

The United States Conference of Mayors

HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS SURVEY

A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities
A 25-City Survey

December 2008



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



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The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors Hunger and Homelessness Survey 2008 was prepared by Abt Associates Inc. The primary team members were Josh Leopold, Lauren Dunton, Nichole Fiore, Louise Rothschild and John Griffith. The team was advised by Jill Khadduri, Larry Buron and Brooke Spellman of Abt Associates and Eugene Lowe, Assistant Executive Director for Housing and Community Development at the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Aminatou Poubelle and Art Slater at the U.S. Conference of Mayors provided assistance with the survey. Production assistance was provided by Jeff Smith of Abt Associates.



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Executive Summary

This year's survey includes data from 25 cities whose mayors are members of The U.S. Conference of Mayor's Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness. Respondents were asked to provide information on emergency food assistance and homeless services provided between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008.

Among the report's major findings are the following:

- Twenty cities (95 percent) reported an increase in the demand for emergency food assistance over the past year, one city reported that demand stayed the same and four cities were not able to answer this question.
- All 21 cities with available data cited an increase in the number of persons requesting food assistance for the first-time. The increase was particularly notable among working families.
- Cities reported an 18 percent average increase in the demand for emergency food assistance and a 5 percent average increase in the quantity of food distributed. The increase in demand for food assistance exceeded the increase in the amount of food distributed in eighty percent of the cities surveyed.
- Nine cities reported making significant changes to the types of food they purchased over the last year because of increases in food prices. Thirteen cities reported that food pantries had to turn people away, and sixteen cities reported that food pantries were reducing the amount of food clients could receive at each visit.
- When asked to anticipate their biggest challenges for 2009, nearly every city cited an expected increase in demand resulting from the weak economy coupled with high prices for food and fuel.
- Nineteen cities (83 percent) reported an increase in homelessness over the past year. On average, cities reported a 12 percent increase.
- Twelve cities (63 percent) reported an increase in homelessness because of the foreclosure crisis. However, most cities did not have enough data to quantify the extent of the increase. The tenants of rental units in buildings where the landlord faced foreclosure were the most vulnerable to becoming homeless.
- All but one of the cities surveyed had developed or was developing a ten-year plan to end homelessness. Three quarters of these plans (75 percent) focused not just on ending homelessness for chronically homeless disabled adults but also on preventing family homelessness.

Background

History of This Report

In October 1982, The U.S. Conference of Mayors and The U.S. Conference of City Human Services Officials brought the shortage of emergency services – food, shelter, medical care, income assistance, and energy assistance – to national attention through a 55-city survey. This ground-breaking survey showed that the demand for emergency services had increased in cities across the nation and that on average only 43 percent of that demand was being met. Since that time the Conference has produced numerous reports on hunger, homelessness and poverty in cities. These reports have documented the causes and magnitude of these issues, how cities were responding to them, and what national responses were needed. (A complete list of past reports can be found in Appendix A.)

To spearhead the Conference's efforts to respond to the emergency services crisis, the President of the Conference of Mayors appointed 20 mayors to a Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness in September, 1983. The initial Task Force was chaired by New Orleans Mayor Ernest "Dutch" Morial. Currently, the 27 member task force is co-chaired by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and Gastonia (North Carolina) Mayor Jennifer T. Stultz. All 27 member cities were asked to complete the 2008 Hunger and Homelessness Survey. Twenty-five cities responded to the survey:

- Boston, MA
- Charleston, SC
- Charlotte, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Cleveland, OH
- Dallas, TX
- Denver, CO
- Des Moines, IA
- Gastonia, NC
- Kansas City, MO
- Los Angeles, CA
- Louisville, KY
- Miami, FL
- Minneapolis, MN
- Nashville, TN
- Philadelphia, PA
- Phoenix, AZ
- Portland, OR
- Providence, RI
- Salt Lake City, UT
- San Francisco, CA
- Santa Monica, CA
- Seattle, WA
- St. Paul, MN
- Trenton, NJ

A list of these cities and their mayors is provided in Appendix B.

Changes to This Year's Report

This year, The U.S. Conference of Mayors made several important changes to its survey questionnaire. The survey now asks that the hunger portion of the survey be completed by the primary supplier of emergency food assistance. In most cases, the regional food bank supplies most of the food to the city's food pantries. The hunger questions also were modified to reflect data commonly collected by emergency food assistance providers. For example, in last year's report cities were asked to report on the total number of persons requesting food assistance over the past year. Most cities were not able to produce an annual estimate without over counting persons who made

multiple requests during the year. This year that question has been replaced by a new question asking cities to report the maximum and minimum number of people served per month over the last year. We found that food banks were more likely to collect statistics on a monthly basis, and because many providers put limits on the number of visits clients can make per month, the estimates would not be as prone to over counting. Additionally, this year's survey does not include questions on the number of persons accessing food stamps and free or reduced price lunches. It was decided that those services are better proxies of income status than they are of hunger.

On the homelessness section of the survey, detailed questions on the demographic characteristics of persons utilizing shelter were scaled back to reduce the reporting burden on cities. This year's report includes a special focus on the availability of government subsidized permanent housing. Overall, many of the questions that were asked in previous surveys were retained in this year's survey in order to preserve continuity and allow comparisons to previous reports. A copy of this year's survey is provided in Appendix C.

The Data in This Report

This report provides an analysis of the scale of the hunger and homelessness problems in a group of American cities and the efforts these cities are making to address those problems. The report is based on data collected from the U.S. Conference of Mayors Hunger and Homelessness Information Questionnaire, completed by cities between September 30th and November 10th, 2008. Surveyed cities were asked to report data on persons receiving emergency food assistance and homeless shelter between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008. If cities did not have data from this period, they were asked to submit data from the most recent one year period for which they had data. For example, some cities reported on emergency food assistance on a July-June schedule.

Data were supplemented with information on population, poverty, median household income, and median monthly housing costs from the 2007 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census.

Response Rates

We received surveys from 25 of the 27 cities on the Hunger and Homelessness Taskforce. While 25 cities responded to the homelessness portion of the survey, one city did not respond to the questions in the hunger section of the survey, making the response rate for this section 89 percent. The research team made multiple efforts to increase the response rate through follow-up emails and phone calls to cities that did not initially submit data. In some instances these efforts led to additional survey submissions.

Limitations of This Study

The cities that were asked to submit data for this study were selected because their mayors belong to The Conference of Mayors Hunger and Homelessness Task Force. These cities do not constitute a representative sample of U.S. cities, and this report should not be interpreted as a national report on

hunger and homelessness. The data are representative only of the 25 cities that responded to the survey.

The cities included in the Task Force vary greatly in size and location. While this adds to the diversity of the study, it makes direct comparisons between cities difficult. In several places in the study, we refer to the average increase in certain measures of hunger or homelessness. These averages are not weighted to account for differences in the size of cities. For example, if Los Angeles reported a 10 percent increase in homelessness and Gastonia reported a 20 percent increase, we would say that on average homelessness increased 15 percent.

For this survey, cities were asked to provide estimates on the total number of persons experiencing hunger or homelessness over the past year. Even cities with the most advanced data collection systems are not able to capture information on all the assistance provided over an entire year. In some cities there are hunger or homeless assistance providers that do not collect or share data. Thus, our results may underestimate the total number of persons receiving assistance in the cities surveyed. In many cases, they will also underestimate the number of persons that need hunger or housing assistance but do not seek or receive it.

Cities were also asked to estimate the percent change in the number of persons requiring hunger or homeless assistance between 2007 and 2008. In some cases, cities did not have two full years of data on which to base answers to these questions and either skipped these questions or relied on previous studies or anecdotal evidence. In 2008, cities may have added new food pantries or shelters or improved their methods for tracking hunger or housing requests. These efforts may have resulted in increases in the total number of persons reporting to receive hunger or homeless assistance over the past year. However, that increase does not necessarily reflect an increase in the level of need from 2007 to 2008. Similarly, a city that closes a food pantry or homeless shelter does not necessarily decrease the need for food assistance or shelter.

This year, cities were also asked to provide full information on the data sources they used to answer each question and any clarifying information that would help us analyze the data. This information has been noted throughout the report to make sure that our results are interpreted as accurately as possible. A list of contacts for each city is provided in Appendix H. Please contact these individuals for more information on each city's data and its approach to alleviating hunger and homelessness. Additionally, the full survey responses from each city are provided in Appendices D-G.

Organization of This Report

The report proceeds in three sections. Section 1 presents the findings from the Hunger portion of the survey. Section 2 presents the findings from the Homelessness portion of the survey. Section 3 provides individual profiles of hunger and homelessness for each city that participated in the 2008 survey.

1. Hunger

In the past year, food assistance programs have confronted numerous challenges. The increased cost of food and fuel has made it difficult for food banks to expand or even maintain their normal supply of food. Meanwhile, the economic downturn and rising unemployment have increased the demand for food assistance while decreasing the number of donations from individual donors. Increased efficiencies among large grocery chains and food suppliers have resulted in less excess supply and thus decreased donations to food banks.

This report describes how America's cities are providing emergency food assistance in these difficult times. The data is based on survey responses from 24 cities that are members of The US Conference of Mayors Taskforce on Hunger and Homelessness. Survey respondents were asked to report on emergency food assistance activities in their cities between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008.

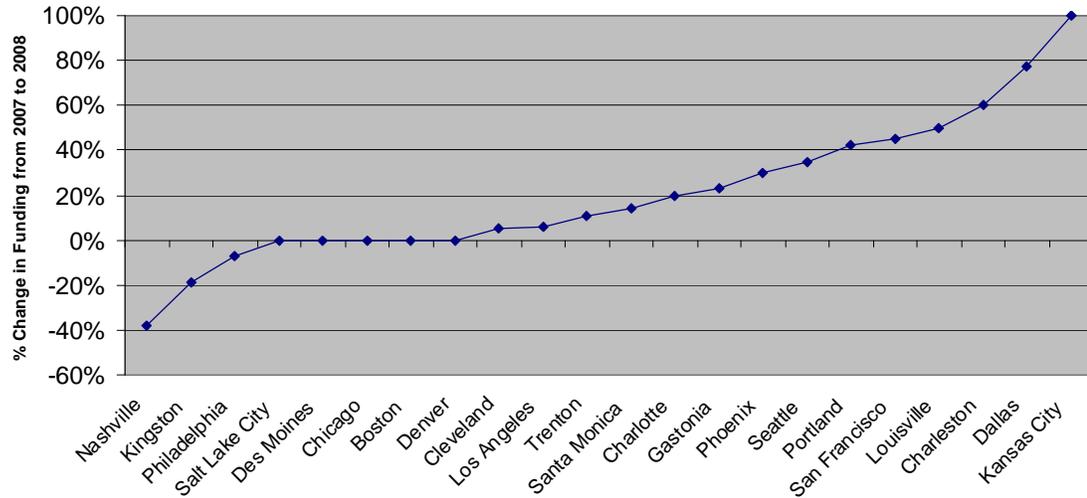
The first section details the supply of emergency food assistance; the second section addresses the demand for emergency food assistance; and the final section discusses some of the key policy issues related to the hunger problem and anticipated challenges for the upcoming year. The raw data from each city's responses to the hunger survey are presented in Appendices D and E.

1.1 Supply of Emergency Food Assistance

In this year's survey, cities were asked to report whether funding for emergency food increased, decreased or stayed the same during the last year. Thirteen cities (68 percent) reported an increase in funding for emergency food assistance in 2008, three cities reported a decrease, and three cities reported no change from last year (Exhibit 1.1). Five cities did not have financial information available. Cities were also asked whether the total quantity of food distributed over the past year increased, decreased, or stayed the same. Fourteen cities (66 percent) reported an increase in the total quantity of food distributed over the past year; five cities reported a decrease, and two cities reported no change. Three cities did not provide information on the total quantity of food distributed.

On average, cities reported that the level of funding for food assistance increased 19 percent, while there was only a 5 percent increase in the quantity of food distributed. There are several reasons why the level of funding has increased far more than the quantity of food distributed. First, purchased food only amounts to 16 percent of the food distributed by large food banks. Therefore, an increase in funding for food purchases is not always sufficient to offset a decrease in donations from large grocery chains and food companies. In some cases, the increase in funding is a direct response to a decrease in donations from other sources. For example, Dallas increased its budget for food purchases by 77 percent because food donations were not keeping pace with increased need, and the net effect was only an 11 percent increase in the quantity of food distributed.

Exhibit 1.1 Changes to Funding for Emergency Food Assistance over the Past Year (21 cities responding)



Second, the sharp increase in the price of food means that an increase in funding is necessary just to maintain supply at previous levels. Over the last year, the price of food increased 6.2 percent, the largest increase in nearly 20 years. The cost of key staples increased even more dramatically – for example the cost of cereals increased 12.3 percent and the cost of fruits and vegetables increased 10.3 percent.¹ Los Angeles, Boston and Portland reported that increases in the price of food have led to a decrease in the quantity of food they are able to purchase. Transporting food from large suppliers to those in need also became more expensive because of a significant increase in the price of gasoline.² In Phoenix, where the cost of fuel and trucking expenses has increased by as much as 72 percent, the total amount of food distributed decreased by 13 percent even though the level of funding increased by 30 percent.

Cities were also asked if the increase in the cost of food had made a significant impact on the type of food they purchased over the past year. Of the 21 cities that responded to this question, nine cities (42 percent) reported a significant change in the type of food purchased. Trenton, San Francisco, Nashville, and Louisville all reported purchasing less expensive sources of protein such as dry beans and canned stews rather than lean meats or canned seafood products. Seattle reported a decrease in the purchase of dairy products. Portland, Providence, and Trenton reported decreased purchases of grain products such as pasta, rice, and cereal. Cities also are cutting costs by decreasing the variety of items they purchase. Providence reports “buying full truckloads of a single item which is less expensive than a mixed load.” Philadelphia reports that, “instead of purchasing 10 items each month, we are purchasing 5 to 6 items each month.” Cities that did not report a change to the type of food purchased typically reported a decrease in the amount purchased. Santa Monica wrote, “In most cases in 2008, food cost increase hasn’t changed food types purchased; it just means that 10-15 percent less food has been purchased per dollar spent.”

¹ Bureau of Labor and Statistics. “Inflation and Prices Database,” <http://www.bls.gov/data/>. The data are on the period from September 2007 to September 2008.

² *Ibid.*

**Exhibit 1.2 Sources of Emergency Food Assistance
over the Past Year (20 cities responding)**

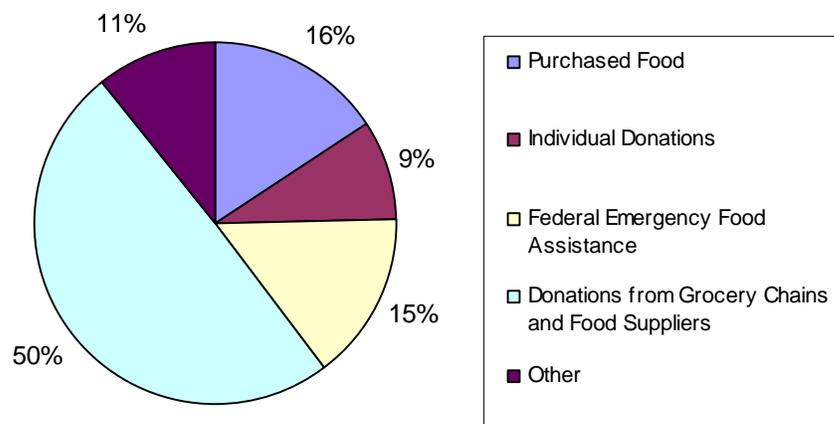


Exhibit 1.2 shows the sources of food assistance. On average, donations from large grocery chains and other food suppliers accounted for 50 percent of food distributed by emergency assistance programs over the past year. Several cities relied on large retail food suppliers for more than 70 percent of the food they distributed. This dependence has become problematic as improvements in quality control and supply chain management have reduced the quantity of excess or slightly imperfect food products that food banks receive from large grocery chains and national food companies.³ Charleston, which relies on grocery chains and food manufacturers for 68 percent of its emergency food assistance, reported a 1,304,063 pound net decline in food donations due to greater supply-chain efficiency among food manufacturers and retailers. Purchased food was the second largest food source among the cities surveyed, accounting for, on average, 16 percent of all food distributed. Some cities purchased only one percent of the food that they distributed, while other cities purchased up to two-thirds of all their food. Federal assistance accounted for 15 percent of all food assistance. None of the cities surveyed received more than 39 percent of their total food supply through federal assistance. Donations from individual donors accounted for only nine percent of all food distributed.

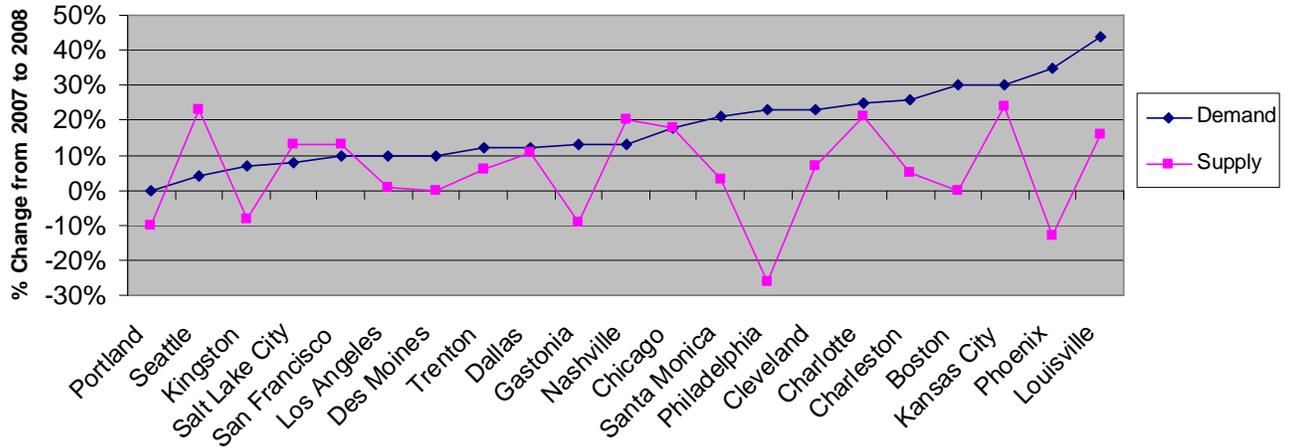
In total, the cities that responded to this survey distributed over 345 million pounds of food over the past year, an average of 16.83 pounds for every city resident. Boston and San Francisco supplied the greatest quantity of food per capita, 45 and 40 pounds per person respectively.

1.2 Demand for Emergency Food Assistance

In 2008, requests for emergency food assistance increased in 20 of the 21 cities that responded to this survey question. Only Portland reported no change in demand and no cities reported a decrease. On average, the demand for food assistance increased 18 percent over the last year.

