

KENAI PENINSULA

2022 PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT REPORT



No one deserves to lose hope



The Homeless Action Coalition is proud to report on the Kenai Peninsula’s 11th Annual Project Homeless Connect event held on January 26, 2022. Our success is due to the collaborative effort between service providers, the private sector, volunteers, and the community members.

A special thank-you to the following:

Event Co-Chairs: Kathy Gensel & Frank Alioto	Donations: Kellie Bartelmay & Judy Fischer
Intake: Cheri Smith & Patty Eissler	Volunteers: Beth Selby
Food: Kenai Peninsula Food Bank	Check-Out: Melissa Kline
Provider Services, Vendors: Leslie Rohr	Fundraising: Kathy Gensel
Publicity: Jodi Stuart	Logistics: Kathy Gensel & Frank Alioto
Transportation: Brent Hibbert & Taylor Cochran	

Steering Committee

Abby Struffert	Jane Conway	Marquitta Andrus
Agnes Nunn	Jason Warfle	Mary Bell
Alecia Gottlob	Jeffery Eide	Mary Starrs Armstrong
Ashley Blatchford	Jodi Stuart	Melisa Miller
Beth Selby	Judy Fischer	Mickey Miller
Carolyn Potter	Justin Ruffridge	Pascale Dilley
Charlene Tautfest	Karla Evarts	Pastor April Hall
Chelsey Hong	Kathleen Totemoff	Pastor Karen Martin-Tichenor
Cheri Smith	Kathy Gensel	Paul Whitney
Cinda Martin	Katie Cowgill	Peggy Rogers
Cristina Lee	Kellie Bartelmay	Raquel Eisenmann
D. Ohler	Kelly King	Ronda Oglesby
David Smith	Kelly Whitmore	Sandee Simons
Foot	Kimberly Earll	Shari Conner
Frank Alioto	Leslie Rohr	Sharon Kelly
Georganne Roberts	Levi Sutton	Sherra Pritchard
Greg Meyer	Lindsey Anasogak	Suzanne Richards
Hadassah Knight	Lindsey Collins	Tim Navarre
Hanna Nowalkowski	Margaret Gilman	Twyla Mundy
Heather Schaefer	Margie McCord	Wayne Mundy

Demographics of Population Served

Sixty-eight (68) individuals participated in the PHC event. The total household number based on participant input was 122.

A total of 38 individuals (56%) reported this was their first time participating in the Kenai Peninsula Project Homeless Connect event.

Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Male	40	59%
Female	28	41%
Trans Gender	0	0
Questioning	0	0
Gender other than female or male	0	0
NA / Refused		
Total	68	100%

Age

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 18	1	1%
18 - 24	1	1%
25 - 44	32	47%
45 – 64+	31	46%
NA / Refused	3	5%
Total	68	100%

Race

	Frequency	Percent
American Indian / AK Native	23	34%
Black / African American	3	5%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	1%
White	40	59%
Asian or Asian American	0	0
NA / Refused	1	1%
Total	68	100%

Ethnicity

	Frequency	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	1	1%
Non-Hispanic / Non-Latino	63	93%
NA / Refused	4	6%
Total	68	100%

Veteran

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	12%
No	59	87%
NA / Refused	1	1%
Total	68	100%

Head of Household

	Frequency	Percent
Self	63	93%
Head of Household's partner	4	6%
Head of Household's child	1	1%
Other relation member	0	0
Non-relation member	0	0
Total	68	100%

Disabling Conditions

	Frequency	Percent
Alzheimer's/Related Dementia	0	0
Chronic Alcoholism/other substance use disorder	11	35%
Intellectual/Developmental	7	22%
Mental Illness	14	45%
Traumatic Brain Injuries	7	22%
NA / Refused	38	55%

***Percentages above based on 31 individuals (45%) who disclosed one or more disabling conditions.*

Alaska Native Regional Corporation

	Frequency	Percent
Not Affiliated	33	49%
Bering Straits Native	1	1%
Cook Inlet Regional	5	8%
Bering Straits	1	1%
Sealaska	0	0
Ahtna	1	1%
Bristol Bay Native	2	3%
Doyon Limited	2	3%
13 th Regional	0	0
Aleut	0	0
Calista	0	0
Koniag	0	0
Arctic Slope Regional	0	0

