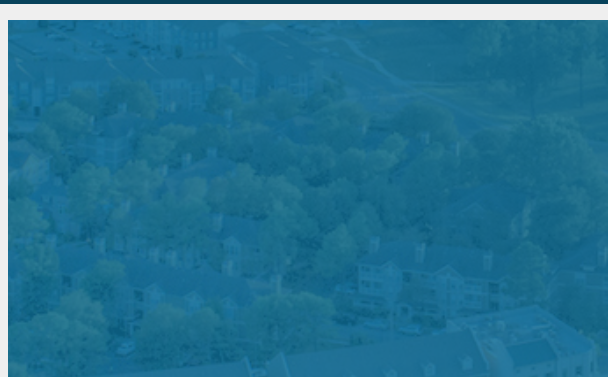
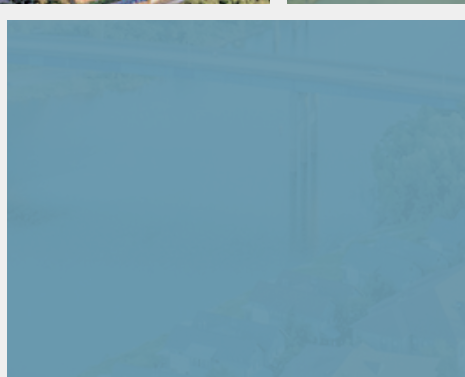




2023

Gaps Analysis

Memphis and Shelby County
Homeless Consortium





Governing Council

Kimberly Mitchell, **Board Chair** • Phillis Lewis, **Board Vice Chair**

Designated Liaisons

Vernua Hanrahan • Dorcas Young Griffin • Merlene Hyman • Tamara Hendrix
Memphis Housing Authority *Shelby County Government* *Dpt. of Children's Services* *H.O.P.E.*

Dr. Karen Ball • Jacquelyn Taylor-Mays • Kimberley Mitchell
Shelby County Schools Homeless *Memphis VA Medical Center* *City of Memphis Government*

Committee Chairs

Vernua Hanrahan Jeff Craig Mia Cotton Charie Carroll & Toni Johnson
Affordable Housing *Veterans* *CoC Planning* *Family Committee*

Stellan Knowles Josh Hall Tori Jackson Shalonda Adams-Young
Youth Action Board *Youth* *Outreach* *HMIS*

Shirley Bandon, Janice Taylor & Aura Ware
Healthcare

Representatives

Matt Grimes • Queen Keskessa • Marian Bacon
For-Profit Representative *Multicultural Affairs Representative* *Consumer Representative*

Phillis Lewis • Martha Jackson
LGBTQ Representative *Domestic Violence Representative*

At-Large Members

Megan Williams

Mary Hamlett

Designated by Bylaws

Cheré Bradshaw

Lead Agency Executive Director

Julie Meiman

*Lead Agency Liaison
(designated by lead agency ED)*

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Letter to Memphis

Dear Community Members,

Each year we are able to reflect upon and observe the work we have accomplished as we progress towards making homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time experience. Looking back on 2022, a few key developments stand out:

Evolution:

Our Memphis & Shelby County Homeless Consortium now includes three new committees focused on healthcare, youth, and families.

Improvement:

We have strengthened our community's tools, goals, and information access. This includes the 901 Home Together Strategic Plan to End Homelessness, the Symposium on Ending Homelessness in Memphis & Shelby County, enhanced Consortium member resources, and ongoing committee work.

Refining:

Through the Homeless Management Information System, we are refining our methods for data collection, data quality, and system assessment.

Cultivation:

We are creating more effective homelessness services, resulting in more success for our community, as illustrated by 2022 System Performance Data.

High-quality, stable, affordable housing is a basic human right. While we cannot immediately promise this necessity to those in our community, we can promise to work at improving the inequitable system. This system disproportionately disadvantages our most vulnerable populations including Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), youth, families, LGBTQ people, and veterans.

As the lead agency for the Consortium, Community Alliance for the Homeless plays a crucial role in bringing funding and resources to the community. This leadership is invaluable in driving positive change and creating a better future for those experiencing homelessness. Building on the progress made in 2022, we will all lean in together to make even greater strides in the coming year.

Kimberly Mitchell
Governing Council Chair



Who We Are

Community Alliance for the Homeless (CAFTH) is the Lead Agency for the Memphis/Shelby County Continuum of Care.

Across Memphis/Shelby County, Community Alliance provides **planning, technical assistance**, and **service coordination** to public and private agencies that are working to end homelessness. We link planners, providers, data, and resources ***to develop an effective and outcomes-driven system for ending homelessness.***



What is a Continuum of Care?

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a group of regional agencies that may include homeless assistance providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, public housing authorities, school districts, mental health providers, hospitals, affordable housing developers, formerly homeless individuals, and many other collaborative bodies.



More with Less

Affordable housing is out of reach for hundreds of thousands of Tennesseans. In Tennessee, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$952. **In order to afford this level of rent** and utilities without paying more than 30% of income on housing, **a household must earn \$3,172 monthly** or \$38,060 annually. This means that in order for someone to be able to afford a two bedroom apartment in Memphis at the Fair Market rate, they must be earning a wage of \$18.30 per hour. The current minimum wage, however, is only \$7.25 an hour.

