

2017 Point-in-Time Homeless Count





### **Overview**

### Baseline Information

- What is a Point In Time count?
- Goal of the count
- When is it undertaken?
- Who is involved?
- Logistics and execution
- Defining the work

### Statistical Results

- PIT Count
- Shelter vs. Unsheltered
- Households
- Subpopulations
- Chronic Homelessness
- The Unsheltered/Trends
- Unaccompanied Youth

### • The HIC

- Overview
- 2017 HIC by Housing Type





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### • What is a Point-In-Time [PIT]?

- Required by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.
- A census of individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
- A count of those who are sheltered and those who are unsheltered and living on the streets.
- Sampling of homelessness on any given day.

### The goal of the PIT is to...

- Provide a one night "snapshot" of homelessness.
- Capture demographic information about the populations that are experiencing homeless.
- Understand how many individuals and families live on the streets, in emergency shelters or in transitional housing throughout New Bedford.
- Provide data that reveals the extent to which resources are needed, who is served / un-served, hardest to house, etc.





### • When is the PIT undertaken?

- At the end of January each year across the country.
- In New Bedford the 2017 PIT was on conducted on January 25<sup>th</sup> for a 24 hour period stretching overnight into January 26<sup>th</sup>.







### Who does this?

- Nationally conducted
- Continuums of Care—New Bedford
- Homeless Service Providers Network [HSPN]



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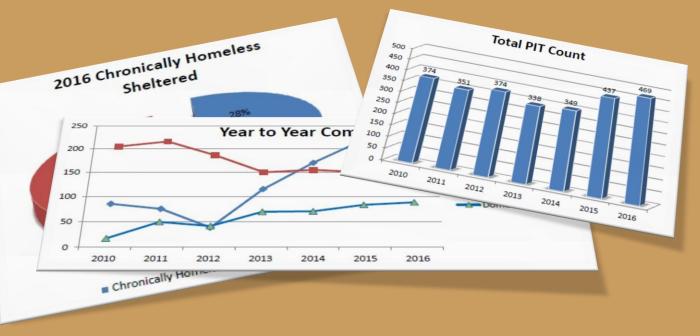






### What's this data used for?

- Provides reliable snapshot of big picture
- Generates important data about different subpopulations
- Presents information about trends
- Guides strategic planning efforts
- Informs federal funding decisions
- Helps identify weaknesses, strengths and successes





### Logistics and Execution

- HSPN's PIT Count Committee
- Planning initiated in November 2016
- HUD guidance/past practices reviewed
- Marketing:
  - Volunteers recruited
  - Donations solicited
  - Public education
- Public kick off— City Hall/Mayoral event
- Data aggregated, analyzed and published



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#### Logistics and Execution Kick-off and press conference

- Hosted by Mayor John Mitchell on the steps of city hall in the afternoon of January 25<sup>th.</sup>
- Provided information about the PIT count to the public and press.
- Recognized the importance and relevance of conducting such a census.
- Acknowledged the contributions of local businesses, organizations and volunteers.
- Officially opened the 24 hour count period.







2017 Point-in-Time Homeless Count



## **Baseline Information**

### Logistics and Execution...

- Giveaways to folks participating in the PIT were provided as incentive and support.
- A backpack with items like socks, gloves/mittens, food/beverage coupons, bus passes and toiletries was provided to each person counted.

### Those donating generously for the 2017 PIT

Adcare	PAACA
AllCare	Robin Muise and Other Church Members
City of New Bedford	SRTA
InterChurch Council of GNB	Veterans Transitional Housing
Mobile Loaves and Fishes	We Share Hope & Rev. Russ
and many	Anonymous Donors





#### Logistics and Execution...

- STREETSHEET.2016 distributed throughout the city during the PIT.
- Brochure of resources, contacts and services available to those experiencing homelessness and poverty in New Bedford.
- Provided in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

