Homelessness Update

Presented by

Jennifer Teague
Aging and Adult Services Program Manager

Rachael Nygaard
Strategic Partnerships Director

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Presentation Overview

• 2022 Homelessness Point-in-Time Count Results
  Key takeaway: Homelessness has increased during the pandemic, particularly unsheltered homelessness

• Homelessness Services Consultant
  Key takeaway: The City of Asheville, in partnership with Buncombe County & Dogwood Health Trust, has named the National Alliance to End Homelessness as the consultant to develop an actionable plan to address unsheltered homelessness
What is a Point-in-Time Count?

- Annual count of all people experiencing literal homelessness on a single night within the last 10 days of January
  - Follows federal definition of literal homelessness (shelter, transitional housing, unsheltered - excludes people doubled up)
- Federal requirement for all communities to conduct and report on
- Informs federal resources to address homelessness at the local level
- Has limitations but is conducted similarly year after year and is our only comprehensive dataset on homelessness
### Point-in-Time Count Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Persons</strong></td>
<td>554</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>637</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sheltered</strong></td>
<td>497</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(90%)</td>
<td>(87%)</td>
<td>(88%)</td>
<td>(78%)</td>
<td>(64%)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unsheltered</strong></td>
<td>57</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10%)</td>
<td>(13%)</td>
<td>(12%)</td>
<td>(22%)</td>
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<td>(36%)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Homelessness overall is up 21% over last year.
- Number of unsheltered individuals doubled since last year and more than tripled compared to pre-pandemic levels.
- Unsheltered homelessness as a share of total homelessness has been on the rise over the past 5 years, climbing from 10% to 36%.
Responding to Unsheltered Homelessness

• Having a rising number of people living without shelter impacts the whole community (encampments, public health & public safety concerns)

• The reasons for this increase are complex, and there are no easy solutions

• The City of Asheville, Buncombe County, and Dogwood Health Trust have formed a collaborative to better understand and address unsheltered homelessness
Partners and Roles

• Three entities collaborating to select and support a consultant for this project:

  - Lead Entity
  - Funder
  - Collaborator
February 14, 2022: RFP issued
March 18, 2022: RFP closed
End of March 2022: Scored 11 proposals
April 18 & 19, 2022: Interviewed top 3 firms
May 10, 2022: City Council votes to award RFP
Selected Firm

• City Council will vote on May 10, 2022 to award the RFP to:
  National Alliance to End Homelessness

• Nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States

• 3 focus areas: consulting on federal policy, research, supporting community implementation of best practices

• Deep experience and expertise, highly-regarded thought leader in the field of ending homelessness

• Based in Washington DC

• Currently consulting on homelessness in Winston-Salem and Raleigh, and with the Balance of State Continuum of Care
Project Scope

• Create, produce and present a written, viable, comprehensive plan for long-term solutions to unsheltered homelessness with presentation(s) to elected officials and planning groups

• Phase 1: Needs Assessment
  • Data Analysis
  • Stakeholder Interviews
  • Community Input

• Phase 2: Solution Definition & Feasibility Study
  • Multiple options for addressing needs
  • Including implementation plans & funding scenarios
# Project Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverable</th>
<th>Key Milestones</th>
<th>Estimated Timeframe¹</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Needs Assessment</strong></td>
<td>Qualitative System &amp; Program Level Analysis</td>
<td>May-July 2022</td>
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<td>Quantitative System &amp; Program Level Analysis</td>
<td>May-July 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development of Comprehensive Needs Assessment Report</td>
<td>July-September 2022</td>
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<td>Presentation of Needs Assessment findings to Community</td>
<td>September 2022</td>
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<td>Stakeholders</td>
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<td><strong>2. Solution Definition &amp; Feasibility Study</strong></td>
<td>Identification of Multiple Options/Recommendations based on Needs Assessment</td>
<td>September 2022</td>
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<td>Development of well-defined recommendations with</td>
<td>Sept.-Nov. 2022</td>
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<td>accompanying staffing, services, facilities, budget</td>
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<td>requirements, funding sources, feasibility studies.,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presentation of Finding and Recommendations Report to</td>
<td>December 2022</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community Stakeholders</td>
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¹ Tentative and based on contract award date.

Final deliverable due by Dec 31