

PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS

Marion and Polk Counties

Results of January 27, 2010 Homeless Survey

Homeless Totals

Totals for the homeless count conducted on January 27, 2010 include one-night emergency shelter and transitional housing program counts (One Night Shelter Count); count reports from eight school district sites in Marion and Polk counties (School Counts); site count surveys at the Department of Human Services, the YWCA, Salem Hospital, Marion County and City of Salem Courts, Salvation Army, Northwest Human Services, Union Gospel Mission Family Closet, St. Joseph's Shelter, Polk County Corrections, and Shangri-La (Short Surveys); Marion and Polk jail surveys (Marion County Jail Survey and Polk County Jail Survey); homeless observed count; and street surveys (Homeless Street Surveys).

The total number of homeless individuals counted in Marion and Polk counties on January 27, 2010 was 3,366. The total number counted on January 28, 2009 was 3,244, an increase of 122 individuals.

2010 HOMELESS COUNT

One Night Shelter Counts		Short Surveys	
Individuals Sheltered	884	Surveys completed	135
Households Sheltered	469		
Individuals Turned Away	50	Polk County Jail Survey	
Households Turned Away	21	(82 surveys completed)	
		✓ Released into homelessness (within 1 week)	4
School Counts		Marion County Jail Survey	
(No Sheltered Families Included in Count)		(151 surveys completed)	
Marion County School Districts		✓ Released into homelessness (within 1 week)	
Cascade		16	
• Youth	21		
• Adults	2		
Gervais		Homeless Street Surveys	
• Youth	20	✓ Completed Surveys	242
Salem/Keizer		✓ Observed (not surveyed)	211
• Youth	555		
• Unaccompanied Youth	175		
• Adults	319		
Silver Falls		TOTALS:	
• Youth	75	SHELTERS	
• Adults	43	✓ Individuals Sheltered	884
Stayton		✓ Individuals Turned Away	50
• Youth	95	SCHOOL COUNTS	
• Adults	32	✓ Homeless Youth	1,272
Woodburn		✓ Adults	552
• Youth	240	SHORT SURVEYS	
• Adults	145	135	
Polk County School Districts		JAIL SURVEYS	
Central		20	
• Youth	48	STREET SURVEYS	
• Adults	11	✓ Completed surveys	242
Dallas		✓ Observed (not surveyed)	211
• Youth	25	TOTAL	
Falls City		Homeless Count 2010	
• Youth	18	3,366	
Total Homeless Youth	1,272		
Total Homeless Adults	552		

MWVCAA ONE NIGHT HOMELESS COUNT
Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing & Emergency Financial Assistance
January 27, 2010

ORGANIZATION	INDIVIDUALS SHELTERED	HOUSEHOLDS SHELTERED	INDIVIDUALS TURNED AWAY	HOUSEHOLDS TURNED AWAY
ARCHES	46	23	0	0
Dallas Resource Center	17	4	0	0
Marion County Health	21	21	0	0
MVWCS - Emergency	7	6	0	0
MVWCS - Transitional	0	0	0	0
MWVCAA HPRP Prev	113	35	0	0
MWVCAA HPRP RRH	29	9	0	0
MWVCAA HSP	14	4	0	0
MWVCAA Marion TBA	55	16	0	0
MWVCAA Polk TBA	15	6	0	0
MWVCAA Salem TBA	41	14	0	0
NWHS Crisis Hotline	29	8	8	3
NWHS HOAP SH	3	3	0	0
NWHS HOST Shelter	8	8	0	0
NWHS HOST TLP	0	0	0	0
Polk C. Parole & Probation	3	3	0	0
Quest for Change	9	9	0	0
Sable House	1	1	4	3
Salem Housing Auth Emerg Financial Asst*	0	0	38	15
Salem Interfaith Hospitality	11	4	0	0
Salem Outreach Shelter	14	5	0	0
Salvation Army	58	50	0	0
Shangri-La New Options	17	14	0	0
Shelley's House	14	14	0	0
Silverton Area Comm Aid	52	12	0	0
Simonka Place Emerg	41	37	0	0
Simonka Place Trans	0	0	0	0
St Brigid Home	4	2	0	0
St Francis Shelter	37	13	0	0
St Joseph Shelter	32	9	0	0
St Monica Home	5	3	0	0
St Teresa's	Unable to get a report this year.			
St Vincent de Paul	60	19	0	0
Stayton Resource Center	16	5	0	0
Tahana Whitecrow	0	0	0	0
UGM Emergency	80	80	0	0
UGM Transitional	32	32	0	0
Woodburn Resource Ctr*	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	884	469	50	21

*Emergency Financial Assistance was not available from these sources on January 27, 2010.

