

HOMER AREA

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CONNECT

2023 REPORT

(Formerly known as Project Homeless Connect)



No one deserves to lose hope.

The Homer Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee is proud to report on our fourth annual Project Homeless Connect (PHC) event. This year the Committee elected to re-name the event Community Resource Connect (CRC), which was held on January 31, 2023, in conjunction with the Kenai Peninsula’s 12th Annual PHC. The success of this event was due to the collaborative effort between service providers from the public and non-profit sectors, local businesses, and volunteer community members.

Population Served

There were 134 individuals who attended the CRC event in Homer (at the SPARC) and Anchor Point (at the Anchor Point Food Pantry and Anchor River Inn). A total of 121 people participated in the Intake process, 78 in Homer and 43 in Anchor Point. Of the 69 participants who completed the Exit Survey, 57 reported this was their first time attending a PHC event.

The following information is data collected by Intake Volunteers utilizing an Intake Form provided by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. This Form is created specifically for gathering information at PHC events throughout Alaska and the United States each year.

Where did you sleep last night?

	Frequency	Percent
On Streets/Homeless Camp	4	3.3%
Abandoned Property (Not meant for habitation)	2	1.7%
Vehicle/Car	16	13.2%
Local Homeless Shelter	0	0%
Friends/Family (Doubled up)	30	24.8%
My Apartment/House	57	47.1%
Hotel/Motel	2	1.7%
Jail/Institutional Setting	0	0%
Other (Specify)*	16	13.2%
No Answer	2	1.7%
Total	129**	106.7%**

**Other responses included: Cabin, RV, Dog sitting, Yurt, Camper, Dry cabin, Haven House, Trailer*

***Percentages above are based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.*

Were you with a household or by yourself?

	Frequency	Percent
By Myself (Single)	71	58.7%
With Household	45	37.2%
No Answer	5	4.1%
Total	121	100%

Age Category

	Frequency	Percent
Under 18 years	7	5.8%
18 years – 24 years	5	4.1%
25 years – 34 years	23	19%
35 years – 44 years	30	24.8%
45 years – 54 years	26	21.5%
55 years – 64 years	21	17.4%
65 years and older	9	7.4%
Don't know/Refused	0	0%
Total	121	100%

Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Female	64	52.9%
Male	53	43.8%
A gender other than singularly female or male	0	0%
Transgender	0	0%
Questioning	0	0%
Don't know/Refused	4	3.3%
No Answer	0	0%
Total	121	100%

Sexual Orientation

	Frequency	Percent
Heterosexual/Straight	92	76%
Gay	0	0%
Lesbian	1	.8%
Bisexual	7	5.8%
Questioning/Unsure	0	0%
Other/Additional (Specify)	7	5.8%
Don't know/Refused	2	1.7%
Aromantic	0	0%
Asexual	0	0%
Demisexual	1	.8%
Pansexual	2	1.7%
Queer	1	.8%
No Answer	8	6.6%
Total	121	100%

Race

	Frequency	Percent
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	34	28.1%
Asian or Asian American	3	2.5%
Black, African American, or African	2	1.7%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	.8%
White	82	67.8%
Don't know/Refused	4	3.3%
No Answer	2	1.7%
Total	128*	105.9%*

**Percentages above are based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.*

Ethnicity

	Frequency	Percent
Non Hispanic/Non Latino	106	87.6%
Hispanic/Latin(o)(a)(x)	6	4.9%
Don't know/Refused	2	1.7%
No Answer	7	5.8%
Total	121	100%

Do you belong to any Alaska Native Regional Corporation?

	Frequency	Percent
Not Affiliated	85	70.2%
Bering Straits Native	0	0%
Cook Inlet Regional	1	.8%
Sealaska	0	0%
Ahtna	2	1.7%
Bristol Bay Native	3	2.5%
Doyon Limited	1	.8%
13 th Regional	0	0%
Aleut	3	2.5%
Calista	5	4.1%
Koniag	3	2.5%
Arctic Slope Regional	0	0%
Chugach Alaska	0	0%
NANA Regional	4	3.3%
Other	2	1.7%
No Answer	12	9.9%
Total	121	100%

How long have you been homeless?

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 year	21	17.4%
1 year or more	41	33.9%
Don't know/Refused	15	12.4%
No Answer*	44	36.3%
Total	121	100%

**Some participants were 'No Answer' because they did not consider themselves currently homeless.*

Number of times you have been homeless in the past 3 years?

	Frequency	Percent
This is the first time	16	13.2%
One time	5	4.1%
Two to three times	22	18.2%
Four or more times	20	16.5%
The whole time	4	3.3%
Don't know/Refused	11	9.1%
No Answer	43	35.6%
Total	121	100%

Total number of months you spent at least 1 day homeless in the past 3 years?

	Frequency	Percent
Fewer than 12 months	32	26.4%
12 months or more	35	28.9%
Don't know/Refused	10	8.3%
No Answer	44	36.4%
Total	121	100%

What is the zip code of your last permanent address?

