

DRAFT
2016 Annual Action Plan
Sandy Springs, GA



Submitted (TBD)

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Atlanta Regional Office
Five Points Plaza Building
40 Marietta Street
Atlanta, GA 30303**



Annual Action Plan
2016

Table of Contents

Process

- AP-05 Executive Summary
- PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies
- AP-10 Consultation
- AP-12 Participation

Annual Action Plan

- AP-15 Expected Resources
- AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives
- AP-35 Projects
- AP-38 Projects Summary
- AP-50 Geographic Distribution
- AP-55 Affordable Housing
- AP-60 Public Housing
- AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities
- AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing
- AP-85 Other Actions
- AP-90 Program Specific Requirements

Appendix

- Exhibit A Public Hearing Minutes
- Exhibit B Public Comments
- Exhibit C Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Continuum of Care Homeless Census Report
- Exhibit D Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Target Area Map
- Exhibit E Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project Phase II Map
- Exhibit F Fair Housing Checklist
- Exhibit G HUD Form SF-424 and Other Certifications

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The Annual Action Plan provides a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is a 5-year plan which describes the City's community development priorities and multiyear goals based on an assessment of housing and community development needs, an analysis of housing and economic market conditions, and available resources.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The Needs Assessment identified Public Improvements and Infrastructure and Public Service as the priority needs for the City. The City has determined that completion of the Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project, begun under the previous Consolidated Plan, will be the initial project for the 2013-2017 Consolidated. The CDBG Program for this project will fulfill the Suitable Living Environment objective and Availability/Accessibility outcome of the CPD Performance Measurement Framework. Any future Public Service projects will also be required to fulfill one of the three objectives [(1) Decent, Affordable Housing, (2) Suitable Living Environment, and (3) Economic Opportunities] and the three outcomes [(1) Availability/Accessibility, (2) Affordability, and (3) Sustainability].

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Sandy Springs began its participation in HUD's CDBG Program in 2008 and the City's 2008-12 plan identified a single priority for the first five years of its program: infrastructure improvements. Consequently, a multiyear sidewalk program was developed for the Roswell Road corridor between Dalrymple Road and the Chattahoochee River. The Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project was completed in May 2015.

In, March 2016 the City completed Phases 1 and 2 of the construction of sidewalks in the southern part of the City along Roswell Road within the eligibility area. For the remainder of 2016, the City will continue with Phase 3 of the South Roswell Road Multi-year Project which will include the design, construction, and installation of pedestrian lighting between Roswell Road and GA-400 on Northridge Drive. This phase will also include the design, inclusive of environmental work, and right-of-way acquisition for street scape improvements along Roswell Rd South of I-285 to Long Island Drive.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The City of Sandy Springs adopted its Citizen Participation Plan in 2006. The plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program, and the evaluation of the program's annual performance.

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City anticipates holding the required public hearings and meetings to solicit comments on community needs as part of the development of the Annual Action Plan. Those meeting dates are as follows:

1. Public Hearing and Program Update on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
2. Draft Review and Public Comment Period Announcement on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
3. Public Hearing and Annual Action Plan Adoption on Tuesday, July 19, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

The City of Sandy Springs has maintained a webpage dedicated to the CDBG Program and the planning and reporting documents in an effort to broaden public participation in the City's process, . The City also has a dedicated email address (cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov) to allow for questions or comments to be sent to the City on any aspect of the CDBG program to give the community easy access to CDBG Program information.

5. **Summary of public comments**
6. **Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them**
7. **Summary**

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	City of Sandy Springs	
CDBG Administrator	City of Sandy Springs	Department of Community Development
HOME Administrator		
HOPWA Administrator		
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Sandy Springs', Community Development Department, is the lead agency responsible for planning, implementation and performance reporting for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program that is covered by this Annual Action Plan. The City will be the administrator of all projects, programs and other activities funded with annual CDBG entitlement funds.

City of Sandy Springs

Department of Community Development

7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

Sandy Springs, GA 30350

770-730-5600

www.sandyspringsga.gov

Michelle Alexander, *Director of Community Development*

Ginger Sottile, *Manager of Planning & Zoning*

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

E-mail: cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov or call 770-730-5600

Website: www.sandyspringsga.gov/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

1. Introduction

The City's Citizen Participation Plan, adopted in 2006, served as the first step in the qualification process for the CDBG program. The plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program and the evaluation of the program's annual performance. As required by the Citizen Participation Plan, the City consulted with a broad spectrum of service providers, nonprofit agencies and residents in the identification of community needs that may be eligible for consideration as five-year goals for the Consolidated Plan and the CDBG program. For the Annual Action Plan, the City contacted local public service agencies and advertised the required public hearing as outlined in the Citizen Participation Plan

2. Describe agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City anticipates holding the required public hearings and meetings to solicit comments on community needs as part of the development of the Annual Action Plan. Those meeting dates are as follows:

1. Public Hearing and Program Update on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
2. Draft Review and Public Comment Period Announcement on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
3. Public Hearing and Annual Action Plan Adoption on Tuesday, July 19, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

The City of Sandy Springs has maintained a webpage dedicated to the CDBG Program and its planning and reporting documents in an effort to broaden public participation in the City's process. The City also has a dedicated email address (cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov) to allow for questions or comments to be sent to the City on any aspect of the CDBG program to give the community easy access to CDBG Program information.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Continuum of Care was dissolved in 2013, this led to the creation of Fulton County Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) in 2014. The CoC Board has been created and members were appointed in 2015. The City of Sandy Springs will continue to support the efforts of Fulton County CoC.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

N/A

2. Describe agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction’s consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Fulton County Homeless Continuum of Care	The common goal is to find more specific homeless data for Sandy Springs. There is no new data because Fulton County CoC was just established 2014 and Board members were just appointed in 2015.

Table 2 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City of Sandy Springs adopted its Citizen Participation Plan in 2006. The Plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program, and the evaluation of the program's annual performance.

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City anticipates holding the required public hearings and meetings to solicit comments on community needs as part of the development of the Annual Action Plan. Those meeting dates are as follows:

1. Public Hearing and Program Update on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
2. Draft Review and Public Comment Period Announcement on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
3. Public Hearing and Annual Action Plan Adoption on Tuesday, July 19, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

A summary of the public hearing minutes will be provided in the Appendix once received.

The City of Sandy Springs has maintained a webpage dedicated to the CDBG Program and the planning and reporting documents in an effort to broaden public participation in the City's process. The City also has a dedicated email address (cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov) to allow for questions or comments to be sent to the City on any aspect of the CDBG program and to give the community easy access to CDBG Program information.

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target Outreach	Summary of Response or Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted and Reasons	URL
1	Internet Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking – Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Housing 				http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community				
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-English Speaking - Spanish				
4	Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking – Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Housing 	None received from the 2/2/2016 public hearing			

5	Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking – Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Housing 	7/7/2016 meeting			
6	Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minorities • Non-English Speaking – Spanish • Persons with disabilities • Non-targeted/broad community • Residents of Public and Assisted Housing 	7/19/2016 public hearing			

Table 3 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2)

Introduction

The City anticipates that the only funds available in 2016 for the selected Capital Improvement Project (CIP) project will be Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. These funds will be used for the continued design and construction of pedestrian lighting and streetscapes as part of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project in the City’s CDBG target areas that are designated Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Census Tracts as shown on the attached map (Exhibit C) [see section AP-35, Projects for detailed description].

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	592,429	0	577,782	1,170,211	292,852	Priority to be given to infrastructure projects in LMI target areas.

Table 4 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

N/A

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

During Phase 2 of City’s South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Improvements project the City didn’t anticipate the need for land acquisition because all improvements were to take place in the public right-of-way. As the City has begun work on Phase 3 of this project, Northridge Pedestrian Lighting and Roswell Road Streetscape, right-of-way acquisition will be required and is anticipated to commence in

the third and fourth quarters of 2016.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Improvements & Infrastructure	2013	2017	Non-Housing Community Development	South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project	Public Improvements & Infrastructure	CDBG: \$592,429	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4311 Persons Assisted

Table 5 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Public Improvements & Infrastructure
	Goal Description	South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project: Phase 3 - Northridge Pedestrian Lighting and Roswell Road Streetscape

Table 6 – Goal Descriptions

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

None.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Sandy Springs began its participation in HUD’s CDBG Program in 2008 and the City’s 2008-12 plan identified a single priority for the first five years of its program: infrastructure improvements. Consequently, a multiyear sidewalk program was developed for the Roswell Road corridor between Dalrymple Road and the Chattahoochee River. The Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project was completed in May 2015.

In, March 2016 the City completed Phases 1 and 2 of the construction of sidewalks in the southern part of the City along Roswell Road within the eligibility area. For 2016, the City will commence with the continued design and construction of pedestrian lighting and streetscape in the southern part of the City along Roswell Road within the eligibility area. This is consistent with the Strategic Plan section of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

#	Project Name
1	South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project: Phase 3 - Northridge Pedestrian Lighting and Roswell Road Streetscape

Table 7 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

Funding priorities are consistent with those outlined in the Strategic Plan as it pertains to the proposed use of the CDBG funds for pedestrian improvements; the main obstacle is related to funding. Although the area had adequate right-of-way to accommodate the sidewalk plan in Phases 1 and 2, the City with limited financial resources anticipates the need for additional funds to complete Phase 3 of this project which includes pedestrian lighting, street scape, and the need for some right-of-way acquisition. Traditionally, sidewalk projects in the Sandy Springs area have been completed in conjunction with development or redevelopment projects. Because the target area is built-out with less likelihood of redevelopment than other areas of the City, relying upon development to meet the mobility needs of the area is not an option.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

#	Project Name	South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project
	Target Area	South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project
	Goals Supported	Public Improvements & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Improvements & Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$592,429
	Description	Phase 3 of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Project will include the design, construction, and installation of pedestrian lighting between Roswell Road and GA-400 on Northridge Drive. This phase will also include the design, inclusive of environmental work, and right-of-way acquisition for street scape improvements along Roswell Rd South of I-285 to Long Island Drive. See attached map of the selected areas for the pedestrian sidewalk improvements. Construction will include newly acquired right-of-way, some demolition of existing sidewalks, modification to utility vaults, and other minor alterations.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposes activities	4,311 LMI
	Location Description	Roswell Road Corridor in Sandy Springs from Roswell Road to GA-400 on Northridge Road & Roswell Road South of I-285 to Long Island Drive
	Planned Activities	The goal of South Roswell Road Sidewalk Project is to complete the sidewalk network in the qualified target areas along the Roswell Road corridor from Interstate 285 to Long Island Drive to improve pedestrian access to commercial and retail services, City parks, public transit, the North Fulton County Service Center and other services. To complete this project, damaged walkways will be replaced and areas lacking sidewalks will have new sidewalks installed. All sidewalk improvements will meet the ADA design standards, along with the City’s Suburban Overlay District Standards. The overlay district standards require paving accents, street lighting, landscaping and other improvements to complete the sidewalk network.

Table 8 – Project Summary

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The South Roswell Road Sidewalk Project will complete the sidewalk streetscape improvements in the qualified target areas along the Roswell Road corridor from Interstate 285 to Long Island Drive, specifically within Census Tract 102.12 and the pedestrian lighting improvements along Northridge Drive between Roswell Rd and GA-400, specifically within Census Tracts 101.18 and 101.19.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project	100

Table 9 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The geographic allocation of the City’s CDBG funds is being guided by the determination that these funds can have the greatest impact when targeted to specific areas. The CDBG LMI target area map is attached (Exhibit C). As provided for in 24 CFR Part 570.208(a)(1)(ii), the City may elect to use these target areas to meet National Objective requirements for selected projects that specifically meet the Area Benefit category of activities.

Exception Status:

It is important to also note that HUD has granted the City of Sandy Springs exception status based on the upper quartile calculation that permits the City to apply an LMI (low/moderate income) Area Benefit threshold of 40.7% to the project activities in the designated target areas. The attached map (Exhibit C) illustrates the U.S. Bureau of the Census Tracts where at least 40.7% of the resident population in Sandy Springs is LMI.

Discussion

The project will improve pedestrian access to jobs, commercial and retail services, City parks, public transit, and other services for the Target Area.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

According to the 2010 Decennial Census data, approximately 52.4% of the units in the City are renter-occupied. The market conditions do not indicate a need for new unit production. However, the Needs Assessment section of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan indicates the availability of affordable units and cost burden are issues. Although the City is not planning to use the CDBG program to provide any additional housing units, a study of existing housing data from the Census and other sources indicates the highest priorities for unmet needs are associated with small related and elderly households.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	0

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	0

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

As the City embarks on updating its Comprehensive Plan there has been considerable discussion on how the City can respond to a variety of identified needs to include addressing the barriers to affordable housing for its low to moderate-income residents and workforce. The City is currently working with a consultant in hopes to arrive at some viable strategies and solutions for its affected residents.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City does not plan to undertake capital improvements that directly affect public housing.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs of public housing

The Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia (HAFC) was the housing agency for the unincorporated areas of Fulton County prior to the City's incorporation on December 1, 2005. The HAFC operates two public housing properties within the city limits of Sandy Springs: the Allen Road Midrise, a 100-unit senior and disabled housing development at 144 Allen Road, and the Belle Isle apartments, a nine-unit public housing property located at 151 W. Belle Isle Road.

HAFC has been awarded tax credit funding from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as well as Rental Assistance Demonstration ("RAD") from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"). The combined \$10m funding is being used to redevelop the Allen Road Midrise, with construction projected to be completed in 2016. The redeveloped property is being renamed "Sterling Place".

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The City does not plan to take any actions to encourage resident participation in public housing management and/or homeownership programs at the facilities managed by the Housing Authority of Fulton County (HAFC).

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

N/A

Discussion

Though the City will not undertake any direct public housing activities during 2016, the sidewalk projects made feasible using CDBG funding will improve mobility and accessibility for residents of these public housing properties.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan must include the jurisdiction’s strategy for reducing and ending homelessness through:

- (1) Helping low-income families avoid becoming homeless;
- (2) Reaching out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs;
- (3) Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons; and
- (4) Helping homeless persons (especially any persons that are chronically homeless) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including:

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs and addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City will continue to support agencies in the area that provide services to the homeless and other low to moderate-income individuals such as the Fulton County Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Community Assistance Center (CAC). While the City has not adopted any specific strategies to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons, the City has provided an annual \$100,000 grant from its general fund to the CAC since 2010. These grant funds have been used by the CAC to further its programs for homeless and low and moderate-income individuals. The City’s support of the CAC was also extended through the encouragement of its Neighborhood Associations in providing assistance in securing Emergency Shelter Grant funds from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as needed. Additionally, the proposed sidewalk project will provide improved access to these types of agencies and supportive services.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

While there are agencies that provide services and housing options to the homeless in Sandy Springs and North Fulton County, the need “gaps” identified in the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Continuum of Care Homeless Census Report cover the metro area – not just Sandy Springs. Therefore, without data

that clearly documents homeless needs specific to Sandy Springs it is difficult to discuss such needs. It is also important to note that according to the “2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census for the Homeless”, 84% of the homeless individuals identified were in the city of Atlanta, 11% in DeKalb County and 6% in Fulton County (outside the city of Atlanta). This would lead to an assumption that in comparison to surrounding jurisdictions, Sandy Springs located in Fulton County could be expected to have very few homeless. As such, the City has not proposed a strategy for rapid-rehousing.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The City has not adopted any specific strategies to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons. This is due largely to the lack of existing data on homeless people in the City. Furthermore, the City does not have a strategy at the present time to help families and individuals at risk of becoming homeless.

Additionally, the 2010 Census reported the City had approximately 5,301 residents with a disability. Of the City’s disabled population, the largest groups were related to physical disabilities. Although the City is not proposing to add any special needs housing, the plan to improve pedestrian mobility in the target areas will benefit disabled residents as well.

Discussion

For the period of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, the City’s strategy for addressing the homeless needs identified is to better document the specific needs of the homeless in Sandy Springs, separate from those reported for the Tri-Jurisdictional area that includes the city of Atlanta, Fulton and DeKalb Counties combined. This is a necessary strategy to develop a measured and thoughtful approach to addressing these needs.

The City has been in touch with Fulton County regarding the creation of the new Fulton County Continuum of and will continue to support and work with the County and other cities to research the

current state of homelessness in the community.

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for: N/A
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family
Tenant-based rental assistance
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds
Total

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction

The City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI) outlines "Lack of Available Land for Development" as one of the key issues impacting the development of affordable housing and residential investment.

In addition to a lack of available land, the 2027 Comprehensive Plan Community Assessment notes that the housing stock in Sandy Springs is predominantly multifamily and aging. While the age of some of the developments in the City makes them inherently affordable, it also makes these units obsolete. The Sandy Springs City Council has adopted policies and regulations such as the Apartment Inspection Ordinance to ensure that property owners are maintaining their properties in a safe and sanitary state consistent with the International Property Maintenance Code and other regulations.

While the City has taken steps towards limiting barriers to affordable housing, such as adopting Zoning Ordinances that allow for mixed-use and mixed-housing developments, the City in its AI highlighted the following recommendation for future policy development:

7. Future Comprehensive Plan updates should analyze opportunities to directly incentivize the inclusion of mixed-income housing in future redevelopment projects consistent with Sandy Springs' policies.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Discussion

As the City embarks on updating its Comprehensive Plan there has been considerable discussion on how the City can respond to a variety of identified needs, which include addressing the barriers to affordable housing for its low to moderate-income residents and workforce. The City is currently working with a consultant in hopes of developing some viable strategies and solutions for its affected residents.

Future strategies for addressing such barriers could include analyses of building codes, environmental problems, impact fees, and the creation of incentive programs that encourage the development of affordable housing.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan must describe the jurisdiction's planned actions to carry out the following strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan:

- Foster and maintain affordable housing;
- Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards;
- Reduce the number of poverty-level families;
- Develop institutional structure; and
- Enhance coordination.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

As noted in the HAFC 5-year Plan and Annual Plan adopted April 30, 2011, the Allen Road Mid-Rise apartments are typically fully occupied. As of June 1, 2010, there were 115 extremely low-income families on the public housing waiting list and 119 families on the Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting list. As such, the primary need for tenants and applicants on waiting lists who are predominantly elderly and disabled is the availability of affordable units.

The priority for the Housing Authority of Fulton County (HAFC) outlined in the agency's 5-year Plan is to maximize the number of affordable units available to the agency and increasing the number of affordable units overall.

HAFC plans to meet its 5-year goals by:

- (1) Leveraging affordable housing resources in the community through the creation of mixed - finance housing
- (2) Applying for additional Housing Choice Vouchers should they become available
- (3) Pursuing housing resources other than public housing or HCV tenant-based assistance.

For 2016, the City does not plan to undertake any actions to address public-affordable housing needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

According to the 2010 Decennial Census data, approximately 52.4% of the units in the City are renter-occupied. The market conditions do not indicate a need for acquisition and/or preservation of existing

affordable housing units. However, as the City updates its Comprehensive Plan it will complete analyses of existing codes, regulations, and plans to ensure that affordable, workforce housing is encouraged.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The 2010 Census indicates that approximately 30% of the renter-occupied units within the City have the potential to contain lead-based paint. These units would mostly be located in the LMI income areas of the City. However, more detailed information would be required prior to developing a strategy for addressing lead-based paint. At the present time, the City is not planning to undertake any housing activities and will not disturb any housing units that contain lead-based paint. The City will coordinate with the Fulton County Health Department to reduce lead-based paint hazards for children. In addition, the City's Code Enforcement Division will be alerted for lead-based paint hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The core premise of the anti-poverty strategy is that employment is the vehicle through which those who are impoverished can best achieve the goal of self-sufficiency. The most efficient method for reaching this goal is for the City to strive for an economic climate that leads to the availability of a wide range of possible jobs available for these individuals. In 2012, the City adopted an Economic Development Plan with a city-wide focus and a City Center Master Plan to guide the redevelopment of the City's core area. Both of these plans focus on priorities adopted by the City Council to attract, retain, and strengthen business activities throughout the City and across all employment sectors. In addition to these plans, in 2010 the state of Georgia announced that Sandy Springs had been chosen for the Opportunity Zone Job Tax Credit Program which will help encourage new businesses to locate in the City - or existing businesses to expand. The program is administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and offers the highest tax advantages for companies and is the most user-friendly job tax credit in the State. It allows businesses to apply a tax credit of \$3,500 per net new job created against the company's State income tax liability.

An additional strategy would be to coordinate with the Fulton County Office of Workforce Development to determine if programs or partnerships with service agencies could help the City achieve a reasonable antipoverty strategy.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

For the period of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, the City's strategy for addressing the special needs populations is to ensure continued review and evaluation of permit applications for compliance with

ADA requirements.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

While the City has not adopted any specific strategies to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons, the City has provided an annual \$100,000 grant from its general fund to the CAC since 2010. These grant funds have been used by the CAC to further its programs for homeless and low and moderate-income individuals. In addition to continuing its support of the CAC, the City's objectives for enhancing coordination will be as follows:

1. Coordinate with the Fulton County Office of Workforce Development to determine if programs or partnerships with service agencies could help the City achieve a reasonable antipoverty strategy

Discussion

The actions outlined above will facilitate the City's ability to overcome obstacles in meeting the underserved needs of the identified populations.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

Introduction

The City anticipates that the funds available for the South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project will be CDBG funds. These funds will be used for the design and construction of pedestrian lighting and streetscape in the City’s CDBG target areas that are designated LMI Census Tracts.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan	0
The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan.	0
The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income	0

Other CDBG Requirements

The amount of urgent need activities	0
The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

Discussion

The City will use 100% of its 2016 CDBG allocation toward South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project and does not plan on having any program income or urgent need activities.

APPENDIX

Exhibit A Public Hearing Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

INVOCATION

Rabbi Scott Colbert, Temple Emanu-El, offered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rusty Paul called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Michael Casey reminded everyone to silence all electronic devices at this time. Additionally, those wishing to provide public comment during either a Public Hearing or the Public Comment segment of the meeting are required to complete a public comment card. The cards are located at the back counter and need to be turned in to the City Clerk.

City Clerk Casey called the roll.

Mayor: Mayor Paul present

Councilmembers: Council Member John Paulson, Council Member Ken Dishman, Council Member Graham McDonald, Council Member Gabriel Sterling, Council Member Tibby DeJulio, and Council Member Andy Bauman were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rusty Paul led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patty Berkovitz, 800 Crest Valley Drive, stated she is shocked that the City is continuing with a plan to widen Hammond Drive. The one and only public forum overwhelmingly opposed the plan and it apparently went underground. The City will be depriving a financially viable neighborhood, where property values continue to rise, in order to accommodate the wishes of the PCID and other businesses. The government in Sandy Springs is supposed to listen to and serve the needs of the citizens. It is totally absent as to the concerns and wishes of its citizens. The citizens are being forced to finance a property purchase for an under studied project. She feels the City has done everything possible to remove citizen participation by unburdening themselves from zoning. John Lewis provided the City with \$500,000 for a study for the Hammond Drive project, which she does not think has been done. She asked if that should be completed before the City begins buying property along Hammond Drive, which will detrimentally affect the sale price of properties in that area as people anticipate that their property will be devalued by the widening of the road. We do not need another Abernathy Road and she hopes the neighborhood is protected.

Doug Falciglia, 5925 Brookgreen, stated he will also speak about the purchase of 590 Hammond Drive. This is an extremely premature purchase. This is like putting the cart before the horse with an unfunded project. When Sandy Springs became a City, the widening of Hammond Drive became a pet project of Mayor Galambos, who is largely responsible for it being included in the Comprehensive Plan, the LCI Downtown Initiative, North Fulton Comprehensive Plan, and the TSPLOST/TIA. He knows of no traffic study or analysis that would conclude a widening is reasonable for this section of Hammond Drive.

Those that want to see this segment widened are basing it on opinion. The community participation regarding this project has been very limited and tightly controlled by the City. Other than an ill-conceived and poorly managed survey in 2009, there has been no public opportunity for the community to be involved. To his knowledge, there has been no outreach from the City to his neighborhood of Glenridge Hammond, which this road runs right through. Other than a neighborhood meeting in which he invited two Public Works staff to speak about Hammond Drive, there has been no discussion about the project with the neighborhood. City staff spoke to his neighborhood in June 2009. He asked that all aspects of this project be put on hold until we get a number or get the community a seat at the table.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

1. **16-047** Add or remove items from agenda

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve the Meeting Agenda for February 2, 2016. Council Member Dishman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. **16-048** Meeting Minutes
 1. January 19, 2016 Regular Meeting
(*Michael Casey, City Clerk*)

Motion and Vote: Council Member Sterling moved to approve the Consent Agenda for February 2, 2016. Council Member Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

3. **16-049** Presentations
 1. Proclamation for the Rotary Club – Rotary Has a Heart

Mayor Rusty Paul asked the Rotary members in attendance to the front. This is a proclamation saluting the Rotary Club. He read the proclamation that states, "Rotary International, founded February 23, 1905 in Chicago, Illinois USA, is the world's first and one of the largest non-profit service organizations. There are over 1.2 million Rotary club members comprised of professional, business, and community leaders in over 34,823 clubs in 206 countries and geographic areas. The Rotary motto "Service Above Self" inspires members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promoting good will and peace in the world. Local clubs are encouraged to participate in a Community Service Project centered around Rotary International's six areas of service: education and literacy, economic and community development, disease prevention and treatment, peace and conflict prevention/resolution, water and sanitation, maternal and child health. The Rotary of Sandy Springs joins clubs across the Country, and in the Caribbean, to satisfy the needs in their communities to do good by participating in projects that will recognize Rotary Has Heart Day." He proclaimed February 14, 2016 Rotary Has Heart Day in the City of Sandy Springs.

2. Proclamation for the Georgia City-County Management Association ("GCCMA")
Celebrating Sixty (60) Years of Service

Mayor Rusty Paul read the proclamation that states, "The Georgia City-County Management Association ("GCCMA") is celebrating sixty (60) years of service to Georgia's leaders, cities, and counties. GCCMA is the recognized affiliate organization of the International City/County Management Association. GCCMA, originally founded in 1956 by a small group of managers interested in

professional development, has grown and expanded its membership to include Georgia's city and county managers and administrators, directors of regional development centers, and their principal assistants. GCCMA membership represents several state agencies in addition to representatives of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal Association. GCCMA is revered as the premier association of professional local government leaders building sustainable communities to improve lives across Georgia. GCCMA's mission is to create excellence in local governance by fostering innovation, collaboration, mentoring, networking, continuing education and other professional development opportunities. GCCMA provides a variety of member services, including a coaching program and two educational conferences each year, with programs emphasizing issues of special interest to Georgia Managers. GCCMA members also have access to multiple training programs on special subject matters as part of GCCMA's commitment to continuing professional development. GCCMA has assisted professional local government managers in all areas of the State of Georgia in obtaining continued education and experience through scholarship and internship programs." He recognized the Georgia City-County Management Association's 60th Anniversary in the year of 2016 and encourage all of our government leaders to recognize GCCMA for the significant impact the organization has made and continues to make in Georgia's communities.

3. Proclamation for Lee Duncan for Service on the City of Sandy Springs Planning Commission

Mayor Rusty Paul stated Mr. Duncan is not in attendance this evening to receive his proclamation. These two proclamations salute two people who have done yeoman's work for the community as members of the City of Sandy Springs Planning Commission. When he was first in office, the Mayor of Stone Mountain, GA who was one of his mentors, thought it best for him to be the elected official appointed to the Planning Commission as well as serving on the Council. The Planning Commission does a tremendous amount of work for the community. There are two members who are being repurposed to other boards. Mr. Duncan, who served as the Chairman for the Planning Commission, has been asked to be on the Zoning Advisory Committee, which started meeting this week. Mr. Duncan has done an amazing job for the community. He is passionate about the work of the Planning Commission. He has a proclamation that will be given to Mr. Duncan. He really appreciates Mr. Duncan's willingness to serve in that role and to take on new responsibilities.

4. Proclamation for Jim Squire for Service on the City of Sandy Springs Planning Commission

Mayor Rusty Paul stated Jim Squire is leaving the Planning Commission and has been asked to serve on the Sandy Springs Development Authority. He thanked both Mr. Squire and Mr. Duncan for their service to the community and their continued service. He read the proclamation which states, "Jim Squire has provided four years of dedicated service to the Planning Commission and the citizens of Sandy Springs. Mr. Squire has also provided his counsel serving on the Sandy Springs Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as the City of Sandy Springs Charter Commission. Mr. Squire is recognized for his valuable and conscientious service toward the betterment of the City of Sandy Springs. The City of Sandy Springs recognizes Mr. Squire for his role and participation in Leadership Sandy Springs, the Sandy Springs Citizen's Police Academy, and the Rotary Club of Sandy Springs. Most notably, Mr. Squire was a recent recipient of the Rotary Club of Sandy Springs Leadership Award honoring his past presidency and current role as Rotary Assistant Governor." He expressed sincere appreciation to Jim Squire for his dedication and leadership in improving the lives of the citizens of Sandy Springs during his tenure as a member of the Planning Commission. Mr. Squire's replacement on the Planning Commission will be nominated at the City Council meeting next month.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

City Clerk Michael Casey read the rules for the Public Hearings segment of the meeting.

Alcoholic Beverage License

4. **16-050** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Blue Moon Pizza of Sandy Springs at 5610 Glenridge Dr. Ste 110 Sandy Springs, GA 30342. Applicant is Peter Barli on behalf of Blue Moon Pizza, LLC for Consumption on Premises Wine, Malt Beverage and Distilled Spirits

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this is a change of ownership application for consumption on the premises of wine, malt beverage, and distilled spirits for Blue Moon Pizza. The applicant has met all the requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-050, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Blue Moon Pizza for Consumption on Premises of Wine, Malt Beverage and Distilled Spirits. Council Member Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. **16-051** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Elite Liquor, 7855 Roswell Road Suite D, Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350. Applicant is Jandals Khamissi for Retail/Package Wine, Malt Beverage & Distilled Spirits.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this is a change of ownership application for retail package, wine, malt beverage, and distilled spirits for Robico Elite Package Inc. located at 7855 Roswell Road Suite D. The applicant has met all requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul called for public comments in opposition to the application.

Tochie Blad, 7320 Hunters Branch Drive, stated the concern she has with this application is that it was not advertised correctly in the Neighborhood Newspaper on page 2A. This application was advertised as Elite Liquor, but as heard this evening, the title of the company is Robico Elite Package, Inc. This is a flaw in the application. Under a business name search on the Georgia Secretary of State website the Robico Elite Liquor license is not current. Typically, on a rezoning agenda item, the application is not heard unless the business has a current license. The issue with the license not being up to date is that the community cannot find out who the principals are for this business. She asked that Council defer this item for thirty days until the matters of procedure are corrected.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated this concern was brought to staff's attention. He looked at the State law and the City's ordinance. There is no requirement that this type of application be advertised. The City advertises the application to give public notice that a liquor license application is up for review. The fact that there may have been a misstatement of the name is not a problem. Moving forward staff will ensure the correct entity is being published in the advertisement. This is not a flaw that would cause the application to be deferred or denied. Regarding the registration of the company, Finance Director Ellis did a check of the corporate record and the Georgia Secretary of State website shows the corporation as being active. That means the business is still recognized as a viable existing corporation. There is an annual requirement of corporations to pay a fee to the Secretary of State to maintain the continuing operation of the corporation. The company may be lacking in paying that fee in a timely manner, but the information shows this corporation as being active.

Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Sterling moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-051, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Robico Elite Package Inc., 7855 Roswell Road Suite D, for Retail/Package Wine, Malt Beverage & Distilled Spirits. Council Member Dishman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. **16-052** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Under the Cork Tree at 5600 Roswell Road. Ste 2, Sandy Springs, GA 30342. Applicant is Jason Sheetz for Consumption on Premises Wine, Malt Beverage and Distilled Spirits

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this is a change of ownership application for consumption on the premises of wine, malt beverage, and distilled spirits for Under the Cork Tree located at 5600 Roswell Road, Ste. 2. The applicant has met all requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Second: Council Member Bauman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-052, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Under the Cork Tree at 5600 Roswell Road. Ste 2, for Consumption on Premises Wine, Malt Beverage and Distilled Spirits. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion.

Council Member John Paulson asked if the name of the business was always Under the Cork Tree or is this a new name. The agenda documents only state it is a change of ownership, which implies this is the same business name, but the owners have changed.

Jason, Sheetz, applicant, stated there has been a change of ownership for the business.

Mayor Paul stated the previous business name was Joli Kobe Steaks. This is a change of business name and change of ownership at this location.

Council Member Andy Bauman stated this is a new establishment under new ownership at this location.

Mayor Paul stated this location was previously issued an alcohol license application.

Council Member Paulson asked if it matters that the business name has changed.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated the business license is in the individual's name. It is a matter of the location being permitted based upon the business meeting setback and distance requirements. The previous business has already closed.

Council Member Bauman asked what was stated initially regarding this application.

Council Member Paulson stated it was referred to as a change of ownership and he did not think that was correct.

Mayor Paul stated once Council approves the license, staff will handle the rest of the details. The record reflects that everyone is aware of the situation.

Vote on the Motion: Council Member Bauman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-052, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Under the Cork Tree at 5600 Roswell Road, Ste. 2, for Consumption on

Premises of Wine, Malt Beverage and Distilled Spirits. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **16-053** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Urban Cook House at 4600 Roswell Road Bldg G Ste 100 Sandy Springs, GA 30342. Applicant is William Gillespie Jr for Consumption on Premises Wine and Malt Beverages

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this is a new alcohol application for consumption on the premises for Urban Cook House located at 4600 Roswell Road Ste 100. The applicant has met all the requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Bauman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-053, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Urban Cook House at 4600 Roswell Road Bldg G Ste 100, for Consumption on Premises of Wine and Malt Beverages. Council Member DeJulio seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CDBG

4. **16-054** Update and Public Hearing for CDBG Program and 2016 Annual Action Plan

Community Development Director Michelle Alexander stated this item is related to the 2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program update. This is to give an update on the most recent expenditures of the program and to discuss what will happen for the 2016 plan. She gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the 2016 CDBG Program.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments on the CDBG Program and the 2016 Annual Action Plan. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

There was no action taken on this item.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

5. **16-055** Consideration of a Resolution to Approve a Contract with Neal Price Electric, Inc. for Construction of the Electrical Services, CIP CC-006, and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute the Contract

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated this item is the award of a contract to Neal Price Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$407,974. The project was put out to bid in September 2015 and bids were received on September 22, 2015. There was only one bidder, probably due to this being a specialty type of work. Staff reviewed the bid and found it to meet all requirements and recommends awarding the bid.

Motion and Second: Council Member Paulson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-055, a Resolution to Approve a Contract with Neal Price Electric, Inc. for Construction of the Electrical Services, CIP CC-006, and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute the Contract. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion.

Council Member John Paulson stated the contract price is \$100,000 over budget and \$90,000 is coming from the CC010 project.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated his understanding is the estimate is for the City Center work, which is about \$300,000. The T-0011 project is extended to the east further than the City Springs proper project. The CC010 project is extended further south towards Sandy Springs Circle. A few more parcels will be encompassed to include the other two projects as well. When reviewing the bids, the costs were all under \$250,000, so in order to keep the process transparent staff decided to bring the contract to Council. This contract will be funded from three different projects.

Council Member Gabriel Sterling asked since this project is attached to T-0011, can the money be expended while staff is trying to figure out the location.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated his understanding is that can be done.

City Manager John McDonough stated this project is something the City is paying for separately. This is about the aesthetic improvement from placing the utilities underground. This is the last connection and a separate piece of what Georgia Power is doing for the City. This project is taking the overhead electrical from the businesses back to the underground electrical of Georgia Power. The scope was expanded to include across Roswell Road around the T-0011 project and down Sandy Springs Circle.

Council Member Sterling stated Georgia Power is moving their distribution and then the City is moving the electrical off of the buildings.

City Manager McDonough responded yes. That is what the \$400,000 estimate represents.

Mayor Paul stated this project is to connect the buried distribution lines to the businesses that are affected by the City's decision to move the power lines.

Council Member Andy Bauman stated nothing regarding this project brings a conclusion to the roundabout concerns. One project has nothing to do with the other.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously.
Resolution No. 2016-02-13

6. **16-056** Consideration of a Purchase and Sale Agreement for Property Located at 590 Hammond Drive (Tax Parcel # 17 007100060127)

City Manager John McDonough stated given the questions that have come up related to this protected buy, Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole will discuss the importance of this project and what the next steps are as well as bring clarity to some questions that have been raised over the past several days.

Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the Hammond Drive T-0024 project.

City Manager McDonough stated it has been awhile since there has been public outreach on this project and staff recognizes that. Some of the slides will discuss why this item is being presented this evening and the plans moving forward. This design has not changed and these are the options available to the City. The next steps are to continue to pursue the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) grant. This is an action item and it is staff's recommendation to approve the protective buy. He and the Assistant City Managers have been in the neighborhoods and seen the redevelopment that is occurring. There are spec houses that are being sold for around \$920,000. The City has the opportunity to purchase these properties

for about \$350,000 to \$400,000 today, versus if redevelopment is allowed the City will pay at least twice as much to purchase the properties. If the City receives the grant, the corridor study is anticipated to begin late spring or early summer of this year. In that period of time, staff will engage with the affected homeowners associations. There will be opportunities for public informational open houses. Staff will provide regular updates via the typical communications channels such as the week in review, quarterly newsletter, monthly e-blast, and an information page that will be created on the City's website. The City was planning on pursuing this grant anyways. What has changed is redevelopment in this area to the tune of upwards of \$1 million per parcel. This is why staff is recommending purchase of 590 Hammond Drive.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio stated this process was not started in 1999. In the late 1980's two things happened, one of which was he met Eva Galambos and the other was he moved his office to the intersection of Lake Forrest Drive and Hammond Drive. He used to drive on Hammond Drive every day. At times, of the fifteen minutes it took to get to his office, ten minutes of it was spent on Hammond Drive. He and Eva Galambos spent many years trying to convince people both in the legislature and the community to approve the incorporation of the City of Sandy Springs. Eva Galambos would discuss the need for better police, fire department, and EMS services. One thing he talked about was Hammond Drive, the roads, and lack of money that Fulton County put into them. In front of his office Hammond Drive is five lanes. As you approach Roswell Road it is still five lanes. As you drive across Roswell Road, Hammond Drive goes from five to four to three to two lanes. Hammond Drive is two lanes until you reach Hammond Park. On the other side of Glenridge Drive the lanes expanded to five lanes again. The City has known for many years that the expansion of Hammond Drive is needed. Every time the City spoke and made a presentation to the public to give a need for self-governance, this was one of the issues that was raised. He has personally addressed this issue for the past twenty-five years. About three months ago he heard a rumor about something happening on Hammond Drive and he then called one of his neighbors who owns several properties near there. His neighbor told him that a developer was trying to accumulate property in the area at \$1 million an acre to build townhouses. Once townhouses are built, there is no way the City could buy the property. To clarify what happened with Congressman Lewis, he and Eva Galambos went to speak to Congressman Lewis together. One of the things they showed him was the concept study on Hammond Drive. The reason Congressman Lewis gave the City \$500,000 was because the proposal included a potential for bus rapid transit. Congressman Lewis was very much in favor of bus rapid transit, so he agreed to give the City an earmark of \$500,000. This concept totally predates the City into the late 1980's. This project is something we all know needs to be done. When he would drive on Hammond Drive the drive was not bad going east but going west the traffic would be backed up from Roswell Road to the park. The traffic would be stop and go in the afternoon around lunch time. The need for the widening of Hammond Drive is not new and is not something that will happen overnight. He asked about the environmental impact study possibly taking five years.

