

**2007 ANNUAL ONE NIGHT COUNT**  
OF PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS IN KING COUNTY, WA



REPORT PREPARED BY  
SEATTLE/KING COUNTY COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS (SKCCH)



**THE 2007 ONE NIGHT  
COUNT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE  
HOMELESS IN KING COUNTY  
TOOK PLACE OVERNIGHT ON JANUARY 25-26, 2007.**

VOLUNTEERS COUNTED 2,159 PEOPLE SURVIVING ON THE STREETS,  
IN TENTS, OR IN VEHICLES IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE COUNTY, AS  
WELL AS THOUSANDS STAYING IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND TRAN-  
SITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT KING COUNTY.

2,159 PEOPLE WERE WITHOUT SHELTER;  
2,368 PEOPLE WERE BEING SERVED BY EMERGENCY SHELTERS; AND  
3,312 PEOPLE WERE LIVING IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS.

**AT LEAST 7,839 PEOPLE  
WERE HOMELESS IN KING COUNTY  
ON ONE WINTER NIGHT IN 2007.**

The King County One Night Count has been conducted for more than two decades. The count serves two purposes: raising public awareness about homelessness, and gathering information about who is homeless in our backyards and who is being served by existing programs. The One Night Count grounds us in the local realities of a regional and national crisis.

The 27th annual One Night Count of people who are homeless in King County took place during the night of January 25-26, 2007. Organized by the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH) and Operation Nightwatch, hundreds of volunteers conducted a systematic 'street count' of people without shelter. They counted in parts of twelve King County cities and unincorporated areas between 2.00 a.m. and 5.00 a.m. On the same night, staff at nearly 200 emergency shelters and transitional housing programs completed surveys about the people staying in these programs. Results from these two primary sources of information are reported here.

At least 7,839 people were homeless in King County on this winter night in 2007. This represents the minimum number of people homeless on that particular night. National research suggests that at least three times that many people will be homeless in King County over the course of a year.

## MAJOR FINDINGS AND GROWTH OF THE 2007 ONE NIGHT COUNT

### OF THE 7,839 PEOPLE COUNTED THIS YEAR,

- **2,159 PEOPLE** WERE WITHOUT SHELTER DURING THE THREE HOUR STREET COUNT
- **1,870 PEOPLE** WERE SEEN IN THE SAME AREAS COUNTED DURING THE 2006 COUNT
- **289 PEOPLE** WERE FOUND IN NEW COUNT AREAS
- **2,368 PEOPLE** WERE BEING SERVED BY EMERGENCY SHELTERS
- **3,312 PEOPLE** WERE LIVING IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS

### The One Night Count saw increased participation throughout King County

- 735 volunteers participated in the Street Count – more than ever before.
- Twelve cities across King County, as well as unincorporated areas, participated in the One Night Count of people without shelter, including two for the first time (Renton and Woodinville).
- People riding overnight on Metro 'Night Owl' buses were counted for the first time.
- Seven area hospitals reported the number of homeless people using their emergency rooms for shelter that night.
- 98% of all emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in King County provided data about their residents on the night of the One Night Count. (Sixty-one emergency shelters and 134 transitional housing programs completed surveys.)
- Hundreds of organizations, community groups, congregations, local governments, and businesses supported the One Night Count by providing volunteers, staff, meals, supplies, and other resources for this ambitious community effort.

## **SKCCH expanded the 2007 One Night Count through new sources and methods**

- Special count teams rode 13 separate round trips of Metro Night Owl buses serving large parts of King County between 2.00 – 5.00 a.m. This new method documented 124 homeless people.
- Callers to the Crisis Clinic's Community Information Line (CIL) during the week of the One Night Count were surveyed. Fifty-five callers who were seeking shelter that week answered extra questions. Among those who said where they had spent the previous night, 44% had been doubled up with friends or family. Twenty percent said they had spent the night in shelters; 15 percent were in cars or outside.
- People who were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in south and east King County provided a better look at homelessness in the suburbs and rural parts of the county. A month after the One Night Count, dozens of people at seven food banks and free community meals participated in detailed interviews. Through this approach, at least 30 additional people were confirmed to have been homeless and without shelter on the night of the Count.

## **TRENDS**

The One Night Count documented dramatic annual increases in the number of people without shelter between 1998 and 2004, when the same areas were compared from one year to the previous year. There is some evidence that the troubling escalation of homelessness seen through those years may be leveling off. The 2007 street count showed a slight decrease of four percent when the same count areas are compared to the 2006 results. (Changes to the street count and the provider survey limit year-to-year comparability before 2006.) This offers hope that the rate of homelessness may be slowing as our community works to create additional housing and related services.

At the same time, a higher total number of people without shelter were counted in 2007 than in 2006. This is partly the result of including new areas. In order to take into account the urban, suburban, and rural realities of homelessness, the count has grown far beyond its original downtown Seattle boundaries. Street count numbers are not adjusted to take into account gentrification, development, and other local changes. Such changes likely push people away from dense urban areas and into outlying neighborhoods and other parts of the region. People who are homeless are constantly on the move. Comparing the numbers of people counted in the same areas from year to year may not be sufficient to interpret One Night Count results.

## **CONCLUSION**

The One Night Count engages thousands of people across the County, raising public awareness and giving concerned neighbors a tangible way to participate in efforts to end homelessness. It provides a snapshot of homelessness in our community, and offers insight into aspects of this dynamic problem. The count should be used as a gauge of the need around us, rather than as a measure of success or failure; it is not a complete accounting of a complex situation.

As you read the report and examine the tables on these pages, please keep in mind that these numbers represent people living in King County. Every tick mark on every tally sheet that volunteers return with on the night of the count represents a person with the same hopes and aspirations we all share: for safety and health, and for an opportunity to make tomorrow better than today. When people volunteer for the Street Count they are often sobered and outraged by the sight of fellow human beings attempting to shelter themselves clumsily or ingeniously from cold, rain, wind, desperation, and hopelessness. The release of this report is an occasion to recall those emotions – to renew and strengthen our private and public commitments to act on the necessity of ending homelessness.

