

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

a joint powers authority of the city & county of los angeles

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Meetings

July/August 2015

Service Planning Area 8 – South Bay/Harbor

Presented by:

Policy and Planning Department
IT/HMIS Department



Agenda

1. Getting to Know & Understand the HMIS
2. Los Angeles Continuum of Care
 - a) 2015 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Results for SPA 8
 - b) 2015 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Volunteer Survey
 - c) 2016 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Update
3. LAHSA Updates
 - a) LAHSA & HUD Opportunity for Public Comment on ESG
 - b) Los Angeles Coordinating Council Nomination Process
 - c) Department Updates
4. Questions/Comments



HMIS Overview

HMIS Features

- Robust data system
 - Coordinated Assessment (CES and HFSS)
 - Collaborative Data Sharing
 - Case Management
 - Built-in and Custom Reporting
 - Outcomes Tracking
 - Contract Management



HMIS Value

- No extra cost!
 - Free HMIS User Training
 - Free HMIS Technical Support
 - Free Hardware (Computer, Swipe Card Technology, and Biometric Technology)



HMIS Reports

- Performance and Quality Reports
 - Annual Performance Report
 - Quarterly Performance Report
 - Data Integrity Report
- Utility Reports
 - Client Roster
 - Occupancy Report
 - Client Income Tracking Report
 - Service Details
- Many more!



CES Features

- CES Housing Survey
- Vacancy Form
- Client Prioritization List
- Housing Resources List
- Matching Tools



HMIS Links

- LAHSA Main Website - <http://www.lahsa.org/>
- LAHSA HMIS Website - <http://hmis.lahsa.org/>
 - HMIS News
 - HMIS Materials (Forms, Documents, Videos)
 - Policies and Procedures
- Document Library - <http://hmis.lahsa.org/documents.html>
 - CES Materials (Housing Survey, Participation Agreements and Procedures, etc.)
 - Policies and Standards (Service Level Agreement, Security Procedures, etc.)
 - User Guides



CES Links

CES Website

<http://www.homeforgoodla.org/ces>

CES SPA Contact Information

<http://ceslosangeles.weebly.com/spa-contact-information.html>

HMIS Organization Agreement

<http://documents.lahsa.org/IT/SharedDocuments/HMISCESParticipatingOrganizationAgreement.pdf>

HMIS CES Participation Procedures

<http://documents.lahsa.org/IT/SharedDocuments/HMISCESParticipationProcedures.pdf>



HMIS Contacts

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- HMIS Support Inbox - hmissupport@lahsa.org
- HMIS Training - LAHSA.Training@lahsa.org
- IT Support Team - itsupport@lahsa.org





2015 Homeless Count
Report
for
SPA 8 South Bay/Harbor

July/August 2015



Introduction to the 2015 Homeless Count



▪ Understanding the Data

▪ What the Data Means

- 89% of the census tracts in the CoC were counted. We have good confidence in our estimates, however *they are estimates*.
- Data from the homeless count is collected using a standardized procedure that is consistent across the continuum.
- Statistical analysis is used to provide estimates for the Total CoC and subregions.



Components of the Homeless Count



Street Count: Capturing a point in time estimate of the unsheltered population in each Service Planning Area (SPA).

Shelter Count: Capturing the homeless population who are in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens.

Demographic Survey: We interview a sample of unsheltered homeless individuals to better understand the characteristics and experiences of our homeless neighbors.

Youth Count: Collaborative process with youth stakeholders to better understand and identify homeless youth.



How We Conducted the 2015 Homeless Count



- We counted 1,684 of the 1,887 tracts from the 2000 census in Los Angeles County
- Many cities, neighborhood councils, and communities opted in, meaning they committed to aiding us in finding volunteers and organizing the count with the goal of reaching full enumeration
 - Enumeration—all census tracts counted within a community; this permits better estimates and allows us to infer more information about those communities
 - Extrapolation is not required with full enumeration.
- Over 5,000 people volunteered, and with 89% coverage this was the biggest and most comprehensive count since they began in 2005.

