

# 2019 Collin County Point in Time Homeless Census Report April 2019

Report Prepared by:

Ron Johnson
Dr. Terry Hockenbrough
Christine Ortega
Natalie Evans

# TABLE of CONTENTS

|   | Page   |
|---|--------|
| Executive Summary                               | <br>3  |
| Census Report Format                            | <br>3  |
| Point in Time (PIT) History                     | <br>4  |
| The Census Count                                | <br>4  |
| Unsheltered Census                              | <br>5  |
| Sheltered Census                                | <br>6  |
| Overall PIT Survey Results                      | <br>6  |
|   |        |
| Detailed Census Analysis                        |        |
| Identified Top Priority Needs                   | <br>7  |
| Most Immediate Needs                            | <br>8  |
| Reasons for Homelessness                        | <br>9  |
| Locations of the Homeless                       | <br>10 |
| Age   | <br>11 |
| Gender  | <br>12 |
| Race and Ethnicity                              | <br>13 |
| Emergency Health Care Utilization               | <br>14 |
| Substance Abuse and Chronic Health Conditions   | <br>14 |
| U.S. Military Veterans                          | <br>15 |
| Sources of Income and Employment Status         | <br>16 |
|   |        |
| Independent School District Data                | <br>17 |
| School Districts (ISDs) 2019 Report             | <br>18 |
| School Districts (ISDs) 2019 Report - Table     | <br>19 |
| •   |        |
| Methodology                                     | <br>20 |
|   |        |
| Homeless Census Background                      | <br>21 |
| Homeless Definition                             | <br>21 |
| Collin County Homeless Coalition                | <br>22 |
| Coalition Meetings                              | <br>22 |
| Coalition Website                               | <br>22 |
| Coalition Facebook                              | <br>22 |
| Coalition Address                               | <br>22 |
|   |        |
| Acknowledgements                                | <br>23 |
| Collin County Homeless Coalition Leadership Tea | <br>23 |
| Service Provider Participants                   | <br>23 |
| Hot Spots                                       | <br>23 |
| City of Allen Team                              | <br>24 |
| City of Fairview and Veteran Team Coordinator   | <br>24 |
| City of Frisco Team                             | <br>24 |
| City of McKinney Team                           | <br>24 |
| City of Wylie Team                              | <br>24 |
| School Districts                                | <br>24 |
| In Memory                                       | <br>25 |

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Annual Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Census was conducted on Thursday, January 24, 2019 in partnership with: Collin County Homeless Coalition (CCHC); Collin County city governments of Allen, Fairview, Frisco, McKinney, Plano and Wylie and; Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance.

The information contained in this report represents a snapshot of homelessness in Collin County on one night alone, January 24, 2019. Due to weather conditions, lack of mobility, need for anonymity, and reluctance to engage with volunteers and police officers, some of the county's homeless were either not found, or not accessible to interview.

# CENSUS REPORT FORMAT

The following pages provide detail and insights from the 2019 Point in Time Homeless Census in Collin County to help better articulate the demographics and issues.

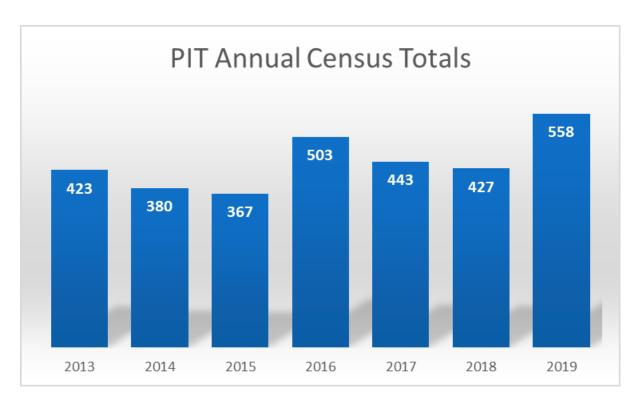
The census results are represented by narrative, charts and graphs, some which are separated into groups. This report represents information gathered from persons experiencing homelessness who completed a survey, were observed sleeping outside or in car, or were residing in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs on one night in January.

The number of persons represented in the Annual Point in Time Homeless Census can fluctuate due to weather conditions, the number of cities and shelters participating, and the time of the event.

As the homeless population tends toward fluidity, these numbers are only the tip of an ever shifting iceberg scenario. To gain a more accurate accounting of the homeless population in Collin County, the Collin County Homeless Coalition will, at a later date, submit a yearly recap of information gathered from service providers.