City Manager McDonough stated it could take that long if the City uses Federal funds. The variable in this project is if there is a transportation sales tax initiative, there is a possibility this project, like others in Fulton County, could be greatly accelerated and the City would no longer be subject to the Federal process. If the sales tax initiative were to be approved, the project could be accelerated by a number of years.

Council Member DeJulio stated when the City had the last public meeting, the most outspoken person opposed to this plan was a gentleman who lived on Glenridge Drive that no longer lives there. He feels the general consensus of the neighbors was in support of something being done on Hammond Drive. He gets complaints on a regular basis about the homes on Hammond Drive not being maintained with some being rentals. The owners know they will eventually sell the homes and do not care who rents them. He passes the complaints to staff and Code Enforcement visits the property. The owners put temporary fixes on the issues just to try and keep the homes rented. This is a project that has been going on for many years and needs to be done.

Motion and Second: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-056, the Purchase and Sale Agreement for Property Located at 590 Hammond Drive (Tax Parcel # 17 007100060127). Council Member Paulson seconded the motion.

Council Member Andy Bauman thanked Council Member DeJulio for the explanation. That reinforces the reason to purchase this property. Unless Council is prepared to reject this plan right now, or any plan, it would be irresponsible to not purchase the property when it is vacant. The public's money is well protected. If the City elects not to use the property, it can be sold back into the market. He is confident this is a sound purchase. The public should be aware that most all of Council will want extensive public hearings on this item. The public will be included in the whole process.

City Manager McDonough stated there were questions related to the maintenance of the property. It will what the City does with other properties, such as what is being done on the north end of the City. The property will be returned to its natural state with grass and added to the City's regular maintenance list of properties in the City. The City will not rent out those properties. If there is a house on the property, it will be demolished, the property will be returned to its natural state and maintained.

Council Member Graham McDonald thanked City Manager McDonough for providing that information. The City does not know how long a property will be held. He asked that the properties look nice during the interim. He assured the neighbors that he expects the City will do just that.

Council Member Sterling stated this is about preserving taxpayer dollars, because if the City allowed the redevelopment to go forward, the City may have to spend \$1 million and upwards to purchase the parcels. The purchase gives the City the option to do nothing, do more, or do less. The City already has a history of maintaining purchased City properties, such as the property at the corner of Kayron.

Council Member DeJulio stated he has already been contacted by the Yardian Angels regarding the property at the corner of Kayron. The Yardian Angels mow grass for people who cannot do it themselves and they sometimes plant flowers. The City gave them a proclamation several years ago for the good work they do. The organization asked if they could plant wildflowers on the property on the corner of Kayron, because they want to improve the appearance. It might be beneficial for the City to work with a group such as this that wants to beautify their neighborhood.

City Manager McDonough stated the City will be happy to work with them.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2016-02-14

7. **16-057** A Resolution Appointing a Member to the Board of Ethics of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia for a First Three Year Term (Ganapathy G Subramanian)

Mayor Rusty Paul stated Council received the resume for Ganapathy Subramanian, who is his nomination for an alternate position on the Board of Ethics. Mr. Subramanian is a young man early in his career that is very interested in getting involved with the City. It is the Mayor's desire to get younger people involved in the City. He is not sure Mr. Subramanian will fulfill his full three year term, because he plans on applying to Harvard.

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-057, A Resolution Appointing a Member to the Board of Ethics of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia for a First Three Year Term (Ganapathy G Subramanian). Council Member Dishman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2016-02-15

8. **16-058** A Resolution Appointing a Member to the Board of Ethics of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia (Steve Soteres)

Mayor Rusty Paul stated many people know Mr. Soteres, who has been active in a number of organizations in Sandy Springs, including the Sandy Springs Perimeter Chamber and Leadership Sandy Springs. Mr. Soteres also approached him about becoming more active with the City. He recommends appointing Mr. Soteres to the Board of Ethics.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Dishman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 16-058, A Resolution Appointing Steve Soteres as a Member to the Board of Ethics of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia to fill an unexpired term. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2016-02-16

REPORTS

Mayor and Council Reports

Council Member Andy Bauman stated the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival began last week. Sandy Springs Hospitality and Tourism is a sponsor of the festival. The festival is playing some of the movies at the LeFont Theaters this weekend. There are different types of movies such as comedies, documentaries, drama, a combination of comedy and drama, and suspense.

Council Member Bauman stated a constituent of Council Member McDonald and a neighbor of Mayor Paul, Amanda Rosner, who is a freshman at Northwestern University, a Sandy Springs resident, and a Galloway graduate, will be appearing tomorrow night on the College Jeopardy TV show.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated he had an opportunity to welcome Senator John McCain to Sandy Springs earlier this week. The Senator was at the home of Judy and Marty Kogan. Senator McCain was insightful and entertaining. It was great to be able to welcome him to our community. The Senator was very impressed by Sandy Springs and said he knows about the City's history. One of Mayor Paul's close friends is Morrison Swindle, who spent six years in the Hanoi Hilton with Senator McCain. If anyone wants to know more about Senator McCain, they should speak with Morrison Swindle. The Senator had an opportunity to leave from being a prisoner of war ahead of everyone else, but chose to stay and fulfill his duty.

9. **16-059** Staff Reports

1. December 2015 Financial Report

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated the City is currently at fifty percent of the fiscal year. Revenues are trending above average at 67.18% and expenditures are below at 42.68%. The electric franchise tax is due next month, so that will be reflected in the March financials. The business occupational taxes will be received soon, since the billing was done in December 2015.

2. Update on Project T-0043, Roswell Road at Glenridge Drive Intersection Improvement Project – GDOT Approved Concept Report

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated this is more of an announcement than an update. There will be a preferred alternative public information open house on project T-0043, the Roswell Road at Glenridge Drive Intersection Improvement Project, on February 10th at Hammond Park from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend. If all goes well with the preferred alternative and it is received well by the public, the environmental documents will be completed and hopefully approved by

October. The right-of-way acquisition will then begin. There are about seven parcels that need to be acquired, based on the current concept. That will take the project into construction before October 2018. GDOT is participating in the construction of this project and agreed to participate up to \$1 million. The current estimate is \$1.3 million.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated that project needs to be done as soon as possible, because it is one of the worst traffic hazards in the City.

Council member Gabriel Sterling asked if the City's portion is fully funded from when the City set the money aside two to three years ago.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated to date it looks like the City's funds will cover everything, including right-of-way and utilities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Oppenheimer, 5815 Pine Brook Rd, stated he is the President of the Glenridge Hammond neighborhood association. He has grave concern about how the Hammond Drive project will impact the neighborhood. He does not know if the City actually does a fantastic job of taking care of the properties it owns. There is a particular property that when he asked about getting it cleaned, he was told the City does not want to set a precedent.

Mayor Rusty Paul asked who told Mr. Oppenheimer that.

Mr. Oppenheimer responded Council Member DeJulio.

City Manager John McDonough stated that information came from him. The area in question is an island in a neighborhood. The City has no precedent for maintaining an island in a neighborhood and that is a neighborhood responsibility. He provided that information, via Public Works to Council Member DeJulio.

Mr. Oppenheimer stated the island is owned by the City and not the neighborhood. He understands a protected buy, but his concern is when the public information meeting will happen for the neighborhood. The project will impact them as far as traffic is concerned. The neighborhood would like to see a time table of when City properties are maintained. The Yardian Angels did ask to plant wildflowers at Hammond and Kayron and were told no. There is a need for sidewalks on Hammond. It would be great if when the City acquires these properties they create some paths. There is also a concern about the removal of homes from the neighborhood, which affects the viability of the neighborhood association. There are also a number of traffic safety issues on Glenridge and Hammond. The quality of life the City creates as it grows will determine the viability of the City and how it helps or hurts the neighborhoods.

Susan Gilchrist, 300 Johnson Ferry Rd, stated she is representing Mount Vernon Towers Condominiums. On December 1, 2015 the Mount Vernon Towers residents were told someone would perform an appraisal on the property, but that meeting was cancelled. It has been since then that the residents have had contact with anyone regarding the roundabouts. She asked if there is an update on the proposed project.

Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole stated at this time the City continues to work with GDOT, who is also working with the Federal partners related to environmental clearance. The environmental clearance is connected to the question of the subject property being historic or not. Until that part is resolved, it does not behoove the City to move forward with any further discussions related to acquisitions. What Ms. Gilchrist referred to was an educational meeting on how the acquisition process works. Staff is

postponing that meeting until we know when the right-of-way negotiations are allowed to begin. Staff does not know this timeline as of now, because the City is in an appeals process with its Federal partners.

Ms. Gilchrist asked if the City is still planning for two roundabouts.

Assistant City Manager Poole responded yes. That plan has already been vetted and the City has not changed its position.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. 16-060

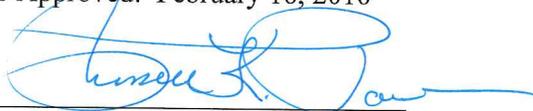
There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

11. 16-061 Adjournment

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Date Approved: February 16, 2016



Russell K. Paul, Mayor



Michael D. Casey, City Clerk

APPENDIX

Exhibit B

Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Continuum of Care Homeless Census Report

THE 2009 METRO ATLANTA TRI-JURISDICTIONAL COLLABORATIVE HOMELESS CENSUS



**I think it is important to understand
how many homeless people there are.**
Count Volunteer

COVERING ATLANTA, DEKALB COUNTY AND FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

**I feel like I contributed in some small way to
serve the homeless population in Atlanta.**
Count Volunteer



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative on Homelessness and Pathways Community Network acknowledge the time and effort of the numerous individuals and organizations that assisted in the successful 2009 Metro Atlanta Tri-J Homeless Census. In addition, we express appreciation to members of the advisory council for their guidance regarding methodology and implementation. We extend our gratitude to the deployment captains who made the count successful through their hard work and dedication. We also are grateful to the deployment host sites for providing a safe place to deploy enumeration teams. Finally, we thank the people and agencies that provided additional support towards the achievement of the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census. Together we are collecting the data necessary to track our progress in the fight against homelessness.

The 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census was successful because over 400 volunteers joined forces to count the homeless persons in our community. Although it is not possible to list each of them by name, the Tri-Jurisdictional and Pathways wish to express our gratitude to each of you who contributed your time and effort.

We acknowledge the Atlanta Regional Commission Geographic Information Systems Department (GIS) and David Giguere for the customized, user-friendly maps and the deployment captains map training. We give special thanks to Aero Surveys of Georgia, Inc. for allowing us to use their detailed street information for the census maps.

We are grateful to Druid Hills United Methodist Church for allowing the deployment captains to meet at the church on a regular basis. We are also thankful to Cliff Richards of Decatur Cooperative Ministries for arranging the meeting site at the church.

We recognize the effort of the special enumeration teams whose knowledge of the homeless population and geographic areas were instrumental in the data collection process. We also appreciate Officer Joyner of the Alpharetta Police Department for assisting with the Alpharetta special team, and the DeKalb County and Sandy Springs Police Departments for providing additional support to the enumeration teams on census night.



TABLE of CONTENTS

I. Introduction	1
II. Project Purpose and Coordination	2
III. Methods	
A. Definition of Homelessness	4
B. Date and Time of Count	
C. Types of Count	
1. Unsheltered Count Method	5
2. Sheltered Count Method and Definitions: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Institutions	10
IV. Census Results	
A. Tri-J Homeless Census Numbers	13
B. Tri-J Unsheltered Count	14
C. Tri-J Sheltered Count, Capacity and Occupancy	
1. Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing Programs	15
2. Permanent Supportive Housing	16
D. Breakouts for Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County	17
1. Atlanta	18
2. DeKalb County	19
3. Fulton County	20
V. Comparison of 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census	21
VI. 2009 Annualized Projection with Comparison to 2003, 2005 and 2007	22
VII. Conclusion	23
VIII. Special Thanks	24



I. INTRODUCTION

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative on Homelessness (Tri-J) is a working partnership of government representatives, community members and service providers within the City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County. The Tri-J works collaboratively to address issues of homelessness through planning, policy development, service delivery and resource allocation.

In 2002, the Tri-J decided that getting objective and accurate data on the number of homeless persons residing in the community was a top priority. The homeless census was to identify the number of homeless persons in each local community on the basis of sleeping location and basic demographic characteristics: gender, adult vs. youth, and family vs. individual. Pathways Community Network was asked to undertake the point-in-time homeless count on behalf of the Tri-J. While the 2003 Tri-J Homeless Census was in its early planning stages, the U. S. Congress passed legislation requiring state and local governments that receive funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004.

In March 2003, the Tri-J and Pathways conducted the first successful homeless census. The count relied on the efforts of many non-profit homeless service providers and over 400 volunteers to count the homeless persons in the more than 800 square miles that comprise the Tri-J area. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the 2003 Tri-Jurisdiction Homeless Census as a national “best practice.”

The 2005 and 2007 Tri-Jurisdictional and 2006 City of Atlanta Homeless Census followed the successful methodology used in the 2003 census. Improvements were made to the model for each successive count based upon feedback from the Tri-J homeless census advisory council and deployment captains committee, community volunteers and community needs. The reports on these earlier counts can be viewed at the Pathways website, www.pcni.info.

The 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census was the fourth point-in-time count for Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County. The 2009 census adhered to the successful methodology used by the Tri-J in previous counts with slight modifications based on feedback from the 2007 deployment captains debriefing session, 2009 advisory council and community needs (see methods). The planning of the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census began in August 2008 with the actual enumeration occurring in the early morning hours of January 23, 2009. This report describes the purpose, methodology and results of that effort.



II. PURPOSE and COORDINATION

A. Project Purpose

Both HUD and the Tri-J identified several important goals for the homeless census:

- Provide the number and characteristics of people sleeping in transitional programs, shelters and places not meant for human habitation;
- Provide the local community with data to use in planning, funding, and implementing services that meets the needs of homeless persons;
- Provide a measurement of the changes in the homeless population over time;
- Provide a report that increases awareness of the local homeless issue; and
- Provide data to use in updating the Tri-J's Housing Inventory for the annual HUD Super Notification of Funding Availability (SuperNOFA) Exhibit 1 report.

B. Project Coordination

Pathways Community Network

Pathways Community Network is a non-profit organization that supports human service providers with a variety of tools that encourage collaboration, reduce costs and increase impact, so more people find the path to success. Since 2003, we have been asked by the Tri-J to manage the homeless point-in-time counts. Pathways has coordinated, staffed, written the reports and presented the findings for the Tri-J homeless census. Beginning in 2007, we have also provided research expertise in the areas of methodology, data collection, and data analysis. The Pathways research and data analysis team consisted of the research manager and a research assistant. The executive director and senior researcher for Pathways served as members of the advisory council.

Advisory Council (AC)

As in the previous three Tri-J census, the Tri-J homeless census advisory council was formed and composed of community volunteers, academic researchers and leaders in non-profit, human services and government agencies. The functions of the AC included assisting the Pathways research team with refining the count methodology and instruments, logistical planning and providing input regarding compliance with HUD regulations. With few exceptions, the advisory council met on a regular monthly basis.

A Tri-J representative from the AC assisted Pathways with collecting contact information for all known emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in the Tri-J, refining the sheltered housing count tally form and collecting data for the sheltered count. Pathways and the Tri-J representative communicated on a regular basis via phone and email during the sheltered count data collection process.



Deployment Captains (DC)

A deployment captains committee was again formed, as with the previous census, to assist Pathways with logistics planning of the deployment sites, recruitment of volunteers, and on census night with managing deployment sites for the unsheltered count. The DC was staffed by homeless service provider agencies, non-profit agencies and government agencies. Committee co-chairs shared a seat on the advisory council to assure good communication and successful joint problem solving between the two groups.

Beginning in October 2008, the deployment captains met on a regular basis. Based on feedback from the 2007 DC debriefing session, changes were made to the DC meeting schedule for the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census. The new DC were required to attend an orientation meeting and attend every meeting. Instead of all DC being required to attend the meetings, at least one representative from each deployment site was required.

In mid-January prior to the census night, the new DC were trained extensively on the census night process. At the same meeting, a Geographic Information System staff member taught them how to read the enumeration maps. One week prior to the count, a DC briefing meeting was held to pass out the census night boxes which included information and count forms, maps and equipment such as clipboards, pens, and flashlights. The Pathways research manager reviewed with the DC all the materials that were included in the boxes and the census night process such as setting up the deployment sites, training the volunteers and calling in the homeless count numbers.

After the count, the DC were responsible for returning the boxes and count forms back to Pathways the following week. In February, a DC appreciation and debriefing luncheon was held to give them a chance to provide feedback on the unsheltered count process and thank them for all their time and effort.



III. METHODS

A. Definition of Homelessness

When conducting homeless counts, HUD has mandated that communities receiving federal funds, such as the Tri-J, follow their definition of homelessness, which is based on the Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1987 (later amended as the McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act defines a person as homeless if he or she lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence; has a primary nighttime residence that is either a public or private shelter, an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private location that is not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Other federal agencies, such as the Department of Education (DOE) and Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA), use different McKinney-Vento Act definitions than HUD and thus use alternate definitions for homeless persons. For example, the DOE definition of homelessness includes families who live in the homes of friends/families and in hotels/motels, while the current HUD definition does not.

B. Date and Time of Census

Based on a national directive from HUD, the advisory council was required to select a date for the census during the last ten days in January, 2009. The AC selected Friday, January 23rd as the census date morning, with a bad weather back-up date of Wednesday, January 28th. Both dates were mid-week to represent a typical weekday morning and to avoid the higher number of non-homeless persons on the streets during weekends. Several large shelters in the City of Atlanta discharge residents in the early morning hours (5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.). To avoid double counting of people as sheltered and unsheltered, the advisory council decided to begin enumeration around 1 a.m. prior to the shelter early morning release times.

C. Types of Count

The census consisted of two types of enumerations which result in a comprehensive picture of homelessness for Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County:

- ***Unsheltered:*** A count of unsheltered homeless people who reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, in vehicles, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings and makeshift shelters such as tents.
- ***Sheltered:*** A count of sheltered homeless people who occupy emergency shelter, transitional housing, recovery programs that serve homeless and non-homeless clients, motels (only if motel vouchers are provided by service agency) and short stay institutions such as hospitals and jails.



1. Unsheltered Count Method

Planning for the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census unsheltered count began in August 2008. This first month involved setting up the advisory council, and most importantly, setting the date for the count. The fall months included such activities as setting up the deployment captains committee, recruiting volunteers, notifying the community of the upcoming homeless count, recruiting deployment sites, working to set up and print the enumeration maps, recruiting enumerator guides, setting up special coverage teams and contacting police departments throughout the Tri-J.

The month of the actual count is the busiest for completing final tasks. January entails creating and printing all the necessary forms for the upcoming census night, putting together the equipment for the count, and training the deployment captains on the census night process. Plus there was the challenge of handling all the last minute items that needed to be addressed such as making sure there are enough volunteers at each deployment site.

On census night, January 22nd, 2009, the Pathways research team arrived at the Pathways office or “command central” at 6 p.m. to set up for the upcoming count and to resolve any last issues. New volunteers were assigned up to 11 p.m. that night to count. Deployment captains arrived first at the deployment sites around 10 p.m. to set up for the morning count. Homeless enumerator guides arrived next for specific guide training on their role within enumerations teams. Following the enumerator guides training, community volunteers arrived around 11:30 p.m.

At midnight, all enumerators, paid and volunteer, received general training on the HUD definition of homelessness, areas to pay specific attention to within enumeration areas, and how to document the number of homeless persons found using the street tally form. All enumerators were instructed to travel or canvass all streets in their enumeration area at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour, not to count in abandoned buildings due to safety concerns, and not to make contact with or disturb any homeless persons found on the street. For this count, the enumerators were also requested to stop at 24 hours convenience stores and grocery stores to ask store clerks if they are aware of where homeless people might be in that area. Another new request was that enumerators stop at hospitals in their area and count homeless people in the emergency room.

The enumerators deployed around 1:00 a.m. on census morning with instructions to return to their deployment sites by 5 a.m. The weather conditions on the morning of January 23rd were clear with a morning low temperature around the mid-thirties. Approximately 300 volunteer enumerators, 40 agency guides and 100 homeless enumerator guides participated on census night.

In an effort to ensure accuracy in the count, prevent the loss of data and to get “real time” reporting of the count, a call-in reporting method was used. Enumeration teams reported the tallies for each block group in their assigned enumeration area to their deployment captains as they completed the count for the block group. After an enumeration area was complete, deployment captains called Pathways staff to input the data into an online computer application. After enumerators returned from their enumeration areas, they received breakfast and were debriefed by deployment captains. Feedback from volunteers will be used to update future census procedures.



Enumeration Areas

The City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County cover over 800 square miles and comprise 771 U.S. Census block groups. In 2003, 134 enumeration areas were created by grouping the U.S. Census blocks into manageable areas for data collection and organization. The enumeration areas varied in size and number of block groups, depending on the anticipated concentration of unsheltered homeless persons. For example, in areas with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless, where enumerators would have to walk much of the area to conduct their count, fewer block groups were allocated to an enumeration area. The 2009 census used the same enumeration areas as 2003, 2005 and 2007.

Deployment Sites

The enumeration areas were divided among 11 deployment sites (see special thanks). These sites were spaced throughout the Tri-J and appropriately geo-located to provide convenient access for enumerators to their assigned enumeration areas. They served as staging areas for the unsheltered count, providing adequate well-lit parking, phone lines and a large meeting area. For each deployment site, at least one seasoned deployment captain and two other DCs were recruited from various community and government agencies to coordinate the site on census night. The downtown site, Crossroads Community Ministries, also hosted the enumeration team from Department of Veteran's Affairs, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program (VA) when they returned from counting homeless persons in the downtown and neighboring areas.

Maps

The Atlanta Regional Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department created the 2009 planning and enumeration maps for the unsheltered count. The large planning maps aided Pathways in the assignment of enumeration areas to each deployment site and the deployment captains in orienting enumerators during training on census night. The enumeration maps included one main enumeration area clearly outlined in bold black in the center of the map with the block groups for each EA outlined in purple within the EA.

The enumeration maps had been improved from the 2005 homeless census by adding Aero Atlas street overlays to provide detailed street information, defined block group boundaries and more distinguishable landmarks. The colors of the maps were changed slightly this year per the request of the 2007 deployment captains. In 2007, each enumeration area had its own pastel color, but were difficult to see in dim lighting, so the maps were updated for 2009 to one light pastel color for cities and no color for the county areas.

Enumeration Teams

In order to cover the large Tri-J area, over 400 enumerators were needed. Enumerators walked or drove the streets of the Tri-J to count the number of people who were homeless. The advisory council decided that, for accuracy and safety, enumeration teams would be comprised of at least 3 to 4 members, ideally at least 2 community volunteers and 1 enumerator guide. The number of teams required at each deployment site depended on the number of enumeration areas assigned to the site with one enumeration team generally covering one enumeration area. The enumeration teams for downtown Atlanta was comprised of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) enumerators only.

Community Volunteers: Volunteers were recruited using a number of methods including direct recruitment, public announcements, recruitment fliers, and postings on websites. Students, members of faith-based groups, homeless service provider staff and other community stakeholders volunteered to



serve as enumerators on census night. Volunteers were assigned to a deployment site based on their preferences and on the minimum requirement of volunteers needed at each site.

For this census, the recruitment of community volunteers was more difficult than usual. The homeless count was scheduled for Thursday, January 22nd, with Martin Luther King Jr. Day on the previous Monday. The count also coincided with the inauguration of President Obama. Many people who would normally have volunteered did not because they were out of town for the holiday and/or inauguration.

Paid Homeless Enumerator Guides (PEGs): As in the 2003, 2005 and 2007 Tri-J Homeless Census, paid homeless enumerators were recruited from various transitional housing programs in the Tri-J area. The paid homeless enumerator guides were residents of the transitional facilities whose job was to assist other volunteers in identifying homeless persons, in pointing out locations likely to have a homeless person present, and in recognizing potentially dangerous situations to avoid. For the 2009 census, several changes were made for the paid guides. This year the paid guides were required to have lived in the Tri-J area for at least six months and to have been a participant in the transitional program for at least three months. Also, the paid guides were only used at 8 of the 11 deployment sites due to low numbers of homeless people found in the other three sites during the past census. This year the agencies were asked to drop off and pick up the PEGs because in the past, the PEGs often did not have rides after the count was complete. For their work, the guides were paid a flat rate of \$50.

Service Provider Enumerator Guides: During the 2003 and 2005 homeless counts, all enumeration areas were canvassed by enumeration teams of 2-3 volunteer enumerators and a paid homeless enumerator guide. For the 2007 Homeless Count, the advisory council decided to replace the paid homeless enumerator guides with a homeless service provider staff member in 30 specifically determined “zero count” enumeration areas where no homeless person had been found in 2003, 2005 and 2006 (applicable to areas within the City of Atlanta only). In 2009, service provider enumerator guides were used at three deployment sites where low numbers of homeless persons had been found over the past census. They were also used at other sites where there were not enough paid homeless enumerator guides for each team.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Enumerators: The VA enumerators were veterans participating in the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs, Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans Program. Along with nearly forty current program participants, program alumni and program staff worked in the VA enumeration teams on census night. Due to their experience living on the streets or working with clients on the streets, they were assigned enumeration areas in downtown Atlanta as well as special areas outside the downtown area where expertise is helpful. The VA enumerators were paid a flat rate of \$60, since the majority of their time was spent actually walking the streets of downtown Atlanta.

Street Tally Forms

Street tally count forms were used to count the number of unsheltered homeless persons found. These forms reported the number of homeless individuals by gender and adult vs. youth (under age 18) or undetermined gender/age and the number of homeless family units by adult male, adult female and children under age 18. Each street tally form was pre-printed with an assigned enumeration area number and a block group number. The forms contained directions on how to record the data and how to call in the counts. Enumerators were instructed to call in count results on each block group as it was completed.



Special Coverage Areas

Special Coverage Teams: Prior to census night, law enforcement agencies throughout the Tri-J were surveyed on the probable location of unsheltered homeless persons. In addition to information about homeless persons' locations, law enforcement officers were also asked to identify areas that were unsafe for volunteers and areas that needed law enforcement escorts. With the feedback from law enforcement, Pathways compiled a detailed list of special coverage areas.

Prior to census night, deployment captains were given a list of special coverage locations in their enumeration areas and told to instruct volunteers not to canvas those areas. On census morning, the Alpharetta, Buford Highway and VA (see VA enumerators) special coverage teams then counted in the special coverage areas, often with a police escort. This process ensured that counts from special coverage areas were not duplicated. The Alpharetta special coverage team consisted of an Alpharetta police officer and a Fulton County representative. The Buford Highway team consisted of several volunteers from the Latin American Association who were knowledgeable about the immigrant and homeless communities along Buford Highway.

Encampments: To ensure the anonymity of encampment locations, Mad Housers, a non-profit that provides assistance in encampments, counted the encampment locations.

Challenges for 2009 Unsheltered Count

For the 2009 unsheltered count, there was difficulty in obtaining the over 400 community volunteers needed to cover all the areas of the Tri-J. As mentioned previously, getting the required number of volunteers needed was not possible due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and presidential inauguration. Therefore the AC devised an alternate plan to accommodate the low number of volunteers.

The alternate plan provided that enumeration areas in which zero homeless people were counted for the past three counts would not be counted by enumeration teams. For enumeration areas that had only found one homeless person over the past three counts would be made a low probability, meaning that the EA would only be counted once all other enumeration areas for that deployment site were counted.

The difficulty of finding enough community volunteers resulted in other problems. Due to the lack of volunteers, one of the deployment sites that was located in the far southern area of DeKalb had to be closed and the enumeration areas transferred to other deployment sites. Another challenge with deployment sites was that two recreation centers in Atlanta were unable to serve as deployment sites because of Atlanta budget issues. A week before the count, their enumeration areas had to be distributed to other deployment sites.

In areas where there were still not enough community volunteers needed, enumeration teams were asked to count more than the one enumeration area usually requested. This doubling up of enumeration areas was needed at the southwest Fulton site where all the volunteers who were signed up did not show up. Besides asking teams to count more than one enumeration area, enumerators from another deployment site were asked to change to the other site to assist and any volunteer calling in after 10 p.m. on census night was sent to this site.



All changes made were reviewed by researchers and the advisory council. The research team and AC determined that the changes did not impact the validity of the unsheltered count methodology and thus the homeless numbers.

Community Volunteer Feedback

For the 2009 homeless census, a standardized debriefing questionnaire was provided to the community volunteers as they finished the count. From the feedback, what volunteers liked best about participating in the count was that they could help homeless people and serve the community for a worthwhile cause. They also liked working as a team with their fellow volunteers and meeting new people. The volunteers found the instructions clear and the process well-organized. Also, driving made it easier. Finally, participating in the count shed light on the homeless situation in our community for several volunteers.

The main problem for volunteers was not finding any or many homeless people in their enumeration area. Another major problem was that the maps were difficult to read. A few suggestions for the next census included smaller one page maps of each block group, having more detailed information on the EA map, color code the boundaries better so that each block group is clearly identified. A further problem frequently stated was the late night/early morning hours. It was suggested that the count start earlier.

All in all, most volunteers were glad to participate and stated that they would be willing to volunteer again.

Modifications for Next Unsheltered Count

In February, the DC participated in a debriefing session where they shared their thoughts on the unsheltered count process. One problem was that there were so many forms that they were difficult to keep track of on census night. It was suggested that the forms be consolidated as much as possible and be put into a packet for each enumerator. Another request was that a planning map be developed for each deployment site and their enumeration areas. Also, it was mentioned that the “paid enumerator guides” be renamed to simply “guides” so that volunteers not get upset that some are being paid while others are not. On the certificate of participation form, the date should include both the census night and the next day since the count ends in the early morning hours. Finally, the DC suggested that homeless persons participate in the planning process or else have shelters ask residents to share anonymous information on where homeless people sleep outdoors at night.



2. Sheltered Count Methods

Beginning in October 2008, emergency shelter and transitional housing program providers (definitions follow) were notified of the impending Tri-J homeless count at public meetings, such as the Tri-Jurisdictional Metro Atlanta Collaborative, Fulton County to Prevent Homelessness, and HMIS users group meetings. In early December, the deployment captains were provided a list of known emergency shelters and transitional housing programs located in the Tri-J area. The DC were asked to read over the agency list and provide the names of any additional agencies that they were aware of that were not on the list. This list was created by identifying all the agencies on the 2008 Tri-J Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). The Tri-J HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds in the Tri-J area for fall 2008. The Tri-J HIC and sheltered count representative was able to provide a contact list for those agencies.

Two months prior to census night, Pathways research staff contacted several jails throughout the Tri-J and a Tri-J representative from Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County contacted the Drug Court in each jurisdiction to determine if we could get the number of people who would be identified as homeless at the jails on census night. In the month of January, Pathways staff contacted hospital staff throughout the Tri-J to notify them of the upcoming homeless count.

The week of the count, Pathways staff emailed, or called/faxed if no email address was provided, each agency on the contact list to notify them of the need for their bed occupancy information for census night and to provide the agency staff with the tally form and instructions (see data collection form). If the past contact information was incorrect, current information was obtained and the list updated. If a phone number was no longer in service, staff investigated the situation to determine if the facility was no longer open or if the number had changed. Staff also investigated any new agency names that were provided by the deployment captains and Tri-J sheltered count representative.

The email or fax included a notification letter, sheltered count tally form and instructions for filling out the count form. The sheltered count tally form reported the program/site information, program type, bed capacity, occupancy numbers for individuals/families and subpopulation information, which was new for this count. The contact person was instructed to fill out the form for all clients on site from 6 p.m. January 22nd to 6 a.m. January 23rd, 2009. The contact person was requested to return the sheltered count tally form to Pathways by the following week.

The 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census was the first time that permanent supportive housing programs (definition follows) were also notified of the count. A new requirement by HUD for 2009 mandated that permanent supportive housing occupancy and capacity numbers be collected for the same night as emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.

A number of the sheltered count tally forms that had been e-mailed or faxed to housing providers were returned within the following days of the Tri-J homeless census. Shortly after the census, Pathways staff began making reminder phone calls to the non-reporting sites. Some responded via fax or email, while others gave their results to the staff over the phone. In those cases, the data was recorded on blank Tally sheets. The majority of the Tally forms were returned during the month of February. During March, a concerted effort was made by Pathways staff, advisory council members and Tri-J representatives to contact the last few non-reporting sites. As the sheltered tally forms were turned in, the information was verified by Pathways staff against the existing 2008 Tri-J HIC. Anomalies identified at this stage were resolved, usually by emails or phone conversations with the program staff.



A determination was made by the advisory council that by March 25th the occupancy numbers for any remaining sites that had not reported would be estimated, using the statistical model developed during the previous homeless counts. To encourage participation in the homeless count, the advisory council enacted a policy for previous counts of not disclosing occupancy rates for specific agencies or program sites. In the end, 97% of emergency shelter and transitional housing programs provided their homeless numbers for the census.

On the other hand, we were not as successful with the jails and hospitals. Even though the jails were contacted prior to the count, jail and drug court staff were unable to provide the number of people homeless on census night. From staff, we discovered that when people are arrested, they are encouraged to provide an address. Often people give the address of family and friends and are thus not defined as homeless. As with the jails, people staying at hospitals also tended to provide the address of family and friends and thus not be classified as homeless. However, if the persons were staying at a transitional housing provider, but was in the hospital for that night, they would be counted under the agency numbers. Also, Pathways asked that enumerators for the unsheltered count walk through emergency rooms to see if any homeless persons were finding shelter there for the night.

Emergency Shelter Definition

According to HUD, an emergency shelter is defined as any facility with sleeping accommodations that provide temporary shelter for homeless persons with the length of stay ranging from one night up to as much as three months.

Transitional Housing Definition

Transitional housing is defined by HUD as a facility that provides housing and supportive services such as case management and life skills for homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Permanent Supportive Housing Definition

The definition of permanent supportive housing for HUD is a long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. A person with a disability is determined to 1) have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or 2) have a developmental disability, as defined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.

This type of supportive housing enables special needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. There is no definite length of stay, instead tenants of permanent housing sign legal lease documents. In the supportive housing model, services are available to the tenant but accepting services cannot be required of tenants or in any way impact their tenancy. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by the applicant and provided by other public or private services agencies. Permanent supportive housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

Challenges for 2009 Sheltered Count

One of the biggest challenges for the sheltered count was the lengthy return time of many homeless housing providers of their census night numbers to Pathways. For several agencies, the response time



often took up to two months. Often this was the result of staff change from the time of the Tri-J HIC to the homeless census. Another major issue was that the census numbers provided by housing agencies did not match the previous Tri-J HIC. Per HUD, these numbers either need to match or an explanation needs to be provided as to the reason for the change in numbers. The process of verifying accurate numbers was also an extended process.

Modifications for the next Sheltered Count

The Tri-J representatives suggested that for the next sheltered count that volunteers be used to contact the housing provider agencies on census night/morning in order to get the numbers in “real time” as is done for the unsheltered count. The volunteers could either be located at a few of the deployment sites or at the Pathways command central. If there are enough volunteers for the sheltered count, then some people could be designated to drive to the actual housing agencies for the numbers.

V. 2009 HOMELESS CENSUS RESULTS

A. 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census Numbers

On the morning of January 23, 2009, a total of **7,019 unsheltered and sheltered (emergency shelters and transitional housing) homeless people** were found in the Tri-J area.

Table 1: 2009 Homeless Census Count by Residence and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Homeless Census	Individuals	Family Members	Totals	Percentage
Unsheltered	2,068	96	2,164	30.8%
Emergency Shelters	1,998	359	2,357	33.6%
Transitional Housing	1,715	783	2,498	35.6%
Totals (%)	5,781 (82%)	1,238 (18%)	7,019	

Table 2: 2009 Homeless Census Count by Gender and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Homeless Count	Individuals						Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Couples – no kids (# of Adults)	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	Total Family Members
Unsheltered	1,747	291	0	25	5	2,068	3	30	0	0	63	96
Emergency Shelters	1,548	408	42	0	0	1,998	1	119	12	1	226	359
Transitional Housing	1,379	334	0	1	1	1,715	8	199	52	5	519	783
TRI-J TOTALS	4,674	1,033	42	26	6	5,781	12	348	64	6	808	1,238
% of Total Tri-J	66.7%	14.7%	.6%	.4%	0%		.2%	5%	.9%	0%	11.5%	

Individuals: Of the 5,781 individuals counted in the Tri-J on Census morning, adult males comprised 81%, adult females were 18%, and unaccompanied youth were approximately 1% of Tri-J individuals found on the morning of the count.

Families: Of the total number of homeless people in families (1,238), adult female head of families were 28%, two parent (a male and female) families were 5%, adult male head of families were 1% and children were 65.5%. Other adults, such as grandparents, aunts and uncles to the children, comprised the remaining .5% of family members.

The 1,238 family members comprised 392 families with children. There were 348 families headed by single adult females, 12 families headed by single adult males, and 32 families headed by two adult parents (an adult male and an adult female). The majority of families (63%) were staying in transitional housing. The average size of families with children was 3.56 persons.

B. Unsheltered Count Numbers

On the morning of January 23, 2009, **2,164 homeless persons were found in unsheltered locations** in the Tri-J area. Individuals comprised 96% of the total unsheltered number, while family members were 4% of the total unsheltered number.

Table 3: 2009 Unsheltered Homeless Persons by Gender and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Homeless Census	Individuals					Family Members				
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	1,747	291	25	5	2068	3	30	63	96	33
% of Total Unsheltered	80.8%	13.5%	1.1%	.2%		.1%	1.4%	2.9%		

Estimated Groups: In order to arrive at the total number of unsheltered homeless persons, estimations were made to two groups for the unsheltered enumeration. The first estimate was the number of homeless persons at the Atlanta City Detention Center (Atlanta City Jail). As stated previously, staff at the City of Atlanta Jail was unable to provide a count of homeless persons in the jail on census night (see sheltered count methodology). An estimation of homeless persons in jail was based on the ratio homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta from 2007 to 2009 to the estimated number of homeless individuals in the jail in 2007. The estimated 2009 homeless inmate total was allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters from the 2007 homeless census and the 2007 homeless survey. The results of the estimation determined that 40 adult male and 6 adult female homeless inmates, who were usually unsheltered, were at the jail on census night.

The second estimated group was unsheltered families. Only two families were found in unsheltered locations on census night. Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. Pathways and the AC believed the number should have been higher based upon data from the 2007 Homeless Survey indicating that 7% of the total number of families usually slept in unsheltered locations. Therefore, it was determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families. The results of the estimation determined that 96 people in families were sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of January 22nd.