Housing affordability isn't just an urban issue. Nearly thirty nine percent of renters from rural counties in Tennessee are cost burdened, meaning that they spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs (rent + utilities). Across Tennessee, 67% of extremely low-income renter households are **severely cost burdened**, meaning that they spend more than 50% of their income on rent and utilities. Severely cost burdened households are **more likely to have to sacrifice necessities** like food or healthcare to pay the rent, and are more likely to experience evictions and homelessness.

Across Tennessee, **there is a shortage** of 127,102 affordable and available rental homes for extremely low-income households (ELI), whose incomes are at or below the poverty guideline or 30% of their Area Median Income (AMI). Low-income households are more likely to have to live in overcrowded, **substandard housing conditions**.

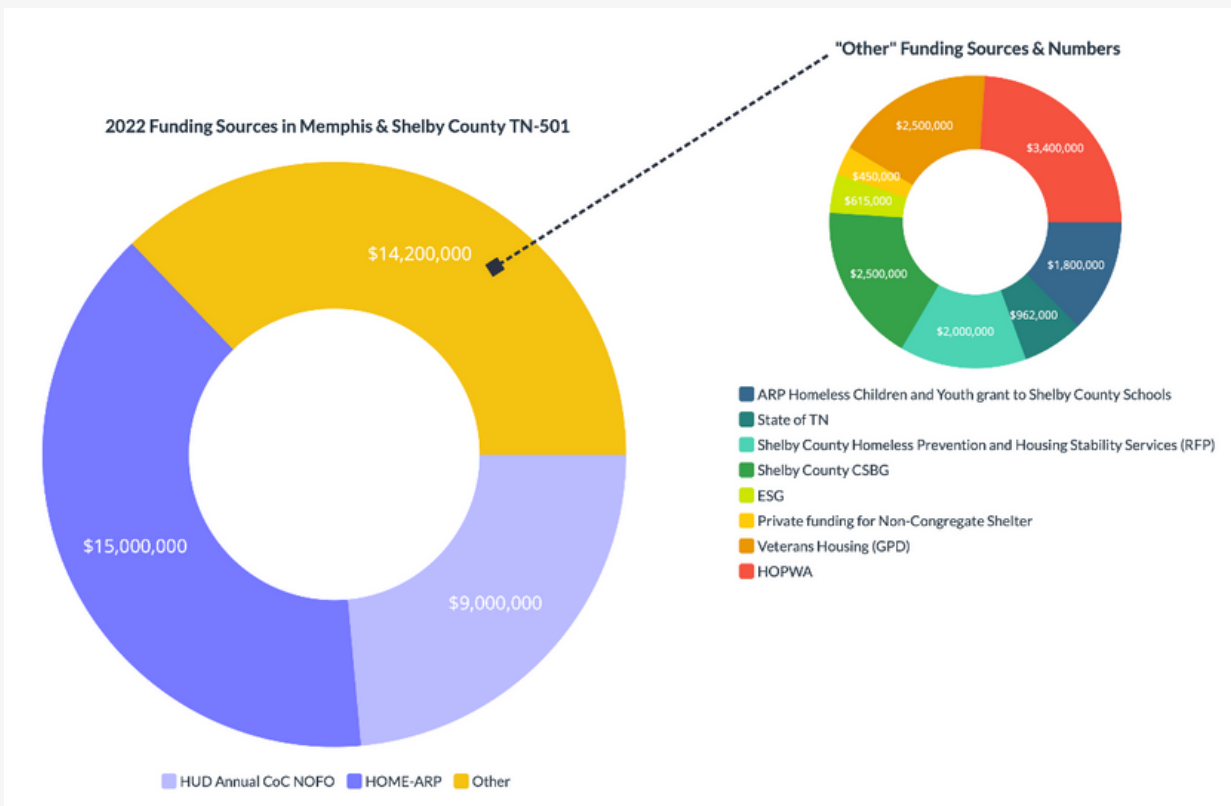
Stable, affordable housing is the foundation for basic well-being, and no person or family should have to live without the safety of a home. Housing affordability doesn't just impact low-income renters, but entire communities. **Providing affordable housing is critical to preventing homelessness, reducing childhood poverty, increasing economic mobility, and boosting local economic growth.**

Funding in Our Community

About Funding Streams and Homelessness

Communities that are successful in impacting homelessness utilize cross-sector collaboration, leveraging a **variety of funding streams** to target homelessness. Nationally, HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) program funding is limited, providing only a portion of the resources needed to successfully address the needs of homeless families and individuals. HUD encourages the use of supplemental resources, including state and local funds, to address homeless needs. President Biden's budget request for Fiscal Year 2023 includes significant increases in funding for targeted programs, housing vouchers, and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. It also designates funds to increase the affordable housing supply.

2022 Funding Streams in Our Community



901 Home Together

Strategic Plan to End Homelessness in Memphis & Shelby County

The 901 Home, Together: Strategic Plan to End Homelessness in Memphis & Shelby County was developed in 2021 by the Memphis & Shelby County Homeless Consortium. It aligns our work with the 2018 national plan from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. The plan aims to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring, ultimately achieving an end to homelessness in our community.