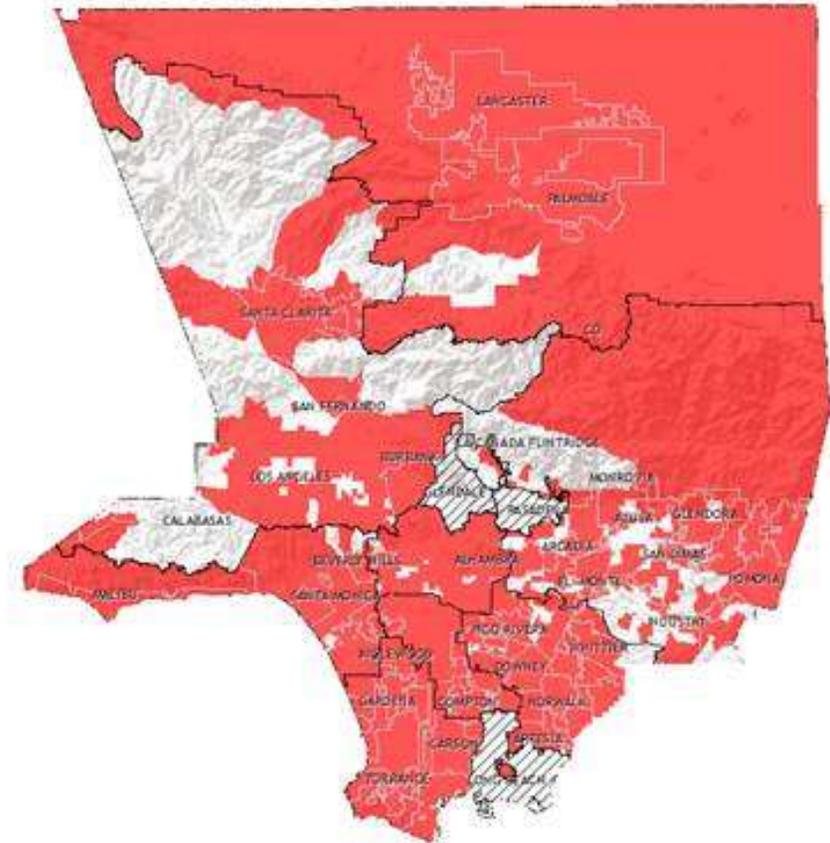


2015 Count Coverage



Census Tract Coverage for the 2015 Homeless Count

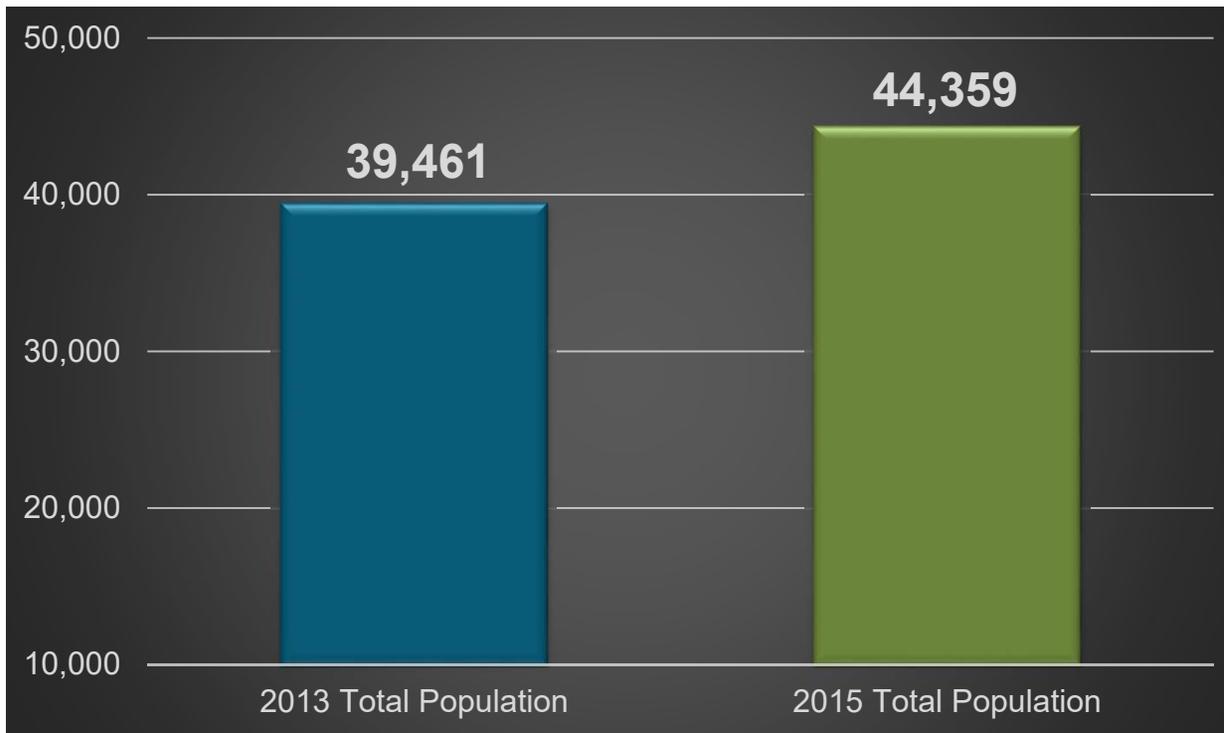
- Shaded red areas represent communities and cities counted in 2015.
- Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach conduct their own count, and share their results with LAHSA.
- SPA 8 counted 100% of census tracts in 2015, up from 90% in 2013



Overall Results- Los Angeles County



2015 Los Angeles County
Total Homeless Population
(Includes Glendale, Long Beach, and Pasadena)



There was a 12% increase, or 4,898 more homeless persons in 2015 across the County of LA

There was a 16% increase for the Continuum of Care (excluding Glendale, Pasadena, Long Beach)