C. Sheltered Count, Capacity and Occupancy Numbers

1. Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing Programs

A total of **4,855 homeless persons were residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities** on census night. Individuals were 76% and members of families were 24% of the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy total. (For definitions of emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities, please see sheltered methodology).

Table 4: 2009 Sheltered Homeless Persons by Gender and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Count	Individuals						Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Couples – no kids (# of Adults)	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Family (# of Adults)	Children in Family	Non-Head Adult in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Emergency Shelters	1,548	408	42	0	0	1,998	1	119	12	226	1	359	126
Transitional Housing	1,379	334	0	1	1	1,715	8	199	52	519	5	783	233
Sheltered TOTALS	2,927	742	42	1	1	3,713	9	318	64	745	6	1,142	359
% of Total Sheltered	60.1%	15.2%	.9%	0%	0%		.2%	6.7%	1.3%	15.5%	.1%		

Individuals Capacity and Occupancy: On census morning 2009, agencies reported an *emergency shelter* capacity of 2,015 beds for individuals and a *transitional housing* capacity of 2,067 beds for individuals. Overall, 95% of individual emergency shelter beds and 83% of individual transitional housing beds were occupied. Almost 91% of all individual beds in the Tri-J area were occupied on census night.

Family Capacity and Occupancy: On census morning 2009, agencies reported an *emergency shelter* capacity of 445 beds for families and a *transitional housing* capacity of 1,066 beds for families. Overall, 81% of emergency shelter beds and 73% of transitional beds for families were occupied. Occupancy numbers for families are not as useful when analyzing need and demand. Programs that serve families are often organized in units rather than beds and a unit may have several beds that go unoccupied depending on the size of the family. For example, a bedroom unit with 4 beds, with a single mother and two children in residence, will appear to have a 75% occupancy rate, but in fact the empty bed is not actually available to anyone else.

Emergency Shelter Beds: Of the 2,460 total emergency beds available on Census night, 96% of the individual and family beds were occupied.

Transitional Housing Beds: Of the 3,133 total transitional housing beds available on Census night, 80% of the individual and family beds were occupied.

Estimated Groups: In order to arrive at the total number of persons, estimations were made to two groups for the sheltered enumeration. The first estimate was the number of homeless persons at the Atlanta City Detention Center (Atlanta City Jail). As stated previously, staff at the City of Atlanta Jail was unable to provide a count of homeless persons in the jail on census night (see sheltered count methodology). An estimation of homeless persons in jail was based on the ratio homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta

from 2007 to 2009 to the estimated number of homeless individuals in the jail in 2007. The estimated 2009 homeless inmate total was allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters from the 2007 homeless census and the 2007 homeless survey. The results of the estimation determined that 57 adult male and 24 adult female homeless inmates, who were usually at emergency shelters, were at the jail on census night.

Second, occupancy figures for the few non-reporting sites for homeless single person were estimated. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity, and demographic information.

2. Permanent Supportive Housing

A total of **1,453 homeless persons were residing in permanent supportive housing** on census night. Individuals were 60% and members of families were 40% of the permanent supportive housing total. (For definition of permanent supportive housing, see sheltered methodology.)

Table 5: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy Numbers

2009 Permanent Supportive Housing	Individuals			Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Total Ind.	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	Total Family Members
Atlanta	450	288	738	6	114	16	1	253	390
DeKalb	72	34	106	1	11	2	1	28	43
Fulton	5	27	32	1	46	4	0	93	144
TRI-J TOTALS	527	349	876	8	171	22	2	374	577
% of Total Tri-J	33.9%	23.3%		.5%	12.6%	1.4%	.1%	28.2%	

Individuals: Of the 876 individuals staying in permanent supportive housing on census morning, 60% were adult males and 40% were adult females.

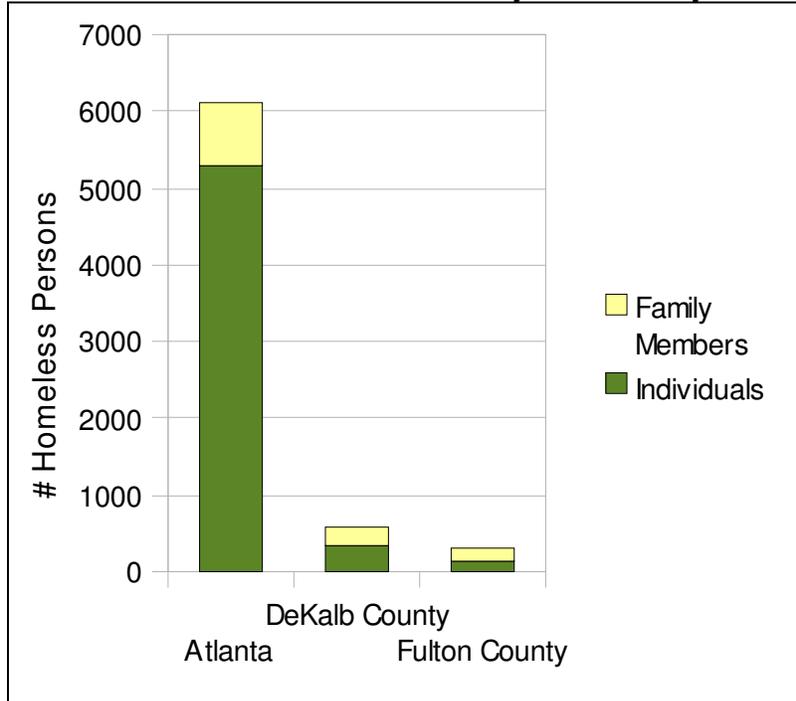
Families: Of the 577 family members staying in permanent supportive housing on census morning, 65% were children, 30% were female heads of families (single women with children), 1% were male heads of families (single men with children), and 4% were two parents in families (a male and female). There were 190 family units with 3.04 people per family unit.

Special Note: This is the first Tri-J homeless census since 2003 that has reported the permanent supportive housing numbers. The total permanent supportive housing occupancy numbers increased by 1,042 people from 2003 to 2009, while the bed capacity numbers during that same time period increased by 1,319. Last year HUD began requiring that communities collect permanent supportive housing numbers for the same date as the emergency shelter and transitional housing numbers.

D. Breakout by Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County

Of the 7,019 homeless people counted in the Tri-J, 6,131 people were located in the City of Atlanta (87%), 585 persons were homeless in DeKalb County (8%), while Fulton County found 321 homeless people (5%). (See Figure 1 below)

Figure 1: Homeless Individuals and Family Members by Jurisdiction



To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts were simply a reflection of the number and type of beds available in each jurisdiction. For example, 88% of Tri-J emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 7.5% of emergency and transitional beds were in DeKalb County, and 4.5% of emergency and transitional beds were in Fulton County on census morning.

Table 6: 2009 Housing Inventory Bed Supply

Jurisdiction	Ind. Emergency Beds	Family Emergency Beds	Ind. Transitional Beds	Family Transitional Beds	Ind. Permanent Supportive Beds	Family Permanent Supportive Beds	Total
City of Atlanta	2,015	292	1,829	650	899	503	6,188
DeKalb County	0	97	187	220	116	45	665
Fulton County	0	56	51	196	32	196	531
Total	2,015	445	2,067	1,066	1,047	744	7,384

1. Atlanta

A total of **6,131 people were homeless in the City of Atlanta** on the morning of January 23, 2009. Individuals comprised 87% of Atlanta homeless numbers, while family members were 13% of the Atlanta count.

Table 7: 2009 Census Numbers of Homeless Persons in the City of Atlanta

2009 City of Atlanta	Individuals						Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Couples – no kids (# of Ind.)	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	1,509	255	0	24	5	1,793	2	18	0	0	38	58	20
Emergency Shelters	1,548	408	42	0	0	1,998	1	94	8	0	168	271	99
Transitional Housing	1,246	270	0	1	1	1,518	5	127	28	4	329	493	146
Atlanta TOTALS	4,303	933	42	25	6	5,309	8	239	36	4	535	822	265
% of Atlanta	70.3%	15.2%	.7%	.4%	.1%		.1%	3.9%	.6%	0%	8.7%		

Individuals: Of the 5,309 individuals who were homeless in the City of Atlanta on Census morning, 81.5% were adult males, 18% were adult females, and .5% were unaccompanied youths.

Families: Of the 822 homeless family members in Atlanta, 65% were children, 29% were female heads of families (single women with children), 1% were male heads of families (single men with children), and 5% were two parents in families (a male and female).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: On census morning, 1,851 people were unsheltered (30%), 2,269 persons were sleeping at emergency shelters (37%), and 2,011 people were staying at transitional housing programs (33%) in the City of Atlanta.

Downtown Atlanta: From 2003 to 2009, the unsheltered count for downtown Atlanta decreased by 43 (10%) to 378 homeless persons. For 2009, downtown Atlanta comprised only 21% of the Atlanta homeless unsheltered count.

2003 to 2009 Numbers: The total Atlanta homeless census number increased by 1,214 people (20%) from 2003 to 2009. The unsheltered number decreased by 92 homeless people (5%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number increased by 1,306 homeless persons (31%) during that time period.

2007 to 2009 Numbers: The total Atlanta homeless census numbers increased by 388 people (6%) from 2007 to 2009. The unsheltered number decreased by 10 homeless people (less than 1%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number increased by 872 homeless persons (8%) during that time period.

2. DeKalb County

A total of **585 people were homeless in the DeKalb County** (not including City of Atlanta) on the morning of January 23, 2009. Individuals comprised 58% of DeKalb County homeless numbers, while family members were 42% of the DeKalb County numbers.

Table 8: 2009 Census Numbers of Homeless Persons in DeKalb County

2009 DeKalb County	Individuals					Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	163	19	1	0	183	1	7	0	0	14	22	8
Emergency Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	4	1	41	61	17
Transitional Housing	113	44	0	0	157	1	37	14	1	109	162	45
DeKalb TOTALS	276	63	1	0	340	2	59	18	2	164	245	70
% of DeKalb	47.2%	10.8%	.2%			.3%	10%	3%	.3%	28%		

Individuals: Of the 340 individuals who were homeless in DeKalb County on census morning, 81% were adult males and 19% were adult females.

Families: Of the 245 homeless family members in DeKalb County, 67% were children, 24% were female heads of families (single women with children), 7% were two parents in families (a male and female), with male heads of families (single men with children) and non-head adults comprising the other 2%.

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: On census morning, 205 people were unsheltered (35%), 61 persons were sleeping at emergency shelters (10%), and 319 people were staying at transitional housing programs (55%) in the balance of DeKalb County.

2003 to 2009 Numbers: The total of DeKalb County homeless census numbers increased by 57 people (10%) from 2003 to 2009. The unsheltered numbers increased by 79 homeless people (39%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number decreased by 22 homeless persons (5%) during that time period.

2007 to 2009 Numbers: The total of DeKalb County census numbers decreased by 41 people (9%) from 2007 to 2009. The unsheltered number increased by 50 homeless people (8%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number decreased by 91 homeless persons (19%) during that time period.

3. Fulton County

A total of **303 people were homeless in Fulton County** (not including the City of Atlanta) on the morning of January 23, 2009. Individuals comprised 44% of the Fulton County homeless numbers, while family members were 56% of the Fulton County numbers.

Table 9: 2009 Census Numbers of Homeless Persons in Fulton County

2009 Fulton County	Individuals					Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	75	17	0	0	92	0	5	0	0	11	16	5
Emergency Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	17	27	10
Transitional Housing	20	20	0	0	40	2	35	10	0	81	128	42
Fulton TOTALS	95	37	0	0	132	2	50	10	0	109	171	57
% of Fulton	31.3%	12.2%	0%	0%		.7%	16.5%	3.3%	0%	36%		

Individuals: Of the 132 individuals who were homeless in Fulton County on Census morning, 72% were adult males and 28% were adult females.

Families: Of the 171 homeless family members in Fulton County, 64% were children, 29% were female heads of families (single women with children), 1% were male heads of families (single men with children), and 6% were two parents in families (a male and female).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: On census morning, 108 people were unsheltered (36%), 27 persons were sleeping at emergency shelters (9%), and 168 people were staying at transitional housing programs (55%) in Fulton County.

2003 to 2009 Numbers: The total Fulton County homeless census numbers decreased by 5 people from 2003 to 2009. The unsheltered number increased by 24 homeless people (8%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy numbers decreased by 29 homeless persons (5%) during that time period.

2007 to 2009 Numbers: The total Fulton County homeless census numbers decreased by 68 people (18.3%) from 2007 to 2009. The unsheltered number increased by 9 homeless people (9%), while the sheltered number decreased by 77 homeless persons (28%) during that time period.

N. Fulton and S. Fulton: Of the 303 people counted in Fulton County, 192 people (25 were unsheltered and 167 were in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs) were counted as homeless in North Fulton above the City of Atlanta and 111 homeless people (67 were unsheltered and 44 were in emergency sheltered and transitional housing programs) were counted in South Fulton below the Atlanta city limits.

VI. COMPARISON of 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Tri-J HOMELESS CENSUS

From 2003 to 2009, the total Tri-J Homeless Census night numbers increased by 462 people (6.6%).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered (emergency shelter and transitional housing): From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady decrease of 140 (6.1%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. On the other hand, there was an increase of 602 (12.4%) in the number of people staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing on census night for both individuals and families.

From 2007 to 2009, the total Tri-J Homeless Census night numbers increased by 179 people (2.6%).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: From 2007 to 2009, there was an increase of 49 (2.3%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations and an increase of 130 (2.7%) in the number of people staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing on census night.

Table 10: Comparison of 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Homeless Census

	Individuals				Family Members				Totals			
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2003	2005	2007	2009	2003	2005	2007	2009
Unsheltered	2,116	2,085	2,071	2,068	188	177	44	96	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164
Sheltered	3,173	3,588	3,551	3,713	1,080	982	1,174	1,142	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855
Totals	<i>5,289</i>	<i>5,673</i>	<i>5,622</i>	<i>5,781</i>	<i>1,268</i>	<i>1,159</i>	<i>1,224</i>	<i>1,238</i>	<i>6,557</i>	<i>6,832</i>	<i>6,840</i>	<i>7,019</i>

Individuals vs. Family Members: From 2003 to 2009, there was an increase of 492 individuals (6%), while there was a decrease of 30 family members (2.4%) from the same time period. From 2007 to 2009, there was an increase of 159 individual (2.7%) and an increase of 14 family members (1.1%) from the same time period.

Housing Type/Household Type: From 2003 to 2009, there was a decrease of 48 unsheltered individuals (2.3%), while there was an increase of 540 sheltered individuals (15%). During the same time period, there was a decrease of 92 unsheltered family members (49%) and an increase of 62 family members (5.4%) staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing.

Bed Supply and Occupancy Rate for 2005 to 2009

2005 to 2009: Between the 2005 and 2009 Tri-J homeless census, 422 new emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were added to the Tri-J supply. During that time period, the number of beds for individuals increased by 360, while the number of beds for family members increased by 62. The housing occupancy rates for emergency shelter and transitional housing for homeless individuals increased from 87% in 2005 to 91% in 2009, while emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy rates for homeless families increased from 67% in 2005 to 77% in 2009.

2007 to 2009: Between the 2007 and 2009 Tri-J homeless census, 295 new emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were added to the Tri-J supply. During that time period, the number of beds for individuals in emergency shelters decreased by 34, while the number of transitional housing beds for individuals increased by 375. The number of family emergency shelter beds increased by 13, while the family transitional housing beds decreased by 59.

VII. 2009 ANNUALIZED PROJECTION of HOMELESS NUMBERS

While the point-in-time enumeration data is the most reliable to obtain, most service providers and their funders must plan and budget their activities on an annual basis. Turnover rates (often called multipliers) are based on the understanding that more people experience homelessness annually than can be counted at any given point in time. In any year, people will cycle in and out of homelessness. A turnover rate has been calculated for the Tri-Jurisdictional City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County homeless population to estimate the number of people who experience homelessness annually, based on the point-in-time data collected this count.

Three factors were used to determine categorically specific turnover rates:

- Length of homelessness as reported by the 2007 Tri-J homeless survey respondents;
- Percent of respondents indicating each length, and
- Minimum turnover rate for each length category.

A weighted average was then calculated based on the relative proportion of respondents who fell within each length category. The net result of this approach suggested a point-in-time to annual multiplier of 3.05 (7,019 x 3.05), and further indicates that *approximately 21,441 persons will experience homelessness in the Tri-J area sometime during 2009.*

Table 11: Annualized Projections for 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009

2003	2005	2007	2009
16,625	20,086	20,110	21,441

From 2003 to 2009, the number of people estimated to be homeless for a year time period increased by 4,816 (22.5%).



IX. CONCLUSION

Overall, the Tri-J homeless count numbers from 2003 to 2009 were steady. There was no dramatic change, only a slight increase of 462 homeless people (6.5%) for the point-in-time counts over six years. It is important to note that the homeless population of the Tri-J is not increasing at the same rate as the general population growth of Fulton County (24%) and DeKalb County (11%) over the approximate same time period. Additionally, the 2009 count was conducted during a severe economic downturn.

Another important trend to note with the Tri-J homeless population is that there has been an overall reduction in the number of homeless people sleeping in unsheltered locations (6%) and an increase in the number of people sleeping in sheltered facilities (12%). On Census night, 96% of the emergency shelter beds were occupied and 81% of transitional housing beds were occupied.

A major focus for the Tri-J has been to increase the bed supply for both families and individuals. Over six years there has been an increase of nearly 500 beds in the Tri-J supply for emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. Plus there has been an increase (74%) of over 1,300 permanent supportive housing beds for families and individuals. By the end of the year, another 160 family beds should also become available.

The next HUD mandated Tri-J Homeless Census is scheduled for January 2011.

SPECIAL THANKS

Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative on Homelessness – Sponsors

City of Atlanta, Georgia
DeKalb County, Georgia
Fulton County, Georgia

Pathways Community Network - Research and Data Analysis

Josie Parker
Manager

Pam Regus
Research Assistant

Metro Atlanta Homeless Census - Advisory Council

George Gfroerer, Chairman
Community Volunteer
Julie Boyd, Tri-J Sheltered Count Representative
City of Atlanta
Megan Anderson, Co-chair, Deployment Captains Committee
Furniture Bank of Metro Atlanta, Exec. Dir.
Elna Sheetz, Co-chair, Deployment Captains Committee
Community Action Center
Protip Biswas
Regional Commission on Homelessness, United Way, Exec. Dir.
Nick Danna
The Living Room, Exec. Dir.

Stan Dawson
Crossroads Community Ministries, Exec. Dir.
Tommie Jones
Fulton County, Tri-J Representative
Dr. Jane Massey
Pathways Community Network
William Matson
Pathways Community Network, Exec. Dir.
Carlos Morgan
Department of Veterans Affairs, Program Specialist, Mental Health Service Line
Melvia Richards
DeKalb County, Tri-J Representative
Dr. Glenwood Ross
Morehouse College, Dept. of Economics
Dave Wardell
Central Atlanta Progress

Metro Atlanta Homeless Census - Deployment Host Sites

ACHOR Center
Atlanta Urban Ministries
Center for Pan Asian Community Services
Chapel of Christian Love Church
Crossroads Community Ministries
DeKalb County Community Development Department

Mary Hall Freedom House
Nicholas House
Sandy Springs United Methodist Church
The Temple
Youth Action Center

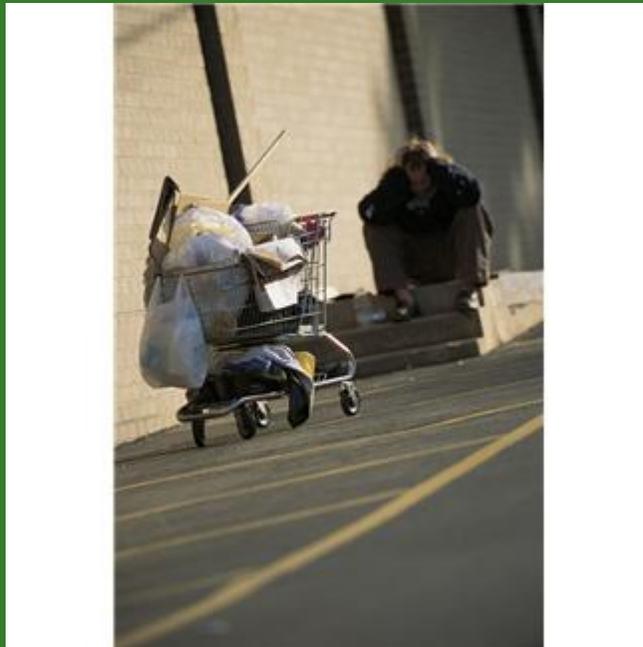
Metro Atlanta Homeless Census - Deployment Captains

<p>Megan Anderson, Co-Chair <i>Furniture Bank of Metro-Atlanta, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Elna Sheetz, Co-Chair <i>CAC</i></p> <p>Lorraine Andersen <i>Mary Hall Freedom House</i></p> <p>Selina Beene <i>H.O.P.E. through Divine Intervention, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Robin Bledsoe <i>Community Advanced Practice Nurses</i></p> <p>Dennis Bowman <i>Nicholas House, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Pam Boazman <i>Jefferson Place</i></p> <p>Lorie Burnett <i>DeKalb County, Community Development Dept.</i></p> <p>Rev. Melanie Conner <i>Zion Hill Community Development Corporation, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Kia Croom <i>H.O.P.E. through Divine Intervention</i></p> <p>Cal Crutchfield <i>Transition House, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Dennis Dunn <i>Atlanta Enterprise Center</i></p> <p>Etrinda Evans <i>H.O.P.E. through Divine Intervention</i></p> <p>Jimiyu Evans <i>Project Community Concerns</i></p> <p>Frantz Fortune <i>Positive Outlook Foundation</i></p> <p>Gernita Jackson <i>Genesis Shelter</i></p> <p>Provia Jackson <i>ACHOR Center, Exec. Dir.</i></p>	<p>LaTrice Johnson <i>City of Atlanta, Tri-J Representative</i></p> <p>Patrick Jones <i>Project Connect</i></p> <p>Donica Martin <i>City of Atlanta, Mayor's Office</i></p> <p>Ashley McBride <i>Genesis Shelter</i></p> <p>Michelle Ramirez <i>Buckhead Christian Ministry</i></p> <p>Cliff Richards <i>Decatur Cooperative Ministry</i></p> <p>Melvia Richards <i>DeKalb County, Tri-J Representative</i></p> <p>Gerry Richardson <i>Jefferson Place</i></p> <p>Jerry Smith <i>DeKalb CSB</i></p> <p>Tony Stone <i>Gateway Homeless Services Center</i></p> <p>Janet Tharp <i>The Salvation Army</i></p> <p>Nikki Viverette <i>Project Community Concerns, Inc.</i></p> <p>Monifa Watson <i>Homestretch</i></p> <p>Mary Wilson <i>East Point Community Action Team, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Wayne Woods <i>Fulton County, Tri-J Representative</i></p> <p>Selam Yohannes <i>Georgia Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty</i></p> <p>Amy Zarembo <i>Georgia Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, Exec. Dir.</i></p>
--	--

Deployment Captains – Special Teams

<p>Tom Capitano - Alpharetta <i>Fulton County</i></p> <p>Herbert Elliott – Downtown <i>Dept. of VA, Healthcare for the Homeless</i></p> <p>Thomas Fuller – Buford Highway <i>Latin American Association</i></p>	<p>Carlos Morgan - Downtown <i>Dept. of VA, Mental Health Specialist</i></p> <p>Claude Sandiford - Downtown <i>Dept. of VA, Healthcare for the Homeless</i></p> <p>Calvin Scott - Downtown <i>Dept. of VA, Healthcare for the Homeless</i></p>
--	---

**THE 2011 METRO ATLANTA
TRI-JURISDICTIONAL
COLLABORATIVE
CONTINUUM OF CARE
HOMELESS CENSUS**



**CITY OF ATLANTA,
FULTON COUNTY AND
DEKALB COUNTY**

Acknowledgements

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness (City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County) and Pathways Community Network acknowledge the time and effort of the numerous individuals and organizations that assisted in the successful 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census. First and foremost, we want to thank the funders of this project – City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. In addition, we wish to recognize the Pathways research team, led by Josie Parker, in coordinating the planning, data collection, data analysis and writing of the report for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count. We express appreciation to members of the Tri-J public sector working group and Tri-J CoC homeless count advisory council for their guidance regarding methodology and implementation. We extend our gratitude to the deployment captains who made the count successful through their hard work and dedication. We also are grateful to the deployment host sites for providing a safe place to deploy enumeration teams.

The 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census was successful because over 400 volunteers joined forces to count the homeless persons in our community. Although it is not possible to list each of them by name, the Tri-J CoC and Pathways wish to express our gratitude to each of you who contributed your time and effort. We recognize the efforts of the special enumeration teams, including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program, the St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP) and the DeKalb County, Community Development Department – homeless outreach team whose knowledge of the homeless population and geographic areas were instrumental in the data collection process. We also appreciate the Police Departments - Atlanta Community Liaison Unit, Atlanta Homeless Outreach Prevention Emergency Services (HOPE) team, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Police Section's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), DeKalb County Precincts, DeKalb County Interactive Community Police Unit (ICP), City of Decatur, City of East Point, and Fulton County - for providing additional support to the enumeration teams on count night.

Finally, we acknowledge the Atlanta Regional Commission Geographic Information Systems Department (GIS) and David Giguere for the customized, user-friendly maps and the deployment captains map training. We give special thanks to Aero Surveys of Georgia, Inc. for allowing us to use their detailed street information for the census maps. We are grateful to Druid Hills United Methodist Church for allowing the deployment captains to meet at the church on a regular basis and to Cliff Richards of Decatur Cooperative Ministries for arranging the meeting site at the church. Also, we appreciate Publix for providing gift certificates which were used to purchase some of the food for the enumerators on count night. Together we are collecting the data necessary to track our progress in the fight against homelessness.



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	i
Section 1: Introduction	1
Section 2: Project Purpose, Coordination and Oversight	2
2.1 Project Purpose	2
2.2 Project Coordination	2
2.3 Project Oversight	2
Section 3: Methodology	3
3.1 Background	3
3.2 Date and Time	3
3.3 Operational Definition and Components	4
3.4 Unsheltered Count Method	5
3.5 Sheltered Count Method	11
Section 4: Results	14
4.1 2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count	14
4.2 Unsheltered Count	16
4.3 Sheltered Count (Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)	17
4.4 Permanent Supportive Housing Count	19
4.5 Comparing Bed Capacity and Occupancy	21
Section 5: Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County	22
5.1 City of Atlanta Homeless Numbers	23
5.2 DeKalb County Homeless Numbers	25
5.3 Fulton County Homeless Numbers	27
Section 6: Trend Analysis	30
Section 7: Annualized Projection	34
Section 8: Conclusion	35
Section 9: References	37
Special Thanks	38

2011 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Continuum of Care Homeless Census: Executive Summary

On the night of January 25, 2011, the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness (City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County) and Pathways Community Network, along with over 400 community volunteers, conducted the fifth point-in-time count of homeless persons in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. The Tri-J CoC homeless census consisted of two components of enumerations, an unsheltered count and sheltered count, which together result in a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the community. Overall, a total of **6,838 homeless people were counted in the Tri-J area on count night.**

2011 Tri-J Homeless Count by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals	Family Members (# of families)	Total # of Homeless People (%)
Emergency Shelters	2,056	404 members (132 families)	2,460 (36%)
Unsheltered	2,336	42 members (14 families)	2,378 (35%)
Transitional Housing	1,373	627 members (203 families)	2,000 (30%)
<i>Totals (%)</i>	5,765	1,073 members (349 families)	6,838
Percentage	84%	16%	

Five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. The largest number of

individuals were found sleeping unsheltered (41%). The majority of family members (58%), on the other hand, were staying in transitional housing programs.

Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (68%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15%). Children (10%) and single mothers (5%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, two parent heads of households, single fathers, youth females and a non-head of household adult such as a grandmother.

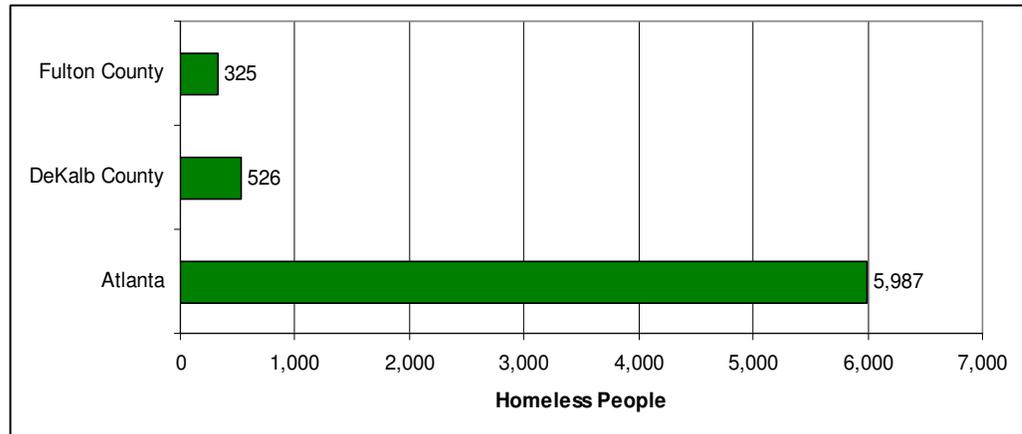
Sheltered Occupancy and Capacity

Sheltered Count	Individuals			Family Members		
	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Family Members
Occupancy #	2,056	1,373	3,429	404	627	1,031
Capacity #	2,235	1,605	3,840	494	948	1,442
Occupancy (%)	92%	86%	89%	82%	66%	72%

The bed capacity on count night was slightly higher for emergency shelters than transitional housing programs (2,729 to 2,553 beds). Overall, the occupancy rate for individual emergency shelter beds was the highest. The lowest occupancy rate was for families in transitional housing programs.

Homelessness by Jurisdiction

Of the 6,838 homeless people counted in the Tri-J CoC, the majority were located in the City of Atlanta (87%) with DeKalb County being a distant second (8%) and Fulton County third (5%). This composition by jurisdiction is the same as that of the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

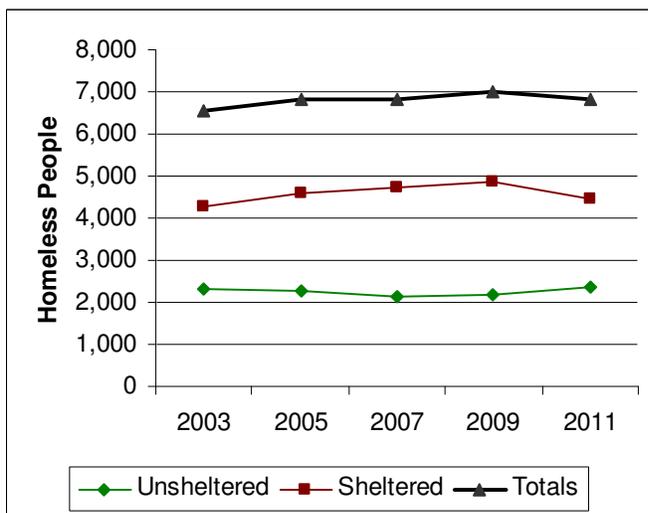


Tri-J CoC Homeless Counts over Time

Over the years, the point-in-time Tri-J CoC homeless counts have held fairly steady from year to year within an approximate range of 6,500 to 7,000 people homeless. The table shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J CoC homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless on count night (7%). However, over the past two years, there has been a decrease of people homeless for the point-in-time census (2.5%). Please note the similarity in homeless count numbers for 2005, 2007 and 2011.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838
Percentage		+4%	0%	+3%	-3%

Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Sleeping Location over Time



From 2003 to 2009, the Tri-J CoC experienced a steady decrease (6%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. However, over the past two years, there has been an increase (10%) to an all time high of homeless people sleeping outdoors.

For people sleeping in sheltered locations, there was a steady increase on census night for both individuals and families from 2003 to 2009 (14%). However, over the past two years, the sheltered numbers

showed a decrease in people staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (8%).



Section 1: Introduction

This is the fifth count for the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness. The Tri-J CoC is a working partnership of government representatives, community members and service providers within the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. The partnership works collaboratively to address issues of homelessness through planning, policy development, service delivery and resource allocation.

In 2002, the Tri-J CoC decided that getting objective and accurate data on the number of homeless persons residing in the community was a top priority. The homeless census was to identify the number of homeless persons in each local community on the basis of sleeping location and basic demographic characteristics: gender, adult vs. youth, and family vs. individual. Pathways Community Network was asked to undertake the point-in-time homeless count on behalf of the Tri-J CoC. While the 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless census was in its early planning stages, the U. S. Congress passed legislation requiring state and local governments that receive funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004.

In March 2003, the Tri-J CoC and Pathways conducted the first successful homeless census. The census was designed as a full coverage count to assess the number of homeless people sleeping in unsheltered locations, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs throughout the Tri-J CoC. Because the homeless count covered the City of Atlanta and its two counties, the Tri-J CoC relied on the efforts of hundreds of people from homeless service providers, government agencies, faith-based providers, local universities and community volunteers to conduct the count. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless census as a national “best practice.”

The 2005, 2007 and 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless census followed the successful methodology used in the 2003 count. Improvements were made to the model for each successive count based upon feedback from Pathways research and data analysis team, Tri-J CoC public sector working group (Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County), Tri-J CoC homeless census advisory council and deployment captains committee, community volunteers and community needs. Each count was followed by an in-depth survey which gathered data on demographics, homeless history, disabling conditions and two additional topics related to community concerns regarding the local homeless population.

The planning of the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census began in August 2010 with the actual enumeration occurring in on the night of Tuesday, January 25, 2011. This report describes the purpose, methodology and results of the count effort.



Section 2: Project Purpose, Coordination and Oversight

2.1 Project Purpose

With the initiation of the first Tri-J CoC homeless count, the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness identified several important goals for the homeless census:

- Provide the number and characteristics of people sleeping in transitional programs, shelters and places not meant for human habitation;
- Provide the local community with data to use in planning, funding, and implementing services that meets the needs of homeless persons;
- Provide a measurement of the changes in the homeless population over time;
- Provide a report that increases awareness of the local homeless issue; and
- Provide data to use in updating the Tri-J CoC's Housing Inventory for the annual HUD Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) Exhibit 1 report.

2.2 Project Coordination

To meet these objectives and have a successful homeless count, the Tri-J CoC asked Pathways Community Network to undertake the homeless census. Pathways is a nonprofit organization that supports communities with tools – information systems, research and data analysis, and technical assistance and training - to help human service providers work together, reduce costs and increase impact. Since 2003, Pathways has been asked by the Tri-J CoC to manage the homeless point-in-time counts. Pathways has coordinated, staffed, written the reports and presented the findings for the Tri-J CoC homeless census. Beginning in 2007, the Pathways research and data analysis team has also provided expertise in the areas of methodology, data collection, and data analysis. The research team consisted of the research manager and three research assistants.

2.3 Project Oversight

As with the previous Tri-J CoC homeless census, oversight was provided by an advisory council (AC) composed of leaders in non-profit, human services and government agencies. The functions of the AC included assisting the Pathways research team with refining the count methodology and instruments, logistical planning and providing input regarding compliance with HUD regulations. With few exceptions, the advisory council met on a monthly basis.

Section 3: Methodology

3.1 Background

Research Atlanta (1984) provided the earliest estimates of the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta based on comparative studies from other U.S. cities and interviews with local homeless service providers. They estimated that around 3,000 people would be homeless on any given night in 1984. A decade later, a point-in-time estimate was again calculated for the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta. Researchers estimated that around 11,000 people were homeless on an average night in 1997 within the ten county Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) area (Jaret and Adelman 1997). The 1997 estimate was calculated from the results of a national study with adjustments made for the City of Atlanta population and its neighboring suburban counties.

In 2002, the Tri-J CoC decided that an actual systematic and comprehensive count of homeless people needed to occur for the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. This decision to conduct a count of people homeless in the community coincided with the U.S. Congress passing legislation requiring state and local governments that receive federal funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004. The first actual homeless count conducted by the Tri-J CoC was in 2003. The 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless count established the baseline data with subsequent counts providing useful tracking for the changes in the homeless population over time.

3.2 Date and Time

Along with the federal regulation as to the frequency of the homeless census, HUD also mandated the time of year for the homeless count to occur. HUD chose for CoC homeless census to be conducted during the last ten days in January. One reason for that timeframe is that homeless people are more likely to sleep indoors at shelters and in transitional housing during cold weather months thus making it easier to locate people who might otherwise be outdoors at other times of the year. In addition, cold weather and overflow shelters open for only a few months each year during the winter. Also, by using the mandated time frame set by HUD, the Tri-J CoC homeless numbers are comparable to other CoC homeless populations across the U.S.

For the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, the advisory council (AC) selected Tuesday, January 25th as the census date, with a bad weather back-up date of Thursday, January 27th. The AC choice both homeless count dates to be mid-week to represent a typical weekday morning and to avoid the higher number of non-homeless persons on the streets during weekends. In addition, several large shelters in the City of Atlanta discharge residents in the early morning hours (5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.). To avoid double counting people as sheltered and unsheltered, the AC decided to begin enumeration around 1 a.m. prior to the shelter early morning release times.

3.3 Operational Definition and Components

In order to calculate the size of the homeless population in our community, a definition of homelessness is necessary. The U.S. Census that occurs every decade counts people on the basis of their customary place of residence. However, since homeless people do not have permanent residences, they are instead enumerated based on their temporary sleeping locations such as on the street, in shelters or in transitional housing programs.

The Tri-J CoC homeless count methodology has two components based on sleeping location: unsheltered count and sheltered count. These two counts follow the HUD guide for counting homeless people in a CoC. Together, the two enumerations create a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. For the purpose of this study, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 HUD definition of homelessness was used:

- ***Unsheltered homeless people*** reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, in vehicles, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings and makeshift shelters such as tents.
- ***Sheltered homeless people*** occupy emergency shelters, transitional housing, treatment programs, motels (only if motel vouchers are provided by service agency) and short stay institutions such as hospitals and jails.

Emergency Shelter: According to HUD, an emergency shelter is defined as any facility with sleeping accommodations that provide temporary shelter for homeless persons with the length of stay ranging from one night up to as much as three months.

Transitional housing is defined by HUD as a facility that provides housing and supportive services such as case management and life skills for homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Permanent Supportive Housing

In addition, HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each community starting in 2009. The Tri-J CoC community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009 and for the latest count in 2011. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J CoC homeless count.

The definition of permanent supportive housing for HUD is a long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. A person with a disability is determined to 1) have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or 2) have a developmental disability, as defined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.