Street Count Interviews January 27th, 2010

On January 27, 2010, over 80 community volunteers conducted 242 interviews with people who had no permanent place to live in Marion and Polk counties. The interviews were conducted on the street, in parks, under bridges, in camps and at area homeless service organizations. All participants were informed that their names would not be collected and that their participation was completely voluntary.

DEMOGRAPHICS:

Street interviews resulted in data collected from 188 males and 51 females. 38% of homeless respondents were between the ages of 36-50 and 30% were over 50. 17% of the participants were veterans. 55% of all participants reported graduating from high school and/or having some college education.

GENDER

	Count	Percent
Male	188	78%
Female	51	21%
No Response	3	1%
Total	242	100%

AGE GROUPS

	Count	Percent
Under 21	22	9%
21-35	44	18%
36-50	91	38%
51-65	72	30%
Over 65	7	3%
No Response	6	2%
Total	242	100%

EDUCATION LEVEL

	Count	Percent
Still in HS or MS	3	1%
Grade 1-9	34	14%
Grade 10-12	61	25%
GED	41	17%
HS Graduate	48	20%
Some College	35	14%
College Graduate	9	4%
No Response	11	5%
Total	242	100%

VETERAN STATUS

	Count	Percent
Yes	40	17%
No	198	82%
No Response	4	1%
Total	242	100%

HOMELESS CHARACTERISTICS:

89 participants (37%) indicated they have been homeless for less than 1 year, and 149 participants (61%) have been homeless for more than 1 year. 146 (60%) of the participants have stayed in a shelter at some point during their homelessness. 74% of participants indicated they eat regularly, although 194 (80%) say they eat 2 times or less per day. In 2009, 27% of participants stated they ate 3 meals a day, in 2010 only 19% indicated they ate 3 meals a day. 60% of respondents indicated they were “out here alone”. Of those not alone, 40% were with family. Of those with family, when asked, “If with family, number of children”, most declined to answer. However, of those that did answer, 33 children were identified. 64% of respondents indicated they were looking for work, a 3% increase over 2009. When asked what could be done to improve their situation, 36% said a job or work opportunities and 17% said having a place to live. The most prevalent source of income for the participants was “odd jobs” at 14%, while 16% of participants indicated that they had “no income”. 55% of participants made \$500 or less per month; (there were a large number of “no response”, 31%, to this question). 31% said that lack of work or loss of work led to their current circumstance, a 4% increase over 2009 and a 12% increase since 2008. When asked about the most difficult aspect of being homeless, 22% said loneliness/depression/or uncertain future and 17% said staying warm and dry. 28% of participants were chronically homeless, a 4% increase over 2009, defined as: Continuously homeless for 1 year or had at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the past 3 years, disabled, and alone.

LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

	Count	Percent
Less than 1 year	89	37%
1-3 years	64	26%
3-5 years	27	11%
Over 5 years	26	11%
Over 10 years	19	8%
Over 20 years	13	5%
No response	4	2%
Total	242	100%

PLACE TO SLEEP

	Count	Percent
Street	58	24%
Vehicle	42	17%
Camp/Park	54	22%

Temp w/friend	63	26%
Other	16	6%
No Response	9	4%
Total	242	100%

STAYED IN SHELTER

	Count	Percent
Yes	146	60%
No	96	40%
No Response	0	0%
Total	242	100%

ABLE TO EAT REGULARLY

	Count	Percent
Yes	180	74%
No	62	26%
No Response	0	0%
Total	242	100%

HOW OFTEN DO YOU EAT

	Count	Percent
Less than 1 time a day	27	11%
1 time a day	68	28%
2 times a day	99	41%
3 times a day	46	19%
No Response	2	1%
Total	242	100%

ARE YOU ALONE

	Count	Percent
Yes	145	60%
No	94	39%
No Response	3	1%
Total	242	100%

IF NOT ALONE, WHO ARE YOU WITH

	Count	Percent
Family	38	40%
Friends	43	46%
No Response	13	7%
Total	94	100%

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

	Count	Percent
Yes	156	64%
No	82	34%
No Response	4	2%
Total	242	100%

NECESSARY TO IMPROVE CURRENT SITUATION*

	Count	Percent
Housing	44	17%
Job	95	36%
Medical	5	2%
Free Camping Zone/Camping Supplies	13	5%
Assistance obtaining ID	9	3%
Assistance obtaining SS/disability	16	6%
Increased Length of Stay in Shelters/More Shelters	12	5%
Nothing/Don't Know	7	3%
Addiction services	6	2%
Other	23	9%
No Response	33	9%
Total	263	100%

