

Curry County Homeless Coalition

Warm Weather Survey October 2008

This survey was conducted throughout Curry County at specific locations. Locations included; Ray's Food Place, The Grocery Outlet, Shop Smart, and Fred Meyer in Brookings. Oasis Shelter Home in Gold Beach and Common Good in Port Orford.

This survey was not intended to 'count' the number homeless individuals in our community. The survey contained 31 questions covering several topics.

A total of 102 individuals and families were surveyed. The survey includes responses from 33 adult males, 24 adult females, 16 male children and 9 female children. Many of the survey respondents represented families. Not all respondents gave age and gender

The surveys were conducted during the fall of 2008. Volunteers assisted with filling out survey forms if needed.

Names were not required, but many persons being surveyed included their names on the forms.

The information collected will assist the planning team with writing the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

| Age | | | | | |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| ↓18 | 19-25 | 26-36 | 37-48 | 49-60 | 60+ |
| 25 | 6 | 6 | 26 | 17 | 2 |

| Gender | |
|--------|--------|
| Male | Female |
| 58.8% | 41.2% |

| Gender Breakdown | | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Adult Male | Adult Female | Male Child | Female Child |
| 33 | 24 | 16 | 9 |

| Race/Ethnicity | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|----------|------------------|-------|
| White/Caucasian | American Indian | Asian | Hispanic | African American | Other |
| 88.5% | 7.7% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 3.8% |

| Have you ever been in the military? | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 15.4% | 84.6% |

| How long have you been homeless? | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Less than one month | One to six months | Six months to one year | One to two years | Two to five years | More than five years |
| 6.3% | 25.5% | 11.8% | 7.8% | 12.5% | 22.9% |

| How long have you been in this town/area? | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Less than one month | One to six months | Six months to one year | One to two years | Two to five years | More than five years |
| 13.7% | 25.5% | 11.8% | 7.8% | 9.8% | 31.4% |

| Before you became homeless, where were you staying? | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|--|-------|
| Owned your home | Rented apartment or home | With family | With friends | In a motel | In jail or prison | In a hospital or other treatment program | Other |
| 10% | 44% | 14% | 8% | 4% | 4% | 0% | 16% |

***Other includes: RV, camping, Motor home, boat, with a carnival.*

| How many times have you been homeless in the past three years? | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| 1 time | 2 times | 3 times | 4 times | More than 4 times |
| 42% | 15.6% | 6% | 0% | 34% |

| What caused you and/or your family to leave your last living arrangement? | |
|---|-----|
| Divorce/Break-up | 12% |
| Domestic Violence | 18% |
| Unable to Pay Rent/Mortgage | 8% |
| Unemployment | 12% |
| Alcohol/Drug Abuse | 16% |
| Medical Expenses | 6% |
| Physical or Mental Illness | 6% |
| Prison or Jail | 2% |
| Argument with Family/Friends | 4% |
| Welfare Time Limits | 0% |
| Temporary Living Situation Ended | 4% |
| Other | 12% |
| <i>Other includes: Government action, owner sold home, ripped off by family members</i> | |

| Where did you spend last night? | |
|--|-------|
| Emergency Shelter | 5.9% |
| Domestic Violence Center | 5.9% |
| On the Street | 13.7% |
| Transitional Housing | 7.8% |
| With Friend or Relative | 23.5% |
| Hotel/Motel | 0% |
| Prison/Jail | 0% |
| Treatment Center | 0% |
| Hospital | 0% |
| Automobile | 5.9% |
| Tent | 19.6% |
| Other | 17.6% |
| <i>Other includes: RV, Beach, Under bridge, Living in someone's shop, Beach, Woods</i> | |

| During the past month, how many nights have you spent in a shelter? | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| None | 1-2 Nights | 3-4 Nights | 5-6 Nights | More than 6 Nights |
| 72% | 6% | 0% | 4% | 18% |

| Marital Status | | | | |
|----------------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|
| Married | Divorced | Single | Separated | Other |
| 17% | 26.4% | 52.8% | 1.9% | 1.9% |

| Do you have family members living with you now? | |
|---|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 26.4% | 73.6% |

| Which family members live with you? | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|--------------|
| Husband/Wife | Domestic Partner Boyfriend Girlfriend | Children | Other Family |
| 15.4% | 15.4% | 53.8% | 15.4% |

| Do you have any children under 18? | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 31.3% | 68.8% |

| Does your child/children attend school? | |
|---|-----|
| Yes | No |
| 80% | 20% |

| For each of your children under 18, please tell me their age, gender, grade attending in school and where they are living now. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|----|
| Age | >1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| # of Children | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Total # Children Counted | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22 | |

| Gender | |
|--------|--------|
| Male | Female |
| 14 | 8 |

| Grade in School | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|---------|----------|----------------------|
| K-2nd | 2nd-5th | 6th-8th | 9th-12th | Too young for school |
| 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 6 |

| Where is the child living now | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Shelter | Shelter with you | On the street | At home with other parent | With grand-parents | With other family members | With child protective services | Don't know |
| | 9 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |

| What was the last grade you finished in school? | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------|
| Did not graduate | High School Diploma or GED | Some College | College Diploma | Tech/Vocational School | Other |
| 39.2% | 35.3% | 9.8% | 7.8% | 5.9% | 2% |

| Do you have a job? | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 19.2% | 80.8% |

| Which of these best describes your work schedule? | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------|
| Regular Full-Time | Regular Part-Time | Temporary Full-Time | Temporary Part-Time | Day Labor | Other |
| 27.3% | 27.3% | 0% | 27.3% | 9.1% | 9.1% |