This type of supportive housing enables special needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. There is no definite length of stay, instead tenants of permanent housing sign legal lease documents. In the supportive housing model, services are available to the tenant but accepting services cannot be required of tenants or in any way impact their tenancy. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by the applicant and provided by other public or private services agencies. Permanent supportive housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

Not Counted

In 2009, the U.S. Congress amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 as the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH) and expanded the definition to include people who are at imminent risk of homelessness and families or unaccompanied youth who are living unstably. Imminent risk of homelessness is defined as people who must leave their current housing situation within the next 14 days with no other place to stay and no resources or support network to obtain housing. Unstably housed is defined as families or unaccompanied youth who 1) meet the definition of homelessness under other federal programs such as the Department of Education, 2) have not lived for a long period independently in permanent housing, 3) have moved frequently, and 4) will continue to experience housing instability due to chronic disabilities, history of domestic violence or multiple barriers to employment. The at risk of homelessness and unstably housed populations are often labeled as precariously housed.

For the 2011 homeless census, HUD again only wanted CoCs to count people who were literally homeless in their point-in-time counts and not those who were precariously housed. With the past homeless census, the Tri-J CoC have not counted people who were at risk of homelessness or unstably housed. However, at a meeting in late summer 2010, the Tri-J CoC public sector working group and Pathways decided to work on a baseline measurement of precariously housed people in anticipation of the application of the HEARTH Act.

Precariously housed people cannot be determined with a direct observation similarly to the homeless census. Instead people meeting the expanded HEARTH Act definition of homelessness need to be measured indirectly using a survey due to the dimensions of the variables such as frequency of moves and experiencing multiple barriers to unemployment. Therefore, for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless survey which follows the count, questions were included to measure the precariously housed variables in order to determine people who were at risk of homelessness and unstably housed. This was a first attempt at creating a baseline calculation of the number of people who meet the expanded definition of the HEARTH Act.

3.4 Unsheltered Count Method

The methodology for the Tri-J CoC unsheltered homeless count was recognized by HUD as a “best practice” in 2003. The Tri-J CoC unsheltered count uses a combination of different methods to determine the number of people homeless on one night. The direct methods include canvassing and hot spot counts, along with an indirect method of estimations. These methods



were applied in 1985 to conduct the first systematic count of homeless people in Chicago (Rossi 1989).

The canvassing method entails enumerators covering areas in a community where they observe people, typically at night or in the early morning hours, and either identify them as homeless or housed. This method is best used in urban areas where enumerators can walk the streets of concentrated areas or drive the streets in suburban or sparser areas. The hotspot count is conducted in areas where homeless people are thought to be heavily concentrated and hidden from street view. Typically, enumerators who are experienced working with street homeless populations are sent to cover these areas. Hotspot counts offer data collection opportunities to a subpopulation that might not otherwise be included in a count.

A benefit to conducting a canvassing method is that once the unsheltered numbers are collected, they can be adjusted for the hidden homeless (Rossi 1989). Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. The 2003 AC determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families.

Planning

Planning for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census unsheltered count began in August 2010. The first month involved setting up the advisory council and, most importantly, setting the date for the count. In addition, as with previous homeless counts, a *deployment captains* committee was formed to assist Pathways with logistics planning for the unsheltered count night process and on census night with managing deployment sites for the unsheltered count. The DC was staffed by homeless service providers, non-profit agencies, community volunteers and government agencies. Committee co-chairs shared a seat on the advisory council to assure good communication and successful joint problem solving between the two groups. Beginning in September 2010, the deployment captains met on a regular basis to prepare for the upcoming homeless count.

To develop a logistics plan for the Tri-J CoC homeless census, the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County had to be divided into manageable areas for counting. The Tri-J CoC covers over 800 square miles and comprises 771 U.S. Census block groups. In 2003, **134 enumeration areas** were created by grouping the U.S. Census blocks into manageable areas for data collection and organization. The enumeration areas varied in size and number of block groups, depending on the anticipated concentration of unsheltered homeless persons. For example, in areas with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless, where enumerators would have to walk much of the area to conduct their count, fewer block groups were allocated to an enumeration area.

The 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census used the same enumeration areas as previous counts. The enumeration areas were divided among **12 deployment sites** (see special thanks). These sites were spaced throughout the Tri-J CoC and appropriately geo-located to provide convenient access for enumerators to their assigned enumeration areas. They served as staging areas for the unsheltered count by providing adequate well-lit parking and a large meeting area.



Once the deployment sites were confirmed, *planning and enumeration area maps* were developed. The Atlanta Regional Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department created the 2011 planning and enumeration maps for the unsheltered count. The large planning maps aided Pathways in the assignment of enumeration areas to each deployment site and the deployment captains in orienting enumerators during training on census night. The enumeration maps included one main enumeration area clearly outlined in bold black in the center of the map with the block groups for each EA outlined in purple within the EA.

The enumeration maps had been improved from the 2005 homeless census by adding Aero Atlas street overlays to provide detailed street information, defined block group boundaries and more distinguishable landmarks. The colors of the maps had been changed slightly from the 2007 Tri-J CoC homeless count. In 2007, the maps were updated to one light pastel color for cities and no color for the county areas.

Certain enumeration areas were stratified into three specific categories – *high, low and zero count areas* – based on the numbers from previous Tri-J CoC homeless census. The AC decided in 2002 that high count areas such as downtown Atlanta or the Atlanta Airport would receive enumerators with expertise in working or experience with the street homeless population. In 2007, the AC determined that enumeration areas where no homeless people had been found in the previous census would not be counted. This would allow efforts to be focused on areas where homeless people were thought to be located. For 2009, the AC concluded that low count enumeration areas, where ten or fewer homeless people had been found on previous counts, would not have homeless enumerator guides (see below) provide assistance due to the lack of need for their expertise. Finally, the other areas had enumeration teams comprised of community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides.

Conducting a count of this magnitude required community collaboration. Because the Tri-J CoC homeless census covers the City of Atlanta and its two counties, over 400 *community volunteers* were needed to carry out the count. The Tri-J CoC relied on the efforts of homeless service provider staff, personnel from government agencies, members of faith-based organizations, college students and hundreds of community volunteers to conduct the unsheltered count. Volunteers were recruited using a number of methods including direct recruitment, public announcements, recruitment fliers and postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless. Volunteers were assigned to deployment sites based on their preferences and on the minimum requirement of volunteers needed at each site.

As with previous Tri-J CoC homeless census, *homeless enumerator guides* assisted the community volunteers with identifying homeless persons, in pointing out locations likely to have homeless persons present and in recognizing potentially dangerous situations to avoid. The guides were recruited from various transitional housing programs in the Tri-J CoC area. They were required to have lived in the Tri-J CoC area for at least six months and to have been a participant in the transitional program for at least three months. The guides were only used at 8 of



the 12 deployment sites due to low numbers of homeless people found in the other four sites during the past census.

One area of the Tri-J CoC where community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides did not count was downtown Atlanta. The downtown area was covered by veterans participating in the *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)*, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program. Along with the 24 current program participants, VA staff also worked in the downtown enumeration teams on census night. The VA enumerators were assigned enumeration areas in downtown Atlanta due to their experience living on the streets or working with clients on the streets. These areas are walked and can involve counting in gulleys and other hidden locations. Typically, downtown Atlanta has the highest number of unsheltered homeless people on count night.

Identifying other areas where concentrated numbers of homeless people were sleeping was critical. Several months prior to census night, *law enforcement* agencies throughout the Tri-J CoC were sent packets that included a survey on the probable location of unsheltered homeless persons. In addition to information about homeless persons' locations, law enforcement officers were also asked to identify areas that were unsafe for volunteers and areas that needed police escorts. With the feedback from law enforcement, Pathways was able to compile a detailed list of special coverage areas or hotspot locations.

Enumerators who work with clients on the streets or have specialized knowledge of the street homeless population counted in the hot spot locations. These areas were primarily walked because they involved counting in wooded areas and other hidden locations. *Special coverage enumeration teams* were comprised of outreach workers and other knowledgeable personnel from St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP), DeKalb County, Community Development Department – homeless outreach team and homeless service provider agencies. The teams were grouped into several geographic coverage areas: City of Atlanta, south Fulton County, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Decatur, Tucker, north DeKalb County, east DeKalb County and south DeKalb County. These teams were stationed at three deployment sites: Crossroads Community Ministries, Center for Pan Asian Community Services and the Maloof Center.

In the weeks prior to count night, Pathways research staff put together *count night boxes* for the deployment captains to use at the deployment sites on count night. For the boxes, planning and enumeration maps were printed, supplies such as clipboards, flashlights and pens were purchased and count night forms from previous census were updated and printed. The forms included: *sign-in sheet, hold harmless agreement, enumerator roles description, map reading guide instruction, street tally form instructions, verification letter, deployment log, block group log and certificate of participation*. Pathways research staff passed out the boxes to the DC the week prior to the count. At the meeting, the Pathways research manager reviewed with the DC all the materials that were included in the boxes and the census night process such as setting up the deployment sites, training the volunteers and calling in the homeless count numbers. This meeting also provided the DC an opportunity to meet with their fellow deployment site co-captains.

Two other *training sessions* also occurred in January. At the first January DC meeting, the captains were trained on how to read the planning and enumeration maps by a Geographic



Information System staff member. In addition to the DC, both the veteran and special coverage enumeration teams received special training on how to read the maps, to identify people who are homeless and to fill out the count form. The teams were also taught safety procedures to follow.

Data Collection

On count night, January 25th, 2011, the Pathways research team staffed the Pathways office or “command central” all day to answer any last questions regarding the upcoming count. Deployment captains arrived at the deployment sites around 10:30 p.m. to set up for the count. For each deployment site, at least one seasoned deployment captain and two other DCs coordinated the site on census night.

The deployment captains had been provided with an instructions and checklist form to assist with the count night process. The DC count night checklist provided instructions on what to do prior to count night such as organizing supplies and documents and purchasing food. The instructions for count night focused on a process for setting up and organizing the deployment site, training the enumerators, and forming and equipping enumeration teams. Also, on the checklist were procedures for what to do after deploying the teams and when the teams return.

Around 11:30 p.m., 311 community volunteers, 76 homeless enumerator guides, 32 VA enumerators and 21 special coverage team enumerators arrived at the deployment sites to participate in the homeless count. The AC decided that, for accuracy and safety, enumeration teams not covering downtown Atlanta or hotspot locations would be comprised of at least three to four members, ideally at least two community volunteers and one enumerator guide. The number of teams required at each deployment site depended on the number of enumeration areas assigned to the site with one enumeration team generally covering one enumeration area.

Training for the community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides occurred at midnight. They received training on enumerator roles, how to read the maps and enumeration process and safety tips. The tips were provided to the enumerators on what to do while at the deployment site such as reviewing their enumeration area map and while in the field counting such as spending most of their time in high-probability areas including commercial zones, industrial corridors, shut-down businesses and 24-hour businesses. The tips also focused on safety issues such as only driving around parking lots and side streets that are well lit.

Enumerators were instructed to travel all streets in their enumeration area, to drive at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour in areas where homeless people are likely to be, not to count in abandoned buildings due to safety concerns and not to make contact with or disturb any homeless persons found on the street. The enumerators were also requested to stop at 24 hour businesses to ask store clerks if they are aware of where homeless people might be in that area. Another request was that enumerators stop at hospitals in their area and count homeless people in the emergency room.

An important training process was how to properly fill out the tally sheets to get an accurate count of the number of unsheltered homeless people observed. These forms reported the number of homeless individuals by gender and adult vs. youth (under age 18) or undetermined gender/age



and the number of homeless family units by adult male, adult female and children under age 18. The street tally forms were pre-printed with an assigned enumeration area number and a block group number. The forms contained directions on how to record the data and how to call in the counts. Enumerators were instructed to call in count results on each block group as it was completed.

On census night, police officers throughout the Tri-J CoC stopped by the deployment sites to provide safety at the sites, to provide information as to where to find homeless people in the area and to let the volunteers know which areas were unsafe. In addition, the officers were available to provide police escorts as needed.

The enumerators deployed around 1:00 a.m. on census morning with instructions to return to their deployment sites by 5 a.m. The weather conditions on the morning of January 26th were rainy with a morning low temperature in the mid-thirties (see challenges). In an effort to ensure accuracy of the count, prevent the loss of data and to get “real time” reporting of the count, a call-in reporting method was used. Enumeration teams reported the tallies for each block group in their assigned enumeration area to their deployment captains as they completed the count for the block group. After an enumeration area was complete, deployment captains called or emailed Pathways staff who then input the data into an online computer application.

Challenges and Suggested Modifications

After enumerators returned from their enumeration areas, they received a continental breakfast and a standardized debriefing questionnaire to fill out. Based on the feedback, volunteers indicated that they liked several things about participating in the count. First, volunteers liked that they could help homeless people and serve the community for a worthwhile cause. In addition, they enjoyed working as a team with their fellow volunteers and meeting new people. Also, volunteers found it interesting to see new and different parts of the community.

The main concern for several volunteers was not finding any or many homeless people in their enumeration areas. It is important to understand that lower count numbers will occur in the outer areas of the Tri-J CoC such as north Fulton County and that zero is a valid count number. Another major problem was that the inclement weather on count night made it harder for some enumeration teams to observe people homeless in their areas. The inclement weather may have caused problems for counting in some of the enumeration areas; however, it did not impact the overall or aggregate numbers. The probable effect of the weather was that more homeless street people sought shelter as can be seen by the extremely large number of homeless people found at the Atlanta Airport. All in all, most volunteers were glad to participate and stated that they would be willing to volunteer again. Feedback from volunteers regarding their experience with the homeless count will be used to update future census procedures.

A couple of weeks after the count, an appreciation and debriefing luncheon was held to give the deployment captains and advisory council a chance to provide feedback on the unsheltered count process and to thank them for all their time and effort. Based on the feedback from the meeting, one problem at several of the sites was that there were not enough drivers. Pathways staff dispersed drivers who signed up throughout the Tri-J deployments sites. However, people who



drove separately and signed up as willing to drive on count night often wanted to ride with their friends once they arrived at the deployment sites. In addition, a large number of residents from nearby shelters volunteered to count. Unfortunately, they did not have cars. In that situation, several deployment captains ended up driving. As a solution for the next count, the DC will be provided with the names of people who signed up as willing to drive.

Another issue was the number and types of DC meetings. It was suggested that a select few DC be involved with the planning process and that the regular DC meetings be concentrated on training such as providing more extensive map training. Other suggestions regarding the maps included using more internet technology and providing DC with their own copy of the maps for count night.

A third problem for the DC was that several DS had too many volunteers while other sites did not have enough. A minimum number of volunteers were assigned by Pathways research staff to each of the sites prior to count night. Unfortunately, volunteers showed up at sites on count night when they did not sign up at all, while other volunteers who did sign up did not show up to count. This problem can be addressed by sending people who did not sign up prior to count night to sites where there are not enough volunteers – whether they call in or show up at locations that are overflowing with volunteers. In addition, a focused recruitment of volunteers in the outlying areas of the Tri-J CoC such as north Fulton County and southeast DeKalb County needs to occur so that sites where the number of volunteers are traditionally low can be increased.

3.5 Sheltered Count Method

Emergency Shelters (ES) and Transitional Housing (TH)

In September 2010, a master list of sheltered agencies (emergency shelters and transitional housing, along with permanent supportive housing) located in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County was created based on the 2009 and 2010 Tri-J CoC Housing Inventory Charts (HIC). According to HUD, the HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds available in the CoC on a particular night (HUD 2007). Pathways research staff contacted emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing supportive agencies via email or phone and notified them of the upcoming Tri-J CoC homeless count. In addition, announcements were made at local public meetings, via fliers and via postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless.

As agency staff were contacted, current information was verified or corrected as needed to update the master list. If a phone number was no longer in service, Pathways research staff investigated the situation to determine if the facility was no longer open or if the number had changed. Staff also investigated any new agencies that were provided by the advisory council, deployment captains and Tri-J CoC representatives. Throughout the process, contact persons were identified who would provide the number of homeless people staying at the sheltered agencies on count night.



Several days prior to the count, Pathways staff emailed, called or faxed each agency on the master list to remind them of the upcoming homeless count, the need for their bed occupancy and capacity information for census night and to provide the agency staff with the sheltered count tally form and instructions. The email or fax included a notification letter, sheltered count tally form and instructions for filling out the count form. The sheltered count tally form reported the program/site information, program type, bed capacity and occupancy numbers for individuals/families and subpopulation information.

The contact person was instructed to fill out the form for all clients on site from 6 p.m. January 25th to 6 a.m. January 26th, 2011. The contact person was requested to return the sheltered count tally form to Pathways by 8 p.m. on the night of January 25th. Pathways research staff were at the office to receive the emails and faxes on count night. After 8 p.m., phone calls were made by Pathways research staff to the agencies that did not provide a count of homeless people. A number of the sheltered count tally forms that had been e-mailed or faxed to housing providers were returned within the following days of the Tri-J CoC homeless census. Shortly after the homeless census, Pathways staff began making reminder phone calls and sending emails to the non-reporting sites. Some responded via email while others gave their results to the staff over the phone. In those cases, the data was recorded on blank tally sheets. The majority of the tally forms were returned during the month of February. During early March, a concerted effort was made by Pathways staff to contact the last few non-reporting sites. As the sheltered tally forms were returned, the information was verified by Pathways staff against the existing 2010 Tri-J CoC HIC. Anomalies identified at this stage were resolved, usually by emails or phone conversations with the program staff.

In the end, Pathways was able to obtain a 90% return rate on the sheltered count tally forms. Estimations were made for the agencies that did not provide their homeless count numbers. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity and demographic information.

Institutions

In 2007 and 2009, Pathways was unable to obtain the number of homeless persons staying at institutions on count night. Therefore, estimations were conducted on the ratio of homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta from 2005 to 2007 to the actual number of homeless individuals in the institutions in 2005. The estimated numbers were allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters from the 2005 Tri-J CoC homeless census and survey.

To address the problem from previous homeless census, packets similar to the police requests for information were created for the first time to send out to the jails and hospitals. Several months prior to 2011 homeless census night, Pathways research staff identified jails and hospitals throughout the Tri-J CoC. They received packets that included a letter notifying jail and hospital staff of the upcoming homeless count, a survey on homeless people who use the facility and a request that the institutions provide a contact person who can give the number of people homeless at the facility on count night. The packets were successful with 65% of jails and hospitals providing the number of homeless people staying at their facilities on count night.



Challenges and Suggested Modifications

One challenge for the previous sheltered counts has been the relatively lengthy return time of some of the Tri-J CoC agencies regarding the number of homeless people at their facilities on count night. To address this problem for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, Pathways research team had a member focus specifically on the sheltered count data and to call agencies on count night to obtain their numbers. This process reduced the return time of the sheltered count tally forms from over two months to around one and half months. For the next sheltered count, a return time of around one month would be ideal. This could possibly be achieved by having the staff member conduct site visits to non-responding agencies soon after the count has occurred to obtain the sheltered count homeless numbers in person as opposed to via email, fax or phone.

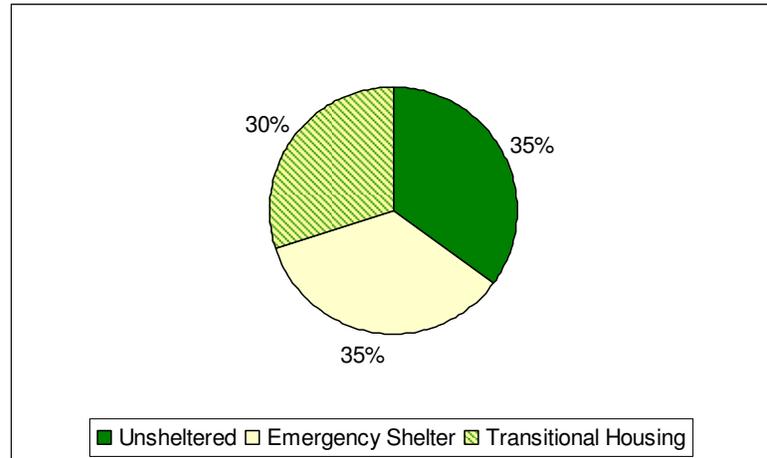
Another major issue was that the homeless census numbers provided by sheltered agencies did not often match the previous Tri-J CoC HIC. Per HUD, these numbers either needed to match or an explanation needed to be provided as to the reason for the change in numbers. The process of verifying accurate numbers was an extended process. In the past, generic mass emails were sent out to sheltered agencies with blank tally sheets. For the next sheltered count, personalized individual emails could be sent that include specific information for each agency regarding their programs, sites and the previous HIC data.

Section 4: Results

4.1 2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count

On the night of January 25, 2011, a total of **6,838 homeless people were counted in Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb County**. The largest number of people were counted sleeping in emergency shelters (2,460 people) with people found in unsheltered locations a close second (2,378 people) and people staying in transitional housing third (2,000 people).

Figure 1: Homelessness by Sleeping Location (%)



Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (68%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15%). Children (10%) and single mothers (5%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, two parent heads of households, single fathers, youth females and a non-head of household adult such as a grandmother. These findings reflect a homeless population that predominately lives in metropolitan areas and are literally homeless.

Table 1: 2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals	Family Members (# of families)	Total # of Homeless People (%)
Emergency Shelters	2,056	404 members (132 families)	2,460 (36%)
Unsheltered	2,336	42 members (14 families)	2,378 (35%)
Transitional Housing	1,373	627 members (203 families)	2,000 (29%)
Totals (%)	5,765 (84%)	1,073 (16%)	6,838

Five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. The largest number of individuals were found sleeping unsheltered (41%). That number is concerning as the count was conducted on a rainy and cold (mid thirties) winter night. The night was so cold that earlier in the day, snow had been predicted but did not materialize. The majority of family members were staying in transitional housing programs (58%). Only four percent of families were thought to be sleeping unsheltered on that night. The identified families were comprised of at least one adult parent and at least one child under the age of eighteen. The total number of family members comprised 349 families with children. Families without children such as

couples or parents with an adult child (18 years of age or older) may have been homeless for the count but were identified as individuals for a number of reasons. First, only Zaban Couples Center takes couples without children as a household unit. At other shelters, couples are required to separate and stay as individuals. Second, two people sleeping next to each other on the streets are hard to identify as a couple in a relationship.

Individuals: The 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count composition of individuals is similar to the 2009 homeless count. Unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group of individuals. The majority of these individual men (42%) were sleeping in unsheltered locations such as on the street or in the airport with less than a third sleeping at emergency shelters and only a quarter staying at transitional housing programs. The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults. This was the only group with the majority sleeping in emergency shelters (40%). Over a third of the women were found in unsheltered locations with less than a quarter in transitional housing programs.

Table 2: Individuals by Sleeping Type and Gender

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Total Individuals
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	
Unsheltered	1,936	367	30	3	2,336
Emergency Shelters	1,621	433	2	0	2,056
Transitional Housing	1,125	247	1	0	1,373
TRI-J TOTALS	4,682	1,047	33	3	5,765
Percentage	81%	18%	1%	0%	

The smallest group of individuals identified was unaccompanied females under the age of eighteen. Only three youth females were identified as sleeping unsheltered with none staying at emergency shelters or in transitional housing programs. Historically, the count numbers for unaccompanied youth have been low. Homeless youth are hard to locate because they tend to

sleep in either abandoned buildings or on people’s sofas (called “couch surfing”). In addition, unaccompanied youth (under age 18) who show up at shelters are either reunited with their parents or, if there are no parents, then the police are called and the youth are taken into the Department of Family and Children’s custody to become wards of the state.

Table 3: Families by Sleeping Type and Gender

Sleeping Locations	Family Members					Total Family Members (# Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	
Unsheltered	0	13	2	0	27	42 (14)
Emergency Shelters	0	130	4	0	270	404 (132)
Transitional Housing	4	186	26	1	410	627 (203)
TRI-J TOTALS	4	329	32	1	707	1,073 (349)
Percentage	0%	31%	3%	0%	66%	

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). Of family members, children were the largest group (66%) with single mothers about half that (31%). The two previous findings regarding single mothers and children are consistent with past counts. For example in 2009, single mothers headed 89% of families and children were 65% of family members. The 1,073 families averaged 1.52 people per household. Over half of the families were staying in transitional housing programs (58%) with emergency shelters second (38%) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4%).

4.2 Unsheltered Count

On count night, **2,378 homeless persons were counted in unsheltered locations** in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. Individuals comprised almost all of the people sleeping unsheltered (98%). Only one family was found sleeping outdoors. The other 13 families were estimated.

Table 4: Unsheltered Count Families

Estimated Group:

Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the

Unsheltered	Family Members					Total Family Members (# Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	
Totals	0	13	2	0	27	42 (14)
Percentage	0%	31%	5%	0%	64%	

elements and hidden from view. Pathways and the advisory council believed the number should have been higher based upon data from the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless survey indicating that 6% of the total number of families usually slept in unsheltered locations. Therefore, it was determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families. The results of the estimation determined that 42 people in families were sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of January 25th.

Table 5: Unsheltered Count Individuals

Unsheltered	Individuals				Total Individuals
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	
Totals	1,936	367	30	3	2,336
Percentage	83%	16%	1%	0%	

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted as unsheltered, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (81.5%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15.5%). The

remaining groups of unsheltered homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, children, single mothers, youth females, and two parent heads of households.

Geographic Areas: As with previous Tri-J CoC homeless census, the highest concentration of unsheltered homeless people (26%) were counted in downtown Atlanta. A likely cause of the large number is the high concentration of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in the area. The downtown area measures approximately four square miles and is roughly bound



by North Avenue to the north, Northside Drive to the west, Boulevard to the east and Interstate 20 to the south.

The second highest unsheltered homeless numbers (24%) counted was in southwest Atlanta. This area covers a much larger territory than Downtown Atlanta. It lies roughly south of Interstate 20, east and west of Interstate 285, west of Interstate 75/85, and north of the City of East Point. It is comprised mainly of lower income (\$29,720 median annual income per household) neighborhoods including West End, Adamsville, and Cascade Heights (U.S. Census Bureau 2000). According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2011), a family of four with a yearly income of \$22,350 would be living in poverty. Thus a number of households located in southwest Atlanta are living at a level close to poverty.

A high concentration of unsheltered homeless people (6%) was also found at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Typically, people who are homeless arrive at the Airport on the last MARTA train of the night and leave out the next morning on the first train. The airport usually has a large number of homeless people staying over night, but this year, the count was exceedingly high (143 people). A possible reason for the high number of people at the Airport on count night could have been people seeking shelter from the extremely bad weather. To put the Airport number in perspective, both South Fulton below City of Atlanta (141 people) and DeKalb County (132 people) had numbers slightly less than the Atlanta Airport.

The lowest percentage of unsheltered homeless people (less than 1%) were counted in north Fulton County above City of Atlanta. A possible reason for the low homeless numbers in north Fulton County is that households in that area earn annual incomes far above the poverty level. For example, Sandy Springs households earn a median annual income of \$76,477 with Roswell households at \$79,733 yearly, and Alpharetta households having a median yearly income of \$95,888 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates).

Hidden Homeless: On count night, there were two groups of unsheltered homeless people that were not counted. First, enumerators did not enter abandoned buildings to count the number of people sleeping due to safety reasons. These buildings were dark, often in disrepair and could have had drug activity occurring. Second, enumerators were asked not to get out of their cars to walk around unless escorted by police officers or as part of special teams due to safety concerns. This rule makes it difficult to count people sleeping in cars if unable to approach parked cars and look inside. Another issue with counting people sleeping in cars is that car owners, business owners and police officers do not appreciate people looking in cars and may suspect the enumerators of attempting to steal them. Unfortunately, there is no current estimation formula for calculating the numbers for this hidden homeless population.

4.3 Sheltered Count (Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)

A total of ***4,460 homeless persons were residing in emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) facilities*** on census night. More individuals (77%) were staying at sheltered locations on count night than family members (23%). For the sheltered count, over half of the

people (55%) were sleeping at emergency shelters (2,460 people) with the remaining at transitional housing programs (2,000 people).

Estimated Group: Occupancy figures for the seven non-reporting emergency shelter and transitional housing agencies were estimated. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity, and demographic information.

Overall, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (62%) of the total number of people staying in sheltered locations (ES and TH). Over half of these individual men (59%) were sleeping in emergency shelters with the rest staying at transitional housing programs. The next largest groups were unaccompanied female adults (680 adults) and children in families (680 children). The majority of individual women (64%) were sleeping in emergency shelters. On the other hand, most of the children (60%) were staying with their families in transitional housing facilities. The remaining groups of sheltered homeless people by household type, age and gender included single mothers, two parent heads of households, single fathers, youth males, and a non-head of household adult such as a grandmother.

Table 6: Sheltered Count Individuals

Individuals: Of the individuals in the sheltered count, adult males comprised the largest group with adult females a distant second. This composition of individuals is similar to the 2011 unsheltered count and the 2009 sheltered count (79% adult males and 21% adult females).

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Total Individuals
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	
Emergency Shelters	1,621	433	2	0	2,056
Transitional Housing	1,125	247	1	0	1,373
Sheltered TOTALS	2,746	680	3	0	3,429
Percentage	80%	20%	0%	0%	

Table 7: Sheltered Count Families

Sleeping Locations	Family Members					Total Family Members (# Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	
Emergency Shelters	0	130	4	0	270	404 (132)
Transitional Housing	4	186	26	1	410	627 (203)
TRI-J TOTALS	4	316	30	1	680	1,031 (335)
Percentage	0%	31%	3%	0%	66%	

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). Of family members, children were the largest group with single mothers about half that. The remaining family members were comprised of two parent heads of households, single fathers and a non-head of household adult.

The majority of families (61%) were staying in transitional housing for the sheltered count with the remaining in emergency shelters. The 335 families averaged 3.08 people per household.

Table 8: Sheltered Count Occupancy and Capacity

Sheltered Count	Individuals			Family Members		
	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Family Members
Occupancy #	2,056	1,373	3,429	404	627	1,031
Capacity	2,235	1,605	3,840	494	948	1,442
Occupancy (%)	92%	86%	89%	82%	66%	72%

Occupancy and Capacity: On count night, the bed capacity was slightly higher for emergency shelters than transitional housing programs (2,729 to 2,553 beds). Overall, the occupancy rate for individual emergency beds was the highest (89%). There were 179 individual emergency beds and 232 individual transitional housing beds not occupied for the count. Even if all these beds had been filled, there still would have been 1,925 individuals that were sleeping outside on count night. Beds may go vacant for a number of reasons including eligibility standards that exclude some unsheltered people such as being drug free or because homeless people are unwillingly to adhere to the shelters' policies such as completing chores.

The lowest occupancy rate was for families in transitional housing programs (66%). One reason for the lower occupancy rate for family beds is that families with children are less likely to be asked to leave where they are staying on an extremely cold night especially if living doubled up with other family members. Another factor is that programs that serve families are often organized in units rather than beds. A unit may have several beds that go unoccupied depending on the size of the family. For example, a bedroom unit with four beds, housing a single mother and two children, will appear to have a 75% occupancy rate, but in fact the empty bed is not actually available to anyone else. Even though the occupancy rate for transitional housing beds for families was extremely low, the occupancy rate for families in permanent supportive housing (PSH) beds was extremely high. Over the past several years, there has been a focus in the Tri-J CoC to move people into PSH beds.

4.4 Permanent Supportive Housing

HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each CoC starting in 2009. The Tri-J CoC community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009 and for the latest count in 2011. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J CoC homeless count.

A total of **2,255 homeless persons were residing in permanent supportive housing (PSH)** on census night. Over half (59%) of the permanent supportive housing beds were occupied by individuals rather than family members.

Table 9: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy by Jurisdiction

Individuals					Family Members					
Jurisdictions	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Total Ind.	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult in Family	Kids in Family	Total Family Members (# of Families)
Atlanta	566	357	1	924	3	164	68	2	416	653 (201)
Fulton	69	74	0	143	0	44	0	0	77	121 (44)
DeKalb	145	123	0	268	3	47	6	5	85	146 (53)
TRI-J TOTALS	780	554	1	1,335	6	255	74	7	578	920 (298)
Percentage	35%	25%	0%		0%	11%	3%	0%	26%	

Individuals: Unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (35%) of the total number of people staying in permanent supportive housing on count night. In comparison, individual men were about a quarter of the people staying in transitional housing programs. Among total number of individuals, adult men were over half (58%) as compared to adult women (42%) and youth.

Families: As with the unsheltered and sheltered counts, the majority of families were headed by single mothers (86%). Of family members, children were the largest group (63%) and about a quarter of the overall PSH numbers. The 298 families averaged 3.09 people per household.

Capacity: The PSH capacity on count night was 2,465 beds. Unlike both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, families (94%) in permanent supportive housing had a slightly higher occupancy rate than individuals (90%) on count night.

Figure 2: PSH Occupancy and Capacity

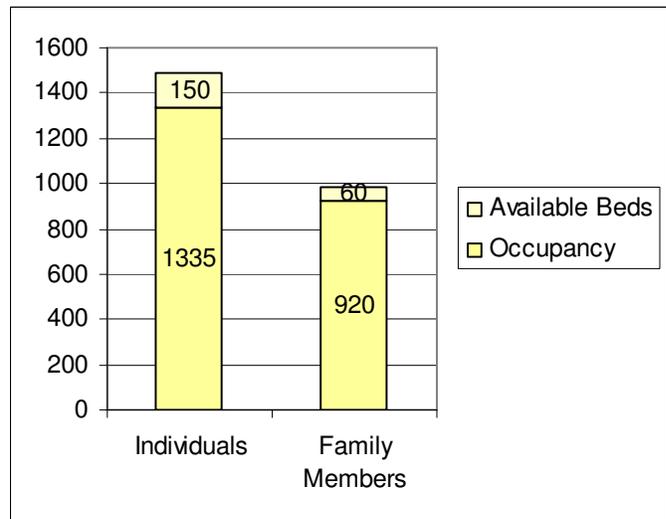


Table 10: PSH Occupancy for 2003, 2009 and 2011

PSH	2003	2009	2011
Individuals	386	876	1,335
Family Members	25	577	920
Total for Each Year	411	1,453	2,255
Percent Change		+252%	+55%

Trend Analysis: The total permanent supportive housing occupancy numbers increased dramatically from 2003 to 2009 by 1,042 people and from 2009 to 2011 by 802 people. The main reason for the rise in occupancy can be seen by the increase in PSH bed capacity over the years. Overall, from 2003 to 2011 the PSH capacity has increased dramatically by 1,994 beds (471 beds to 2,465 beds).

4.5 Comparing Bed Capacity and Occupancy

In total, there was a capacity of 7,747 emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds for homeless people on count night.

Overall: Emergency shelters had the highest capacity of beds (2,729 beds) with transitional housing programs second (2,553 beds) and permanent supportive housing programs (2,465 beds) third. As for the number of available beds, transitional housing programs had the most unoccupied beds, then emergency shelter beds, with permanent supportive housing programs having the least number of available beds. In other words, permanent supportive housing programs had the highest occupancy rate (91%) with emergency shelters a close second (90%) and transitional housing programs a distant third (78%).

Figure 3: Tri-J CoC Bed Occupancy and Capacity

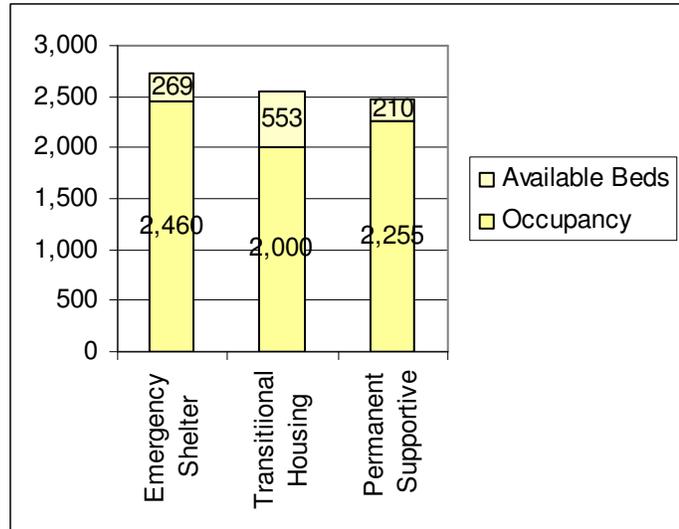
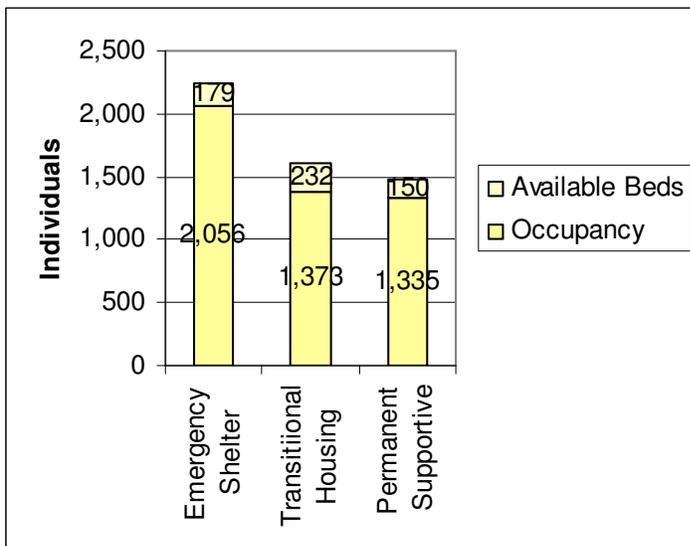


Figure 4: Bed Occupancy and Capacity for Individuals



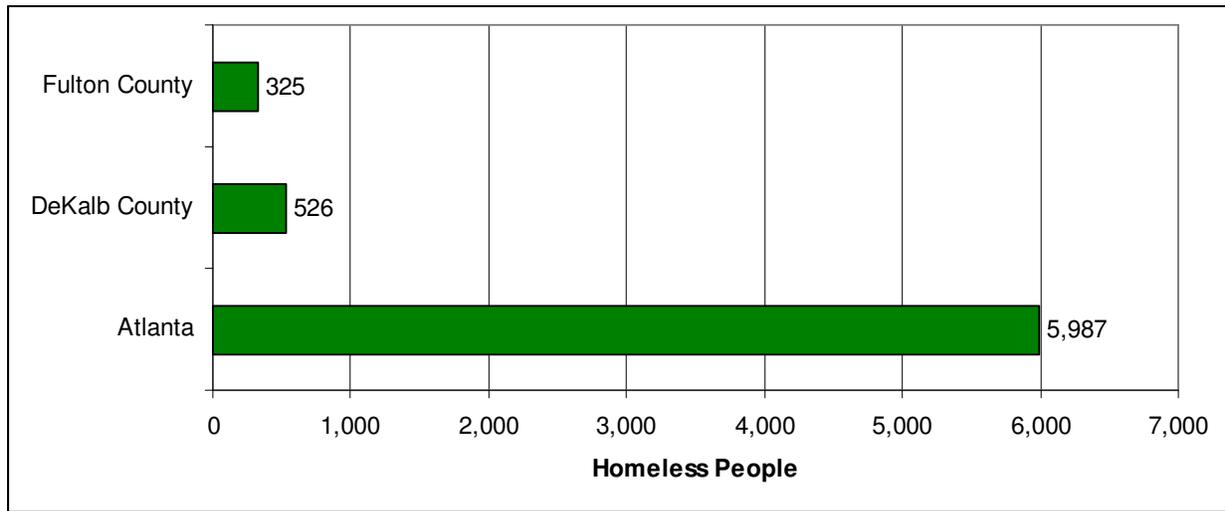
As discussed previously in the sheltered count, occupancy rates are usually lower for families than individuals because agencies often organize families into units rather than by beds. Therefore, to get a true measurement of available beds, occupancy was calculated for individuals. Emergency shelter beds for individuals had the highest occupancy rate (92%) with permanent supportive housing programs a close second (90%) and transitional housing (86%) third. By calculating available beds for individuals only, the occupancy rate for emergency shelters

became higher than that for permanent supportive housing programs while the rate of occupancy for transitional housing programs increased significantly.