³ David Cay Johnston. "Shrinking Economy Strains Food Banks," *The New York Times*. November 11, 2008.

Exhibit 1.3 Changes to the Supply and Demand of Emergency Food Assistance over the Past Year (20 cities reponding)



The increase in demand was fueled by an increase in first-time requests for food assistance. All 21 cities with available data reported an increase in the number of persons requesting food assistance for the first time. The increase was particularly notable among working families stressed by the increase in food prices and the slowdown in the economy. Philadelphia writes, “new people coming to food cupboards are people that are employed with children. With food prices increasing as much as 30 percent and incomes either staying the same or decreasing, it is impossible for them to feed their families.” Other cities report an increase in middle-class and suburban families requesting food assistance. Gastonia, North Carolina reported, “We are seeing more two parent households that are employed.”

Not only are more people seeking emergency food assistance, they also are seeking assistance more often throughout the year. Of the 16 cities that collected data on the frequency of food assistance requests per month, 14 cities (88 percent) reported an increase. In Seattle, “food banks that are open three or four times a month are seeing the same families each week.” In Salt Lake City, the “increased costs of housing, utilities, transportation and food force low-wage families to request food on a regular basis.” In Providence, families are finding that their food stamp benefits are exhausted earlier, because of the high cost of food, causing them to visit food pantries more often. In Cleveland “some agencies report that they are seeing families requesting assistance who were formerly donors to the pantry.”

As demonstrated in Exhibit 1.3, the increase in demand for emergency food assistance outpaced the increase in supply in 16 of 20 cities. The gap between supply and demand was largest in Phoenix, where demand increased 35 percent and supply decreased 13 percent, and in Philadelphia, where demand increased 23 percent while supply decreased 26 percent.

1.3 Unmet Need for Food Assistance

To cope with an increase in demand along with flat or decreasing supply, many cities have been forced to make policy changes. Eighteen of twenty cities surveyed reported having to cut back the level of assistance provided at food pantries and emergency kitchens. Among cities reporting cutbacks, eighty percent reported a reduction in the quantity of food persons can receive at each food pantry visit; sixty percent reported having to turn people away due to lack of resources, and forty percent reported setting limits on the number of times persons could visit food pantries each month. San Francisco reported the closing of two soup kitchens because “as food costs rise, they're not able to increase their grant or budget amounts.” In Cleveland, some agencies have become stricter about only serving neighborhood residents in response to an increase in requests for assistance from people from other parts of the city.

Other cities are avoiding cutbacks in ways that may jeopardize their ability to meet demand in the future. In Phoenix, “one food bank reported the demand is currently so great they are unable to stockpile inventory as they normally would do this time of year in anticipation of the holidays. This will result in decreased and/or no additional goods in holiday food boxes.” Des Moines, one of the only cities to report that its hunger programs have not made cutbacks over the past year, has started spending down its cash reserves in order to maintain its current level of service.

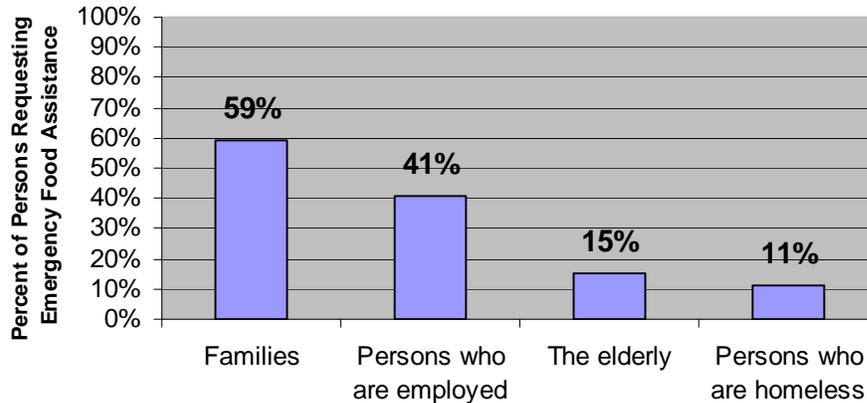
Many cities reported being unable to meet the current level of demand for food assistance. Cities were asked to estimate what percentage of the demand for emergency food assistance went unmet over the last year. This is a hard figure to estimate since it is impossible to know how many hungry persons in each city did not seek assistance. Nevertheless, 11 cities provided an estimate of unmet need. Among those cities, on average 20 percent of the demand for food assistance went unmet. Nashville and Philadelphia reported the highest level of unmet need at 40 percent each.

1.4 Characteristics of Persons Requesting Food Assistance

It is difficult to pinpoint the precise number of persons who received emergency food assistance over the past year. Most food providers do not collect personally identifying information such as last names or social security numbers. Thus, any effort to produce an annual estimate of the number of persons who received food assistance will inevitably be inflated, as this type of estimate would count the same person multiple times if he or she sought service multiple times throughout the year. However, many agencies do compile statistics on the number of persons served each month. For this survey, cities were asked to report the total number of persons served at food pantries and soup kitchens during the busiest month of the year and the least busy month of the year.

September and November were the most frequently cited peak months for emergency assistance; each was cited by 25 percent of respondents. Despite a perception that requests for assistance are highest in the winter months, none of the cities reported peak usage in December, January, or February. Forty percent of cities reported that they served the fewest number of persons in February, probably because it is the shortest month of the year. On average, cities served 29 percent more people during their busiest month than during their slowest month.

Exhibit 1.4 Characteristics of Persons Requesting Food Assistance over the Past Year (12 cities responding)

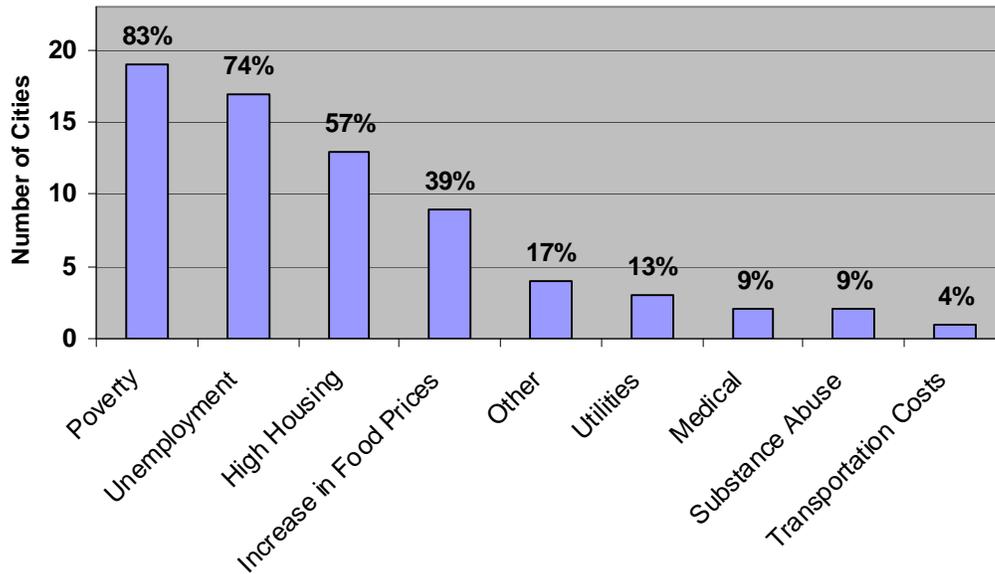


In most cities, the majority of persons requesting food assistance were in families. On average, 59 percent of requests for emergency food assistance came from families (Exhibit 1.4). In Gastonia, NC, 94 percent of food requests came from families, and in Dallas 90 percent of requests came from families. In Seattle, families made up only 21 percent of emergency food requests.

On average, 15 percent of requests for food assistance came from the elderly, although this varied a great deal from city to city. In Seattle, 30 percent of requests came from the elderly, while in Salt Lake City only 5 percent of requests for assistance came from the elderly. Across the twelve cities answering this question, 42 percent of requests for food assistance came from persons who were employed. In Charleston, 75 percent of persons who requested food assistance were employed. In Trenton, only 15 percent of persons requesting food assistance were employed. Eleven percent of emergency food assistance requests came from persons who were homeless.

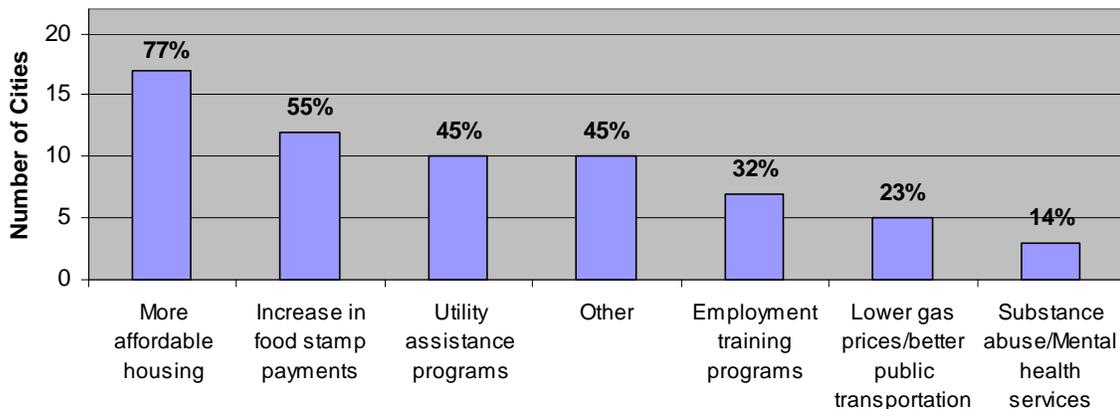
1.5 Causes of Hunger and Policy Responses

**Exhibit 1.5 Top Three Causes of Hunger
(23 cities responding)**



When asked to identify the three main causes of hunger in their city, 83 percent of cities cited poverty, 74 percent cited unemployment and 57 percent cited the high cost of housing. Cities were more likely to cite the cost of housing as a main cause of hunger than the recent increase in food prices (39 percent). Thirteen percent of cities cited high utility costs as a cause of hunger. No other cause was selected by more than 10 percent of cities. Twenty-three cities responded to this question.

**Exhibit 1.6 Top Three Things Needed to Combat Hunger
(22 cities responding)**



When asked what three things would be most helpful in addressing the hunger problem, 77 percent of cities cited a need for more affordable housing, 55 percent requested an increase in food stamp payments, and 45 percent cited a need for more utility assistance. Although it was not one of the

options available, four cities wrote in a need for greater federal, state, and local support for emergency food assistance programs. Two cities stated that a livable wage law is necessary to address the hunger problem. In total, 22 cities provided responses for this question.

Cities were seeking innovative ways to address their hunger problem. Phoenix, Santa Monica, and Nashville have large salvage operations that pick up food that would ordinarily go to waste from grocery stores, restaurants and other sources and distribute it to those in need. Los Angeles, Boston, Philadelphia, and Trenton all cited efforts to provide healthier food such as fresh produce and vegetables to persons in need of food assistance. In Boston, “households received ‘bounty bucks’ coupons that can be used dollar for dollar at the City’s Farmer’s Markets.” Philadelphia has launched the Gardening Project, a program that coordinates efforts between local gardeners and city food pantries. “For many participants, the Gardening Project is their only source of fresh produce.” San Francisco and Providence have both launched outreach efforts to increase food stamp participation rates. In Providence, “placing outreach workers in... pantries and soup kitchens ...has resulted in an impressive increase in Food Stamps participation of almost 20 percent over the past two years.” Chicago and Louisville both have implemented programs to distribute food in underserved neighborhoods. In 2007, Chicago launched a Mobile Pantry program that brings food to “communities that have a high concentration of poverty but relatively low levels of Food Depository food assistance, as identified by the 2006 Cook County Unmet Need Study.” In Louisville, police officers identify homebound seniors on their beats who are at risk for food insecurity and deliver to them a 30 pound box of non-perishable food each month through the Patrol Against Hunger program.

The City Profile section of this report provides more detail about exemplary food assistance programs underway in each city, as well as efforts being made to ensure that the food provided by emergency assistance programs is nutritionally balanced.

1.6 Outlook for Next Year

Almost all cities surveyed identified two primary challenges for the upcoming year. The high cost of food and fuel will decrease food assistance programs’ purchasing power. Simultaneously, the weakened economy will continue to increase the demand for food assistance. Cities were also concerned about finding new supply sources, given increased efficiency within the food industry, decreased donations from individual donors, and less assistance from the federal government.

It is likely there will be a continued increase in demand for emergency food assistance in 2009. If, as predicted by many economists, the unemployment rate rises to 7.5 percent, more Americans will be unable to make ends meet.⁴ On the other hand, fuel prices have fallen to their lowest levels in over three years and, as a result, food prices are also starting to decline.⁵ Thus, while the pressures of increased demand for food assistance show no signs of abating, food assistance programs may benefit from falling food and fuel prices.

⁴ National Association for Business Economics. “NABE Outlook Summary, November 2008” *National Association for Business Economics*, <http://www.nabe.com/publib/macsum.html>

⁵ US Department of Labor, “Producer Price Index – October 2008,” Bureau of Labor and Statistics. November 18, 2008. <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/ppi.pdf>

2. Homelessness

In 2008, many families in America's cities lost their homes due to foreclosure, while market-rate housing remains unaffordable for low-income wage earners and long waiting lists exist for subsidized rental housing.⁶ The national unemployment rate increased from 4.8 percent in October 2007 to 6.5 percent in October 2008. However, it has not yet been established that the increase in the number of persons losing their jobs or their homes has led to an increase in the number of persons who experience homelessness.

While the national economic trends are discouraging, many cities have made considerable progress in reducing homelessness through developing and implementing plans to end homelessness within ten years. Spurred by incentives from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, cities have invested in developing more permanent housing to serve their hardest to house populations. The most recent annual report on homelessness found an 11 percent decrease in the number of persons homeless on a single night from January 2006 to January 2007.⁷ However, news reports suggest that there may have been a more recent increase in homelessness in some cities, particularly among families.⁸

This report provides information on homelessness in American cities in 2008. The data is based on survey responses from 25 cities that are members of The U.S. Conference of Mayors Taskforce on Hunger and Homelessness. Survey respondents were asked to report on the prevalence of homelessness and efforts to provide housing in their cities between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008.

2.1 Trends in Homelessness over the Past Year

Of the 25 cities that responded to this year's survey, 19 reported an increase in homelessness over the past year (83 percent), four cities reported a decrease (17 percent) and two cities did not have enough available data to answer the question. Los Angeles, Phoenix, Miami, and Cleveland were the only cities to report a decrease in homelessness over the past year. On average, cities reported a 12 percent increase in homelessness in 2008.

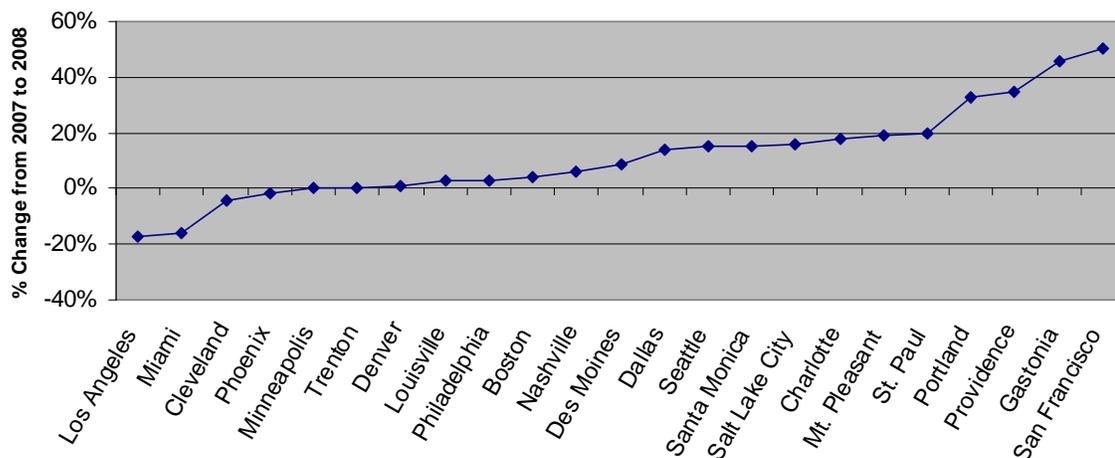
When asked specifically about changes in family homelessness, 16 cities reported an increase, two cities reported a decrease, and four cities reported no change (14 percent). Three cities did not have enough data to answer this question. Exhibit 2.1 shows the percent change in homelessness from 2007 to 2008 reported by each city. Among cities citing an increase, most attributed the increase to economic factors, including high unemployment and the lack of affordable housing.

⁶ Daniel Pelletiere et al. *Out of Reach 2007-2008*. (Washington D.C.: National Low Income Housing Coalition). <http://www.nlihc.org/oor/oor2008/>

⁷ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. *The Third Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*, (Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2007).

⁸ Wendy Koch. "Homeless Numbers 'Alarming,'" *USA Today*. October 22, 2008.

**Exhibit 2.1 Percent Change in Homelessness over the Past Year
(23 cities responding)**



Louisville reported that the number of homeless families increased 58 percent in 2008, from 591 families to 931 families. The increase was attributed to families “finding it harder and harder to make ends meet” because of high costs for food, health care, transportation, and home heating. Boston and Providence both said that family homelessness had increased due to evictions by landlords whose rental properties were foreclosed. Tenants in foreclosed properties often receive far less warning and have fewer resources than homeowners facing foreclosure. Some cities cited increases in their estimates of family homelessness that were not the result of economic forces, but instead reflect increases in their capacity to house homeless families or to count them in citywide reporting efforts. For example, in Des Moines the number of homeless families increased by 145 in 2008, but this increase resulted from the addition of a new family shelter reporting its participants to the city’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Cleveland and Los Angeles were the only two cities to observe a decrease in family homelessness. Both cities attributed the decline to a mixture of policy initiatives that reduced the number of homeless families and methodological changes that resulted in lower counts. In Los Angeles, the number of homeless families decreased 22 percent from 4,439 in 2005 to 3,443 in 2007.⁹ The decrease resulted from an expansion in the supply of permanent housing, including permanent supportive housing, and also from improvements in their methodology for counting homeless families. Despite having one of the highest foreclosure rates in the country, Cleveland observed a decrease in the number of homeless families with children in 2008. City officials attributed the decline to “increased homeless prevention expenditures aimed at reducing the number of evictions.” However, they also cautioned that:

⁹ As part of their competition for homeless assistance funding, the Department of Housing and Urban Development requires communities to conduct a complete count of homeless persons on a single night in January every other year. Los Angeles was one of several communities to base some of their homeless responses on their most recent homeless count conducted in January 2007. The decrease in family homelessness is based on comparing their 2005 single night count to their 2007 single night count.