Chugach Alaska	0	0
NANA Regional	1	1%
N/A	22	33%
Total	68	100%

Sexual / Relationship Orientation

	Frequency	Percent
Heterosexual / Straight	63	93%
Gay	0	0
Lesbian	0	0
Bisexual	0	0
Questioning	0	0
Aromantic	0	0
Asexual	0	0
Demisexual	0	0
Pansexual	0	0
Queer	0	0
Other	0	0
NA / Refused	5	7%
Total	68	100%

Slept Prior Night

	Frequency	Percent
Homeless	21	31%
Institutional	2	3%
Temporary/Permanent	44	65%
NA / Refused	1	1%
Total	68	100%

How long staying there?

One night or less	2	3%
Two to six nights	2	3%
1 week or more (less 1 month)	6	9%
1 month or more (less 90 days)	10	15%
90 days or more (less 1 year)	11	16%
One year or more	18	26%
Don't know / Refused	19	28%
Total	68	100%

Last time in stable housing of some kind?

2014 - 2015	1	1%
2016 - 2018	15	22%
2019 - 2020	11	16%
2021 - 2022	30	45%
NA / Refused	11	16%
Total	68	100%

Homeless Episodes – Past 3 Years

	Frequency	Percent
1 time	29	43%
2 times	10	15%
3 times	7	10%
4 or more	10	15%
NA / Refused	12	17%
Total	68	100%

Total Number of Months Homeless in past 3 years

	Frequency	Percent
1 month	9	14%
2 months	4	6%
3 months	6	9%
4 months	4	6%
5 months	1	1%
6 months	2	3%
7 months	2	3%
8 months	1	1%
9 months	0	0
10 months	0	0
11 months	0	0
12 months	3	4%
More than 12 months	24	36%
NA / Refused	12	17%
Total	68	100%

Participant Exit Survey = 68 (100%)

Rating	Excellent	Very Good	Fair	Poor
The event was helpful to me.	58 (85%)	10 (15%)	0	0
I felt respected and supported.	61 (90%)	7 (10%)	0	0

How did you hear about the event?

Inquiries	Love INC.	Phone call	Radio
Job service	Advertisement	Friends	Word of mouth
Family	Freedom House	Daughter	KSRM radio station
PCHS	Been here before	Friend	Food Bank
OCS	Public broadcast	Girlfriend	Walk-in
Flyer	Facebook	Previous PHC	Dena'ina Tobacco Quit Line
Case worker	Co-worker	Attend yearly	

Would you use an Emergency Cold Weather Shelter in community if available?

- Yes = 60 (89%) No = 5 (7%) NA = 3 (4%)

Suggestions for notification of Cold Weather Shelter:

Public announcements	Phone call	Message board
Radio	Email	Church / library
Warning alarm / VHF / Phone	Word of mouth	Through Love INC.
Friends or family	Social media	Lifeline phone
Job service	Text or call	Text alert
Mail		

Number of Individuals in Household

Age 13 and Under	37
Age 14 - 24	6
Age 25 and Over	79
Total	122

Primary Reason for Homelessness

	Frequency	Percent
Loss of Job	4	6%
Work hours cut	0	0
Rent / Utility Increase	3	4%
Lease Violation	0	0

Illness / Injury	4	6%
Substance Abuse	4	6%
Domestic Violence	1	1%
Family Dispute	0	0
Aged out Foster Care	0	0
Jail / Prison Release	3	4%
Treatment Center Release	0	0
Loss of Roommate	0	0
Divorce	2	3%
Eviction	1	1%
New to Community	2	3%
**Other (see below)	35	52%
NA / Refused	9	14%
Total	68	100%

****Other includes:** lack money or income, lost home, lack of work, bad management of money, end of lease, legal trouble, alcohol, criminal background, lack of available housing, living with my daughter, rent is expensive, choose to be homeless, low income, rental trailer falling apart, spent a bunch for funeral, can't find a house, having bad luck, waiting for housing, lost everything to my ex, OCS case, house burnt down, no housing, COVID, waiting for available housing, separated from family, don't have a place to rent, cleanliness, COVID having to take time off

Form of Transportation

	Frequency	Percent
Own Vehicle	27	40%
Friend/Family Member	17	25%
Public Transport	2	3%
Taxi	4	6%
Walk / Ride Bike / Snow machine	13	19%
Hitchhike	0	0
NA / Refused	5	7%
Total	68	100%

Besides housing what is your primary need right now?