# POINT IN TIME (PIT) HISTORY

Below is a graph of the history of documented homelessness in Collin County 2013 - 2019.



# THE CENSUS COUNT

Those counted and/or interviewed were identified as one of the following:

# UNSHELTERED

Unsheltered persons reside in a vehicle, outside, or other place not meant for human habitation.

# SHELTERED

Sheltered persons reside in a shelter, transitional housing, or a hotel room paid for by a charitable organization.

# **UNSHELTERED CENSUS**

The census for the unsheltered was conducted with the help of volunteer teams and police departments in Allen, Fairview, Frisco, McKinney, Plano and Wylie. After receiving training, volunteers canvassed assigned areas in teams of four to six people, looking for individuals and families identified as experiencing homelessness. These areas included streets, parks, 24 hour stores, parking lots, schools, manufacturing areas, hospital ER rooms, lake camp sites, isolated vehicles, hotels/motels, under bridges, and encampments in the woods. Volunteers conducted a survey and provided a care package that included a list of social service agencies and shelters, along with food, hygiene, and survival items.

#### **ALSO**

- Overnight Warming Station in Plano
- Overnight Warming Station in McKinney

The UNSHELTERED CENSUS count included two temporary emergency Overnight Warming Stations: one in Plano at the Salvation Army facilities and operated by the CCHC POWS faith groups; and the other at the Vintage Church in McKinney and operated by the homeless ministry Emmanuel Labor.

#### **NOTE:**

Neither the Salvation Army or Vintage Church are a regular sheltering facility. The Overnight Warming Stations were only open nights where the temperature reached below 35 degrees. The temporary Overnight Warming Stations were only available from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. At 7 a.m., all homeless neighbors left the overnight warming station, and made their way back onto the streets and/or to the locations from whence they come the night before.

# **Unsheltered Persons by City**

The counts of unsheltered individuals by participating cities are listed below.

| Total | Allen | Frisco | McKinney | Plano | Wylie |
|-------|-------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| 163   | 1     | 3      | 42       | 105   | 12    |

# **SHELTERED CENSUS**

Simultaneously, sheltered surveys were conducted by the homeless service providers of all those who spent the night of January 24, 2019 in one of their facilities. Those facilities included the following:

- Agape Resource & Assistance Center
- Blake's House
- City House
- Emily's Place
- Family Promise of Collin County

- Hope's Door New Beginnings Center
- The Samaritan Inn
- Shiloh Place
- Texas Muslim Women's Foundation

The both sheltered and unsheltered responses are the basis for the analysis herein.

# **OVERALL 2019 POINT in TIME CENSUS RESULTS**

|             | # of Surveys | Adults | Children | Total |
|-------------|--------------|--------|----------|-------|
| Sheltered   |              | 208    | 187      | 395   |
| Unsheltered |              | 159    | 4        | 163   |
| Total       | 351          | 367    | 191      | 558   |

Our 2019 homeless count of 558 is 31% higher than it was in 2018 (427).

# **Identified Top Priority Needs**

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY

- 1. The most significant need identified in Collin County is the affordability of housing, either from a lack of **Affordable Housing** or the gap between wages and housing costs.
- 2. Another cause of homelessness is **Domestic Violence/Abuse**. While much needs to be done to reduce/eliminate this problem, we are fortunate that we have organizations in the county who are providing support and assistance for this population. Of the 75 females reporting domestic violence, 73 are being sheltered and receiving additional services.
- 3. Of the medical and related items, **Dental Care** is the most needed. 26% of respondents indicated that this was an unmet need. **Medical Care** was also included in the top ten needs.
- 4. It is clear that we have a shortage of **temporary housing/shelters** especially for **men**. 65% of males in the survey are unsheltered vs 17% for females.
- 5. The survey revealed that 38.4% of the respondents had one or more **substance abuse or behavioral health related issues**. While there is not direct link with homelessness, it's clear these are problems that homeless individuals have difficulties resolving and likely result in chronic homelessness.
- 6. While the census does not provide data regarding what it would take to prevent our first-time homeless persons from losing their residences, we are certain **early intervention/prevention** and/or **diversion** programs could make a significant impact in reducing these numbers.
- 7. With a number of unsheltered respondents indicating the need for basic, routine services and a place to get assistance, the idea of a **Day Center** to address these needs should be explored.

# MOST IMMEDIATE NEEDS

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY

Census Question: "What are your most immediate basic needs tonight?"