#### FOOD PANTRIES

American Red Cross	617.274.5200
93 Kempton Street (Mill St. entrance) Thursday 1-6pm (available 1x per month)	ext. 5596
Photo. ID, proof of income, rent receipts, p household members required.	roof of address, ID for
Braz/Bean Community Center 360 Coggeshall Street Monday - Thursday 9-1 (available 1x every	508.979.1737
ID and/or MA Health card required.	
Catholic Social Services	508.997.7337
238 Bonney Street (in back of O. L. of Mt. Wednesday & Thursday 10-12 (available 1)	
Min. 18 years-old, proofs of income & resid Health ID required for all children. Bread, r foods and fresh produce.	
Grace Episcopal Church 133 School Street	508.993.0547
Wednesday & Friday 9:30 - 10:30 (available Photo ID required and children's insurance	
MO Food Life Pantry 725 Pleasant Street	508.992.5978
Open 3 Wednesdays per month (call first) : every 30 days) For adults, picture ID & pro- members.	
Mobile Loaves and Fishes	508.993.0614
Monday: Salvation Army parking lot 6:00pr on Elm Street 6:00pm, Wednesday: Acushr Square 6:00pm, Thursday: Main Post Office 6:00pm, and Saturday: Salvation Army pari	et Heights near Weld 6:00pm, Friday: PAACA

#### FOOD PANTRIES

PACE, Inc. 166 William Street Monday-Friday (New walk-ins or recei 9-11, all others by appointment) (Ava PACE client, 1x per month) Referral, Pi pendents required.	ailable 1x every 3 months, if
The Salvation Army 619 Purchase Street Monday-Friday 8:30-Noon & 1-3 (av Required: ID for household members 3-5 days of food / clothing vouchers fo	& proof of residence for appt.
St. Anthony's Church Nye Street Entrance (enter through ch Thursday @ 11:30am - 1:00pm (1x ev Picture. ID and MA Health.	
St. Lawrence Church 110 Summer Street Every other Friday from 10.30-11.30an bers and proof of address in 02740 zip	
St. Martin's Church 136 Rivet Street 3rd Saturday 10-11 and last Tuesday 5	508.264.1520 -6.
Seven Hills Behavioral Health 1177 Acushnet Avenue Monday & Wednesday 9:30 - 12:00, T Photo ID, proof of income and proof of	



#### MEAL SITES AND TIMES

Sister Rose House Soup Kitchen / Mercy, Meals & More 508.728.1489

Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 636 Purchase St. / Grace Episcopal Church, 133 School St. / The Salvation Army, 619 Purchase St. / St. Anthony's R.C. Church, Nye St. / Full Blessings Church, 475 Union St

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Breakfast	7:30-8:30 Grace Episcopal Church	6:35-7:30 Mercy, Meals and More	6:35-7:30 Mercy, Meals and More	6:35-7:30 Mercy, Meals and More	6:35-7:30 Mercy, Meals and More	6:35-7:30 Mercy, Meals and More	6:35-7:30 Mercy, Meals and More
Lunch	11:00 Full Blessings Church Service & Meal	11:00-1:00 Sister Rose House Soup Kitchen	11:00-1:00 Sister Rose House Soup Kitchen	11:00-1:00 Sister Rose Noon St. Anthony's	11:00-1:00 Sister Rose House Soup Kitchen	11:00-1:00 Sister Rose House Soup Kitchen	
Dinner	5:15 Salvation Army			4:30 Salvation Army	4:00 Sister Rose Every 4th Thru of the month		

#### **HEALTH CARE**

Center for Women's Health 508.998.0600 **GNB Community Health Center** 508.992.6553 st. Luke's Hospital 508.997.1515 MENTAL HEALTH CARE New Bedford Crisis Center 508.996.3154 543 North Street Child & Family Services 508,996,8572 543 North Street, 1061 Pleasant Street, 3057 Acushnet Avenue FHR Anchor House 508.984.4300 2277 Purchase Street Seven Hills Recovery & Wellness Center 508,999,3126 34 Gifford Street MA Dept. of Mental Health 508.996.7900 888 Purchase Street 观公司