ALISON EISINGER  
*Executive Director*  
Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness

The One Night Count is a yearly snapshot of the nature and extent of homelessness in King County. The Count consists of two main parts: a street count of people without any shelter, and a survey of those living in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. This assessment is one of the longest-established counts in the United States. For the past 27 years, the One Night Count has simultaneously collected important information and raised public awareness about homelessness locally. Its results offer insight into current conditions, and information from counts over a number of years can illuminate general trends. The Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH) produces this annual report to inform our community about the current local state of homelessness. SKCCH hopes that the report will be useful as one of several sources of information needed by members of the public, planners and policy makers, service providers, and advocates who want to understand and respond to homelessness in King County – and who work to end it.

Volunteer counters historically went out during the third week of October to see who was surviving without shelter on the streets, in alleys, parks, and greenbelts; in cars or tents or makeshift shelters. In 2006, SKCCH responded to a call from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to coordinate all such counts nationally, and shifted the King County event to the last Thursday in January. The 2007 street count and survey of emergency shelter and transitional housing providers took place over the night of January 25-26. Conducting the One Night Count in mid-winter rather than in the fall likely affects the results of the count. It will take some years to distinguish what may be a function of counting in January rather than October (such as differences in weather conditions, and the availability of shelters open only during the winter months) from other trends or changes.

### **People without shelter: The Street Count**

The street count is conducted by hundreds of volunteers, and organized by Operation Nightwatch and the Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness. It consists of a ‘moment in time’ unduplicated tally of people living on the streets and in outlying neighborhoods of Seattle, south King County (Kent, Federal Way, White Center), north King County (Shoreline, Bothell, Kenmore), and the Eastside (Redmond, Bellevue, Kirkland). In 2007, the count was expanded to include parts of the city of Renton and part of the city of Woodinville. SKCCH continues to work with local groups to expand this count of people without shelter in order to provide a more complete picture of area homelessness.

The One Night Count is intended to foster an understanding of the patterns of survival for people who sleep in publicly accessible areas. However, people who are homeless and living outside are primarily concerned with survival, and many go to great lengths to protect themselves by hiding from public view. Volunteer counters are instructed not to enter abandoned buildings or go onto private property, and generally do not enter dense underbrush or wooded areas. These are, however, the very places where people may seek shelter, especially in wet and cold winter weather. Thus, the street count always misses an unknown number of people without shelter in our region. While this problem will never fully be resolved, it is possible to mitigate the built-in limitations of this approach by using additional ways of counting. New methods added in 2007 are described later.

### **People in emergency shelters and transitional housing: Provider survey**

The One Night Count includes a survey of King County’s sheltered homeless population which takes place on the same night as the unsheltered count. This part of the 2007 count was carried out by King County Housing and Community Development - Homeless Housing Programs. Sixty-one emergency shelter programs and 134 transitional housing programs provided cumulative data about their residents on that night. This represents 98 percent of the shelter and transitional housing programs found in the King County Inventory of Homeless Units and Beds. [See the footnote on page 13 for instructions on how to find the most recent inventory.] Summary tables reporting the results of the 2007 One Night Count Survey are found in the last section of this report.

***Emergency Shelter is short-term temporary shelter from the elements and unsafe streets. Such programs are either facility-based or flexible capacity (i.e., motel vouchers). Transitional Housing is temporary housing (ranging from 90 days to 24 months) which includes supportive services designed to help people make the transition to permanent housing.***

The One Night Count survey produces data about people using homeless housing programs at a single point in time (thus, no person is counted twice). Staff in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs complete a survey describing the group of people in their programs on that particular night. All data are provided in aggregate form; no individually identifying information is reported. The survey results give us a good picture of the number and characteristics of these individuals and households; they do not reveal anything about those people who are homeless but who are not connected to any kind of housing, or who only use services such as meal programs or clinics.

## Strengthening and expanding the One Night Count

SKCCH is in the process of expanding the One Night Count to document more fully the scope of homelessness in our region. This expansion involves trying new ways of counting people who might not be found through existing survey and street count methods alone, and partnering with community members, service providers, and local governments to increase the geographic area covered. Each year for the past several years, additional suburban cities, neighborhoods, and parts of unincorporated King County have joined the effort to count those who are living outside and without shelter in their communities.

Even with such strong commitment to documenting homelessness around King County, the numbers in this report do not fully represent the need for affordable housing and supportive services. It is necessary to continue to add new areas within participating cities and communities, and to continue to include additional municipalities in the unsheltered Count, because people who are homeless move. Each year, organizers gather on-the-ground information about where it might make sense to expand the Count. At the same time, for the sake of consistency and completeness, existing count areas are rarely dropped even if no one is counted.

One Night Count Data 1998-2007

	OCT 1998	OCT 1999	OCT 2000	OCT 2001	OCT 2002	OCT 2003	OCT 2004	JAN 2006*	JAN 2007
Unsheltered Street Count	784	983	1,085	1,454	2,040	1,899	2,216	1,946	2,159
Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Count	3,543	3,965	4,500	4,671	4,675	4,617	4,636	5,964	5,680
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,327</b>	<b>4,948</b>	<b>5,585</b>	<b>6,125</b>	<b>6,715</b>	<b>6,516</b>	<b>6,852</b>	<b>7,910</b>	<b>7,839</b>

**NOTES:**

The unsheltered portion of the One Night Count has grown to cover greater geographic areas over time. Program participation in the shelter and housing survey has varied over time.

\*In 2006 the One Night Count was shifted to January from October. That year, fifty more programs responded to the survey than did in 2004. These changes limit comparability between counts before and after 2006.

This table does not include the "balance of county" estimate, which was dropped in 2006.