Employment in my trade / training	Fix vehicle	Dental
A home and vehicle	Employment	Therapy/counseling
To reconnect correctly	Clothing	Firewood
Food	Transportation	Clothes
Sleeping bag / work	Socks, shoes, coat	Food/gas
Money	Direct assistance	SSI
Health	Income/disability	Child support/legal services
Gasoline	Being able to work	Housing
Food/blankets	Vehicle	Money to fix my debt
God/prayer	Medical	Legal services

Help with housing items for kids

Learn how to adjust to life outside of addiction

Other needs to get back to you about:

Availability of employment in ship/boat repair industry

Showers

Child support/legal services

Laundry / shower services

Work

First Project Homeless Connect event? Yes = 38 (56%) No = 29 (43%) NA = 1 (1%)





Our gratitude and thanks to all the following volunteers, vendors, and donors who helped make this event possible!

VOLUNTEERS

Alaska Christian College Students
Alicia Morgan
Amanda Perez
Amorette Payment
Andy Knapp
Angie Kelly
Anthony Alvey
Ashley Blatchford
Beth Selby
Bill Kelley
Brenda Chamness
Catie Kline
Charlie Simons
Chelsey Carter
Chris Dokke
Chuck Kuhlmann
Cindy Rombach
Cindy Wentzlaff & Tolly
Crystal Swartz
Diane Fielden

Emily Alvey
Gigi Rogers
Gracie Oseuk
Harold Jackson
Heather Schaefer
Jenna Barry
Jennifer Flores
Jerry Rombach
Karen Martin-Tichenor
Keziah Simons
Kyle Graham
Kyle Moore
Linda Tannehill
Margaret Gilman
Margie McCord
Matthew Craig
Melissa Kline
Ofa Finau
Pam Richard
Pamela Howard

Pastor Meredith Harber
Pat Young
Patty Eissler
Peggy Rogers
Rae Linn
Rae Wysong
Rick Oelrich
Robert McGinnis
Sally Oelrich
Sandee Simons
Selena Payment
Sharon Kelly
Sherry Martinovich
Summer Hall
Summer Trefon
Tanya Lange
Tim Navarre
Tyler Sargeant

VENDORS

49 th State Law	Ladies First/S.A. F.R.
ABC Life Choices	Love, INC.
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation	MASST
Boys & Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula	Nikiski Shelter of Hope
CARTS	Ninilchik Traditional Council – MAT Program
Change 4 the Kenai	Pastor Meredith Harber, Frank Alioto
CICADA	Peninsula Community Health Services
Division of VOC Rehab	Peninsula Job Center
Independent Living Center	Sin Shearly
Kenai Peninsula College	SNAP
Kenai Peninsula Food Bank	SOA Public Assistance
Kenai Peninsula Re-Entry Coalition	Students in Transition
Kenai Public Health	The LeeShore Center
Kenaitze Indian Tribe	

CASH AND IN-KIND DONATIONS

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation	Kenai Elks
Alaska Mental Health Trust	Kenai Kennel Club
Arby's – Kenai and Soldotna	Kenai United Methodist Church
Bishop's Attic	KPAL
Central Peninsula Hospital	Midnight Son SDA Church
Christ Lutheran Church	Nikisti/Northstar United Methodist Church
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Ninilchik Traditional Council
CICADA	Our Lady of Perpetual Help
City of Kenai – Mini Grant	Our Lady of the Angels
City of Soldotna – Mini Grant	Peninsula Bible Fellowship
Denali Family Dentistry	Soldotna Elks
Frontier Community Services	Soldotna Rotary Club
GCI	Soldotna United Methodist Church
Independent Living Center	Sweeney's Clothing

We sincerely apologize if we have missed any donor or volunteer

Endnote: Data was secured through the PHC event on January 26, 2022. Due to COVID participants had the option of calling in for services - that data is included in this report.