

**HOMELESS COALITION
OF
THE ALABAMA GULF COAST
CONTINUUM OF CARE #AL-501**



2019

ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends and Supporters:

On behalf of the local Continuum of Care, the Homeless Coalition of the Gulf Coast, we welcome each of our member agencies and the public to the bi-annual Community Report Meeting. The CoC Board of Directors, through our relationships with many community agencies, is charged with coordinating and implementing a community-wide system for serving citizens experiencing homelessness in Mobile and Baldwin counties.

Each year there are challenges to be addressed in order to meet local needs and to stay within the complex guidelines and priorities established by the various funding agencies to deliver needed services to our community's most vulnerable. This year is no exception as we flex and revise processes to function during our current COVID-19 pandemic. On behalf of the CoC, we wish to thank partner service providers for their efforts in eradicating homelessness; Housing First, Inc. administrators and staff for their efforts and role as the CoC's Collaborative Applicant; and the CoC Board Members for their dedication and work on the Board and standing committees. It is only through these community linkages that we are able to work towards ending homelessness in our community.

In an effort to maintain an active and diverse Board, we are regularly seeking members, committee or board, who have a sincere desire to serve. We seek members from local governments, businesses, civic groups, community agencies, healthcare entities, homeless, service providers, institutions of higher learning, housing authorities, mental health providers, and educational entities. Our targeted recruitment for membership has been to add members from these identified areas, based on HUD's recommendation.

Each year, according to the requirements of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, the CoC reviews and ranks project applications for HUD funding. The results of this process are further detailed in this report. During the FY 2019 HUD CoC Program Competition, all Tier 1 projects were funded and approved by HUD for a total of \$3,701,892 an overall Tier 1 award increase of \$113,324. The Community Housing Program which bordered Tier 1 and Tier 2 received more than requested in Tier 1 and \$200,577 of Tier 2 funding. A new Joint Transitional Housing / Rapid Rehousing project was funded for \$185,410.

Planning and exploration of resources to meet local unmet needs through a variety of funding mechanisms continues. While funding is available through HUD and other funding sources to meet some needs, it takes a community to address unmet needs locally. It is only through collaborations such as this with community stakeholders that innovative solutions and resources to end homelessness are implemented.

The CoC Board and its member organizations express our deepest gratitude to Housing First, Inc. for providing staff support to the CoC in pursuing our mission of preventing, reducing, and striving to end homelessness.

In Partnership,



Warren L. Greene
CoC, Board of Directors Chair

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>CONTINUUM OF CARE.....</i>	<i>1-2</i>
<i>POINT-IN-TIME COUNT.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS TO COMMUNITIES.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>COORDINATED ENTRY.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>WHO IS EXPERIENCING A HOUSING CRISIS?.....</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>FUNDING</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>CoC PROJECT ELIGIBILITY AND RANKING</i>	<i>13-16</i>
<i>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</i>	<i>17</i>

WHAT IS THE CONTINUUM OF CARE?

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a group of representatives from local organizations, assembled to plan for and provide a system of outreach, engagement, and assessment; emergency shelter, rapid re-housing, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing; and prevention strategies to address the various needs of the homeless or those at risk of homelessness within their geographic region.

Examples of CoC Representatives

- Nonprofit Homelessness Assistance Providers
- Victim Services Providers
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Governments
- Businesses
- Advocacy Groups
- Public Housing Authorities
- School Districts
- Social Services Providers
- Mental Health Agencies
- Hospitals
- Universities
- Affordable Housing Developers
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Organizations Serving Veterans
- Homeless or Formerly Homeless Individuals

