

Memo

To: Homeless Services Planning Board

From: CARES of NY, Inc.

Date: May 4, 2021

Subject: Housing Inventory and Point-in-Time Count Summary

Memo Overview and Intention

This memorandum summarizes highlights from the 2021 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) and Point-in-Time Count (PIT). The HIC-PIT will be submitted on behalf of the Continuum of Care on or before May 14th, 2021 according to HUD's requirement. This data is being shared with homeless shelter and housing providers to 1) identify and report to CARES any errors before submission and 2) identify 2021 HIC and PIT outcomes that will impact the CoC Application score. Please report any errors and/or questions to the CARES Planning Team.

2021 Housing Inventory Summary

Continuums are required to report annually on the number of available beds dedicated to homeless persons; these beds include emergency, safe havens, transitional and permanent housing. Below is a summary of changes within these beds from 2020 to 2021.

- **Safe Haven:** The number of Safe Haven beds increased by 3. Bethesda House of Schenectady, HCHV Emergency Veterans Initiative program type changed from ES to SH this year due to HUD guidance.
- **Emergency Housing:**
 - **Emergency Year-Round Beds:** The number of emergency year-round decreased by 9, from 170 to 161.
 - Bethesda House of Schenectady, HCHV Emergency Veterans Initiative program type changed from ES to SH this year, dropping ES beds by 3.
 - City Mission of Schenectady, Emergency Shelter decreased by 22 beds due to COVID social distancing requirements.
 - VA -Soldier On - EHA was added to the HIC this year due to new HUD guidance, resulting in an addition of 1 bed.
 - Peter Young Housing Industries, Emergency Shelter was new this year adding 15 beds.
 - **Emergency Overflow Beds:** The number of overflow beds decreased by 133, from 190 to 57.
 - DSS Various decreased by 133 beds due to a decrease in demand.
 - **Emergency Seasonal Beds:** The number of seasonal beds remained the same at 24.
- **Transitional Beds:** The number of transitional beds increased from 50 to 57.

- New Choices Recover Center, Bridge House was added to the HIC this year increasing the bed count by 2.
- New Choices Recover Center, Perrin House was added to the HIC this year increasing the bed count by 2.
- New Choices Recover Center, Purcell House was added to the HIC this year increasing the bed count by 2.
- New Choices Recover Center, Smith House was added to the HIC this year increasing the bed count by 2.
- City Mission of Schenectady, Transitional Housing increased by 2 beds.
- Schenectady Community Action Program, Sojourn House decreased by 3 beds due to family composition changes.

■ **Permanent Housing Beds:**

- ***Permanent Supportive Housing:*** Permanent supportive housing beds decreased by 55, from 523 to 468 due to utilization unless otherwise noted.
 - Bethesda House of Schenectady, Beacon Residential Program increased by 2 beds.
 - City of Schenectady, DUPo9A increased by 3 beds.
 - City of Schenectady, DUPo9B decreased by 4 beds.
 - New Choices Recovery Center increased by 5 beds. (1 decrease in family units, 1 increase in single beds)
 - Schenectady Housing Authority, S+C decreased by 31 beds. (23 decrease in family beds, 8 increase in singles beds)
 - VA, VASH decreased by 10 beds. (1 decrease in family units, 8 decrease in single beds)
 - New Choices Recovery Center, MRT Program was removed this year due to inventory clarification, resulting in a decrease of 20 beds.
- ***Rapid Rehousing:*** The Rapid Rehousing bed count decreased by 150 beds, from 176 to 27 beds.
 - Schenectady Community Action Program, RRH decreased by 150 beds. (29 unit decrease in families, 51 unit decrease in singles)
 - St. Catherine's Center for Children, CDPHP RRH Program is new this year adding 1 year-round bed.

NOTE: The decrease in Rapid Rehousing beds may negatively impact the community's CoC application score.

- ***Rapid Rehousing for Families:*** The Rapid Rehousing for Families bed count decreased by 99 beds, from 116 to 17 beds.
 - Schenectady Community Action Program, RRH decreased by 99 beds. (29-unit decrease)

NOTE: The decrease in Rapid Rehousing beds for families may negatively impact the community's CoC application score.

- **Chronic Beds:** The number of Dedicated Chronic beds increased by 3 beds, from 75 to 78.
 - Bethesda House of Schenectady, Lighthouse Program decreased by 1 family bed.
 - Schenectady Community Action Program, PHP 27 increased by 4 family beds.
 - Schenectady Housing Authority, S+C increased 6 family beds and decreased 4 single beds.
 - YWCA of Schenectady, Rosa's House decreased 2 single bed.

Annual Comparison of the Point in Time Count

Point in Time Overview					
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Total Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
2021	189	57	246	20	266
2020	363	46	409	25	434
Difference	-174	11	-163	-5	-168

Sheltered PIT Breakdown

- When comparing the 2021 (246 persons) sheltered PIT with the 2020 (409 persons) sheltered PIT, a decrease in the total number of persons sheltered is noted.
- In total, there was a decrease of 163 persons utilizing services on the night of the count with an 11-person increase in use of transitional services.

Sheltered PIT Subpopulation Information

- *Chronically Homeless Individuals:* The number of sheltered chronically homeless individuals increased from 12 in 2020 to 21 in 2021.
- *Chronically Homeless Families:* The number of sheltered chronically homeless households increased from zero in 2020 to 1 in 2021 (total of 3 persons).
- *Chronically Homeless Vets:* The number of sheltered chronically homeless veterans decreased from 8 in 2020 to zero in 2021.
- *Chronically Homeless Youth:* The number of sheltered chronically homeless unaccompanied youth increased from zero in 2020 to 2 in 2021.
- *Adults with a Serious Mental Illness:* The number of sheltered persons with serious mental illness decreased from 67 in 2020 to 47 in 2021.
- *Adults with a Substance Use Disorder:* The number of sheltered persons with substance abuse disorders decreased from 75 in 2020 to 40 in 2021.
- *Adults with HIV/AIDS:* The number of sheltered persons with HIV/AIDS increased from 2 in 2020 to 3 in 2021.
- *Victims of Domestic Violence:* The number of sheltered persons noting DV increased from 5 in 2020 to 12 in 2021.

NOTE: Special populations (e.g., persons living with HIV/AIDS) often do not disclose their status which may indicate a lower than actual total number reported.

Unsheltered PIT breakdown

- When comparing the 2020 unsheltered PIT with the 2021 unsheltered PIT, a 5-person decrease was noted.
- In 2020 there were 25 unsheltered individuals identified compared to 20 in 2021.

Unsheltered PIT Subpopulation Information

In 2021 HUD allowed NY-507 the flexibility to complete a limited unsheltered PIT count due to the dangers of COVID-19 in the community. The NY-507 2021 unsheltered PIT was conducted via observation tool. Information gathered in the survey included:

- Type of sleeping locations: outdoors, car, abandoned building, etc.
- County
- Number of people observed in households.

Due to the nature of this survey, many demographic and sub-populations categories were excluded and cannot be accurately reported on for 2021.