This year, our Continuum of Care Planning team at Community Alliance for the Homeless worked to revamp the original strategic plan. Updates include:

- reformatting the layout to include action steps with check boxes next to them, which can be used to indicate the status of action steps and assess progress;
- implementing consortium-facing designations of community roles for each benchmark;
- overhauling the wording of each goal, strategy, and benchmark with a focus on specificity and clarity;
- implementing a “why” for each strategy in order to connect every strategy to a voiced or demonstrated need in our community; and
- aligning our community focus with the 2023 National Plan from the US InterAgency Council on Homelessness.

On the next page, you can find an example showcasing how the updated plan will look, and how these changes have been implemented.

Goal 1: Ensure Homelessness is a Rare Experience	
Objective 1.1: Collaboratively Build Lasting Systems that End Homelessness.	Strategy 1.1a: Work proactively with publicly funded institutions and systems of care to develop and implement discharge policies that help prevent homelessness.
Why? We have heard from our community about the way that the unsheltered or chronically homeless population interacts with and moves through these systems of care, and therefore we should focus on responding to these needs in a coordinated way.	Benchmark: Identify two or more systems of care (hospitals, inpatient programs, criminal justice, foster care) that have the most urgent need for support around discharge planning. Working within the appropriate committees, revise or draft formal policies and procedures for each system of care regarding discharge planning that meet the needs of represented service providers and the affected population.
Applicable Committees: Families Committee Healthcare Committee HMIS Committee CoC Planning Committee	Action Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Committee chairs devote time during monthly meetings to allow members to report on existing discharge procedures, and identify areas for improvement, or gaps in service. <input type="checkbox"/> Work collaboratively with the committees to draft or revise formal policies and procedures that meet the needs of service providers and the affected population. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that the policies and procedures include a comprehensive assessment of the individual's needs, including physical and mental health, substance abuse, and housing, among others. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a system for ensuring that individuals exiting the systems of care are connected to appropriate living arrangements and wraparound services. <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the policies and procedures to ensure that they are achieving the desired outcomes. <input type="checkbox"/> Share the results of your efforts with the community and other stakeholders to build support and encourage continued collaboration.

"Why"
Section

Committee
Work
section

Progress-
Tracking
Action
Items

03

- New Format to visualize information better.
- One spread per strategy.
- Updated wording to explain goals, objectives, strategies, and benchmarks in a more concise way.

System Performance Measures

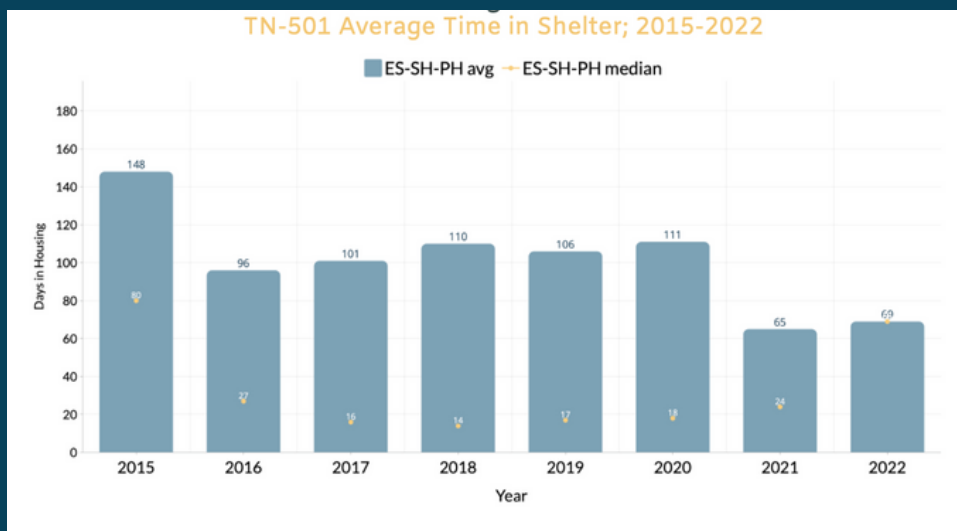
System Performance Measures are part of annual reporting that help examine the CoC's performance by a set of advanced metrics. HUD requires every Continuum of Care to assess their homeless response system yearly for the following measures:

- 1) Median Length of Time Homeless
- 2) Returns to Homelessness
- 3) Number of Homeless Persons
- 4) Employment and Income Growth
- 5) Number of Persons who Become Homeless for the First Time
- 6) Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing

The following graphics assess data collected from TN-501 between 2015 and 2022 in relation to the system performance measures listed above. When a graph is displaying "number of people" in this context, it is referring to number of people in the **HMIS universe of data***.

*the HMIS universe of data includes ESG funded programs, people in shelter, anyone entered by any agency into HMIS.

SPM 1: Median Length of Time Homeless



all data visualized in this section (pages 09 - 12) is sourced from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's "System Performance Measures Data Since FY 2015" dashboard.

In TN-501, the median length of stay is overall lower than historic averages.

