

HOMER AREA

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

2020 REPORT



No one deserves to lose hope.

The Homer Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee is proud to report on Homer's first Project Homeless Connect (PHC) event, which was part of the Kenai Peninsula's 9th Annual Project Homeless Connect on January 29, 2019. Our success was due to the collaborative effort between service providers from both public and non-profit sector, local businesses, and volunteer community members.

Homer Project Homeless Connect Vendors (28)

907Vets	KPBSD Students in Transition
Alaska Department of Labor	Kenai Peninsula College Nursing Students
Alaska Division of Public Assistance	Kenai Peninsula College Adult Education
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation	Kenai Peninsula Votes
Alcoholics Anonymous	Nine Star
Clippership Barber Shop	Ninilchik Traditional Council
Cook Inlet Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	Salvation Army Center
Department of Veterans Affairs	Set Free Alaska
Hair Stylist Jamie Braby	Short Cuts
Homer Community Food Pantry	South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services
Homer Public Health Center	South Peninsula Haven House
Independent Living Center	South Peninsula Hospital
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic	Sprout Family Services
Kachemak Bay Lions Club	SVT Health & Wellness

Population Served

There were 97 individuals who signed in to the PHC event. A total of 70 individuals completed the Intake process, and 84 people were represented in those Intakes. Only 1 person reported participating in 2 previous PHC events, and 69 individuals reported this was their first time participating in PHC. There were 8 individuals aged 24 years or younger who reported as 'Head of Household', and 16 dependents (under 18 years) were recorded.

Household Type

	Frequency	Percent
Adult Household (no children)	49	70%
Household w/adults & children	20	29%
Household w/only youth	1	1%
Total	70	100%

Veteran Status

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	7%
No	65	93%
Total	70	100%

Race

	Frequency	Percent
American Indian/Alaska Native	27	32%
Asian	0	0%
Black/African American	2	2%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	1%
White	59	70%
Client doesn't know	0	0%
Client Refused	1	1%
Total	84	106%

**Percentages above are based on 84 individuals who self-reported being associated with one or more races.*

Ethnicity

	Frequency	Percent
Non Hispanic/Non Latino	73	87%
Hispanic/Latino	5	6%
Client doesn't know	0	0%
Client Refused	6	7%
Total	84	100%

Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Female	36	43%
Male	48	57%
Trans Female – Male to Female	0	0%
Trans Male – Female to Male	0	0%
Gender Non-Conforming	0	0%

Client doesn't know	0	0%
Client Refused	0	0%
Total	84	100%

Head of Household

	Frequency	Percent
Self	70	83.5%
Head of Household's partner	1	1%
Head of Household's child	13	15.5%
Other relation member	0	0%
Non-relation member	0	0%
Total	84	100%

Health Insurance

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	56	82%
No	12	18%
Total	68	100%

Disabling Conditions

	Frequency	Percent
Alcohol Abuse	1	3%
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	3	9%
Chronic Health Condition	14	41%
Developmental	4	12%
Drug Abuse	2	6%
HIV/AIDS	0	0%
Mental Health Problem	16	47%
Physical	16	47%
Client Doesn't Know	0	0%
Client Refused	0	0%
Total	34	162%*

**Percentages above are based on 34 individuals who disclosed one or more conditions affecting ability to retain housing.*

Income Received Last 30 Days

	Frequency	Percent
Alimony/Spousal Support	0	0%
TANF	0	0%
Child Support	1	1%
Earned Income	9	13%

General Assistance	6	9%
Pension/Retirement	0	0%
Private Disability Insurance	0	0%
SSDI (Disability)	4	6%
SSI (Supplemental)	6	9%
Retirement from SSI	1	1%
VA Service Disability Compensation	0	0%
VA Non-Service Disability Compensation	1	1%
Unemployment Insurance	3	4%
Worker's Compensation	1	1%
Other	5	7%
Client Doesn't Know	0	0%
Client Refused	0	0%
N/A	35	52%
Total	67	104%*

**Percentages above are based on 67 individuals who responded with one or more income source.*

Victim of Domestic Violence

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	29	41%
No	41	59%
Client Doesn't Know	0	0%
Client Refused	0	0%
Total	70	100%

**Of the 29 individuals who responded they were victims: 62% identified as female and 38% identified as male.*

If Yes to Above, Fleeing Domestic Violence

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	2	8%
No	23	92%
Client Doesn't Know	0	0%
Client Refused	0	0%
Total	25	100%

Primary Alaska Regional Corporation/Tribal Affiliation

	Frequency	Percent
Ahtna Corp.	1	2%
Aleut Corp.	1	2%
Arctic Slope Regional	1	2%
Bering Straits	0	0%
Bristol Bay Native Corp.	4	6%
Calista Corp.	0	0%