	Frequency	Percent
99603 (Homer)	53	43.8%
99556 (Anchor Point)	36	29.8%
99663 (Seldovia)	1	.8%
99639 (Ninilchik)	6	5%
99611 (Kenai Area)	1	.8%
99669 (Soldotna)	1	.8%
99508 (Anchorage)	2	1.7%
99645 (Palmer)	1	.8%
99654 (Wasilla)	2	1.7%
99602 (Holy Cross)	1	.8%
96025 (Dunsmuir, CA)	1	.8%

83619 (Fruitland, ID)	1	.8%
48458 (Genesee Co., MI)	1	.8%
97477 (Springfield, OR)	1	.8%
California	1	.8%
Don't know/Refused	6	5%
No Answer	6	5%
Total	121	100%

Do you have any disabilities?

	Frequency	Percent
None	60	50%
Alcohol use disorder	1	.8%
Chronic health condition	17	14%
Developmental	3	2.5%
Drug use disorder	3	2.5%
HIV/AIDS	1	.8%
Mental Health Disorder	20	16.5%
Physical Disability	35	28.9%
Don't know/Refused	2	1.7%
No Answer	4	3.3%
Total	146*	121%*

**Percentages above are based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.*

Do you have any Alaska Mental Health Trust disabilities?

	Frequency	Percent
None	82	67.8%
Alzheimer's/Related Dementias	0	0%
Chronic Alcoholism/Substance use disorder	4	3.3%
Intellectual/Developmental Disability	5	4.1%
Mental Illness	16	13.2%
Traumatic Brain Injury	9	7.4%
Don't know/Refused	3	2.5%
No Answer	12	9.9%
Total	131*	108.2%*

**Percentages above are based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.*

Are you a survivor or have you been a victim of domestic violence?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	64	52.9%
Yes – Currently fleeing	11	9.1%

Yes – Not currently fleeing	52	43%
No	50	41.3%
Don't know/Refused	2	1.7%
No Answer	3	2.5%
Total	182*	150.5%*

**Total responses are more than 121 because individuals who responded 'yes' may have also responded 'yes-currently/not currently fleeing'.*

Have you ever served in the United States Military?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	10	8.3%
No	107	88.4%
Don't know/Refused	1	.8%
No answer	3	2.5%
Total	121	100%

Participant Needs

This year's Shopping List was based on the most popular items distributed/requested at previous year's PHC events, and the goods were either purchased or donated through cash and in-kind donations. The following is the list of free items available to participants. The number represents how many of each item was distributed between the two CRC Event locations.

Shopping List 2023

86	Backpack (empty)
93	Food Box
92	Snack Bag
96	Hygiene Kit – hand towel, washcloth, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, soap, tissues
92	Comfort Care Pack – socks, hand/foot warmers, flashlight, space blanket, lotion
40	Feminine Hygiene Products
17	Condoms
71	Toothbrush/Paste
82	First Aid Kit
68	Waterless Shower Wipes
49	Dog Food
35	Cat Food
4	Pet Food (did not specify)
65	Sleeping Bag
52	Sleeping Pad
80	Blanket
52	Tent
56	Tarp

48	Flashlight
19	Lantern
40	Headlamp
64	Utensil Pack
75	Water Bottle
19	Narcan Kit
29	Reflective Vest
25	Plastic Poncho
72	Ice Cleats
32	Emergency Blanket
23	Survival Tent
36	Men's Gloves
23	Men's Hat
13	Men's Scarf
40	Women's Gloves
22	Women's Hat
20	Women's Scarf
4	Gloves (did not specify)
2	Hat (did not specify)
2	Scarf (did not specify)
15	Child's Gloves
6	Child's Hat
4	Child's Scarf
99	Socks
36	Neck Gator
29	Men's Coat
30	Women's Coat
11	Child's Coat
3	Coat (did not specify)
12	Covid Home Test Kit
13	Diapers
27	Baby Wipes
3	Formula/Baby Food
22	Taxi Voucher (provided for ride to and from PHC event)
31	Clothing Voucher – Salvation Army
36	Clothing Voucher – Homer Thrift
33	Laundry/Shower Voucher – Cheeky Moose
21	Laundry/Shower Voucher – Red Door
5	Laundry/Shower Voucher – East End Laundry
57	Gas Card
19	Haircut

Homer CRC at SPARC January 31, 2023 (Below)



Participant Exit Survey

Responses from 69 completed Exit Survey:

	Yes	No	Somewhat
The event was helpful to me.	65	0	3
I felt respected and supported.	68	0	0
Was this your first Project Homeless Connect?	57	10	N/A

Participant Exit Questions

How many are in your household?

	Frequency	Percent
13 years and under	38	27.1%
14 years – 24 years	21	15%
25 years and over	81	57.9%
Total Responses	140 individuals in 65 households	100%

What items or services were most helpful?