## Hospital Emergency Departments, Metro Buses, and the Community Information Line: New sources of One Night Count information

**Hospital Emergency Departments:** In 2007, the One Night Count increased to seven the number of hospitals that were invited to participate by reporting how many people were in their emergency departments during the hours of the count. Hospital staff identified these people as being in the emergency department for shelter and security rather than to seek medical attention.<sup>1</sup>

**Metro Night Owl Buses:** This year, for the first time, the unsheltered count included people who seek shelter on public buses during late night and early morning hours. Special teams of counters rode most of the late night Metro bus routes for complete round trips, noting riders whom they identified as very likely homeless. These teams included people who were homeless, and who had experience riding buses for shelter themselves; they felt confident in their ability to distinguish between people going to or from swing shift or early morning jobs, and those who were using the buses as what some refer to as "rolling shelters." In three hours, the Bus Count teams documented 124 homeless people riding on 13 distinct round trips.<sup>2</sup>

**The Crisis Clinic's 2-1-1 Community Information Line:** This county-wide toll-free information service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and its operators field hundreds of calls a day, including many from people who are looking for shelter. Beginning on the night of the Count and continuing for five days, operators asked callers seeking shelter or housing additional questions. Fifty-five people were asked where they had spent the previous night, whether they had ever been homeless before, and how long they had been homeless this time.

Most (69%) of the people who called 2-1-1 on January 25th and 26th looking for shelter or housing said that they had never before been homeless.<sup>3</sup> Eighty-four percent of the people who called on those two days had been homeless for less than a year; just under half had been homeless for less than a month. Callers reported doubling up or moving around in their attempts to remain marginally housed. Among those who said where they had spent the previous night, 44% had been doubled up with friends or family. Twenty percent said they had spent the night in shelters; 15 percent were in cars or outside.

1 The people counted in a hospital's emergency department are included in the total number reported for the city in which the hospital is located.  
 2 Because the night owl buses cover large parts of King County, often crossing from one city into another, the numbers of people observed riding buses as a survival tactic are reported in a separate category from the geographic areas of the rest of the Street Count.  
 3 Percentages given are based on the number of callers who provided a valid response for a given question. The number of valid responses varies, as not every caller answered every question. Percentages were calculated only for calls received on January 25th and 26th in order to stay as close as possible to the One Night Count's time frame. Thirty-seven of the 55 calls 2-1-1 recorded were received during these 48 hours.

## FINDINGS FROM THE UNSHELTERED OR STREET COUNT

The 2007 Street Count found a total of 2,159 people living on the streets in the specified count areas. This includes 1,870 people seen in the areas targeted in the previous count (January 27, 2006), and another 289 people in new count areas. Fifty-six of these people were counted in Renton, which was participating in the One Night Count for the first time. One hundred twenty-four of these people were counted on Metro buses.

The chart below summarizes how many people were counted outdoors or in cars during the 2007 One Night Count. This table shows the numbers of people without shelter observed in participating count regions, and regional subtotals by gender and location. A large proportion of people were recorded as 'gender unknown' because it is often impossible to determine whether a person dressed and covered to survive the night outside is a woman or a man. Because it is also usually not possible to determine how old someone is, these numbers under-report the number of children and youth without shelter. Only when a count team is certain that a person is under 18 years old is that person recorded as a minor.

People who have no shelter find different ways to survive: to stay dry, to keep from freezing, and to stay safe. They may find shelter in doorways or under building overhangs, use whatever they can find as windbreaks, or look for hidden places where they will not be noticed. Some people go to great lengths to create shelters for themselves, constructing lean-tos, tents, and shacks out of tarps and scrap wood. Others simply try to keep moving, walking the streets until daybreak.

Summary of 2007 Unsheltered (Street) Count

	Seattle	Kent	North End	East Urban	White Center	Federal Way	Renton	Night Owl Buses	Total
Men	623	13	6	59	5	23	10	111	850
Women	95	2	0	15	1	9	3	13	138
Gender unknown	854	74	41	52	13	74	41	0	1,149
Minor (under 18)	17	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>2,159</b>
Benches	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Parking Garages	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Cars/Trucks	449	42	36	40	10	48	29	0	654
Structures	131	18	0	6	0	28	6	0	189
Under Roadways	127	16	0	5	0	6	7	0	161
Doorways	170	0	1	0	0	2	5	0	178
Public Parks	33	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	39
Bushes/Undergrowth	36	2	8	6	2	1	2	0	57
Bus Stops	23	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	29
Alleys	23	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	29
Walking Around	368	5	0	5	4	13	2	0	397
Other	201	2	1	65	0	3	0	124	396
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>2,159</b>

**2007 STREET COUNT TOTAL (ALL REGIONS) = 2,159 MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN**

Comparison of 2006 and 2007 ONC Results

	JAN 2006	JAN 2007
Street Count - Like Areas	1,946	1,870
Street Count - New Areas		165
Bus Count (new)		124
<b>Street Count Totals</b>	<b>1,946</b>	<b>2,159</b>
Emergency Shelter	2,463	2,368
Transitional Housing	3,501	3,312
<b>Sheltered Totals</b>	<b>5,946</b>	<b>5,680</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,910</b>	<b>7,839</b>

NOTES FOR SUMMARY OF 2007 STREET COUNT:

Renton and Woodinville (reported as part of the North End) participated in the ONC for the first time in 2007. The Night Owl buses are a new type of ONC count area added in 2007.

NOTES FOR COMPARISON OF 2006 AND 2007 ONE NIGHT COUNT:

The Street Count incorporated new areas in 2007. The number of people found in the same areas counted in 2006 decreased by 4% this year. For additional detail about people in shelter and transitional housing see pages 13-18.





## Stories from special One Night Count teams who rode Metro's 'night owl' buses

"We saw 29 people on one bus at around 2.30 a.m. Two were women and the rest were men. It's a 2 hour round trip, so there's lots of time to sleep. One of the guys on the bus was in a wheel chair."

"There were ten people sleeping on the bus I rode. There are people who get on the bus and go right to sleep and have a bag of their possessions with them. The bus driver knows her regular sleepers. I know because I've used it [to sleep] myself. The drivers know their regulars, and the homeless...you know your buses."

"We took a bus and at around 3.30 a.m. the bus was full. People got on carrying shopping or grocery bags and sleeping. Some had blankets. One guy slept with a cloth over his head; others laid down the minute the bus took off."

## THE COUNTY INTERVIEW PROJECT: A NEW METHOD FOR 2007 ONE NIGHT COUNT

The street count documents many people, but is understood to be an undercount. Because most people are counted while they are asleep, duplication is not a concern. Counters do not interview the people they see. The survey of shelter and transitional housing programs provides a count and demographic data for people in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs at a point in time.