Chugach Alaska Corp.	0	0%
Cook Inlet Regional	1	2%
Doyon Limited Corp.	0	0%
Koniag Incorp.	1	2%
NANA Regional Corp.	1	2%
Sealaska	0	0%
13 th Regional Corp	0	0%
Client Doesn't Know	1	2%
Client Refused	0	0%
N/A	48	76%
Other	4	6%
Total	63	102%*

**Percentages above are based on 63 individuals who self-reported one or more Corporation or Tribal affiliations.*

Eviction Notice Received This Month

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	7%
No	64	91.5%
Client Doesn't Know	1	1.5%
Client Refused	0	0%
Total	70	100%

Ever in Foster Care System

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	17%
No	57	83%
Client Doesn't Know	0	0%
Client Refused	0	0%
Total	69	100%

Time in Foster Care

	Frequency	Percent
Months	7	70%
Year(s)	3	30%
Total	10	100%

Prior Living Situation

	Frequency	Percent
Homeless Situation:	21	30%
Place not habitable	18	86% (out of 21), 26% (out of 70)
Emergency Shelter	1	5% (out of 21), 1% (out of 70)

No answer	2	9% (out of 21), 3% (out of 70)
Institutional Situation:	None reported	
Foster Care/Group Home		
Hospital/Non-Psychiatric Residential Facility		
Jail/Prison/Juvenile Detention		
Long Term Care Facility/Nursing Home		
Psychiatric Hospital/Facility		
Substance Abuse Treatment		
Temporary or Permanent Housing Situation:	49	70%
Residential Project/Halfway House	0	0%
Hotel/Motel paid for without ES Voucher	4	8% (out of 49), 6% (out of 70)
Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth	0	0%
Host Home (non-crisis)	0	0%
Staying w/family	10	20.5% (out of 49), 14% (out of 70)
Staying w/friends	10	20.5% (out of 49), 14% (out of 70)
Rental by Client on GPD TIP subsidy	0	0%
Rental – VASH subsidy	1	2% (out of 49), 1.5% (out of 70)
Permanent Housing	0	0%
Rental by Client with RRH Subsidy	0	0%
Rental by Client with HCV Voucher	0	0%
Rental by Client in Public Housing	2	4% (out of 49), 3% (out of 70)
Rental By Client no on going housing subsidy	16	33% (out of 49), 23% (out of 70)
Rental by client on going housing subsidy	2	4% (out of 49), 3% (out of 70)
Owned by client no on going housing subsidy	3	6% (out of 49), 4% (out of 70)
Owned by client on going housing subsidy	1	2% (out of 49), 1.5% (out of 70)
Total	70	100%

**Percentages above are calculated first based on the total number of individuals who reported the specific Living Situation, and second based on the total number of respondents.*

Duration of Homelessness

Homeless Situation	21	31%
One night or less	0	0%
Two to six nights	0	0%
1 week or more (less 1 month)	1	5% (out of 21), 1% (out of 68)
1 month or more (less 90 days)	4	19% (out of 21), 6% (out of 68)
90 days or more (less 1 year)	8	38% (out of 21), 12% (out of 68)
One year or more	8	38% (out of 21), 12% (out of 68)
Institutional Situation	None reported	
One night or less		
Two to six nights		
1 week or more (less 1 month)		
1 month or more (less 90 days)		
90 days or more (less 1 year)		
One year or more		
Temporary or Permanent Housing Situation	47	69%
One night or less	0	0%
Two to six nights	3	6% (out of 47), 4% (out of 68)
1 week or more (less 1 month)	3	6% (out of 47), 4% (out of 68)
1 month or more (less 90 days)	10	21.5% (out of 47), 15% (out of 68)
90 days or more (less 1 year)	12	26% (out of 47), 18% (out of 68)
One year or more	19	40.5% (out of 47), 28% (out of 68)
Total	68	100%

**Percentages above are calculated first based on the total number of individuals who reported the specific Living Situation, and second based on the total number of respondents.*

Homeless Episodes in past 3 years

	Frequency	Percent
1 time	16	30%
2 times	7	13%
3 times	6	11%
4 or more	12	23%
N/A	12	23%
Total	53	100%

Total Number of Months Homeless in past 3 years

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 Month	3	5.5%
1 to 12 Months	21	39.5%

More than 12 Months	17	32%
N/A	12	23%
Total	53	100%

Supplemental Questions

Form of Transportation you typically use?

	Frequency	Percent
Own Vehicle	35	49.3%
Friend/Family Member	8	11.3%
Public Transport	0	0%
Taxi	5	7%
Walk / Ride Bike	20	28.3%
Hitchhike	3	4.2%
N/A	0	0%
Total	71	100.1%*

**Percentages above are based on 70 individuals who responded with one or more forms of transportation.*

How did you get to event today?

	Frequency	Percent
Own Vehicle	26	37%
Friend/Family Member	17	24.5%
Event Sponsored Shuttle	3	4%
Taxi	8	11.5%
Walk/Bike	11	16%
Hitchhike	5	7%
Total	70	100%

Would you use a community bus route system?

