Homelessness Data 7/21

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Progress

- Since 2018, HMIS has seen significant growth as Anchorage has focused on engaging all providers versus just HUD required providers
  - **44% increase through targeted recruitment (167 users to 241 users currently)**
  - **26% increase in projects (152 to 193)**
    - This does not include expected COVID-19 related increases as funding is disbursed
- In 2020, implemented a statewide data quality plan
  - **Number of projects meeting "A" or "B" grade for Data Completeness:**
    - **In 2018 Q1:   32 with "A", 19 with "B"**
    - **In 2021 Q1:   109 with "A", 26 with "B"**
- All Anchorage based funding partners have been willing to emphasize HMIS requirements in new grants
- Continued interest from both MOA and SOA on improving HMIS coverage and depth

Challenges

- $200k reduction in FY 22 HMIS funding slows down data strategy
- Increasing demand due to federally required programs (new ESG, Covid- related programs)
- Software migration in FY 22
- Continuing work with partners on data completeness, accuracy and timeliness
- Continuing work with needed partners on HMIS participation

How do we count demand?

1. Total HMIS representation for a year: one year aggregate (see below)

2. Point in Time Count: one night snapshot each year in January

3. Built for Zero By Name List Trends: monthly trends in key areas
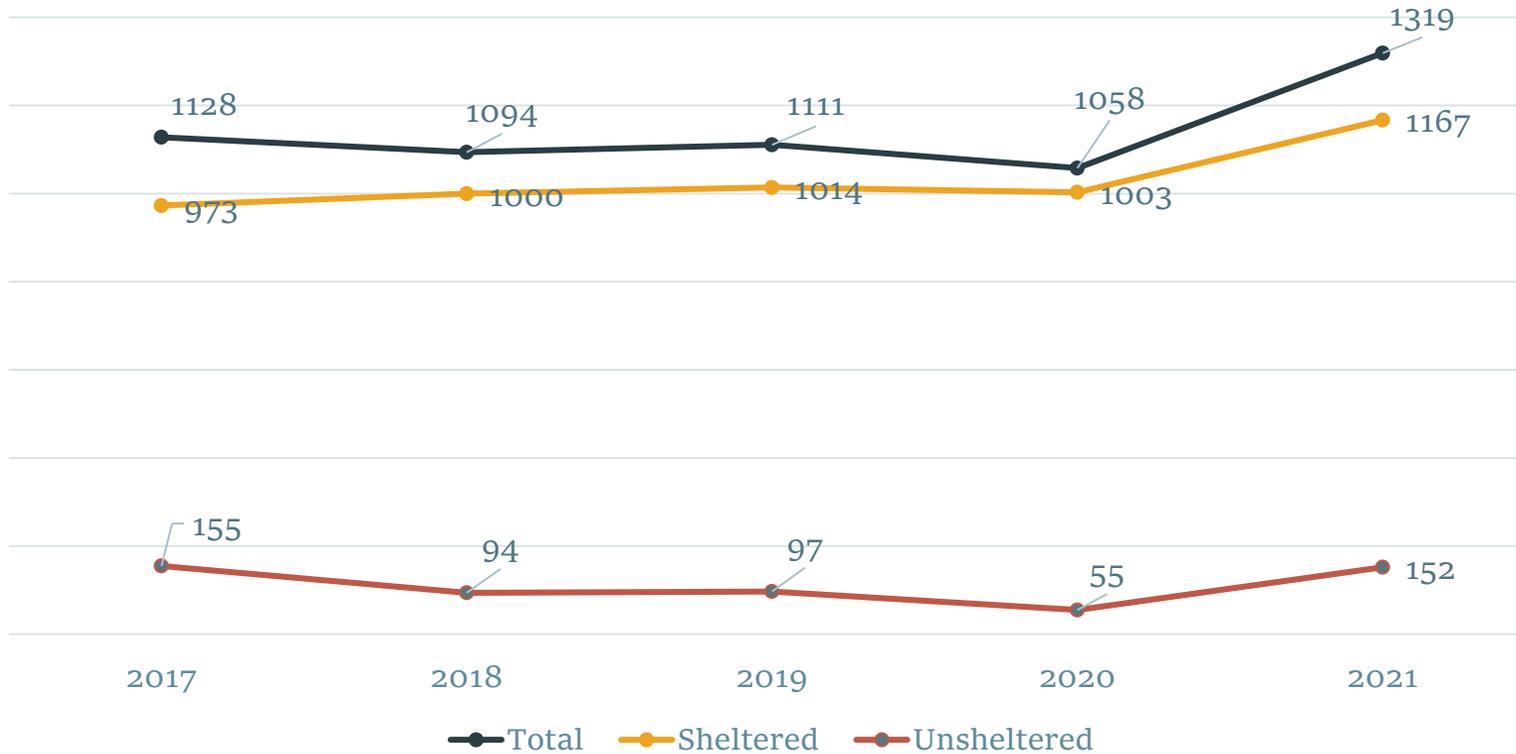
Total HMIS Representation