Section 5: Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County

Of the 6,838 homeless people counted in the Tri-J CoC, the majority were located in the City of Atlanta (87%) with DeKalb County being a distant second (8%) and Fulton County third (5%). This composition by jurisdiction is the same as that of the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

Figure 5: Homelessness by Jurisdiction



To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts were simply a reflection of the number of beds available in each jurisdiction. For example, 85% of Tri-J CoC emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 10% of the beds were in DeKalb County, and 5% were in Fulton County.

Table 11: 2011 Tri-J CoC Housing Inventory Bed Supply by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Ind. Emergency Beds	Family Emergency Beds	Ind. Transitional Beds	Family Transitional Beds	Ind. Permanent Supportive Beds	Family Permanent Supportive Beds	Total
Atlanta	2,225	356	1,363	564	1,056	626	6,190
DeKalb	10	82	203	246	281	221	1,043
Fulton	0	56	39	138	148	133	514
Total	2,235	494	1,605	948	1,485	980	7,747
Percentage	29%	6%	21%	12%	19%	13%	

5.1 City of Atlanta Homeless Numbers

A total of **5,987 people were homeless in the City of Atlanta** on the night of January 25, 2011. More individuals (88%) were counted in Atlanta than family members (12%). The 2011 Atlanta composition is similar to the 2009 homeless numbers (87% individuals to 13% family members).

Table 12: City of Atlanta by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals					Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	1,715	331	26	3	2,075	0	8	2	20	30	9
Emergency Shelters	1,614	425	2	0	2,041	0	94	4	201	299	96
Transitional Housing	969	195	1	0	1,165	2	104	18	253	377	115
Atlanta TOTALS	4,298	951	29	3	5,281	2	206	24	474	706	220
% of Atlanta	72%	16%	0	0		0	4%	0	8%		

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (72%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (16%). Children in families (8%) and single mothers (4%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, two parent heads of households, youth females and single fathers. These findings reflect the overall Tri-J CoC homeless count numbers.

Individuals: Of the number of individuals counted for the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (81%). The majority (40%) of these individual men were sleeping in unsheltered locations such as on the street or in the airport with more than a third sleeping at emergency shelters (37%) and less than a quarter staying at transitional housing programs (23%). The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (18%). This was the only group with the majority sleeping in emergency shelters (45%). These Atlanta individual numbers reflected the larger Tri-J CoC homeless count and the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). The 220 families averaged 3.21 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (67%). These findings are similar to the larger 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count and the past 2009 Atlanta homeless numbers. For example in 2009, single mothers headed 90% of families and children were 65% of family members. Over half of the families were staying in transitional housing programs (52%) with emergency shelters a close second (44%) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4%).

Sleeping Location: On census night in Atlanta, a slightly larger number of people were sleeping at emergency shelters (2,340 people, 39%) as in unsheltered locations (2,105 people, 35%). In comparison, transitional housing programs (1,542 people, 26%) and permanent supportive programs (1,577 people) had similar numbers that were lower than the previous two sleeping locations. However, if the beds for the two housing program types were added together (3,119 people), than a much larger number of people were sleeping in programs with available supportive services in Atlanta on count night than in emergency shelters or on the street.

Trend Analysis: The total Atlanta homeless census number increased by 22% (1,070 people) from the first count to the latest. Over the years, there was a fairly steady increase from 2003 to 2009 (25%) with a decrease over the past two years (2%).

Table 13: Atlanta Homeless Census for 2003 to 2011

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	1,943	1,888	1,861	1,851	2,105
Emergency Shelter	1,915	2,177	2,172	2,269	2,340
Transitional Housing	1,059	1,687	1,712	2,011	1,542
Total for Each Year	4,917	5,752	5,745	6,131	5,987
Percent Change		+17%	0%	+6.5%	-2%

The Atlanta unsheltered numbers experienced a steady decrease from 2003 to 2009 (by 92 people, 5%). However, over the past two years there has been an increase of people sleeping on the streets in Atlanta (by 254 people, 14%). A possible reason for the increase of people sleeping unsheltered in Atlanta is that this year there was an increased focus on special coverage areas. Along with the Veterans special team that

covered downtown Atlanta, a special team from St. Joseph’s Mercy Care Outreach focused on known locations of the hidden homeless population in Atlanta outside the downtown area. In addition, this year the Atlanta Police HOPE team which specialize in working with homeless people living on the streets provided assistance at the deployment sites throughout Atlanta.

From 2003 to 2011, the emergency shelter numbers have been increasing (by 425 people, 22%) at a fairly steady rate. The most dramatic change in numbers over the years has been with the transitional housing programs. Atlanta experienced a tremendous increase in people sleeping at transitional housing programs from 2003 to 2009 (by 952 people, 89%). However, over the last two years, Atlanta experienced a decrease in the transitional housing numbers (469 people, 23%). These changes in numbers are more than likely a reflection of the change in bed capacity in Atlanta over the years.

Figure 6: Atlanta by Sleeping Location Over Time

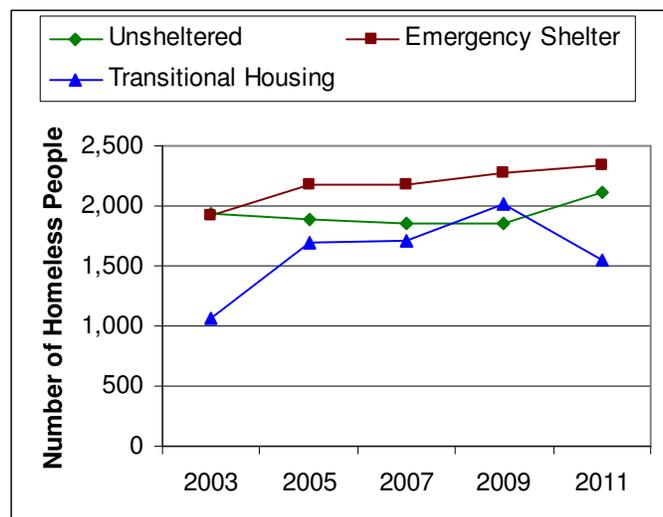


Table 14: Downtown Atlanta Unsheltered Homeless Numbers**Downtown Atlanta:**

For 2011, downtown had the highest concentration of unsheltered people in

Atlanta. The area comprised almost a quarter (24%) of the Atlanta homeless unsheltered count numbers. Overall, the downtown Atlanta homeless numbers have increased from the first count to the latest (28%). From 2003 to 2007, downtown Atlanta experienced a steady decrease in homeless people per count night (32%) with a dramatic increase since 2007 (89%). The 2011 downtown Atlanta numbers were the largest with 2007 having the smallest.

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Totals	460	373	312	440	590
Percentage		-18%	-16%	+57%	+34%

5.2 DeKalb County Homeless Numbers

A total of **526 people were homeless in DeKalb County** (not including City of Atlanta) on the night of January 25, 2011. This is the second largest number of homeless people counted among the three jurisdictions on count night. The majority of the homeless people found in DeKalb County were individuals (60%). This composition of more individuals than families is similar to the 2009 DeKalb County homeless numbers (58% individuals to 42% family members). In comparison, DeKalb count had a higher percentage of family members than the City of Atlanta (12% family members) for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

Table 15: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	97	23	2	122	0	4	0	6	10	4
Emergency Shelters	7	8	0	15	0	21	0	43	64	21
Transitional Housing	144	33	0	177	1	40	6	91	138	44
DeKalb TOTALS	248	64	2	314	1	65	6	140	212	69
Percentage	48%	12%	0		0	12%	1%	27%		

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in DeKalb County, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (48%). This was similar to the overall Tri-J CoC (68%) and City of Atlanta (72%) homeless count numbers; however, the DeKalb County percentage was much lower. With the Tri-J CoC and Atlanta homeless numbers, the second largest group was unaccompanied adult females; however, for DeKalb County, the next largest group was children in families (27%). Single mothers (12%) and unaccompanied adult females (12%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households, youth males and a single father.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for DeKalb County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (79%). Unlike the City of Atlanta, the majority (58%) of these individual men were staying in transitional housing with more than a third sleeping in unsheltered locations (39%) and very few located at emergency shelters (3%). The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (20%). Similarly to the individual men, the majority (52%) of these unaccompanied women were staying in transitional housing with more than a third sleeping in unsheltered locations (36%) and the rest located at emergency shelters (13%).

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). The 69 families averaged 3.07 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (67%). For example in 2009, single mothers headed 90% of families and children were 65% of family members. Over half of the families were staying in transitional housing programs (52%) with emergency shelters a close second (44%) and unsheltered locations a distant third (5%). These findings are similar to the larger 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count and Atlanta homeless numbers.

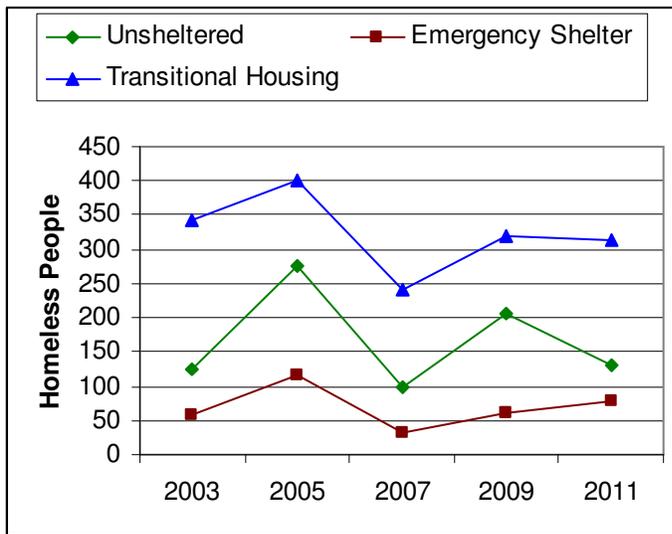
Sleeping Location: On count night, the largest number of literally homeless people were sleeping in transitional housing programs (315 people, 60%) with unsheltered locations a distant second (132 people, 25%) and emergency shelters third (79 people, 15%). This was almost opposite Atlanta where the majority of homeless people were sleeping in emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a close second and transitional housing a distant third. An interesting finding was that more people were staying in permanent supportive housing (502 people) in DeKalb County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters or unsheltered locations. These findings indicate a DeKalb County homeless population that is mainly housed in programs that provide supporting services.

Table 16: DeKalb County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2011

Trend Analysis: The DeKalb County homeless census numbers have experienced ups and downs since 2003. From 2003 to 2005, there was an increase of 265 people. Then in 2007, there was a dramatic decrease of 422 people, followed by another increase of 214 people in 2009. Finally in 2011, DeKalb County experienced a slight decrease in the homeless numbers by 59 people. The first count in 2003 and the latest count in 2011 found approximately the same number of homeless people in DeKalb County. The largest number of homeless people were counted in DeKalb County in 2005 with the least number of people found in 2007.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	126	276	99	205	132
Emergency Shelter	58	116	31	61	79
Transitional Housing	344	401	241	319	315
Total for Each Year	528	793	371	585	526
Percent Change		+50%	-53%	+58%	-10%

Figure 7: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location Over Time



Over the years, the largest number of people in DeKalb County were found staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters having the least number of people. Overall, the numbers for each of the counts have remained fairly steady. From the first count to the latest, people sleeping in unsheltered locations have only increased slightly (6 people, 5%) with emergency shelters also experiencing an increase (21 people, 36%). On the other hand, transitional housing experienced a decrease over the same time period (29 people, 8%). Specifically, the separate counts for

people sleeping in unsheltered locations and transitional housing programs reflected the larger DeKalb County count.

5.3 Fulton County Homeless Numbers

A total of **325 people were homeless in Fulton County** (not including the City of Atlanta) on count night. Of the three jurisdictions, Fulton County found the smallest number of people homeless. Slightly more than half of the homeless people counted in Fulton County were individuals (52%) rather than family members. This composition is in contrast to the 2009 Fulton County homeless numbers where more family members (171 people, 56%) were counted than individuals (132 people, 44%).

Table 17: Fulton County by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	Total Family Members (# of Families)
Unsheltered	124	13	2	139	0	1	0	0	1	2 (1)
Emergency Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	26	41 (15)
Transitional Housing	12	19	0	31	1	42	2	1	66	112 (44)
Fulton TOTALS	136	32	2	170	1	58	2	1	93	155 (60)
% of Fulton	42%	10%	.5%		0%	18%	.5%	0%	29%	

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in Fulton County, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (42%). This was similar to the DeKalb County (48%) homeless count numbers. With the Tri-J CoC and Atlanta homeless numbers, the second largest group was unaccompanied adult females; however, for DeKalb County and Fulton County, the next largest group of homeless people were children in families (29%). Single mothers (12%)

were the third largest group of homeless people with unaccompanied adult females (10%) as the fourth group. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households, youth males, a single father and a non-head adult member of household.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for Fulton County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (80%). Unlike Atlanta or DeKalb County, almost all of these individual men (92%) were sleeping in unsheltered locations with the rest sleeping in transitional housing programs. Unaccompanied women comprised the second largest group of homeless individuals (19%) with over half staying in transitional housing (59%) and the rest sleeping outdoors. For Fulton County, there were no emergency shelter beds available for individuals on count night.

Families: Of the sixty families, almost all were head by a single mother (97%) with one family headed by a single father and one family headed by two parents. The 60 families averaged 2.58 people per household. Children comprised the largest number of family members (60%). The majority of families were staying in transitional housing (73%). These figures are similar to both City of Atlanta and DeKalb County.

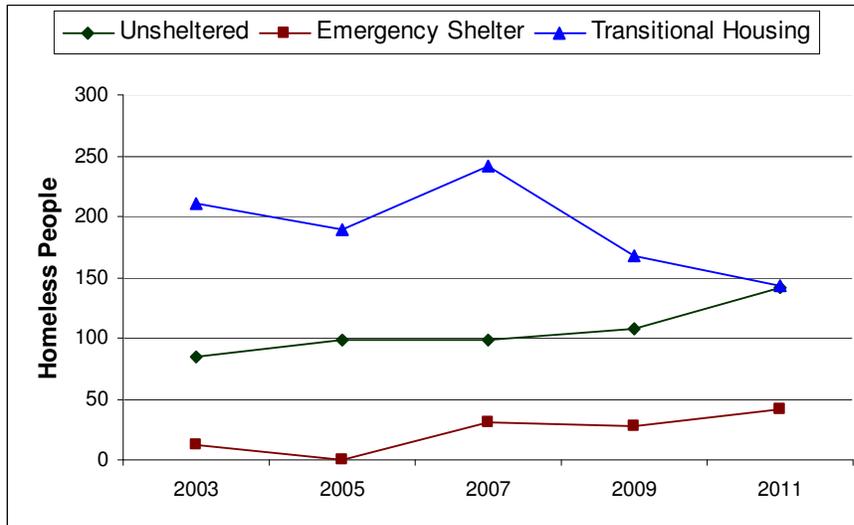
Sleeping Locations: On census night in Fulton County, about the same number of people were sleeping in unsheltered locations (141 people) as in transitional housing (143 people). The smallest number of people were staying in emergency shelters (41 people). In fact, there were no emergency shelter beds available for individuals in Fulton County on census night. An interesting finding was that more people were staying in permanent supportive housing (264 people) in Fulton County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters or unsheltered locations.

Table 18: Fulton County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2011

Trend Analysis: Overall, the Fulton County numbers have experienced an increase from the first count to the latest (by 17 people, 6%). Specifically, figures are unique in that they have fallen and risen from count to count. From 2003 to 2005, there was a slight decrease by 21 people, followed by the greatest increase of 84 people from 2005 to 2007. Then there was another decrease by 68 people, ending this year with a slight increase by 22 people. The largest number of homeless people were counted in Fulton County in 2007 with the least number of people found in 2005.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	84	98	99	108	141
Emergency Shelter	13	0	31	27	41
Transitional Housing	211	189	241	168	143
Total for Each Year	308	287	371	303	325
Total Percent Change		-7%	+29%	-18%	+7%

Figure 8: Fulton County by Sleeping Location over Time



The Fulton County unsheltered numbers saw a steady increase from the first count to the latest (by 57 people, 68%). From 2003 to 2005, the emergency shelter numbers decreased to no available beds in Fulton County. Over the past five years however, the numbers have held fairly steady ranging from 27 to 41 people in emergency shelters on a given night.

The transitional housing figures have fallen (10%), risen (28%) and then fallen again (41%) over time.

N. Fulton and S. Fulton: Of the people counted as homeless in Fulton County (not including Atlanta), over half (54%) were found in South Fulton below the Atlanta city limits (178 people) with the remaining located in North Fulton above the City of Atlanta (147 people). In South Fulton, the majority of homeless people were seen sleeping unsheltered (84%) with the rest of the people staying at transitional housing programs. There were actually no emergency shelters in South Fulton. On the other hand, in North Fulton, the majority of homeless people were staying in transitional housing programs (67%) with emergency shelters a distant second (23%). Only 18 people were found sleeping outdoors in N. Fulton on count night.

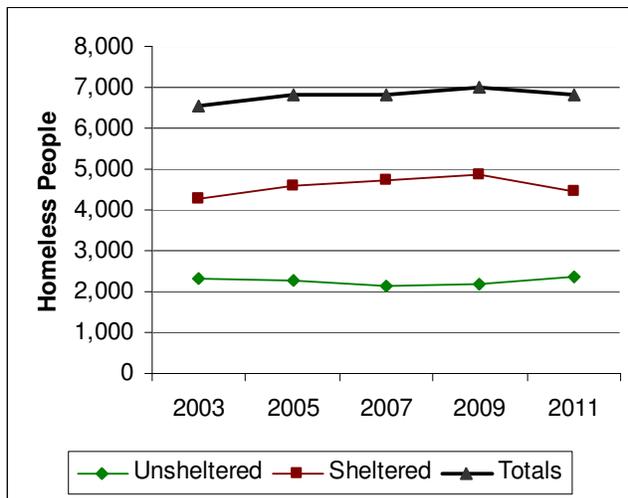
Section 6: Trend Analysis

Table 19: 2003 to 2011 Homeless Counts by Sleeping Location

Overall: The point-in-time Tri-J CoC homeless counts have held fairly steady from year to year within an approximate range of 6,500 to 7,000 people homeless nightly. Only an additional 196 people were found homeless on a particular night from the first count in 2003 to the latest (4%). The trend shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J CoC homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless on a particular night (462 people, 7%). However, over the past two years, there has been a decrease of people homeless for the point-in-time census (181 people, 2.5%). Please note the similarity in homeless count numbers for 2005, 2007 and 2011.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838
Percentage		+4%	0%	+3%	-3%

Figure 9: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Sleeping Location Over Time



Sleeping Location: Over the years, both the unsheltered and sheltered counts have held fairly steady within a particular range. The unsheltered number has stayed within a range of 2,115 to 2,378 while the sheltered count has stayed steady from about 4,250 to 4,855.

From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady decrease (140 people, 6%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. However, over the past

two years, there has been an increase (214 people, 10%) to an all time high of homeless people sleeping outdoors.

For people sleeping in sheltered locations, there was a steady increase on census night for both individuals and families from 2003 to 2009 (602 people, 14%). However, over the past two years, the sheltered numbers saw a decrease in people staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (395 people, 8%).

It is important to note that as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds rose in the Tri-J CoC, the number of people sleeping outdoors fell. On the other hand, as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds decreased, the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations increased.

Table 20: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type Over Time

	Individuals					Family Members				
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	2,116	2,085	2,071	2,068	2,336	188	177	44	96	42
Sheltered	3,173	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429	1,080	982	1,174	1,142	1,031
Totals	5,289	5,673	5,622	5,781	5,765	1,268	1,159	1,224	1,238	1,073
Percentage		+7%	-1%	+3%	-.3%		-9%	+6%	+1%	-13%

Individuals: The Tri-J CoC individual numbers have held steady over the years within the range of 5,289 to 5,781 persons on a particular night. From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady increase in the number of individuals on count night (492 individuals, 6%). However, over the past two years, there was a slight decrease for individuals in the Tri-J CoC (16 individuals, .3%). The lowest number of individuals was counted in 2003 with the highest numbers found in 2009.

Figure 10: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Household Type Over Time

Families: The number of family members homeless in the Tri-J CoC has held steady within the range of 1,073 to 1,268 people on a particular night. For family members, there was a decrease from 2003 to 2005 with a steady increase from 2005 to 2009 and ending in a decrease for the last count. The 2011 Tri-J CoC family member numbers have been the lowest of all the counts with the highest numbers in 2003.

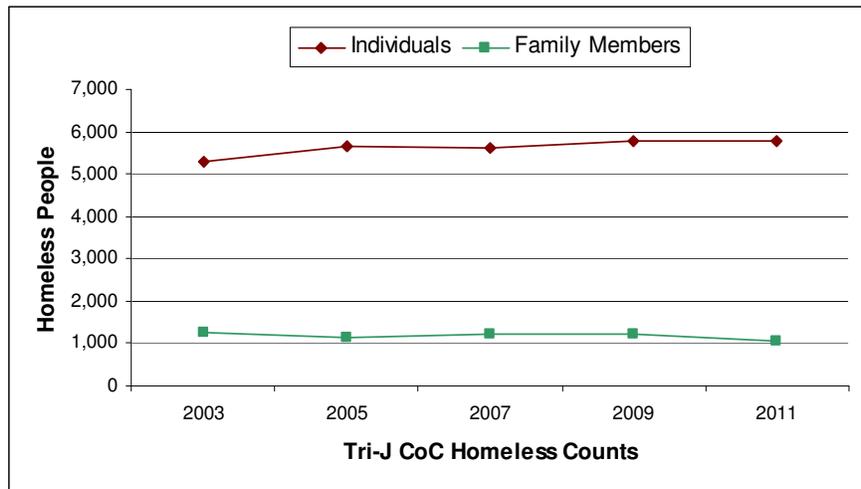
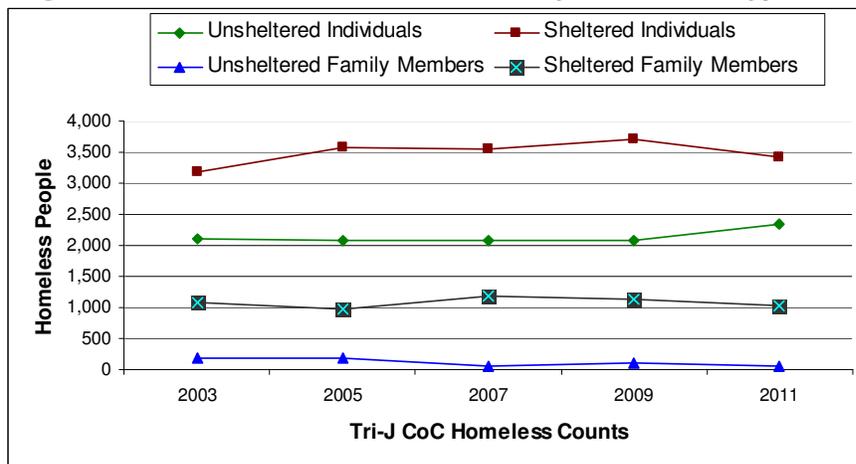


Figure 11: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Household Type and Sleeping Location Over Time

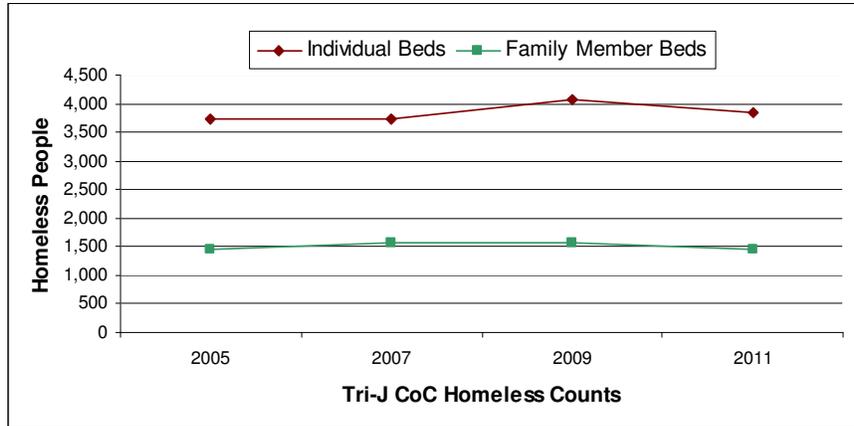


Household Type by Sleeping Location: From 2003 to 2009, there was a decrease of unsheltered individuals (2.3%) with a dramatic increase over the last two years (11%). On the other hand, sheltered individuals have experienced a steady increase from 2003 to 2009 (15%) with a slight decrease over the past two years (8%).

For the family members, there has been a fluctuation in the numbers over the years. From 2003 to 2007, unsheltered family members experienced a sharp decrease in numbers (77%). Then there was a rise from 2007 to 2009 (118%) with a final dip over the past two years (56%). The sheltered family members experienced a similar pattern over the years. From 2003 to 2005, there was a slight decrease in the number of families sleeping in sheltered locations (9%). This was followed with a rise in the numbers from 2005 to 2007 (20%). Finally, over the past four years, there has been a steady decrease of sheltered family members on count night (12%).

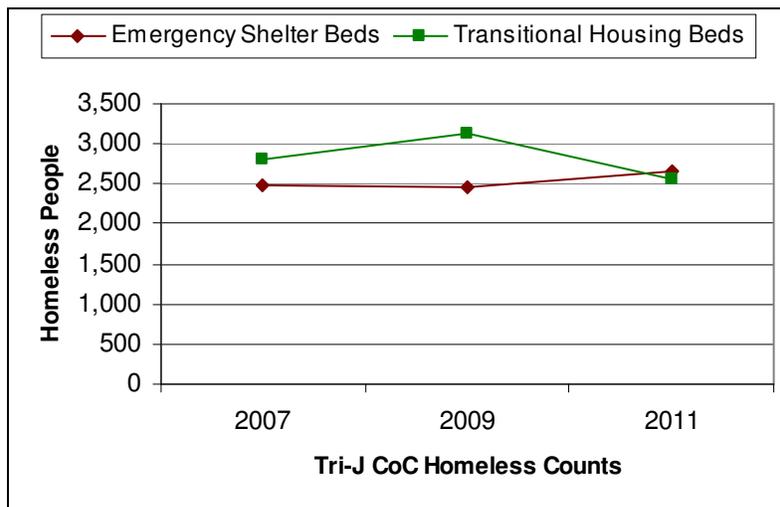
Bed Capacity: The number of people homeless on each census night is a reflection of the number of beds available. For each count, about two thirds of homeless people are sleeping in sheltered locations. From 2005 to 2009, there was a steady increase in beds for both individuals (3,722 to 4,082 beds) and family members (1,449 to 1,511 beds).

Figure 12: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Household Type



However, over the past two years, the Tri-J CoC has experienced a decrease in beds for individuals (4,082 to 3,840 beds) and family members (1,511 to 1,442 beds). Whereas there has been an increase in emergency shelter beds since the last count (269 beds), there has been a considerable decrease in the number of transitional housing beds over the past two years (580 beds). This has resulted in there being more emergency shelter beds (2,729 beds) than transitional housing beds (2,553 beds).

Figure 13: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Sleeping Location



A possible reason for the recent reduction in transitional housing beds can be the focus of the Tri-J CoC on creating permanent housing beds. Since the 2009 count, 802 permanent supportive housing beds have been added to the Tri-J CoC bed supply.

Table 21: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity and Occupancy

Occupancy Rate: The point-in-time Tri-J CoC homeless census occupancy rate held fairly steady from 2005 to 2007. However, the last five years has seen a

steady decrease in occupancy rates for the total Tri-J CoC homeless census. If the occupancy rate for the Tri-J CoC homeless counts is calculated based on individuals only as this is a more accurate measurement, then the community finds that the rate of individuals using the beds in the Tri-J CoC has been steadily decreasing since 2003.

Total Tri-J CoC Homeless Counts				
	2005	2007	2009	2011
Occupancy	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460
Capacity	5,171	5,298	5,653	5,282
Occupancy (%)	88%	89%	86%	84%

Table 21: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity and Occupancy

Individuals				
	2005	2007	2009	2011
Occupancy	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429
Capacity	3,722	3,741	4,082	3,840
Occupancy for Individuals (%)	96%	95%	91%	89%

Section 7: Annualized Projection

For the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, the community collected information on persons who were homeless on a single night. This provides only a snap shot of people who are homeless on a given night in winter. Over the course of a year, individuals and families will cycle in and out of homelessness. People who are homeless for a short period will be in the situation briefly as they find a permanent place to stay usually within a few weeks or months. On the other hand, people who are homeless for the long-term will remain without housing for a year or longer. The long term homeless tend to be chronic indicating that they experience a disabling condition such as a mental illness or addiction.

To estimate how many people will be homeless over the course of an entire year, Pathways projected an annualized count of homeless people based on turnover rates (also called multipliers). Multipliers have been calculated for the 2011 Tri-Jurisdictional homeless population to estimate the number of individuals and family members who will experience homelessness this year.

Three factors were used to determine categorically specific turnover rates:

- Length of homelessness as reported by the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless survey respondents;
- Percent of respondents indicating each length, and
- Minimum turnover rate for each length category.

A weighted average was then calculated based on the relative proportion of respondents who fell within each length category. The net result of this approach suggested a point-in-time annual multiplier of 2.2 for family members ($2.2 \times 1,073 = 2,361$) and a multiplier of 3.02 for individuals ($3.02 \times 5,765 = 17,410$). On a regular basis, families are homeless a shorter time period than individuals. According to the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless survey, more family members were homeless for 1-3 months (16%) while more individuals were homeless for 4-6 months (17.5%).

The total for both individuals and families indicated that ***approximately 19,771 people will experience homelessness in the Tri-J CoC area sometime during 2011.*** From the 2003 to 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless counts, there was a steady increase of people homeless over the years (4,816 people, 22.5%). However, over the past two years, there has been a decrease of people homeless annually (1,670 people, 8%).

Table 22: Annualized Projections for 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Totals	16,625	20,086	20,110	21,441	19,771
Percent Change		+21%	0%	+7%	-8%

Section 8: Conclusion

Historically, the homeless population has fluctuated as the U.S. economy prospers and declines. With a growing economy such as during the 1950s, the homeless population numbers were reduced. Unfortunately, over the past few years, the U.S. economy has been struggling with unemployment on the rise and house prices falling. Yet during this tough economic time, the overall 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless numbers were reduced for the first time since collecting count data.

Overall, the Tri-J CoC homeless numbers rose from 2003 to 2009 with a reduction in the homeless population for the latest count. An interesting finding was that the same trend occurred with the overall Tri-J CoC sheltered count numbers. On the other hand, the unsheltered numbers experienced a decrease from 2003 to 2009 with an increase for 2011. In other words, as the number of people in sheltered beds rose in the Tri-J CoC, the number of people sleeping outdoors fell and as the number of people in sheltered beds decreased, the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations increased. These findings indicate that the occupancy of sheltered beds had a much larger impact on the overall Tri-J CoC homeless numbers than the unsheltered figures.

It is important to realize that the reduction in the sheltered count numbers in 2011 was probably most affected by the large decrease in available transitional housing beds for the Tri-J CoC over the past couple of years (580 beds). A possible reason for the reduction in the transitional housing beds can be the focus of the Tri-J CoC over the past few years on increasing the number of permanent supportive housing beds (PSH). In fact, there has been over 800 PSH beds added for families, unaccompanied adult men and unaccompanied adult women to the Tri-J CoC since 2009. These beds tend to have a higher occupancy rate than both transitional housing and emergency shelter beds. By moving people into permanent supportive housing programs, it reduces the number of people who are literally homeless.

On the other hand, there is concern that the unsheltered numbers were at an all time high for this homeless count, especially for unaccompanied adult men. A possible reason for the high number of unsheltered individuals is the ever decreasing occupancy rate. In addition, there were not enough beds available on count night for the street population. Even if all the Tri-J CoC empty beds were filled, there would still have been over 2,000 people sleeping outside. The need for beds can be clearly seen by the extremely large number of people found at the Atlanta Airport on count night. Currently, a majority of homeless services are focused on downtown Atlanta. Even though this area has consistently experienced the highest concentration of unsheltered people, extensive homeless services also need to be targeted in the other two areas where high numbers of homeless street people were found - Southwest Atlanta and Atlanta Airport.

The overall Tri-J CoC numbers have held fairly steady from year to year and across both unsheltered and sheltered counts. The greatest fluctuation in numbers has been experienced within each jurisdiction. For the jurisdictions, often the overall numbers rise, fall, rise and then fall again. An interesting finding is that the overall Tri-J CoC homeless count figures for individuals show a similar pattern of increasing, decreasing, increasing and finally decreasing for



2011. Another discovery is that even though the jurisdictions found a majority of individuals on count night, the percentage of individuals for each jurisdiction varied. Atlanta had the highest percentage of individuals (88%), DeKalb County was a distant second (60%) with Fulton County third (52%). Thus, to have the largest impact, City of Atlanta needs to focus homeless services on individuals, specifically unaccompanied adult males sleeping outside and in emergency shelters, while DeKalb County and Fulton County need to concentrate on services for both individuals and families.

Whereas the majority of unaccompanied adult men were sleeping in unsheltered locations on count night, the majority of unaccompanied adult women were found in emergency shelters while most families were staying in transitional housing. On the other hand, unaccompanied adult men, unaccompanied adult women and families were fairly evenly distributed among permanent supportive housing beds on count night. As seen by these figures, a strong effort by the Tri-J CoC to encourage unaccompanied adults, especially those sleeping in unsheltered and emergency shelter locations, towards staying in transitional housing and permanent supportive housing needs to continue to reduce the number of people who are literally homeless in our community.

Following the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless survey is conducted. The survey provides a more in depth look at the issues that homeless people face in our community. The next HUD mandated Tri-J CoC homeless census is scheduled for January 2013.



Section 9: References

Jaret, C. and R. Adelman. 1997. Homelessness in Metro Atlanta.

Rossi, Peter. 1989. *Down and Out in America: Origins of Homelessness*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 2005-2009. American Fact Finder.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The 2011 HHS Poverty Guideline. One Version of the [U.S.] Federal Poverty Measure.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Homelessness Resource Exchange. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act As amended by S. 896 The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009. (<http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HomelessAssistanceActAmendedbyHEARTH.pdf>)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Office of Community Planning and Development. HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs: A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People, Second Revision. January 2008. (http://www.hudhre.info/documents/counting_unsheltered.pdf)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Questions & Answers for the 2007 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). (<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/library/hicqa.pdf>)

SPECIAL THANKS

Sponsors	
Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness City of Atlanta · Fulton County · DeKalb County	
Tri-J CoC Executive Group	
Mitzi Bickers <i>City of Atlanta</i> Chris Morris <i>DeKalb County</i>	Leonard Westmoreland <i>Fulton County</i>
Pathways Community Network	
Josie Parker <i>Manager, Research and Data Analysis</i> Autumn Austin <i>Research Assistant</i>	Natasha Davenport <i>Research Assistant</i> Nykia Greene-Young <i>Research Assistant</i>
2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count Report	
Report prepared by Josie Parker, Manager, Research and Data Analysis, Pathways	
Advisory Council	
Melvia Richards, Chairman <i>DeKalb County, Tri-J CoC Representative</i> Juanita Blount-Clark <i>University of Georgia</i> Lorie Burnett, Deployment Captains Co-chair <i>DeKalb County</i> Kevin Cook <i>Auburn Avenue Churches Collaborative</i> Stan Dawson <i>Crossroads Community Network</i>	Yarneccia Hamilton <i>Fulton County, Researcher</i> Tommie Jones <i>Fulton County, Tri-J CoC Representative</i> William Matson <i>Pathways Community Network</i> Shalise Steele-Young <i>City of Atlanta, Tri-J CoC Representative</i>
Deployment Sites	
Atlanta Community Food Bank Center for Pan Asian Community Services Chapel of Christian Love Church Covenant House Crossroads Community Ministries Druid Hills United Methodist Church Jefferson Place	Maloof Center North Fulton Government Service Center Salvation Army - Peachcrest Zaban Couples Shelter Zion Hill Community Development Corporation

Metro Atlanta Homeless Census - Deployment Captains

Megan Anderson, Co-Chair
Furniture Bank of Metro-Atlanta

Lorie Burnett, Co-Chair
DeKalb County Community Development Dept.

Leonard Adams
Quest 35

Shamekela Bishop
Genesis Shelter

Robin Bledsoe
Community Advanced Practice Nurses

Dennis Bowman
Nicholas House

Braunwin Camp
DeKalb County Community Development Dept.

Thomas Capitano
Fulton County, Housing and Human Services Dept.