| How long have you been unemployed? (of the 80.8% that do not have a job) | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1 month or less | 1-6 months | 6-12 months | More than 1 year |
| 11.1% | 33.3% | 11.1% | 44.4% |

| Are you looking for work? | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 79.2% | 20.8% |

| Are you unable to work because of a disability? | |
|---|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 27.7% | 72.3% |

| Do you get money or assistance from any of the following? (more than one answer is allowed) | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Family or Friends | 8.7% | Food Stamps | 76.1% | Social Security | 8.7% |
| Pension | 0% | Unemployment | 6.5% | Child Support | 2.2% |
| Recycling Cans & Bottles | 26.1% | Panhandling | 0% | AFDC/TANF | 10.9% |
| SSI | 8.7% | Veteran's Benefits | 4.3% | Job | 4.3% |
| Money from Shelter/ Churches | 0% | No Money | 4.3% | Other | 0% |

| What is your primary form of transportation? | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| Own Car | Friend/Family Car | Public Transportation | Walking | Bicycling | Other |
| 30.2% | 5.7% | 0% | 49.1 | 15.1% | 0% |

| Since you have been homeless, have you been able to see a doctor when you are sick? | | |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|
| Yes | No | Have not needed to see a doctor |
| 47.1% | 39.2% | 13.7% |

| How did you pay for your medical care? | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Medicaid | 12.5% | Hospital or Clinic Card | 0% | Private or Employer Insurance | 0% |
| Medicare | 9.4% | Veteran's Benefits | 12.5% | Health Department—Don't Pay | 21.9% |
| Hospital Emergency Room—Don't Pay | 18.8% | Cash | 6.3% | Other | 18.8% |

Other Includes: OHP, Indian Health.

| Which of the following services do you need that you are not currently receiving? (more than one answer is allowed) | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Veteran's Benefits | 10.8% | Food Stamps | 24.3% | AFDC/TANF | 8.1% |
| Social Security | 10.8% | Clothing | 32.4% | Medical Care | 35.1% |
| Dental Care | 51.4% | Drug/Alcohol Counseling | 5.4% | Child Care | 13.5% |
| Mental Health Counseling | 13.5% | Job Training/Education | 35.1% | Transportation | 37.8% |
| Emergency Shelter | 18.9% | I do not need any services | 8.1% | Other | 16.2% |

Other Includes: Help to get a place to live, Food, Legal assistance

| Have you been the victim of a crime while being homeless? | |
|---|-----|
| Yes | No |
| 28% | 72% |

| Did you report the crime? | |
|--|-------|
| Yes | No |
| 37.5% | 62.5% |
| <i>If no, why not? Scared, no way to prove who stole my apartment money, reprisal, useless</i> | |

| What keeps you homeless? (more than one answer is allowed) | | | |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| Lack of Income From Work | 71.4% | Insufficient Government Benefits | 24.5% |
| Bills and Expenses | 22.4% | Lack of Affordable Housing | 61.2% |
| Alcohol or Drug Abuse | 6.1% | No Physical Address | 36.7% |
| No Phone Number | 14.3% | No place to bathe/Groom Regularly | 20.4% |
| Being Sleep Deprived | 10.2% | Lack of Access to Transportation | 24.5% |
| Lack of Clothing for Work | 18.4% | Lack of Knowledge of Resources and Programs | 16.3% |
| Mental Illness | 8.2% | Discrimination Against Homeless People | 14.3% |
| Loss of Money, Theft, Scams | 20.4% | Theft of Identity Cards | 6.1% |
| Other | 4.1% | | |
| <i>Other Includes: . Lack of money, Need money for rental deposits</i> | | | |

What is the hardest part about being homeless?

Sleeping outside.

Everything!

Watching my kids, keeping them out of trouble.

No showers, no assistance to help with forms for SSI, SSD, etc. Weather.

No shower.

Getting a job, having a place to sleep.

No food, warmth, being alone.

I travel on bicycle, it's hard to find place to sleep. sometimes I go for miles. Tired.

No permanent home.

Not being able to read or write.

Staying warm, security levels of where we are going to be or who is going to have a problem with us, or how were going to pay.

Keeping clothes dry, to be comfortable and to also do laundry.

The hardest part is the prejudice alienation, discriminatory, disconcerting, unempathetic attitude and negative associations (false negative) non-homeless people associate with the over used & misused term "homeless". Example: are you homeless if you do not own a home? Are you homeless if you have a legal place to sleep? Are you homeless if you occupy within the borders of America, the alleged land of the free and you are a legal citizen? It is wise for anyone to never admit they are homeless in this Nazi police state which America has become.

Being left alone.

Finding a safe place to sleep.

Showers, weather, money .

No Car.

Not having a home for child, not having any family.

Not having a home for my children. My children have no room to play.

Everything, not having housing for child.

Not having stability.

Showers, a bed to sleep in, no phone, meals, weather.

Everything, not having a home, children not in their own home.

Insecurity.

Knowing that I can't put a roof over my children's heads.

The government does not hold their negligence actions or take responsibility for their actions which caused my homelessness.

Being alone, no cooking facilities.

Sleeping on the ground.

Having my children homeless. This causing many problems, particularly for youngest. Not getting enough food for family. **Both husband and wife work part time, but can not put together enough money to get housing.

People looking at you strange.

Finding a place to sleep.

Getting myself ready for work, looking for work, lack of work, and false arrests on record that have to pay State of Oregon \$80 each to expunge.

Knowing you have to do it all again.

Telling myself today is going to be a nice day or trying to stay positive.

No Money.

Doesn't feel the system helps, especially the veteran's services.