People Experiencing Homelessness in Anchorage	Youth & Young Adults	Families	Veterans	Adults	Total	State of Alaska
Total served in 2018 Active clients in HMIS Jan 2018 - Dec 2018	1043	1958 people	519	4852	7763	14,499
Total served in 2019 Active clients in HMIS Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	1176	2117 people	422	4621	7901	13,589
Total served in 2020 Active clients in HMIS Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	1019	2287	472	5710	9488	15,322

Point in Time Count: one night snapshot in January

Anchorage Point in time Count

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	1128	1094	1111	1058	1319
Sheltered	973	1000	1014	1003	1167
Unsheltered	155	94	97	55	152

Total Sheltered Unsheltered

Data Dashboards: 2019-2021

○ In 2021, Anchorage has received national recognition for having achieved a quality by name list: the first community in the nation to complete this milestone for all sub-populations

○ ACEH website now features:

- Demographics dashboard

- Built For Zero By Name List dashboard with monthly updates

Measuring Success moving forward:
- Are we preventing homelessness? (monitoring inflow into the system)
- Are we helping individuals exit homelessness? (monitoring outflow into housing)
- Are services effective? (monitoring returns to homelessness)

These data points can now be viewed, with monthly updates, on the ACEH website: https://aceh.org/data/

Built for Zero: Data Dashboards

From 1/1/2019 to 6/21 (Pulled 7/21/21)

◦ Average monthly inflow "new to the system" 313, (average inflow total 459)

◦ Average monthly outflow "into housing" is 120, (average outflow is 314)

◦ Each month, more people enter homelessness than exit homelessness. This is mitigated best by prevention, diversion and housing with services

Built for Zero Dashboard Review on ACEH Website (<u>www.aceh.org</u>)

Estimating Anchorage Shelter Demand

January 2021 (Winter Peak Demand)

- 41,891 Shelter "Bed Nights"/ 31 days in January = **1,352** Beds Needed
- 195 Unsheltered Clients who never accessed shelter, **185** contacted during January 2021
- Need:
  - 1,352 Beds for clients currently accessing shelter
  - 185 Beds for clients not currently accessing shelter
  - **1,537 Total Beds Needed**

May 2021 (Summer Demand)

- 27,446 Shelter "Bed Nights"/ 31 days in May = **886** Beds Needed
- 271 Unsheltered Clients who never accessed shelter, **187** contacted during May 2021
- Need:
  - 886 Beds for clients currently accessing shelter
  - 187 Beds for clients not currently accessing shelter
  - **1,073 Total Beds Needed**

Estimating Anchorage Shelter Capacity

Caveats/Assumptions/Considerations:

- The goals:
  1. build capacity for historic increases in winter demand
  2. Build capacity for unsheltered individuals to have shelter access year round
- This does not account for families with dependent children and youth under the age of 18
- This does not factor in housing surge efforts being launched with ACEH, providers, partners, AHD and mass care which has already begun to reduce the number of existing individuals who need shelter:
  - Ex: Mass Care, CSS, United Way, AHFC and ACEH partnership for 100 individuals most in need starting in August
- This does not account for increasing capacity with permanent shelters
- This does not account for externalities like the end to the eviction moratorium, COVID-19 spikes etc. that could drive up homelessness or change need

Estimating Anchorage Shelter Capacity

January 2021 (Peak Winter Demand)