Respondents were given a list of options from which to select their immediate basic needs. The needs of unsheltered persons can vary from those who are in shelter, so the data has been presented on a combined basis and separately for both groups. Multiple answers to this question were allowed, so the data below represents the ten most frequently selected answers from the choices provided.

| Rank | Immediate Needs Identified    | Total<br>Responses | % of Respondents | %<br>Sheltered | %<br>Unsheltered |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1    | Emergency Shelter             | 79                 | 38.5%            | 16.4%          | 65.2%            |
| 2    | Job Placement/Training        | 54                 | 26.3%            | 29.3%          | 21.7%            |
| 3    | Dental Care                   | 53                 | 25.9%            | 30.2%          | 19.6%            |
| 4    | Transportation Options        | 52                 | 25.4%            | 19.8%          | 31.5%            |
| 5    | Emergency Food/Food<br>Stamps | 48                 | 23.4%            | 10.3%          | 39.1%            |
| 6    | Shower/Hygiene products       | 46                 | 22.4%            | 10.3%          | 37.0%            |
| 7    | Other                         | 37                 | 18.0%            | 13.8%          | 22.8%            |
| 8    | Clothing or Laundry Facility  | 35                 | 17.1%            | 7.8%           | 28.3%            |
| 9    | Medical Care                  | 33                 | 16.1%            | 16.4%          | 15.2%            |
| 10   | Emotional Support             | 31                 | 15.1%            | 16.4%          | 13.0%            |
| 11   | Birth Certificate/ID/SS Card  | 27                 | 13.2%            | 8.6%           | 18.5%            |
| 12   | Place to Store Belongings     | 26                 | 12.7%            | 6.9%           | 19.6%            |

While both group's needs are similar, the unsheltered are focused more on the basics of shelter, food, personal care and transportation.

#### REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY

Census Question: "What led you to becoming homeless?"

The chart below represents the top underlying reasons for one's homelessness, as self-reported on the survey. Multiple answers to this question were allowed, so the data below represents the most frequently selected answers from the choices provided. Out of 22 possible answers, the top five reasons remained the same as reported from last year's census.

| Rank | Why Homeless                       | <b>Total Responses</b> | % of<br>Respondents |
|------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1    | Unable to pay rent/mortgage        | 71                     | 30.2%               |
| 2    | Unemployed                         | 65                     | 27.7%               |
| 3    | Victim of Domestic Abuse/Violence* | 42                     | 17.9%               |
| 4    | Lack of Affordable Housing         | 37                     | 15.7%               |
| 5    | Other                              | 37                     | 15.7%               |
| 6    | Kicked Out of House                | 33                     | 14.0%               |
| 7    | Lack of Transportation             | 28                     | 11.9%               |
| 8    | Divorce/Separation                 | 23                     | 9.8%                |
| 9    | Under Employed                     | 20                     | 8.5%                |
| 10   | Moved here to seek work            | 16                     | 6.8%                |
| 11   | Family/Personal Illness            | 15                     | 6.4%                |
| 12   | Physical/Mental Disabilities       | 14                     | 6.0%                |
| 13   | Protect Myself or Family           | 13                     | 5.5%                |
| 14   | Addictions/Substance Abuse         | 10                     | 4.3%                |
| 15   | Release from Jail/Prison           | 8                      | 3.4%                |

\*Note: Of the Surveys completed, 81 individuals (23.1%) responded yes to the question "Are you currently experiencing homelessness because you are fleeing domestic violence, dating violence sexual abuse or stalking?" This percentage is higher than the 17.9% who indicated that domestic violence was a reason why they were homeless. This difference is largely due to the "why are you homeless" question was only on the paper addenda survey and not all respondents answered these additional questions. Given the responses to the primary question it's reasonable to assume that domestic violence and related issues represent at least 18% of the causes for homelessness.

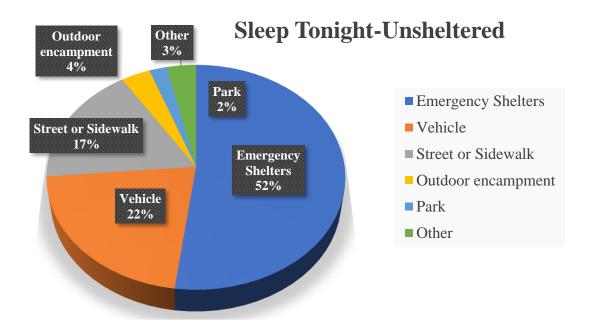
#### **LOCATIONS OF THE HOMELESS - Unsheltered**

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY

Census Question: "Where are you sleeping tonight?"