“Because families that lose their housing will generally pursue all available options for doubling up with family or friends before requesting emergency shelter, the available statistical measures may not accurately reflect changes in the level of family housing need.”

For this year’s survey, cities also were asked if there was an increase in the number of employed homeless persons over the past year. Of the 19 cities that collected data on employment status, 11 cities observed an increase in the number of employed persons who were homeless, one city reported a decrease, and seven cities reported no change. San Francisco, Providence, Des Moines, Charlotte, and Trenton all attributed the increase to a weak economy, with low wages and a lack of affordable housing. However, in some cities, including Phoenix and Philadelphia, the increase in the number of employed homeless persons was attributed to the success of homeless assistance programs in helping homeless clients obtain employment. Thus, increases in persons who were employed when they became homeless were attributed to the weak economy, whereas increases in persons who found employment after becoming homeless were considered a positive outcome associated with services.

2.2 Unmet Need for Shelter

In most cities, the demand for shelter exceeded capacity on certain nights during the year. Cities were reluctant to turn away persons seeking shelter, particularly families with children. In Providence, Seattle, Miami, Santa Monica, Portland, and Trenton families are issued motel vouchers on nights when there are no available shelter beds. Cities also have policies in place to increase their shelter capacity during high demand periods. In Salt Lake City, shelters permit families to stay in conference rooms and on cots in hallways when no beds are available. In Philadelphia, recreation centers are converted into placement areas for the homeless during winter months. This year, increased demand prompted San Francisco to open its family winter shelter two months earlier than scheduled.

Several large cities reported that information sharing and coordinated referrals are their best strategies for ensuring that families find available shelter. In Phoenix, “all emergency shelter inquiries are handled by CONTACTS Shelter Hotline which refers homeless persons to one of 86 participating shelters in Maricopa County that have bed availability at the time of the call.” Chicago has implemented a Shelter Clearinghouse, which identifies shelter bed availability on a 24-hour basis. Chicago has found that, while it is not uncommon for a particular shelter to be full, “the shelter system as a whole is not utilized at full capacity, meaning that the system overall has enough resources to accommodate requests for persons seeking shelter.” Boston also operates a 24-hour hotline for families seeking shelter. Smaller cities such as Gastonia and Santa Monica will refer families to shelters outside of the region when no beds are available.

Despite all of these efforts, cities occasionally must turn away individuals and families seeking shelter. Several cities have waiting lists for shelter and often have to help families find a temporary space until shelter beds become available. A 2007 survey in Los Angeles found that 31 percent of persons who tried to access shelter were turned away due to lack of bed availability. In San Francisco, the average number of families turned away each month has increased from 12 to 60 families. St. Paul also reported an increase in the number of families turned away. In Des Moines, “shelter providers regularly report that ‘turn-aways’ are a routine occurrence.”

2.3 Prevalence of Homelessness and Patterns of Use of Programs

For this year's survey, cities were asked to provide information on the number of persons experiencing homelessness on an average night over the past year. As part of their application for federal homeless assistance grants, communities are required to do a thorough count of the number of persons living on the streets, in emergency shelter, and transitional housing on a single night in January. This is commonly referred to as the point-in-time count. The cities participating in this survey typically used information from their point-in-time count to answer questions on the number of persons on an average night. Although communities apply for funding annually, they are required to complete a point-in-time count only every other year. Thus, in some cases cities replied to these questions using information from their January 2007 point-in-time count.

Exhibit 2.2
Total Number of Persons Homeless or in Permanent Supportive Housing on an Average Night in 2008 (23 cities responding)

	Persons in Families	Single Adults	Unaccompanied Youth
Living on the Streets	543	12,679	268
Emergency Shelter	9,930	23,566	352
Transitional Housing	12,862	10,007	243
Permanent Supportive Housing	10,710	16,257	140

Twenty-three cities provided data on the number of persons experiencing homelessness on an average night.¹⁰ In order to control for the different sizes of the cities surveyed, the number of homeless persons was divided by each city's population to determine the percent of persons homeless on an average night. Between 0.15 percent and 1.74 percent of the total population of the cities surveyed was homeless and living on the streets, in emergency shelter, or in transitional housing on an average night. In addition, between 0.01 and 0.79 percent of cities' population was living in permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons.

Compared to the 2007 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR), which compiled data for all communities completing a point-in-time count across the country, the cities in this survey had a far lower rate of street homelessness among families. On an average night, eighteen percent of the homeless population was living on the streets. However, nearly all of the persons living on the street were single adults (94 percent); street homelessness was rare among families. By contrast, the 2007 AHAR found that nationwide, 25 percent of persons living on the streets on an average night were in families. On an average night, for the 23 cities providing data, nearly half (48 percent) of homeless persons were staying in emergency shelter and a third were in transitional housing. Among the cities surveyed 5,000 more people were living in permanent supportive housing than in transitional housing. Single adults experiencing homelessness were most commonly staying in emergency shelters, while families were more likely to stay in transitional housing programs, which typically accommodate longer stays and provide more comprehensive services.

¹⁰ Miami did not report separately on the number of single adults, persons in families and unaccompanied youth in homeless residential programs, and therefore their numbers are not included in those categories for Exhibit 2.2. Los Angeles was also not able to provide data in the categories given in Exhibit 2.2.

Cities were also asked to report on the number of persons, who experienced homelessness over the entire year. People can have multiple homeless program stays at different homeless programs over the year. Only cities with a shared information system, known as a Homeless Management Information System or HMIS, are able to provide an accurate annual estimate of persons using homeless services. Other attempts to provide an annual estimate will inevitably over count persons who use more than one homeless assistance program. Only 19 cities were able to provide information on the annual number of homeless persons. Of those cities that did respond, many responses were probably underestimates because they did not include data from programs that did not participate in the city's HMIS. For example, some cities reported annual figures that were less than the number of persons they reported on an average night. Because of the low response rate and concerns about the validity of the data, we chose not to provide an annual estimate on the number of persons homeless over the past year in the cities surveyed. However, one theme that emerged from the annual estimates is that many more people become homeless over the course of the year than were homeless on any given day. This suggests that for most people homelessness is a result of a short-term crisis rather than a way of life. This also means that attempts to estimate the prevalence of homelessness based on one-day counts will produce lower estimates than longitudinal estimates. These findings are corroborated by several key studies on patterns of homelessness.¹¹

Exhibit 2.3 shows the average length of stay in homeless residential programs among single men, single women, and persons in families for the fifteen surveyed cities that reported this information. Overall, persons in families tended to have longer stays in residential programs than single adults. Compared to national figures published in the 2007 AHAR, the fifteen cities providing data on length of stay reported significantly longer lengths of stay in emergency and transitional housing, particularly for single adults.¹²

Exhibit 2.3
Average Length of Stay in Residential Program (15 cities responding)

	Single Men	Single Women	Persons in Families
Emergency Shelter	69 days	51 days	70 days
Transitional Housing	175 days	196 days	223 days
Permanent Supportive Housing	556 days	571 days	604 days

¹¹ These studies include the 2007 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report; Martha Burt's analysis of the National Survey on Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients (NSHAPC); and Dennis Culhane's study of patterns of shelter use using administrative data from New York City.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. *The Third Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*, (Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2007).

Martha R. Burt, Laudan Y. Aron, and Edgar Lee. *Helping America's Homeless: Emergency Shelters or Affordable Housing?* (Washington DC: Urban Institute Press, 2001).

Dennis P. Culhane et. al. "Public Shelter Admission Rates in Philadelphia and New York City: The Implications of Turnover in for Shelter Population Counts," *Housing Policy Debate* Vol 5, Issue 2 (1994).

¹² The following cities provided information on average length of stay: Charlotte, Dallas, Denver, Des Moines, Gastonia, Louisville, Nashville, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Providence, Salt Lake City, St. Paul, San Francisco, and Trenton.

Exhibit 2.4 shows the overall bed capacity among the 25 cities in the survey. To report on their bed capacity, cities used the data from their 2008 grant application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for homeless assistance. The results are indicative of recent efforts in these cities to increase the availability of permanent supportive housing for the hardest to house populations. For the 25 cities reporting data, permanent supportive housing now constitutes the plurality of residential beds (42 percent), and more than half of all beds added in the last year (55 percent). According to the 2007 AHAR, permanent supportive housing made up 30 percent of residential bed capacity nationwide; emergency and transitional housing each constituted 35 percent of overall bed capacity.

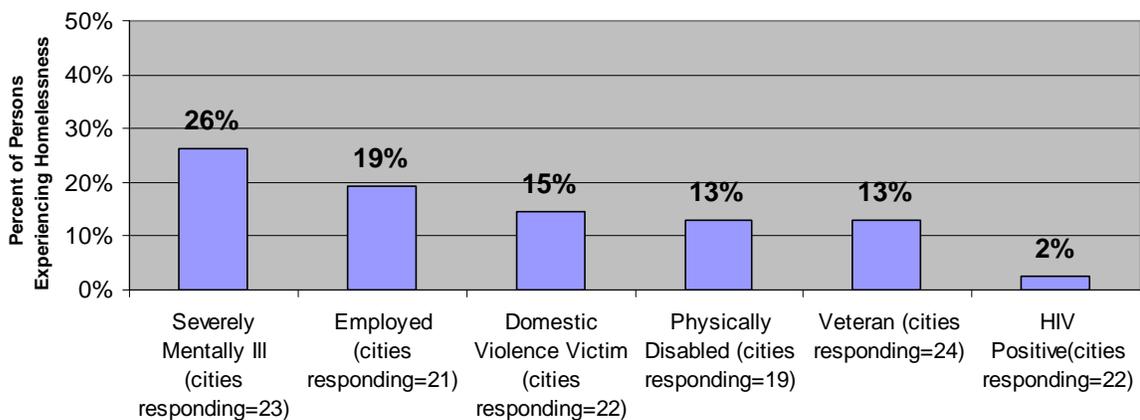
**Exhibit 2.4
Total Residential Bed Capacity (25 cities responding)**

	Total Beds	Percent of All Beds	Beds Added in the Last Year
Emergency Shelter	34,367	28%	1,569
Transitional Housing	37,135	30%	2,233
Permanent Supportive Housing	50,814	42%	4,677

2.4 Characteristics of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

Persons with severe mental illnesses were particularly vulnerable to becoming homeless. The 23 cities that provided this information reported that 26 percent of their homeless population suffered from a serious mental illness. By contrast, only six percent of the U.S. population suffers from a serious mental illness.¹³ The 24 cities providing this information estimated that 13 percent of persons experiencing homelessness were veterans. Veterans are slightly over-represented among the homeless population compared to their prevalence in the overall population (11.2 percent). Twenty-two cities reported that, on average, 15 percent of homeless persons were victims of domestic violence.

Exhibit 2.5 Characteristics of Persons Experiencing Homelessness over the Last Year

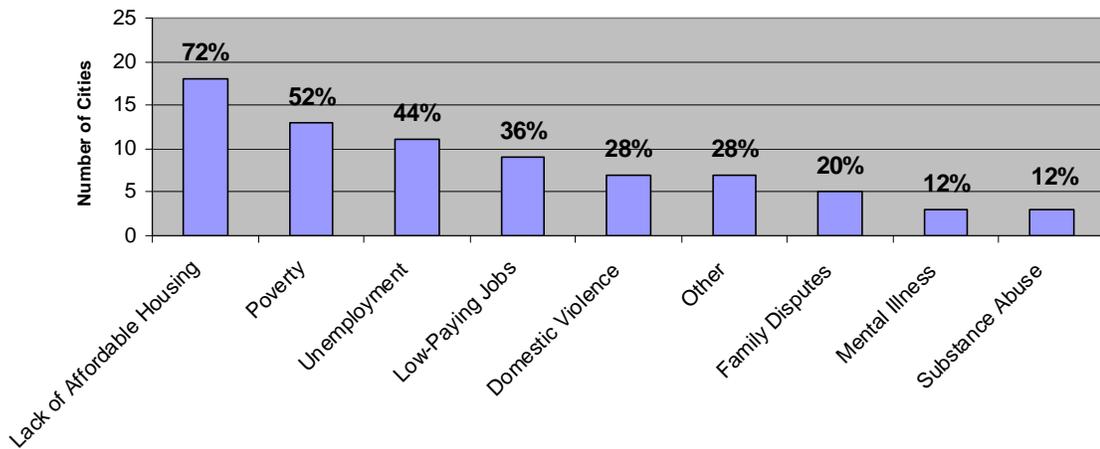


¹³ National Institute of Mental Health “Statistics.” National Institute of Mental Health. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/statistics/index.shtml>

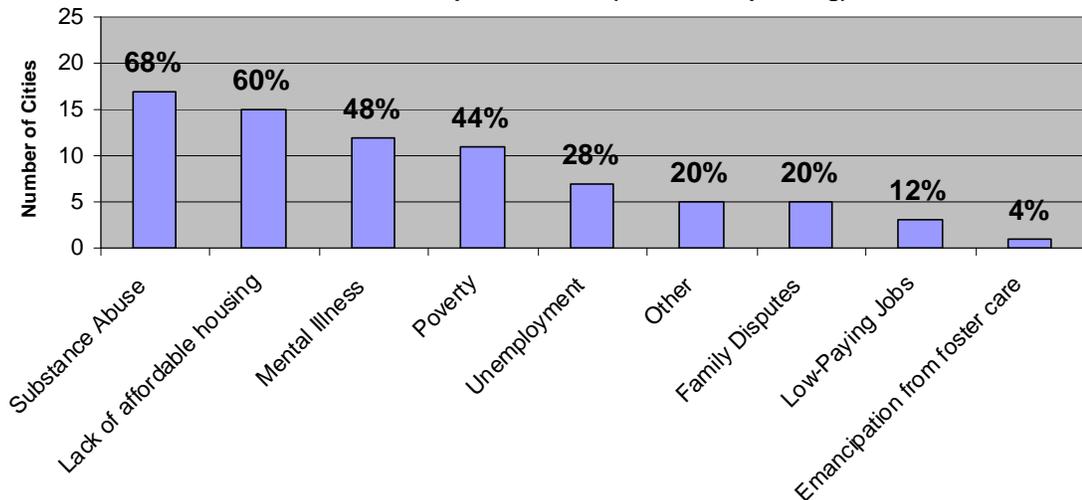
2.5 Causes of Homelessness

Cities were asked to identify the three main causes of homelessness for persons in families and for single adults and unaccompanied youth. For persons in families, the three most commonly cited causes of homelessness were lack of affordable housing, cited by 72 percent of cities, poverty (52 percent), and unemployment (44 percent). In last year's survey, the three main causes of family homelessness were cited as lack of affordable housing, poverty and domestic violence. This year's top three causes of homelessness among singles were said to be substance abuse, cited by 68 percent of cities, lack of affordable housing (60 percent), and mental illness (48 percent).

**Exhibit 2.6 Causes of Family Homelessness
(25 cities responding)**

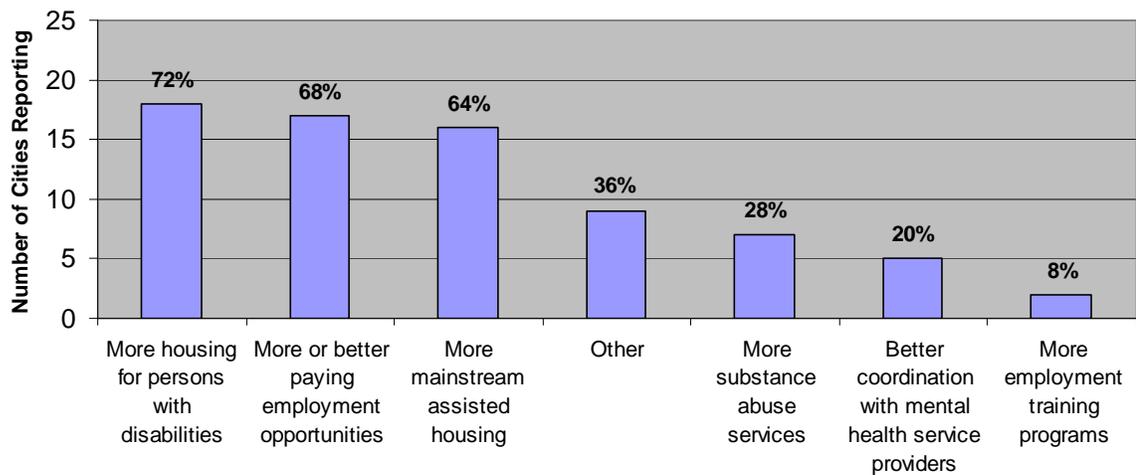


**Exhibit 2.7 Causes of Homelessness Among Single Adults
and Unaccompanied Youth (25 cities responding)**



When asked what three things cities needed to address homelessness, the most common responses were more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, cited by 72 percent of cities, more or better paying employment opportunities (68 percent), and more mainstream assisted housing, such as Housing Choice Vouchers (64 percent). Cities were more than twice as likely to cite the need for better employment opportunities in 2008 than they were in 2007, when only 30 percent of cities cited this as a major need.

**Exhibit 2.8 Top Three Things Needed to Combat Homelessness
(25 cities responding)**



2.6 Homeless Policy Initiatives

All but one of the cities surveyed had developed or was developing a ten-year plan to end homelessness. Some cities were still drafting their plans and planned to release them in 2009. Other cities were more than halfway through implementing a ten-year plan. Most cities' plans focused on finding housing for chronically homeless individuals, defined as individuals with long-term disabilities who have been living on the streets or in shelter either continuously for the last two years or intermittently for the last five years. Although ten-year plans were originally targeted exclusively towards ending chronic homelessness, 75 percent of cities surveyed have adapted their plans to also address homeless families and unaccompanied youth. The process of developing a ten-year plan brings together diverse stakeholders and can lead to innovative collaborations to end homelessness. For example, in St. Paul, the Police Department and human service agencies "cross-trained" new police cadets and street social workers to better serve homeless persons with mental illnesses. They also collaborated on a program to provide outreach services and permanent housing to persons who were chronically homeless. Miami's Ten-Year Plan has helped lead to a 66 percent decline in homelessness between 2003 and 2008.

One of the key components of ten-year plans is the use of data to measure performance. Cities have adopted varying benchmarks to measure the success of their ten-year plans and other homeless assistance initiatives. Santa Monica bases its success on a reduction in the number of homeless

persons living on the streets. Seattle assesses its homeless prevention success by measuring the percent of households who receive assistance and are able to remain in stable housing for at least six months.

All but one of the cities surveyed had implemented policies to prevent homelessness among low-income households at risk of eviction. In most cases, cities provided short-term rental and utility assistance to households who were deemed at-risk of homelessness. The extent of support ranged from a one-time grant to an 18-month rent subsidy with case management. Some cities also offer assistance to families to pay back past bills in order to make them more attractive to potential landlords. While most cities respond to requests for assistance on an as needed basis, some cities have focused efforts in neighborhoods deemed most vulnerable to homelessness. Philadelphia has used data to focus its homeless prevention efforts on zip codes where families are determined to be at higher risk of becoming homeless.