Ashley Chisolm
Furniture Bank

Tony Chung
Center for Pan Asian Services

Rev. Melanie Conner
Zion Hill Community Development Corporation

Jimiyu Evans
Project Community Concerns

Thomas Fuller
Latin American Association

Greg Fulton
City of Refuge

Sheila Gillion
Mary Hall Freedom House

Evelyn Guinyard
The Salvation Army

Donica Martin
City of Atlanta

Jenny Pavaglio
Covenant House

Michelle Ramirez
Buckhead Christian Ministry

Cliff Richards
Decatur Cooperative Ministry

Gerry Richardson
Jefferson Place

Elizabeth Runkle
Covenant House

Claude Sandiford
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program

Brad Schweers
Intown Collaborative Ministries

Elna Sheetz
Community Action Center

Cindy Simpson
Chris Kids

Joyce Sloan
Families First

Vince Smith
Gateway

Janet Tharp
The Salvation Army

Amanda vanDalen
Action Ministries

Len Wagner
Buckhead Christian Ministries

Lisa Waller
Mary Hall Freedom House

Mary Watson
St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)

Monifa Watson
Homestretch

Special Coverage Teams

DeKalb County, Community Development Department, Homeless Outreach Team
 Latin American Association
 St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)

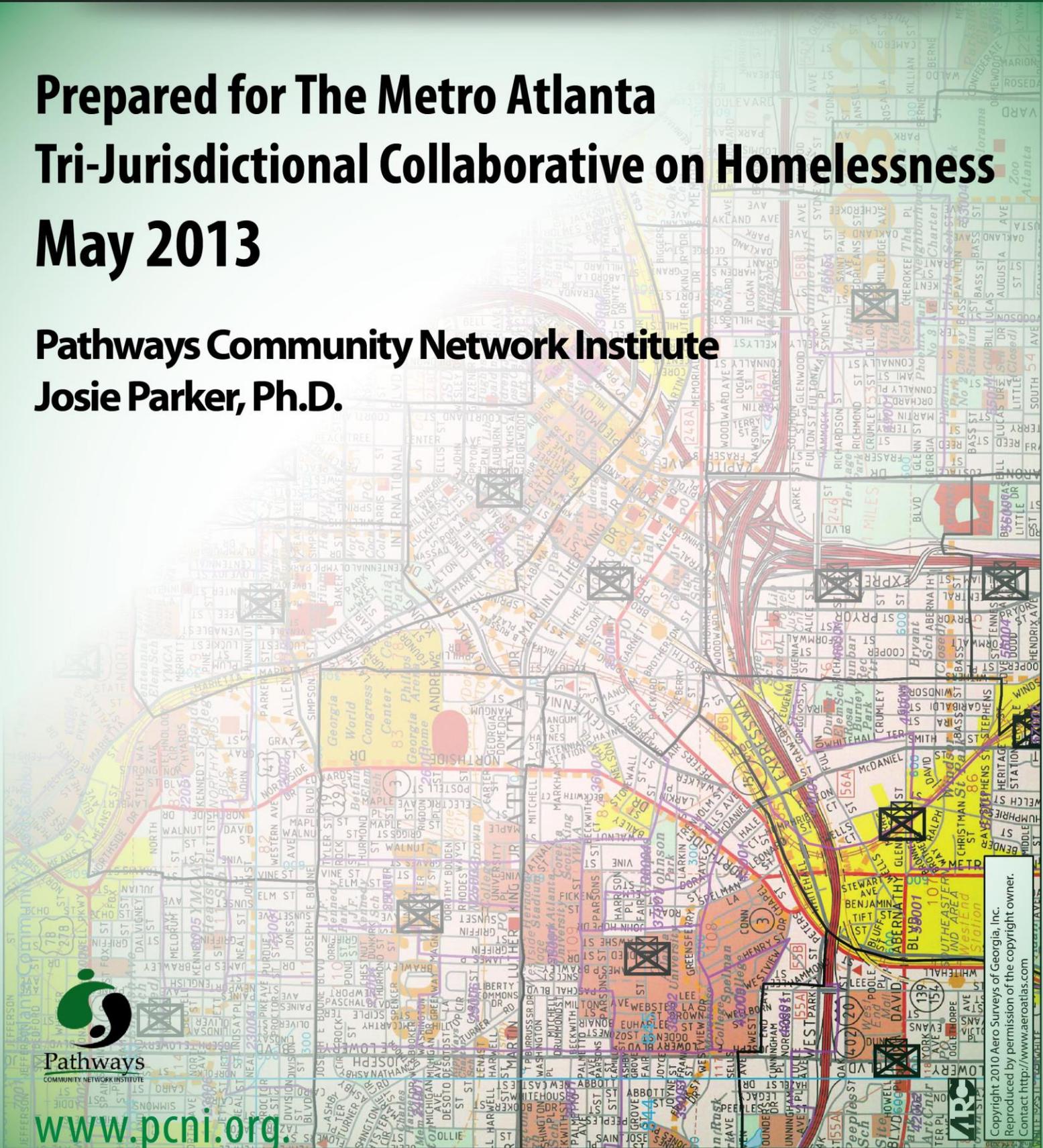
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans Program

The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

City Of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County

Prepared for The Metro Atlanta
Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative on Homelessness
May 2013

Pathways Community Network Institute
Josie Parker, Ph.D.



www.pcni.org

Copyright 2010 Aero Surveys of Georgia, Inc.
Reproduced by permission of the copyright owner.
Contact <http://www.aerosurveys.com>

Acknowledgements

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) on Homelessness (City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County) and Pathways Community Network Institute acknowledge the time and effort of the numerous individuals and organizations that assisted in the successful 2013 Tri-J homeless census. First and foremost, we want to thank the funders of this project – City of Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb County. In addition, we wish to recognize the Pathways research team, led by Josie Parker, Ph.D., in coordinating the planning, data collection, data analysis and report writing for the 2013 Tri-J homeless count. We express appreciation to members of the Tri-J executive community and Tri-J homeless census working group for their guidance regarding methodology and implementation. We extend our gratitude to the deployment captains who made the count successful through their hard work and dedication. We also are grateful to the host sites for providing a safe place to deploy enumeration teams.

The 2013 Tri-J homeless census was successful because over 400 volunteers joined forces to count the homeless persons in our community. Although it is not possible to list each by name, the Tri-J and Pathways wish to express our gratitude to each of you who contributed your time and effort. We recognize the efforts of the special coverage enumeration teams, including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program, the St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP), the DeKalb County Community Development Department – homeless outreach team, and the Latin American Association, whose knowledge of the homeless population and geographic areas were instrumental in the data collection process. We also appreciate the local police departments - Atlanta Community Liaison Unit, Atlanta Homeless Outreach Prevention Emergency Services (HOPE) team, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Police Section's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), DeKalb County Precincts, City of Dunwoody, and City of Alpharetta - for providing additional support to the enumeration teams on count night.

Finally, we acknowledge the Atlanta Regional Commission Geographic Information Systems Department (GIS) and David Giguere for the customized, user-friendly maps. We give special thanks to Aero Surveys of Georgia, Inc. for allowing us to use their detailed street information for the census maps. We are grateful to Druid Hills United Methodist Church for allowing the deployment captains to meet at the church on a regular basis and to Cliff Richards of Decatur Cooperative Ministries for arranging the meeting site at the church. Together we are collecting the data necessary to track our progress in the fight against homelessness.



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	i
Section 1: Introduction	1
Section 2: Project Purpose, Coordination and Oversight	2
2.1 Project Purpose	2
2.2 Project Coordination	2
2.3 Project Oversight	2
Section 3: Methodology	3
3.1 Background	3
3.2 Date and Time	3
3.3 Operational Definition and Components	4
3.4 Unsheltered Count Method	5
3.5 Sheltered Count Method	10
Section 4: Results	13
4.1 2013 Tri-J Homeless Census	13
4.2 Unsheltered Count	15
4.3 Sheltered Count (Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)	17
4.4 Permanent Supportive Housing Count	19
Section 5: Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County	22
5.1 City of Atlanta Homeless Numbers	23
5.2 DeKalb County Homeless Numbers	25
5.3 Fulton County Homeless Numbers	28
Section 6: Trend Analysis	31
Section 7: Annualized Projection	36
Section 8: Conclusion	37
Section 9: References	38
Special Thanks	39

Executive Summary

On the night of January 28, 2013, the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative (City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County) on Homelessness and Pathways Community Network Institute, along with over 400 community volunteers, conducted the sixth point-in-time count of homeless persons in our community. The homeless census consisted of two types of enumerations, an unsheltered count and a sheltered count, which together result in a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the Tri-J. ***Overall, a total of 6,664 homeless people were counted in the Tri-J area on count night.***

Five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adults staying in emergency shelters comprised the largest group (33 percent) with unaccompanied adults sleeping in unsheltered locations second (30 percent). The largest number (39 percent) of individuals was staying in emergency shelters with the majority (50 percent) of family members also found in emergency shelters.

2013 Tri-J Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Location	Individuals	Family Members (Number of Families)	Total Number of Homeless People (Percent)
Emergency Shelters	2,188	548 (176 Families)	2,736 (41%)
Unsheltered	2,028	49 (15 Families)	2,077 (31%)
Transitional Housing	1,348	503 (166 Families)	1,851 (28%)
Totals	5,564	1,100 (357 Families)	6,664
Percent	83%	17%	

The bed capacity on count night was three times greater for emergency shelters than transitional housing programs. Overall, the occupancy rate for emergency shelter beds was higher (92 percent) than the occupancy rate for transitional housing beds (83 percent). This means that on the night of the count 253 emergency beds were available (114 individual and 139 family beds). Additionally, there were 383 transitional housing beds available (245 individual and 132 family beds). If all available beds were occupied for the census, there would still be 1,669 people sleeping outside on the night of the count.

Sheltered Occupancy and Capacity

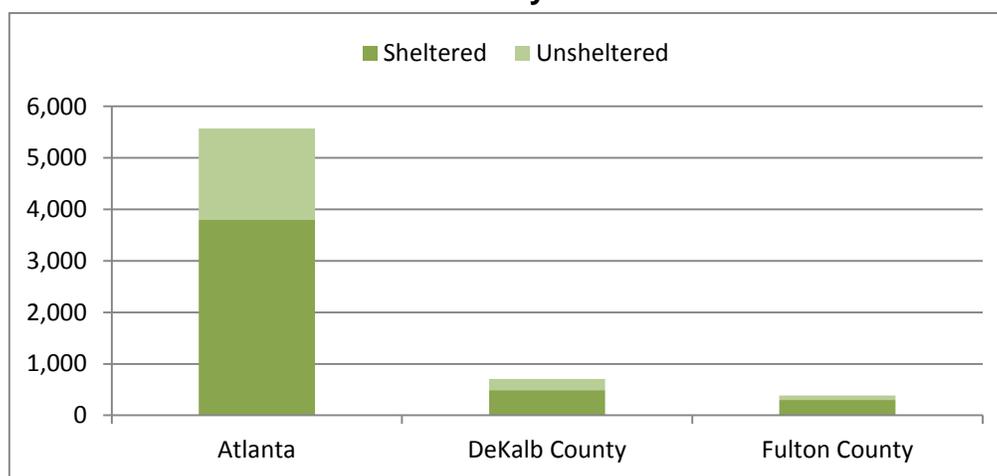
Sheltered Count	Individuals			Family Members		
	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total
Occupancy	2,188	1,348	3,536	548	503	1,051
Capacity	2,302	1,593	3,895	687	635	1,322
Occupancy Percent	95%	85%	91%	80%	79%	80%

2013 Tri-J Homeless Census Executive Summary

Of the 6,664 homeless people counted on census night, the majority were located in Atlanta (5,571 people, 84 percent) with DeKalb County a distant second (705 people, 11 percent) and Fulton County third (388 people, 6 percent). This composition is similar to the previous 2011 findings with Atlanta at 87 percent, DeKalb County at 8 percent and Fulton County at 5 percent.

To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts are simply a reflection of the number of beds available in each community. For example, 82 percent of Tri-J emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 11 percent of the beds were in DeKalb County, and 7 percent were in Fulton County on the night of the homeless census.

Homelessness by Jurisdiction



Over the years, the point-in-time Tri-J homeless counts have held fairly steady from year-to-year (overall average of 6,792 homeless people nightly). The table shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless on count night (7 percent). However, over the past four years, there has been a steady decrease of people homeless for the point-in-time census (5.5 percent).

The total homeless census numbers for 2013 are the second lowest of all the counts, with the lowest numbers counted in 2003. It is of note that the 2013 homeless census had the smallest number of unsheltered people found compared to previous counts. The 2013 sheltered count numbers are most similar to those of the 2005 homeless census.

Tri-J Homeless Census over Time

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378	2,077
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460	4,587
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838	6,664
<i>Percent Change</i>		<i>+4%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>+3%</i>	<i>-3%</i>	<i>-2.5%</i>

Section 1: Introduction

This is the sixth census for the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative on Homelessness. The Tri-J is a working partnership of government representatives, community members and service providers within the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. The partnership works collaboratively to address issues of homelessness through planning, policy development, service delivery and resource allocation.

In 2002, the Tri-J decided that collecting objective and accurate data on the number of homeless persons residing in the community was a top priority. The homeless census was to identify the number of homeless persons in each local community on the basis of sleeping location and basic demographic characteristics: male vs. female, adult vs. youth, and family vs. individual. Pathways Community Network Institute was asked to undertake the point-in-time homeless count on behalf of the Tri-J. While the 2003 Tri-J homeless census was in its early planning stages, the U. S. Congress passed legislation requiring state and local governments that receive funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (now the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing [HEARTH] Act of 2009) to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004.

In March 2003, the Tri-J and Pathways conducted the first successful homeless census. The census was designed as a full coverage count to assess the number of homeless people sleeping in unsheltered locations, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs throughout the Tri-J. Because the homeless census covered the City of Atlanta and its two counties, the Tri-J relied on the efforts of hundreds of people from service providers, government agencies, faith-based providers, local universities and community volunteers to conduct the count. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the 2003 Tri-J homeless census as a national “best practice.”

The 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013 Tri-J homeless census followed the successful methodology used in the 2003 count. Improvements were made to the model for each successive count based upon feedback from Pathways research team, Tri-J working group (Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County), deployment captains, community volunteers and community needs. Each count was followed by an in-depth survey which gathered data on demographics, homeless history, disabling conditions and two additional topics related to community concerns regarding the local homeless population.

The planning of the 2013 Tri-J homeless census began in October 2012 with the actual enumeration occurring on the night of Tuesday, January 28, 2013. This report describes the purpose, methodology and results of the count effort.

Section 2: Project Purpose, Coordination and Oversight

2.1 Project Purpose

With the initiation of the first homeless census, several important goals were identified:

- Provide the number and characteristics of people sleeping in transitional programs, shelters and places not meant for human habitation;
- Provide the local community with data to use in planning, funding, and implementing services that meets the needs of homeless persons;
- Provide a measurement of the changes in the homeless population over time;
- Provide a report that increases awareness of the local homeless issue; and
- Provide data to use in updating the Tri-J's Housing Inventory for the annual HUD Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) Exhibit 1 report.

2.2 Project Coordination

To meet these objectives and have a successful homeless count, the Tri-J asked Pathways Community Network Institute to undertake the homeless census. Pathways is a nonprofit organization that supports communities with tools – information systems, research and data analysis, and technical assistance and training - to help human service providers work together, reduce costs and increase impact. Since 2003, Pathways has been asked by the Tri-J to manage the homeless point-in-time counts. Pathways has coordinated, staffed, written the reports and presented the findings for the Tri-J homeless census. Beginning in 2007, the Pathways research and data analysis team has also provided expertise in the areas of methodology, data collection, and data analysis. The research team consisted of the research manager and one research assistant.

2.3 Project Oversight

As with the previous Tri-J homeless census, oversight was provided by a working group (WG) of leaders in the Tri-J government agencies and university professors. The functions of the WG included assisting the Pathways research team with refining the count methodology and instruments, logistical planning and providing input regarding compliance with HUD regulations. With few exceptions, the working group met on a monthly basis.

Section 3: Methodology

3.1 Background

Research Atlanta (1984) provided the earliest estimates of the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta based on comparative studies from other U.S. cities and interviews with local homeless service providers. They estimated that around 3,000 people would be homeless on any given night in 1984. A decade later, a point-in-time estimate was again calculated for the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta. Georgia State University researchers estimated that around 11,000 people were homeless on an average night in 1997 within the ten county Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) area (Jaret and Adelman 1997). The 1997 estimate was calculated from the results of a national study with adjustments made for the City of Atlanta population and its neighboring suburban counties.

In 2002, the Tri-J decided that an actual systematic and comprehensive count of homeless people needed to occur for the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. This decision coincided with the requirement of state and local governments that receive federal funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (now the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing [HEARTH] Act of 2009) to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004. The first actual homeless count conducted by the Tri-J was in 2003. The 2003 Tri-J homeless census established the baseline data with subsequent counts providing useful tracking for the changes in the homeless population over time.

3.2 Date and Time

HUD also mandated the time of year for the homeless census. HUD chose for Continuum of Care (CoC) communities such as the Tri-J to conduct their homeless census during the last ten days in January. One reason for that timeframe is that homeless people are more likely to sleep indoors at shelters and in transitional housing during cold weather months thus making it easier to locate people who might otherwise be outdoors at other times of the year. In addition, cold weather and overflow shelters open for only a few months each year during the winter. Also, by using the mandated time frame set by HUD, the Tri-J homeless numbers are comparable to other CoC homeless populations across the U.S.

For the 2013 Tri-J homeless census, the working group selected Tuesday, January 28th as the count date, with a bad weather back-up date of Thursday, January 31st. The working group chose both homeless count dates to be mid-week to represent a typical weekday morning and to avoid the higher number of non-homeless persons on the streets during weekends. In addition, several large shelters in the City of Atlanta discharge residents in the early morning hours (5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.). To avoid double counting people as sheltered and unsheltered, the working group decided to begin enumeration around 1 a.m. prior to the shelter early morning release times.

3.3 Operational Definition and Components

In order to calculate the size of the homeless population in our community, a definition of homelessness is necessary. The U.S. Census that occurs every decade counts people on the basis of their customary place of residence. However, since homeless people do not have permanent residence, they are instead enumerated based on their temporary sleeping locations such as on the street, in shelters or in transitional housing programs.

The Tri-J homeless count methodology has two components based on sleeping location: unsheltered count and sheltered count. These two counts follow the HUD guides for counting homeless people in a CoC (HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs: A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People 2008 and A Guide to Counting Sheltered Homeless People 2012). Together, the two enumerations create a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. For the purpose of this study, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009, Section 103, definition of homelessness was used:

- ***Unsheltered homeless people*** reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, in vehicles, parks, abandoned buildings, makeshift shelters, and airports.
- ***Sheltered homeless people*** occupy emergency shelters, transitional housing, treatment programs, and motels if motel vouchers are provided by service agencies or federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals.

Emergency Shelter: According to HUD, an emergency shelter is defined as any facility with sleeping accommodations that provide temporary shelter for homeless persons with the length of stay ranging from one night to three months.

Transitional housing is defined by HUD as a facility that provides housing and supportive services such as case management and life skills for homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Permanent Supportive Housing

In addition, HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each community starting in 2009. The Tri-J community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009 and 2011 and for the latest count in 2013. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J homeless census.

The definition of permanent supportive housing for HUD is a long-term, community-based program with supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. A person with a disability is determined to 1) have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or 2) have a developmental disability, as defined in the Developmental

Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, Title IV, Subtitle C).

This type of supportive housing enables special needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. There is no definite length of stay. Tenants of permanent housing sign legal lease documents. Services are available but the tenant is not obligated to participate. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by the applicant and provided by other public or private services agencies. Permanent supportive housing can be provided in one or several structures at one locations or scattered sites.

Not Counted

In 2009, the U.S. Congress amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 as the HEARTH Act. This expanded the Act to include people who are at imminent risk of homelessness and families or unaccompanied youth who are living unstably. Imminent risk of homelessness is defined as people who must leave their current housing situation within the next 14 days with no other place to stay and no resources or support network to obtain housing. “Unstably housed” families or unaccompanied youth are those who 1) meet the definition of homelessness under other federal programs such as the Department of Education, 2) have not lived for a long period independently in permanent housing, 3) have moved frequently, and 4) will continue to experience housing instability due to chronic disabilities, history of domestic violence or multiple barriers to employment. The “at risk of homelessness” and “unstably housed” populations are often labeled as precariously housed. For the 2013 homeless census, HUD again only wanted CoCs to count people who were literally homeless in their point-in-time counts and not those who were precariously housed.

3.4 Unsheltered Count Method

The methodology for the Tri-J unsheltered homeless census was recognized by HUD as a “best practice” in 2003. The Tri-J unsheltered count uses a combination of different methods to determine the number of people homeless on one night. The direct methods include canvassing and hotspot counts, along with an indirect method of estimations. These methods were applied to the first systematic count of homeless people in Chicago in 1985 (Rossi 1989).

The canvassing method entails enumerators covering areas in a community where they observe people, typically at night or in the early morning hours, and either identify them as homeless or housed. This method is best used in urban areas where enumerators can walk the streets of concentrated areas or drive the streets in suburban or sparser areas. The hotspot count is conducted in areas where homeless people are thought to be heavily concentrated and hidden from street view. Typically, enumerators who are experienced working with street homeless populations are sent to cover these areas. Hotspot counts offer data collection opportunities of a subpopulation that might not otherwise be included in a count.

A benefit to conducting a canvassing method is that once the unsheltered numbers are collected, they can be adjusted for the hidden homeless (Rossi 1989). Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. The 2003 advisory group determined

that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families.

Planning

Planning for the 2013 Tri-J homeless census unsheltered count began in October 2012. The first month involved setting up the working group and, most importantly, setting the date for the count. In addition, as with previous homeless counts, a *deployment captain's* (DC) committee was formed to assist Pathways in planning and managing deployment sites for the unsheltered count. The DC was staffed by homeless service providers, non-profit agencies, community volunteers and government agencies. Beginning in December 2012, the deployment captains met on a regular basis to prepare for the upcoming homeless count.

To develop a logistics plan for the Tri-J homeless census, the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County had to be divided into manageable areas for counting. The Tri-J covers over 800 square miles and comprises 771 U.S. Census block groups. In 2003, **134 enumeration areas** were created by grouping the U.S. Census blocks into manageable areas for data collection and organization. The enumeration areas varied in size and number of block groups depending on the anticipated concentration of unsheltered homeless persons. For example, in areas with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless people, fewer block groups were allocated to an enumeration area.

The 2013 Tri-J homeless census used the same enumeration areas as previous counts. The enumeration areas were divided among **11 deployment sites** (see SPECIAL THANKS). These sites were spaced throughout the Tri-J and appropriately geo-located to provide convenient access for enumerators to their assigned enumeration areas. They served as staging areas for the unsheltered count by providing adequate well-lit parking and a large meeting area.

Once the deployment sites were confirmed, a *planning map* was developed. The Atlanta Regional Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department created the 2013 planning map for the unsheltered count. The large planning map aided Pathways in the assignment of enumeration areas to each deployment site and the deployment captains in orienting enumerators during training on census night.

The *enumeration area maps* created by GIS in 2010 for the 2011 homeless census were again used for the 2013 homeless count. The enumeration maps included one main enumeration area clearly outlined in bold black in the center of the map with the block groups for each EA outlined in purple within the EA. The enumeration maps had been improved from the 2005 homeless census with Aero Atlas street overlays, which detailed street information, defined block group boundaries and distinguished landmarks. The colors of the maps had been changed slightly from the 2007 Tri-J homeless count. In 2007, the maps were updated to one light pastel color for cities and no color for the county areas.

The enumeration areas were stratified into four categories – **high, medium, low and zero count areas** – based on the numbers from previous Tri-J homeless census. The WG decided in 2002 that high count areas such as downtown Atlanta would receive enumerators with expertise or

experience with the street homeless population. These high count areas can typically have a concentration of sixty or more people. In 2007, the WG determined that enumeration areas where no homeless people had been found in the previous counts would not be counted. This would allow efforts to be focused on areas where homeless people were thought to be located. For 2009, the WG concluded that low count enumeration areas, where twelve or fewer homeless people had been found on previous counts, would not be assisted by enumerator guides due to the lack of need for their expertise. Finally, the other areas had enumeration teams comprised of community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides.

Conducting a count of this magnitude required community collaboration. Over 400 *community volunteers* were needed to carry out the count in the City of Atlanta and its two counties. The Tri-J relied on the efforts of homeless service provider staff, personnel from government agencies, members of faith-based organizations, college students and hundreds of community volunteers to conduct the unsheltered count. Volunteers were recruited using a number of methods including direct recruitment, public announcements, recruitment fliers and postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless. Volunteers were assigned to deployment sites based on their preferences and on the minimum requirement of volunteers needed at each site.

As with previous Tri-J homeless counts, *enumerator guides* assisted the community volunteers with identifying homeless persons, in pointing out locations likely to have homeless persons present and in recognizing potentially dangerous situations to avoid. The guides were recruited from various transitional housing programs in the Tri-J area. They were required to have lived in the Tri-J area for at least six months and to have been a participant in the transitional program for at least three months. The guides were only used at six of the ten deployment sites due to low numbers of homeless people found in the other four sites during the past census.

One area of the Tri-J where community volunteers and enumerator guides did not count was downtown Atlanta. The downtown area was covered by veterans participating in the *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)*, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program. Along with the 22 current program participants, VA staff also worked in the downtown enumeration teams on census night. The VA enumerators were assigned enumeration areas in downtown Atlanta due to their experience living on the streets or working with clients on the streets. These areas were walked and involved counting in gulleys and other hidden locations. Typically, downtown Atlanta has the highest number of unsheltered homeless people on count night.

Identifying other areas where concentrated numbers of homeless people were sleeping was critical. Several months prior to census night, *law enforcement* agencies throughout the Tri-J were sent packets that included a survey on the probable location of unsheltered homeless persons. In addition to information about homeless persons' locations, law enforcement officers were also asked to identify areas that were unsafe for volunteers and areas that needed police escorts. With the feedback from law enforcement, Pathways was able to compile a detailed list of special coverage areas or hotspot locations.

Enumerators who work with clients on the streets or have specialized knowledge of the street homeless population counted in the *hot spot locations*. These areas were primarily walked because they involved counting in wooded areas and other hidden locations. *Special coverage enumeration teams* were comprised of outreach workers and other knowledgeable personnel from St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP), DeKalb County Community Development Department, and the Latin American Association – homeless outreach team and homeless service provider agencies. The teams were grouped into several geographic coverage areas: City of Atlanta, south Fulton County, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Decatur, Tucker, north DeKalb County, east DeKalb County and south DeKalb County. These teams were stationed at three deployment sites: Crossroads Community Ministries, Center for Pan Asian Community Services and the Maloof Center.

In the weeks prior to the census, Pathways research staff put together *count night boxes* for the captains to use at the deployment sites. Planning and enumeration maps were printed, supplies such as clipboards, flashlights and pens were purchased and count night forms from previous census were updated and printed. The forms included: *sign-in sheet, hold harmless agreement, enumerator roles description, map reading guide instruction, street tally form instructions, verification letter, deployment log, block group log and certificate of participation*. Pathways research staff passed out the boxes to the DC the week prior to the count. At the meeting, the Pathways research manager reviewed with the DC all the materials that were included in the boxes and the census night process such as setting up the deployment sites, training the volunteers and calling in the homeless count numbers. This meeting also provided the DCs an opportunity to meet with their fellow deployment site co-captains.

Two other *training sessions* also occurred in January. At the first January DC meeting, the captains were trained on how to read the planning and enumeration maps. In addition to the DC, both the veteran and special coverage enumeration teams received special training on how to read the maps, to identify people who are homeless and to fill out the count form. The teams were also taught safety procedures to follow.

Data Collection

On count night, January 28, 2013, the Pathways research team was available during the day to answer any last questions regarding the upcoming count and to assign new volunteers as needed. Deployment captains arrived at the deployment sites around 10:30 p.m. to set up for the count. For each deployment site, three DCs coordinated the site on census night. During the count night, Pathways research staff was located at the Jefferson Place deployment site.

The deployment captains had been provided with an instructions and checklist form to assist with the count night process. The DC count night checklist provided instructions on what to do prior to count night such as organizing supplies and documents and purchasing food. The instructions for count night focused on a process for setting up and organizing the deployment site, training the enumerators, and forming and equipping enumeration teams. Also, on the checklist were procedures for what to do after deploying the teams and when the teams return.

Around 11:30 p.m., 318 community volunteers, 46 enumerator guides, 31 VA enumerators and 21 special coverage team enumerators arrived at the deployment sites to participate in the

homeless count. The WG decided that, for accuracy and safety, enumeration teams not covering downtown Atlanta or hotspot locations would be comprised of at least three to four members, ideally at least two community volunteers and one enumerator guide. The number of teams required at each deployment site depended on the number of enumeration areas assigned to the site with one enumeration team generally covering one enumeration area.

Training for the community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides occurred at midnight. They received training on enumerator roles, how to read the maps and enumeration process and safety tips. The tips were provided to the enumerators on what to do while at the deployment site, such as reviewing their enumeration area map and, while in the field counting, to spend most of their time in high-probability areas including commercial zones, industrial corridors, shut-down businesses and 24-hour businesses. The tips also focused on safety practices, such as driving only in well-lit parking lots and side streets.

Enumerators were instructed to travel all streets in their enumeration area, to drive at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour in areas where homeless people are likely to be, not to count in abandoned buildings due to safety concerns and not to make contact with or disturb any homeless persons found on the street. The enumerators were also requested to stop at 24 hour businesses to ask store clerks if they are aware of where homeless people might be in that area. Another request was that enumerators stop at hospitals in their area and count homeless people in the emergency room.

Proper completion of tally sheets was an important training topic. The tally sheets helped to collect an accurate count of the number of unsheltered homeless people observed. These forms reported the number of homeless individuals by gender and adult vs. youth (under age 18) or undetermined gender/age and the number of homeless family units by adult male, adult female and children under age 18. The street tally forms were pre-printed with an assigned enumeration area number and a block group number. The forms contained directions on how to record the data and how to call in the counts. Enumerators were instructed to call in count results on each block group as it was completed.

On census night, police officers throughout the Tri-J stopped by the deployment sites to provide safety and to identify the location of homeless people and unsafe areas. In addition, the officers were available to provide police escorts as needed.

The enumerators deployed around 1:00 a.m. on census morning with instructions to return to their deployment sites by 5 a.m. The weather conditions on the morning of January 29th were clear with a morning low temperature in the forties. In an effort to ensure accuracy of the count, prevent the loss of data and to get “real time” reporting of the count, a call-in reporting method was used. Enumeration teams reported the tallies for each block group in their assigned enumeration area to their deployment captains as they completed the count for the block group. After an enumeration area was complete, deployment captains provided data to Pathways staff for entry into an online computer application.

Challenges and Suggested Modifications

After enumerators returned from their enumeration areas, they received a continental breakfast and a standardized debriefing questionnaire to fill out. Based on the feedback, volunteers indicated that they liked several things about participating in the count. First, volunteers liked that they could help homeless people and serve the community for a worthwhile cause. The volunteers felt that they were making a difference. Also, they enjoyed working as a team with their fellow volunteers and meeting new people.

The main problem with the homeless census that the volunteers expressed was the time that the count occurred. Volunteers did not like staying up late to conduct the census. Another major concern for several volunteers was not finding any or many homeless people in their enumeration area. It is important to understand that lower count numbers will occur in the outer areas of the Tri-J where there are more residential neighborhoods such as in north Fulton County.

All in all, most volunteers were glad to participate and found the process to be easy (85 percent). The volunteers stated that they appreciated the experience and would be willing to volunteer again (96 percent). For many, it raised their awareness of situations faced by people who sleep on the street.

3.5 Sheltered Count Method

Emergency Shelters (ES) and Transitional Housing Programs (TH)

In December 2012, a master list of sheltered agencies (emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, along with permanent supportive housing programs) located in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County was created based on the previous Tri-J Housing Inventory Charts (HIC) and other agency lists such as providers participating in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Tri-J grantee organizations. According to HUD, the HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing beds available in the CoC on a particular night (HUD 2007). HUD requires that the HIC and point-in-time count data be collected for the same night.

Tri-J HMIS staff contacted emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing agencies via email or phone and notified them of the upcoming Tri-J homeless census. In addition, announcements were made at local public meetings, via flyers and via postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless.

As agency staff was contacted, current information was verified or corrected as needed to update the master list. If a phone number was no longer in service, Tri-J HMIS staff researched the situation to determine if the facility was no longer open or if the number had changed. Staff also investigated any new agencies that were provided by the advisory council, deployment captains, Tri-J representatives or the community. Throughout the process, contact persons were identified who would provide the number of homeless people staying at the sheltered agencies on count night.

Several days prior to the homeless census, Tri-J HMIS staff again emailed, called or faxed each agency on the master list to remind them of the upcoming homeless count, the need for their bed occupancy and capacity information for census night, and to provide the agency staff with the sheltered count tally form and instructions. The email or fax included a notification letter, sheltered count tally form and instructions for filling out the count form.

The sheltered count tally form requested the following information:

- Agency/Contact information
- Program information, including jurisdiction, program type, target population, number of beds, number of units, HMIS beds
- Point-in-time count, focusing on the number of households with and without children by gender and age (adult age 18-24, adult over age 24 or child under age 18)
- Special needs information

The contact person for each provider agency was instructed to fill out the form for all clients on site from 6 p.m. January 28th to 6 a.m. January 29th, 2013. The contact person was requested to return the sheltered count tally form to the Tri-J HMIS staff by 6 p.m. January 30th. Unfortunately, many agencies did not return their forms back by the set deadline. Therefore, the submission deadline was extended to February 5, 2013.

On February 20, the Pathways research project manager met with the Tri-J representatives to discuss the process for collecting data on non-reporting agencies and for verifying the numbers that agencies had provided. A decision was made that each jurisdiction would be responsible for contacting the non-reporting agencies within their communities. The City of Atlanta representative who had compiled the HIC data in previous years took responsibility for maintaining the sheltered count master spreadsheet which includes all the numbers for the sheltered count. With City of Atlanta having the largest number of provider agencies in their jurisdiction, two additional city personnel were provided to assist with the collection and verification of sheltered count numbers in Atlanta.

Additional meetings were held in March and April to discuss the progress for contacting non-reporting agencies and for verifying numbers reported. Any issues such as determining what is considered a unit and recording street addresses were resolved at the meetings with people coming to a consensus. For the April meeting, the master spreadsheet was reviewed line by line. At that meeting it was determined that for difficult to reach agencies, an individual would visit the program site to confirm its existence and report the number of participants on census night.

In the end, the Tri-J was able to obtain 93 percent return rate on the sheltered count tally forms. Estimations were made for the agencies that did not provide their homeless count numbers. These estimates, conducted by the Pathways research project manager, were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 Tri-J homeless census. This model predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and used housing type, bed capacity and demographic information.

Institutions

Pathways has previously had difficulty obtaining the number of homeless persons staying at institutions on count night. Therefore, estimations were conducted on the ratio of homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta from 2009 to 2011 to the actual number of homeless individuals in the institutions in 2011. The estimated numbers were allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters developed from the 2005 Tri-J homeless census and survey.

In 2011, packets similar to the police requests for information were created to send out to the jails and hospitals. For the 2013 Tri-J homeless census, Pathways used the same methodology for contacting hospitals and jails in the communities. Several months prior to the 2013 homeless census, jails and hospitals received packets that included a letter notifying jail and hospital staff of the upcoming homeless count, a survey on homeless people who use the facility and a request that the institutions provide a contact person who can give the number of people homeless at the facility on count night. The response rate for this census was low with only a few institutions providing their homeless numbers. For institutions that did not report numbers, the previous estimation formulas were used.

Challenges and Suggested Modifications

A continuous challenge for the sheltered homeless counts has been the relatively lengthy return time for some of the Tri-J agencies regarding the number of homeless people at their facilities on census night. This census was no exception with Tri-J representatives verifying sheltered count numbers until the middle of April. The best possible solution to this problem appears to be that used in 2011 where one staff member was dedicated primarily to the accurate collection of the sheltered count data.

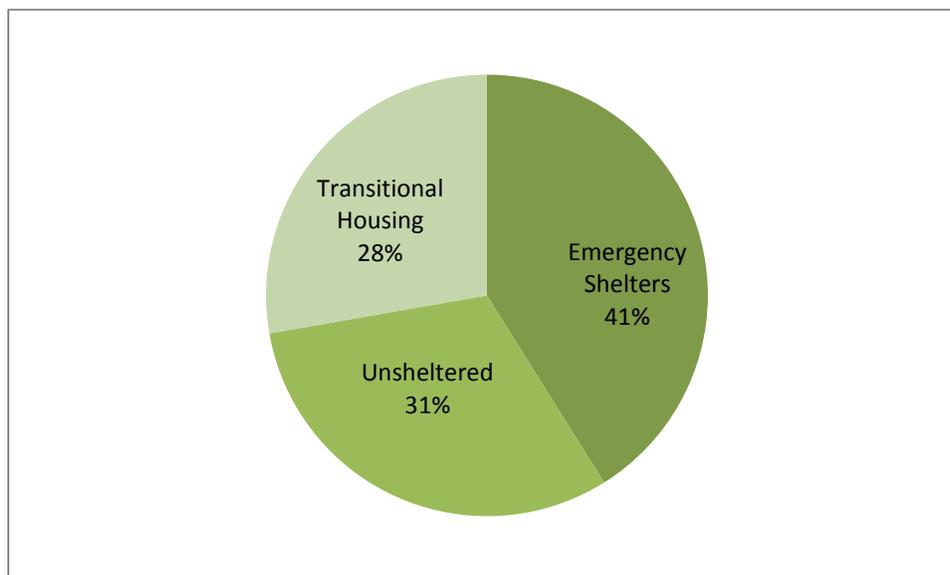
Another major issue was verifying the homeless census numbers provided by sheltered agencies. First, the numbers provided were compared to other Tri-J reports, i.e. past HICs, previous sheltered counts and recent grant applications. A second step of count night number verification was to speak with agency staff directly about specific data anomalies. Confirmation of numbers was a three-month process.

Section 4: Results

4.1 2013 Tri-J Homeless Census Numbers

On the night of January 28, 2013, a total of 6,664 homeless people were counted in Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb County. The largest number (2,736 people) was counted sleeping in emergency shelters, with persons found in unsheltered locations a distant second (2,077 people), and those in transitional housing third (1,851 people).

Figure 1: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location



According to Table 1, five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. Overall, individuals staying in emergency shelters comprised the largest group (33 percent) with unaccompanied adults sleeping in unsheltered locations a distant second (30 percent). The largest number of individuals (39 percent) slept in emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a close second (36 percent). The majority of family members (50 percent) were also found in emergency shelters with transitional housing a close second (46 percent).

Table 1: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Location	Individuals	Family Members (Number of Families)	Total Number Homeless People (%)
Emergency Shelters	2,188	548 (176 Families)	2,736 (41%)
Unsheltered	2,028	49 (15 Families)	2,077 (31%)
Transitional Housing	1,348	503 (166 Families)	1,851 (28%)
Totals	5,564	1,100 (357 Families)	6,664
<i>Percent</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>17%</i>	

Individuals: The 2013 Tri-J homeless census composition of individuals is similar to the 2009 and 2011 homeless counts. Unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group of individuals. Almost the same number (38 percent) of adult males were sleeping in unsheltered locations as in emergency shelters. Only a quarter of adult males were staying in transitional housing programs. The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults. This was the only group with the majority (49 percent) sleeping in emergency shelters. Over a quarter (28 percent) of the women were found in unsheltered locations with less than a quarter (23 percent) in transitional housing programs.

The smallest group of individuals identified was unaccompanied females under the age of eighteen. Only seven youth females were identified as sleeping unsheltered with none staying at emergency shelters or in transitional housing programs. Historically, the count numbers for unaccompanied youth have been low. Homeless youth are hard to locate because they tend to sleep in either abandoned buildings or on people’s sofas (called “couch surfing”). In addition, unaccompanied youth (under age 18) who show up at shelters are either reunited with their parents or, if there are no parents, then the police are called and the youth are taken into the Department of Family and Children’s custody to become wards of the state.

Table 2: Homeless Individuals by Sleeping Type and Gender

Individuals					
Sleeping Location	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Emergency Shelters	1,707	481	0	0	2,188
Unsheltered	1,710	277	34	7	2,028
Transitional Housing	1,127	221	0	0	1,348
Totals	4,544	979	34	7	5,564
Percent	82%	18%	0%	0%	

Families: The majority of families (93 percent) were headed by single mothers. Of family members, children were the largest group (64 percent) with single mothers about half that (30 percent). The two previous findings regarding single mothers and children are consistent with past counts. The 1,100 families averaged 3.08 people per household. Almost half of the families (49 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters a close second (46 percent) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4 percent).