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Self-Help/Treatment Info (for Men)	
(SEMCOA)	508.992.7788
ADCARE	508.999.1102
High Point Treatment Center (for Women)	774.628.1000
Community Substance Abuse Center 8 Kilburn Street	508.979.1122
PAACA 360 Coggeshall Street	508.997.9051
Seven Hills Recovery & Wellness Center 34 Gifford Street	508.999.3126

#### **VETERANS ASSISTANCE**

MA Dept. of Veterans Services	1.888.844.2838
New Bedford Veterans Services	508.991.6184
New Bedford VA Outpatient Clinic	508.994.0217
NB VET Center	508.999.6920
National Call Center Homeless Veterans	1.877.424.3838
Veterans, Inc.	1.800.482.2565
Veterans Transition House	508.992.5313



experiencing homelessness or are threatened with homelessness.

The City of New Bedford's Homeless Service Providers' Network (HSPN) has created this "Street Sheet" to identify some important resources available to youwhere to get a meal, how to find shelter and where to call for help that you need right now.

> This information is updated semi-annually and some provider or programs may have changed since the last rev Check each agency to verify their current service cap





### Logistics and Execution

### <u>Volunteers</u>

Recruited between November and January Over 50 people participated as volunteers in 2017 PIT

Volunteers conducted actual street counts, assisted in creating backpacks, hosted two meals for folks coming off the streets to the PIT home base.

### <u>Training</u>

Conducted within a week prior to the actual count

Required for all volunteers

Provided detailed information as to how counts were to be conducted for unsheltered homeless



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### **Baseline Information**

### Logistics and Execution

### **Volunteers**

Their importance cannot be overstated! Without them, there would be no count.





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## **Baseline Information**

### Logistics and Execution

### <u>Training</u>

The importance of preparedness, communication and understanding!





### Logistics and Execution

- Details around conducting the count:
  - City was divided into zones.
  - Specific locations where it was known that unsheltered individuals would be present were identified as "hotspots":
    - Included soup kitchens, food pantries, substance abuse treatment facilities, libraries, medical facilities, etc.
    - The New Bedford Police Department assisted in identifying hotspots and provided a police officer to conduct the overnight count.
  - Volunteers partnered with local homeless agency staff to form teams.
  - Teams were given assigned areas throughout the city that were targeted for the count.







#### Defining the work...

- HUD definitions for homeless are used in conducting the actual count.
- All adults, children in households and unaccompanied youth who live in one of the following are counted for the PIT census:





One who is **unsheltered** and living in a place not meant for human habitation such as in a vehicle, in tents, doorways, encampments and warming centers.



One who is **sheltered**, living in an emergency shelter or transitional housing.



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### **Statistical Results**

#### PIT Count Totals

The 2017 PIT Count identified **352** total adults and children in New Bedford experiencing homelessness.

#### The 2017 total count is 25% lower than the 2016 PIT.

This significant reduction is largely attributable to the closure of transitional housing programs and revisiting of qualifying emergency shelter and transitional programs.



#### **Total PIT Count**







### Understanding the 2017 PIT Count Totals

#### What were the numbers for this year and last year?

- The 2017 PIT Count identified 352 total individuals in New Bedford experiencing homelessness.
- The 2016 PIT Count identified 469 total individuals in New Bedford experiencing homelessness.

#### Why did the 2017 PIT Count Total reduce by 25%?

- This significant reduction is largely attributable to the removal of five(5) transitional housing programs from the 2017 PIT count that had previously been counted as part of the 2016 PIT and the addition of one new program.
  - Five transitional programs were determined <u>not</u> to meet HUD's definition that would have qualified them to be counted as part of the 2017 PIT. The removal of these five programs resulted in a reduction of 120 beds from the count.
  - The addition of St. Killian's added 8 beds to the 2017 count that had previously not been a part of the 2016 PIT.
  - As a result, the 2017 PIT reflects a net loss of 112 beds compared with the 2016 PIT.