The chart below shows where unsheltered persons slept on the night of the survey.

| %    | WHERE SLEPT LAST  |
|------|---|
| 52 % | POWS (Temporary Overnight Warming Station (in Plano and McKinney) |
| 22 % | Vehicles  |
| 17 % | Streets / Sidewalk  |
| 4 %  | Outdoor Encampment  |
| 3 %  | Other   |
| 2 %  | Parks   |



The number who sheltered in "emergency" or transitional shelters increased in 2019. This is attributed to the creation of POWS (Plano Overnight Warming Station) which was open the night of the census, and the expansion of services for overnight warming and sheltering provided by Emmanuel Labor and the Vintage Church in McKinney.

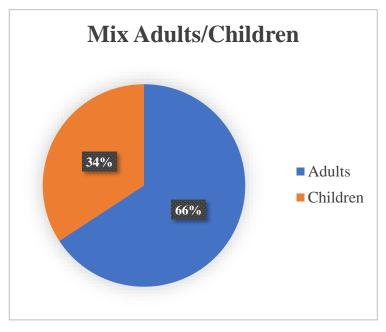
# AGE OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS / OBSERVATIONS

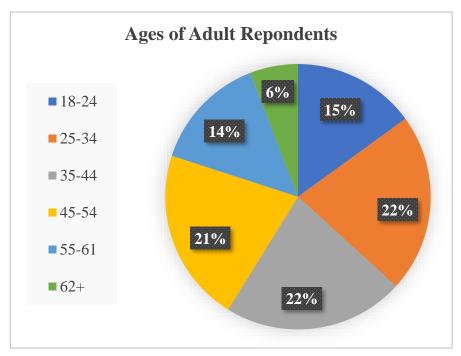
BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY Age of Respondents

The age of persons responding to the census are depicted in the charts below. The definition of child is a person from birth to 17 years old, and the definition of adult is a person 18 years of age or older.

# The NEW Face of Homelessness: *CHILDREN*

One-third (34%) of the homeless in Collin County were identified as children.





# **AGE of Adults**

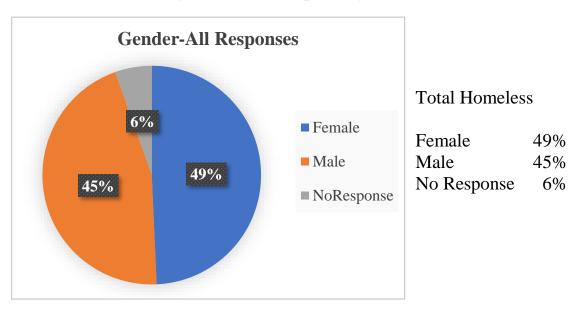
Adults accounted for 66% of the overall homeless population, while children accounted for 34%.

| 15 % |
|------|
| 22%  |
| 22%  |
| 21%  |
| 14%  |
| 6%   |
|      |

# GENDER of SURVEY RESPONDENTS / OBSERVATIONS

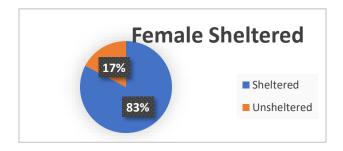
BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY Gender of Respondents

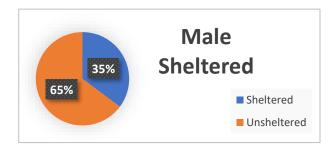
The charts below show the gender of persons for the combined data and the unsheltered population. Females comprise 49% of the total homeless population, a decrease of two percentage points from last year, while males comprise 45% with 6% from those selecting other or not responding.



#### Note:

83% of females are sheltered. Only 65% of males are sheltered. This includes the POWS on the night of January 24, 2019.





The sheltered population is predominately female which is at least partly the result of several shelters in the county that accept women and children only and only one shelter in the county where males are accepted along with women and children.

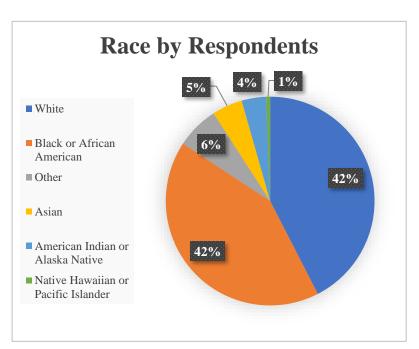
# RACE and ETHNICITY of SURVEY RESPONDENTS / OBSERVATIONS

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY Race/Ethnicity of Respondents

The race breakdown indicates essentially the same percentage (42%) each for White and Black/African American with other groups in single digits.