These methods, while powerful, provide only a partial picture of homelessness in King County. Neither method captures the hundreds or thousands of people throughout King County who are staying with friends or relatives for a few nights or weeks, or living in substandard housing or in trailers without running water or electricity. The One Night Count does not document the many families who are secretly doubled or tripled up on a temporary or permanent basis in one apartment or house, or the hundreds of people who pay for motel rooms by the day or week, hoping somehow to save enough money for more stable places of their own.

To help fill out the picture, SKCCH organized a special project to test a new way of gathering information from some of these uncounted homeless and near-homeless people. The County Interview Project was purposely conducted where there are few or no shelters or transitional housing programs, and no current unsheltered count. It was designed to gather more information than an early-morning street count could, and to reach some of the people who are doubled up, camping in outlying areas, and otherwise very unlikely to be counted or heard from in other ways.

Especially in rural and suburban parts of King County, homelessness is so well-hidden as to be nearly invisible. Where there are few or no shelters or services, no survey information can be gathered; in the suburbs and in forested areas or farmland, it is impractical to send count teams out on foot or by car, because the area to cover is large, and because people may be determined to stay out of sight along rivers, in woods, or on private property. Often, people in these circumstances are not connected with regular services or receiving public benefits, and may only occasionally make use of outreach or emergency services for limited access to medical care, cash assistance, clothing, and food.

The County Interview Project took place in Auburn, Carnation, Issaquah, and North Bend. At the end of February 2007, trained interviewers attended seven free community meals and food banks in these four communities. They spoke with more than 160 people at these locations during what is typically the busiest time for emergency food programs: the end of the month, when people's limited resources have been exhausted. Each person answered a few questions which established whether he or she was homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Seventy-one people were, so they were invited to participate in the longer survey. Of these, fifty-eight people who were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless agreed to be interviewed. *[Findings from these interviews can be found on pages 10-12.]*

Through these interviews, SKCCH was able to document that at least thirty additional adults (ten women and 20 men) were homeless and without shelter in King County on the night of January 25, 2007. They were sleeping in cars, tents, or on the streets of Auburn, Carnation, Issaquah, and North Bend. We are confident that these people would not have been counted by other methods. These results support the idea of using such interviews in future years to supplement other count methods, particularly in suburban and rural areas.

### Changes on the Ground

A count in a given area or neighborhood may vary dramatically over just a few years due to changes on the ground. In Seattle, gentrification and the development of empty lots in or near downtown change the availability of places to keep dry and out of sight near services and transportation. In unincorporated King County, development of vacant land is changing the location of some encampments. People camped along rivers in east King County were flooded out by severe storms during November and December 2006, and in south King County, a state park with known long-term campers was closed because of the same severe weather. (Both sites were to have been counted.) For these reasons, simply comparing the same count areas from one year to the next cannot present the full story of where homeless people without shelter are.

Interviews with volunteers who participated in the Seattle count for three or more years suggest that changes in the local landscape, including construction and gentrification, may make it harder for people to find shelter in more densely populated neighborhoods. Experienced counters noted that businesses used fences and bright lighting to keep people out of parking lots and doorways. Signs had been posted warning "No parking 2.00 a.m. – 5.00 a.m." on some streets. The number of people observed living in cars, vans, and campers continues to increase, according to these counters (this seems to be true across the county). *For stories, see adjacent page.*

## Stories from One Night Count



Volunteers from the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH) interviewed counters as they returned to area headquarters to report their numbers. The following brief stories are a few of those told by some of the 735 count volunteers. They give a glimpse into the real life circumstances of the individuals who make up the number 2,159.

*Details of locations have been omitted in order to protect the privacy of homeless people, the safety of volunteers, and the integrity of the Count.*

"We counted 76 homeless [people], mostly in cars and campers near the railroad tracks. There were four people who had climbed in behind a dumpster to sleep—guess it made a good wind block."

"We saw 49 people in our team. One person was in a car, others were in sleeping bags and blankets, sleeping on the pavement. There were men, women and children. One group I saw looked like a family, with two bigger bodies and two small ones. They were sleeping close together under the doorway of a large building. There was one small bag of possessions, and not much else."

"Our count was down from last year. There were lots of abandoned campsites. Maybe the extreme weather drove people inside. There were more tents last year, but we only saw a couple this year."

"We saw ten people and two raccoons. Most of the people were in doorways. One was in an alley; there was a couple in the doorway of a funeral home. We saw a group of three in a doorway with lots of shelter to it—they were in blankets. One person was wrapped in plastic. Next to the old library, there was a lot of trash and nearby behind a gate in a sheltered area there seemed to be a group camp that might have been abandoned, but we didn't dare go into it to see."

"There were an overwhelming number of people who were just walking and walking. One gentleman, probably in his 40s or 50s, came up to us and asked if we were the police because he had been mugged a couple of days ago and wanted to report it."

"Our team saw a family with two kids sleeping in the front doorway at a store."

"I saw one person with a wheel chair next to where he was sleeping in a doorway."

"We saw seven people sleeping. One couple was walking around with a small plastic bag with their belongings and some cardboard to maybe sleep on."

"The neighborhood where we counted seems more inhospitable to homeless this year than last. There are more gated, locked and brightly lit areas. People last year were sleeping and this year they were walking or sitting in bus stops. We saw 25 this year; 29 last year."

"Cars used to be lined up along this one street—it was kind of a known place for car camping. But this year, there wasn't one, because they've been cleaned out. So, they were tucked into side streets nearby."

## INTERVIEWS WITH PEOPLE AT EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAMS IN SOUTH AND EAST KING COUNTY: THE COUNTY INTERVIEW PROJECT

During the end of February 2007, trained SKCCH interviewers went to talk with people using emergency food programs (food banks and free community meals) in south and east King County. At each of seven locations, staff speaking Spanish and English began by asking nearly all people at the site a few questions to determine whether they were homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, or neither. Overall, we screened more than 160 people this way. Roughly 40% of the people we talked with were either currently homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Those who were living on the streets or camping in the woods, living out of their cars or in a squat, or facing imminent eviction, were grouped as homeless. People who were living in unstable and highly temporary living arrangements were grouped as at risk of becoming homeless. These people were facing eviction or foreclosure, moving between being outside and staying in others' homes for a few days, doubled up short-term, or only maintaining current housing by spending nearly all of their incomes on rent.

