

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**Survey of Local Homeless Coalitions for
2010
Annual Report on Homeless
Conditions in Florida**

Office on Homelessness
Department of Children & Families
1317 Winewood Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700
850-922-4691

2010 Survey

To assist the Department of Children and Families in preparing its 2009 Report on Homeless Conditions in Florida, as required by s.420.623(4), Florida Statutes, please fill in the following:

Name of Coalition: Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care/
Opportunity, Inc.

Mailing Address: 203 Cloverdale Boulevard
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547-1405

Telephone Number: (850)-409-3070 Fax Number: (850) 409-3171

Executive Director: Lenore Wilson

Email Address: RavenLen@aol.com

Person Completing the Survey: Lenore Wilson

Phone Number for this Person: (850)409-3070

Continuum of Care Served by Coalition: Okaloosa, Walton

Do you plan to expand your catchment area in 2010 to add one or more of the following counties: Dixie, Gilchrist, Union, or Baker?

Yes _____ No x _____

Did your coalition submit to your respective DCF Circuit (formerly District) Administrator in 2009-10 recommendations for the Homeless Grant in Aid Program's Spending Plan?

Yes _____ No x _____ (I don't recall being asked)

Did your coalition receive assistance from the Circuit's Homeless Grant-in-Aid Program in 2009-10? Yes x No _____

List the use(s) funded: \$11,850 on staffing the Continuum of Care Office

How many homeless persons will be served? None directly, 2000 indirectly

PART II
Homeless Data

Instructions

In reporting your data on the homeless, and their characteristics, answer the following based upon the definition of a homeless person as specified in Florida law [section 420.621, [F.S.]

“Homeless” means an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:

- (a) A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill;
- (b) An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized;
- (c) A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

The term does not refer to any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to state or federal law.

A. Homeless Population Counts by County.

Report the total number of persons who are homeless on any given day for each county covered by your continuum of care plan or the county(s) served by your coalition in January 2009.

County Name	Total Homeless Persons
1.Okaloosa County	1842
2.Walton County	420
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

Data Source: (*Check one.*)

January 2010 Count (Conducted Jan 22-31, 2009), unless waiver granted by HUD

- Check the PRIMARY method used to enumerate the sheltered homeless persons.
 - Point-in-time count with no interview.
 - Point-in-time with interviews.
 - Point-in-time plus sample of interviews.
 - Point-in-time plus extrapolation
 - Administrative data from providers of services
 - HMIS
 - Other

- Check the PRIMARY method used to enumerate unsheltered homeless persons.
 - Public places count.
 - Public places count with interviews.
 - Sample of interviews.
 - Extrapolation from Point-in-time and sample of interviews.
 - Public places count using probability sampling.
Service-based count for non-shelter services.
 - HMIS
 - Other

Note: Interviews were abbreviated.

B. General Homeless Characteristics

If your coalition used the core short form point-in-time survey instrument, please share your results on the following data elements. Report on the total homeless population for all of the counties reported under section A above. The data elements and reporting categories are based on the core short form point-in-time survey instrument provided by the Office on Homelessness for the 2009 count.

Data Element	Total Number	Percentage
Sex		
Male	1242	54.9%
Female	1018	45.1%
TOTAL	2262	100%

Age:		
Children- under 18 years	1057	46.5%
Adults – 18 to 60 years	1154	51.1%
Elderly – over 60 years	51	2.4%
TOTAL	2262	100%

Race/Ethnicity Hispanic or Latino?		
Yes	234	10.6
No	1982	89.4
TOTAL	2,262	100%

Data Element	Total Number	Percentage
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	116	5.2
Asian	35	1.6
Black/African American	227	10.2
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	47	2.1
White	1783	80.5
Other	8	.4
TOTAL	2262	100%
Military Veteran Served on active duty in the U.S. military.		
Yes	204	17.5
No	962	82.5
TOTAL	1166 adults	100%
Marital Status		
Single	883	75.8
Married	283	24.2
TOTAL	1166 adults	100%
Prior Episodes of Homelessness. In last 3 years, number of separate times homeless		
1 time	781	67
2-3 times	134	11.5
4 or more times	251	21.5
TOTAL		100%

Data Element	Total Number	Percentage	
Disabling Condition	Yes	622	27.5
	No	1640	72.5
	TOTAL	2262	100%
<u>Type of disabling condition</u>	Physical	420	DO NOT REPORT %
	Developmental	1	
	Mental Health	357	
	Drug or Alcohol Addiction	252	
	HIV/AIDS	11	

Length of Current Homeless Episode		
1 week or less	658	29.1
More than 1 week, less than 1 month	964	42.6
1 to 3 months	272	12
More than 3 months, less than 12 months	180	8
1 year or longer	188	8.3
Total	2262	100%

Data Element	Total Number	Percentage
Cause of Homelessness		
Employment/financial reasons	835	71.6
Housing Issues	104	8.9
Medical/ disability problems	330	28.3
Forced to relocate from home	30	2.6
Family problems	271	23.2
Natural/other disasters	0	0
Recent immigration	6	0.5
TOTAL Number of Adults	1166	

Based on adult response – many put more than one cause.

Data Element	Total Number	Percentage
Sources of Income		
Earned Income	664	DO NOT REPORT %
Unemployment	153	
SSI	101	
SSDI	31	
Veterans disability	33	
Private disability insurance	0	
Workers Comp	1	
TANF	305	
General assistance	1	
SSA retirement	0	
Veterans Pension	6	
Job pension	0	
Child support	210	
Alimony	1	
Other source	3	
No financial resource	112	

Data Element	Total Number	Percentage
*Length of Stay in the County	43	
1 week or less		
More than 1 week, less than 1 month	79	
1 to 3 months	41	
More than 3 months, less than 12 months	72	
1 year or longer	931	
TOTAL Based on Adult Response	1166	100%

Foster Care History		
Were you ever a foster care child?		
Yes	134	11.5
No	1032	88.5
TOTAL	1166 adults	100%

Part III

All Coalitions should respond.

A. Of the subpopulations of the homeless in your service area, please identify your top two (2) groups in each of the three columns.

Homeless Subpopulation	Greatest Need	Least Resources to Serve	Most Effectively Being Served
Adult individuals	2		
Families with Children	1		1
Elderly		2	
Youth		1	
Chronic homeless			2
Mentally Ill			
Substance abuse			
Veterans			
Domestic Violence			
HIV/AIDS			
Other			

- B. Please evaluate the effectiveness of your Continuum of Care components to identify the two strongest, and two weakest elements. Consider the capacity of your provider network, resources committed, and performance outcomes being achieved.

Continuum Component	Strongest	Weakest
Outreach, intake and assessment	2	
Emergency shelter		1
Transitional housing		2
Supportive Services		
Permanent supportive housing		
Permanent housing		
Linkages and referral among all components		
Prevention	1	
Ongoing planning		

- C. Based upon your coalition's inventory of homeless resources and programs, and your assessment of the adequacy of services available for the homeless, please identify your top two unmet needs.

1. Opportunities for employment
2. Emergency shelter for chronic homeless

- D. Identify two recommendations that your community would propose for state government action in 2009 to reduce homelessness.

1. Stop cutting state budgets (linked to employment)
2. Increase funding for social safety net programs such as Medicaid, TANF, food stamps, etc.