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BREAKING NEWS

2010 Point-in-Time Count Highlights

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership is steadily moving the community forward with the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. During the past year, **the number of people who were homeless in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community has decreased nearly 11 percent.**

- **On Jan. 27, 2010, a total of 1,544 people were counted who were homeless**, of whom 892 were in families and 652 were single individuals.
 - Nearly 58 percent of all persons who were homeless were in families.
 - Single individuals who were homeless represented 42 percent of the total number of persons counted.
 - 36 percent of all persons who were homeless were children under the age of 18.
- **The number of homeless families decreased by over 16 percent.**
 - More than 60 percent of adults in homeless families were employed.
- **The number of single individuals who were homeless decreased slightly by 1.7 percent.**
 - 60 percent of single individuals who were homeless suffered from serious mental illness and/or substance abuse, and many had chronic health problems and/or physical disabilities.
- **For more information on characteristics of persons who are homeless, visit** http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/2010_pit_highlights_web.pdf.

Prevention initiatives, housing first and permanent housing with supports appear to be having an impact on the number of people who are homeless in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community. **“Much work has been done to achieve results and affect change, and I want to thank all of our partners for moving us forward,”** said Dean Klein, director of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH).

- In the first 75 days, the newly created Housing Opportunities Support Teams (HOST) have **prevented 374 people from becoming homeless** by providing flexible and adaptive services needed to help individuals and families obtain or maintain housing.
- Two nonprofit partners **have added units to their Housing First** apartment programs.
- One nonprofit is **now implementing a nine-bed program for individuals who are chronically homeless.**
- Another partner nonprofit adjusted a program from **a transitional housing model of serving people while they are homeless to ending their homelessness** by helping them obtain permanent housing and providing support services to maintain housing stability.

The annual Point-in-Time Count of People Who Are Homeless in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community follows the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) reporting guidelines and **covers people who are literally homeless** – those who are in shelters, in transitional housing or unsheltered living on the street. **The count does not include** people who live in temporary arrangements but do not face immediate loss of shelter, who self-pay to live in a motel or youth who are staying temporarily with others but who do not have a permanent stable residence. **The numbers also do not include** formerly homeless persons who now live in permanent supportive housing or persons who live in permanent housing but are receiving supportive services to maintain housing stability and prevent homelessness.

For more information on the Point-in-Time Count, contact Bill Macmillan, OPEH, at william.macmillan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SAVE THE DATE

Community Forum on Homelessness – May 5

The next Community Forum on Homelessness will take place on Wednesday, May 5 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the Jubilee Christian Center located at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Persons interested in ending homelessness are encouraged to attend.

The Community Forum on Homelessness is a perfect venue for sharing information on the implementation of the 10-Year Plan and to engage in dialogue about homeless priorities and initiatives that aim to prevent and end homelessness in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community.

The next forum will include opening remarks from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, general updates from the [Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) (OPEH), an overview of the newly established Housing Locator Program, and a discussion on immigration as it relates to homelessness with a panel of experts representing different organizations.

This event is sponsored by OPEH. For more information or to request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-324-9492, TTY 711.

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