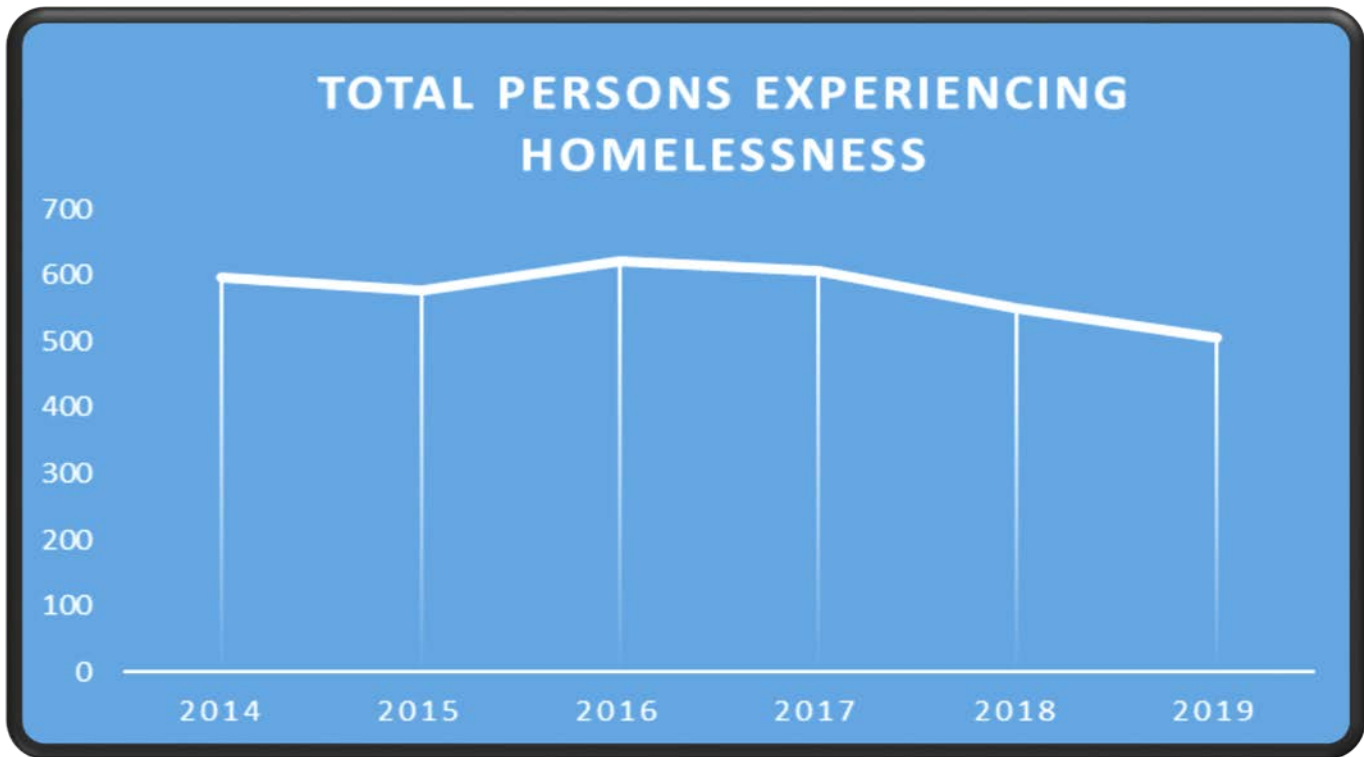
RESPONSIBILITIES OF AL-501

CONTINUUM OF CARE

- Conducting the federally required, year-round community-organizing needs assessment and planning process for addressing and ending homelessness.
- Developing and submitting an annual application to HUD for the jurisdictionally assigned pro-rata share of federal funds available for sponsor-based projects to serve and house homeless citizens.
- Monitoring and making recommendations regarding projects funded through this process, and providing oversight of project outcomes.
- Operating the federally mandated Homeless Management Information System.
- Reviewing and approving an annual Point-In-Time Count plan, and empowering a lead agency to coordinate and conduct the count.
- Plan and produce annual Project Homeless Connect—a one day service fair for homeless individuals and families. Services include legal services, state ID cards, housing assistance, work-force development, health & wellness, and other services provided at no cost to the participant.
- Providing citizens of the two-county area with information and resources about the availability of services and homeless assistance programs.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a survey of sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness that is required by HUD for each Continuum of Care (CoC). The PIT count is conducted within the last 10 days of January of each year. **One-hundred-sixteen** volunteers in our community participated in the survey on January 23, 2019.



