program

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
School of Medicine



AmeriCorps VISTA

MDHI leads an AmeriCorps VISTA project, supported by the federal Corporation for National and Community Service, which is focused on building capacity for agencies working to end homelessness, both within specific counties and regionally. The project engages stakeholders, investors, and those in need to build a sustainable system that will prevent and end homelessness in the Denver metropolitan area.

The eight member VISTA team provided regional capacity building support to over 130 organizations in 2016 through projects with MDHI, OneHome, the annual Point-in-Time count, and a number of local initiatives.

Thank you to our 2016 VISTA partner sites:

- Aurora Housing Authority
- Adams Co. Housing Authority
- City of Boulder Human Services
- MCPN
- Denver's Road Home
- Close to Home,
- The Denver Foundation
- Family Tree

FY16 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Assets		Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Assets		Current Liabilities	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$134,244	Accounts payable	\$12,148
Cash restricted by donors	\$63,395	Accrued paid leave	\$14,490
Grants receivable	\$192,374	Total Liabilities	\$26,638
Prepaid expenses	\$2,780	Net Assets	
Total Current Assets	\$392,793	Unrestricted net assets	\$165,771
Property and equipment	\$40,016	Temporary restricted net assets	\$240,400
Total Assets	\$432,809	Total Net Assets	\$406,171
Revenue and Support		Expenses	
Federal grants	\$210,473	Program services	\$366,540
Foundation grants	\$206,738	General and administrative	\$53,385
Local government grants	\$149,399	Fundraising	\$7,395
Program service fees	\$62,136	Total Expenses	\$427,320
In-kind services	\$12,227		
Contributions	\$8,256	Change in Net Assets	\$221,940
Other income	\$31	Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$184,231
Total Revenue and Support	\$649,260	Net Assets, End of Year	\$406,171

Chart of Revenue

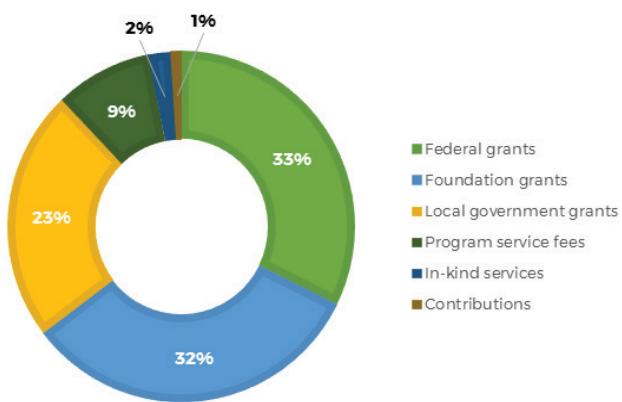
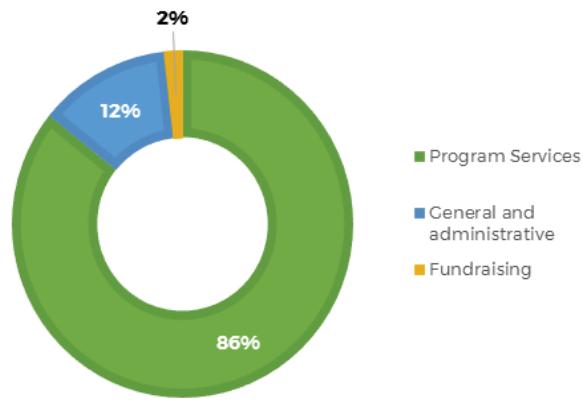


Chart of Expenses



Audited Financial Statements
Fiscal Year 2016: July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

The full auditors' report is available at mdhi.org

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Thank you to our 2016 funders!

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Robert R. McCormick Foundation,
Denver Post Season to Share

The Denver Foundation

University of Colorado, Behavioral
Health & Wellness Program

Mile High United Way

Denver Human Services

Butler Family Fund

Enterprise Community Partners



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