We asked the people who were in one of these two groups whether they would participate in a longer interview; more than 80% of them agreed to do so. The interviews included questions about people's current housing arrangements, who was in their households, whether they used shelters or other services, what services would be most useful, and where they stayed during the 2007 One Night Count. Over four days, we interviewed 58 people, 59% of whom were homeless, and 41% of whom were at risk of losing their housing. The women and men we spoke with were between 22 and 66, and all but one were residents of King County when we interviewed them. People described a wide variety of living arrangements: living in cars or in old campers, staying at construction sites, camping in the deep woods or in greenbelts or parks, and living in temporary room-mate or tenancy arrangements exchanging their labor or buying groceries for rent.

More than three-quarters of the people we interviewed had been homeless at some point during the last three years. Over a third of these (36%) had been homeless for all of the last three years (and in a number of cases, for far longer than that). Thirty-three of the 58 people we interviewed had significant histories of homelessness in terms of how often or how long they had been homeless. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines as chronically homeless adults who, in the past three years, have either been homeless continuously for a year or more, or homeless four or more times, and who have a disabling condition. Fifty-seven percent of those we interviewed had been homeless that often, or for such lengths of time. Our interviews were generally too limited to determine whether people had the physical or mental disabilities which met the second condition. However, based on full interviews and on interviewers' observations, we believe that most we spoke with would likely be recognized as chronically homeless.

For the people we interviewed, as well as for the people serving them meals and providing food and clothing, the lack of affordable housing and nearly complete absence of shelters and services in their communities were the most urgent problems. Many people were afraid of going to Seattle or other cities to seek shelter or find services, either because they had heard stories about violence, theft, and poor conditions, or because they had experienced these themselves. Also, they did not want to move away from family and community supports. Simply put, people refused to leave their home places just because they had no homes.

**"Do you consider yourself homeless?"** More than 70 percent of the people we interviewed thought of themselves as homeless. One of the most striking findings of this project was that this included half of the people who were not 'officially' homeless, and 88% of people who were homeless according to federal guidelines.

**"Do you remember where you stayed on the night of January 25, 2007?"** Since we wanted to see whether these interviews could help us include people who might not otherwise be counted, we asked each person whether she or he could recall details about the night of the 2007 One Night Count. All but one remembered where they had been that night, and most were able to give us some additional details. This gives us confidence that we can use such interviews to improve the scope of the One Night Count, even if the interviews do not all happen on the night of the count or the next day.

The vast majority of people (90%) spent that night in King County; all of them were in Washington. Nearly a third of people (30%) had spent that night outdoors, most of them camping. More than a quarter of the group (27%) said that they had been doubled up with friends or family. Eleven people had spent that night in their own houses, apartments, or trailers. Ten people were in their vehicles that night.

Among those who were "at risk," a little over a third said that they had been in a place of their own the previous month. More than half of them (58%) had been staying with friends or family, or in a motel. This information con-

## Interview Stories



*Lee had been homeless for seven months when we spoke with him. This was the fourth time in three years that he had been homeless. In his fifties, Lee had suffered two heart attacks in recent years, and sustained a work-related injury. He spends a good deal of time in the public library: "I feel safe and warm there, and I love to read." Lee stays alternately with a friend, in his car, or in parks around south King County. What would be most helpful, he said, would be "medical and dental services, a place to shower where I feel safe, and a warm place to stay when it's cold. I have no permanent place to go where it's warm and safe."*



*Jody and his mother, Rose, live in a 1960s trailer which they park at Wal-Mart, on side streets, and sometimes in a friend's yard. Rose receives disability income, and was recently hospitalized for abdominal surgery. Her doctor told her to shower daily to keep the incision clean. However, there is no power, no heat, and no running water in their trailer. Instead, Jody and Rose carry gallon jugs of water into their trailer each day. "We support each other," Jody explained. They had been turned down for several apartments because of a previous eviction related to domestic violence. "We need a financial break to get back into a home. Until then, we could use access to propane to warm up the trailer, and help with gas because we have to move it every few days," said Rose.*



*Carol has two children, ages 12 and 19. The three of them live in a trailer in a rural part of King County. She got a ride to the food bank with a friend, since she doesn't drive and there is little public transportation in the area. Carol works, and pays \$300 a month in rent to her boyfriend, who owns the trailer, but he threatens to evict them from time to time. She is waiting to hear about her application for a Section 8 housing subsidy. "Going to a shelter would be a last resort," Carol told us. "I don't want to put my kids through staying in a shelter, and they wouldn't let me stay together with my 19-year-old. There should be more resources for low income families, and they shouldn't have three year waiting lists for housing."*



tributes to our understanding that people who are vulnerable to homelessness are often doubled up or already experiencing episodic homelessness as they hold fast to the last remaining threads of their safety nets.

### **Use of services and sources of income in the past month**

Of those who were homeless, only 47% had ever stayed in a shelter or transitional housing program. More than a third (37%) of those whom we identified as being at risk of homelessness had ever stayed in such a program. Some people were uncertain about what services existed, others had concerns about their eligibility; many said that they had had difficulties accessing services, because of limited transportation options, fear of being treated badly by providers, or because they had in the past been treated badly. A number of people had animal companions and refused to give them up in order to go into a shelter or other temporary housing. Several parents said that they did not want to subject their young children to staying in a shelter environment; parents of older youth or young adults would not consider going to a shelter where they would have to be in separate men's and women's programs.

A third of those interviewed had earned income from a job or other paid work in the last month. This is consistent with other surveys of people who are homeless and in shelters or transitional housing programs. People at risk of becoming homeless were more likely to have received financial help from family members or friends in the last month than people who were homeless. Nearly half of those at risk had gotten this kind of help. This suggests that for people living in unstable housing arrangements, financial support from outside their own households helps to keep them housed; it may be that the lack or loss of access to such cash supplements contributes to people losing their homes.