#### So what does that mean about real change between the two years?

 If the 2017 PIT and 2016 PIT were compared with the same number of beds, the resulting PIT count figures would have been virtually the same; thus, despite showing a 25% reduction in 2017, if not for the change in beds counted, the total PIT for 2016 and 2017 would be roughly identical.



### Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

- The 2017 total unsheltered count of 49 people living on the streets represents an 11% decrease from the 55 people who were unsheltered during the 2016 PIT count.
- Of the total 352 people counted...
  - 49 people were unsheltered and living on the streets
  - 213 were in emergency shelter and
  - 90 were in transitional housing programs.



#### **PIT Count by Sheltered and Unsheltered**

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#### Households

HUD defines households in the PIT count as all adult households (single households) and households with children.

Adult Households Single individuals/ households of adults, only.

#### Households with Children

At least one minor child, or households of only children, such as those households with unaccompanied youth (and no adult) and adolescent parents and their child/children.





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#### Households with Children (Family Households)

At least one minor child, or households of only children, such as those households with unaccompanied youth (and no adult) and adolescent parents and their child/children.

#### Number of Persons in Households with Children



Unsheltered Persons in HH with Children

Sheltered Persons in HH with Children



### Comparing Adult vs. Family Households

- Adult households (households with no children) constituted the majority of those experiencing homelessness in New Bedford, at a ratio of almost 2:1 in the 2017 count. The 2017 PIT count found 125 adult households compared with 51 households with children (family households).
  - The number of individuals in <u>adult households</u> has decreased from the previous year by 51%.
  - The number of adults with children in <u>family households</u> has remained consistent. The decrease in the number of adult households is directly related to the removal of transitional housing beds from the sheltered Count.





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### Households with Children

- In the 2017 PIT count, here was a slight increase (2%) in the number of persons counted within households with children in emergency shelters and transitional housing as compared with the 2016 count.
- There were no households with children found living outside and unsheltered in New Bedford during the 2017 count.

NOTE: The 174 persons in family households counted in 2017 represent 51 sheltered families (total sheltered households).



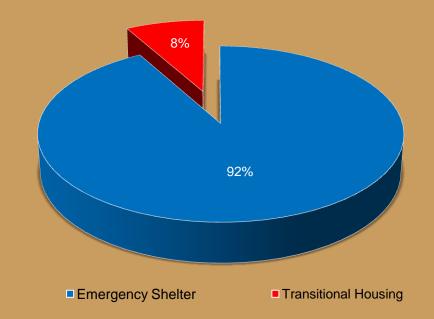


### **Statistical Results**

### Households with Children

 Of the174 individuals who constituted "households with children" that were in sheltered programs, 159 of those individuals (92%) were in Emergency Shelter programs and 15 individuals (8%) were in Transitional Housing.