The table below shows the breakdown of the 318 respondents who provided race information.

| Race                                   | Total | %      |
|--|-------|--------|
| White                                  | 135   | 42.5 % |
| Black or African<br>American           | 133   | 41.8 % |
| Other                                  | 21    | 6.6 %  |
| Asian                                  | 15    | 4.7 %  |
| American Indian<br>or Alaska Native    | 12    | 3.8 %  |
| Native Hawaiian or<br>Pacific Islander | 2     | 0.6 %  |
| Totals                                 | 318   |        |



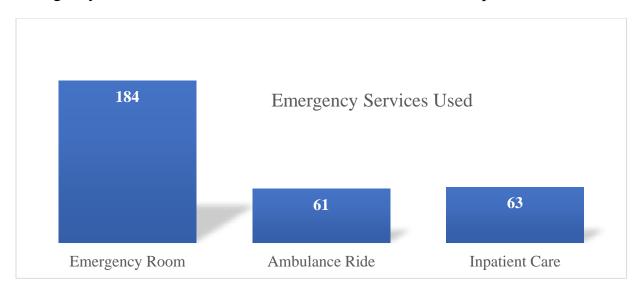
The only ethnicity choice on the census survey was Hispanic Yes or No.

# 14% selected Hispanic.

# EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE UTLITZATION

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY Emergency Health Service Utilization

The bar chart below depicts the total number of times persons reported using an emergency room, ambulance service or was admitted as an in-patient.



# SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY
Substance Abuse and Chronic Health Conditions

The following table outlines the survey results for 121 individuals who reported one or more substance abuse or health related issues. 62% of these individuals were male and 38% female. On average each individual reported experiencing 1.5 of these conditions.

NOTE: 46% reported a Physical Disability.

| Condition                | # Responses | # Impaired | % Impaired |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Substance Abuse          | 24          | 5          | 21%        |
| Chronic Health Condition | 68          | 26         | 38%        |
| Mental Health Problem    | 52          | 15         | 29%        |
| Physical Disability      | 37          | 17         | 46%        |
| Total                    | 181         |            |            |

# UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERANS

BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY United States Military Veterans

Nationally, about 11% of the adult homeless population are veterans.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) states that the nation's homeless veterans are predominantly male, with roughly 9% being female. The majority are single; live in urban areas; and suffer from mental illness, alcohol and/or substance abuse, or co-occurring disorders.



# Why are veterans homeless?

In addition to the complex set of factors influencing all homelessness – extreme shortage of affordable housing, livable income and access to health care – a large number of displaced and at-risk veterans live with lingering effects of post-traumatic

stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse, which are compounded by a lack of family and social support networks. Additionally, military occupations and training are not always transferable to the civilian workforce, placing some veterans at a disadvantage when competing for employment.

http://nchv.org/index.php/news/media/background\_and\_statistics

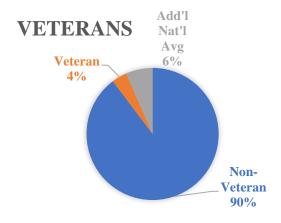
# **Collin County Point in Time Census**

Twenty-two homeless veterans were identified, making up 4% of the survey respondents. Of those 2% were sheltered and 2% were unsheltered.

# Number of Veterans Found during 2019 PIT

Census Count 22
Percentage of Total Count 4 %

NOTE: It is important to acknowledge that the Veterans Center of Collin County reports serving at least two (unduplicated) homeless veterans and their families a week.

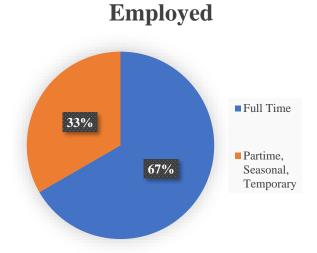


# SOURCES OF INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS

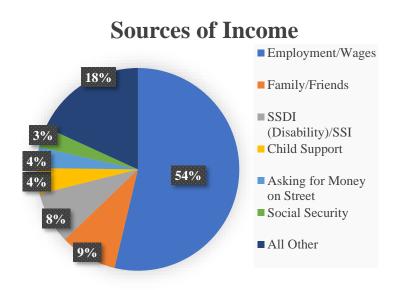
BASED ON 2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) SURVEY
Sources of Income and Employment Status

Sources of income reported indicate that 54% of the respondents have some type of employment.