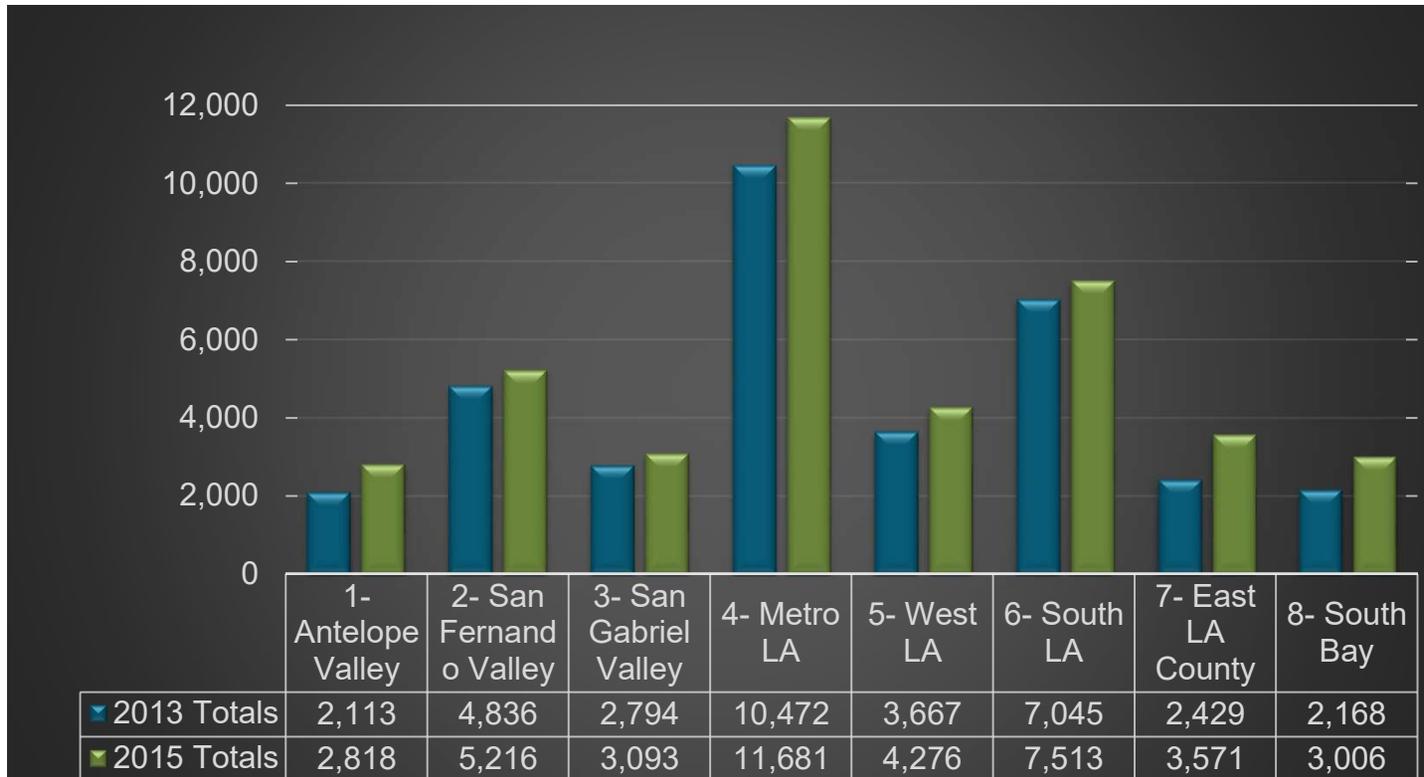


Overall Results- Los Angeles County

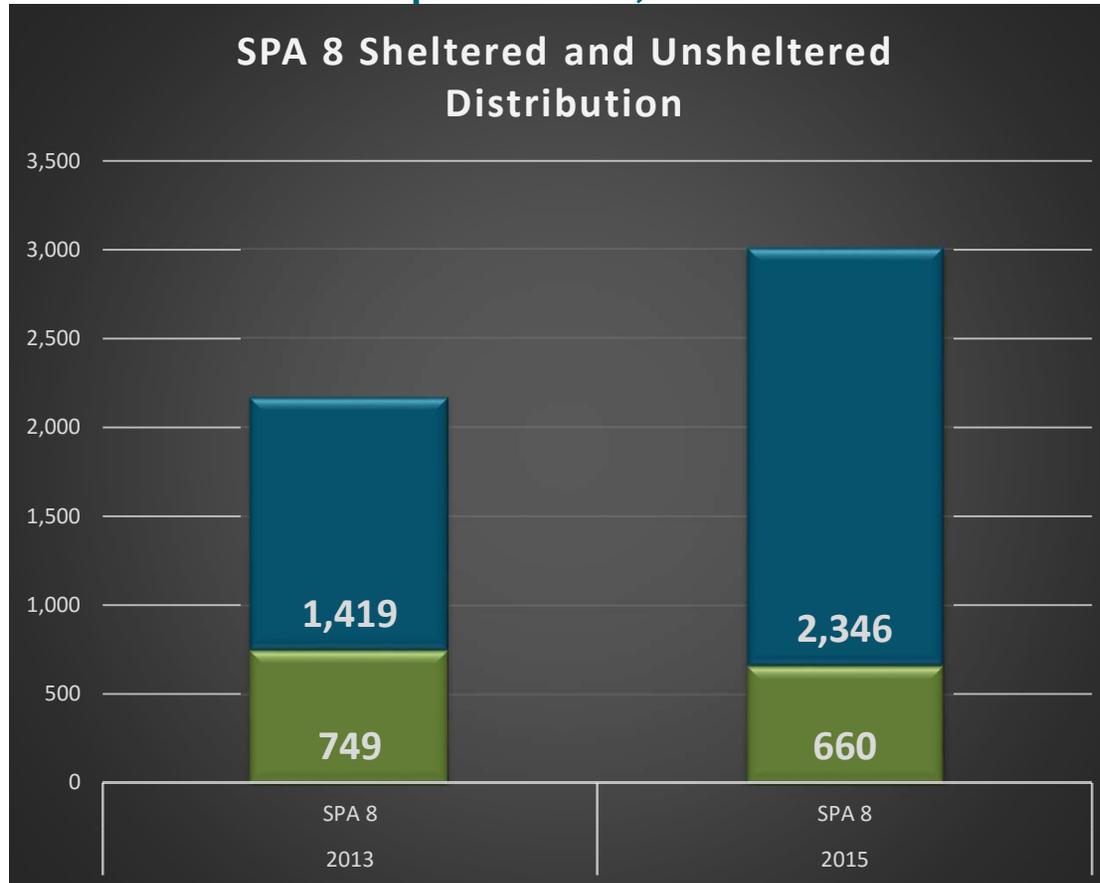


Excluding Glendale, Long Beach and Pasadena, every SPA experienced an increase in homelessness since 2013.

- SPA 8 saw an 39% increase
- Every SPA experienced an increase



SPA 8 Total Population, Sheltered and Unsheltered

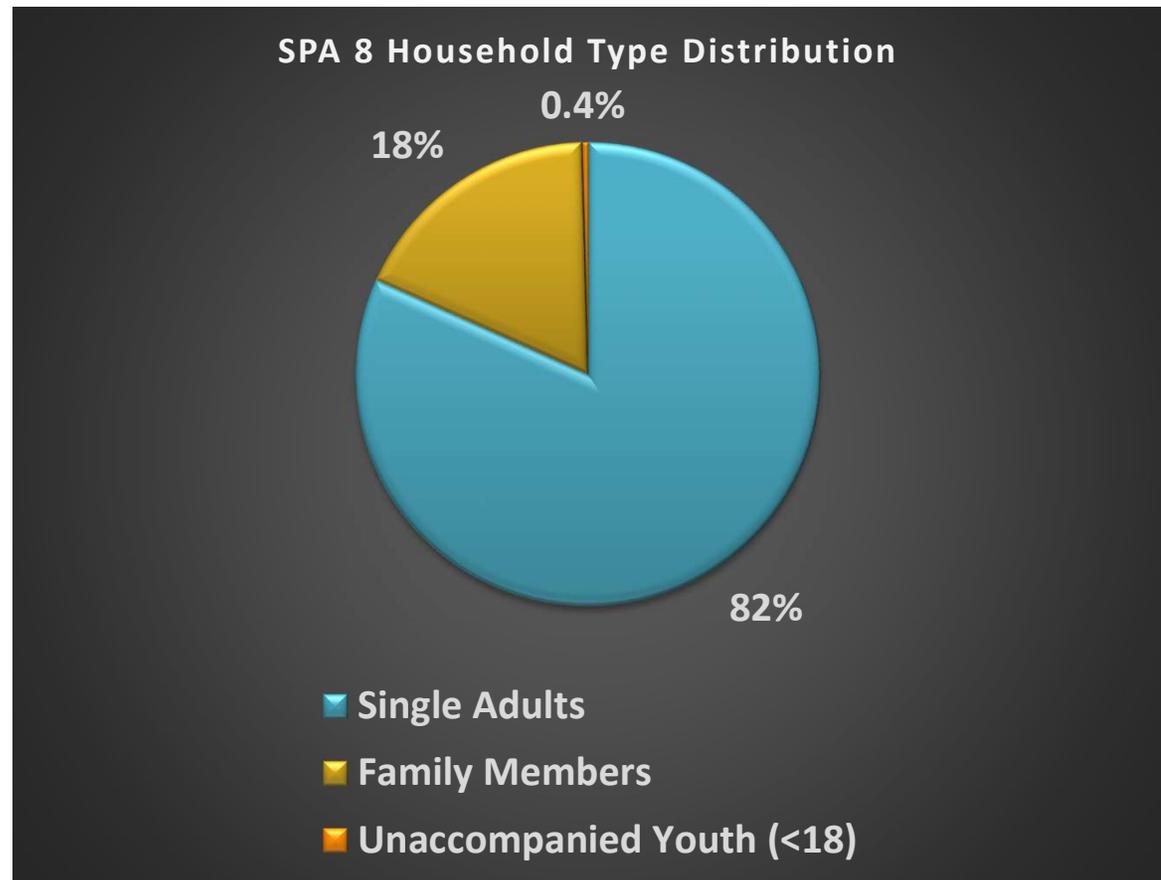


- The unsheltered population for SPA 8 increased by 65%
- The sheltered population for SPA 8 decreased by 12%