Cities also reported that the vast majority of households that received prevention assistance are able to retain their housing and avoid homelessness. The biggest challenge for homeless prevention programs is securing enough funds to meet the growing need for assistance. Prevention programs are funded through a diverse mix of federal grants, faith-based partnerships, and local taxes. However, most cities report that they turn away needy families because of insufficient funds. In Nashville, for example, the number of calls for emergency assistance has more than doubled in the last six months, while the level of funding has remained constant.

For those persons that do become homeless, seventeen cities (71 percent) have adopted programs to connect homeless persons to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Many cities have adopted a Housing First philosophy, which seeks to move their chronically homeless people as quickly as possible into permanent housing rather than placing them in interim situations where they can first address their underlying needs and demonstrate their readiness to live independently. Cities that have adopted this approach are pleased with the results. For example, in Los Angeles, 101 chronically homeless individuals were placed directly from the streets into permanent supportive housing; 75 percent of these individuals remained in housing for at least one year. In Seattle, “Housing First projects have not only helped people whose lives have been shattered by homelessness, mental illness and addiction stay housed, they have also dramatically reduced emergency room visits, jail stays and other public service costs.”

In addition to Housing First efforts, which are typically geared towards single adults with serious disabilities and long histories of homelessness, several cities have also launched rapid re-housing efforts aimed at reducing the time it takes for families to move out of shelters and into permanent housing. These programs often pair short-term rental subsidies with housing search services and case management to help families find an affordable place to live. Salt Lake City’s Rapid Rehousing pilot project reduced the average length of stay in family shelter from 74 days to 18 days. Chicago has converted from a shelter-based system to an interim housing model, which “seeks to place individuals and families into permanent housing within 120 days, by focusing on assessment, stabilization and placement.”

2.7 Foreclosures and Homelessness

Twelve of the cities surveyed said that there had been an increase in homelessness as a result of the foreclosure crisis. Seven cities did not observe an increase in homelessness related to foreclosures, and six cities did not have available data to answer this question. The increase in homelessness commonly occurred when landlords of rental properties experienced foreclosures. Renters in foreclosed properties often are forced out with little warning, are unable to recover their security deposits, and are more economically vulnerable than homeowners. Cities that cited an increase in homelessness due to foreclosure generally were unable to quantify the extent of the impact. Most cities did not appear to be collecting data on the number of households that sought homeless services following a foreclosure.

When asked if their cities had adopted policies aimed at preventing homelessness among households that had been living in foreclosed homes, thirteen cities replied that they had, ten cities had not, and two cities were not able to answer. In many cases, these programs were aimed more generally at preventing foreclosures and not targeted specifically at households considered at risk of homelessness. Several cities were developing new programs through grants from HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Some cities had developed policies and programs specifically targeted towards tenants in foreclosed properties. In 2008, the state of Minnesota adopted new laws to give tenants more notice when their landlords were facing foreclosure. Similarly, Chicago adopted a new "Tenants' Notification of Foreclosure Action" ordinance requiring property owners to notify tenants within seven days of being served with a foreclosure complaint. Chicago also provides up to three months of rental assistance plus moving costs to eligible renters whose apartments have gone into foreclosure. Cleveland has implemented a program that uses public records to identify non-owner occupied properties that have had foreclosure filings, then notifies tenants of the pending foreclosure and links them to assistance to help them locate another rental unit.

2.8 Homelessness and Permanent Housing

This year's survey on hunger and homelessness included a special focus on the availability of permanent housing for homeless persons and persons at-risk of homelessness. New questions were added to the survey to collect information on how homeless persons accessed permanent housing and how the demand for subsidized housing changed over the past year.

When asked about how people found their way to permanent supportive housing, cities overwhelmingly indicated that homeless persons with disabilities were most likely to access permanent supportive housing through referrals from street outreach workers and homeless residential programs. Only Nashville reported that homeless persons with disabilities were most likely to access permanent supportive housing through referrals from mainstream service providers such as hospitals and mental health providers.

Cities were also asked if the number of people on the waiting lists for Section 8/Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing had increased, decreased, or stayed the same over the past year. Cities were asked to report separately for single adults and households with children, if they could. These questions were added because increased demand for subsidized housing might suggest housing stress that could lead to homelessness.

For all categories and all household types, the most common reply to this question was that the waiting list had not changed over the past year. This was generally not because demand had stayed constant but because cities had closed their waiting lists because of excess demand. Providence, Des Moines, Nashville, Philadelphia, Charlotte, and Cleveland all reported that their waiting lists were closed to new applicants. The Philadelphia Housing Authority has not accepted applications since 2001. In 2006, Cleveland held a lottery to establish a new waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers and 40,000 households applied, 23 percent of households in the city. Some cities reduced the number of names on their waiting lists as they worked their way through the households already on the waiting list and did not accept new applicants. For example, Nashville reported a 98 percent decrease to their waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers. This was because the housing authority scheduled twice as many interviews as normal in order to issue a large number of vouchers. They were able to remove a higher percentage of households from the waiting list than expected because so many clients did not show up for their eligibility interviews. However, despite the decrease in the waiting list, Nashville estimated an overall increase in the demand for assisted housing resulting from the current economic situation. Similarly, Portland reported a sharp increase in their waiting lists because the housing authority re-opened its waiting lists in June of 2008. As a result, the number of families on Portland's waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers increased 672 percent (from 239 families to 1,606 families), and the waitlist for disabled individuals increased 1,748 percent (from 56 to 979).

Cities were also asked if their Housing Choice Voucher program set aside units or gave preferential treatment to homeless persons. Nine cities reported no preference or set-aside for the homeless, nine cities reported a preference, and three cities reported that they had dedicated units set-aside for the homeless. Four cities did not provide an answer to this question. Of the nine cities that reported a preference, only Philadelphia had an absolute preference for the homeless; the other eight cities put homeless persons on equal footing with other subpopulations. Given the large number of people on the waiting lists, it is unclear how many homeless persons actually received a voucher. As Kansas City explains, "Preference 1 includes elderly, disabled and working heads of households. Preference 2 is for homeless and there is never availability for preference 2." Phoenix, Dallas and Los Angeles were the three cities that set aside Housing Choice Vouchers for homeless persons. Phoenix set aside 10 units per year, Dallas set aside 200 units, and Los Angeles set aside 10 percent of its vouchers, which amounted to 4,011 vouchers last year.

2.9 Outlook for Next Year

It is unclear how general trends in the economy will affect the prevalence of homelessness in the coming year. However, with the economy in a recession and unemployment rising, it is likely that the need for homeless services will remain steady if not increase. Cities continue to develop aggressive strategies to prevent homelessness and to move persons quickly from shelter into permanent housing, but city budgets for housing and services could be adversely affected by the economic slowdown. Conversely, the growing number of unoccupied housing units and the decline in the real estate market could present opportunities for cities to increase the availability of affordable housing.

3. City Profiles

This section of the report includes profiles of the cities that participated in the 2008 U.S. Conference of Mayors Survey on Hunger and Homelessness. The data included in the profiles are self-reported. These profiles were compiled by reviewing survey responses and selecting information, such as exemplary programs for providing food assistance, information on a city's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, or foreclosure assistance initiatives, to inform the reader about each city's endeavors to reduce hunger and homelessness.

In an effort to contextualize each city's response to hunger and homelessness, additional data were included in each city profile: total population, median household income, median monthly housing costs, and the percent of persons living below the poverty level. The data sources are as follows¹⁴:

- Total population (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey)
- Median household income (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey)
- Median monthly housing costs (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey)
- Percent below the poverty level (Source: U. S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey)

One city did not complete the hunger section of the survey, and several cities did not provide complete responses to many narrative questions regarding exemplary programs or innovative efforts to reduce hunger. Therefore, some city profiles include only information on cities' efforts to reduce homelessness.

¹⁴ The data for Louisville is for the Louisville/Jefferson County metro government. The data for Nashville is for the Nashville/Davidson metro government.



BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • UTILITY COSTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOW-PAYING JOBS • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in Boston:

The increased cost of food and fuel, rising unemployment, and the volatile housing market have resulted in an increased need for food assistance by Boston residents. The number of **requests for emergency food assistance has increased 30 percent over the last year**. Food assistance programs report **a rise in the number of working families, individuals and seniors seeking aid for the first time**. The frequency with which persons are visiting programs for food assistance also has increased. Some food pantries have reduced the amount of food distributed at each visit in an effort to stretch their resources to provide for more households.

To assist residents in gaining access to nutritious food, the Mayor's Fresh Food fund launched the Bounty Bucks program, which distributes "bounty bucks" coupons that can be used dollar for dollar at the City's farmers markets to purchase locally grown, organic fresh fruits and vegetables. In addition, the Mayor's Fresh Food Fund provides Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) access at farmers markets.

Profile of Homelessness in Boston:

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Boston **increased four percent** over the last year, but with a decrease in street homeless resulting from targeted housing efforts. Many **families have lost their owned or rented housing through foreclosure**, contributing to the increase in the number of homeless families. In an effort to reduce homelessness, the City of Boston **will launch its ten year plan to end homelessness**, Leading the Way Home, in early 2009. To reduce homelessness, city officials cite the need for more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, more mainstream subsidized housing, and an increase in the number of high paying employment opportunities.

City officials continue to seek new means for preventing homelessness. The Boston Homelessness Prevention Clearinghouse is a network that creates a "no wrong door" entry for persons seeking assistance in maintaining their housing. Services include access to financial management training and classes, connection to services needed to stabilize tenancy, and flexible one time rental assistance funds. Since its inception two years ago, the program has assisted people in maintaining their tenancies by spending an average of less than \$1,700 per household.

MAYOR: MAYOR THOMAS M. MENINO

CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CITYOFBOSTON.GOV

TOTAL POPULATION: 613,117

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$50,476

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,308

PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 20.40%

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • MEDICAL OR HEALTH COSTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in Charleston:

Requests for emergency food assistance in Charleston have **increased by at least 26 percent** in the last year. Food bank officials report that **75 percent of persons requesting emergency food assistance are employed** and that over half of the requests for emergency food assistance come from families. As demand is increasing, the Lowcountry Food Bank (LCFB), the regional emergency food assistance provider, is struggling to make up for the **decline in food donations** from national sources and the steep increase in operational costs.

Since 1983, LCFB has linked distinct constituents of the food system. The LCFB brings in reclaimable grocery products from major corporate food distributors and grocery store chains. The LCFB is the sole distributor in Charleston of two U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities programs, The Emergency Food Appropriations Program and the Commodities Supplemental Food Program. In 2006, LCFB piloted several programs to improve its capacity to distribute nutrition-dense food and to provide nutrition outreach services and education to the member agency network. The LCFB has increased the variety of healthy food items by almost 40 percent since adopting a nutrition strategy in recent years. In order to broaden the awareness of this initiative, the LCFB is designing projects to educate and encourage agencies to promote healthy eating among clients and to petition for healthy food donations and purchases.

Profile of Homelessness in Charleston:

Charleston reported a **19 percent increase in overall homelessness** during the last year. The **number of homeless families increased 52 percent** during this same period. Because of inadequate shelter space, the city is forced to turn away five to ten persons a night when the weather is cold or rainy. Shelter staff goes to extra lengths to find a place for families with children and to refer persons with disabilities to permanent supportive housing. City officials attribute the sharp increase in homeless families to **unemployment and the lack of affordable housing**. In an effort to prevent homelessness, Charleston also has implemented programs to assist residents in preventing foreclosure on their homes. To reduce homelessness, Charleston officials cite the **need for more mainstream assisted housing opportunities** (i.e. Housing Choice Vouchers), **increased substance abuse services**, and a greater number of **high paying employment opportunities** for city residents.

MAYOR: MAYOR JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.

TOTAL POPULATION: 224,351

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$946

CITY WEBSITE: [HTTP://CHARLESTONCITY.INFO](http://charlestoncity.info)

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$46,623

PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 17.30%



CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • FAMILY DISPUTES • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • FAMILY DISPUTES • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Profile of Hunger in Charlotte:

During the last year, **requests for food assistance in the Charlotte region have increased by at least 20 percent.** Charlotte has experienced **an increase in the number of people seeking food assistance for the first time as a result of unemployment, the increased cost of food, and a spike in fuel prices.** With the rising cost of food, agencies have had to reduce the amount of food purchased for distribution, forcing them to turn away people seeking food assistance.

In an effort to provide food assistance in the Charlotte area, four agencies have formed **The Nutrition Coalition.** The organizations that comprise this coalition are Friendship Trays, a private meals-on-wheels program; Society of St. Andrew (The Gleaning Network); Community Culinary School of Charlotte, which helps people with barriers to employment earn a Safe Serve certificate; and Loaves & Fishes, a network of 17 food pantries. These organizations are committed to providing nutritious food to low-income residents of the community.

Profile of Homelessness in Charlotte:

Officials in Charlotte report an **18 percent increase in homelessness** over the past year. In particular, the number of homeless families has increased as a result of relocation, employment issues, and insufficient income to afford market rate housing. In some instances, **shelters are forced to turn these families away from shelters due to lack of capacity.** These families often turn to friends or family members for assistance until the shelter has an opening.

To reduce homelessness, Charlotte officials cite the need for more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, more mainstream assisted housing, and more substance abuse services.

MAYOR: MAYOR PATRICK MCCRORY	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CHARMECK.ORG/LIVING/HOME.HTM
TOTAL POPULATION: 675,229	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$52,690
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$991	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 12.40%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in Chicago:

Chicago experienced an **18 percent increase in requests for food assistance** during the last year. The increase was particularly notable among working families. City food assistance providers report an **increase in the number of persons requesting food for the first time**. To reduce hunger in Chicago, food assistance organizations express the need for more employment training programs, utility assistance programs, and an increased supply of affordable housing.

The Greater Chicago Food Depository's Mobile Pantry Program works to address the growing need for food assistance. The Mobile Pantry **distributes nonperishable and perishable food to multiple sites** across the city each month. This program's recipient communities were identified by the 2006 Cook County Unmet Need Study as having a **high concentration of poverty** but relatively low levels of food assistance. This program aims to serve working people by **delivering food on nights and weekends**.

Profile of Homelessness in Chicago:

Chicago has recently moved to an **Interim Housing Model** to place individuals and families into permanent housing within 120 days of entry into the shelter system by focusing on assessment, stabilization, and placement. In addition, Chicago is funding a city-wide **Housing Locator Program** that facilitates rapid re-housing for households that can move into unsubsidized rental housing. Emergency shelters and interim housing programs are assigned to a housing locator agency that serves their geographical area. Placements are made within two weeks of referral.

To prevent homelessness due to foreclosures, Chicago has taken several actions. First, the Chicago Department of Human Services now offers **emergency relocation assistance** to renters whose apartments have gone into foreclosure. Eligible renters may receive **up to three months rent plus assistance with moving costs**. Second, the City launched a **Homeowner Preservation Initiative (HOPI)** that seeks to preserve homeownership whenever possible and keep families in their homes through counseling, loss mitigation, and loan workouts. When foreclosure is unavoidable, the program seeks to preserve the vacant properties as neighborhood assets. To reach homeowners at risk of foreclosure, the city developed a **311 Homeownership Preservation Campaign** that connects callers with credit counseling agencies for assistance at the first sign of delinquency. In addition, a **Tenants Notification of Foreclosure Action ordinance** went into effect November 5, 2008.

MAYOR: MAYOR RICHARD M. DALEY	CITY WEBSITE: HTTP://EGOV.CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG
TOTAL POPULATION: 2,737,996	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$45,505
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,016	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 20.50%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY				
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER		HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN		INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • RECENT INCREASES IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • UNEMPLOYMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY 	

Profile of Hunger in Cleveland:

During the last year, the Cleveland Foodbank **distributed 19,000,000 pounds of food**, an **increase of seven percent** from the previous year. Officials report a **23 percent increase in requests for food assistance**. Families comprised 64 percent of the requests for emergency food assistance. Food assistance agencies report an **increase in the number of working poor families, young families, and the elderly requesting assistance**. In order to meet the rising demand, pantries have reported they are serving people only from their neighborhood and have cut back on the variety and amount of food distributed.

Harvest for Hunger is an annual 19 county food and fundraising drive. Last March, the campaign raised \$2.7 million and 500,000 pounds of food. The foods and funds raised by the Cleveland Foodbank and three partner organizations provide nutritious food for free to Northeast Ohio food pantries, hot meal programs, and shelters. Cleveland officials **cite a need for more utility assistance programs, an increase in food stamp payments, and greater support of food banks** to reduce hunger in the city.

Profile of Homelessness in Cleveland:

In spite of one of the highest foreclosure rates in the country, Cleveland's shelter usage and point in time data reflected a small decrease in homelessness. However, this may not have measured housing needs fully because families that lose their housing typically pursue all available options, including doubling up with family or friends, before requesting emergency shelter. Cleveland has increased expenditures aimed at reducing the number of evictions and set aside funds for rent or utility payments for families experiencing short term emergencies.

Cleveland also created a program to identify from public records the non-owner-occupied properties that have had foreclosure filings. Efforts are then made through the Cleveland Tenants Organizations **to inform the tenants of the pending foreclosure action and to link them with assistance**. Also, extensive foreclosure efforts aim to provide homeowners facing foreclosure with counseling and **assistance in getting lenders to restructure loan terms** before the foreclosure action is completed.

MAYOR: MAYOR FRANK G. JACKSON	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CITY.CLEVELAND.OH.US
TOTAL POPULATION: 395,310	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$28,512
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$684	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 29.50%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • UNEMPLOYMENT

Profile of Hunger in Dallas:

Bleak economic conditions in Dallas are forcing more families to utilize food assistance programs for the first time. Officials recorded a **12 percent increase in demand** for food assistance over the last year. Despite a 77 percent increase in funding, a recent study found that 10 percent of the food insecure population is being underserved by the Dallas food pantry network. Agencies are forced to limit the number of clients they serve each day and the amount of food distributed to each person. To reduce hunger, Dallas officials cite the need for more affordable housing, an increase in food stamp payments, and low gasoline prices or better public transportation.