505 Individuals were identified as experiencing homelessness in 2019



- Emergency Sheltered
- Transitional Housing
- Unsheltered

THE IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS TO COMMUNITIES

Homelessness not only impacts individuals and their families. It impacts entire communities. Continued homelessness means continued and increased need for:

- Mental health services
- Emergency medical care
- Emergency shelter
- Interactions with law enforcement and the legal system

It benefits the entire community to end homelessness, one person, and one family at a time.



Data based on 2018 – 2019 CCN and PIT count.

COORDINATED ENTRY

Coordinated Entry is a system designed to unite service-provider efforts, create a real-time list of individuals in the community who are experiencing a housing crisis, and efficiently link applicants with the resources needed to prevent or end a housing crisis. Coordinated Entry uses standardized screening tools to ensure all people experiencing a housing crisis in Mobile County and Baldwin County are equally and fairly assessed. Coordinated Entry also ensures resources are first applied to those with the greatest service needs and highest levels of vulnerability. The system takes a “no wrong doors” approach and can be accessed through outreach efforts via telephone, or in person to provide services with as few barriers as possible.



2,814

Clients Assessed



741

**Individuals Achieved
Permanent Housing**

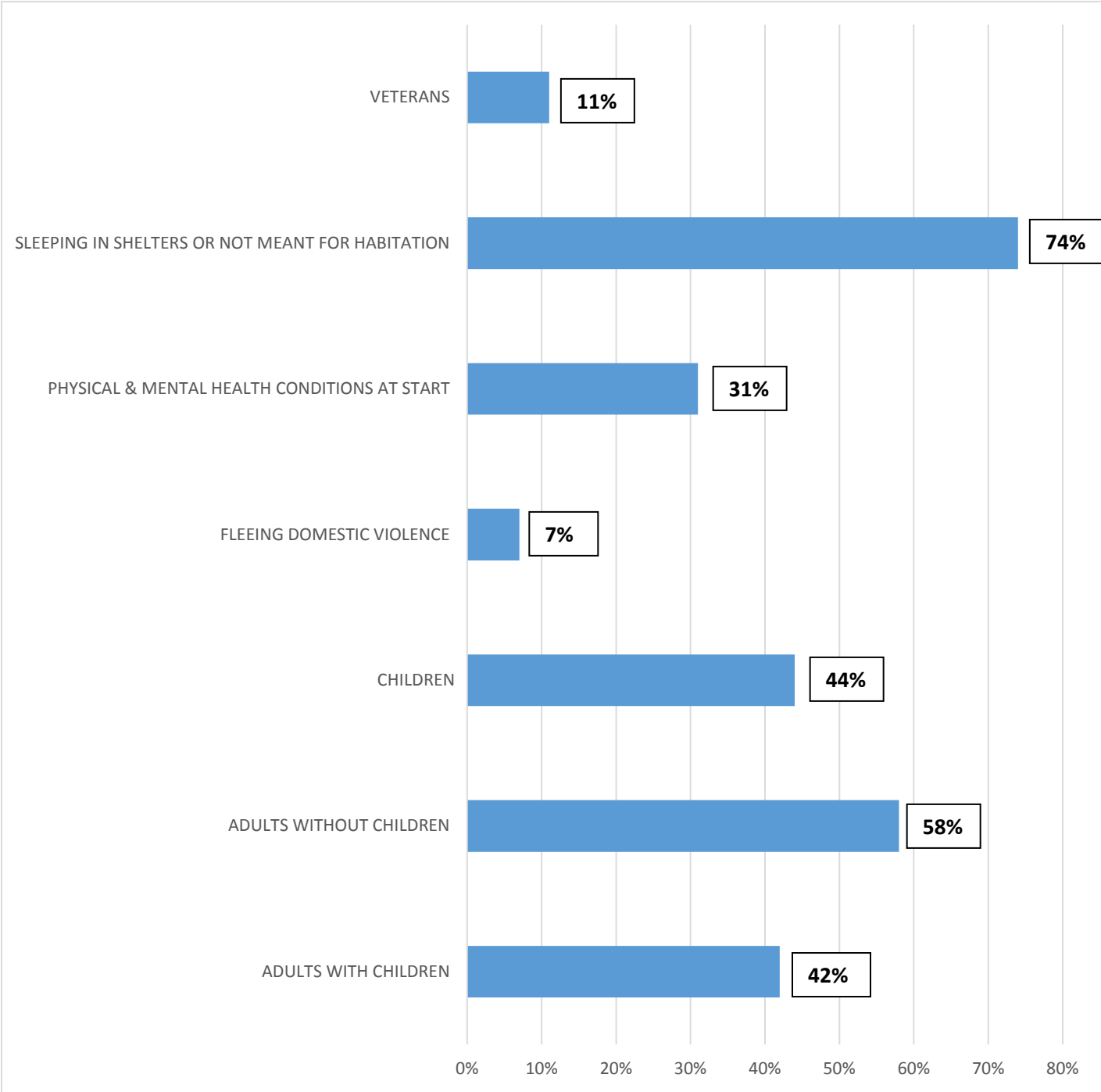


1,377

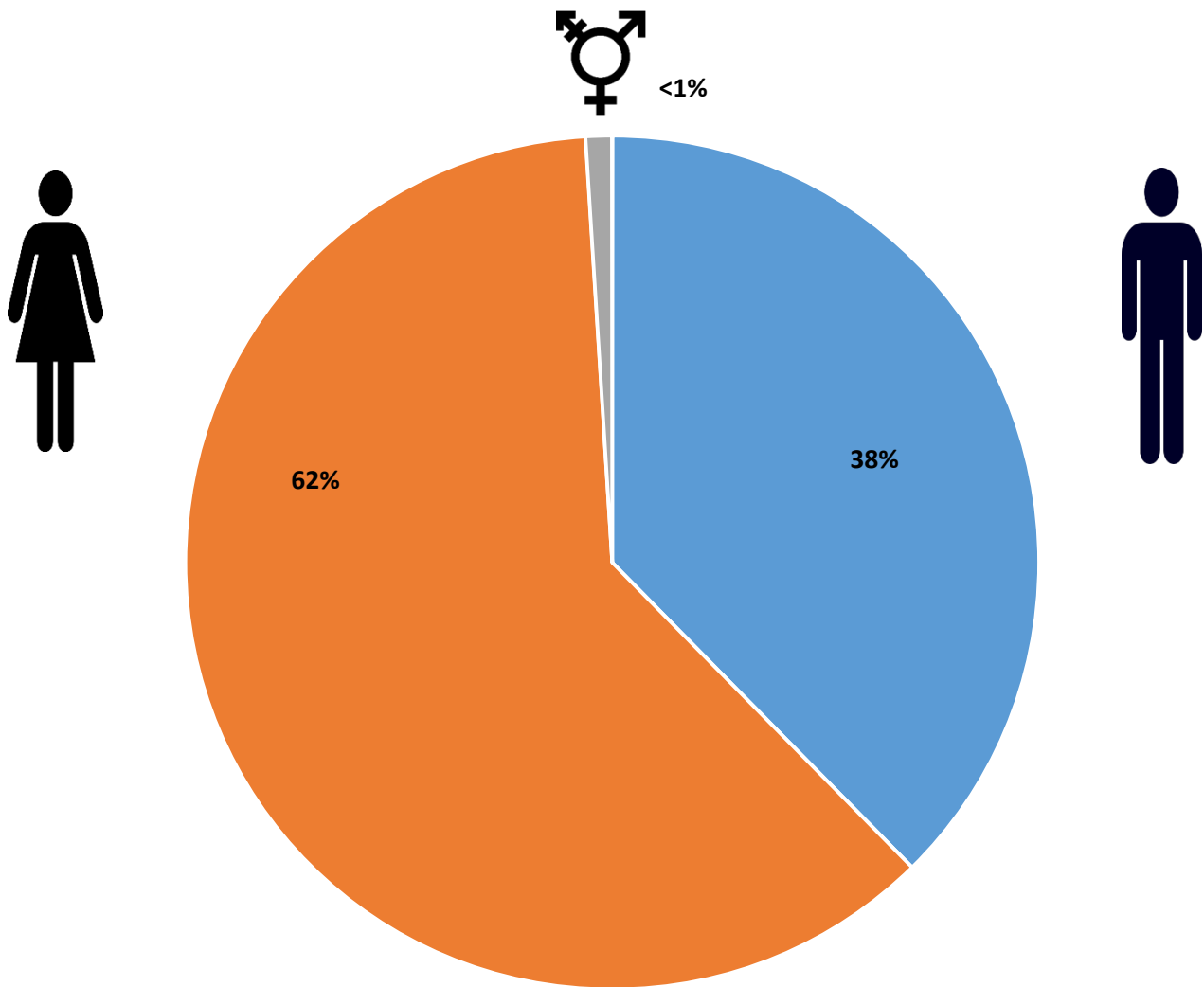
Total Referred

WHO IS EXPERIENCING A HOUSING CRISIS in OUR COMMUNITY?

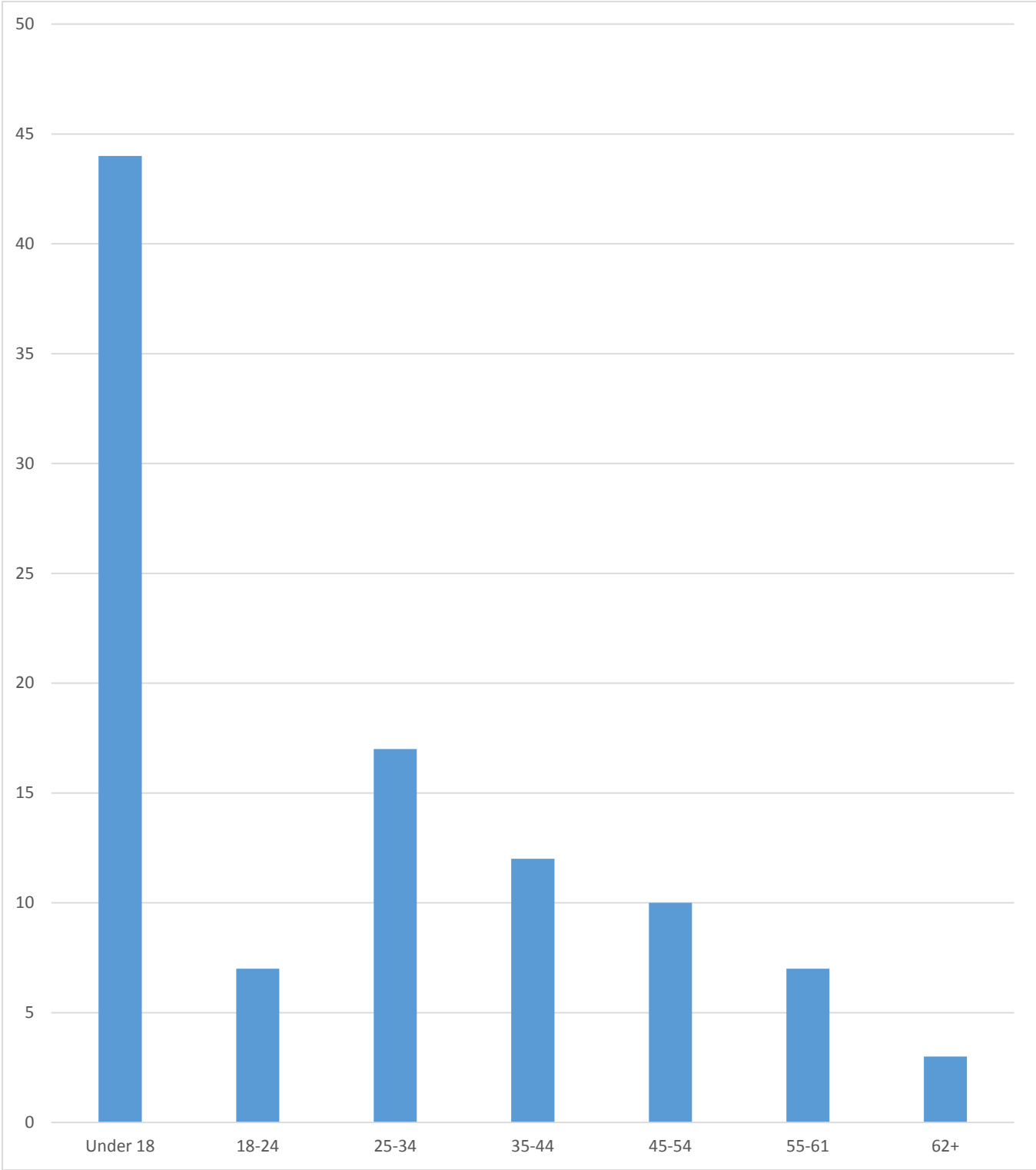
(Data obtained through Community's Coordinated Entry System)
Oct. 1, 2018 – Sep. 30, 2019