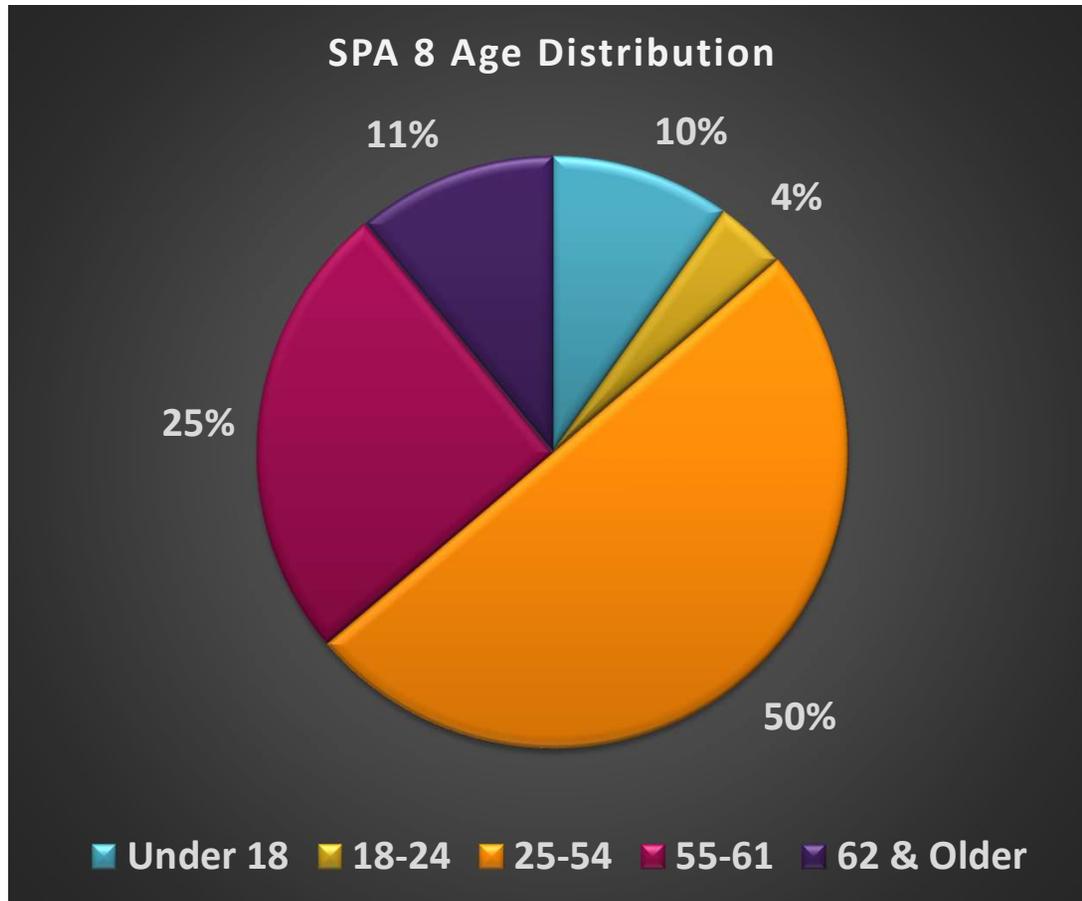


SPA 8 Total Population, Household Type

- The shares of the population didn't change significantly since 2013



SPA 8 Age Distribution of Homeless Population



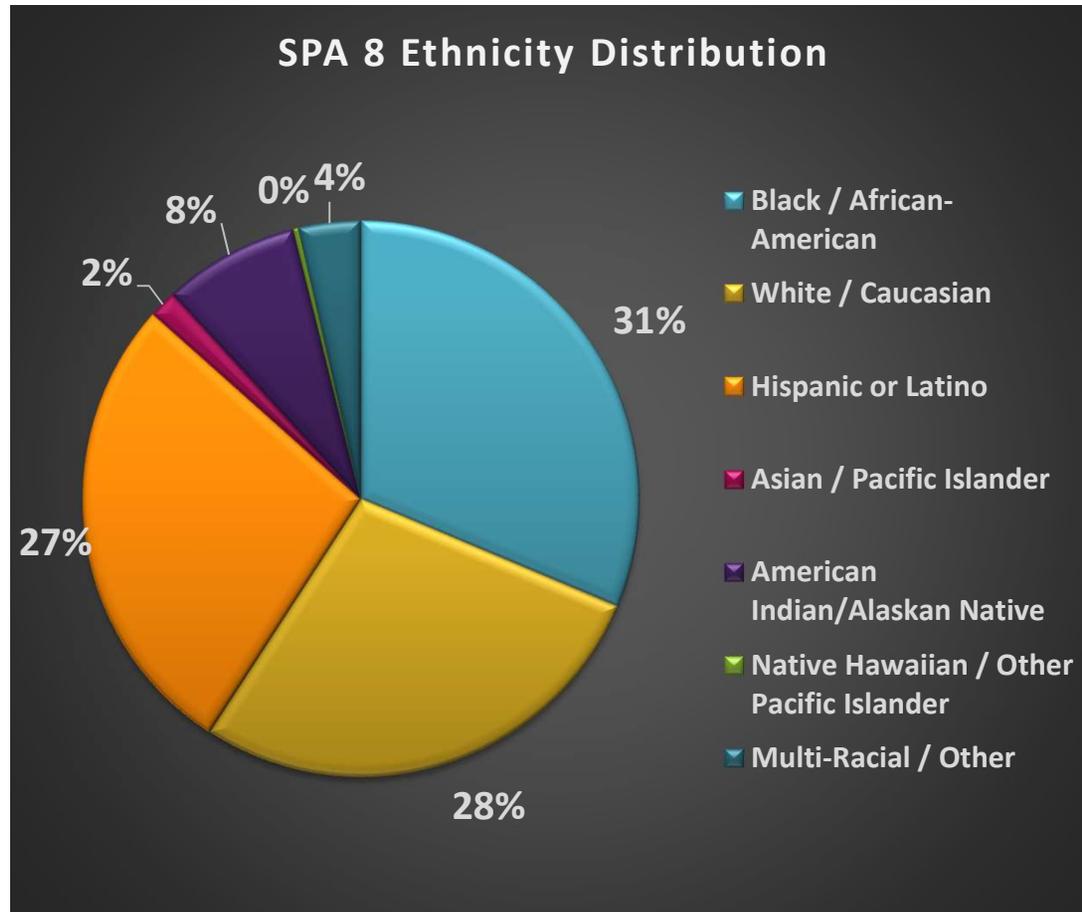
- The number of homeless 25-54 increased by 32%
- Number of homeless over 55 years of age more than doubled