The identified families were comprised of at least one parent and at least one child under the age of eighteen. Families without children such as couples or parents with an adult child (18 years of age or older) may have been homeless for the count but were identified as individuals for a number of reasons. First, only Zaban Couples Center takes couples without children as a household unit. At other shelters, couples are required to separate and stay as individuals. Second, two people sleeping next to each other on the streets are hard to identify as a couple in a relationship.

Table 3: Homeless Families by Sleeping Type and Gender

Family Members						
Sleeping Location	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Children Under Age 18 in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Emergency Shelters	2	168	6 (12 Adults)	15	351	548 (176 Families)
Transitional Housing	1	148	17 (34 Adults)	8	312	503 (166 Families)
Unsheltered	0	15	0	0	34	49 (15 Families)
Totals	3	331	23 (46 Adults)	23	697	1,100 (357 Families)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>64%</i>	

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (68 percent) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15 percent). Children and single mothers were the third (10 percent) and fourth (5 percent) largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households, youth males, non-head of household adults such as adult children or grandmothers, youth females and single fathers.

4.2 Unsheltered Count

On census night, *2,077 homeless persons were counted in unsheltered locations* in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. Individuals comprised almost all of the people (98 percent) sleeping unsheltered.

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted as unsheltered, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (82 percent) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (13 percent). The remaining groups of unsheltered homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males (2 percent), children (2 percent), single mothers (1 percent) and youth females.

Table 4: Unsheltered Count Individuals

Individuals					
Unsheltered	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Totals	1,710	277	34	7	2,028
<i>Percent</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>0%</i>	

Families: No families were found sleeping unsheltered on the night of the count. Unsheltered homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. Pathways and the working group believed that homeless families should have been found based upon data from the 2011 Tri-J homeless survey indicating that 4.5 percent of the total number of families usually slept in unsheltered locations. Therefore, it was determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families. The results of the estimation determined that 49 people in 15 families were sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of January 28th.

Table 5: Unsheltered Count Families

Unsheltered	Family Members					Total Family Members (Number of Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Children Under Age 18 in Family	
Totals	0	15	0	0	34	49 (15)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>64%</i>	

Geographic Areas: As with previous Tri-J homeless counts, the highest concentration (458 people, 23 percent) of unsheltered homeless people were counted in downtown Atlanta. A likely cause of the large number is the high concentration of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in the area. The downtown area measures approximately four square miles and is roughly bound by North Avenue to the north, Northside Drive to the west, Boulevard to the east and Interstate 20 to the south.

A high concentration of unsheltered homeless people (55 people, 3 percent) was also found at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Typically, people who are homeless arrive at the Airport on the last MARTA train of the night and leave out the next morning on the first train. Homeless people are usually left alone by the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Police to sleep overnight.

The lowest number of unsheltered homeless people (16 people, less than 1 percent) was counted in north Fulton County above the City of Atlanta. A possible reason for the low homeless numbers in north Fulton County is that households in that area earn annual incomes far above the U.S. poverty level (\$23,550 annual income for a family of four; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2013). For example, Sandy Springs households earn a median annual income of \$76,477 with Roswell households at \$79,733 yearly, and Alpharetta households having a median yearly income of \$95,888 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates).

Hidden Homeless: On count night, there were two groups of unsheltered homeless people that were not counted. First, enumerators did not enter abandoned buildings to count the number of people sleeping due to safety reasons. These buildings were dark, often in disrepair and could have had drug activity occurring. Second, enumerators were asked not to get out of their cars to walk around unless escorted by police officers or as part of special teams due to safety concerns. This rule made it difficult to count people sleeping in cars because community volunteers were unable to approach parked cars and look inside. Another issue with counting people sleeping in cars is that car owners, business owners and police officers do not appreciate people looking in cars and may suspect the enumerators of theft. Unfortunately, there is no current estimation formula for calculating the numbers for this hidden homeless population.

4.3 Sheltered Count (Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)

A total of **4,587 homeless persons resided in emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) facilities** on census night. For the sheltered count, over half of the people (60 percent) were sleeping at emergency shelters (2,736 people) with the remaining at transitional housing programs (1,851 people). Additionally, more individuals (77 percent) were staying at sheltered locations on count night than family members (23 percent).

Estimated Group: Occupancy figures for the six non-reporting emergency shelter and transitional housing agencies were estimated. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity, and demographic information.

Individuals: Of the individuals in the sheltered count, adult males comprised the largest group with adult females a distant second. Adult males in emergency shelters were almost half (48 percent) of the individuals with nearly a third of individuals (32 percent) adult males staying in transitional housing. Adult females sleeping in emergency shelters were 14 percent and those in transitional housing programs were 5 percent of individuals in sheltered locations. This composition of individuals is similar the 2011 sheltered homeless count.

On census night, over half (60 percent) of individual adult males were sleeping in emergency shelters with the rest staying at transitional housing programs. The majority of individual women (69 percent) were also sleeping in emergency shelters.

Table 6: Sheltered Count Individuals

Individuals					
Sleeping Locations	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Emergency Shelters	1,707	481	0	0	2,188
Transitional Housing	1,127	221	0	0	1,348
Totals	2,834	702	0	0	3,536
Percent	80%	20%	0%	0%	

Families: The majority of families (92 percent) were headed by single mothers. Of family members, children were the largest group with single mothers half that. The remaining family members were comprised of two parent heads of households, non-head of household adults and single fathers. The 342 families averaged 3.07 people per household. Unlike the 2011 sheltered homeless census, the majority of the families (51 percent) were staying in emergency shelters.

Table 7: Sheltered Count Families

Family Members						
Sleeping Location	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Children Under Age 18 in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Emergency Shelters	2	168	6 (12 Adults)	15	351	548 (176 Families)
Transitional Housing	1	148	17 (34 Adults)	8	312	503 (166 Families)
Totals	3	316	23 (46 Adults)	23	663	1,051 (342 Families)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>64%</i>	

Overall, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (62 percent) of the total number of people staying in sheltered locations (ES and TH). The next largest groups were unaccompanied female adults (15 percent) and children in families (14 percent). The other groups included single mothers (7 percent), two parent heads of households (1 percent), non-head adults such as adult children (1 percent) and single fathers.

Occupancy and Capacity: Bed capacity on census night was 5,217. The bed capacity was higher for emergency shelters (2,989 beds) than transitional housing programs (2,228 beds). Overall, the occupancy rate for individual emergency beds was the highest (95 percent). There were 359 emergency shelter and transitional housing individual beds not occupied for the count. Even if all these beds had been filled, there still would have been 1,669 individuals that were sleeping outside on count night. Beds may go vacant for a number of reasons including eligibility standards that exclude some unsheltered people such as being drug free or because homeless people are unwillingly to adhere to the shelters' policies such as completing chores.

Table 8: Sheltered Count Occupancy and Capacity Individuals

Individuals			
Sheltered Count	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual
Occupancy #	2,188	1,348	3,536
Capacity	2,302	1,593	3,895
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>91%</i>

The lowest occupancy rate was for families in transitional housing programs (79%). One reason for the lower occupancy rate for family beds is that families with children are less likely to be asked to leave where they are staying on an extremely cold night, especially if living doubled up with other family members.

Another factor is that programs that serve families are often organized into units rather than beds. A unit may have several beds that go unoccupied depending on the size of the family. For example, a bedroom unit with four beds housing a single mother and two children will appear to have a 75% occupancy rate, but in fact the empty bed is not actually available to anyone else. Therefore, it is better to compare family unit capacity and the number of families homeless on census night. If all emergency shelter and transitional housing family units were filled, there would still be 12 families sleeping in unsheltered locations.

Table 9: Sheltered Count Occupancy and Capacity Families

Family Members			
Sheltered Count	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual
Occupancy #	548	503	1,051
Capacity	687	635	1,322
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>80%</i>

4.4 Permanent Supportive Housing

HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each CoC starting in 2009. The Tri-J community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009, 2011 and for the latest count in 2013. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J homeless count.

A total of **3,319 persons were residing in permanent supportive housing (PSH)** on census night. The majority of the PSH beds were occupied by individuals (61 percent) rather than family members (39 percent). Most people in PSH were sleeping in Atlanta (1,590 people, 48 percent) with DeKalb County a close second (1,387 people, 42 percent) and Fulton County third (342 people, 10 percent).

Of the total number of people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (39 percent) with children in families a distant second (22 percent) and individual women third (21 percent). These were followed by single mothers (9 percent) and heads of two parent families (7 percent).

Individuals: By jurisdiction on census night, the majority of individuals (52 percent) were staying in permanent supportive housing in Atlanta, with those in DeKalb County a close second (41 percent) and persons in Fulton County third (7 percent). The largest group of individuals was unaccompanied men staying in Atlanta (34 percent) with the individual men in DeKalb County a

The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

close second (27 percent). Adult women in Atlanta comprised the third largest group (19 percent) with those in DeKalb County fourth (14 percent).

Among unaccompanied men, those in Atlanta were the largest (43 percent) with individuals in DeKalb County a close second (42 percent) and persons in Fulton County third (6 percent). Unaccompanied women demonstrated a similar pattern to the men. The majority of adult females slept in Atlanta (55 percent) with those in DeKalb County a close second (39 percent) and individuals in Fulton County third (9 percent).

Table 8: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy by Jurisdiction for Individuals

Individuals			
Jurisdiction	Adult Male	Adult Female	Total Individuals
Atlanta	678	373	1,051
DeKalb	542	280	822
Fulton	82	58	140
Totals	1,302	711	2,013
<i>Percent</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>35%</i>	

Families: As with the sheltered count, the majority of families (72 percent) were headed by single mothers. Of family members, children were the largest group (55 percent). The 420 families with children averaged 3.1 people per household. Unlike individuals living in PSH, most of family members were staying in DeKalb County on census night (43 percent) with people in Atlanta a close second (41 percent) and those in Fulton County third (16 percent).

Table 9: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy by Jurisdiction for Family Members

Family Members						
Jurisdiction	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult in Family	Children in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
DeKalb	6	144	42 (84)	33	298	565 (192)
Atlanta	1	97	58 (116)	11	314	539 (156)
Fulton	2	61	9 (18)	10	111	202 (72)
Totals	9	302	109 (218)	54	723	1,306 (420)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>1%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>55%</i>	

Table 10: PSH Occupancy and Capacity by Jurisdiction

PSH	Atlanta	DeKalb County	Fulton County	Total
Occupancy	1,590	1,387	342	3,319
Capacity	1,695	1,435	376	3,506
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	<i>94%</i>	<i>97%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>95%</i>

Figure 2: PSH Occupancy and Capacity by Household Type



Trend Analysis: The total permanent supportive housing occupancy numbers have increased dramatically from 2003 to present (by 2,908 people). The main reason for the rise in occupancy can be seen by the increase in PSH bed capacity over the years.

Table 11: PSH Occupancy over Time

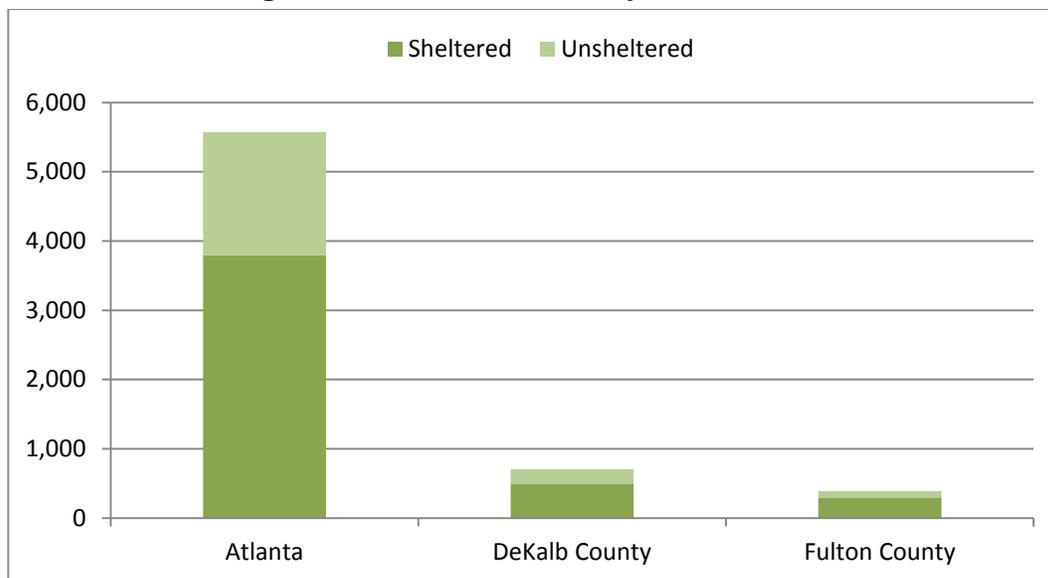
PSH	2003	2009	2011	2013
Individuals	386	876	1,335	2,013
Family Members	25	577	920	1,306
Totals	411	1,453	2,255	3,319
Percent Change		+252%	+55%	+47%

Comparing Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing Beds: On census night, there was a capacity of 8,723 emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds for homeless people. A total of 7,906 beds in occupancy (91 percent). Permanent supportive housing programs had the highest capacity of beds (3,506 beds) with emergency shelters second (2,989 beds) and transitional housing programs third (2,228 beds). This is a change from the previous census when the order was emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing. As for the number of available beds, permanent supportive housing programs had the highest occupancy rate (95 percent) with emergency shelters a close second (92 percent) and transitional housing programs a distant third (83 percent).

Section 5: Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County

Of the 6,664 homeless people counted in the Tri-J on census night, the majority were located in the City of Atlanta (5,571 people, 84 percent) with DeKalb County being a distant second (705 people, 11 percent) and Fulton County third (388 people, 6 percent). This composition is similar to the previous 2011 Tri-J homeless census with Atlanta at 87 percent, DeKalb County at 8 percent and Fulton County at 5 percent.

Figure 3: Homelessness by Jurisdiction



To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts are simply a reflection of the number of beds available in each jurisdiction. For example, 82 percent of Tri-J emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 11 percent of the beds were in DeKalb County, and 7 percent were in Fulton County on the night of the homeless census.

Table 12: Housing Bed Inventory by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Individual Emergency Beds	Family Emergency Beds	Individual Transitional Beds	Family Transitional Beds	Total
Atlanta	2,282	512	1,284	185	4,263
DeKalb	8	131	231	225	595
Fulton	12	44	78	225	359
Totals	2,302	687	1,593	635	5,217
<i>Percent</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>12%</i>	

5.1 City of Atlanta Homeless Numbers

A total of **5,571 people were homeless in the City of Atlanta** on the night of January 28, 2013. More individuals (90 percent) were counted in Atlanta than family members (10 percent). The 2013 Atlanta composition is similar to the 2011 homeless numbers (88 percent individuals, 12 percent family members).

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (74 percent) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15 percent). Children in families and single mothers were the third (7 percent) and fourth (3 percent) largest groups. These findings reflect the overall Tri-J homeless census numbers.

Individuals: Of the number of individuals counted for the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (82 percent). Most (41 percent) of these individual men were staying at emergency shelters with over a third (36 percent) sleeping in unsheltered locations and less than a quarter (23 percent) staying at transitional housing programs. This composition differs from 2011 when most (40 percent) of the unaccompanied males were sleeping outside.

The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (17 percent). The majority of this group also slept at emergency shelters (52 percent). Overall, the Atlanta individual numbers reflect the larger Tri-J homeless census.

Table 13: City of Atlanta by Sleeping Location and Individuals

Individuals					
Sleeping Location	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Emergency Shelters	1,697	471	0	0	2,168
Unsheltered	1,457	237	33	7	1,734
Transitional Housing	945	149	0	0	1,094
Totals	4,099	857	33	7	4,996
Percent	82%	17%	1%	0	

Families: The majority of families (94 percent) were headed by single mothers. The 306 families averaged 3.1 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (64 percent). These findings are similar to the larger 2011 Tri-J homeless count and the past 2011 Atlanta homeless numbers. For example in 2011, single mothers also headed 94 percent of families and children were 67 percent of family members. Over half of the families (57 percent) were staying in emergency shelters with transitional housing programs a close second (39 percent) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4 percent). These numbers are quite different from 2011 when most families were staying in transitional housing programs (52 percent).

Table 14: City of Atlanta by Sleeping Location and Family Members

Sleeping Location	Family Members					
	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (Number of Parents)	Non-Head Adults	Children in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Emergency Shelters	2	119	6 (12)	11	247	391 (127)
Transitional Housing	1	43	4 (8)	1	92	145 (48)
Unsheltered	0	12	0	0	27	39 (12)
Totals	3	174	10 (20)	12	366	575 (187)
Percent	1%	30%	3%	2%	64%	

Sleeping Location: On census night in Atlanta, most people (2,559 people, 46 percent) were sleeping at emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a distant second (1,773 people, 32 percent) and transitional housing programs third (1,239 people, 22 percent).

For 2013, downtown Atlanta had the highest concentration of unsheltered people in the city. The area comprised over a quarter (26 percent) of the Atlanta homeless unsheltered count numbers. This is similar to the 2011 Tri-J homeless census downtown Atlanta findings (24 percent).

Interestingly, the downtown Atlanta homeless numbers are similar from the first census in 2003 to the latest count. This trend shows a comparable pattern to the overall Atlanta homeless numbers. Specifically from 2003 to 2007, downtown Atlanta experienced a steady decrease (by 32 percent) in homeless people on count night. However from 2007 to 2011, there was a dramatic increase (by 89 percent). The good news is that the downtown Atlanta area saw a decrease (by 132 people, 22 percent) for this census.

Table 15: Downtown Atlanta Unsheltered Homeless Numbers

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Totals	460	373	312	440	590	458
Percent Change		-18%	-16%	+57%	+34%	-22%

Trend Analysis: The 2013 total Atlanta homeless census numbers are the second lowest with 2003 being the lowest. From 2003 to 2009, the City of Atlanta experienced a steady increase (by 25 percent). However, over the past four years there has been a steady decrease (by 9 percent).

The Atlanta unsheltered numbers experienced a steady decrease from 2003 to 2009 (by 92 people, 5 percent) with an increase in 2011 (by 254 people, 14 percent) followed by a decrease for this census (by 332 people, 16 percent). These are the lowest number of unsheltered homeless people that Atlanta has experienced since the count began. From 2003 to present, the emergency shelter numbers have been steadily increasing (by 644 people, 13 percent).

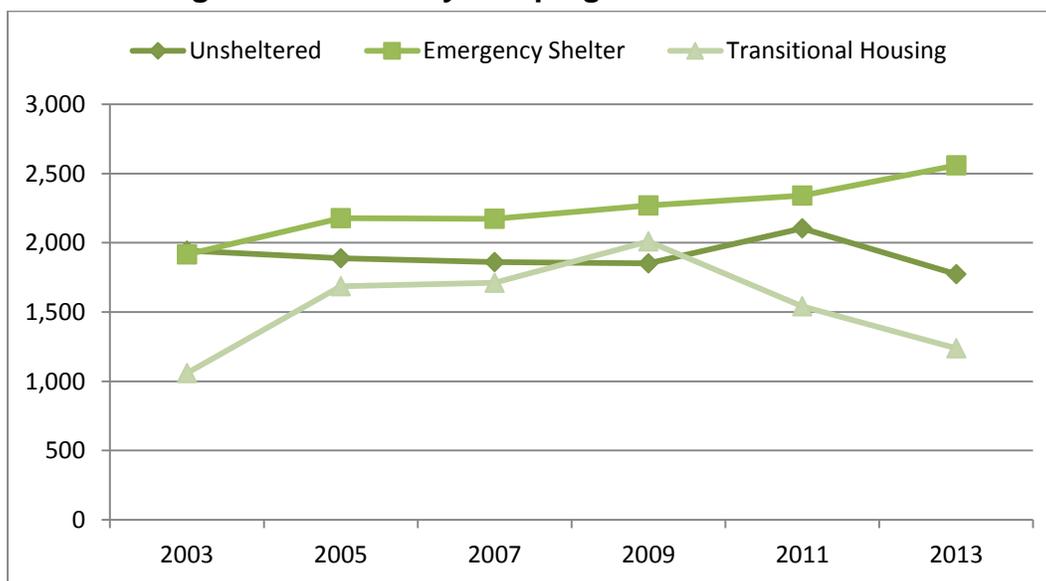
The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

Atlanta experienced a tremendous increase in people (by 952 people, 89 percent) sleeping at transitional housing programs from 2003 to 2009. However, over the last four years, Atlanta has been experiencing a decrease (560 people, 9 percent) in the transitional housing numbers. These changes in numbers are more than likely a reflection of the change in bed capacity in Atlanta over the years.

Table 16: Atlanta Homeless Census for 2003 to 2013

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Emergency Shelter	1,915	2,177	2,172	2,269	2,340	2,559
Unsheltered	1,943	1,888	1,861	1,851	2,105	1,773
Transitional Housing	1,059	1,687	1,712	2,011	1,542	1,239
Totals	4,917	5,752	5,745	6,131	5,987	5,571
<i>Percent Change</i>		<i>+17%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>+6.5%</i>	<i>-2%</i>	<i>-7%</i>

Figure 4: Atlanta by Sleeping Location Over Time



5.2 DeKalb County Homeless Numbers

A total of **705 people were homeless in DeKalb County** (not including City of Atlanta) on the night of January 28, 2013. This is the second largest number of homeless people counted among the three jurisdictions on that night. The majority of the homeless people (57 percent) found in DeKalb County were individuals. This composition of more individuals than families is similar to the 2011 DeKalb County homeless numbers (60 percent individuals, 40 percent family

members). In comparison, DeKalb count had a higher percentage of family members than the City of Atlanta (10 percent) for the 2013 Tri-J homeless census.

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in DeKalb County, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (46 percent). This was similar to the overall Tri-J (68 percent) and City of Atlanta (74 percent) homeless count numbers; however, the DeKalb County percentage was much lower. With the Tri-J and Atlanta homeless numbers, the second largest group was unaccompanied adult females; however for DeKalb County, the next largest group was children in families (27 percent). Single mothers and unaccompanied adult females were the third and fourth largest groups (both 12 percent). The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two-parent households, adult family members, and youth males.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for DeKalb County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (80 percent). Unlike the City of Atlanta, the majority (55 percent) of these individual men were sleeping outside with the rest staying in transitional housing programs (45 percent). A possible reason for the high percentage of individual males sleeping outdoors is that no emergency shelter beds were available for individual men in DeKalb County.

The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (20 percent). Unlike the individual men, the majority of unaccompanied women (59 percent) were staying in transitional housing with nearly a third sleeping in unsheltered locations (31 percent) and the rest located at emergency shelters (10 percent).

More than half of the individuals (51 percent) were sleeping outside with those in transitional housing a close second (47 percent) and emergency shelters a distant third (2 percent).

Table 17: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location and Individuals

Individuals					
Sleeping Location	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Unsheltered	178	25	1	0	204
Transitional Housing	143	47	0	0	190
Emergency Shelter	0	8	0	0	8
Totals	321	80	1	0	402
Percent	80%	20%	0%	0%	

Families: The majority of families (90 percent) were headed by single mothers. The 93 families averaged 3.3 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (64 percent). These findings are similar to previous censuses. For example in 2011, single mothers headed 94 percent of families and children were 67 percent of family members.

The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

Over half of the families (59 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters a close second (38 percent) and unsheltered locations a distant third (3 percent).

Table 18: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location and Family Member

Sleeping Location	Family Members					Total Family Members (Number of Families)
	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (Number of Parents)	Non-Head Adults	Children in Family	
Transitional Housing	0	46	9 (18)	4	111	179 (55)
Emergency Shelter	0	35	0	4	75	114 (35)
Unsheltered	0	3	0	0	7	10 (3)
Totals	0	84	9 (18)	8	193	303 (93)
Percent	0%	28%	6%	2%	64%	

Sleeping Location: On count night, the largest number of DeKalb County homeless people (369 people, 52 percent) were sleeping in transitional housing programs with unsheltered locations a distant second (214 people, 30 percent) and emergency shelters third (122 people, 17 percent). These findings are in reverse of Atlanta where the majority of homeless people were sleeping in emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a distant second and transitional housing third. An interesting finding was that more people were staying in permanent supportive housing (1,435 people) in DeKalb County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters and unsheltered locations combined. These findings indicate a DeKalb County homeless population that is mainly housed in programs that provide supporting services.

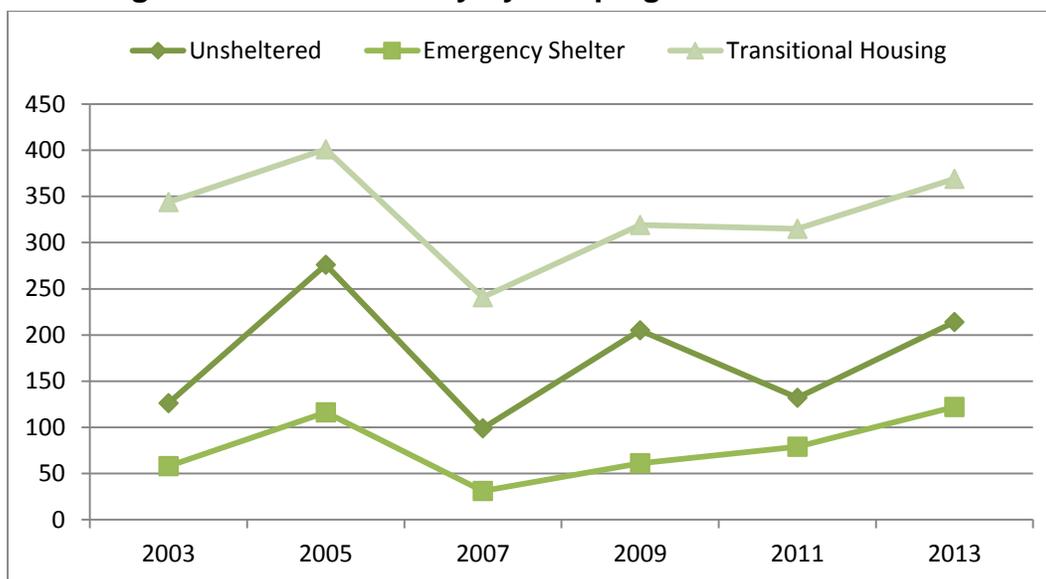
Trend Analysis: The DeKalb County homeless census numbers have experienced increases and decreases since 2003. From 2003 to 2005, there was an increase of 265 people. Then in 2007, there was a dramatic decrease of 422 people, followed by another increase (by 214 people) in 2009. Again in 2011, DeKalb County experienced a decrease in the homeless numbers (by 59 people). This census saw the third increase in numbers for DeKalb County (by 179 people). The largest number of homeless people was counted in DeKalb County in 2005 with the least number of people found in 2007.

Over the years, the largest number of people in DeKalb County was found staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters showing the least number of people. Specifically, the numbers for each of the sleeping location counts has varied over the years. From the first count to the latest, people sleeping in *unsheltered locations* have increased dramatically (by 70 percent) with emergency shelters experiencing the largest increase (by 101 percent). People staying in transitional housing programs also experienced an increase but only slightly compared to the other two types of sleeping locations (by 7 percent).

Table 19: DeKalb County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2013

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Transitional Housing	344	401	241	319	315	369
Unsheltered	126	276	99	205	132	214
Emergency Shelter	58	116	31	61	79	122
Totals	528	793	371	585	526	705
<i>Percent Change</i>		+50%	-53%	+58%	-10%	+34%

Figure 5: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location Over Time



5.3 Fulton County Homeless Numbers

A total of **388 people were homeless in Fulton County** (not including the City of Atlanta) on census night. Of the three jurisdictions, Fulton County found the smallest number of people homeless. Slightly more than half of the homeless people counted in Fulton County were family members (57 percent) rather than individuals. This composition is in contrast to the 2011 Fulton County homeless numbers where more individuals (170 people, 52 percent) were counted than family members (155 people, 48 percent).

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in Fulton County, children in families comprised the largest group (36 percent) with unaccompanied adult males a close second (32 percent). Typically, individual adult males are the largest group. This is the first time, however, that children in families have been the largest number.

Single mothers were the third largest group of homeless people (19 people) with unaccompanied adult females as the fourth group (11 percent). The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households and a non-head adult member of household.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for Fulton County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (75 percent). Similarly to DeKalb County, the majority of these individual men (60 percent) were sleeping in unsheltered locations with transitional housing programs second (31 percent) and emergency shelters third (8 percent). As for unaccompanied women, over half (60 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs with those sleeping outside a distant second (36 percent). Only two women were sleeping at an emergency shelter on count night.

Table 20: Fulton County by Sleeping Location and Individual

Sleeping Location	Individuals			
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth	Total Individual
Unsheltered	75	15	0	90
Transitional Housing	39	25	0	64
Emergency Shelters	10	2	0	12
Totals	124	42	0	166
Percent	75%	25%	0%	

Families: Of the 77 families, almost all (95 percent) were headed by a single mother with four families headed by two parents. The families averaged 2.9 people per household. Children comprised the largest number of family members (62 percent). The majority of families (82 percent) were staying in transitional housing. These figures are similar to DeKalb County.

Table 21: Fulton County by Sleeping Location and Family Members

Sleeping Location	Family Members					
	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (Number of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Transitional Housing	0	59	4 (8)	3	109	179 (63)
Emergency Shelters	0	14	0	0	29	43 (14)
Unsheltered	0	0	0	0	0	0 (0)
Totals	0	73	4 (8)	3	138	222 (77)
Percent	0%	33%	4%	1%	62%	

Sleeping Locations: On census night in Fulton County, the majority of homeless people (243 people, 63 percent) were living in transitional housing with individuals sleeping outside a distant second (143 people, 23 percent). The smallest number of people (55 people, 14%) were staying in emergency shelters. Similarly to DeKalb County, more people (342 people) were staying in permanent supportive housing in Fulton County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters or unsheltered locations.

North and South Fulton County: Of the people counted as homeless in Fulton County (not including Atlanta), the majority of people were found in North Fulton County above the Atlanta city limits (251 people, 65 percent) with the remaining located in South Fulton County below Atlanta (137 people, 35 percent). This finding is different than the last census when most homeless people were counted in South Fulton County. In North Fulton, the majority of people (76 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs. On the other hand, the majority of homeless people (54 percent) were sleeping in unsheltered locations in South Fulton County.

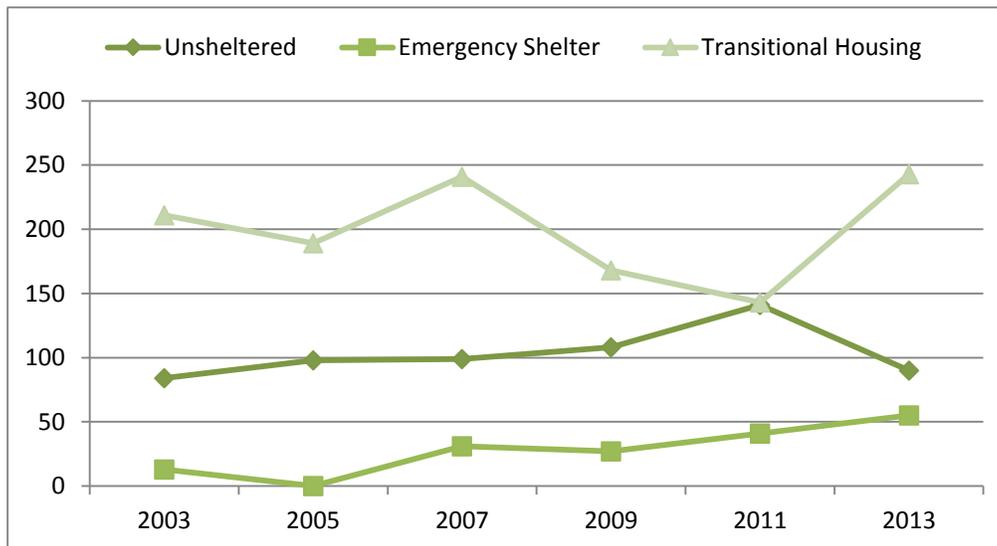
Trend Analysis: Overall, the Fulton County numbers have experienced an increase from the first count to the latest (by 80 people, 26 percent). Specifically, figures are unique in that they have fallen and risen from count to count. From 2003 to 2005, there was a slight decrease (21 people), followed by the greatest increase (by 84 people) from 2005 to 2007. Then there was another decrease (by 68 people) from 2007 to 2009, ending this year with another increase (by 85 people, 28%). The largest number of homeless people was counted in Fulton County in 2013 with the least number of people found in 2005.

The Fulton County unsheltered numbers saw a steady increase from the first count to the 2011 (57 people, 68 percent). However, this homeless census experienced a decrease (by 36 percent). From 2003 to 2005, the emergency shelter numbers decreased to zero. Over the past eight years, however, the numbers have doubled. The transitional housing figures have fallen (by 10 percent), risen (by 28 percent), fallen (by 41 percent) and then risen again over time (by 45 percent).

Table 22: Fulton County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2013

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Unsheltered	84	98	99	108	141	90
Emergency Shelter	13	0	31	27	41	55
Transitional Housing	211	189	241	168	143	243
Totals	308	287	371	303	325	388
<i>Percent Change</i>		-7%	+29%	-18%	+7%	+19%

Figure 6: Fulton County by Sleeping Location over Time



Section 6: Trend Analysis

Overall: The point-in-time Tri-J homeless census have held fairly steady from year to year (average of 6,800 people homeless nightly). Only an additional 107 people were found homeless on a particular night from the first count in 2003 to the latest (2 percent). The trend shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless (by 462 people, 7 percent) on a particular night. However, over the past four years, there has been a decrease of people homeless (355 people, 5 percent) for the point-in-time census. The 2003 Tri-J homeless census experienced the lowest numbers of all the counts, with this latest census having the second lowest.

Sleeping Location: Over the years, both the unsheltered and sheltered counts have held fairly steady within a particular range. The unsheltered number has averaged 2,217 people. The sheltered count is typically double the unsheltered numbers with an average over the years of 4,575 persons.

For people sleeping in sheltered locations, there was a steady increase (by 602 people, 14 percent) on census night for both individuals and families from 2003 to 2009. However, over the past two years, the sheltered numbers saw a decrease in people (395 people, 8 people) staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. With the 2013 homeless census, there was another increase in numbers (by 127 people, 3 people).

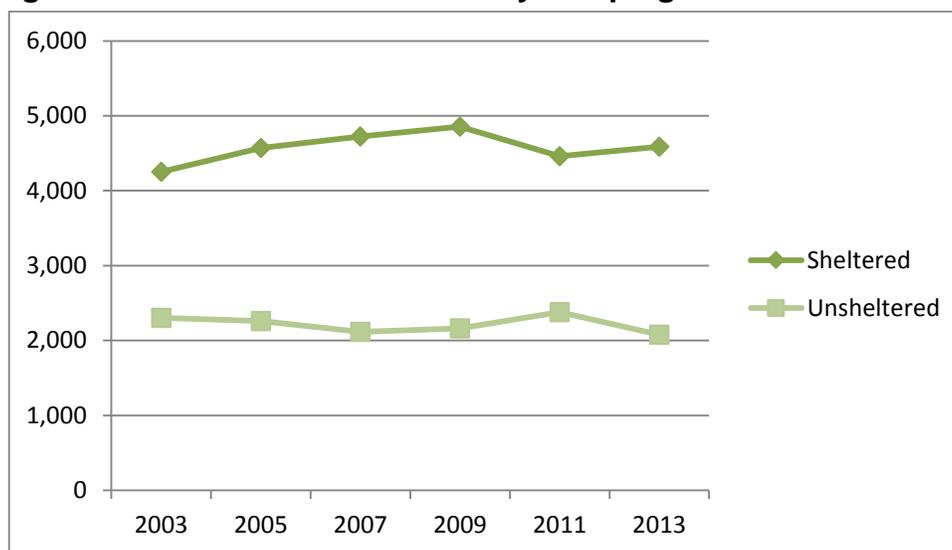
From 2003 to 2007, there was a steady decrease (by 189 people, 8 percent) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. However, there was an increase (by 263 people, 12 percent) from 2007 to 2011 to an all time high of homeless people sleeping outdoors. The good news is that there was a decrease for the most recent homeless census (by 301, 13 percent) with the numbers being the lowest for all the counts.

It is important to note that as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds rose in the Tri-J, the number of people sleeping outdoors fell. On the other hand, as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds decreased, the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations increased. This finding indicates a relationship between the number of people in unsheltered locations and those in sheltered facilities.

Table 23: 2003 to 2013 Homeless Counts by Sleeping Location

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460	4,587
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378	2,077
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838	6,664
Percent		+4%	0%	+3%	-3%	-3%

Figure 7: Tri-J Homeless Census by Sleeping Location Over Time



Individuals: The Tri-J individual numbers have held steady over the years (around 5,600 persons per night). From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady increase in the number of individuals (by 492 individuals, 6 percent). However, over the past four years, there has been a decrease (by 217 individuals, 4 percent). The lowest number of individuals was counted in 2003 with the highest numbers found in 2009.

Sheltered individuals experienced a steady increase from 2003 to 2005 (by 415 family members, 13 percent) with a slight decrease from 2005 to 2007 (by 37 persons, 1 percent). This is followed by another increase (by 162 people, 5 percent) and decrease (by 284 people, 8 percent). With this homeless census, there has been a third increase in the number of people sleeping in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (by 107 people, 3 percent). On the other hand, from 2003 to 2009 there was a slight decrease of unsheltered individuals (by 48 people, 2 percent) with a dramatic increase from 2009 to 2011 (by 268 persons, 13 percent). This has been followed by a significant decrease over the last two years (by 308 individuals, 13 percent).

Overall, the unsheltered individual homeless numbers have decreased slightly (by 88 individuals, 4 percent) from 2003 to 2013. On the other hand, the sheltered numbers have increased (by 363 persons, 11 percent) during that time period. As the sheltered numbers increased, the unsheltered numbers decreased for individuals. The average for the unsheltered numbers has been 2,117 individuals with a sheltered average of 3,498 persons.