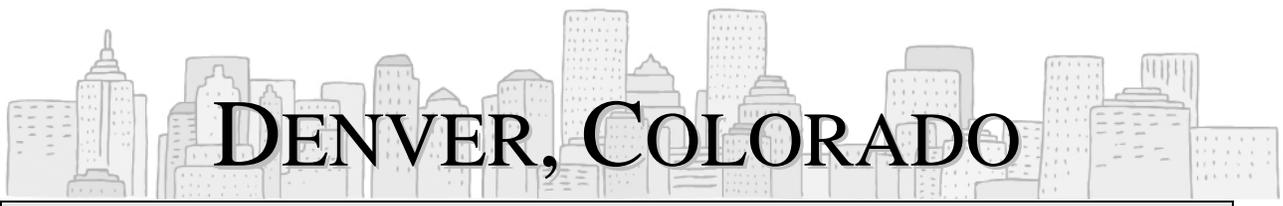
To meet the growing need for food assistance in Dallas and surrounding areas, The North Texas Food Bank launched the “Close the Gap” program. Close the Gap intends to distribute over 50 million meals by fiscal year 2011 in an effort to meet the demand for food assistance. The North Texas Food Bank has also committed to having 18 core items always in stock to improve the nutrition of the food they distribute. The food bank has committed to purchasing these core items when donations are not available. To complement these nutritious foods, the food bank is offering nutrition classes to member agencies and their clients.

Profile of Homelessness in Dallas:

Dallas has experienced a **14 percent increase** in people experiencing homelessness. The Dallas City and County Continuum of Care has implemented several measures to ensure that households with dependent children are linked with housing immediately. These efforts include: a 24 hour 211 information hotline; outreach by multiple homeless providers; the publication and wide distribution of laminated “pocket-pal” guides that provide contact information on homeless services; and education of law enforcement officials about available options for homeless families and victims of domestic violence.

In 2004, Dallas developed a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. The plan focuses on ending chronic homelessness among individual adults, but also addresses families and unaccompanied youth. Dallas also has implemented a rapid re-housing program to decrease the number of nights spent in emergency shelter programs. Opened in 2008, the Bridge Homeless Assistance Center focuses on moving people from emergency shelters and the streets into permanent housing. To date, more than 180 persons have been relocated to permanent housing by this program.

MAYOR: MAYOR TOM LEPPERT	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.DALLASCITYHALL.COM
TOTAL POPULATION: 1,240,044	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$40,986
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$842	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 21.10%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	NOT AVAILABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY DISPUTES • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • EMANCIPATION FROM FOSTER CARE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • FAMILY DISPUTES • UNEMPLOYMENT

Profile of Homelessness in Denver:

Over the past year **the total number of people experiencing homelessness increased approximately one percent in Denver**. Among homeless adults, almost 32 percent were employed and 13 percent were veterans. Officials report that the number of **employed persons who are homeless has increased** over the past year because of the tightening job market and decreasing wages. Additionally, because of layoffs in the area, **Denver has seen an increase in families experiencing homelessness**. Officials note that three main causes for homelessness in households with children are domestic violence, family disputes, and unemployment. The three main causes for homelessness among singles and unaccompanied youth are family disputes, substance abuse and lack of needed services, and emancipation from foster care.

Denver's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness was adopted in 2005 and aims to verify that existing programs and services are fully utilized by the homeless population. To combat homelessness, Denver has developed several mechanisms to aid individuals and families. Through **shelter overflow areas and a motel voucher system**, officials try to ensure that the homeless are not turned away when shelters do not have beds available. The City also has a 40 bed respite program available for homeless individuals released from Denver Health and Hospital. Through the General Assistance program, Denver County has been able to offer **eviction and first month's rent assistance to more than 950 individuals and families**. Program staff members are located at shelters and community sites across the city and are able to assist clients with the application process. The need for rental assistance exceeds available funds. To increase funding, Denver County applies for grants annually and collaborates with community partners to share costs.

To reduce homelessness, city officials cite the need for more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, more substance abuse services, and better paying employment opportunities.

MAYOR: MAYOR JOHN W. HINCKENLOOPER	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.DENVERGOV.ORG
TOTAL POPULATION: 588,349	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$44,444
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$941	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 17.70%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES • UTILITY COSTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY DISPUTES • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY DISPUTES • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • MENTAL ILLNESS

Profile of Hunger in Des Moines:

Over the last year, Des Moines has seen a **10 percent increase in requests for emergency food assistance**, while the budget for emergency food assistance remained constant. Local food providers report **an increase in first-time clients needing assistance, particularly among families with children**. The Des Moines Area Religious Council Emergency Food Pantry has been forced to dip into cash reserves to maintain its current level of service. The provider is exploring how to increase their revenues and donations of food to avoid needing to make reductions in available services.

During the last year, the Des Moines Area Religious Council began focusing its efforts on increasing food donations from the business and corporate communities. The Council has held several food drives within businesses and hopes to penetrate this under-utilized market more effectively in the future. The Council also is working with the Iowa State University Extension Service to assure that the food distributed in Des Moines is nutritionally balanced.

Profile of Homelessness in Des Moines:

The City of Des Moines has seen a **nine percent increase in the number of people experiencing homeless**, including a **six percent increase in the number of employed persons who are homeless**. This increase is attributed to the weakening economy. The number of homeless families increased during the last year, though this may be a result of the addition of a new family shelter in Des Moines.

The Polk County Housing Consortium (PCHC) adopted a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in 2007, focusing on an all-inclusive approach to ending homelessness. The PCHC is using a Planning and Strategies Committee and a Continuum of Care Committee to measure the progress of the plan's goals. The PCHC has identified rapid re-housing as one effective strategy to reduce the number of homeless families. Using the local network of public and private homeless prevention services, **6,119 persons received rent and/or utility assistance or other supportive services**, the majority of whom were able to maintain their housing and avoid homelessness

MAYOR: MAYOR FRANK COWNIE	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CIDES-MOINES.IA.US
TOTAL POPULATION: 190,976	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$42,953
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$806	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 15.40%

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS

Profile of Hunger in Gastonia:

Over the past year, the City of Gastonia has seen **requests for emergency food assistance increase by 13 percent**. Officials reported **an increase in requests from two parent households that are employed**. At the same time, officials reported a **9 percent decrease in the quantity of food distributed** last year because of higher food and fuel costs. In the last year, **50 percent of the clients served are new clients or have not requested assistance in more than five years**. **Forty percent of all emergency food assistance requests came from people who are employed**. Officials expect that, with a weakened economy, individual donations will decrease, and requests for food assistance will increase. In order to fulfill the increased requests, some providers have been **forced to cut the amount of food** given to persons with repeat requests.

In response to the problem of hunger in Gastonia, Crisis Assistance Ministries provides a food pantry for persons who are in need of emergency food assistance. This program also provides rental, utility, medication, and clothing assistance to community members. To help reduce hunger, Gastonia food assistance providers cite the need for **more utility assistance programs, more affordable housing and an increase in food stamp payments**.

Profile of Homelessness in Gastonia:

The total number of people experiencing homelessness in Gastonia has **increased by 46 percent** over the past year. Officials noted an increase in homeless families, attributing the rise to unemployment, family break-up, and loss of housing. If an individual or family is turned away from a shelter in Gastonia, shelter workers try to find a placement for them in the surrounding regions.

Currently, Gastonia has not adopted a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. However, a draft plan has been completed and focuses on chronically homeless individuals. In an effort to prevent homelessness, several agencies supply funds for rent, utilities, clothing, transportation, and medications. These agencies face challenges because of the increased number of people requesting assistance and limited funding. Through HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance, the city also provides rental assistance to persons living in temporary housing. To reduce homelessness in Gastonia, city officials state that there needs to be more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities and more mainstream assisted housing opportunities such as Housing Choice Vouchers.

MAYOR: MAYOR JENNIE STULTZ

TOTAL POPULATION: 65,402

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$722

CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CITYOFGASTONIA.COM

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$37,732

PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 16.50%



KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • MEDICAL OR HEALTH COSTS • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • MENTAL ILLNESS • FAMILY DISPUTES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • FAMILY DISPUTES • UNEMPLOYMENT

Profile of Hunger in Kansas City:

Food assistance programs in Kansas City reported **at least a 30 percent increase in requests for emergency food assistance** during the past year. Roughly **70 percent of the emergency food assistance requests came from persons in families**. There has been an **increase in first time requests** for food assistance at agencies in Kansas City, with many of these requests coming from working families with children, the elderly, and families who have lost employment.

Local schools, Harvester Food Network, and community organizations have partnered to offer the BackSnack program, an effort to combat weekend hunger among school children. Since hunger can have a negative impact on a child's performance, **BackSnack provides food for low-income children over the weekend**, when they do not have access to free school meals. Volunteers from community partners clean and pack backpacks with food, to be distributed to students each week. Since BackSnack began in 2004, teachers and administrators in participating schools have reported that behavior problems have decreased, attendance has increased, and academic performance has improved.

Profile of Homelessness in Kansas City:

Kansas City officials **believe that the percent of homeless persons who are employed has decreased over the last year**, as a result of the large number of jobs lost in the area, as well as the general economic slowdown. The **city has also been affected by the housing foreclosure crisis**, with 3,519 homes owned by banks and another 603 homes already in the foreclosure process. Kansas City's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness focuses on ending homelessness among households with children and chronic homelessness through maintaining and increasing permanent supportive housing and developing rapid-rehousing opportunities.

The city has undertaken two initiatives to assist families facing foreclosure. First, Kansas City's Neighborhood Stabilization Program was recently allocated \$7.3 million under HUD's Economic Recovery Act. These funds are allocated to help **abate blight resulting from foreclosed and abandoned housing**. By abating these conditions, **affordable housing will be developed for those most in need** and values of neighboring homes will be less likely to be adversely affected. Second, Communities Creating Opportunities is working to **address preventable foreclosures through national advocacy efforts** as part of the PICO National Network. This action calls on banks, federal regulators, and local officials to establish a systemic approach to resolve the mortgage foreclosure crisis.

MAYOR: MAYOR MARK FUNKHOUSER	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.KCMO.ORG
TOTAL POPULATION: 437,657	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$42,123
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$804	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 17.40%



LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EVICTION • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • UNEMPLOYMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • EVICTION • FAMILY DISPUTES

Profile of Hunger in Los Angeles:

Over the last year, Los Angeles County reports a **10 percent increase in requests for emergency food assistance**. The Los Angeles Regional Foodbank (LARF), a network of nearly 900 agencies in Los Angeles County, **distributed almost 36 million pounds of food**, up slightly from the year before. However, advocates estimate that **thirty percent of the need for food assistance goes unmet in Los Angeles**.

LARF works to distribute fresh fruits and vegetables to its member agencies through multiple distribution programs. The Rapid Food Distribution Program distributes produce to member agencies “just in time,” eliminating the need for agencies to transport or store produce. The Front Dock Program helps member agencies shop daily for produce, while the Agency Drive Through allows agencies to access produce by car. LARF also analyzes each item’s nutritional value, color coding its menu based on a food’s nutritional content so that agencies can make informed decisions on the food they distribute.

Profile of Homelessness in Los Angeles:

With increasing demand for homeless shelter services, the Los Angeles Continuum of Care plans to **implement a centralized intake system for homeless families with children**. This program will minimize the number of families turned away from shelters. In addition to this new system, the Permanent Supportive Housing Program, supported by \$50 million a year from the City’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund, is working to provide 2,200 additional units of permanent supportive housing over the next five years. This past year, Project 50 was launched as a partnership between City and County departments, as well as nonprofit homeless service providers, in an effort to move the 50 most vulnerably chronically homeless individuals from the streets of Skid Row directly into permanent supportive housing. Moving forward, officials plan to use this program as a template for moving chronically homeless individuals into permanent supportive housing.

In 2007, more than 5,200 households lost their homes to a foreclosure sale. That number is expected to rise significantly in 2008. The **Neighborhood Stabilization Initiative**, launched by Mayor Villaraigosa, is a **multi-faceted approach to helping distressed homeowners through free foreclosure counseling** in communities most affected by the foreclosure crisis. Los Angeles has also **adopted a 5-year housing plan with a goal of building and preserving 20,000 units of housing across the income spectrum**. The majority of these units will go to individuals and families earning less than \$42,000 per year.

MAYOR: MAYOR ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CL.LA.CA.US
TOTAL POPULATION: 3,806,003	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$47,781
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,187	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 18.50%



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in Louisville:

Over the past year, Louisville Metro has seen requests for emergency food assistance **increase by 44 percent**. During this period, there was a **16 percent increase in the amount of food distributed**. Despite this increase, the City believes that 20 percent of the need for food assistance goes unmet. People who are employed make up 40 percent of the emergency food assistance requests. Food banks are also seeing **an increase in requests from younger families**.

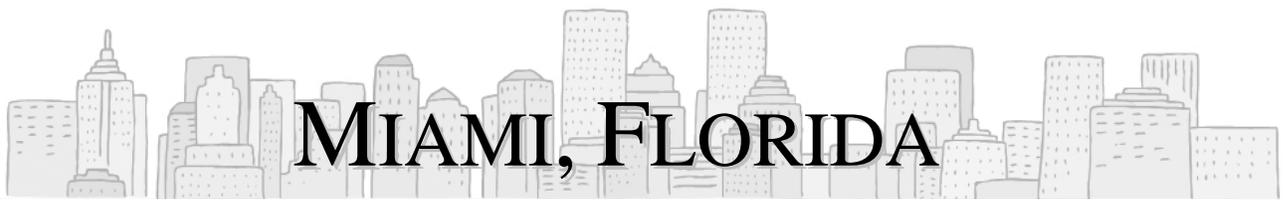
The Dare to Care Food Bank is running multiple programs to respond to the increasing hunger in Louisville. The Mobile Pantry program delivers food directly to families in neighborhoods lacking traditional food pantry capacity. The truck delivers both perishable and nonperishable food at a specific time, eliminating the need for nonprofits to have storage capacity. The program was especially helpful during the Hurricane Ike windstorm. Another program, Patrol Against Hunger, pairs Dare to Care Food Bank with Louisville Metro Police, delivering 30 pound boxes of nonperishable food to seniors identified by beat officers as at-risk for hunger.

Profile of Homelessness in Louisville:

Louisville Metro has seen a **three percent increase in the number of homeless persons** in the last year, including **an increase in the number of homeless**. The percentage of persons entering shelters employed has remained steady at around 15 percent, while 24 percent of persons leaving shelters are employed.

In an effort to address the growing incidences of homelessness, Louisville Metro has undertaken several initiatives. First implemented in 2002, the City's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness was revised in October 2008 to incorporate the ideas presented in the National Alliance to End Homelessness's 10 Essentials Toolkit. In the past year, the Louisville Continuum of Care created 42 permanent housing vouchers for the chronically homeless and 46 permanent housing vouchers for persons and families who do not meet the definition of chronic homelessness. The Continuum also anticipates spending \$750,000 for Tenant Based Rental Assistance, helping approximately 170 families during the coming year. Between 2006 and 2007, Louisville Metro also has seen a **14 percent increase in the number of foreclosures**. Housing and Family Services is in the process of creating a new foreclosure team to combat this issue.

MAYOR: MAYOR JERRY ABRAMSON	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.LOUISVILLEKY.GOV
TOTAL POPULATION: 561,398	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$40,823
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$730	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 16.60%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOMELESSNESS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • UNEMPLOYMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • MENTAL ILLNESS • UNEMPLOYMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • UNEMPLOYMENT

Profile of Hunger in Miami:

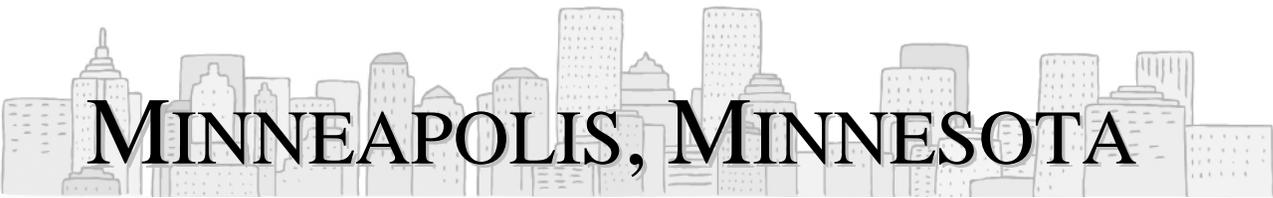
In order to reduce hunger in Miami, City officials say they **need more employment training programs, more affordable housing, and more low-barrier housing programs.** The City currently coordinates the Indoor Meal Program to combat hunger. This program brings together community and faith-based organizations who fed hungry people on the streets in the past. Through the **Indoor Meal program**, these organizations now link these individuals with local churches and other community organizations who volunteer facilities where meals can be served indoors in an organized, civil manner. The program served more than 150,000 in the past year.

Profile of Homelessness in Miami:

The total number of **people experiencing homelessness in Miami decreased 16 percent in the last year.** This decrease may be a result of several recent initiatives. In 2003, the City of Miami adopted a Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, designed to complement the Miami-Dade County Housing Trust Ten (MDCHT) Year Plan. As part of these plans, the city of Miami Homeless Assistance Program has implemented a nationally recognized outreach program. The plan is designed to enhance outreach services and provide access to low-demand shelter beds for the chronically homeless population while linking them to appropriate existing services. In 2006, the program developed an extensive community educational campaign focused on homeless prevention.

While there was a decline in the overall number of homeless people in Miami, **the number of homeless families has increased.** City officials attribute this increase in homeless families to the weak economy, rising unemployment and the foreclosure crisis. While in the past family shelters typically had available beds, **this year these facilities have been at capacity.** The policy of the City of Miami and the Miami-Dade County Housing Trust (MDCHT) is that, **when no shelter space is available for families, the city provides them with motel vouchers.** Families can remain in the motel until shelter space becomes available. Families who call the City seeking assistance are automatically referred to a homeless prevention program that provides rental and utility assistance. One component of the Outreach program run by MDCHT **provides first month rent, deposit and utility assistance to families at high risk for homelessness.**

MAYOR: MAYOR MANUEL A. DIAZ	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.MIAMIGOV.COM/CMS
TOTAL POPULATION: 348,827	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$29,075
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$902	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 25.50%



MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	UNAVAILABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • POVERTY

Profile of Homelessness in Minneapolis:

Minneapolis has seen an **increase in the overall number of people experiencing homelessness** over the past year. Despite this general increase, the percent of employed persons experiencing homelessness has remained the same. Minneapolis reported that **fifty percent of homeless persons in their city suffered from a severe mental illness**. However, city officials state the three main causes of homeless among individuals and unaccompanied youth are the lack of affordable housing, the prevalence of low-paying jobs, and poverty.

There has also been an **increase in the number of homeless families** during the last year. The City believes that this increase in homeless families results from the changing economy, a lack of jobs, poverty, and the rising number of foreclosures. To combat family homelessness, Minneapolis has doubled its funding for homeless prevention for at-risk families. However, prevention efforts and programs to move families out of shelters and into permanent housing sometimes are stymied by the lack of affordable housing and the low vacancy rates in the city's rental market.

In response to the rising number of foreclosures, renter protections have been written into Minnesota state law. To further reduce instances of homelessness in Minneapolis, city officials cite the **need for more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, more mainstream assisted housing, and better paying employment opportunities**.