Homeless Count 2015



SPA 8 Race Distribution of Homeless Population



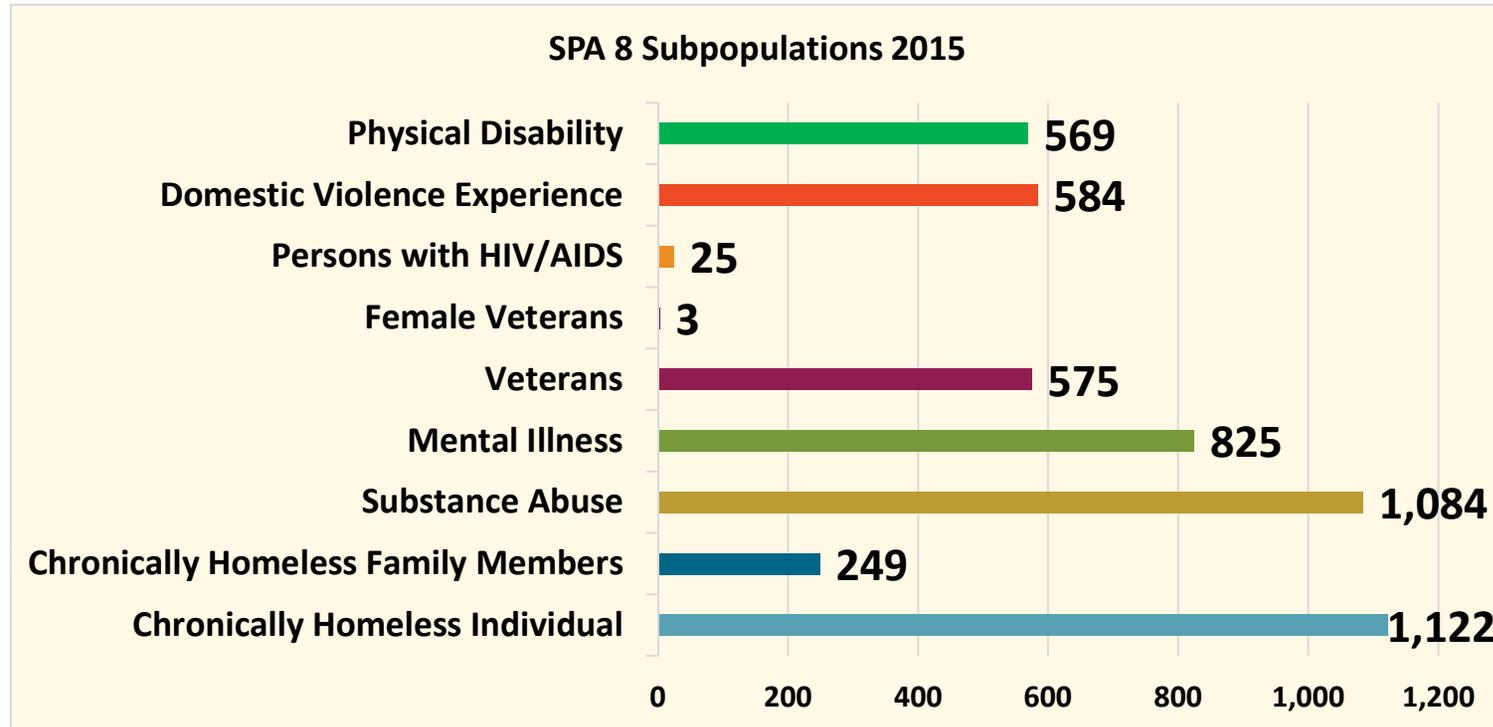
- The Hispanic/Latino population doubled in size
- All racial/ethnic groups in SPA 8 saw an increase



Homeless Count 2015



SPA 8 Subpopulation Distribution*



*The subpopulations are not mutually exclusive categories, and so the total will add to more than 100% of the population of chronically homeless.

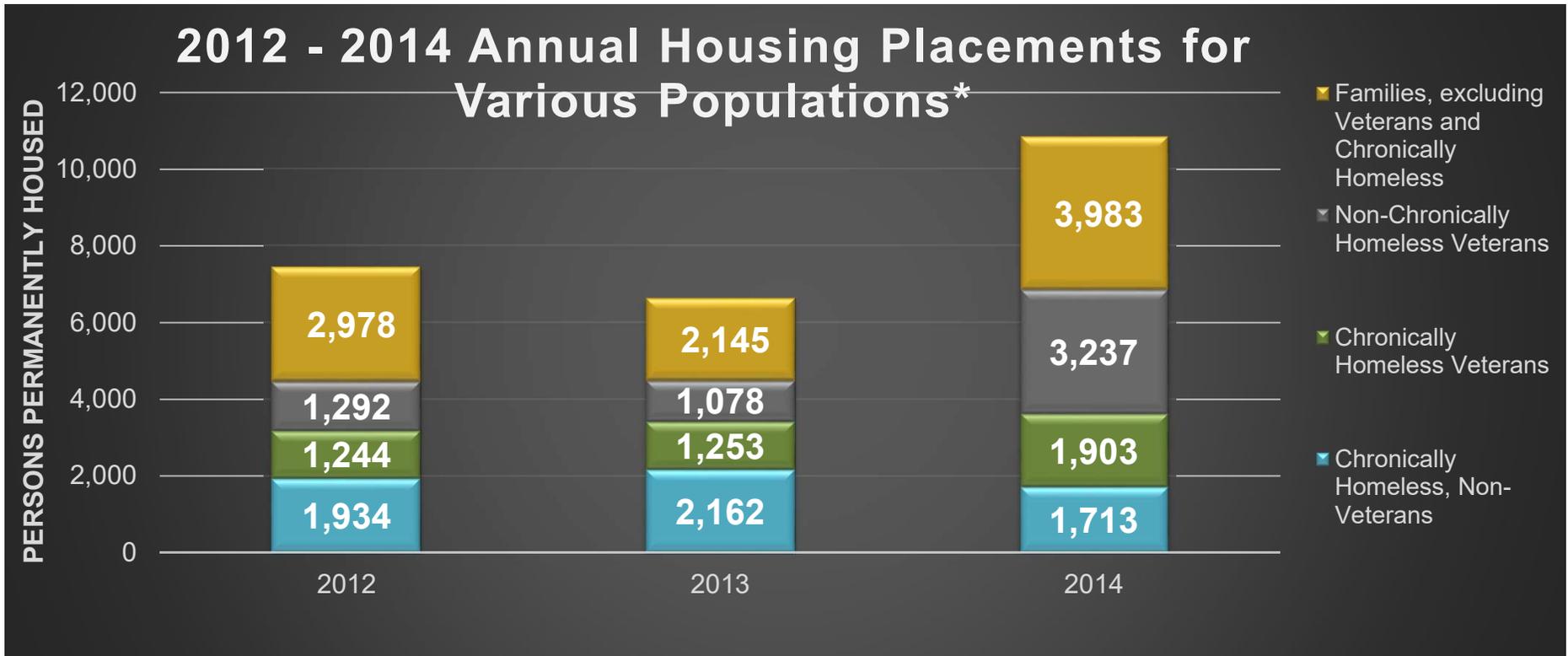
- There was a 141% increase in the number of homeless veterans
- There was a 174% increase in the number of chronically homeless individuals



Mitigating Factors



Without tremendous work housing people over the past several years, more would be homeless.



*Housing placement data includes Glendale, Long Beach and Pasadena.
Courtesy United Way/Home For Good.



What could be driving the homeless population up in spite of our efforts?

Housing Affordability Crisis

- California's lowest-income households spend 2/3 of their income on housing.
- 1.5 million low-income households in California not have access to housing they can afford



Housing Affordability Crisis

- Next to comparable cities, the cost of living in Los Angeles is among the highest. Yet, Angelenos earn less than in any other comparable city (*Per a report by Economic Roundtable -March 2015*)
- The average monthly rent in the Los Angeles region (\$1,716 in Dec 2014) makes it one of the top 10 highest places to rent in the US (*Per the USC Casden Forecast 2014*)



Definitions - 2015 Homeless Count



- **Sheltered**-In order to be considered sheltered *on the night of the count*, a person must be in an emergency shelter, provided an emergency housing voucher, in transitional housing or a safe haven. Permanently housed individuals and families are counted separately from this population
- **Unsheltered**-Can be living on the street, in a car or other vehicle, and they may be living in a structure that is not fit for human habitation, such as a tent or make-shift shelter



Chronically Homeless—must meet two criteria

- Either being homeless for a duration of a year or longer, or having 4 or more episodes in the past three years
- Must have at least two of the listed disabling conditions
 - Mental illness
 - Physical Disability
 - Substance Abuse
 - Developmental disorder
 - Ongoing chronic illness



Definitions - 2015 Homeless Count



- **Co-Morbidity**—having two or more disabling conditions. Co-Morbidity rates mean the percentage of individuals with two or more chronic conditions.
- **Individual vs Family**
 - In order to be considered a family, there must be someone in the family unit who is under 18. A couple without children will be considered to individuals in one unit.
- **Unaccompanied Minors vs Transitional Age Youth (TAY)**
 - Unaccompanied minors specifically refers to children under 18 and without their parents.
 - Transitional Age Youth are between 18 and 24 years old.
 - Programs may offer beds and housing for unaccompanied minors and/or TAY.



