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AWH4T Strategic Planning What does homelessness in Tulsa look like?

Thank you for registering for the February 21st **A Way Home For Tulsa Strategic Planning Kickoff!**

In the weeks leading up to the event, you'll be receiving these brief glimpses into Tulsa's homeless population and system of care. *If you have questions you'd like answered prior to, or at the kickoff, please contact Erin Velez at evelez@csctulsa.org.*



5,854

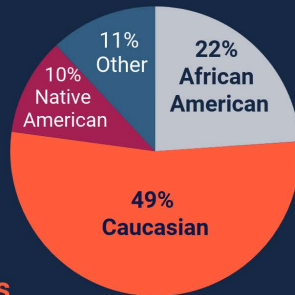
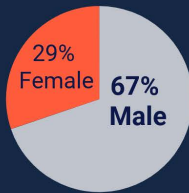
Tulsans were **living in emergency shelters** and transitional housing in 2017.



7%

This represents an **increase of 7%** since 2007.

01. Who is experiencing homelessness?



- 14% **veterans**
- 33% **51 years+ and older**
- 44% **have a mental illness**

02. What contributes to homelessness?



03. What about housing?

Tulsa has **11th highest eviction rate** in USA.

A single parent must make **\$23.08 per hour** to afford housing and support one child.

48% of renters said finding **affordable housing is difficult or very difficult to find.**



04. What are homeless individuals saying?

“I need a job to get housing, but I need housing to get a job.”

“If you miss one appointment, you have to start back at the beginning.”

“They told me I needed services, but then denied me services.”

“I got a felony record due to loitering. Now I can't get section 8.”

“With the bus routes, I have to leave two hours early just to get anywhere.”

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AWH4T Strategic Planning
**What resources are available in
Tulsa for people who are homeless
or at-risk of homelessness?**

What are some
resources available
in Tulsa that prevent
homelessness?



housing counseling
case management
eviction prevention
legal assistance
financial literacy

rental assistance*
utility assistance*
medical bill assistance*
other financial assistance*



*When available.

Why are these programs important?



50%

50% of Tulsans reported experiencing times in the past 12 months when they struggled to have **enough money for adequate shelter** for their family.

What resources
help keep people
safe while they are
homeless?

Emergency Shelters

Tulsa County Emergency Shelter
The Salvation Army
John 3:16 Mission
Tulsa Day Center
Youth Services of Tulsa
DaySpring Villas
DVIS, Inc.

Emergency Shelter Beds Available

186 emergency shelter beds for families
339 emergency shelter beds for individuals

Transitional Housing Beds Available

142 transitional housing beds for families
156 transitional housing beds for individuals

Yet, even with these resources...



160%

One emergency shelter, the Salvation Army, **averaged 160% capacity** on a nightly basis throughout 2018.



21%

21% of homeless individuals in Tulsa were **living in unsheltered locations** in 2018.



30%

This represents an **increase of 30%** since 2017.

What resources
end homelessness
in Tulsa?

**Permanent Supportive
Housing (PSH)**

72 PSH beds for families
508 PSH beds for individuals

Permanent supportive housing is an intervention that combines affordable housing assistance with voluntary support services to address the needs of chronically homeless people.

Rapid Re-housing (RRH)

35 RRH beds for families
38 RRH beds for individuals

Rapid re-housing provides short-term rental assistance and services. The goals are to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and stay housed. It is offered without preconditions and the resources provided are typically tailored to the needs of the person.

~275

Approximately **275 more homeless Tulsans qualify** for **PSH** than there are beds currently available.



What are some
other agencies that
provide services in
Tulsa?

12 & 12
City of Tulsa
Community Service Council
Counseling & Recovery Services
Department of Veterans Affairs
Family & Children's Services
Family Promise Tulsa County
INCOG
Iron Gate
Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma

Mental Health Association of Oklahoma
Morton Comprehensive Health Services
Participant Advisory Group
Restore Hope
Tulsa CARES
Tulsa County Social Services
Tulsa Housing Authority
Tulsa Police Department
Volunteers of America
Youth Advisory Board

Still, Tulsa's programs aren't meeting Tulsa's needs.

We must rethink how we **house Tulsans** who are already homeless and how we **prevent homelessness** for those at-risk.

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**AWH4T Strategic Planning
What systems are in place to
combat homelessness in Tulsa?**

HMIS

(Homeless Management Information System)



HMIS is a web-based software program for gathering and sharing client-specific demographic and service data in order to coordinate services and examine homelessness.