Few people were receiving public benefits such as welfare (TANF), disability benefits (including GAU, GAX, and SSI), social security, Medicaid or Medicare. One person received unemployment benefits; three were receiving benefits from the Veterans' Administration. The most common public benefit was food stamps, although only 45% of the people we spoke with received these (people who were homeless were more likely to be receiving food stamps than people who were at risk of homelessness).

### **Health and histories of institutional involvement**

Twenty-two percent of people reported having received treatment for mental illness or mental health problems in the past three years. Nine people had received treatment for alcohol use, and four for drug use in the past three years. More than a quarter (28%) had been hospitalized for a physical problem in the past year. Slightly over twenty percent of those interviewed reported that they had been in jail, prison, or a work release program in the past year. Similarly, 12 people (21%) told us that they had been in foster care as children.

The people who talked with us were not only living through hardship and trouble in the present, but had experienced a great deal of trauma and ill health recently. Forty percent of people told interviewers that in the past three years they had experienced a serious or disabling condition. Several people had had one or more heart attacks, cancer, or had been through multiple surgeries. Several suffered from asthma, diabetes, or seizure disorders; had problems with their backs or high blood pressure, or had suffered broken bones. One person described serious problems resulting from having been attacked and kicked in the head. More than a few people spoke of serious skin or dental problems, severe pain, migraines, and depression. Finally, a number of those interviewed had lost a parent or spouse within the last few years.

### **Conclusion**

Carrying out this County Interview Project inspired us to work with organizers around King County to conduct similar interviews in the future. The interviews offer local insight into the circumstances of people whose precarious housing arrangements and poverty make it very possible that they will become homeless, as well as conditions for people who have already lost their homes. We know that we heard from people who would likely not have been included through a provider survey or an outdoor count. These interviews remind us that people in communities across our county need services and affordable housing.

We urge readers to consider the information presented here in context, and to be careful of attempting to draw wider conclusions. These interviews reflected issues common to poor and homeless people across King County, as well as some circumstances that are more specific to a certain locale. Just as the One Night Count occurs in a brief time frame, these interviews were gathered over a few days. The weather affected this effort: several programs had lower than usual numbers of clients because of snow and poor driving conditions. These data cannot be used to estimate how many people who eat at free meals or use food banks are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. They can be used to expand upon our understanding of where in King County vulnerable people live, and what kinds of resources they need and want to achieve housing stability, safety, and health.



## RESULTS FROM THE EMERGENCY SHELTER AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SURVEY

Five thousand, six hundred and eighty people<sup>4</sup> who were homeless were staying in shelters and transitional housing programs on January 25, 2007. Of these, 2,368 people were in emergency shelters, and 3,312 were in transitional housing programs (both facility-based and scattered site units) across King County.<sup>5</sup> Because the survey is conducted on a single night, these numbers are unduplicated. When added to the numbers of people found without shelter that night, this brings the *minimum* number of people homeless during the One Night Count to 7,839.

Providers at 61 emergency shelter and 134 transitional housing programs completed the 2007 surveys. The data that follow are taken from these surveys. Some tables contain information (age, race, and ethnicity) which describes the *individual* people who were served that night. Other tables refer to data (such as income) which are reported for *households* (in this context a household can refer to a single person or to two or more people, including families with children). [See page 4 for definitions of emergency shelter and transitional housing.]

The One Night Count survey results can be very helpful in identifying issues and trends in homelessness. However, care should be taken when interpreting the numbers. Because changes in One Night Count survey results from one year to the next are likely to be small, or to reflect programmatic changes rather than population changes, it is important to look at trends in these data over time and in context. Please note the following when referring to the figures presented here:

*This information was collected at one particular point in time. Thus, results should not be generalized. The charts reflect the number of individuals and households receiving shelter and transitional housing services on the night of January 25, 2007, and the characteristics reported about them.*

*The data represent only those people who use overnight services, not all people who are homeless (those not in emergency shelters or transitional housing). There may be differences between those who use housing and shelter programs and those who do not.*

*Descriptive information about people in shelters and transitional housing programs reflects program design. These demographics tell us as much about what programs are available as they do about the people who use them. Almost no couples without children and few unaccompanied minors are reported in the survey. This is not necessarily because they are not in need of shelter, but because there are almost no beds or programs designated for them. The number, type, and proportion of families with children counted in the survey is directly related to the number and type of programs designed to serve families with children.*

*The inventory of programs and the numbers and types of beds they provide changes from year to year. The number and type of programs reporting, as well as the fact that new programs open and others close, can affect survey results from year to year.*

*Comparisons with survey results before 2006 should be made with particular caution. The 2006 survey included a number of beds in transitional housing programs which had not been included in previous surveys. Also beginning in 2006, the One Night Count took place in January, rather than in October (when it had been conducted for 25 years). This change in season may affect both the survey of sheltered homeless people and the count of people without shelter.*

4 These 5,680 people made up 3,821 households. As noted in the text, a household may consist of a single person, or of two or more people.

5 In 2007, there was a slight net increase of 40 year-round emergency shelter beds over 2006 (one new year-round shelter opened and several shelters closed). A few shelters were not serving people on the night of the count. The complete listing of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in King County is in the *Inventory of Homeless Units and Beds: Seattle/King County Spring 2007* (second document from the bottom), found at <http://www.metrokc.gov/dchs/csd/Housing/Reports.htm>

## SURVEY INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS

The 5,680 people served in emergency shelter and transitional housing on January 25, 2007 were in a variety of household compositions.

TABLE 1: Individuals by household type and type of program

	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING
Families with children	612	2,117
Single men	1,317	837
Single women	418	333
Unaccompanied minors	21	21
Couples without children	0	4
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,368</b>	<b>3,312</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE</b>	<b>5,680</b>	

### Race and Ethnicity

People of color are significantly over-represented in the homeless population, with the exception of Asian/Pacific Islanders. The following table shows the race and ethnicity of those being served by our emergency shelters and transitional housing programs compared to the overall King County population.