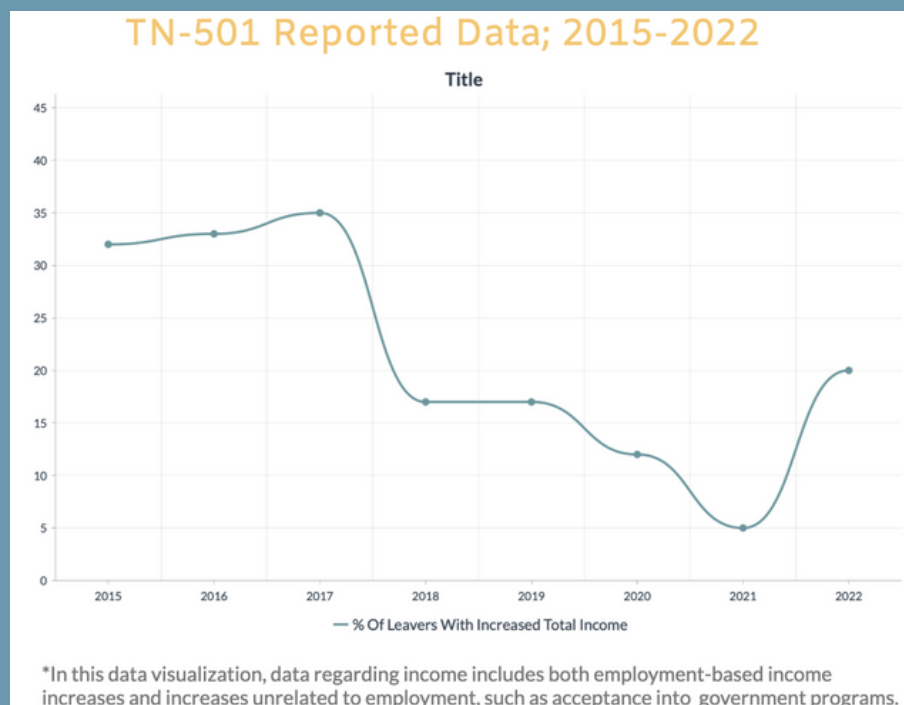
SPM 2: Returns to Homelessness



From 2015 to 2022, Memphis and Shelby County portrays a **steady growth** in both **exits** from and **returns** to homelessness, with a record high for both in 2021. However, 2022 seems to be an inflection point for TN-501.

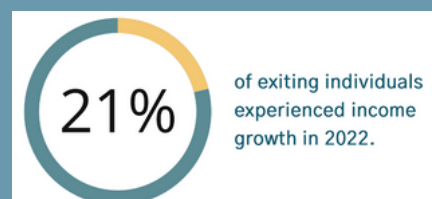
With a decrease in both exits and returns, our data illustrates a shifting dynamic within our community. While the TN-501 homelessness system is serving fewer individuals overall, those who **are** receiving support are 20% less likely to return to homelessness compared to 2021. Contextualizing this data with the overall shorter average stays (explained in System Performance Measure 1), the numbers paint a picture of more specialized and effective support being administered to individuals enrolled in Emergency Shelter, Supportive Housing, and Permanent Housing environments. The data from System Performance Measure 4 (found below) also seems to support this finding.

SPM 4: Employment and Income Growth



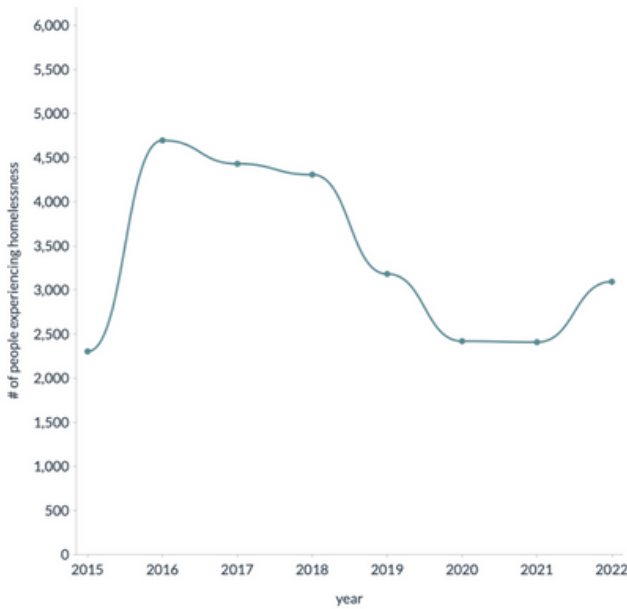
Between 2017 and 2021, TN-501 saw a significant decline in individuals exiting housing with an increase in total income.

In 2022 however, data from our community illustrates a 15% increase in exits with increased total income from compared to the year prior.

