



NATIONAL SURVEY OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

INDIANA
Fall 2010

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from the INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN, POVERTY, AND HOMELESSNESS

Indiana had an estimated 1,560 homeless families on a single night in 2009, with providers serving nearly three times their bed capacity over the course of the year.¹ This brief summarizes some of the state's public and private initiatives to assist these families.

State Taskforce on Homelessness

Taskforce: The Indiana Planning Council on the Homeless (re-organized in 2009 by the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority) develops initiatives to improve homeless services throughout the state.

Governor's Appointee: Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman has chaired the Indiana Planning Council on the Homeless since 2009.



Demographic Summary and Overview of Regional Organization

	Indiana	Indianapolis	St. Joseph County
Persons in homeless families ²	2,833	605	248
Number of family shelter beds ³	3,615	724	242
Persons in homeless families (per 10,000 population in families) ⁴	12	21	27
Percent of families in poverty ⁵	14.52%	18.91%	14.41%
10-Year plan date approved or implemented	No plan	2003	No plan
10-Year plan target population	No plan	All	No plan
Point-in-time count frequency	Biennially*	Annually	Annually
Point-in-time count managing agency	Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority*	Center for Health Policy at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis	Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) managing agency	Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues*	Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention	Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues
Main organizing agency or Continuum of Care (CoC) lead applicant	Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority*	Indianapolis Continuum of Care Advisory Board	St. Joseph County Continuum of Care

*Corresponds to the Balance of State Continuum of Care, which comprises areas of Indiana that are not included in a regional or local CoC.

Indiana's Dedicated Funding for Developing Housing Options

Established in 1989 by the Indiana General Assembly, the Indiana Affordable Housing and Community Development Fund provides dedicated funding toward expanding the availability of housing options for low-income and homeless individuals and families. Through issuing grants, loans, and loan guarantees, the fund developed 250 units of emergency and transitional housing, 1,200 units of affordable rental housing, and 450 units of affordable homes for low-income households. Financed by grants, donations, appropriations dispersed by the general assembly, and investment income earned on the fund's assets, the fund has generated \$32 million and leveraged \$120 million in private housing investment. Beginning in 2007, the fund began to receive one-quarter of the revenue generated from a 24% tax on non-cigarette tobacco, which totaled \$19.7 million in the first three years. In addition, while legislation allows counties to assess local document recording fees, of which the fund would receive 40%,

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The *National Survey of Programs and Services for Homeless Families* is an online resource for service providers, advocates, researchers, and public policy makers working in the field of family homelessness. The Web site provides a state-by-state snapshot of the interconnections between governmental and nonprofit work to end family homelessness. For additional information on Indiana and other states, visit www.icprwb.org

only Marion County has chosen to implement the fee, which raised \$272,500 for the fund in fiscal year 2009.⁶

Indianapolis' Efforts to End Homelessness

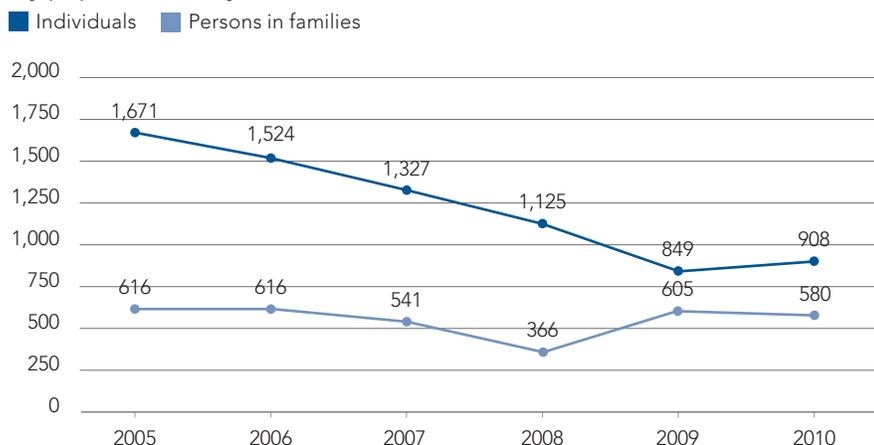
In January 2003, the City of Indianapolis began implementing its ten-year plan to end homelessness. The plan calls for strengthening homeless prevention measures while improving and coordinating access to housing and supportive services. A key component of the plan includes the development of 12,500 affordable and supportive housing units for low-income and homeless individuals and families within ten years. Indianapolis surpassed its five-year goal of supplying 1,700 affordable rental units, creating 1,919 units. However, the city fell short of its five-year objective of providing 2,100 units of permanent supportive housing, having established 876 through 2010. Since 2005, homelessness among individuals in Indianapolis has decreased by nearly half (45.7%). While initially family homelessness also declined, there has been a 58.5% increase in the number of homeless families since 2008.⁷