GENDER



AGE



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES



168

**Individuals Obtained
Permanent Housing**

Served in 2019

288

Individuals Served

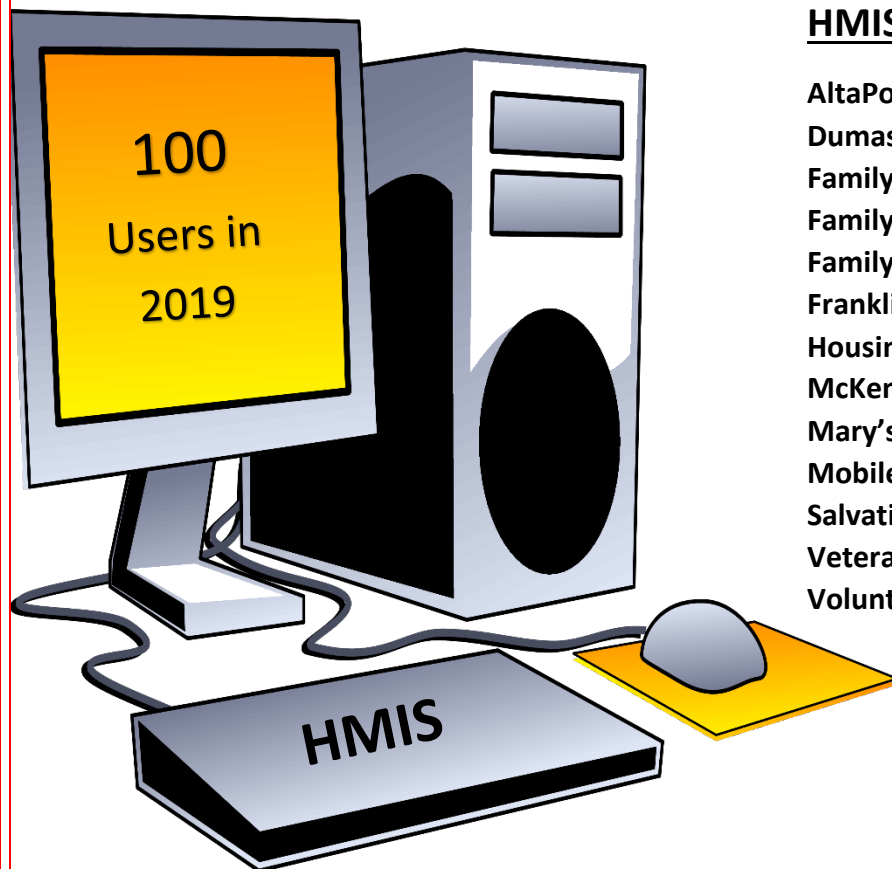
168

Households

Housing stability can be drastically impacted by joblessness, limited income, substance use, disability, mental illness, criminal history, poor credit and traumatic life experiences. The Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) program seeks to address these issues for veterans and their families. SSVF provides short-term, intensive case management and temporary financial assistance designed to link veterans and their families with permanent housing solutions to prevent and end veteran homelessness.

HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a locally operated information system used to collect data about individuals and families seeking services to prevent and end homelessness. The system is an integral part of the community's collaborative efforts as it allows providers to track the provision of services, maintain current case plans, and efficiently coordinate with other agencies.



HMIS 2019 PARTNERS

AltaPointe Health Systems, Inc.
Dumas Wesley Community Center of Mobile, Inc.
Family Counseling Center of Mobile, Inc.
Family Promise of Baldwin County
Family Promise of Coastal Alabama
Franklin Primary Health C
Housing First, Inc.
McKemie Place
Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast
Mobile Area Interfaith Conference
Salvation Army of Mobile
Veterans Administration
Volunteers of America Southeast



PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

Project Homeless Connect (PHC) is an annual event which provides a centralized location for services desperately needed by homeless citizens in Mobile and Baldwin Counties. PHC provides health and wellness services, legal assistance, dental and vision screenings and access to housing assistance and mainstream resources (ID cards, food stamps, etc.). All services are provided free of charge for participants.



130
State ID Cards
Issued



57
Service
Providers



145
Participants
Seen in Health
& Wellness



174
WAVE
Participants Transportation (Free)



102
Participants
Received Legal
Services



669
Volunteers



30
Participants
Served by the Department
Of Human Resources



103
Participants
Served by the Social
Security Administration



2018-2019 FUNDING

CoC PROGRAM FUNDING

CoC Planning Activities	\$ 112,248
Community Connections Network	\$ 752,973
Community Housing Program	\$1,008,672
Disabled Homeless Program	\$ 562,261
Homeless Management Information System	\$ 173,723
Permanent Housing for Chronic Homeless	\$ 457,641
Rapid Re-Housing for Families & Youth Expansion	\$ 477,344
ADMH MI-Rental Assistance Mobile Based Project (Shelter Plus Care)	<u>\$ 266,939</u>
TOTAL:	\$3,811,801

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS

Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs (ADECA)

Domestic Violence Shelter	\$ 89,000
Family Shelter	\$ 57,000
Women's Shelter	\$ 54,000
Prevention	\$ 50,554
Rapid Re-Housing	\$ 122,422
Street Outreach	\$ 18,924
Homeless Management Information System	\$ 4,867
Administrative	<u>\$ 16,933</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 413,700

CITY OF MOBILE

Domestic Violence Shelter	\$ 40,000
Family Shelter	\$ 30,000
Transitional Housing	\$ 40,000
Women's Shelter	\$ 25,000
Salvation Army	\$ 20,000
Family Counseling	<u>\$ 27,213</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 182,213

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Renewal projects must meet minimum project eligibility, capacity, timeliness, and performance standards identified in the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) or they will be rejected from consideration for funding. When considering renewal projects for award, the board will review information in HUD's Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS), Annual Performance Reports (APRs), and information provided from the local HUD/CPD Field Office, including monitoring reports and A-133 audit reports as applicable. The board will also review adherence to performance standards for any prior grants and will assess projects using the following criteria on a pass/fail basis:

- Coordinated Entry Participation - Project must receive 100% of program participants through the coordinated entry process.
- Housing First Model and Low-Barrier Implementation - Project must certify adherence to the Housing First Model in the eSnaps project application form.
- Documented and Secured Minimum Match - All necessary matching funds must be identified and their commitment must be documented.
- Applicant is active CoC Participant - Agencies must have representation in the CoC General Membership.
- Application is complete with consistent data.
- Renewal projects must demonstrate data quality accuracy of no less than 90%.
- Acceptable organizational audit/financial review.
- Documented organizational financial stability.