Approximately 36% of that group are employed full-time and 18% part-time, temporary or seasonal.



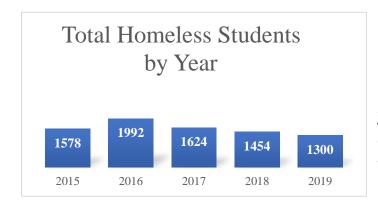
Respondents indicated several sources of income.



| Sources of Income. | Total |
|--------------------|-------|
| Employment/Wages   | 53.7% |
| Family/Friends     | 9.1%  |
| SSDI               | 8.3%  |
| (Disability)/SSI   |       |
| Child Support      | 4.1%  |
| Asking for Money   | 3.3%  |
| Social Security    | 3.3%  |
| All Other          | 18.2% |

# INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT DATA

The five independent school districts (ISD) that participated in the Homeless Census were Allen, Frisco, McKinney, Plano, and Wylie. The total number of students identified as experiencing homelessness in five Collin County school districts at the end of January, 2019 was 1,300. The total number of students identified as experiencing homelessness decreased by 156 students or 11% from 2018. Plano ISD saw increases in the number of homeless students this year, while the other districts saw decreases.



The chart on the left indicates the total number for the last five years. The peak in 2016 was significantly impacted by natural disasters.

The school districts use the following U.S. Department of Education definition of students experiencing homelessness as worded in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, Section 725.

- "...individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and (B) includes —
- (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
- (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C));
- (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and (iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii)."

# SCHOOL DISTRICTS (ISDs) 2019 REPORT

*In addition to* the PIT Census, the Independent School Districts in the county provided information about students "...who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence..."

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### **# HOMELESS STUDENTS**

| ALLEN    | 70    |
|----------|-------|
| FRISCO   | 104   |
| MCKINNEY | 627   |
| PLANO    | 408   |
| WYLIE    | 91    |
| TOTAL    | 1,300 |

This number reflects one day only of *self-reporting* students in the ISDs. This Census does not include other homeless students or the families of homeless students.

The school districts provided the above information as of January month end. It indicates an 11% reduction in the number of students self-reporting homelessness from last year. These numbers fluctuate during the year but they represent the best information of a "one-day snapshot" that we have. This "one-day snapshot" is likely an understatement of the homeless student population in Collin County.

# ISD Reality Breakdown

The following is a reality breakdown of the ISD numbers. As the survey responses of the unsheltered and those in the overnight warming stations indicated very few children, we can assume that the ISD report is of unduplicated students. At best, these numbers indicate 261 more homeless families. At worst, these numbers indicate 1300 more homeless families, if there is one student per family. At best, these numbers also indicate that there are 1618 homeless people through the ISDs, if each student has 1.2 guardians. At worst, we are looking at 2860 more people.