*Could have more than one answer per person

INCOME – MONEY SOURCE*

	Count	Percent
Social Security/Disability	35	13%
Panhandling	34	13%
Part-Time Work	18	7%
Job	11	4%
Recycle Cans	34	13%
Odd jobs	37	14%
Government assistance/VA Benefits	6	2%
Unemployment	13	5%
Plasma Donor	12	4%
No Income	43	16%
Other	10	4%
No Response	13	5%
Total	266	100%

*Could have more than one answer per person

HOW MUCH PER MONTH

	Count	Percent
\$0	55	23%
\$1 - \$500	78	32%
\$501 - \$1,000	33	14%
No Response	76	31%
Total	242	100%

LED TO CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCE*

	Count	Percent
Drugs/Alcohol	40	10%
Lack of Employment	127	31%
Mental/Physical Disability	45	11%
Felony Conviction	44	11%
DV/Relationship Issues	33	8%
Lack of Education/Job Skills	24	6%
Lack of Housing	68	17%
Other	16	4%
No Response	9	2%
Total	406	100%

*Could have more than one answer per person

DIFFICULTY OF BEING HOMELESS*

	Count	Percent
Obtaining employment	29	10%
Judged/Public Perception/Harassment	27	9%
Loneliness/Depression/Uncertain Future	63	22%
Medical Treatment/Medications	7	2%
Getting enough to eat	19	7%
Finding Place to Sleep	32	11%
Staying Warm/Dry	38	13%
Hygiene	15	5%
Transportation	7	2%
Violence/Safety Concerns	16	5%
Other	16	5%
No Response	25	9%
Total	294	100%

* Could have more than one answer per person

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

	Count	Percent
Yes	67	28%
No	175	72%
Total	242	100%

DISCRIMINATION, VIOLENCE AND HOMELESSNESS:

Participants were asked if they ever felt discriminated against, and whether they had ever experienced violence while homeless. 61% of participants indicated they had experienced discrimination because they were homeless and 36% had experienced violence while homeless.

DISCRIMINATION DUE TO HOMELESSNESS

	Count	Percent
Yes	147	61%
No	83	34%
No Response	12	5%
Total	242	100%

EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE

	Count	Percent
Yes	88	36%
No	146	60%
No Response	8	4%
Total	242	100%

JAIL AND PRISON EXPERIENCE:

Participants were asked about their jail and/or prison experience. These were not invasive questions but rather exploratory questions to determine if the participant had ever been in jail and/or prison. 73% of the participants said they had been in jail, a 3% increase from 2009 and a 7% increase from 2008. 32% of participants had been in prison, a 6% increase from 2009

EVER BEEN IN JAIL

	Count	Percent
Yes	177	73%
No	58	24%
No Response	7	3%
Total	242	100%

EVER BEEN IN PRISON

	Count	Percent
Yes	76	32%
No	156	64%
No Response	10	4%
Total	242	100%

HEALTH AND DISABILITY VARIABLES:

Participants were asked a series of questions related to health and disability. The purpose for asking these questions was to determine how many participants had health problems, disabilities, and how many felt they were at risk for HIV/AIDS and/or Hepatitis C. 59% indicated they had health problems, 63% dental problems, 59% said they had disability concerns, and 16% indicated they felt they were at risk for HIV/AIDS and/or Hepatitis C due to their homeless status. 49% of the participants had seen a doctor within the last year, while only 13% had seen a dentist within the last year. 24% of participants stated they had a substance abuse issue.

MEDICAL PROBLEMS

	Count	Percent
Yes	142	59%
No	90	37%
No Response	10	4%
Total	242	100%

DENTAL PROBLEMS

	Count	Percent
Yes	152	63%
No	81	33%
No Response	9	4%
Total	242	100%

DISABILITY CONCERNS

	Count	Percent
Yes	143	59%
No	99	41%
No Response	0	0%
Total	242	100%

IF YES: (143) *

	Count	Percent
Mental	61	36%
Physical	101	59%
Developmental	9	5%
Total	171	100%

*Could have more than one disability

AT RISK FOR HIV/AIDS OR HEPATITUS C

	Count	Percent
Yes	38	16%
No	191	79%
No Response	13	5%
Total	242	100%

LAST TIME SAW A DOCTOR

	Count	Percent
Past Year	118	49%
More than 1 Year	25	10%
2-3 Years	37	15%
4-5 Years	17	7%
Over 5 Years Ago	30	13%
Do Not Recall	9	4%
No Response	6	2%
Total	242	100%

LAST TIME SAW A DENTIST

	Count	Percent
Past Year	31	13%
More than 1 Year	27	11%
2-3 Years	43	18%
4-5 Years	25	10%
Over 5 Years Ago	88	36%
Do Not Recall	17	7%
No Response	11	5%
Total	242	100%

SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUE

	Count	Percent
Yes	58	24%
No	178	74%
No Response	6	2%
Total	242	100%