- Need: **1,537 Beds**

- Current Supply:
  - Year Round, Permanent Emergency Shelter: 308 Beds (as per MOA dashboard)
  - Sullivan: 400 Beds
  - Non-Congregate (hotel beds): 364 Beds
  - **Total: 1,072**

- Winter Gap: 465 beds needed in addition to mass care
  - Total of 1229 beds needed to replace congregate and non-congregate mass care and meet estimated demand
  - Total of 879 beds needed if we retain 350 non-congregate "beds"

May 2021 (Summer Demand)

- Need: **1,073 Beds**

- Current Supply:
  - Year Round, Permanent Emergency Shelter: 308 Beds (as per MOA dashboard)
  - Sullivan: 400 Beds
  - Non-Congregate (hotels): 364 Beds
  - **Total: 1,072**

- Summer Gap: 1 bed needed in addition to mass care
  - Total of 765 beds to replace congregate and non-congregate mass care
  - Total of 401 if we retain 350 non-congregate "beds"

Outflow considerations

Currently operational:

• Pre-existing housing, service, food security resources

• Mass care efforts to transition individuals into respite and housing

Currently ramping up for 2022:

• CSS Intensive Case Management combined with 100 Emergency Housing Vouchers

• Transition of roughly 100 individuals in need of a higher level of care

Pending Housing Surge:

• Contracting ARPA/COVID relief appropriations and establishing timelines and connectivity to housing surge work

  • Expansion of youth and young adult services: Shiloh, House of Transformation, Choosing our Roots, VOA, Covenant House

  • Expansion of adult services: (sampling below)

- United Way landlord liaison activities for the community
- New Life Development re-entry
- Choices rental assistance and outreach
- Habitat for Humanity Housing project
- NeighborWorks Case Management

- RurAL CAP Mobile Home Repair
- Nine Star: Job Training
- Alaska Legal Services Eviction Prevention
- CSS Housing Problem Solving

Appendix

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Background

- In 2015, ACEH and the statewide coalition AKCH2 assumed responsibility for HMIS from the MOA bringing on ICA as a vendor and expanding the system to address statewide need
- Recognizing the significant utilization growth the two coalitions developed and began implementation on an HMIS Strategic Plan in 2020
  - Part of this plan includes reviewing the HMIS software and current administration
  - Sustainable funding for the system demand is a "risk" as much of the new federal COVID-19 resources require HMIS use but SOA has not contributed additional revenue to account for this
    - MOA has committed $100k to address the additional demand with new COVID-19 projects

Built for Zero

- In 2019, ACEH joined a national initiative called Built for Zero- working with Community Solutions, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and over 80 communities to solve homelessness
- Phase 1 of Built for Zero is achieving 28 criteria to implement a quality By Name List: a tool that measures homelessness monthly using 6 critical system data points to measure key indicators. Phase 1 focuses on data (which requires HMIS) but the overall effort is about functional zero. Data is just phase 1!
- Anchorage received national recognition for having achieved a By Name List in November of 2020 however delayed announcements as the EOC and COVID-19 work was not entered into HMIS
- In May 2021, Anchorage became the first community to achieve a By Name List for all sub-populations (other communities have chosen not to create youth and family lists until later in implementation)
- Anchorage has been selected as one of six communities to partner with Built for Zero and Providence on a national healthcare and homelessness initiative
- ACEH is working with Governor Dunleavy's task force on homelessness to explore statewide Built for Zero
- The next phase of the work is analysis and identifying improvement projects for implementation and focuses on:
  - Reducing inflow into the system (prevention)
  - Increasing outflow from the system (housing)
  - Increasing efficacy (reducing returns to homelessness from housing)

Non Participating HMIS entities (Anchorage)

Year	Proj. Type	Organization Name	Comments	Project Name	Total Beds
2021	PSH	Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)	Opportunity to improve data	HUD VASH	181
2021	ES	Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission (AGRM)	Opportunity to improve data	Men's Emergency Shelter	27
2021	ES	Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission (AGRM)	Opportunity to improve data	New Life	23
2021	ES	Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission (AGRM)	Opportunity to improve data	Women's Emergency Shelter	4
2021	ES	Downtown Hope Center (DHC)	Has agreed to start using HMIS in 2021	Emergency Shelter	36
2021	TH	Lutheran Social Services of Alaska (LSSA)	Opportunity to improve data	Transitional Living Program	6