MAYOR: MAYOR R.T. RYBAK

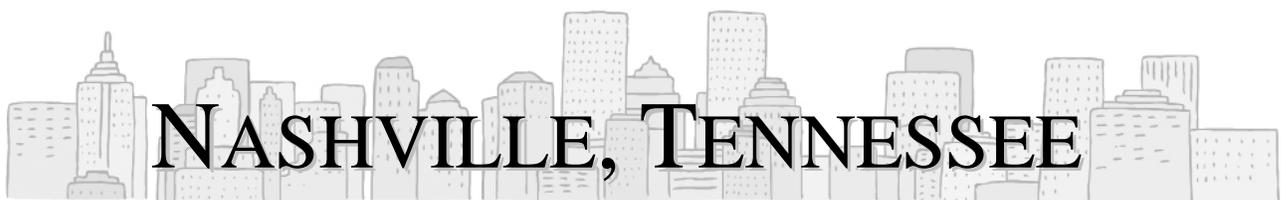
CITY WEBSITE: [WWW.CI.MINNEAPOLIS.MN.US](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

TOTAL POPULATION: 351,184

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$44,423

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$933

PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 20.40%



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • LOW-PAYING JOBS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Profile of Hunger in Nashville:

Over the past year, Nashville has seen a **13 percent increase** in emergency food assistance requests and a **20 percent increase** in the total quantity of food distributed. However, there has been a **38 percent decrease in the total budget for emergency food purchases**. Nashville reports an increase both in the number of persons requesting food assistance for the first time and in the frequency of persons visiting food pantries or emergency kitchens each month. It is estimated that 40 percent of the overall demand for emergency food assistance in the Nashville area during the past year went unmet.

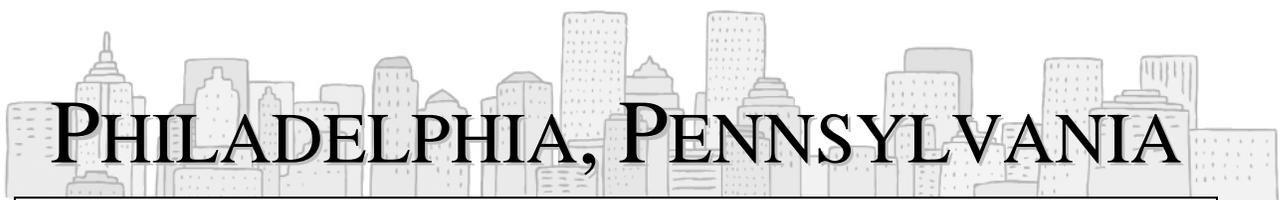
In an effort to combat the rising rate of hunger in Nashville, Second Harvest recently has launched the Grocery Rescue Program. This program picks up grocery store items (such as meats, deli items, bread, dairy items, canned goods, and produce) that would otherwise be thrown away. The goal of the Grocery Rescue Program is to reduce food waste while improving the quantity and quality of food distributed. Based on July 2008 statistics, 40 stores have generated 100,000 pounds of servable food per month and these numbers are expected to double. Nashville advocates cite needs for more substance abuse and mental health services, employment training programs, and affordable housing to combat hunger.

Profile of Homelessness in Nashville:

The total number of people experiencing **homelessness in Nashville has increased by 6 percent over the past year**. The number of homeless families has remained about the same, with most families citing a lack of affordable housing as the cause of their homelessness. A Task Force of community leaders, government, and service agencies was created in April of 2004 to ensure that Nashville meets the federal goal of ending chronic homelessness within ten years. The task force members divided into four work groups to focus on housing, health, economic stability, and systems coordination. These work groups provide a framework for the Task Force and its actions. Each group issues an annual report to track progress against plan goals.

To assist homeless persons in obtaining and retaining housing opportunities, the Mayor's Homeless Commission is working with Urban Housing Solutions on the city's first Housing First program. This Housing First initiative has placed **67 people into permanent housing**, representing a major success for the city of Nashville. The goal of the Commission is to place individuals with housing and the resources they need to re-enter society.

MAYOR: MAYOR KARL DEAN	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.NASHVILLE.GOV
TOTAL POPULATION: 593,332	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$45,844
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$854	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 15.30%



PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY • EVICTION

Profile of Hunger in Philadelphia:

During the last year, requests for food assistance have **increased 23 percent** in Philadelphia. There has been an **increase in first time requests**. Those requesting assistance for the first time include families with children, employed persons, and **senior citizens who are raising grandchildren**. An **eight percent decrease in budgets** for emergency food purchases during the same period has forced providers to reduce the amount and variety of food purchased, resulting in a **26 percent decrease in the amount of food distributed** in Philadelphia.

Two unique programs aim to reduce the growing need for food assistance in Philadelphia. The SHARE Food Program makes food packages from items purchased from growers, brokers, and packaging plants. **These packages are then made available for 30 percent less than the food at local grocery stores**. In exchange for participation, the program requires that each recipient complete two hours of community service for another person or a local organization. In addition, the SHARE Food Program and Philadelphia Green have matched up food banks with local gardeners to provide food to needy Philadelphians. The Gardening Project supplies food cupboards that provide participants with locally-grown fresh produce.

Profile of Homelessness in Philadelphia:

Overall, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased 3 percent in Philadelphia over the past year. Philadelphia has launched the Housing Retention Program to prevent homelessness among families experiencing a short-term financial crisis. The program provides rent, mortgage and utility assistance in neighborhoods where households are considered to be at high-risk of becoming homeless. The program is funded by the city's Housing Trust Fund and, in the last fiscal year, it provided assistance to more than 300 households.

In response to an **18 percent increase** in mortgage foreclosures, Philadelphia has implemented several new initiatives. In June 2008, Mayor Michael A. Nutter launched the **Philadelphia Mortgage Foreclosure Protection Plan**. Measures designed to help homeowners affected by the foreclosure crisis include free housing counseling services, a public outreach program, and a hotline for homeowners to call with mortgage concerns.

MAYOR: MAYOR MICHAEL A. NUTTER	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.PHILA.GOV
TOTAL POPULATION: 1,449, 634	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$35,365
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$777	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 23.80%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • HIGH TRANSPORTATION COSTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY DISPUTES • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • UNEMPLOYMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • UNEMPLOYMENT • EVICTIONS

Profile of Hunger in Phoenix:

During the last year, the number of requests for food assistance in Arizona has increased **35 percent**. Providers are reporting a significant increase in the number of new persons seeking assistance, especially among working individuals and families. Moreover, there has been an increase in the frequency with which persons access food assistance programs.

In an effort to combat the rising amount of hunger in the Phoenix region, two innovative programs work to provide food assistance to low-income residents. The statewide Arizona Gleaning Project **rescues and distributes food that would otherwise be wasted**. Inspectors from the State Department of Agriculture identify potential donors of surplus products. These products are then harvested by state and county prison inmates and distributed to hungry persons across the state by a network of food banks. The Putting the Pieces Together Initiative, run by the Desert Mission Food Bank, **seeks to educate clients about the nutritional value of a wide variety of foods through hands-on education**. A full-time professional chef conducts live demonstrations at the food bank to educate clients about the nutritional value of the products distributed and different options for food preparation. Recently, the program has been expanded through outreach efforts to other federal and state programs targeting low-income persons.

Profile of Homelessness in Phoenix:

Phoenix reported a **two percent decrease in homelessness** during the last year. However, the number of homeless families using emergency shelter and transitional housing increased during the same period. A Regional Plan to End Homelessness was developed in 2002 and updated in 2005 by the Continuum of Care Regional Committee to End Homelessness. The Continuum of Care is currently developing a revised Ten Year Regional Plan, with a focus on subpopulations including the chronically homeless and homeless families.

Two initiatives in Phoenix aim to prevent homelessness. The City's Human Services Department provides assistance for persons at risk of homelessness. Caseworkers at four Family Services Centers **provide a range of assistance to promote self-sufficiency for adults and families**. Tangible services such as direct financial assistance for utilities and housing, emergency food and transportation assistance are offered, as well as budgeting, education and job training referrals, skill development and counseling. To aid families affected by the mortgage foreclosure crisis, the City of Phoenix is **adopting programs and policies under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act**, particularly the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

MAYOR: MAYOR PHIL GORDON	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.PHOENIX.GOV
TOTAL POPULATION: 1,513,777	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$48,061
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,059	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 17.80%



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in Portland:

In Portland, the **number of requests for food assistance has remained relatively stable** over the past year. However, the type of persons seeking emergency food assistance has shifted. The economic downturn has resulted in **more first-time clients** making requests. There also was an **increase in the number of persons** requesting emergency food assistance who report that they have no medical insurance. Staff anticipates service increases for food assistance among all populations during the upcoming year.

Rising food prices have lead to the increased purchase of certain food types, such as beans and oats, and a decrease in flour-based products like pasta. Overall, rising prices have resulted in a decline in the amount of food that can be purchased. This decline in food has resulted in some pantries reducing the size of their food boxes from a five day supply to a three or four day supply of food. Other pantries have resorted to setting “frequency of service” restrictions to ensure they can assist as many persons as possible with their limited food resources. The rising cost of gasoline during the last year has created logistical challenges for Portland’s food assistance agencies. When Friendly House, an emergency food box provider in Northwest Portland, discontinued food assistance, Northwest Portland Ministries stepped in to take over their operations. This interfaith coalition of churches and synagogues created a reliable place for people in downtown Portland to access emergency food.

Profile of Homelessness in Portland:

During the last year, there has been an **increase in the number of homeless persons, including families**, in greater Portland. This includes an almost **22 percent increase in the number of employed homeless persons**. The City of Portland and Multnomah County launched a ten-year plan to end homelessness in December 2004. The plan focuses on ending chronic homelessness, as well as reducing homelessness among families by creating 600 units of affordable housing.

Following an extensive community process, the City of Portland, Multnomah County, and the Housing Authority of Portland recently streamlined what had been a complex array of short-term rental assistance programs. The new model **consolidated six different funding sources and three administrative entities into one rental assistance program**. This rental assistance model is flexible, measures performance, and makes housing first and homelessness prevention top priorities. **Nearly two million dollars is available annually** through this improved model for families and individuals who need rent and utility assistance.

MAYOR: MAYOR TOM POTTER	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.PORTLANDONLINE.COM
TOTAL POPULATION: 550,795	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$47,143
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,006	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 15.10%



PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • UNEMPLOYMENT • LEGAL EVICTION

Profile of Hunger in Providence:

The demand for food assistance in the Providence area **increased seven percent** during the last year. Agencies report an **increase in the number of people requesting assistance who have never needed food in the past**, including middle class families and people who had previously donated to food pantries. Officials also note increased use of emergency food assistance programs because **food stamp benefits are not lasting as long**, because of the rising cost of food. The increased cost of food has also affected the variety and amount of food available to clients at Providence food assistance programs. Officials cite multiple challenges for providing food assistance as the demand continues to rise, including the **increasing cost of food** and the **decline in food donations resulting from food industry efficiencies**.

The Rhode Island Community Food Bank and its member agencies work closely with the University of Rhode Island's Food Stamp Outreach Project to provide assistance to people eligible for food stamp benefits, but not receiving them. The coordinated effort, placing outreach workers in many pantries and soup kitchens throughout the state, has resulted in an impressive **20 percent increase in food stamp participation** in the past two years. The Rhode Island Community Farm **utilizes donated land to grow fresh produce** for distribution to emergency food programs. There are seven farm locations, including a five acre plot operated in collaboration with the College of Environment and Life Sciences at the University of Rhode Island.

Profile of Homelessness in Providence:

Unemployment and the economic downturn have contributed to a **35 percent overall increase in the number of persons experiencing homelessness** in Providence. Providence also reports an **increase in the number of employed persons and families** experiencing homelessness. City officials believe the increased number of homeless families may be a result of the **high number of foreclosures of rental properties**. Rhode Island Housing, the state mortgage and finance entity, runs the Road Home program, which assists persons at risk for or experiencing homelessness in Providence and across the state. The program mediates probable evictions to maintain housing opportunities and assists homeless persons by moving them into apartments. Road Home also provides rental, security deposit, utility, and furniture purchase assistance. The Emergency Housing Assistance Program in Providence provides one month's rent to qualified renters once a year. To reduce homelessness, Providence cites the need for more permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, more mainstream assisted housing, and better coordination between homeless and health service providers.

MAYOR: MAYOR DAVID N. CICCLINE	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.PROVIDENCERI.COM
TOTAL POPULATION: 168,846	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$34,185
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$973	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 28.50%



SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • MEDICAL OR HEALTH COSTS • LOW WAGES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • UNEMPLOYMENT • SITUATIONAL CRISIS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY • SITUATIONAL CRISIS

Profile of Hunger in Salt Lake City:

Over the past year, Salt Lake City has experienced an **eight percent increase in requests for emergency food assistance**. Utah Food Bank Services has seen an **increase of 13 percent in the quantity** of emergency food it has distributed. The rise in the cost of housing, utilities, transportation and food has **increased the frequency of persons visiting food pantries and emergency kitchens** each month. Emergency food services also are seeing families accessing emergency food for longer periods of time, and many low-wage families are accessing emergency food for the first time.

In an effort to reduce hunger in the community, Crossroads Urban Center has developed a monthly food purchasing cooperative. Begun in 2006, the Community Food Co-op of Utah takes orders from co-op members (churches, community centers, individuals, etc.) and then acquires high quality meat, produce, and grain from local vendors and farmers. The food is sold to co-op members for up to 50 percent less than grocery store prices. Currently, the cooperative has 8,000 members and sells more than 3,500 food packages each month. Outreach efforts for the cooperative currently are focused on low income seniors and working families. To further reduce hunger, officials cite a need for more utility assistance programs, an increase in food stamp payments, and more affordable housing.

Profile of Homelessness in Salt Lake City:

Officials report an **increase of 16 percent** in people experiencing homelessness this year in Salt Lake City. This included an **increase in families experiencing homelessness** because of lack of affordable housing and evictions. In 2005, Salt Lake County adopted a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness, focusing on housing for the chronically homeless and homeless prevention programs. As a result, **two new permanent housing developments**, Sunrise Apartments and Grace Mary Manor, were opened. These developments provide housing support services for 184 single persons who previously were homeless or at risk of homelessness. Additionally, the Road Home program is undertaking two initiatives in Salt Lake City. Through the Road Home's **Rapid Rehousing pilot project**, families were given a six month subsidy and supportive services to assist them in finding and maintaining housing. As a result, this group of 31 families had an average shelter stay of 18 days, whereas the average shelter stay for families last year was 74 days. In another initiative, a former hotel has been converted into permanent housing for 200 formerly homeless families and single adults and is expected to open in spring 2009.

MAYOR: MAYOR RALPH BECKER	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CI.SLC.UT.US
TOTAL POPULATION: 188,997	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$43,000
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$791	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 15.90%

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY • LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND LACK OF NEEDED SERVICES • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • DOMESTIC VIOLENCE • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in San Francisco:

Over the past year, San Francisco has seen the increase of food prices, generally high cost of living, and a weakened economy result in a **10 percent increase the demand for emergency food assistance. The total budget for emergency food assistance has increased 45 percent.** This increase in the budget permitted the opening of several new food pantries. Funding from the city government increased, but individual donations have decreased. The increased cost of food has forced the San Francisco Food Bank to increase fundraising efforts and to lower the quality of food purchased, for example purchasing split dry beans instead of whole dry beans. The total quantity of food distributed increased by 13 percent over the last year, 30 percent of the overall demand for emergency food assistance went unmet.

To relieve the burden on emergency food assistance programs, San Francisco has launched an aggressive effort to increase participation in the food stamps program. This effort, aided by a \$1 million federal grant, includes a food assistance call center, a benefits screening program, and an application website. The initiative also allows people to apply for and receive food stamps assistance at community based organizations.

Profile of Homelessness in San Francisco:

A weakened economy coupled with the high cost of living in San Francisco, has **increased the number of people experiencing homelessness.** Over the past year, **the waitlists for families and individuals to access emergency shelters have both increased 50 percent.** San Francisco also has seen an increase of homeless families from neighboring cities and states because of the accessibility of social services. This increased need resulted in the city's winter shelter opening two months earlier than scheduled.

To address these issues the Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in the City and County of San Francisco focuses on creating 3,000 new units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless adults and families. Additionally, the city sponsors eviction prevention programs that assist individuals and families by paying past rent and utility bills.

MAYOR: MAYOR GAVIN NEWSOM

CITY WEBSITE: WWW.CLSF.CA.US

TOTAL POPULATION: 764,976

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$68,023

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,409

PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 10.50%



SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME • RECENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • MENTAL ILLNESS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY • LOW PAYING JOBS

Profile of Hunger in Santa Monica:

In the last year, Santa Monica **distributed 1.9 million pounds of food** through the Westside Food Bank, an increase of only three percent despite a **21 percent increase in requests for emergency food assistance** during the last year. **Almost half of those requests came from people who are employed**, and 66 percent came from families. Staff report seeing a **higher proportion of people using a food pantry for the first time**, as well as a higher number of people who consider themselves middle class being unable to afford food.

Santa Monica participates in the Farm to Family program, a **produce distribution program that links California produce growers with the state's established network of food banks**. Managed by the California Association of Food Banks, this program has brought an extra 250,000 pounds of produce to Santa Monica residents in the past year. At least **38 types of fruits and vegetables are brought to the food bank at the cost of transportation**, which is less than five cents per pound.

Profile of Homelessness in Santa Monica:

Santa Monica has seen a **15 percent increase in the number of homeless individuals** who requested city-funded services and housing over the last year. The City adopted an Action Plan to Address Homelessness in February 2008. The plan's goal is to reduce homelessness by engaging homeless people in services and assisting them in gaining stability by moving them off the streets and into appropriate housing. The Plan calls for new and existing resources to be **focused on priority populations: the chronically homeless, homeless persons whose last permanent address was in Santa Monica, and vulnerable members of Santa Monica's workforce**. During fiscal year 2007-2008, local service providers moved 344 people to permanent housing.

In February 2008 Santa Monica created the **Chronic Homeless Program Service Registry**, a detailed listing of the community's 131 most vulnerable and chronic homeless individuals. This registry resulted in two local service providers receiving approximately \$1.1 million over two years from the County of Los Angeles for supportive services to help those individuals on the registry succeed in permanent supportive housing.

MAYOR: MAYOR HERB KATZ	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.SMGOV.NET
TOTAL POPULATION: 86,857	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$71,796
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,545	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 9.00%



SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • FAMILY DISPUTES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • POVERTY • MEDICAL PROBLEMS

Profile of Hunger in Seattle:

Seattle reports a **four percent increase in requests for food assistance** during the past year. Emergency food programs have experienced an **11 percent increase in first-time participants** during the same period, with some programs reporting up to a 55 percent increase. **Steep increases in food prices** have led to significantly increased demand for emergency food programs.