The plan also recommends expanding the use of volunteers and mentors to strengthen homeless family and individual support networks. Trusted Mentors, established in 2003 as a non-profit organization, links trained volunteer mentors with homeless or at-risk single adults or parents. Mentors provide one year of interpersonal guidance to empower individuals to maintain housing and gain employment. In 2009, the organization managed 65 mentoring relationships that helped 90% of participants remain housed while in the program.⁸

Enhancing Education for Homeless Children in Indianapolis

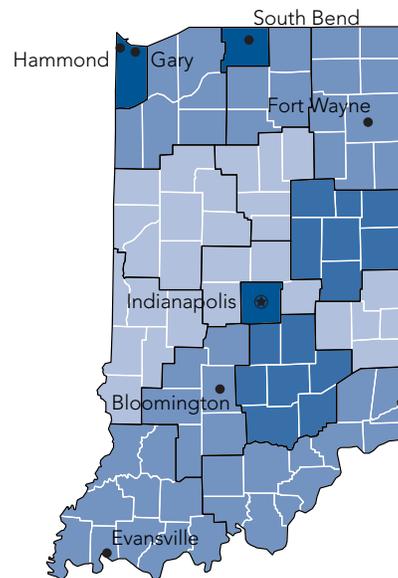
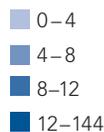
Schools on Wheels is a non-profit organization that offers free tutoring to children enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade living in Indianapolis homeless shelters. Since its founding in 2001, Schools on Wheels has recruited over 1,418 volunteers who have provided more than 27,181 one-hour tutoring sessions to 2,884 children. Homeless students have received over 1,100 backpacks filled with school supplies and 5,900 articles of clothing. In order to strengthen opportunity for college attendance, Schools on Wheels also provides students with access to college preparation and scholarship attainment resources.⁹

Number of Homeless Persons in Indianapolis (by population and year)



Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2005-2009 Homeless Populations and Subpopulations; Indiana Public Policy Institute, *Focusing on Rapid Re-Housing Combats Family Homelessness in Indianapolis*, 2010.

Persons in Homeless Families (per 100 square miles by region)



Source: Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, 2010 Point-in-Time Homeless Count by Region; Indiana Public Policy Institute, *Focusing on Rapid Re-Housing Combats Family Homelessness in Indianapolis*, 2010.

Endnotes

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD's 2009 CoC Homeless Assistance Programs—Homeless Populations and Subpopulations; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, AHAR Exchange Public Reports: 2009 Comprehensive Report of Sheltered Homeless Persons.
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2009 Homeless Populations and Subpopulations.
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD's 2009 CoC Homeless Assistance Programs—Housing Inventory Chart Report.
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2009 Homeless Populations and Subpopulations; U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.
- U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2008 American Community Survey.
- Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, "Development Fund," <http://www.in.gov/ihcda/3117.htm>; Indiana Code § 5-20-4 (2005); Larry Grubbs (Development Fund Manager, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority), interview with ICPH, September 2010.
- Coalition for Homeless Intervention and Prevention, *Blueprint Progress Report*, 2009; Michael A. Hurst (Program Director, Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention), interview with ICPH, September 2010.
- Jeri Warner (Executive Director, Trusted Mentors), interview with ICPH, October 2010; Trusted Mentors, <http://www.trustedmentors.org>
- Schools on Wheels, 2009 Annual Report; Melanie Priest (Development Director, Schools on Wheels), interview with ICPH, September 2010.