Appendix - Tables



Changes in Sheltered Homelessness in Service Planning Area 8 (SPA8), 2013 - 2015

		Total		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
		#	%	#	%	#	%
LA CoC Overall	2013	35,524	100.0%	12,934	36%	22,590	64%
	2015	41,174	100.0%	12,226	30%	28,948	70%
	Changes	+5,650	+15.9%	-708	-5.5%	+6,358	+28.1%
SPA 8	2013	2,168	100.0%	749	35%	1,419	65%
	2015	3,006	100.0%	660	22%	2,346	78%
	Changes	+838	+38.7%	-89	-11.9%	+927	+65.3%

Service Planning Area 8 (SPA 8) Total Homelessness Age Totals, 2013 - 2015

Age	2013		2015	
	LA CoC Overall	SPA 8	LA CoC Overall	SPA 8
Under 18	4,667	322	4,205	296
18-24	4,428	462	3,089	116
25-54	19,073	1,141	23,467	1,506
55-61	4,685	281	7,026	759
62 & Older	2,671	161	3,387	329
Total	35,524	2,367	41,174	3,006



Appendix - Tables



Comparison of SPA Geographic Distribution of Total Homeless Households, 2013 - 2015

	Total		Single Adults		Family Members		Unaccompanied Youth (<18)							
	2013	2015	2013	2015	2013	2015	2013	2015						
	SPA 8	2,168	3,006	1,602	6%	2,456	7%	551	8%	537	7%	15	2%	13
LA CoC Total	35,524	41,174	28,029	100%	33,389	100%	6,678	100%	7,505	100%	817	100%	280	100%

Demographics in Service Planning Area 8 (SPA 8), 2013 - 2015

Ethnicity	Total CoC		SPA 8	
	2013	2015	2013	2015
Black / African-American	15,887	13,992	845	942
White / Caucasian	10,306	12,284	762	837
Hispanic or Latino	11,082	8,005	484	823
Asian / Pacific Islander	657	454	28	48
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1,163	454	23	238
Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander	657	390	-	10
Multi-Racial / Other	2,013	399	26	108



Appendix - Tables



Comparison of Service Planning Area 8 (SPA 8) Homeless Subpopulation Totals, 2013 - 2015								
	LA CoC Total				SPA 8			
	2013		2015		2013		2015	
Chronically Homeless Individual	7,475	21%	12,356	30%	409	19%	1,122	37%
Chronically Homeless Family Members	1,227	3%	1,817	4%	110	5%	249	8%
Substance Abuse	11,073	31%	10,388	25%	680	31%	1,084	36%
Mental Illness	9,963	28%	12,253	30%	600	28%	825	27%
Veterans	4,007	11%	4,016	10%	238	11%	575	19%
Female Veterans	227	0.6%	375	1%	14	0.6%	3	0.1%
Persons with HIV/AIDS	349	1%	757	2%	21	1%	25	0.8%
Domestic Violence Experience	3,159	9%	8,801	21%	187	9%	584	19%
Physical Disability	6,321	18%	8,148	20%	375	17%	569	19%