# 2019 Collin County ISDs - # Homeless Students Self Reporting

| ISD          | # Homeless Students Self-Reporting | Possible<br>Children Per<br>Family | Average<br>Guardians | Scenario PROBABLE # Homeless People | Worst Case Scenario PROBABLE # Homeless People | Possible #<br>Homeless<br>Families |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Allen ISD    | 70                                 | 1                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | 154  | 70                                 |
|              | , 0                                | 2                                  | 1.2                  | l                                   |  | 35                                 |
|              |                                    | 3                                  | 1.2                  |                                     |  | 23                                 |
|              | -                                  | 5                                  | 1.2<br>1.2           | 87                                  |  | 17<br>14                           |
|              | L                                  | 3                                  | 1.2                  | 0/                                  |  | 17                                 |
| Frisco ISD   | 104                                | 1                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | 228.8  | 104                                |
|              | -                                  | 2                                  | 1.2                  |                                     |  | 52                                 |
|              | -                                  | 3                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | -  | 35                                 |
|              |                                    | 5                                  | 1.2                  | 130                                 |  | 26<br>21                           |
|              | L                                  |                                    | 1.2                  | 150                                 |  |                                    |
| McKinney ISD | 627                                | 1                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | 1379.4   | 627                                |
|              | -                                  | 2                                  | 1.2                  |                                     |  | 314                                |
|              | -                                  | <u>3</u>                           | 1.2                  |                                     | -  | 209<br>157                         |
|              | -                                  | 5                                  | 1.2                  | 781                                 |  | 126                                |
| _            | L                                  |                                    |                      | , 0 1                               | Į.   |                                    |
| Plano ISD    | 408                                | 1                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | 897.6  | 408                                |
|              | -                                  | 2                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | -  | 204<br>136                         |
|              | -                                  | 3 4                                | 1.2                  |                                     | -  | 102                                |
|              |                                    | 5                                  | 1.2                  | 508                                 |  | 82                                 |
|              |                                    |                                    |                      |                                     | 200.2  |                                    |
| Wylie ISD    | 91                                 | 1                                  | 1.2                  |                                     | 200.2  | 91<br>26                           |
|              | •                                  | <u>2</u><br>3                      | 1.2                  |                                     | -  | 30                                 |
|              |                                    | 4                                  | 1.2                  |                                     |  | 23                                 |
|              |                                    | 5                                  | 1.2                  | 112                                 |  | 18                                 |
|              | ,,                                 |                                    |                      | D + C "                             | W . C . "                                      |                                    |
|              | # Homeless<br>Students             |                                    |                      | Best Case # Homeless                | Worst Cast # Homeless                          |                                    |
|              | Situaents Self Reporting           |                                    |                      | People                              | People People                                  |                                    |
| TOTAL        | 1,300                              |                                    |                      | 1618                                | 2,860  |                                    |

# **METHODOLOGY**

Similar to the ten-year federal government census, the Annual Homeless Census gathers current detailed and situational information on persons experiencing homelessness. This year the Homeless Census was conducted using three methods:

- 1. *Counting Us* mobile application All unsheltered persons completed a preliminary survey with a volunteer, who entered the data into the application. The app was used across the TX-600 CoC (Dallas and Collin counties).
- 2. *Paper/Addendum Survey* Unsheltered and sheltered persons completed a paper survey containing additional questions that were not included in the mobile application. Answers were recorded on a paper form. Data from these paper surveys are the source for the analysis in this report.
- 3. *Spread Sheets* Shelters who did not have their clients complete an individual survey provided a spread sheet with limited data for each of their clients.

# **Survey of Unsheltered Persons**

Community volunteers, through the organizational efforts of the Collin County Homeless Coalition, the cities' staff, local churches and nonprofits, assisted persons in completing 148 surveys. Searches were conducted in the following cities: Allen, Fairview, Frisco, McKinney, Plano and Wylie.

# **Survey of Sheltered Persons**

Surveys and/or data from spreadsheets were collected from 201 persons experiencing homelessness who were in shelters, transitional housing programs or in hotels/motels paid for by churches or other agencies on the night of the census. The organizations providing this information include:

- Agape Resource & Assistance Center
- Blake's House
- City House
- Emily's Place
- Family Promise of Collin County

- Hope's Door New Beginnings Center
- The Samaritan Inn
- Shiloh Place
- Texas Muslim Women's Foundation

The survey data collected from both unsheltered and sheltered persons was entered into an Access database where it was verified and analyzed and made available in this report. All the data collected remains available for further examination and analysis as needed.

# **Homeless Census Background**

Why do we conduct a Homeless Census?

Between \$600,000 and \$700,000 in annual grant funds are awarded to Collin County service providers by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address the needs of persons experiencing homelessness. The implementation of the Annual Homeless Census is a requirement of the grant awards, as the amount of funding allocated is based on a formula that considers a region's homeless population and need. More importantly, conducting the census helps communities understand the needs of their homeless population, and how they can better be served.

The data provided in the 2019 Annual Homeless Census Report will be used by the CoC, local cities, social service providers, faith communities, school districts, Collin College and businesses to enhance the lives of those experiencing homelessness in Collin County by addressing their needs and the barriers they face to housing stability.

# What is the definition of a person experiencing homelessness?

For the purposes of this survey, the HUD definition of homelessness is used. The abbreviated definition is as follows:

An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, emergency shelters, transitional housing, and hotel rooms paid for by charitable organizations.

The definition also includes unaccompanied youth and persons fleeing domestic violence. The full definition can be found at 24 CFR § 576.2.