# Percentage of individuals in Households with Children living in shelter and transitional housing programs



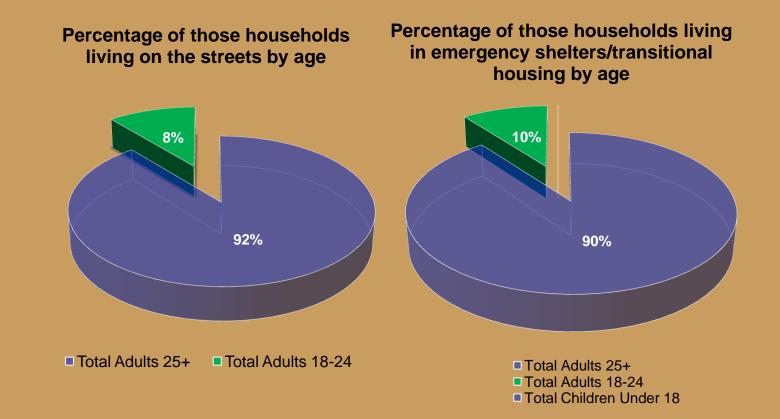




### **Statistical Results**

#### Subpopulations

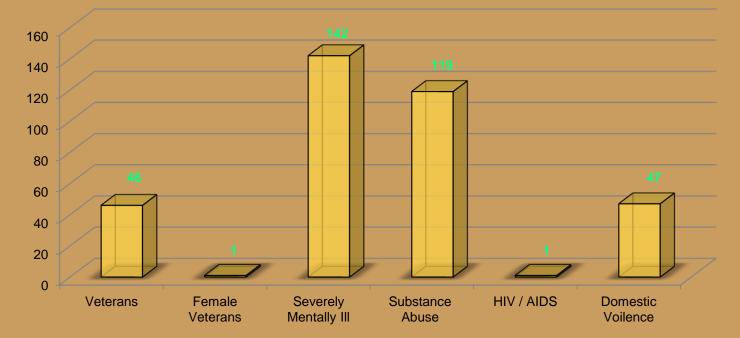
- Subpopulation counts look at specific demographics by person, by household group and by sheltered and unsheltered situations.
- The subpopulation data reported here provides an age breakdown of unsheltered and sheltered persons.





#### Subpopulations (sheltered and unsheltered)

- As part of the PIT, demographic information constituting subpopulations was included in the interviews and recorded. Having at least one member of an adult household resulted in the household being counted.
- Households may have identified under multiple categories, so they may be included in more than one of the following subpopulations.



#### **2017 Sub-Populations in All Adult Households**



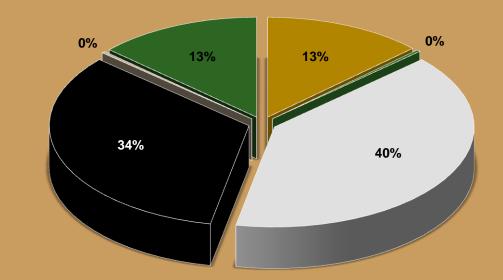


### **Statistical Results**

#### Subpopulations

 Based on the information collected, the two highest subpopulations groups were individuals who self-identified as being severely mentally ill (40%) and suffering from substance abuse (34%). This remains fairly consistent with 2016 levels.

#### All Adults by Percentage and Sub-Population





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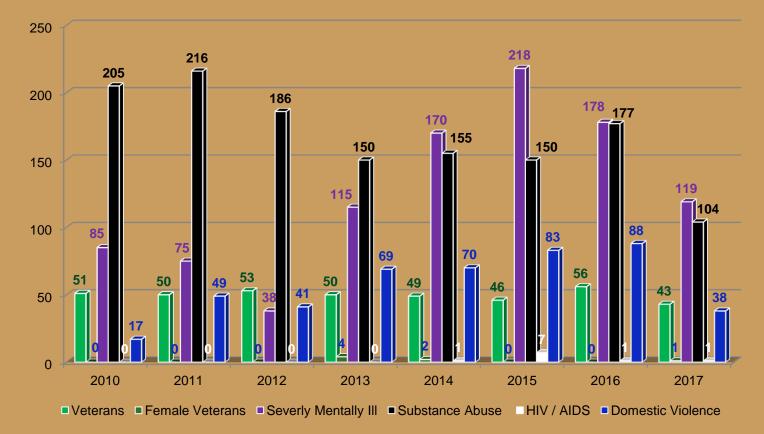
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### **Statistical Results**

### Subpopulation Trends

 Year to year comparison by subpopulation for those in emergency shelters and transitional housing.