**2015 Homeless Count
Volunteer Survey
Summary Report
July/August 2015**

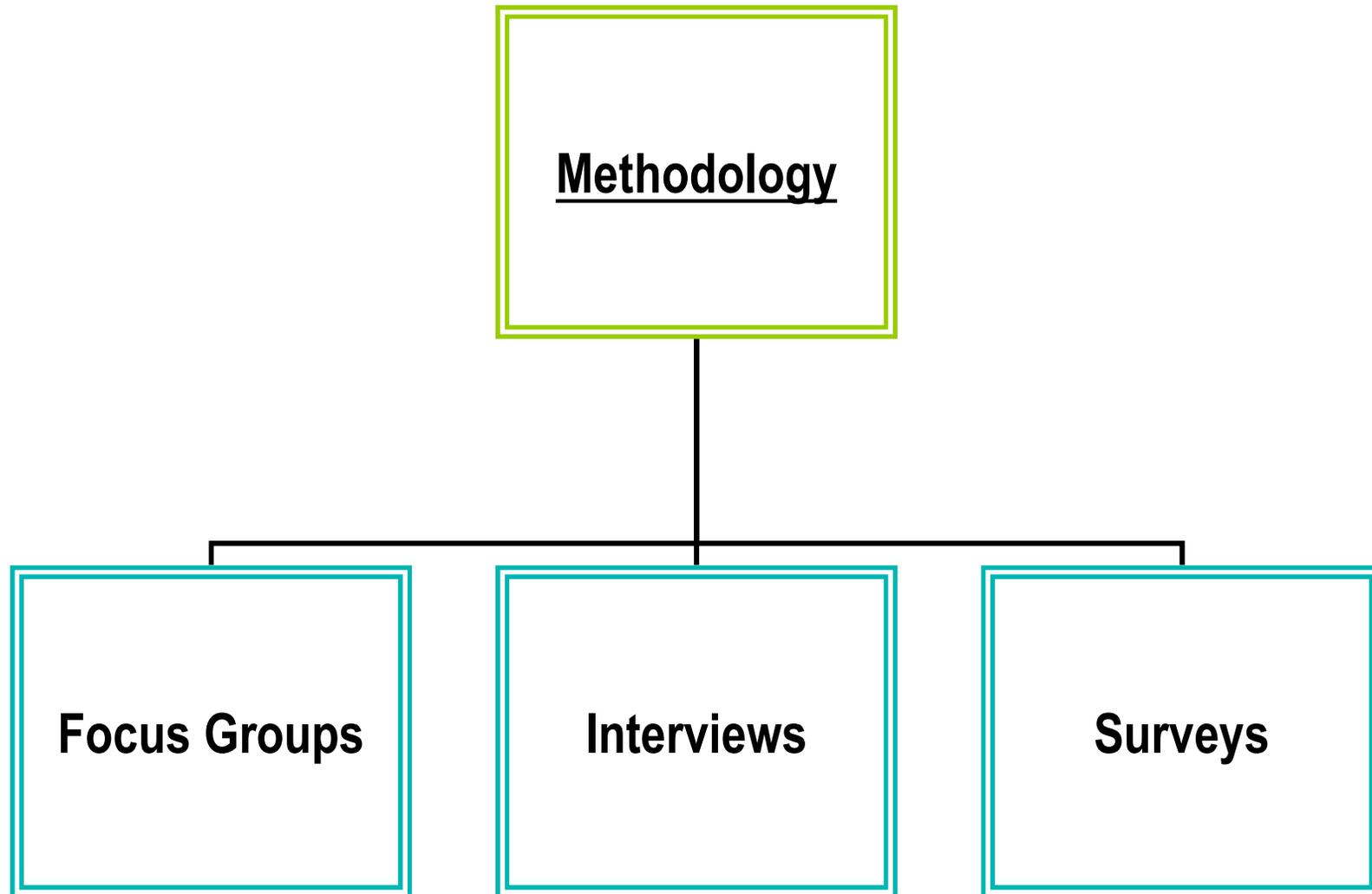


The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

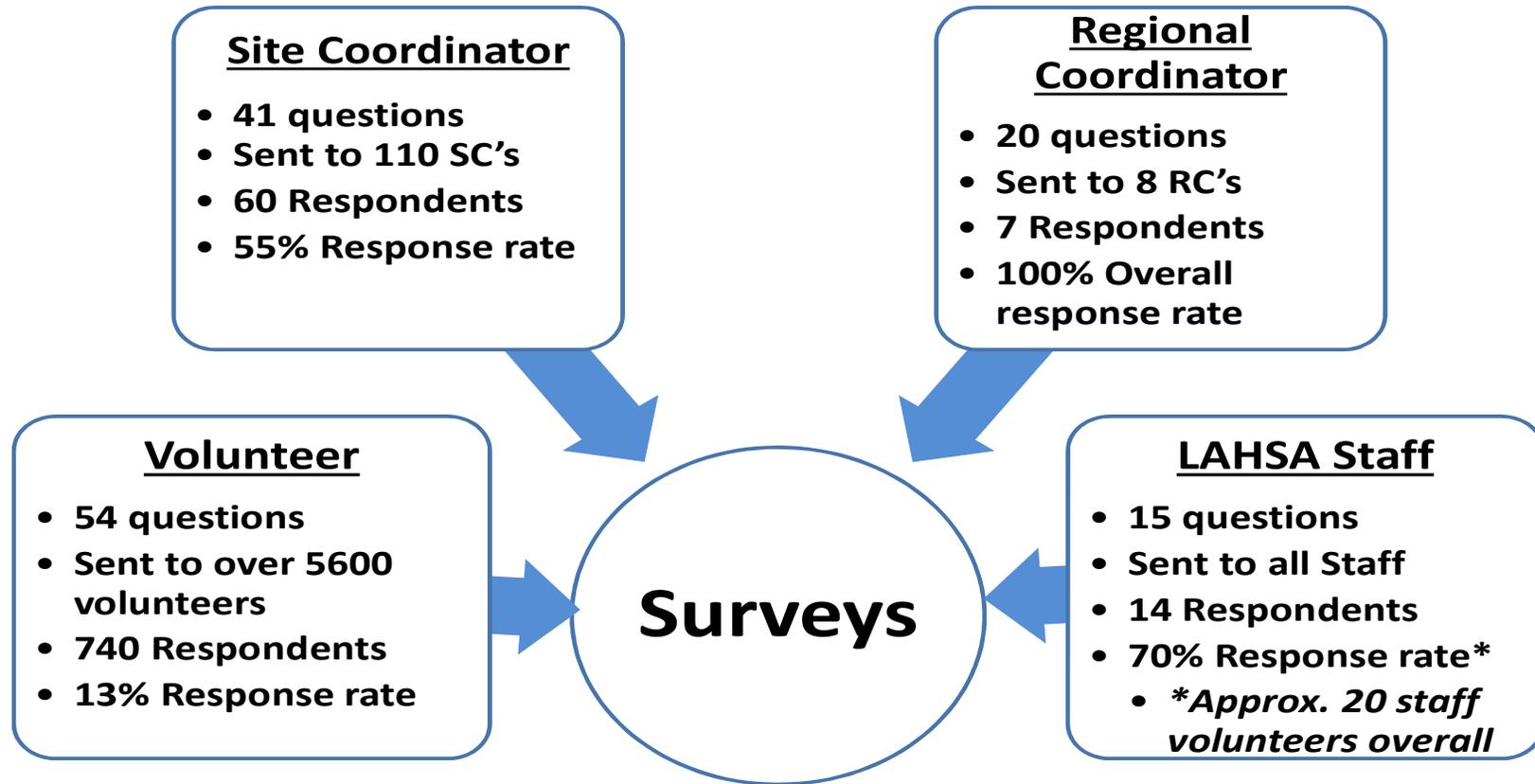


- In 2015, LAHSA decided to shift from a bi-annual to an annual Count as a means to improve and measure progress.
- To conduct an annual Count, we recognized the need to:
 - Improve the level of community and volunteer engagement
 - Assemble recommendations and feedback from volunteers and staff
 - Seek ways to enhance performance and technology
 - Improve accuracy
 - Ensure sustainability





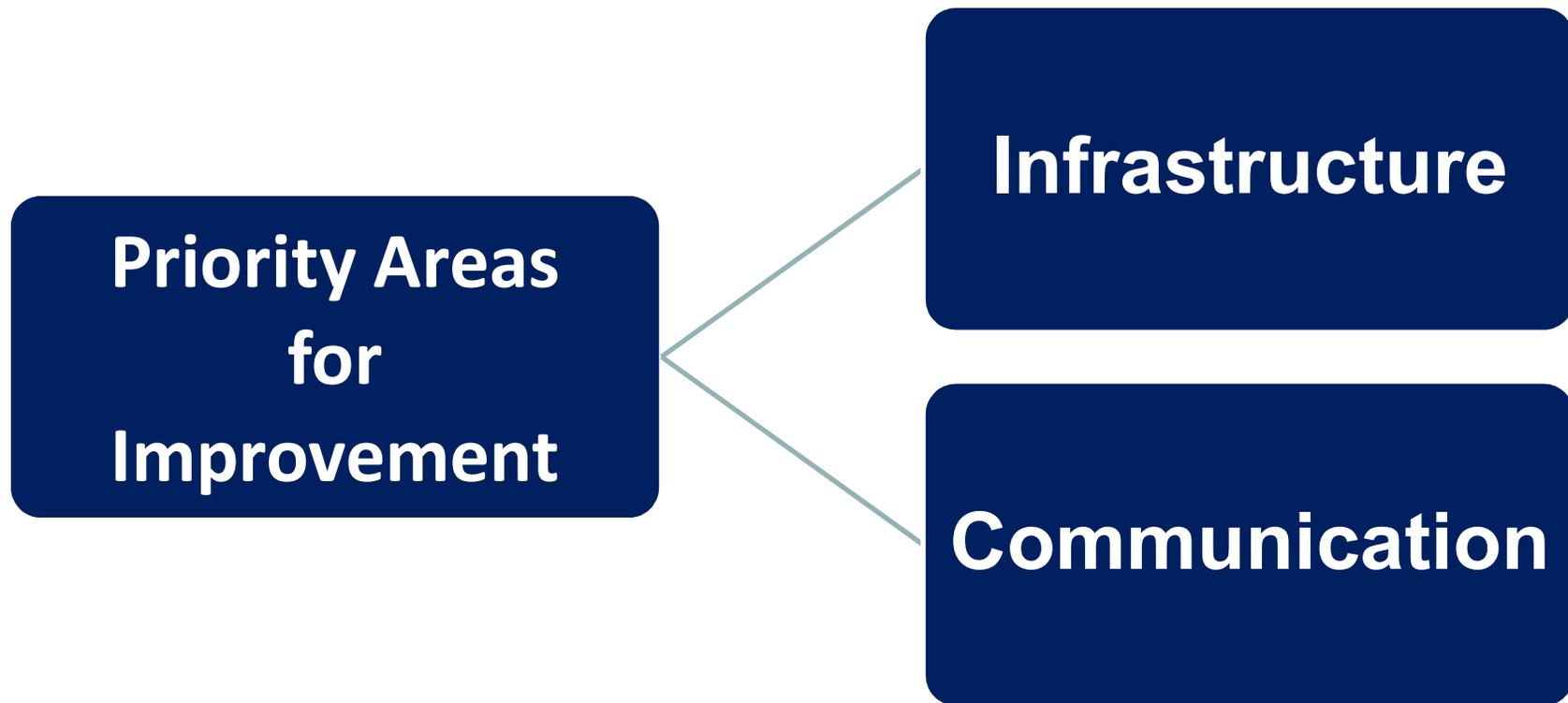
Surveys



Priority Areas for Improvement



Two consistent themes resonated from all stakeholders:



Priority Areas for Improvement



Logistics

Collaboration

Communication

Technology



Priority Areas for Improvement



Logistics

- 1) Census Tract Maps;
- 2) Training and Education; and
- 3) Inconsistent distribution of Count materials lack of supplies and low reimbursement.

Communication

- 1) No clear communication;
- 2) Inconsistent status and logistics updates; and
- 3) No LAHSA media contact and no promotion and public service announcements of the Count.



Priority Areas for Improvement



Collaboration

- 1) Shared responsibility between LAHSA and communities on implementing the Count;
- 2) Consistency in outreach, recruitment, partnership and education; and
- 3) More focused recruitment efforts with partner communities having limited resources and volunteers.

Technology

- 1) A more automated, less complicated system that allows Site Coordinators access;
- 2) A better process for changing site locations and the ability to create, be added or to find a team; and
- 3) A more user-friendly LAHSA website and consistency between the LAHSA website and Homeless Count Website.



Key Recommendations



- 1) Ensure Regional Coordinators have support and experience with project management, outreach and community engagement, preferably someone well known to the community around homelessness.
- 2) Improve census tract maps placing emphasis on maps that are comprehensive, readable, accurate and user friendly.
- 3) Create new and enhance existing relationships with community partners and stakeholders.
- 4) Outreach and create strategies in order to implement the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, annually.



Key Recommendations - Continued



- 5) Develop and communicate shared responsibilities and expectations.
- 6) Demonstrate ways LAHSA will leverage resources and support the efforts of participating communities.
- 7) Improve the training curriculum and training coordination. Eliminate inconsistencies with content and provide flexibility with training formats and the scheduling of sessions.
- 8) Enhance websites to be informational, user friendly and engaging to volunteers, providers, partner agencies and other stakeholders. Integrate technology to maximize experiences.





SAVE THE DATE

2016 HOMELESS COUNT

JANUARY 26, 27 & 28, 2016

www.lahsa.org

theycountwillyou.org

HOMELESS COUNT HEADQUARTERS

homelesscount@lahsa.org



2016 Homeless Count Update

- Available on the LAHSA website:
 - 2015 Opt-In Reports
 - Youth Data
- Homeless Count Launch
- 2016 Opt-In Program Launch
- Regional Coordinators
- Continuum-wide Volunteer Opportunity Calendar
- Video Testimonials for Website and Social Media



2016 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Count Advisory Committee

Purpose

Members of the 2016 Homeless Count Advisory Committee are community leaders representing their respective Service Planning Areas (SPAs). They provide academic experience, homeless population expertise, resources and recommendations to the Homeless Count Unit and work in partnership with the Policy and Planning Department.

Schedule

- August 2015 to February 2016
- Monthly Meetings
- Special Meetings as needed to approve demographic survey, youth survey and other tools to be used during the Count



Homeless Count Advisory Committee – Continued

Focus

1. Unsheltered Homeless Population
 - Assist with volunteer outreach and recruitment
 - Promote the Count
 - Support efforts to broker new relationships
 - Encourage new communities to participate and provide support with obtaining participation from existing communities
 - Send email blasts to networks
 - Add Homeless Count information to websites
 - Advocate for local sponsorships for “Night of the Count”
 - Champion accessibility and leveraging of resources



Homeless Count Advisory Committee-Continued

2. Demographic Survey Tool

A. Provide recommendations on how to define subpopulations:

- chronically homeless families/individuals
- veterans
- persons with:
 - ✓ Domestic violence experience
 - ✓ HIV/AIDS
 - ✓ Mental illness
 - ✓ Physical disabilities
 - ✓ Substance abuse
- Youth ages 12-17 and Transitional Age Youth ages 18-24

B. Provide recommendations on the demographic survey pilot and timeline



Homeless Count Advisory Committee-Continued

3. Sheltered Population

- a. Provide feedback and recommendations on ways to improve the validity and accuracy of all programs listed in HMIS
- b. Provide feedback and recommendations on ways to capture valid and accurate data for non-HMIS participating



Homeless Count Advisory Committee – Continued

4. Youth Count

A. Promote the Point-In-Time Youth Count

- Assist with youth and youth provider outreach and recruitment
- Support efforts to broker new relationships with youth providers
- Send email blasts to networks
- Add Youth Homeless Count information to websites
- Advocate for local sponsorships for the Youth Count
- Champion accessibility and leveraging of resources



Homeless Count Advisory Committee – Continued

B. Youth Demographic Survey

- Provide recommendations on how to best incorporate youth methodology with general street count methodology
- Provide recommendations on the youth survey pilot and timeline
- Advocate for local sponsorships for Youth Count activities



LAHSA Requests Public Comment on the Los Angeles Continuum of Care Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards

Comments due by Monday, August 24, 2015

- LAHSA is finalizing the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Written Standards which are required under the HEARTH Act
- These standards are required by all ESG and Consolidated Plan Funding recipients
- Community feedback is due: **Monday, August 24 at 12:00 noon.**

How to submit comments:

1. Email comments directly to Clementina Verjan, Policy and Planning Department Manager at cverjan@lahsa.org.
2. Participate in Conference Call and provide feedback. Conference Call info: **Thursday, August 20, 2015 from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm.** Dial (213) 225-8400 and enter code 73450.



Los Angeles Coordinating Council - Nomination & Election Process

- On July 24th, the LAHSA Commission developed the *Ad Hoc Continuum of Care Governance Committee* and appointed three LAHSA Commissioners to it. It also includes three Coordinating Council members, and a representative from: the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, Law Enforcement, and Housing Authority.
- On August 12th, the Los Angeles Coordinating Council voted to place on hold all elections for Coordinating Council membership until after the *Ad Hoc Continuum of Care Governance Committee* provided its recommendations on Continuum of Care Governance.
- All meetings will be public.



Department Updates

Technical Assistance

- System Financial Modeling: what resources, and at what cost, are needed to end homelessness for all populations

Funding Opportunities

- WSP RFP was released on July 20, 2015 (pending Commission approval)
- 2015 HUD NOFA is around the corner!! LAHSA working with providers to update their applications in advance of the NOFA being issued.
 - 256 applications have been reviewed and updated.
 - Additional review over the next few weeks – may reach out to providers to make new updates



Questions/Comments?

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