TABLE 2: Race and ethnicity of people served in King County shelters and transitional housing programs (by percentage of homeless and general populations)

	SHELTERED HOMELESS POPULATION			GENERAL POPULATION
	ES	TH	COMBINED	
White	40%	36%	38% (2,133)	75.5%
African American/Black	30%	38%	35% (1,972)	5.4%
Hispanic	12%	8%	10% (215)	5.5%
Multi-racial	5%	7%	6% (180)	4.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3%	4%	4% (352)	11.3%
Native American	4%	3%	3% (562)	.9%
Unknown	6%	4%	5% (266)	NA
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE</b>			<b>5,680</b>	

General Population data are taken from the 2000 U.S. Census, and can be found at <http://www.metrokc.gov/KCCensus/>

### Age

Of the 5,680 people staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing on the night of the count, 1,687 were children under the age of 18, and nearly 200 were over the age of 65.

TABLE 3: Ages of people in King County homeless housing

	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	TOTAL
Birth to 5 years	148	564	712
6-12 years	143	404	547
13-17 years	110	329	428
18-25 years	155	419	585
26-54 years	1,177	1,331	2,508
55-64 years	304	169	473
65 years and older	172	21	193



## Immigration status and limited spoken English

Among immigrants and refugees who are in homeless housing programs, the vast majority are part of families with children. Somewhat fewer than half of all people counted in the survey were in families with children (2,117 of 5,680). In comparison, 90 percent of people identified as immigrants or refugees were in families with children. Programs reported that many immigrants and refugees spoke limited English.

TABLE 4: People identified as immigrants or refugees and people identified as speaking limited English

Individuals In:	SINGLE PERSON	HOUSEHOLDS FAMILIES W/CHILDREN	TOTAL
Immigrant or refugee	59	558	617
Limited English speaking	66	335	401

## Disabilities and other health concerns

Chemical dependency and mental illness are the most frequently reported disabling conditions for people who are homeless. Table 5 shows reported instances of these conditions, as well as of chronic homelessness, because this is defined, in part, by having a serious physical or mental disability (including chemical dependency). This report uses the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of a person who is chronically homeless: "an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years." This definition excludes couples, youth, and families with children, though they, too, can be homeless for long periods and repeatedly.

Note regarding Table 5:

These raw numbers certainly under-represent the extent of disabilities among all people served by emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. This information should not be used to draw conclusions regarding what percentage of people being served have disabilities. Several programs do not collect any information about disabilities. Staff completing surveys could identify more than one disability for a single person. Dual diagnoses (of people with both mental illness and chemical dependency) were reported 495 times.

TABLE 5: Instances\* of reported disabilities, chronic homelessness, and selected health conditions

	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	TOTAL
Mental illness	553	616	1,169
(serious mental illness: a subset of above)	(134)	(222)	(356)
Alcohol or substance abuse	578	940	1,118
(chronic substance abuse: a subset of above)	(338)	(222)	(560)
Chronically homeless	680	208	888
Physical disability	172	141	313
HIV/AIDS	7	109	116
Developmental disability	49	58	107

\*This table presents reported instances, not individual people (see note above).

## Domestic Violence and Physical Abuse

According to the survey there were 1,098 people accessing shelter and transitional housing programs who had experienced violence or abuse within the past year. Just over half of these people (589) were adults (almost all of whom were women); 509 were children. More than 80 percent of the people reported to have experienced such violence were staying in programs designed for families.

## Military Service

The 2007 survey identified 408 people who had served in the military. The vast majority of them (98%) were in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs designed to serve single adults. More than 60 percent of the veterans were in emergency shelter programs rather than in transitional housing programs.

## Discharge from Institutions

Many people are discharged from institutions such as hospitals, jails, prisons, treatment programs, or from the foster care system with nowhere to go. This problem is one area of focus for those working to prevent homelessness. The 2007 survey collected information about 465 people who had been discharged from certain institutions or programs within the past year. Many emergency shelters and transitional housing programs do not collect this information, however. Thus, the data in Table 6 are suggestive, but incomplete.

TABLE 6: Instances of institutional contact within the past year (reported for 465 people)

Institution	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	TOTAL
Jail / Prison or work release facility	48	85	134
In-patient drug/alcohol treatment	33	96	129
Hospital for physical illness	48	60	108
Psychiatric hospital	19	83	102
Foster care system	9	23	32
<b>TOTAL INSTANCES</b>			<b>505</b>

## SURVEY INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSEHOLDS

### Household Composition

A total of 3,821 households were in either emergency shelters or transitional housing on the night of the survey. A household may be composed of a single person, or two or more people. Data for families with children are sub-divided according to the number of adults in the household, and the head of household's gender.

TABLE 7: Composition of households served

Household type	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	TOTAL
Single male	1,317	837	2,154
Single female	418	333	751
One adult (headed by female)	134	559	693
Couple with children	42	88	130
Unaccompanied minor (under 18)	21	21	42
One adult (headed by male)	8	29	37
One minor (headed by female)	0	12	12
Couple without children	0	2	2
<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>1,940</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>3,821</b>

*Of the households served, 872 were families with children. Eighty-four percent of family households served were headed by a single parent; most of these (79 percent) were headed by women. Fifteen percent of households with children were headed by two adults. A very small percent (one percent) of families with children were headed by minors.*

### Household Income

Table 8 shows the Area Median Income (AMI) for King County for several household sizes. Nearly seventy percent of the households surveyed had incomes at or below 30 percent of the AMI for a family of three (\$21,050). At this level of poverty it is extremely difficult to secure affordable housing. A one bedroom apartment in King County in 2006 rented for a fair market rate of \$710 a month.<sup>6</sup> For such an apartment to be affordable (i.e., not cost more than 30% of household income), the renter household would need to earn \$28,400 a year.

<sup>6</sup> For more information see *Out of Reach 2006*, the National Low Income Housing Coalition's annual comparison of wages and rents throughout the United States: <http://www.nlihc.org/oor/oor2006/>. This report calculates 'housing wages' for specific metropolitan areas, counties, and states. The housing wage is what household members must earn in order to afford a rental unit at a range of sizes (0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedrooms) at the local fair market rent, based on the generally accepted affordability standard of paying no more than 30% of household income for housing costs. In King County, the housing wage (assuming a 40 hour work week, 52 weeks a year) is \$16.42 an hour.