- 19 – All/Everything
- 17 – Clothing
- 7 – Camping Stuff
- 7 – Food
- 6 – Salvation Army
- 6 – Vouchers
- 5 – Housing Assistance
- 5 – Staff/Volunteers
- 4 – Gas
- 4 – Hygiene Products
- 3 – Food Pantry
- 3 – Shower/Laundry Vouchers
- 2 – Clothing Vouchers
- 2 – Resources
- 2 – Taxi/Transportation Help
- 1 – All Things Recovery
- 1 – Blanket
- 1 – College
- 1 – Diapers
- 1 – Dog Food
- 1 – Dry (venue)
- 1 – Eye Exam/Lyons Club
- 1 – Haven House
- 1 – Heating Assistance
- 1 – Jobs
- 1 – Medical
- 1 – MANA
- 1 – Rec Room
- 1 – SVT
- 1 – Sprout
- 1 – Waterproof Backpack

Were there any items or services you needed that were not available/provided?

- 4 – Gas Card
- 3 – Food
- 3 – Pet Food/Supplies
- 2 – Camp Stove/Propane
- 2 – Kitchen Utensils
- 2 – Lighter/Matches
- 1 – Car Repairs/Maintenance
- 1 – Cell Phone Assistance (Lifeline)
- 1 – Clothing

- 1 – Feminine products for young teenager
- 1 – Heaters
- 1 – Housing
- 1 – SUM Voucher
- 1 – Shoes
- 1 – Tent

Vendors

Homer

The following is a list of vendors who were present at the Homer Event. The number represents the participants who indicated they had needs that could be met by those agencies.

Homer Service Needs List 2023

23	Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
5	All Things Recovery
3	Choosing Our Roots
41	Homer Community Food Pantry
14	Homer Job Center
1	Homer Medical Center (MAT Program)
5	Homer Public Health
5	Homer Senior Center
3	Hospice of Homer
9	Independent Living Center
5	Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
2	KPBSD Students in Transition
15	Kenai Peninsula College Adult Education
20	Lion’s Club Vision Screening
7	Mutual Aid Network of Anchorage (MANA)
2	Nine Star
4	Ninilchik Traditional Council (MAT Program)
3	R.E.C. Room
30	Salvation Army
17	Seldovia Village Tribe Health & Wellness
0	Set Free Alaska
12	South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services
5	South Peninsula Haven House
8	Sprout Family Services

Anchor Point

The following is a list of vendors who were present at the Anchor Point Event. The number represents the participants who indicated they had needs that could be met by those agencies.

Anchor Point Service Needs List 2023

4	Anchor Point Food Pantry
1	Homer Public Health
1	Nine Star
4	Seldovia Village Tribe – Public Assistance Applications
1	Sprout Family Services

Volunteers



Homer Area Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee:

Lindsey Collins – South Peninsula Haven House	Cinda Martin – First National Bank of Alaska/Homer Community Food Pantry
Derotha Ferraro – South Peninsula Hospital	Missy Martin – Anchor Point Food Pantry
Abby Ferrer – South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services	Dana Roberts – Independent Living Center
Annie Garay – South Peninsula Hospital	Jane Rohr – Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
Frani Guttin – Nine Star	Lisa Talbott – Homer United Methodist Church
Claudia Haines – Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic	Cynthia West – State of Alaska, Healthy and Equitable Communities

Our gratitude and thanks to the volunteers and donors who helped make this event possible!

Event Volunteers

Rick Abboud	Ronnie Leach
Marion Abeldgaard	Kevin Leal
Emerald Bailey	Laura Marcurio
Johnnye Bartlett	Milli Martin
Colleen Batman	Robin McAllistar
Sheridan Bishop	Laura McBride
Sherry Blood	Rudy Multz
Marie Carlton	Allison O'Neill
Lorne Carroll	Walter Osterberg
Kelly Cooper	Emily Otis
Lisa Correa	Susan Pacillo
Sue Cox	Danielle Peltola
Anita Critchett	Erin Petrie
Terrilynn Dale	Leah Piedra
Sherry Daugharty	Virginia Pinnick
Ally Delisle	Susie Quinn
Jeffrey Eide	Michael Raymond
Felix Gryphon	Deb Schmidt
Joanne Hanson	Paul Seaton
Bob Hartley	Julie Small
Sherrie Hartley	Dean Sundmark
Kathy Hill	Leslie Thompson
Karen Howarth	Candy Thornton
Lia Jacobsen	Debbie Vantrease
Dakota Jerauld	Bill Wells
Laura Kelly	Cassandra Windwalker
Misha Klassen	Linda Young
Cathy Kremer	Kim Zook
Kerianna Lasiter	

Cash and In-Kind Donations

Bob Cawa	Homer United Methodist Church
Central Peninsula General Hospital	Independent Living Center
Coops Coffee	Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
Terrilynn Dale	Kachemak Bay Rotary
Fat Olives	Kenai Peninsula Project Homeless Connect
GCI	Cinda Martin
Homer Animal Friends	Safe Families for Children Homer
Homer Community Food Pantry	Salvation Army
Homer Dental Center	Set Free Alaska
Homer Elks Lodge	South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services
Homer Emblem Club #350	South Peninsula Haven House

Homer Public Health	South Peninsula Hospital
Homer Thrift	Sprout Family Services

We sincerely apologize if we have mistakenly omitted any donor or volunteer.

Endnote: Data was secured through the 2023 Community Resource Connect Events held in Homer and Anchor Point on January 31, 2023. Participants may have called in for services or received services by proxy; that data is included in this report.