All projects must meet basic eligibility requirements as outlined in 24 CFR 578.

All projects must also meet eligibility and threshold requirements as outlined in the 2018 CoC Program NOFA.

PROJECT RANKING

HUD requires the CoC to rank all projects into two tiers. “Tier 1” is equal to 96 percent of the CoC’s FY 2019 Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). “Tier 2” is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC’s ARD plus any amount available for a permanent housing bonus. The CoC’s ranking process is intended to be a coordinated, inclusive, and outcome-oriented community process for the ranking and selection of project applications.

When ranking renewal projects, the CoC considers objective criteria and data elements from the projects Annual Performance Report (APR). The following measurements are taken from the APR and data in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to help guide the ranking process:

- Data quality
- Bed utilization
- Number of persons served
- Percentage of persons who retained or obtained permanent housing
- Percentage of adult participants who obtained or increased income
- Percentage of participants returning to homelessness
- Capacity to serve high-need populations

The CoC will also assess the project’s continued adherence to the Housing First Model and participation in the HUD-mandated Coordinated Entry process.

New projects are ranked based on criteria intended to assess their target population's level of need, the project's capacity for administering the assistance program, and the level of efficiency at which they can manage a federal grant. The following elements are considered when ranking a new project:

- Experience with the proposed housing project,
- Demonstrated ability to meet minimum eligibility requirements
- Efficient process for accepting new clients which ensures there are minimum barriers to receiving services and assistance in terminated only in the most severe cases.
- Effective use of federal and public funding,
- Understanding of the target population's needs and demonstrating an ability to set performance measurements to ensure efficient and effective provision of services,
- Ability to rapidly implement the proposed project,
- Cost-effectiveness of the project,
- Participation with the Coordinated Entry process,



Homeless Coalition of The Alabama Gulf Coast

3929 Airport Boulevard • Building 3 Suite 200 • Mobile, AL 36609

Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Continuum of Care
 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) - Program Competition

PROJECT RANKING

RANK	PROJECT NAME	RENEWAL, NEW, EXPANSION	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT NAME	TIER 1 / 2	FUNDING REQUEST	AWARDED
	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	Planning	CoC Planning		\$ 110,987	\$ 110,987
1	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	SSO	Community Connections Network	1	\$ 752,973	\$ 752,973
2	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	HMIS	Homeless Management Information System	1	\$ 173,723	\$ 173,723
3	Mobile Area Interfaith Conference (MAIC)	New	TH/RRH	Returning Neighbors Housing Program	1	\$ 184,978	\$ 185,410
4	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	PSH	Disabled Homeless Program	1	\$ 562,261	\$ 566,077
5	AltaPointe Health	Renewal	PSH	Permanent Housing Chronic Homeless	1	\$ 457,641	\$ 460,809
6	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	PH-RRH	RRH for Families & Youth Expansion	1	\$ 367,394	\$ 369,086
7	AltaPointe Health	Renewal	PSH	ADMH MI Rental Assistance Mobile Based Project (Shelter + Care)	1	\$ 266,939	\$ 267,803
8	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	PSH	Community Housing Program	1	\$ 711,672	\$ 815,024
8	Housing First, Inc.	Renewal	PSH	Community Housing Program	2	\$ 406,950	\$ 200,577
						\$ 3,884,531	\$ 3,902,469



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

**Warren Greene
Chair**

**Michon Trent
Vice Chair**

**Sharon Murril
Secretary**

Ciji Bendolph

Beth Biggs

Phillip Davenport

Christine L. Fouty, M.D.

Vickery Jones

Pam Maumenee

Marie Mhoon

Haley Pham

Beverly Reed

Brittany Renkenberger

Maj. Thomas Richmond

Carol Thompson

**HOMELESS COALITION
OF
THE ALABAMA GULF COAST
CONTINUUM OF CARE
#AL-501**



**3929 Airport Boulevard
Building 3, Suite 200
Mobile, AL 36609
251.450.3345**

<http://al501coc.org/>