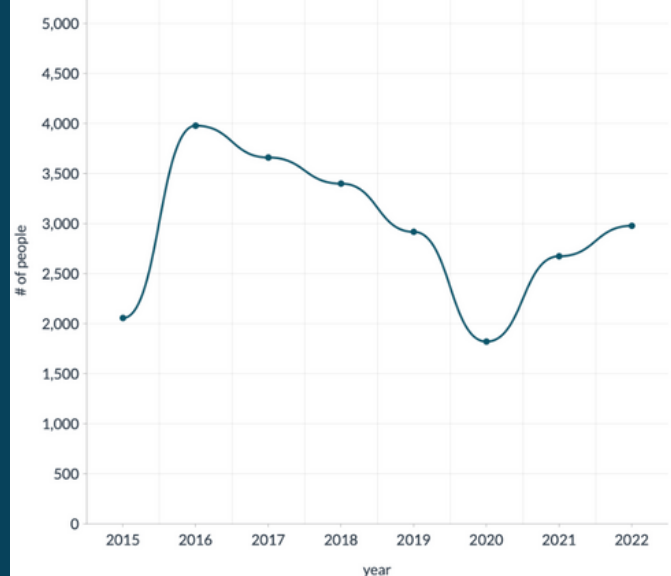


SPM 3: Number of People Experiencing Homelessness & SPM 5: Number of Persons Homeless for the First Time

TN-501 Reported Numbers; 2015-2022



TN-501 Reported Data; 2015-2022



*the HMIS universe of data includes ESG funded programs, people in shelter, anyone entered by any agency into HMIS.

Data from Memphis and Shelby County shows that, while we are still below our 2016 peak, our community is experiencing a notable uptick in housing insecurity for both first-time and repeat individuals.

This can be attributed to a number of factors:

1) Decreasing Availability of Affordable Housing

A number of factors are contributing to the decreasing availability of affordable housing in TN-501, including out-of-state property investors, inflation, and a historic increase in property value/rent costs. Quality AH is disappearing in TN-501.

2) Changing Methodologies

In the post-COVID world, we are constantly reassessing the toolset and methods we utilize, in order to improve our community data quality.

3) Rising Eviction Rates

Post-COVID, many emergency funding sources providing rental assistance and other kinds of financial aid are no longer viable options, which means eviction rates are on the rise. This increases the number of at-risk individuals and families.

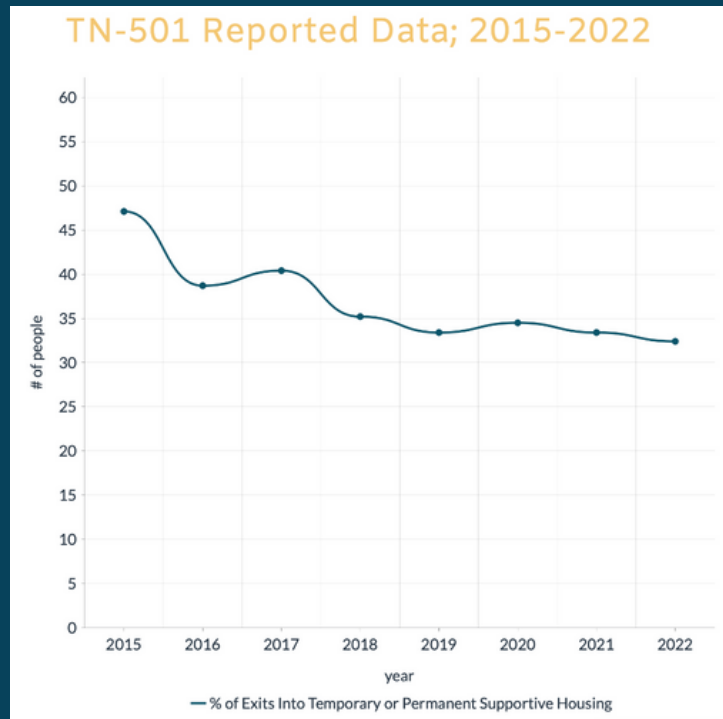
3) Rising Inflation Rates

Rates of inflation are on the rise across the nation, which results in higher costs of living and higher costs for housing whether one is looking to rent or to buy. Furthermore, our state has not implemented any changes to minimum wage in response, leaving the 67% of Tennesseans spending over 50% of their monthly income on housing to navigate inflation on their own.

SPM 6: Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing

In 2022, around 33% of individuals experiencing homelessness were exited into temporary or permanent supportive housing. This is comparable to placement rates in the past few years.

Furthermore, when paired with data regarding other System Performance Measures these numbers suggest that we are making progress overall.



System Performance Data Summary:

Both overall homelessness and first-time homelessness rates are up, in large-part due to decreasing availability of affordable housing and rising eviction rates. (SPM 3, SPM 5).

In response, our System is **serving a similar percent of the population** as it has historically (SPM 6). By itself, this data does not indicate progress; however, when paired with data depicting **lower average stay times** (SPM 1), **lower returns into homelessness** (SPM 2), and **increased exits with greater total income** (SPM 4), the picture is more hopeful.

Lower numbers in returns into homelessness indicate a system which is improving self-efficacy skills for those being served. Increased exits with greater total income can be interpreted similarly.

Without experiencing a decrease in placement capacity in 2022, TN-501 appears to be improving the overall quality of our services to those entering our system, while decreasing average stay times.

Ensuring Access

Community Alliance relies on a variety of metrics to assess the state of homelessness in Memphis and make informed, data-driven decisions that will contribute to system-wide improvements.

From our work with Coordinated Entry, a great deal of information comes forward that not only helps show us who we serve, but, more importantly, how we serve.