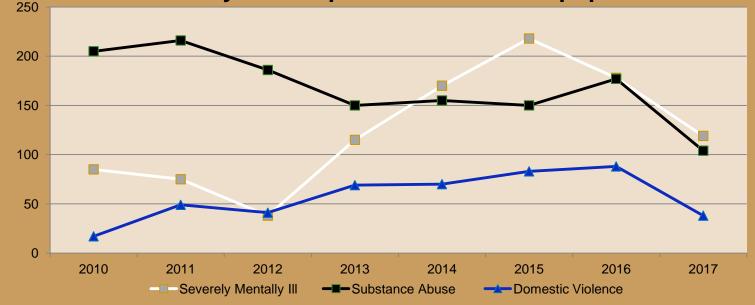


#### **Sheltered Homeless Sub-Population**



### Subpopulation Trends (sheltered)

- Although there was an increase in the number of sheltered adults self-identifying as severely mentally ill between 2012 and 2015, that number has significantly declined over the past two years.
- The number of people identifying as having substance abuse issues has similarly declined between 2016 and 2017, continuing an overall decline since a high in 2011.
- The numbers of sheltered adults self-identifying as having been a victim of domestic violence decreased from 88 to 38 between 2016 and 2017.



#### Year-to-year comparison of three subpopulations

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#### Chronic Homelessness

- Federal guidelines define not only "homelessness" but also "chronic homelessness."
- Continuums of care across the country are tasked with reducing the number of people meeting the chronic homeless definition with an end goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2017.
- The definition has continued to change over the years with the most recent change becoming effective on January 15, 2016.
- So what does it mean to be "chronically homeless?" An individual with a disability condition or a family with at least one adult member with a disabling condition who has been either continuously homeless (living on the streets/in a place not meant for human habitation) for a year+ or one who has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness that total one year within a consecutive three year period.





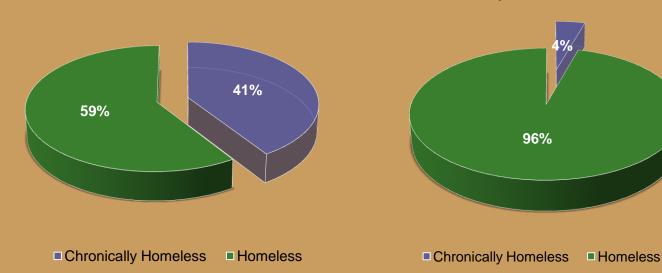
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### **Statistical Results**

### Chronic Homelessness

Chronically Homeless 
Unsheltered

- Those meeting the definition of chronic homelessness may be unsheltered at the time of the PIT count or may have already entered emergency shelter or transitional housing.
- For those 49 adults who were unsheltered, 20 individuals (or 41% of the overall total) were identified as being chronically homeless.
- For those 303 individuals who were sheltered, 13 individuals (or 4% of the overall total) were identified as being chronically homeless.

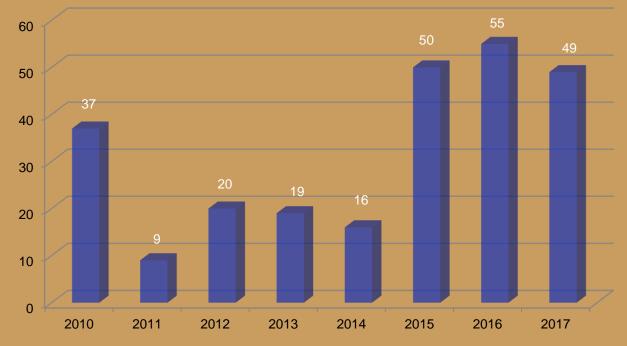


Chronically Homeless 
Sheltered



### The Unsheltered

- REMINDER: Those who were living on the street in places not meant for human habitation when the PIT was conducted were considered "unsheltered."
- Forty-nine (49) unsheltered individuals were counted on the streets on the night of the 2017 PIT count, two of whom were unaccompanied youth ages (18-24).