# What is the Collin County Homeless Coalition?

The Collin County Homeless Coalition (CCHC) was founded in 2004 as a community organization consisting of City Governments, School Districts, Collin College, Homeless Service Providers, Businesses, Advocates, and Faith Communities working together to provide solutions to homelessness in Collin County through:

- 1. Increasing Awareness of Homelessness
- 2. Coordinating Advocacy for the Homeless Issue
- 3. Facilitating Information to the Community
- 4. Empowering Collaborative Programs and Services

# **Coalition Meetings**

CCHC General Meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month. Collin County Homeless Coalition
First Thursdays
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM.
St. Mark Parish Center - 1105 W. 15th Street, Plano, TX 75075

Community members and agencies can join the Collin County Homeless Coalition and learn of ways to partner with organizations to make a difference in lives of persons experiencing homelessness.

# Website

Collin County Homeless Coalition Website www. collinhomeless.wixsite.com/cchc

# **Facebook**

Collin County Homeless Coalition Facebook Page www.facebook.com/collinhomeless

#### **ADDRESS**

Collin County Homeless Coalition P.O. Box 867722 Plano, Texas 75086

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Collin County Homeless Coalition would like to acknowledge the following participants and supporters of the 2019 Homeless Census including service providers, Collin College, cities, school districts, civic groups, advocates, businesses and faith communities. Additionally, the census could not have taken place without the many residents of Collin County who volunteered their time to prepare care packages and/or assist in the outdoor census.

# Leadership Team – Collin County Homeless Coalition

- Dr. Terry Hockenbrough, Collin College, President
- Christine Ortega, Grace To Change, Vice President
- Mary Martin, Grace Avenue United Methodist Church, Secretary
- Dr. Liz Strand-Cimini, Stonebridge United Methodist Church, Treasurer
- Ronni Fetzer, St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Mary Alice Garza, First United Methodist Church of Plano
- Ron Johnson, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- James Thomas, Plano Independent School District

# Service Provider Participants

- Agape Resource & Assistance Center: www.hope4agape.com
- Assistance Center of Collin County: www.assistancecenter.org
- Blake's House: www.blakeshouse.org
- City House: www.cityhouse.org
- Collin County Community Health Center www.collincountyadultclinic.org
- Emily's Place: www.emilysplacetx.org
- Family Promise of Collin County: www.familypromiseofcollincounty.org
- Hope's Door New Beginnings Center: www.hdnbc.org
- The Salvation Army: www.salvationarmydfw.org
- The Samaritan Inn: www.thesamaritaninn.org
- Shiloh Place: www.shilohplacemckinney.com
- St. Vincent de Paul Society: www.svdpdallas.org
- Texas Muslim Women's Foundation: www.tmwf.org
- Veteran's Center of North Texas: www.vcont.org

#### Hot Spots

- Assistance Center of Collin County
- City House
- Emmanuelle Labor
- POWS at The Salvation Army Plano
- The Vintage Church in McKinney

#### City of Allen

#### CITY LEAD:

• Erin Jones, City of Allen, Senior Planner

#### Town of Fairview & Veteran Team Coordinator

#### CITY LEAD:

 Paul Hendricks, Town of Fairview Council Member & President, Veterans Center of North Texas

# **City of Frisco**

#### CITY LEAD:

- Sarah Carroll, City of Frisco, Community Development Supervisor COALITION LEAD:
- Christine Ortega, Collin County Homeless Coalition Vice President
- Mary Martin, Grace Avenue United Methodist Church

#### **City of McKinney**

CITY LEAD: Shirletta Best, Community Services Administrator, City of McKinney

- Becky Salinas, City of McKinney, Housing Services Coordinator
- Dana Riley, City of McKinney, Neighborhood Services Coordinator COALITION LEAD:
- Dr. Terry Hockenbrough, Collin County Homeless Coalition President
- Dr. Liz Strand Cimini, Collin County Homeless Coalition Treasurer

#### **City of Plano**

#### CITY LEAD:

- Shanette Eaden, City of Plano, Housing & Community Services Manager
- Natalie Evans, City of Plano, Grants Analyst
- Chaniece Small, City of Plano, Housing & Community Services Coordinator
- City of Plano Police Department

#### **COALITION LEAD:**

- James Thomas, Plano Independent School District
- Mary Alice Garza, First United Methodist Church

#### City of Wylie

#### **COALITION LEAD:**

• Ronni Fetzer, St. Vincent de Paul Society

#### **School Districts**

Allen Independent School District
Frisco Independent School District
McKinney Independent School District
Plano Independent School District
Wylie Independent School District

# In Memory

Gary Lee Davis 12/6/1951 – 3/23/2019 McKinney Homeless Neighbor U.S. Military Veteran