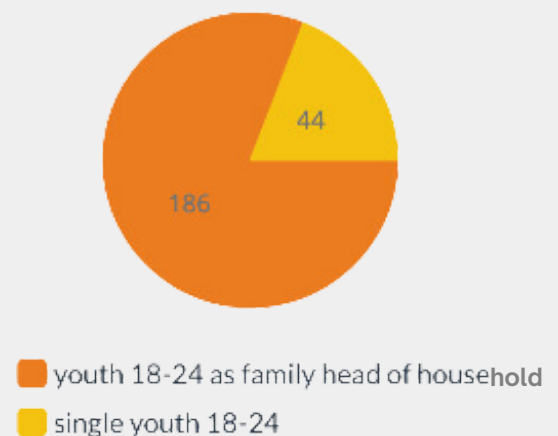
The following details represent all clients in Memphis/ Shelby County who received an assessment between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, and their subsequent exit destination (if applicable) by gender identity/expression and race/ethnicity. By using an intersectional approach, we may better focus on existing disparities in outcomes.

Note: all data here is self-reported and categories align to HUD's FY22 Data Standards. 'Safe Exit Destination' refers to solutions that are not permanent housing (PH), but indicate the client has self resolved, such as "staying with friends/family on permanent tenure." 'Negative/Unknown Exit Destination' refers to any destination that represents temporary housing, institutionalization, or when exit destination has not been captured. 'Still Active' indicates clients still enrolled in coordinated entry or have not been exited as they await a housing move-in date into a permanent solution.

*All data visualized
in this section
(pages 13-14) is
sourced from the
United States
Department of
Housing and Urban
Development's
"2007-2022 PIT
Counts by CoC"
dashboard.*

Youth

2022 Data on Youth Experiencing
Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County

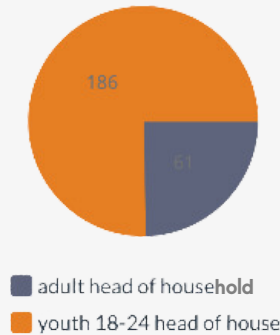


Families

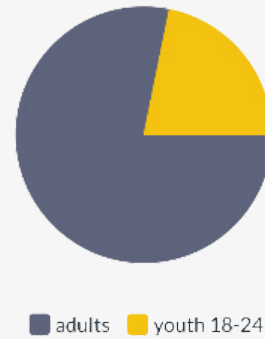
Total Population

% youth

2022 Data on Families Experiencing Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County

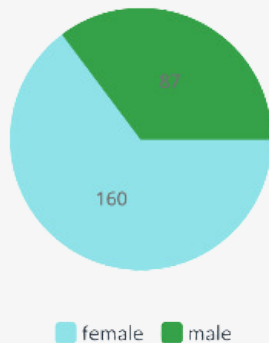


2022 Data on People Experiencing Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County

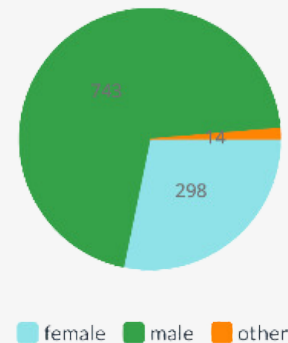


gender identity

2022 Data on Families Experiencing Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County

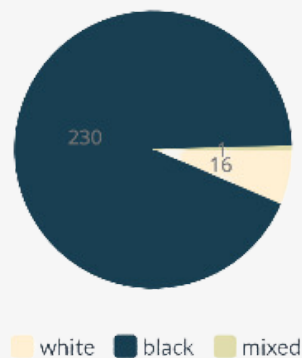


2022 Data on People Experiencing Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County

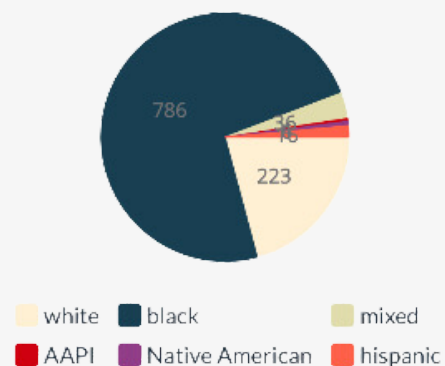


Race

2022 Data on Families Experiencing Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County



2022 Data on Population Experiencing Homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County



Examining Equity

Racial Disparities and Housing Outcomes

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides the racial disparities tool to better understand the ways structural and institutional racism cause disproportionate detriment across our community, particularly when it comes to homelessness and housing security. The tool is focused on comparing the demographics of the annual Point-in-Time count alongside the size of the overall population, as tracked by the American Community Survey (Census Bureau).