Table 24: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type Over Time

Individuals						
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Sheltered	3,173	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429	3,536
Unsheltered	2,116	2,085	2,071	2,068	2,336	2,028
Totals	5,289	5,673	5,622	5,781	5,765	5,564
Percent		+7%	-1%	+3%	-.3%	-3

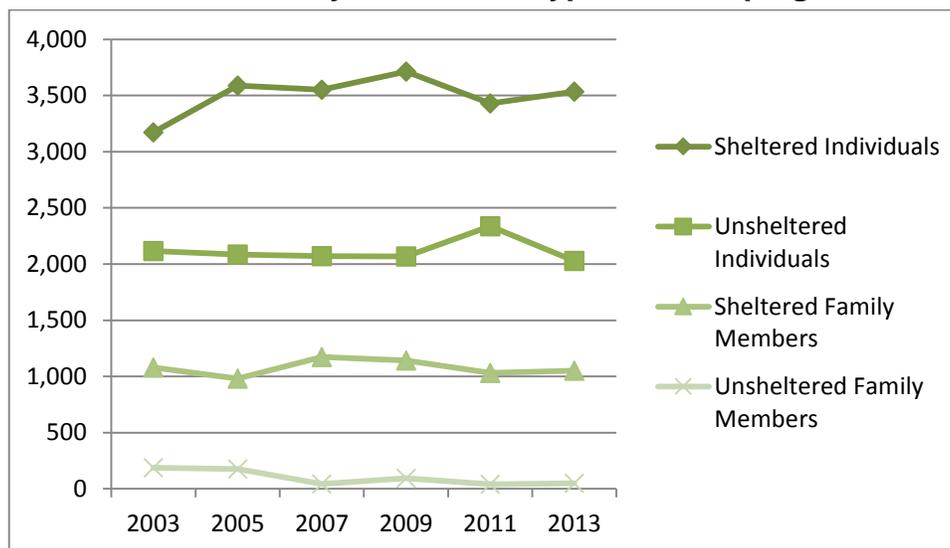
Families: Similarly to homeless individuals, the number of family members homeless in the Tri-J has also held steady (averaging 1,177 people per night). For family members, there was a decrease from 2003 to 2005 (by 109 people, 9%) with a steady increase from 2005 to 2009 (by 79 people, 7%). This is followed by a second decrease from 2009 to 2011 (by 165 people, 13%) with an increase over the past two years (by 27 people, 2.5%). The 2011 Tri-J family member numbers were the lowest of all the family counts with the highest numbers found in 2003.

Overall, the sheltered family homeless numbers have decreased slightly (by 29 persons, 3%) from 2003 to 2013. The unsheltered numbers also decreased (by 139 family members, 70%) during that time period but more dramatically. The average for the sheltered numbers has been 1,077 family members with the unsheltered average at 99 persons.

Table 25: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type Over Time

	Family Members					
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Sheltered	1,080	982	1,174	1,142	1,031	1,051
Unsheltered	188	177	44	96	42	49
Totals	1,268	1,159	1,224	1,238	1,073	1,100
<i>Percent</i>		<i>-9%</i>	<i>+6%</i>	<i>+1%</i>	<i>-13%</i>	<i>+2.5</i>

Figure 8: Homeless Census by Household Type and Sleeping Location Over Time



Bed Capacity and Occupancy Rate: The number of people homeless on each census night is typically a reflection of the number of beds available. For each count, about two thirds of homeless people are sleeping in sheltered locations. From 2005 to 2009, there was a steady increase in beds for both individuals (3,722 to 4,082 beds) and family members (1,449 to 1,511 beds).

Since 2007, there has been a steady decrease (235 beds, 15 percent) in the bed capacity for family members. With bed type, an interesting finding is that in 2007 and 2009 there was a

The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

greater number of transitional housing beds than emergency shelter beds. However, for 2011 and 2013, the reverse is true.

The overall point-in-time Tri-J homeless census occupancy rate has held fairly steady over the years (87 percent average). Typically the occupancy rate for individuals is higher (92 percent average) than for family members (76 percent average). Family beds often are unoccupied because the size of a family can be less than number of beds in the room. Additionally, emergency shelters have a higher occupancy rate (94 percent average) than transitional housing programs (81 percent average).

Table 26: 2003 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Tri-J

Total Tri-J Homeless Counts					
	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460	4,587
Capacity	5,171	5,298	5,653	5,282	5,217
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	88%	89%	86%	84%	88%

Table 27: 2005 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Individuals

Individuals					
	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429	3,536
Capacity	3,722	3,741	4,082	3,840	3,895
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	96%	95%	91%	89%	91%

Table 28: 2007 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Families

Families				
	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	1,174	1,142	1,031	1,051
Capacity	1,557	1,511	1,442	1,322
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	75%	76%	72%	80%

Figure 9: 2007 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Household Type

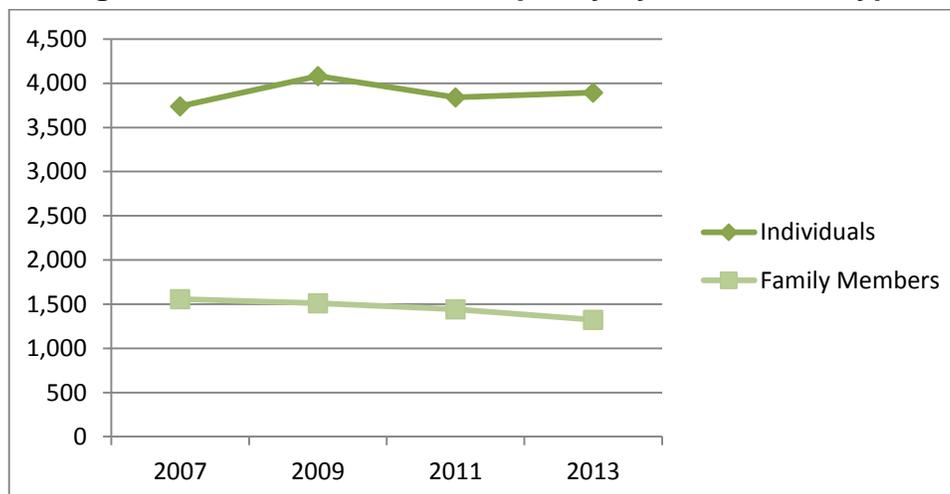


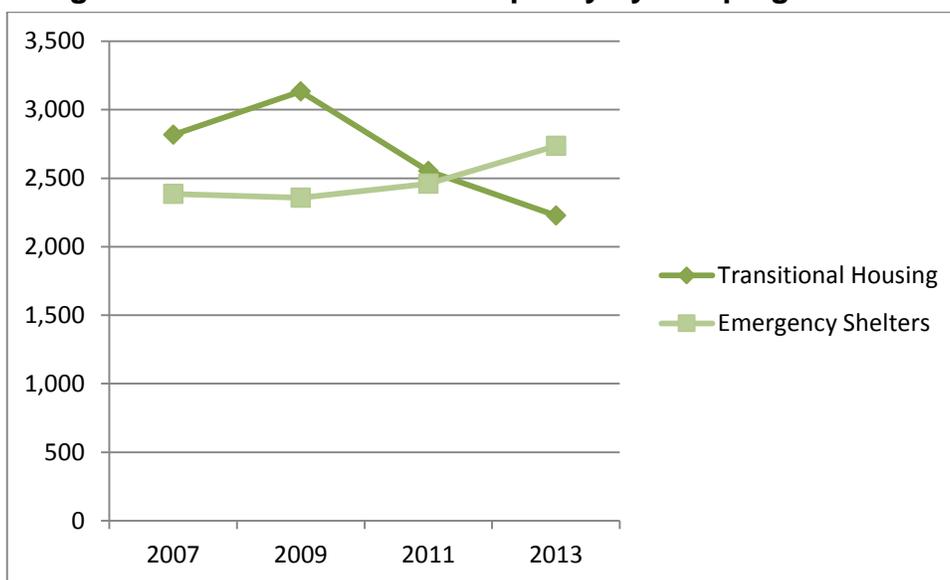
Table 29: 2007 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Emergency Shelters

Emergency Shelters				
	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	2,386	2,357	2,460	2,736
Capacity	2,481	2,460	2,729	2,989
Occupancy (%)	96%	96%	90%	92%

Table 30: 2007 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Transitional Housing

Transitional Housing				
	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	2,339	2,498	2,000	1,851
Capacity	2,817	3,133	2,553	2,228
Occupancy (%)	83%	80%	78%	83%

Figure 10: 2007 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Sleeping Location



Section 7: Annualized Projection

For the 2013 Tri-J homeless census, the community collected information on persons who were homeless on a single night. This provides only a snap shot of people who are homeless on a given night in winter. Over the course of a year, individuals and families will cycle in and out of homelessness. People who are homeless for a short period will be in the situation briefly as they find a permanent place to stay usually within a few weeks or months. On the other hand, people who are homeless for the long-term will remain without housing for a year or longer. The long term homeless tend to be chronic indicating that they experience a disabling condition such as a mental illness or addiction.

To estimate how many people will be homeless over the course of an entire year, Pathways projected an annualized count of homeless people based on turnover rates (also called multipliers). Multipliers have been calculated for the 2013 Tri-J homeless population to estimate the number of individuals and family members who will experience homelessness this year.

Three factors were used to determine categorically specific turnover rates:

- Length of homelessness as reported by the 2011 Tri-J homeless survey respondents
- Percent of respondents indicating each length
- Minimum turnover rate for each length category

A weighted average was then calculated based on the relative proportion of respondents who fell within each length category. The net result of this approach suggested an annual multiplier of 2.5 for family members ($2.5 \times 1,100 = 2,750$) and a multiplier of 3.3 for individuals ($3.3 \times 5,564 = 18,361$). On a regular basis, families are homeless a shorter time period than individuals. According to the 2011 Tri-J homeless survey for length of time homeless, the mode for family members was 4-6 months while the mode for individuals was 10-12 months.

Approximately 21,111 people will experience homelessness in the Tri-J area sometime during 2013. From the 2003 to 2009 Tri-J homeless counts, there was a steady increase of people homeless over the years (by 4,816 people, 22.5 percent). However from 2009 to 2011, there was a decrease of people homeless annually (by 1,670 people). Unfortunately, another annualized increase has occurred from the last homeless census (by 1,340 people). A reason for the increase is that the turnover rate for 2013 Tri-J homeless census is higher than the 2011 count (family members at 2.2, individuals at 3).

Table 31: Annualized Projections for Each Homeless Census

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Totals	16,625	20,086	20,110	21,441	19,771	21,111
Percent Change		+21%	0%	+7%	-8%	+7%

Section 8: Conclusion

The 2013 Tri-J homeless census is the sixth count for our community. These findings reflect a homeless population that predominately lives in metropolitan areas and is literally homeless. The good news is that the homeless numbers have been steadily decreasing since 2009 when the census was found to be at its highest due to the recent economic crisis.

Over the years, the biggest finding is the relationship between bed capacity / occupancy and the number of unsheltered people in the community. Thus, as the emergency shelter and transitional housing bed capacity increases, the number of persons on the streets decrease. On the other hand, if the capacity is reduced for a particular year, the number of unsheltered people rises. This same result is also a reflection of occupancy whereby as the occupancy rate increases, the number of people sleeping unsheltered decreases.

The total Tri-J homeless numbers have held fairly steady over the years even though there has been a steady increase in the bed capacity, especially for permanent supportive housing programs. This finding indicates that adding beds to the Tri-J community does not necessarily reduce the overall number of people homeless. It merely shifts where homeless persons are sleeping at night. Instead, efforts must be made to solve the causes of homelessness, such as addiction and mental health problems.

The majority of people homeless in the Tri-J are individual. Predominately they are sleeping at emergency shelters and on the streets. The majority of these individuals are located in Atlanta. These results indicate that Atlanta must focus its efforts on tackling the issues experienced by homeless individuals.

Finally, one of the biggest concerns is the large number of children who are homeless on a nightly basis in our community. Primarily, the heads of homeless families are single mothers. Single women with children are at a greater risk of poverty than two-parent families. For single mothers, 41 percent make an annual income below the U.S. poverty level (U.S. Census Bureau 2011).

Section 9: References

Jaret, C. and R. Adelman. 1997. Homelessness in Metro Atlanta.

Rossi, Peter. 1989. *Down and Out in America: Origins of Homelessness*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 2005-2009. American Fact Finder. (<http://http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>)

U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. 2011. (<http://www.census.gov/acs/www>)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. 2013 Poverty Guidelines. (<http://http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/13poverty.cfm>)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Homelessness Resource Exchange. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act As amended by S. 896 The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009. (<http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HomelessAssistanceActAmendedbyHEARTH.pdf>)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Office of Community Planning and Development. HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs: A Guide to Counting Sheltered Homeless People, Third Revision. January 2012. (https://www.onecpd.info/resources/documents/counting_sheltered.pdf)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Office of Community Planning and Development. HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs: A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People, Second Revision. January 2008. (http://www.hudhre.info/documents/counting_unsheltered.pdf)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Questions & Answers for the 2007 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). (archives.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/library/hicqa.pdf)

SPECIAL THANKS

Sponsors	
Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative on Homelessness Atlanta · Fulton County · DeKalb County	
Tri-J Executive Group	
Susan Lampley Office of Mayor Reed, Atlanta Chris Morris Community Development Department, DeKalb County	Mike Rowicki Housing and Human Development, Fulton County
Pathways Community Network Institute	
Josie Parker Project Manager, Research and Data Analysis	Mike Bolds Research Assistant
Tri-J Homeless Census Report	
Report prepared by Josie Parker, Project Manager, Research and Data Analysis, Pathways	
Working Group	
Lorie Burnett Community Development Department, DeKalb County Braunwinn Camp Community Development Department, DeKalb County Quentin Eleby Tri-J HMIS Database Specialist, Fulton County Mark Henderson Office of Human Services, Atlanta Paul Kagundu Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, GSU	William Matson Pathways Community Network Institute Tommy Phillips Pathways Community Network Institute Melvia Richards Community Development Department, DeKalb County Glen Ross Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, GSU Gbolade Soneyn Tri-J HMIS Database Specialist, Fulton County Shalise Steele-Young Office of Human Services, Atlanta
Deployment Sites	
Atlanta Chapel of Christian Love Church Crossroads Community Ministries Jefferson Place Project Community Connections St. Jude's Recovery Center Urban Residential Development Center	DeKalb County Center for Pan Asian Community Services Maloof Auditorium Salvation Army - Peachcrest Fulton County North Fulton Community Charities Zion Hill Community Development Corporation

The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

Deployment Captains

<p>Leonard Adams Quest 35</p> <p>Melinda Allen The Salvation Army</p> <p>Megan Anderson Furniture Bank of Metro-Atlanta</p> <p>Michelle Anderson Housing and Human Services Dept., Fulton County</p> <p>Robin Bledsoe Community Advanced Practice Nurses</p> <p>Beverly Bolton Gateway Center</p> <p>Dennis Bowman Nicholas House</p> <p>Lorie Burnett Community Development Dept., DeKalb County</p> <p>Braunwin Camp Community Development Dept., DeKalb County</p> <p>Alisha Clements Furniture Bank</p> <p>Arthur Cole Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Melanie Conner Zion Hill Community Development Corporation</p> <p>Carrie DuBose Buckhead Christian Ministry</p> <p>Cassandra Edmonds Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Jimiyu Evans Project Community Concerns</p> <p>Thomas Fuller Latin American Association</p> <p>Molly Heacock Gateway Center</p> <p>Mark Henderson Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Matthew Hurd DeKalb Community Services Board</p>	<p>Shundra Jackson The Salvation Army</p> <p>Dexter Landfair The Salvation Army</p> <p>Stephen Lee Center for Pan Asian Community Services</p> <p>Melvia Richards Community Development Dept., DeKalb County</p> <p>Gerry Richardson Jefferson Place</p> <p>Claude Sandiford U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program</p> <p>Margaret Schuelke Project Community Concerns</p> <p>Brad Schweers Intown Collaborative Ministries</p> <p>Joyce Sloan Families First</p> <p>Gbolade Soneyin Tri-J HMIS, Fulton County</p> <p>Shalise Steele-Young Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Sonia Stinson Gateway Center</p> <p>Stan Sullivan St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)</p> <p>Jason Tatum Gateway Center</p> <p>Todd Wilcher Covenant House</p> <p>Mary Watson St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)</p> <p>Amy Zaremba Community Volunteer</p>
--	---

Special Coverage Teams

DeKalb County, Community Development Department, Homeless Outreach Team Latin American Association St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans Program
---	--

APPENDIX

Exhibit C

Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Target Area Map

APPENDIX

Exhibit D

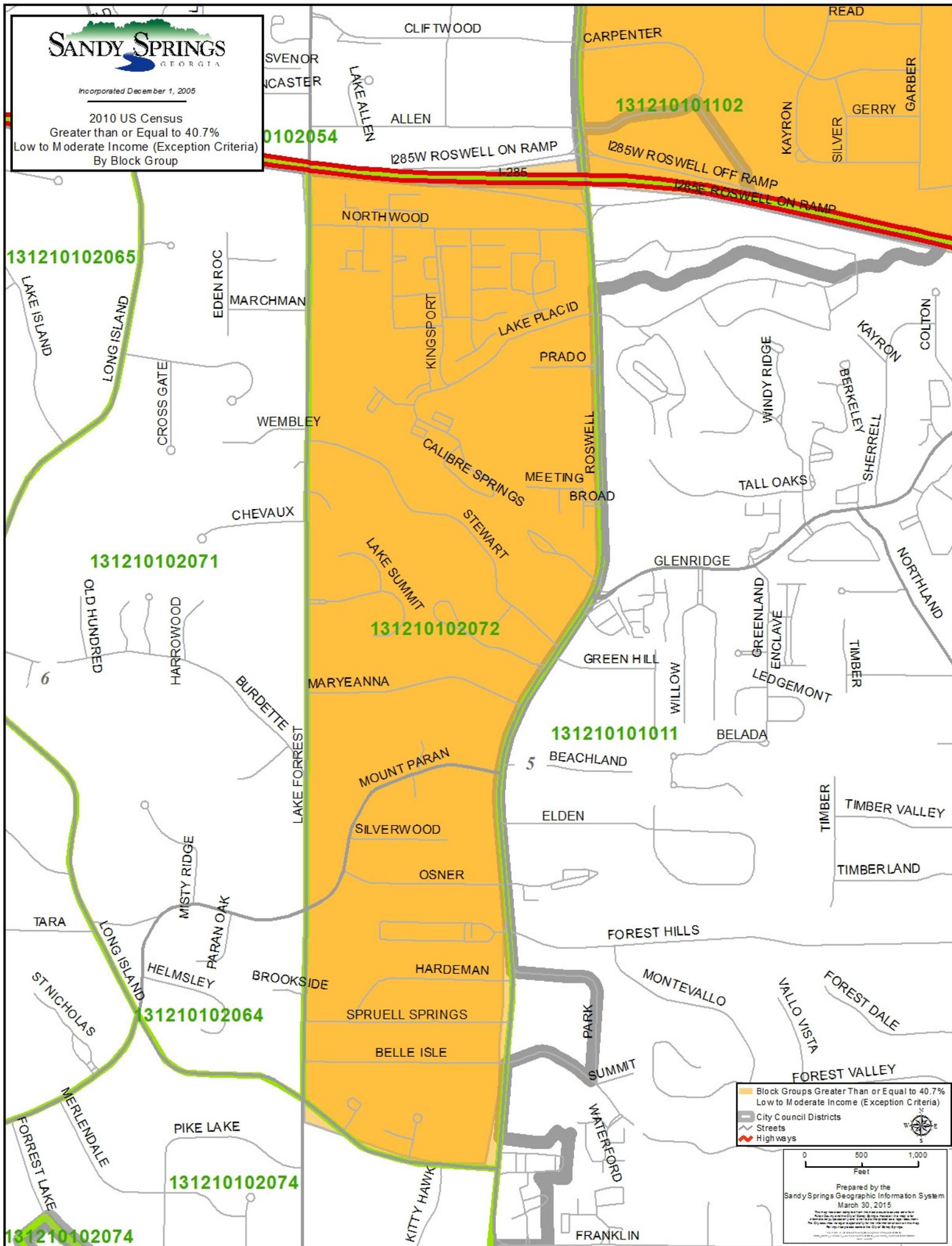
South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project Map

SANDY SPRINGS

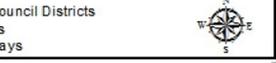
GEORGIA

Incorporated December 1, 2005

2010 US Census
 Greater than or Equal to 40.7%
 Low to Moderate Income (Exception Criteria)
 By Block Group



Block Groups Greater Than or Equal to 40.7% Low to Moderate Income (Exception Criteria)
 City Council Districts
 Streets
 Highways

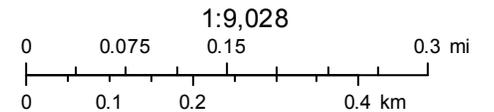


Prepared by the
 Sandy Springs Geographic Information System
 March 30, 2015

City of Sandy Springs



June 7, 2016



City of Sandy Springs GIS Department
Map files by Stamen Design, under CC BY 3.0. Data by OpenStreetMap.

APPENDIX

Exhibit E Fair Housing Checklist

APPENDIX

Exhibit F HUD Form SF-424 and Other Certifications

Correspondence



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

February 16, 2016



The Honorable Russell K. Paul
Mayor of Sandy Springs
7840 Roswell Rd Bldg 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350-4891

Dear Mayor Paul:

I am pleased to inform you of your jurisdiction's Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 allocations for the Office of Community Planning and Development's (CPD) formula programs, which provide funding for housing, community and economic development activities, and assistance for low and moderate-income persons and special populations across the country. President Obama signed Public Law 114-113 on December 18, 2015, which includes FY 2016 funding for these programs. Your jurisdiction's FY 2016 available amounts are:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$592,429
HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)	\$ 0
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$ 0
Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)	\$ 0

This letter highlights several important points related to these programs. First, Secretary Julián Castro is committed to making HUD the "Department of Opportunity" and has established a number of initiatives intended to achieve that goal. In 2015, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Department's establishment, and these initiatives build on HUD's mission to promote homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. The Department is working hard with grantees on these key goals and urges you to review the entire plan at: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/hudvision>. In an era when the nation's severe shortage of affordable rental housing creates substantial housing instability—contributing to homelessness, family mobility and unequal educational attainment—I am particularly interested in working with grantees to increase affordable housing production through our CPD formula programs.

Second, HUD recommends that grantees effectively plan and implement programs that leverage these critical Federal financial resources to achieve the greatest possible return for the communities and individuals they are intended to assist.

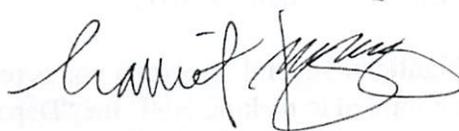
- HUD urges grantees to consider using CDBG funds, to the extent possible, to support investments in predevelopment activities for infrastructure and public facilities activities that can provide multiple benefits for communities.
- HUD has created a Renewable Energy Toolkit specifically tailored to CPD grantees. To the extent that grantees are interested in using funds for renewable energy projects, please feel free to access that toolkit online at www.hudexchange.info.
- If you would like assistance from CPD in redesigning, prioritizing or targeting your programs,

either you or the head of the agency that administers your program may request assistance through your local CPD Director.

Third, CPD is asking grantees to renew their focus on administration and management of these programs as part of an effort to ensure effective use of the funds. Throughout 2016, CPD and HUD's Office of the Inspector General expect to issue a range of guidance that will highlight particular areas where grantees commonly stumble. I urge grantees to actively review their policies and procedures governing these programs and to strengthen management practices, particularly with regard to recordkeeping, in order to avoid problems and risk this vital funding. This focus on administration is particularly critical because the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS), which is HUD's financial and data system for managing these formula programs, will no longer commit and disburse grant funds on a first-in first-out (FIFO) basis beginning with the FY 2015 grants. All FY 2015 and future grants will be committed and disbursed on a grant specific basis.

The Office of Community Planning and Development is looking forward to working with you to promote simple steps that will enhance the viability and performance of these critical programs and successfully meet the challenges that our communities face. Please contact your local CPD office if you or your staff has any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harriet Tregoning", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Harriet Tregoning
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Public Notice

Appliance Repair
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
Call Kevin 24/7
770.885.9210

- All Major Appliances & Brands
- Stoves, Ovens, Dishwashers
- Refrigerators, Disposals
- Washers, Dryers
- 30 Years Experience

FREE Service
 Call with
 Repair or
 \$25 Service
 Charge

Servicing All of Metro Atlanta

Trash, Junk Hauled For Less
\$35 - \$150 per load

We will pick up appliances, furniture, tree limbs, construction debris, basement and foreclosure clean-outs.

Call James
 call (404) 784-5142
 home (770) 455-6237



BUCKHEAD
Fine Rugs, Inc.
Oriental Rug Cleaning

Antique Repair Specialist • Specialty Care Hand Wash Cleaning (front and back with plenty of water) • No Chemicals Used
 Air Dried, Scotch Guard • Mothproof, Padding, Storage
 Appraisal & Insurance Statements • Pickup and Delivery Available

IN THE HEART OF BUCKHEAD

15% OFF
 With This Ad

404-467-8242 • 3255 S Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta GA 30305

Classifieds & Home Services Directory

JAN 22 - FEB. 4, 2016 ■ www.ReporterNews/papers.net

Classifieds | 21

To Advertise, call
 404-917-2200 ext 110

Location:
 Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600

Notice of Public Hearing February 2, 2016

2016 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The City of Sandy Springs, GA has begun preparations to submit its 2016 Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by May 15, 2016, tentatively. To meet the requirements of Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs, Sandy Springs will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. With another phase of the City of Sandy Springs' multiyear sidewalk construction program along Roswell Road currently under construction, citizens can offer input on this project at the public hearing, as well as other needs in their community relative to the CDBG Program. The CDBG program assists cities with developing viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Citizens in need of translation services or materials in alternative formats should call 770-730-5600 seven calendar days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Additional CDBG Program information can be found on the City's CDBG webpage at <http://www.sandyspringsga.org/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg>.

SANDY SPRINGS NOTICE OF VARIANCE PETITION

Petition Number: V15-0066

Petitioner: Joel Eisenberg

Location: 5920 Hilderbrand Drive

Request: Request to encroach 5'5" for existing carport and patio

Public Hearings: Board of Appeals
 February 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600

unproven guilty. The sandy springs and zimmer police departments release descriptions of suspects when arrests have not been made and residents' input is needed.

FULTON COUNTY | SECURITY

Report cites staffing issues in county prisons, courthouses

ROSS WILLIAMS
rwilliams@neighbornewspapers.com

Nearly 11 years after metro Atlanta watched in terror as an accused rapist overpowered a deputy and began a killing spree, Fulton County's courts are facing "a significant vulnerability issue."



John Eaves

In March 2005, Brian Nichols attacked Deputy Cynthia Hall while being escorted to the courtroom. He stole her gun and used it to kill Superior Court Judge Rowland Barnes, court annexes.

The report also found staffing redundancies and inefficiencies within the prison system, as well as too

to manage inspections in real-time while in the field, reducing travel costs and paperwork.

The new system also provides the general public the opportunity to check the status of permits, research building permit history and view status of open code enforcement cases. The public can query projects by permit type, date, address, permit number or project name. The new system replaces the former Permit GO! online tool.

Contractors can link to the online permitting site by visiting <https://build.sandyspringsga.gov>.

Lawsuit

A developer has filed a lawsuit against the city of Sandy Springs for denying a project planned in the city near Georgia 400.

According to a news release from the developer, Northpark-Land Associates, LLLP Friday filed the suit in Fulton County Superior Court against the Sandy Springs Board of Appeals for its denial in a Dec 10 meeting to grant a land disturbance permit for a

a redesigned sign format to be used for informing the community about project development requests. One noticeable change in the format is the size. The new signs measure 4 feet by 8 feet.

In addition to the upsizing, the new signs are marked with a "Z" for zoning and rezoning cases, "U" to mark projects with a requested use permit or "V" for a variance change. The signs list the case number and dates for public hearings before the planning commission and city council. A web address (spr.gs/zoningmap) is also provided, linking web visitors to the project's resource page on the city's website. Residents can also access the case map via the Sandy Springs Works mobile app. The new signs are printed and placed at the proposed development site by the developer, who also must pay for them.

The new signage requirements were effective as of Jan. 1.

Notice of Public Hearing February 2, 2016

2016 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The City of Sandy Springs, GA has begun preparations to submit its 2016 Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by May 15, 2016, tentatively. To meet the requirements of Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs, Sandy Springs will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. With another phase of the City of Sandy Springs' multiyear sidewalk construction program along Roswell Road currently under construction, citizens can offer input on this project at the public hearing, as well as other needs in their community relative to the CDBG Program. The CDBG program assists cities with developing viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Citizens in need of translation services or materials in alternative formats should call 770-730-5600 seven calendar days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Additional CDBG Program information can be found on the City's CDBG webpage at <http://www.sandyspringsga.org/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg>.



Sgt. Forrest Bohannon. "We have a lot of private requests. We do lockdown drills at schools. Schools have different policies than what we teach with C.R.A.S.E. Some of the principles are the same, but some are not because of the younger children," Bohannon said. "Some of the classes we have done are for medical offices, business offices, private school parents, citizen police academy."

Carlson told the Dunwoody crowd that there have been 160 "active shooter incidents" in the U.S. from 2000 through

er secondary exits, such as windows. Deny: If in a school or office building, close the door to your office or room and use a belt or other strap to lock up the handle so the shooter cannot enter. Also, barricade the room shut by pushing desks and other furniture in front of the door.

Defend: If all else fails, be ready at the doorway to surprise the shooter by positioning yourself to attack and take the gun away. "Remember, you are not helpless. What you do matters," he said.

PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER WAITLIST OPENING

The Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia (HAFC) will open its Project-Based Voucher (PBV) waitlist specifically for Sterling Place Apartments located at 144 Allen Road, Sandy Springs, Georgia. The waitlist will open **June 1, 2016 at 12:01am** and will remain open until such time as a minimum of 500 names are on the list. All applicants must be **62 years or older**, and must meet the criteria of "low-income" in accordance with the requirements of Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Regulations and the HAFC. An applicant's income cannot exceed 60% of

Area Median Income ("AMI"). Currently, 60% of the Area Median Income is:

1 person	\$28,680	3 person	\$36,840
2 person	\$32,760	4 person	\$40,920

Interested, eligible persons should call HAFC at 404-588-4950 to provide their name, address and telephone number (if applicable) to request an application. An application can also be placed at the HAFC Main Office at 4273 Wendell Drive, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30336 beginning June 1, 2016 between the hours of Monday through Thursday, 9am to 4pm, or Friday, 9am to noon Eastern Standard Time.

City of Sandy Springs Advertisement for Public Comment Draft 2016 Annual Action Plan

The City of Sandy Springs has prepared its draft 2016 Annual Action Plan required for participation in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Annual Action Plan describes how the City intends to use its 2016 CDBG allocation to achieve the broad goals described in the City's 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

The City of Sandy Springs anticipates receiving approximately \$592,429 in 2016 CDBG funds and proposes to use these funds to continue the multi-year sidewalk improvements program in designated low- and moderate-income target areas on the east and west sides of Roswell Road to improve access to commercial areas, public transit, parks, and health services for residents.

As required by 24 CFR Part 91.105(b)(2), the draft 2016 Annual Action Plan will be available for a 30-day public comment period beginning June 8, 2016 through July 8, 2016. A copy of the plan is available for those interested in reviewing it under the "Community Development Block Grant Program" heading at the top of the City's CDBG webpage <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/City-Departments/Community-Development/Community-Development-Block-Grant>.

Hard copies of the document can also be reviewed at the following locations:

Sandy Springs City Hall
Community Development Department
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Sandy Springs Regional Library
 395 Mt. Vernon Hwy., NE
 Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Dorothy C. Benson Senior Multipurpose Complex
 6500 Vernon Woods Drive
 Sandy Springs, GA 30328

Those who may wish to provide comments on the 2016 Annual Action Plan may email the CDBG Program mailbox at cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov or send written correspondence to the Sandy Springs Community Development Department at the address above until July 8, 2016. Final adoption of the 2016 Annual Action Plan is scheduled for the July 19, 2016 Mayor and City Council regular meeting. All meetings start at 6:00 p.m., are open to the public and held at the Sandy Springs City Hall, 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. Citizens in need of translation services or materials in alternative formats should call 770-730-5600 seven calendar days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

Anuncio de la ciudad de Sandy Springs para comentario público Proyecto Plan de acción anual 2016

La ciudad de Sandy Springs ha preparado su proyecto Plan de acción anual 2016 necesario para la participación en los programas del Departamento de vivienda y desarrollo urbano de subvención de desarrollo comunitario (CDBG) (HUD). El Plan de acción anual describe cómo la ciudad intenta utilizar su asignación de CDBG 2016 para lograr los objetivos generales que se describe en el Plan consolidado de 2013-2017 de la ciudad.

La ciudad de Sandy Springs anticipa recibir aproximadamente \$592,429 en 2016 CDBG fondos y propone utilizar estos fondos para continuar con el programa de mejoras de aceras en áreas de bajos y moderados ingresos en el este y oeste de Roswell Road para mejorar el acceso a zonas comerciales, los servicios públicos de transporte, parques y servicios de salud para los residentes. Como es requerido por 24 CFR parte 91.105(b)(2), el proyecto Plan de acción anual 2016 estará disponible durante un periodo de 30 días para comentario público que comienza el 8 de junio de 2016 hasta el 8 de julio de 2016. Una copia del plan está disponible para aquellos interesados en revisarlo bajo el encabezado "Programa de Ayuda del Desarrollo de la Comunidad" en la parte superior de la página web CDBG de <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/City-Departments/Community-Development/Community-Development-Block-Grant> de la ciudad. Copias impresas del documento también pueden consultarse en las siguientes ubicaciones:

- Sandy Springs City Hall** **Biblioteca Regional de Sandy Springs**
395 MT. Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30350
- Community Development Department** **Complejo multifuncional Dorothy C. Benson Senior**
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Aquellos que deseen formular comentarios sobre el Plan de acción anual 2016 pueden usar el buzón del programa CDBG en cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov por correo electrónico o enviar correspondencia escrita al Departamento de desarrollo comunitario Sandy Springs en la dirección arriba hasta el 8 de julio de 2016. Aprobación definitiva del Plan de acción anual 2016 está prevista para el 19 de julio de 2016 en la reunión ordinaria del alcalde y el Concejo Municipal. Todas las reuniones comienzan a las 6:00 p.m., están abiertas al público y se llevan a cabo en el ayuntamiento, localizado en el 7840 Roswell Road, edificio 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. Los ciudadanos que necesitan servicios de traducción o materiales en formatos alternativos deben llamar **770-730-5600** siete días antes de la reunión programada.

EXPRESS
INSURANCE
En Trámites Express
¡TRAMITAMOS TODO EN UN SOLO LUGAR!
Seguro de Auto • Impuestos

**Obtenga lo máximo
de su reembolso
Llama Ya!**



Recargue y envíe
dinero aquí con:
"Boss Revolution"

- ACEPTAMOS:**
- ✓ CONDUCTORES CON RECORD IMPERFECTO.
 - ✓ PLAN DE PAGOS.
 - ✓ CUALQUIER LICENCIA

Trámites de Placa y Título en SOLO 3 días!

Recorta este aviso y
recibe un descuento de
\$25 en tus impuestos

- SERVICIOS:**
- SEGURO PARA NEGOCIOS
 - TRANSFERENCIAS DE TÍTULOS
 - TRADUCCIONES
 - NOTARIO

LAWRENCEVILLE NORCROSS MARIETTA
2505 OLD NORCROSS RD, STEF 5615 SINGLETON RD. 172 WINDY HILL RD.
LAWRENCEVILLE, GA 30044 NORCROSS, GA 30093 MARIETTA, GA 30060
678.878.2225 **678.310.2482** **678.214.5020**

metro Atlanta can feel a hurricane's effects.

Each day during Hurricane Preparedness Week, the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency will highlight one planning recommendation. Georgia residents can follow along and take action all week to ensure their families, homes and pets will be safe in the event of a hurricane or tropical storm.

Sunday: Know your risk.

Monday: Develop an evacuation plan.

Tuesday: Secure an insurance checkup.

Today: Assemble disaster supplies.

Thursday: Strengthen your home.

Friday: Identify your trusted sources of information for a hurricane event.

Saturday: Complete your written hurricane plan.

Information: www.ready.ga.gov

IN BRIEF | COUNTY NEWS

Fulton

The first senior highlighted in the campaign is Dorothy C. Benson, whose namesake senior multipurpose facility is in Sandy Springs. **Information:** (404) 613-6000

Social media

The Fulton County aging and youth services and external affairs departments recently launched a new social media campaign #SeniorsOffulton to celebrate and recognize the contributions of seniors throughout Older Americans Month in May.

Seniors who attend the county's senior multipurpose facilities will be spotlighted for their contributions and participation in various center programs and activities through the county's social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

IN BRIEF | CLUBS

Pen women

The Atlanta branch of the National League of American Pen Women, for professional women in the arts, holds a luncheon meeting the second Wednesday of each month, September through May, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Ansley Golf Club, 196 Montgomery Ferry Road in Ansley Park.

Information:

info@atlantapenwomen.org

ROSWELL ROAD WALL VENEER PROJECT T-0042

Bid Due Date

June 2, 2016; 2:00 p.m.

City of Sandy Springs
Purchasing Office

7840 Roswell Road Building 500
Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350

Questions must be directed in writing to:
City of Sandy Springs, Purchasing Agent, Lynn Taylor,

via e-mail to:

etaylor@sandyspringsga.gov

Deadline for questions from prospective contractors is May 19, 2016; 5:00 p.m.

Questions received after this date and time may not be answered.

For copy of the complete bid package and any updates or addenda please visit the Purchasing Website:

<http://www.sandyspringsga.org/business/doing-business-with-the-city/bidding-opportunities>

City of Sandy Springs Advertisement for Public Comment Draft 2016 Annual Action Plan

The City of Sandy Springs has prepared its draft 2016 Annual Action Plan required for participation in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Annual Action Plan describes how the City intends to use its 2016 CDBG allocation to achieve the broad goals described in the City's 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

The City of Sandy Springs anticipates receiving approximately \$592,429 in 2016 CDBG funds and proposes to use these funds to continue the multi-year sidewalk improvements program in designated low- and moderate-income target areas on the east and west sides of Roswell Road to improve access to commercial areas, public transit, parks, and health services for residents.

As required by 24 CFR Part 91.105(b)(2), the draft 2016 Annual Action Plan will be available for a 30-day public comment period beginning June 8, 2016 through July 8, 2016. A copy of the plan is available for those interested in reviewing it under the "Community Development Block Grant Program" heading at the top of the City's CDBG webpage <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/City-Departments/Community-Development/Community-Development-Block-Grant>.

Hard copies of the document can also be reviewed at the following locations:

Sandy Springs City Hall
Community Development Department
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Sandy Springs Regional Library
395 Mt. Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Dorothy C. Benson Senior Multipurpose Complex
6500 Vernon Woods Drive
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

Those who may wish to provide comments on the 2016 Annual Action Plan may email the CDBG Program mailbox at cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov or send written correspondence to the Sandy Springs Community Development Department at the address above until July 8, 2016. Final adoption of the 2016 Annual Action Plan is scheduled for the July 19, 2016 Mayor and City Council regular meeting. All meetings start at 6:00 p.m., are open to the public and held at the Sandy Springs City Hall, 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. Citizens in need of translation services or materials in alternative formats should call 770-730-5600 seven calendar days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL COUNCIL SEAT DISTRICT 3

ELECTION DAY VOTING
MAY 24, 2016
Hammond Park, Round Program Building
6005 Glenridge Drive, Sandy Springs

May 24, 2016, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

You must live within District 3 to vote in this special election.

SANDY SPRINGS
GEORGIA

SANDYSPRINGSGA.GOV/VOTE

Public Comment