In response to a decrease in food donations and an increase in demand, the Seattle Human Services Department recently funded United Way of King County to **develop and coordinate additional resources for the emergency food system**. The United Way is tasked with asking foundations to enhance their investments in food programs, developing long-term strategies to sustain the regional food system, and increasing access to public benefits such as the Basic Food Program. Strategies to enroll people in the Basic Food Program include outreach efforts to immigrant and refugee communities, as well as to households at risk for homelessness.

Profile of Homelessness in Seattle:

In the last year, the number of **persons experiencing homelessness in Seattle increased**. The community's point-in-time count noted a 15 percent increase in the number of unsheltered persons in 2008. The City offers multiple programs to assist homeless persons and those at risk for homelessness. Seattle invests in **emergency rental assistance and rental stabilization programs** and provides utility assistance to low-income households. Local funding for the rental assistance programs is provided by a **Seattle Housing Levy**, a voter-approved measure providing dedicated funding for affordable housing from a portion of individual property taxes. The City's **Rent Stabilization Program offers short-term rental subsidies (6 to 18 months) linked to case management** services for households who are at risk of homelessness. In addition, the Housing First Initiative provides investments for projects that rapidly move chronically homeless individuals into permanent supportive housing and provide them with intensive and flexible services.

Although Seattle has not yet experienced a dramatic increase in foreclosures, Mayor Nickels created a **Foreclosure Prevention Pilot Program** to prepare for a potential increase in foreclosures. The program assists homeowners at risk of foreclosure by providing financial and mortgage counseling; assistance in negotiating repayment plans with lenders; and stabilization loans of up to \$5,000. The program gives homeowners two options: avoid default and work out a repayment plan or gain enough time to sell their home on their terms.

MAYOR: MAYOR GREG NICKELS	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.SEATTLE.GOV
TOTAL POPULATION: 577,231	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$57,849
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$1,169	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 13.10%



ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • UNEMPLOYMENT • UTILITY COSTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY DISPUTES • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING • LOW-PAYING JOBS • UNEMPLOYMENT

Profile of Hunger in St. Paul:

Over the past few years, Second Harvest Heartland, the food bank in the St. Paul area, has doubled its efforts to recover food (meat, dairy products, produce, bakery, and deli goods) and household items from product donors, including 80 Twin Cities area grocery stores, major retailers, and the St. Paul public schools. These efforts resulted in more than **2 million pounds of food saved and distributed in St. Paul last year**. These products are handled by certified food handlers and delivered within 24 to 48 hours of donation to ensure that the food delivered to meal programs and food shelves is edible. This food is intended to supplement other food programs for low-income individuals and families, such as food stamps. In addition, through annual analysis, Second Harvest Heartland found that at least 75 percent of the food it distributes annually is considered nutritious as well as edible.

Profile of Homelessness in St. Paul:

During 2007 and 2008, St. Paul saw a **30 percent increase in the number of families** seeking emergency shelter. City officials also reported an **increase of 10 to 20 percent in the use of overnight emergency shelters by single adults**, including a new record in the number of persons served at the City's adult overnight shelter this past September. The City attributes this increase to general economic conditions and to the opening of more emergency shelters for families.

St. Paul is combating the rise in homelessness through a number of innovative programs. The St. Paul Police Department has begun working with local nonprofits, Listening House and South Metro Human Services, to **cross-train new police cadets and street social workers to better respond to and serve homeless people with mental illness**. South Metro Human Services and the Police Department have also used Community Development Block Grant funds to develop a street outreach program for chronically homeless people. St. Paul also has seen grass-root initiatives succeed, such as the X-Committee's "Locker Project," a self-help homeless resident empowerment initiative that helps homeless residents, many with disabilities, build lockers for use by the homeless community. So far, this program has built between 200 and 250 lockers for use at various community agency sites.

MAYOR: MAYOR CHRIS COLEMAN	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.STPAUL.GOV
TOTAL POPULATION: 266,258	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$46,579
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$905	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 18.90%



TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S SURVEY			
DURING THE LAST YEAR...	HUNGER	HOMELESSNESS	
	INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
REPORTED CAUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEMPLOYMENT • HIGH HOUSING COSTS • POVERTY OR LACK OF INCOME 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • POVERTY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL ILLNESS • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • POVERTY

Profile of Hunger in Trenton:

The increased cost of food has limited the variety and quality of food that food assistance programs in the Trenton area can provide. Program staff reports **an increase in first time users of food pantries**, especially from families and immigrants. Clients also are **visiting food pantries on a more frequent basis** than in previous years. In an effort to meet the growing need for food assistance, programs **have limited the number of visits a month** and **decreased the amount of food** they distribute to each client. Moreover, purchases of foods with high nutritive value have decreased due to their high cost, and the overall amount of food distributed has also declined.

With 50 member agencies in the greater Trenton area, the **Mercer Street Friends Food Bank is committed to providing nutritious food to city residents**. A registered dietician is on staff, and nutrition education materials are provided to member agencies. The program also aims to provide as much low fat dairy, fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins as possible in the challenging economic environment.

Profile of Homelessness in Trenton:

A lack of affordable or subsidized housing, substance abuse and mental illness, lack of employment opportunities, and changes in welfare policy have contributed to an increase in the number of homeless families in Trenton. To combat the rise in homelessness, in recent years, Trenton has implemented a **ten-year plan to end homelessness**. The plan's goals are to prevent homelessness by providing a financial safety net so people retain housing and ensuring that government programs do not discharge persons into homelessness. The plan supports new collaborations to promote affordable housing, a living wage, and work supports, and ensure case management, treatment options, and access to necessary government and private services.

Trenton has implemented multiple initiatives to combat homelessness. Several programs also **provide funds to assist families with back rent or a first month's rent payment**. Families have begun requesting funds to help with foreclosures. Mayor Palmer has **formed a task force to assist with foreclosures**. The task force works with homeowners to provide information that may be beneficial in assisting them with saving their homes, such as understanding the type of mortgage they have, when the mortgage interest rate will be reset, and necessary steps to resolve their mortgage problems.

MAYOR: MAYOR DOUGLAS H. PALMER	CITY WEBSITE: WWW.TRENTONNJ.ORG
TOTAL POPULATION: 78,242	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$36, 293
MEDIAN MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS: \$925	PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LINE: 21.40%

Appendix A

List of Past Reports

List of Past Reports

Since 1982 the U.S. Conference of Mayors has completed numerous reports on hunger, homelessness and poverty in cities. These reports have documented the causes and the magnitude of the problems, how cities were responding to them and what national responses were required. They include:

- Hunger in American Cities, June, 1983
- Responses to Urban Hunger, October, 1983
- Status Report: Emergency Food, Shelter and Energy Programs in 20 Cities, January, 1984
- Homelessness in America's Cities: Ten Case Studies, June, 1984
- Housing Needs and Conditions in America's Cities, June, 1984
- The Urban Poor and the Economic Recovery, September, 1984
- The Status of Hunger in Cities, April, 1985
- Health Care for the Homeless: A 40-City Review, April 1985
- The Growth of Hunger, Homelessness and Poverty in America's Cities in 1985: A 25-City Survey, January, 1986
- Responding to Homelessness in America's Cities, June 1986
- The Continued Growth of Hunger, Homelessness and Poverty in America's Cities in 1986; A 25-City Survey, December, 1986
- A Status Report on Homeless Families in America's Cities: A 29-City Survey, May, 1987
- Local Responses to the Needs of Homeless Mentally Ill Persons, May, 1987
- The Continuing Growth of Hunger, Homelessness and Poverty in America's Cities: 1987. A 26-City Survey, December, 1987
- A Status Report on The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, June, 1988
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1988. A 27-City Survey, January, 1989
- Partnerships for Affordable Housing an Annotated Listing of City Programs, September, 1989
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1989. A 27-City Survey, December, 1989
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1990 A 30-City Survey, December, 1990
- A City Assessment of the 1990 Shelter and Street Night count. A 21-City Survey, June 1991
- Mentally Ill and Homeless. A 22-City Survey, November 1991
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1991, A 28-City Survey, December 1991
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1992 A 29-City Survey, December 1992

- Addressing Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities, June 1993
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1993 A 26-City Survey, December 1993
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1994. A 30-City Survey, December 1994
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1995. A 29-City Survey, December 1995
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1996. A 29-City Survey, December 1996
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1997, A 29-City Survey, December 1997
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1998, A 26-City Survey, December 1998
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1999, A 25-City Survey, December 1999
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2000, A 29-City Survey, December 2000
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2001, A 29-City Survey, December 2001
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2002, A 25-City Survey, December 2002
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2003, A 25-City Survey, December 2003
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2004, A 27-City Survey, December 2004
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2005, A 24-City Survey, December 2005
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2005, A 23-City Survey, December 2006
- A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 2006, A 23-City Survey, December 2007

Appendix B

Survey Cities & Mayors

Survey Cities & Their Mayors

City	Mayor
BOSTON, MA	Mayor Thomas M. Menino
CHARLESTON, SC	Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr.
CHARLOTTE, NC	Mayor Patrick McCrory
CHICAGO, IL	Mayor Richard M. Daley
CLEVELAND, OH	Mayor Frank G. Jackson
DALLAS, TX	Mayor Tom Leppert
DENVER, CO	Mayor John W. Hickenlooper
DES MOINES, IA	Mayor Frank Cownie
GASTONIA, NC	Mayor Jennifer T. Stultz
KANSAS CITY, MO	Mayor Mark Funkhouser
LOS ANGELES, CA	Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa
LOUISVILLE, KY	Mayor Jerry Abramson
MIAMI, FL	Mayor Manuel A. Diaz
MINNEAPOLIS, MN	Mayor R.T. Rybak
NASHVILLE, TN	Mayor Karl Dean
PHILADELPHIA, PA	Mayor Michael A. Nutter
PHOENIX, AZ	Mayor Phil Gordon
PORTLAND, OR	Mayor Tom Potter
PROVIDENCE, RI	Mayor David N. Cicilline
ST. PAUL, MN	Mayor Chris Coleman
SALT LAKE CITY, UT	Mayor Ralph Becker
SAN FRANCISCO, CA	Mayor Gavin Newsom
SANTA MONICA, CA	Mayor Herb Katz
SEATTLE, WA	Mayor Greg Nickels
TRENTON, NJ	Mayor Douglas H. Palmer

Appendix C

2008 Hunger and Homelessness Information Questionnaire

**2008 Status Report on Hunger and
Homelessness
Information Questionnaire**

U.S. Conference of Mayors

CITY: _____

Contact information for the person(s) who can answer questions about the data submitted in this survey:

	Hunger Contact Person	Homelessness Contact Person
Name:		
Title:		
Agency:		
Address:		
Phone Number:		
Fax Number:		
Email Address:		

Part 1: HUNGER

Supply of Emergency Food Assistance

The following questions are addressed to the primary supplier of emergency food assistance in your city. In most cases this will be the food bank that supplies food pantries and emergency kitchens in your city. If there are more than one central distributors of emergency food assistance in your area please distribute these survey questions to each of them and then collate the results.

1. Do you keep statistics on the quantity of food you distribute to food assistance programs at the city or county level? City/County/Other
2. How many pounds of food did you distribute over the last year?
3. Did the total quantity of food distributed increase, decrease or stay the same over the last year?
 - a. By what percent?
4. Did your total budget for emergency food purchases increase, decrease or stay the same over the last year?
 - a. By what percent?
5. What percentage of the food you distributed came from the following sources (Note: The sum of the food distribution by source must be equal to 100%).
 - a. Federal Emergency Food Assistance
 - b. Donations from grocery chains/ other food suppliers
 - c. Donations from individuals
 - d. Purchased food
 - e. Other
6. Has the increase in the cost of food made a significant impact on the type of food that you purchase? Please explain.
7. What do you expect to be your biggest challenge to addressing the hunger problem in the coming year?

Persons Receiving Emergency Food Assistance

If your city or county does not collect information on the number of people who receive emergency food assistance from either food pantries or emergency kitchens skip to Question 12

8. Has the total number of requests for emergency food assistance in your city increased, decreased, or stayed the same during the last year?
 - a. By what percent?
9.
 - a. Over the last year, in which month did the greatest number of people visit food pantries and/or soup kitchens?
 - b. How many persons utilized food pantries and soup kitchens during this month?
10.
 - a. Over the last year, in which month did the least number of people visit food pantries and/or soup kitchens?
 - b. How many persons utilized food pantries and soup kitchens during this month?

If your city or county does not collection information on the characteristics of persons who receive emergency food assistance skip to question 12.

11. What percent of requests for emergency food assistance requests come from persons in the following categories (please note that these categories are not mutually exclusive, the same person can belong to more than one group).
 - a. Persons in families
 - b. The elderly
 - c. Persons who are employed
 - d. Persons who are homeless

12. Over the last year, has there been an increase in the number of persons requesting food assistance for the first time?
 - a. If yes, please describe.

13. Over the last year, has there been an increase in the *frequency* that persons visit food pantries and/or emergency kitchens each month?
 - a. If yes, please describe.

14. Have there been other changes in the types of persons requesting food assistance this year?
 - a. If yes, please describe.

The Unmet Need for Emergency Food Assistance

15. Over the last year, have emergency kitchens and/or food pantries had to make any of the following cutbacks? Select all that apply, if you answer yes to any of these questions describe the nature of the cutback in the text box.
 - a. Turn people away because of lack of resources
 - b. Reduce the quantity of food persons can receive at each food pantry visit
 - c. Reduce the number of times a person or family can go to a food pantry each month
 - d. Reduce the quantity of food served in food pantries or change the type of meals provided in emergency kitchens

16. Please estimate the percentage of the overall demand for emergency food assistance in your city that goes unmet: (e.g., we can only meet 80% of the need, so 20% of persons who need assistance do not receive it.)

The Causes of Hunger

17. What are the **three** main causes of hunger in your city?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment and other employment related problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Substance abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> Recent increase in food prices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High housing costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Utility costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty or lack of income | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical or health costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation costs | |

Policy Responses to the Hunger Issue

18. What are the top **three** things your city needs to help reduce hunger?

- Substance abuse/ mental health services
- Employment training programs
- Utility assistance programs
- More affordable housing
- Increase in Food Stamp payments
- Lower gas prices/ better public transportation
- Other (please specify):

19. Please describe an exemplary program or effort underway in your city which prevents or responds to the problems of hunger.

20. Please describe efforts underway to ensure food provided through emergency food assistance programs in your city is nutritionally balanced.

Section Two: Homelessness

Persons Experiencing Homelessness

21. Have the total number of persons experiencing homelessness in your city increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past year?
 a. By what percent?

22. Please complete the following table on the number of homeless persons in the following categories on an *average night* over the last year

Household Type	On the Streets	In Emergency Shelter	In Transitional Housing	In Permanent Supportive Housing
Single Adults				
Persons in Families				
Unaccompanied Youths				

23. Complete the following table on the number of *unduplicated* homeless persons in the following categories *over the past year*

Household Type	In Emergency Shelter	In Transitional Housing	In Permanent Supportive Housing
Single Adults			
Persons in Families			
Unaccompanied Youths			

2008 Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness Information Questionnaire

24. Complete the following table on the *percentage of homeless adults* in the following categories, note that the same person could belong in multiple categories

	Percent of Homeless Persons
Employed	
Veterans	
Physically Disabled	
HIV Positive	
Tubercular	
Severely Mentally Ill	
Domestic Violence Victims	

25. In the table below, list the number beds and units available for homeless persons during the last year in each category. Of the total number of beds, list the number of new beds added during the last year. If your city participates in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Continuum of Care annual application process, this information is readily available on the most recent Housing Inventory Chart.

Housing Type	Total Number of Beds	The Number of new beds added during the last year
Emergency Shelter		
Transitional Housing		
Permanent Supportive Housing		

26. In the table below, state the average length of stay in each of the following program-types over the past year.

	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing
Single Men			
Single Women			
Persons in Families			

27. How many persons utilized emergency shelter or transitional housing *for the first time* over the past year?

Changes in the characteristics of persons who are homeless

28. Has the number of homeless families in your city increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past year?

- a. If you reported an increase or decrease in the number of homeless families describe the reason for the change, cite specific numbers if possible.

2008 Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness Information Questionnaire

29. Has the number of employed persons who are homeless in your city increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past year?

a. If you reported an increase or decrease in the number of employed homeless persons describe the reason for the change, cite specific numbers if possible

30. Has your city experienced an increase in homelessness over the past year due to the increase in housing foreclosures?

31. What are the **three** main causes of homelessness among **households with children** in your city?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental illness and the lack of needed services | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Prisoner re-entry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Family disputes | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-paying jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> Substance abuse and lack of needed services | <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |

32. What are the **three** main causes of homelessness among **singles and unaccompanied youth** in your city?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental illness and the lack of needed services | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Family disputes | <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-paying jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> Substance abuse and lack of needed services | <input type="checkbox"/> Emancipation from foster care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Prisoner re-entry | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |

Policies and programs addressing homelessness

33. Do emergency shelters in your city have to turn away persons experiencing homelessness because there are no available beds for them? Please include information on what happens to homeless **households with children** that cannot be accommodated in shelters.

34. Has your city developed a ten-year plan to end homelessness? If so, does this plan focus on any specific subpopulation, such as the chronic homeless or households with children? What year was the plan adopted? Are there efforts in place to track progress against plan goals?

35. Does your approach to ending homelessness include offering rent or utility assistance to people who are at risk of homelessness? If yes, briefly describe this effort and any major successes or challenges you have experienced.

36. Does your approach to helping homeless individuals include rapid re-housing of people who become homeless--that is, reducing the number of days spent in emergency shelter or transitional housing?

a. If yes, briefly describe this effort and any major successes or challenges you have experienced.

37. Has your city adopted any policies aimed at preventing homelessness among households that have to foreclose on their homes? If yes, please describe.

2008 Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness Information Questionnaire

38. What are the top three things your city needs to help reduce homelessness?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Better coordination with mental health service providers | <input type="checkbox"/> More or better paying employment opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More mainstream assisted housing (e.g., Housing Choice Vouchers) | <input type="checkbox"/> More substance abuse services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> More employment training programs | |

Homelessness and Permanent Housing

39. How are homeless persons with disabilities in your city more likely to access permanent supportive housing?

- a. Referrals from the homeless service system (e.g., street outreach workers, emergency shelters or transitional housing programs).
- b. Referrals from mainstream service providers (e.g., mental health agencies and hospitals).

40. During the last year, has the number of **households with children** on the Section 8/Housing Choice Voucher waiting list increased, decreased or stayed the same? By what percentage? During the last year, has the number of **households with children** on your city's public housing waiting list increased, decreased or stayed the same? By what percentage?

41. During the last year, has the number of disabled **singles and unaccompanied youth** on the Section 8/Housing Choice Voucher waiting list increased, decreased or stayed the same? By what percentage? During the last year, has the number of disabled **singles and unaccompanied youth** on your city's public housing waiting list increased, decreased or stayed the same? By what percentage?