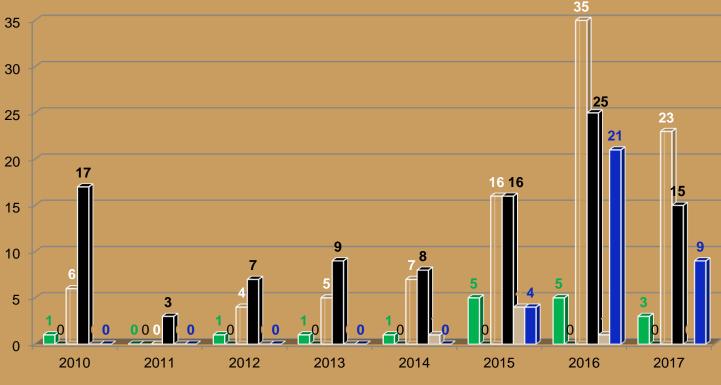
#### **Unsheltered Population by Year**





### The Unsheltered

The total unsheltered census number, along with the additional information collected during interviews with those living on the streets, helps to better understand this segment of the homeless population, the breadth of needs within the community and why many may not be accessing available residential housing and services.



#### **Unsheltered Homeless Sub-Population**

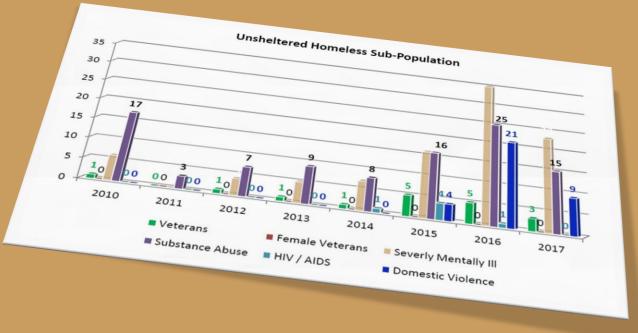
■ Veterans ■ Female Veterans ■ Severly Mentally III ■ Substance Abuse ■ HIV / AIDS ■ Domestic Violence





### The Unsheltered Trends

- Those living on the streets identifying as having substance abuse histories or suffering from severe mental illness has decreased since 2016. The number of unsheltered adults self-identifying as having substance abuse issues decreased by 60% between 2016 and 2017 while those noted having severe mental illness similarly decreased by 65% within that same timeframe.
- There were almost 43% fewer individuals reporting as being a victim of domestic violence in 2017 over those reporting the same in 2016.





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## **Statistical Results**

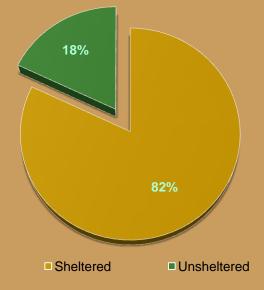
### Unaccompanied Youth

- In addition to counting individuals and households with children, the PIT also looks at the number of "unaccompanied youth" or those who are under age 25 who are experiencing homelessness and not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent/legal guardian.
- The total number of unaccompanied youth increased between 2016 and 2017, from 10 to 11 individuals.

#### Total Unaccompanied Youth Count



#### SHELTERED VS UNSHELTERED UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH COUNT





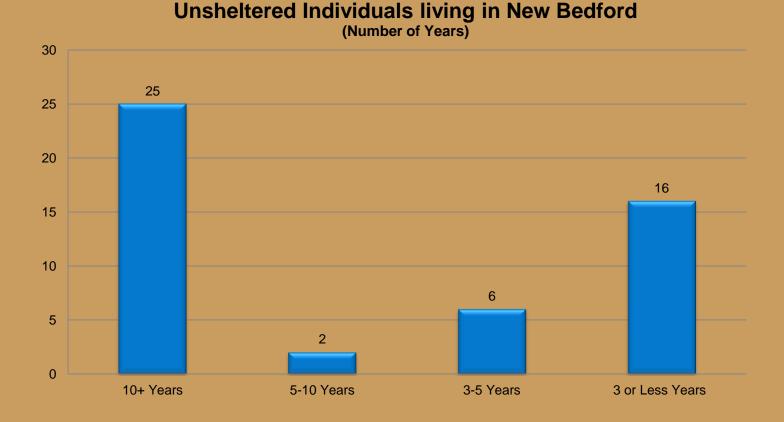
2017 Point-in-Time Homeless Count



## **Statistical Results**

### New Bedford Residency

- In addition to the more traditional metrics, the City of New Bedford asked how many years every unsheltered individual had been in the city.
- Over 50% of those who were unsheltered have lived in New Bedford ten years or more; almost 33% have lived in New Bedford for less than 3 years.