	Frequency	Percent
No	8	12%
Daily	43	62%
Weekly	12	17%
Monthly	0	0%
Seldom	6	9%
Never	0	0%
Total	69	100%

Interested in Narcan Kit

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	27	41%
No	39	59%
Total	66	100%

Participant Exit Survey *

	Yes	No	Somewhat
The event was helpful to me.	55	0	3
I felt respected and supported.	58	0	0
Service Providers were friendly and helpful.	57	0	1
I learned about more resources and services in community.	53	2	3

**58 out of 70 individuals (83%) filled out the Exit Survey.*

Participant Exit Questions

What items or services were most helpful?

There were 18 responses stating that having all the services in one spot was the most helpful, 10 people said clothing/warm clothes/winter gear, 7 people said housing info, 6 people said the opportunity for a haircut, and 6 people mentioned the friendliness of volunteers/helpfulness of the escorts. The following item or services were also mentioned: Salvation Army, Medicaid, senior services, shower/laundry vouchers, dog food, Food Pantry, VA services, amenities, Public Assistance, diabetes testing, employment services, hygiene supplies, Haven House, flashlights, housewares, Independent Living, food, Food Stamps, flu shot, Sprout, child care, and Mental Health.

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

There were 29 individuals who responded 'No' to this question. Those who responded 'Yes' listed: more warm winter gear for men and women, gas vouchers, toilet paper, razors, large backpacks, ID services, permanent housing, house repairs, primary care physicians, utility companies, and job offers.

How did you hear about this event?

Flyer (15), Food Pantry (14), Radio (9), Word of Mouth (9), Church (8), Facebook (6), Newspaper (3), Email (2), School (2), Public Assistance/Job Center (2), The Center, Walk-in.

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

Yes = 48 (84%)

No = 5 (9%)

NA = 4 (7%)

Suggestions for notifying people about the Cold Weather Shelter:

Word of Mouth (9), Food Pantry (9), Radio (9), Facebook (8), Phone/Text (6), Flyer (4), Sirens, Email, Laundromat, Church, Anchor Point Food Pantry, Library, Gas Station, Billboard.

Other Comments:

- Thank You (18)
- Keep up the good work (2)
- Please keep doing this (2)
- Will give back when able
- Would have preferred water bottles instead of SVT bottles
- More publicity during event
- More help for veterans
- Emergency Shelters need to be animal friendly
- Bus system in Homer
- Would like to see sober living house
- Legal assistance
- Loved coming
- Needs shelter and job
- Awesome event for new members of the community

Homer Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee:

Cinda Martin

Jane Dunn

Derotha Ferarro

Bonita Banks

Lisa Talbott

Monica Anderson

Dana Roberts

Kathy McMurray

Sharon Bond

Lindsey Collins

**The Committee would like to give a special thanks to Kathy Gensel Co-Chair of the Kenai Peninsula Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee, for all her help and support.*

Our gratitude and thanks to all of the following volunteers and donors who helped make Homer's first Project Homeless Connect possible!

Volunteers (45)

Winston Ajakaye	Bob Hartley	Thomas McDonough
Pamela Brant	Sherrie Hartley	RJ Nelson
Derek Bynagle	Kathy Hill	Dave Nofziger
Vianney Chauvet	Tiyana Hill	Laurie Palo
Denice Clyne	Shay Hoffman	Stephanie Rodriguez
Josh Collins	Jim Hornaday	Debbie Smith
Kelly Cooper	Karen Howorth	Sherry Stead
Jackie Delacruz	Diane Hughes	Dean Sunmark
Shelly Erickson	Noralee Itchoak	Mary Trimble
Vivian Finlay	Don Keller	Charlie Von Norman
Liz Garvey	Ronnie Leach	Dennis Weidler
Grace Godfrey	Devony Lehner	Ernest Whipple
Hannah Gustafson	Missy Martin	Linda Young
Jenn Halpin	Laura McBride	Bryan Zak
Linda Harris	Shannon McBride-Morin	Karen Zak

In-Kind Donations

Bumps	K-WAVE/KPEN/KGTL Radio
Coop's Coffee	Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
Downtown Rotary Club	Kachemak Bay Rotary
Emblem Club #350	Kachemak Gear Shed
Fat Olives	KBBI AM 890
GCI	Kenai Peninsula Project Homeless Connect
Hilcorp	Kostas Taxi
Homer Animal Friends	KPBSD Students in Transition
Homer Community Food Pantry	NOMAR
Homer Thrift	South Peninsula Haven House
Homer United Methodist Church	South Peninsula Hospital
Homer Veterinary Clinic	South Peninsula Hospital Auxiliary
Independent Living Center	SVT Health & Wellness

Cash Donations

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
Bridges Community Resource Network Inc.
Kachemak Bay Rotary

We sincerely apologize if we have missed any donor or volunteer.

Endnote: Data was secured through the Homer PHC event held on January 29, 2020.