42. Does your Housing Choice Voucher program have a preference or a set-aside for persons who are homeless? (Yes, Preference/Yes, set-aside /No)

- a. If preference, do homeless persons have absolute preference or are they put on equal footing as persons with other preferences such as persons with substandard housing or severe rent burdens?
- b. If set aside, how many units or program-slots are set aside?

43. Please describe the sources of data you used to complete this survey and provide any contextual information that you feel we should know in order to accurately interpret your data.

Appendix D

Supply of Emergency Food Assistance

Appendix D-1: Supply of Emergency Food Assistance

City	Ques. 1: Stats kept at city/county level?	Ques. 2: Pounds of Food Distributed in Past Year	Ques. 3 Change in Quantity of Food Distributed	Ques. 4 Change in total budget	Ques. 5 % of Assistance from Federal Emergency Food Assistance	Ques. 5 % of Donations from Grocery Chains	Ques. 5 % of Donations from individuals	Ques. 5 % of Donations from Purchased Food
Boston	City	27,865,217	0	0	12	22	22	2
Charleston	County	9,310,681	5	60	23	68	2	6
Charlotte	County	25,298,584	21	20	10	88	1	1
Chicago	City	48,000,000	18		28	54	1	17
Cleveland	County	19,000,000	7	5	17	43	3	15
Dallas	City	16,350,350	10.8	77	23	59	3	14
Denver	Other	22,000,000	3					
Des Moines	City	500,000	0	0	2	1	30	67
Gastonia	City	312,000	(-9)	23	0	10	40	10
Kansas City	County	8,881,384			8	80	4	5
Los Angeles	Other	35,853,405	1	6	35	55	0	10
Louisville	County	13,600,000	16	50	18	68	5	9
Miami	Other							
Nashville	Other	6,643,979	20	(-38)	5	43	11	41
Philadelphia	County	14,110,000	(-26)	(-7)	19	10	5	66
Phoenix	City	39,000,000	(-13)	30	15	73	5	5
Portland	County	7,140,016	(-10)	42	10	61	16	13
Providence	Other	2,953,769	(-8)	(-19)				
Salt Lake City	County	11,035,204	13	0	6	72	20	2
San Francisco	Other	31,000,000	13	45	16	77	1	6
Santa Monica	City	1,880,000	3	14	4	45	16	35
Seattle	City	2,494,427	23	35	9	82	5	4
St. Paul								
Trenton	County	1,875,000	6	11	39	20	1	15

Appendix D-2: Cutbacks Made by Emergency Food Providers over the Past Year

City	Ques. 15 Turn people away because of lack of resources (Yes/No)	Qu. 15 Reduce the quantity of food persons can receive at each food pantry visit (Yes/No)	Ques. 15 Reduce the number of times a person or family can go to a food pantry each month (Yes/No)	Ques. 15 Reduce the quantity of food served in food pantries or change the type of meals provided in emergency kitchens (Yes/No)
Boston	No	Yes	No	Yes
Charleston	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Charlotte	Yes	Yes	No	No
Chicago				
Cleveland	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Dallas	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Denver				
Des Moines				
Gastonia	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kansas City	No	No	No	No
Los Angeles	Yes	Yes	No	No
Louisville	Yes	No	No	No
Miami	No	No	No	No
Nashville	Yes	No	No	Yes
Philadelphia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Phoenix	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Portland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Providence	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Salt Lake City	No	Yes	No	Yes
San Francisco	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Santa Monica	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Seattle	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. Paul	Yes			
Trenton	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

Appendix E

Demand for Emergency Food Assistance

Appendix E: Demand for Emergency Food Assistance and Characteristics of Persons Receiving Assistance

City	Ques. 8 Pct Change in Total Requests	Ques. 9 Peak Month and # of People	Ques. 10 Low Month and # of People	Ques. 12 Increase in First Time Requests	Ques. 13 Increase in Frequency	Ques. 11 Pct Families	Ques. 11 Pct Elderly	Ques. 11 Pct Employed	Ques. 11 Pct Homeless
Boston	30	November (304,813)	February (221,942)	Yes	Yes	65	16		
Charleston	26	September	February	Yes		54	22	75	6
Charlotte	25	September	February						
Chicago	18	September (337,346)	February (238,412)	Yes					
Cleveland	23	November (199,684)	February (100,703)	Yes	Yes	64	18		
Dallas	12	August (23,032)	September (21,708)	Yes		90	10	40	5
Denver									
Des Moines	10			Yes	No				
Gastonia	13	July (1,369)	March (1,073)	Yes	No	94	6	40	0
Kansas City	30	November (177,906)	June (135,613)	Yes		70.2	7	48	6
Los Angeles	10	July (157,000)	March (153,000)	Yes	Yes				
Louisville	44	September (35,000)	December (7,000)	Yes	Yes		7	40	
Miami									
Nashville	13	October (4,493)	February (3,007)	Yes	Yes				
Philadelphia	23	June (49,769)	October (45,923)	Yes	Yes	58	25	30	24
Phoenix	35	August (71,000)	April (43,000)	Yes	Yes				
Portland	0	April (32,863)	September (27,771)	Yes	Yes	50	7	46	10
Providence	7	November (15,217)	February (11,612)	Yes	Yes				
Salt Lake City	8	March (96,580)	January (87,169)	Yes	Yes	30	5	29	28
San Francisco	10	May (257,601)	July (108,418)	Yes	Yes				
Santa Monica	21	September (4,968)	January (3,934)	Yes	Yes	66	16	47	19
Seattle	4	November (75,466)	July (49,959)	Yes	Yes	21	30		
St. Paul									
Trenton	12	August (14,500)	February (9,408)	Yes	Yes	40	20	15	3

Appendix F

Prevalence of Homelessness

Appendix F: Number of Persons Experiencing Homelessness on an Average Night and Over the Past Year and Capacity of Homeless Residential Programs

City	Question 22. Homeless on an Average Night				Question 23. Homeless at Some Point Over the Past Year			Question 25. Total Number of Beds (New Beds in Parentheses)		
	On the Streets	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing
Boston	192	6,816	1,306	3,202				3,380 (0)	1,833 (0)	3,501 (449)
Charleston	58	622	71	42	1,285	144	61	211(0)	304 (0)	61 (0)
Charlotte	543	782	679	65	5,157	827	167	440(4)	875 (55)	358 (0)
Chicago	1,633	2,078	2,268					2,101 (65)	3,956 (16)	7,403 (1,354)
Cleveland	151	1,249	842	2,147				1,100 (20)	972 (160)	2,149 (191)
Dallas	205	2,163	1,085	505	2,561	1,933	817	2,636 (220)	1,355 (52)	842 (135)
Denver								1,740 (10)	2,664 (0)	1,801 (120)
Des Moines	129	233	662	413	3,847	1,631	413	409 (0)	862 (30)	413 (5)
Gastonia	659	123	51	71	1,542	103	79	91 (0)	8 (0)	39 (12)
Kansas City	367	730	335	592	3,111	1,281	84	1,537	770	1,006 (177)
Los Angeles								3,281 (608)	4,766 (1,486)	6,265 (159)
Louisville	147	1,284	1,273	543	4,494	2,247	1,061	1,063(1)	1,317 (90)	666 (69)
Miami	514	1,402	1,855	2,380				1,402	1,855	2,380
Minneapolis	555	1,777	1,220	2,784				813 (0)	341 (10)	1,477 (79)
Nashville	466	942	568	869	11,364	721	950	824 (0)	679 (24)	880 (34)
Philadelphia	457	3,299	3,137	4,198	13,999			3,324(188)	3,801 (112)	5,246 (155)
Phoenix	2,426	1,843	2,031	2,380	14,130	4,451	2,732	2,694 (365)	2,999 (0)	2,523 (574)
Portland	1,638	674	1,610		2,994	6,413	743	890 (0)	2,090 (0)	1,915 (233)
Providence	60	415	184	625	2,228	294	847	350 (0)	206 (0)	717 (0)
Salt Lake City	150	2,130	1,012	1,130	4,481	1,071	1,084	834 (0)	1,012 (0)	1,080 (84)
San Francisco		1,662	674	5,659	9,990	986	6,486	1,640 (0)	674 (35)	5,233 (226)
Santa Monica	661	180	268	206	456	242	389	168(0)	284 (0)	349 (15)
Seattle	1,976	2,179	2,303		7,146	1,366		2,216 (69)	2,502 (163)	2,333 (249)
St. Paul	137	512	703	1,409	3,787			1,078 (10)	818 (0)	1,752 (330)
Trenton	138	569	385	267	4,232	653	185	145 (9)	192 (0)	425 (54)

Appendix G

Trends in Homelessness and Characteristics of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

Appendix G-1: Trends in Homelessness

City	Ques. 21 Pct change in homelessness	Ques. 28 Change in Family Homelessness	Ques. 29 Change in employed homeless	Ques. 30 Increase due to foreclosures?
Boston	4	increased	stayed the same	Yes
Charleston	19	increased	stayed the same	No
Charlotte	18	increased	increased	No
Chicago				
Cleveland	(-4)	decreased		
Dallas	14		increased	Yes
Denver	1	increased	increased	No
Des Moines	9	increased	increased	Yes
Gastonia	46	increased	increased	Yes
Kansas City		Unknown		Yes
Los Angeles	(-17)	decreased		
Louisville	3	increased	stayed the same	No
Miami	(-16)	increased		
Minneapolis		increased	stayed the same	Yes
Nashville	6	stayed the same	stayed the same	Yes
Philadelphia	3	stayed the same	increased	
Phoenix	(-2)	increased	increased	Yes
Portland	33	increased	stayed the same	Yes
Providence	35	increased	increased	Yes
Salt Lake City	16	increased	stayed the same	No
San Francisco	50	increased	increased	Yes
Santa Monica	15	stayed the same		No
Seattle	15		increased	
St. Paul	20	increased	decreased	Yes
Trenton		increased	increased	No

Appendix G-2: Characteristics of Persons Experiencing Homelessness (Question 24)

City	Ques. 24 Pct Employed	Ques. 24 Pct Veterans	Ques. 24 Pct Physically Disabled	Ques. 24 Pct HIV Positive	Ques. 24 Pct Severely Mentally Ill	Ques. 24 Pct DV Victims
Boston						
Charleston	13	15		1	5	4
Charlotte	27	7	2	2	13	5
Chicago	17	16	23	4	32	30
Cleveland	7	15	5		10	15
Dallas	16	14	21	5	29	11
Denver	32	13	2	1	24	22
Des Moines	21	12	23	0	28	18
Gastonia	12	8	17	1	19	6
Kansas City	28.1	20	8.9	4.2	30	13.5
Los Angeles	15	13	30	2	37	11
Louisville	24	22	23	1.3	33	15
Miami		19		5	26	1
Minneapolis	30	13		0.04	50	11
Nashville	44	27	11	8	38	29
Philadelphia		7		2	33	11
Phoenix	19	12	15	1	29	16
Portland	11.5	5.6	11.8	1.7	20.9	
Providence	2.8	3.3	4.8	0.02	8.2	5.9
Salt Lake City	10	9	11	1	11	5
San Francisco		16				
Santa Monica	30.6	11	11	1	31	4
Seattle	4.4	14.1	11.2	0.5	7.8	4.8
St. Paul	25	13	1	1	52	18
Trenton	18	3	15	12	35	65

Appendix H

Hunger and Homelessness Contacts by City

Hunger and Homelessness Contacts by City

Hunger Contact	Homelessness Contact
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

<p>Melissa Quirk, Assistant Director Emergency Shelter Commission 1 City Hall Plaza Boston, MA 02201 Phone: (617) 635-4507 Fax: (617) 635-3450 Melissa.Quirk@cityofboston.gov</p>	<p>Melissa Quirk, Assistant Director Emergency Shelter Commission 1 City Hall Plaza Boston, MA 02201 Phone: (617) 635-4507 Fax: (617) 635-3450 Melissa.Quirk@cityofboston.gov</p>
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CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

<p>Ilze Visocka Director of Community Development Lowcountry Food Bank 1635 Cosgrove Avenue North Charleston, SC 29405 Phone: (843) 747-8146, ext. 101 ivisocka@lcfbank.org</p>	<p>Becky Van Wie, Associate Director, Lowcountry Continuum of Care 270 North Shelmore Boulevard Charleston, SC 29464 Phone: (843) 270-4613 becky@lowcountrycoc.org</p>
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CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

<p>Beverly Howard, Executive Director Loaves & Fishes, Inc. PO Box 11234 Charlotte, NC 28220 Phone: (704) 523-4333 Fax: (704) 523-5901 Beverly@loavesandfishes.org</p>	<p>Megan Coffey, Program Coordinator Mecklenburg County CSS - Homeless Support Services 945 N. College Street Charlotte, NC 28205 Phone: (704) 926-0617 Megan.coffey@mecklenburgcountync.gov</p>
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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

<p>Peter Kamps, Chief Research Analyst Chicago Dept. of Human Services 1615 W. Chicago Avenue Chicago, IL 60622 Phone: (312) 746-8725 Fax: (312) 746-1651 pkamps@cityofchicago.org</p>	<p>Debra Janiszewski, Director of Grants, Research and Planning Chicago Dept. of Human Services 1615 W. Chicago Avenue Chicago, IL 60622 Phone: (312) 746-8590 Fax: (312) 746-1651 debra.janiszewski@cityofchicago.org</p>
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CLEVELAND, OHIO

<p>Mary O'Shea Advocacy & Public Education Manager, Cleveland Foodbank 15500 South Waterloo Road Cleveland, OH 44110 Phone: (216) 738-2135 moshea@clevelandfoodbank.org</p>	<p>William Resseger Department of Community Development 320 City Hall Cleveland, OH 44114 Phone: (216) 664-2351 bresseger@city.cleveland.oh.us</p>
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DALLAS, TEXAS

<p>Paul Wunderlich COO North Texas Food Bank 4500 S. Cockrell Hills Road Dallas, TX 75236 Phone: (214) 347-8563 Fax: (214) 331-4104 paul@ntfb.org</p>	<p>Kit Lowrance, Director Supportive Housing & Community Services Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance 1818 Corsicana Dallas, TX 75201 Phone: (214) 670-1125 Fax: (214) 243-2025 KLowrance@mdhadallas.org</p>
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DENVER, COLORADO

	<p>Nicole Hoard Case Management Supervisor Denver Human Services 1200 Federal Boulevard Denver, CO 80204 Phone: (720) 944-2994 Fax: (720) 944-1708 nicole.hoard@denvergov.org</p>
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DES MOINES, IOWA

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GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

<p>Carla Holmes Special Projects Coordinator Reinvestment in Communities PO Box 550492 Gastonia, NC 28055 Phone: (704) 866-6766 holmescarlad@aol.com</p>	<p>Carla Holmes Special Projects Coordinator Reinvestment in Communities PO Box 550492 Gastonia, NC 28055 Phone: (704) 866-6766 holmescarlad@aol.com</p>
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KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

<p>Jacquelyn R. Powell, Executive Team Liaison Human Services Division Robert J. Mohart Multi-Purpose FOCUS Center 3200 Wayne Avenue Kansas City, MO 64109 Phone: (816) 784-4500 Fax: (816) 784-4509 jackie_powell@kcmo.org</p>	<p>Jacquelyn R. Powell, Executive Team Liaison Human Services Division Robert J. Mohart Multi-Purpose FOCUS Center 3200 Wayne Avenue Kansas City, MO 64109 Phone: (816) 784-4500 Fax: (816) 784-4509 jackie_powell@kcmo.org</p>
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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

<p>Jeff Dronkers, Chief Programs & Policy Officer Los Angeles Regional Foodbank 1734 East 41st Street Los Angeles, CA 90058 Phone: (323) 234-3030 x141 Fax: (323) 234-2213 jdronkers@lafoodbank.org</p>	<p>Paria Kooklan, Policy & Planning Analyst Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority 453 South Spring Street, 12th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90013 Phone: (213) 225-6549 Fax: (213) 892-0093 pkooklan@lahsa.org</p>
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LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

<p>Regina L. Warren, Division Director Human Services Louisville Metro Government 810 Barrett Avenue, Suite 240 Louisville, KY 40204 Phone: (502) 574-1985 Fax: (502) 574-6713 regina.warren@louisvilleky.gov</p>	<p>Joseph Hamilton Jr., Director Metro Office on Homelessness Louisville Metro Government 810 Barrett Avenue, Office 318 Louisville, KY 40204 Phone: (502) 574-3325 Fax: (502) 574-6713 Joseph.HamiltonJr@louisvilleky.gov</p>
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MIAMI, FLORIDA

<p>Sergio Torres, Administrator City of Miami Homeless Programs 1490 NW 3 Avenue Miami, FL 33136 Phone: (305) 576-9900 Fax: (305) 576-9970 storres@miamigov.com</p>	<p>Sergio Torres, Administrator City of Miami Homeless Programs 1490 NW 3 Avenue Miami, FL 33136 Phone: (305) 576-9900 Fax: (305) 576-9970 storres@miamigov.com</p>
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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

	<p>Cathy ten Broeke, Coordinator to End Homelessness Minneapolis/Hennepin County 300 South Sixth St. Minneapolis, MN 55487 Phone: 612-596-1606 Cathy.ten.Broeke@co.hennepin.mn.us</p>
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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

<p>Suzie Tolmie, Homeless Coordinator Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency 701 S 6th Street Nashville, TN 37206 Phone: (615) 252-8574 Fax: (615) 252-8559 stolmie@nashville-mdha.org</p>	<p>Suzie Tolmie, Homeless Coordinator Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency 701 S 6th Street Nashville, TN 37206 Phone: (615) 252-8574 Fax: (615) 252-8559 stolmie@nashville-mdha.org</p>
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PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

<p>Steveanna Wynn, Executive Director SHARE Food Program, Inc. 2901 W. Hunting Park Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19129 Phone: (215) 223-3028 Fax: (215) 223-3073 swynn@sharefoodprogram.org</p>	<p>Roberta Cancellier, Deputy Director Office of Supportive Housing 1401 JFK Blvd., Suite 1030 Philadelphia, PA 19102 Phone: (215) 686-7105 Fax: (215) 686-7126 roberta.cancellier@phila.gov</p>
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PHOENIX, ARIZONA

<p>Sara J. Polansky, Director of Operations Arizona Association of Food Banks 2100 N. Central, Suite 230 Phoenix, AZ 85004 Phone: (602) 528-3434 Fax: (602) 528-3838 sara@azfoodbanks.org</p>	<p>Deanna Jonovich Human Services Deputy Director City of Phoenix 200 W. Washington, 17th Floor Phoenix, AZ 85003 Phone: (602) 262-4520 Fax: (602) 534-2092 deanna.jonovich@phoenix.gov</p>
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PORTLAND, OREGON

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PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

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