Table 10 provides information on the reported *primary* sources of income for households. A quarter of all households received income primarily from one of the four main public disability benefit programs. Eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), General Assistance to the Unemployable (GAU and GAX), and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment and Support Act (ADATSA) is based on proof of disability. People with disabilities who depend on programs such as SSI to meet their living expenses are especially vulnerable to rising housing costs.<sup>7</sup>

The primary source of income for thirteen percent of households served by emergency shelter and transitional housing programs was paid employment.<sup>8</sup> Fourteen percent of households relied on welfare benefits (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) for income. An equal proportion of households had no source of income at all. The primary source of income was unknown for more than a quarter of all households.

TABLE 8: Area Median Income (AMI) and below by household size for King County

Household size	1 PERSON	2 PEOPLE	3 PEOPLE	4 PEOPLE
Area Median Income	\$54,500	\$62,300	\$70,100	\$77,900
50% of AMI	\$27,250	\$31,150	\$35,050	\$38,950
30% of AMI	\$16,350	\$18,700	\$21,050	\$23,350

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 2007 Income Guidelines for King County, WA (Revised 3/20/07)

TABLE 9: Income levels of households served by King County emergency shelters and transitional housing programs

Household income level	ES	TH	ALL	# OF HH
Zero Income	21%	8%	14%	554
Extremely Low Income ( $\leq 30\%$ AMI)	37%	73%	55%	2,103
Very Low Income ( $\leq 50\%$ AMI)	1%	5%	3%	116
Greater than 50% AMI	<1%	1%	<1%	24
Unknown	41%	12%	27%	1,024
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>				<b>3,821</b>

TABLE 10: Primary sources of income for households served

Primary Sources of Household Income	ES	TH	ALL	# OF HH
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	6%	22%	14%	523
No source of income	19%	9%	14%	538
Employment	6%	20%	13%	497
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	9%	17%	13%	491
General Assistance – Unemployable (GAU)	7%	9%	8%	295
Other source of income	7%	5%	6%	227
General Assistance – Unemployable (GAX)	2%	3%	3%	107
Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment and Support Act (ADATSA) Support	1%	1%	1%	30
Unemployment compensation	1%	1%	1%	38
Unknown	42%	14%	28%	1,075
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>				<b>3,821</b>

<sup>7</sup> For more information see *Priced Out 2006*, prepared by the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Housing Task Force and the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC). This report describes the growing housing affordability crisis for SSI recipients. The report is available at: <http://www.tacinc.org/Pubs/PricedOut.htm>

<sup>8</sup> This survey only asked for primary sources of income; a higher proportion of households receive some income from paid employment.

### Last Permanent Address

A household's last permanent address is defined as the address where household members last lived for two months or more (this definition does not include time spent in transitional housing or in hospitals, jails, or foster care). The vast majority of households (80%) were confirmed as King County residents by their last permanent addresses. More than half of the households for which a last address was known had last called Seattle home.

TABLE 11: Last permanent address of household

	# OF HOUSEHOLDS	ES	TH	TOTAL
Seattle	1,834	60%	54%	57%
South King County	366	9%	14%	11%
East King County	223	6%	8%	7%
North King County	134	3%	5%	4%
Out of State	370	12%	11%	12%
Other Washington county	281	10%	7%	9%
Total # of households for which last address known	3,208			100%
Unknown/Not monitored	613			N/A

### Length of time homeless and recurrence of homelessness

The length of time people in a household had been homeless (this episode) was reported for 2,452 households (64% of all households served by reporting programs). For these households, Table 12 shows how long the episode of homelessness had lasted at the time of the survey. People in half of all reported households (1,228) had been homeless for less than six months. Table 13 displays information regarding the number of episodes of homelessness in the past two years for 58% of all households served. The survey data show that for the majority of households for which this was reported (62%), this was the only time they had been homeless in the last two years.

Many programs have not routinely collected data regarding how long or how often a person or household has been homeless. *How long* members of a household had been homeless was either not monitored or not reported for more than a third of all households (1,369 total, including 832 in emergency shelters and 537 in transitional housing programs). *How often* a household had experienced homelessness was not reported for over 40% of households (1,561 total, including 868 in emergency shelters and 693 in transitional housing). In future years, it is likely that more programs will respond to these survey questions.

TABLE 12: Length of time homeless (this episode) for households (where known)

	1 WEEK OR LESS	1 WEEK TO 6 MONTHS	7 TO 11 MONTHS	12 TO 23 MONTHS	24 MONTHS OR LONGER	TOTAL KNOWN
# of Households	121	1,107	498	384	342	2,452
Proportion of HH where length of time homeless is known	5%	45%	21%	16%	16%	64%

TABLE 13: Frequency of homelessness within the last two years for households (where known)

	ONLY TIME	2ND TIME	3RD TIME	4TH TIME	TOTAL KNOWN
# of Households	1,357	422	186	234	2,199
Proportion of HH where frequency of homelessness is known	62%	19%	8%	11%	58%



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THIS REPORT IS AVAILABLE AS A .PDF FILE ON-LINE AT [WWW.HOMELESSINFO.ORG](http://WWW.HOMELESSINFO.ORG)

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**SURVEY ANALYSIS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT:**

KING COUNTY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
– HOMELESS HOUSING PROGRAMS



**FUNDING:**

COMMITTEE TO END HOMELESSNESS  
IN KING COUNTY (CEHKC)

**VOLUNTEER**  
**One Night Count**

*Seattle-King County  
Coalition on Homelessness*

*Homeless Response 2004-2005*

Count Area: 00133 ALBERTA

One Night Count of the Homeless  
January 28, 2005

We found these people:

TALLY	
WHO	HOW MANY
Men	
Women	
Gender Unknown	
Number (Print 1-9)	
Comments	

In these locations:  
List any other locations

TOTAL

**OUR MISSION:**

The Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH) works collaboratively to ensure the safety and survival of people who are homeless and to end the crisis of homelessness in our region.