180 HMIS users at various agencies across Tulsa County

Coordinated Street Outreach



Teams identify and engage persons living on streets across the Tulsa geographic area to connect them to housing and other community services.

20 street outreach team members coordinated by 12 agencies

Abode Initiative



The Abode Initiative supports landlords and tenants, while helping to prevent and end homelessness, through:

- Eviction prevention assistance
- Tenant-based rental assistance
- Landlord-based assistance
- Landlord/tenant education



Housing First



Tulsa's Housing First approach provides housing to individuals experiencing homelessness as quickly as possible, without significant requirements or restrictions. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities (e.g. shelter, food) in order to address other needs, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues.

Built for Zero



Built for Zero is a national initiative across 70 cities, including Tulsa, that works to optimize local resources, accelerate the spread of proven strategies, and track progress against monthly housing goals.

1,103 Tulsans housed through Built for Zero since January 2015

A Better Way



Provides people experiencing homelessness an opportunity to earn some income, currently three days a week. Participants are also connected to other services, which can include sustainable employment.

700 participants in A Better Way since April 2018

All Doors Open



All Doors Open helps prioritize assistance based on individual needs to ensure that each Tulsan receives the appropriate assistance in a timely manner.

Tulsans can use multiple access points across the county (e.g. street outreach, providers) to access All Doors Open and get matched with services/housing.

*For more information about above programs, see <https://csc.tulsa.org/housing-homelessness/>



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AWH4T Strategic Planning

How does homelessness impact Tulsa?

Research Shows...

Why Does This Matter?

Health



Individuals experiencing homelessness are more likely to be disabled or become sick and not have access to preventative care.

1,117

emergency room visits by 407 individuals experiencing homelessness in 2017 in Tulsa, which cost an estimated \$1,184,020

3x

individuals experiencing homelessness are 3x more likely to use an emergency room

Education



Children experiencing homelessness face trauma and miss a significant number of school days, which impacts development and learning.

3,727

students in Tulsa and Union Public Schools experienced homelessness during the 2016-2017 school year.



3 of 4 homeless children under 5 years old suffer from at least one major developmental delay

Corrections



Individuals experiencing homelessness often get cited for relatively minor infractions, like loitering. This can cause a cycle of arrests.

\$2.3 million

estimated annual cost to Tulsa to cover correctional costs of individuals experiencing homelessness in jail



1 in 5 people leaving jail or prison enter homelessness, which can lead to reconviction and recidivism

Shelters



Housing is more cost-effective than providing temporary shelters or leaving individuals to remain chronically homeless.

~\$12.5k estimated cost to operate one shelter bed *In Oklahoma City

\$30k+ estimated cost per individual experiencing chronic homelessness

~50% estimated annual savings from placing individuals in supportive housing

Ending and preventing homelessness improves quality of life for **all** Tulsans.



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AWH4T Strategic Planning How will a strategic plan help Tulsa?

Over the past few weeks, we have sent you several emails about homelessness in Tulsa to help everyone get ready for the A Way Home for Tulsa Strategic Planning Kickoff. We hope this information has been helpful to you!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Erin Velez at evelez@csctulsa.org or [click here](#). We're excited to see you tomorrow (2/21) from 8:30am-10:30am at Greenwood Cultural Center!

Why is Tulsa writing a community-wide strategic plan?

- 1 We need to improve how we respond to homelessness.**
 - Despite strong efforts, homelessness has continued to increase in the past decade.
 - Shelters are consistently over capacity
- 2 Significant change requires significant efforts and new strategies.**
 - The planning process will include looking at best and emerging practices and research to find the best next steps for Tulsa's homeless system of care.
 - The plan will also strategize how to leverage resources in the most effective way.
- 3 Ending homelessness requires community-wide engagement.**
 - No one or two agencies can solve homelessness on their own.
 - Ending and preventing homelessness takes buy-in and action from government, nonprofits, and the private sector!



What can a strategic plan do?

Our strategic plan will create a **common agenda**, **shared measurement**, **mutually reinforcing activities**, and **outcomes**.

- For example, the Federal Strategic Plan committed to ending homelessness of Veterans, and this has helped lead to a 48% decrease in Veteran homelessness since 2009.



What will happen at tomorrow's Kickoff?

A Way Home for Tulsa and the Community Service Council will launch a community-wide conversation and effort to end homelessness. Through this process, we will:

- Share information,
- Encourage collaboration across sectors,
- Create buy-in
- Develop opportunities,
- Break down silos,
- Increase collaboration,
- Develop new solutions,



...in order to **end and prevent homelessness in Tulsa.**

What will you do to help carry out the strategic plan and a community-wide response to homelessness?