Race and Ethnicity	In Poverty (ACS) ¹				Experiencing Homelessness (PIT) ²			
	All		In Families with Children		All		In Families with Children	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
All People	177,675		97,128		739		136	
Race								
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,862	1%	688	1%	0	0%	0	0%
Black	130,392	73%	76,583	79%	545	74%	128	94%
Native American/Alaskan	196	0%	111	0%	3	0%	0	0%
White	34,337	19%	12,183	13%	167	23%	7	5%
Other/Multi-Racial	10,888	6%	7,562	8%	24	3%	1	1%
Ethnicity								
Hispanic	16,651	9%	11,698	12%	5	1%	0	0%
Non-Hispanic	161,024	91%	85,430	88%	734	99%	136	100%

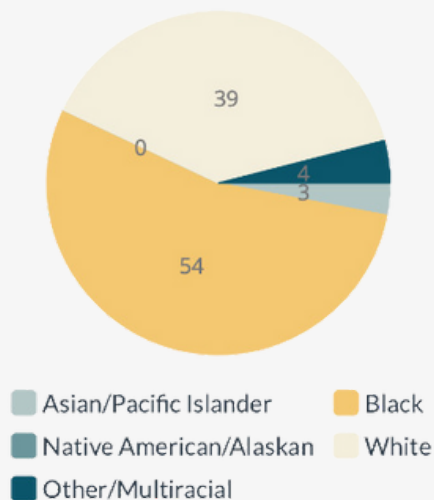
To summarize this data (taken from the HUD data dashboard): Individuals identifying as Black, African-American, or African account for 54% of the total Memphis population. In contrast, they represent 73% of the population in poverty and 74% of people experiencing homelessness.

Race and Ethnicity	Total Population (ACS) ¹			
	All		In Families with Children	
	#	%	#	%
All People	936,374		389,147	
Race				
Asian/Pacific Islander	24,890	3%	11,511	3%
Black	502,669	54%	231,017	59%
Native American/Alaskan	1,562	0%	642	0%
White	366,180	39%	122,841	32%
Other/Multi-Racial	41,073	4%	23,136	6%
Ethnicity				
Hispanic	59,571	6%	39,121	10%
Non-Hispanic	876,803	94%	350,026	90%

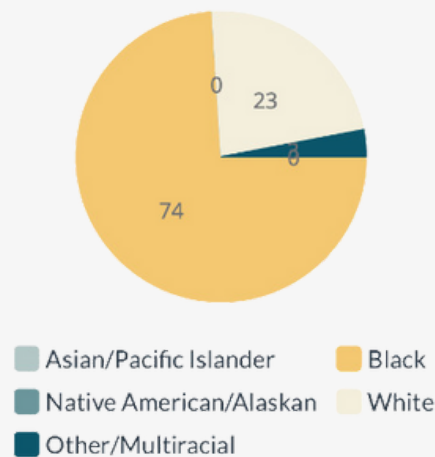
All data visualized in this section (pages 15-16) is sourced from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's "HUD CoC System Performance Measures" interactive dashboard in Tableau.

In an equitable world, the total population for each demographic identifier would be **equal** to the population experiencing homelessness. This is not the case in our 2022 data.

Demographic Makeup of TN-501



Demographic Makeup of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness in TN-501



When individuals identifying as White make up 39% of the total population, data regarding the same population experiencing homelessness should theoretically reflect a similar breakdown.

However, the data visualization depicts that this is not the case: with only 23% of individuals experiencing homelessness identifying as White, our data illustrates that **White individuals in our community are disproportionately less effected** by the homelessness crisis in TN-501. Conversely, Black individuals are disproportionately likely to experience homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County. While constituting only 54% of the entire population, they represent 74% of those experiencing homelessness.

This data indicates that, while there are many factors that ultimately contribute to housing insecurity, **systemic inequity plays a major role in determining who faces a greater likelihood of experiencing homelessness.**

What is the Point in Time Count?

The Point in Time count is referred to as a “snapshot” count taking place on a single night in January. It is a HUD required process organized and facilitated by each region’s Continuum of Care. During the PIT process, volunteers in the community collect information about sheltered and unsheltered homelessness, which is used by the federal government as the main source of data about the numbers, needs, and demographics of homelessness within a given community. In addition, it is used to determine funding allocation.

How Does PIT Count Define Different Kinds of Homelessness?

For homelessness to be considered unsheltered, the individual(s) must be actively staying in a place not intended for human habitation (ie; cars, parks, abandoned buildings, public spaces). To be experiencing sheltered homelessness, the individual(s) must be staying in a shelter location such as an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or a safe haven. Those who are not considered to be experiencing homelessness by the PIT definition include couch surfers, people who are doubled up in one home, or those at risk of losing housing.

2022 Point in Time Count Data

Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	Prevalence of Population
All Persons				
All Persons	1,127	165	1,292	100%
Household Composition				
Individuals (not in family units)	697	162	859	66.5%
Chronically Homeless	132	0	132	10.2%
Veterans	119	14	133	10.2%
Unaccompanied Minors (Under 18)	4	0	4	<1%
Family Members (those in family units)	426	3	429	33.2%
Children in Families (under 18)	289	2	291	22.5%
Chronically Homeless	3	0	3	<1%
Veterans	0	0	0	0.0%
Veterans				
All Veterans	119	14	133	10.2%
Chronically Homeless	1	0	1	<1%
Age				
Under 18	293	2	295	22.8%
18-24	84	5	89	6.8%
25 and Over	750	158	908	70.3%
Chronically Homeless				
Individuals (not in family units)	132	0	132	10.2%
Family Members (those in family units)	3	0	3	<1%
Total Chronically Homeless Persons	135	0	135	10.4%

All data included in this section (pages 17-18) was collected over the span of our 2022 PIT count in January 2023. Data has been submitted to and approved by HUD, and results have been thoroughly deduplicated.