# **Housing Inventory Count [HIC]**

#### Overview

- The Housing Inventory Count [HIC] collects information about all of the beds and units in the Continuum of Care homeless system.
- The HIC articulates this information by housing category.

### HIC Categories

The HIC categories relevant to the City of New Bedford are:

- Emergency Shelter: Total number of emergency shelter beds and units that are designated to serve people who are homeless and are recognized as part of the formal homeless system.
- Transitional Housing: Total number of transitional housing beds and units designated to serve people who are homeless and are recognized as part of the formal homeless system.
- Permanent Supportive Housing: Total number of permanent supportive housing beds and units.

### What's the difference between the PIT and the HIC?

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Counts people

 Counts unsheltered, emergency shelters and transitional housing







# **Housing Inventory Count [HIC]**

### A Word about the HIC

**YEAR-ROUND BEDS** – Each agency providing beds for those experiencing homelessness in the City of New Bedford is responsible for providing the number of year-round beds that are available to the homeless community at their agency/facility. From year to year, the number of year-round beds stays the same unless a program increases or decreased their bed capacity. Cribs do *not* count as part of the inventory.

**UTILIZATION RATE** – In order to calculate the "utilization rate," the PIT Count number is divided by the year-round beds. The utilization rate presented in the 2017 HIC is based on the January 25, 2017 PIT count and is not necessarily indicative of a year round count.





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## **Housing Inventory Count [HIC]**

### Emergency Shelter

Year	Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year-Round Beds	Utilization Rate
	ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Sister Rose House / Grace House	33	36	92%
	ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	House Program	55	60	92%
	ES	Justice Resource Institute	FOCUS on the Family	47	52	90%
2017	ES	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Artemis I DV Program	10	12	83%
2017	ES	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Artemis II	3	14	21%
	ES	Southeast Family Services	Harbour House Family Center	48	36	133%
	ES	Missionary Sisters of Charity	Missionary Sisters of Charity Shelter	9	9	100%
	ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Kilian's House	8	8	100%
EM	EMERGENCY SHELTER TOTAL					



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**Housing Inventory Count [HIC]** 

### Transitional Housing

Year	Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year- Round Beds	Utilization Rate
	тн	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Sr. Rose Transitional Prog.	5	7	71%
	тн	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Home Port	13	14	93%
	тн	Southeastern Massachusetts Council on Addiction (SEMCOA)	Wrap House	6	10	60%
2017	тн	Steppingstone Inc.	Graduate Program	7	9	78%
	ТН	Steppingstone Inc.	Women's Therapeutic Community	21	21	100%
	TH	Southeastern Mass. Veterans Housing Program Inc.	GPD - Graduate House	13	19	68%
	тн	Southeastern Mass. Veterans Housing Program Inc.	Veterans Transition House	25	45	56%
TR	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING TOTAL				125	





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**Housing Inventory Count [HIC]** 

### Permanent Housing

Year	Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	Tenants as of 1.26.17	Year- Round Beds	Utilization Rate
	PSH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Prism	11	12	92%
	PSH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Portico	143	123	116%
	PSH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Oscar Romero	10	14	71%
	PSH	PAACA Inc.	Step Up	36	36	100%
	PSH	Steppingstone, Inc.	Welcome Home	18	15	120%
2017	PSH	Southeastern Massachusetts Council on Addiction (SEMCOA)	Unity House	11	11	100%
	PSH	Southeast Family Services	Family Preservation Program	42	46	91%
	PSH	Veterans Transition House	VASH	5	5	100%
	RRH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Transition to Stability	29	26	112%
	RRH- HB	Catholic Social Services Inc.	CSS – HomeBASE	126	126	100%
	RRH- HB	Justice Resource Institute	JRI – HomeBASE	234	234	100%
PE	PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING TOTAL					



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