

Home Run for Homelessness Fact Sheet

Statistics on Homelessness

Nationally:

- Every night in the United States, about 750,000 people experience homelessness.
- In a year, between 2.5 and 3.5 million people in the United States experience homelessness for days to months.
- Every year 600,000 families with 1.35 million children experience homelessness in the United States, making up about 50 percent of the homeless population over the course of the year.
- In November 2006, over 22,000 victims of domestic violence (12,000 children and 10,000 adults) received housing services from 1,243 domestic violence service providers nationally.
- Researchers estimate that about 5 to 7.7 percent of youth experience homelessness each year.
- Between 23 and 40 percent of homeless adults are veterans.
- Although chronic homelessness represents a small share of the overall homeless population, chronically homeless people use up more than 50 percent of the services.
- The national average cost of homelessness is \$15,000 annually for individuals and \$25,000 to \$30,000 annually for families.

In Michigan:

- In January, 2007, the total count of homeless persons in Oakland County was 1120.
- In Michigan, 70 percent of the homeless are in families and 50 percent are children.
- In Michigan, 49 percent of youth who age out of foster care become homeless during the first three years of independence.
- The average age of a homeless person in Michigan is nine years.
- The Oakland County Intermediate School District provides services to 3,000 school children who are homeless each year.
- In Michigan, 40 percent of homeless people work at low-paying jobs every day.
- It costs \$1,850 to shelter one individual for one month at a local shelter.
- Causes of homelessness include:
 - Eroding Work Opportunities
 - Decline in Wages
 - Domestic Violence
 - Mental Illness
 - Addiction Disorders

- Decline in Public Assistance
- Lack of Affordable Housing
- Lack of Affordable Health Care