Get Involved

There are a few different ways community members can get involved with CAFTH and the Memphis and Shelby County Homeless Consortium. Monetary and item donations help provide those experiencing homelessness with basic necessities. If you are interested in sharing thoughts and ideas, learn more about becoming a consortium member and attending committee meetings. You may also be interested in using your voice to advocate for those experiencing homelessness on a policy level.

Donations

For those who want to get involved via donation, CAFTH maintains a running list on our website featuring requested donations. These items include contents for home warming baskets (a laundry hamper filled with cleaning supplies and basic items) and personal care bags (a backpack containing new or unopened (sample size) hygiene products, and survival items such as socks, hats, and blankets).

To learn more about how to donate, visit cafth.org/donate

Join the Consortium

As a part of the Memphis and Shelby County Homeless Consortium, CAFTH facilitates nine committees, a number of special interest groups, and trainings for consortium members. To take part in these events, individuals and organizations must have an active membership.

To learn more about membership, visit cafth.org/homeless-consortium

Advocacy

CAFTH is in the process of developing an advocacy toolkit for community stakeholders and the general public. Updates for advocacy-related resources can be found via our social media.

To stay updated with advocacy resources, follow us (@cafthmemphis) on Instagram and/or Facebook.

- A Betor Way TN

A Better TN

Agape Child & Family Services

Alliance Healthcare Services

Alpha Omega Veterans Services, Inc.

America Works of Tennessee

Baptist Operation Outreach

Behavioral Health Intitatives

Black Clergy Collaborative

Case Management Incorporated

Catholic Charities of West Tennessee

Daughters of Zion

Door of Hope

Dorothy Day House

Firsthand

Friends For Life

FTP Nonprofit

Heal 901

Hope House Memphis

Hospitality Hub

I Am My Sister's Keeper

Juice Orange Mound

Lebonheur Children's Hospital

Lisieux Community
- Memphis Area Legal Services

Memphis Health Cooperative-West

Memphis Medical District Collaborative

MIFA

OUTMemphis

P.E.A.R.L. With You, LLC

Persevere

Promise Development

PURE Youth Athletics Alliance

Room in the Inn- Memphis

Restore Corps

The Salvation Army Memphis

Send Relief

Shelby County Division of Community Services

Shield

Sisters Empowering Girls Home

St. John's Community Services (SJCS)

The Chynetha K Beck Foundation-Peanut's House, Inc.

Thistle and Bee

United Way of the Mid South

Urban Family Ministries

Veteran Affairs Memphis

Victorian Village Inc. Community

- Development Corp.
- We Are Family CDC
- Women's Advocacy Center

- Individuals:
- LaToya Trenee Young-Taylor
 - Rev. Gordon Myers



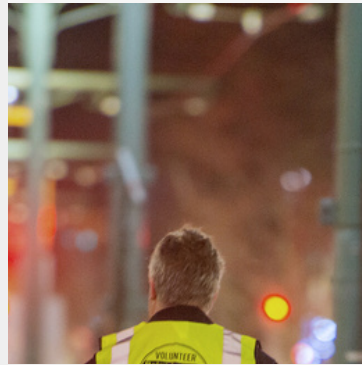
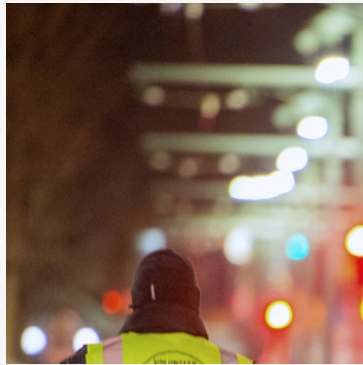
72
committee
meetings held

2667
clients recieved
rapid rehousing

\$7,332,459
awarded in FY22 NOFO funding

151
youth assessed for
services





200

attendees at
Symposium on
Ending
Homelessness

21

training sessions
held by lead
agency in 2022

55

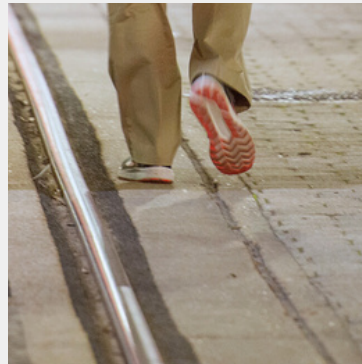
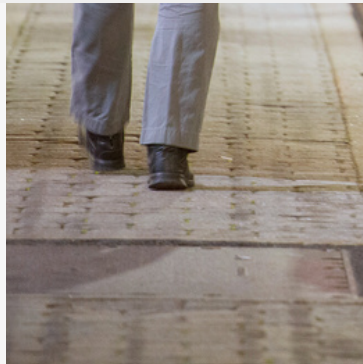
agencies with
consortium
membership



scored within top

25%

in annual NOFO
application



14

agencies received
CoC funding

49

training sessions
held by HMIS lead
agency in 2022

37

service providers
entering data into
HMIS

Consortium Members and Accomplishments

