January 23, 2014

This report provides a profile of the men and women who attended The 8th Project Homeless Connect – Downtown San Diego (PHC). They make up part of the homeless population in the City of San Diego, and this report captures the challenges they face.

A one-day resource fair, PHC served 854 San Diegans at Golden Hall in the San Diego Concourse in downtown San Diego on December 4, 2013.

Registration for PHC was paperless for the second time, using computers at the entrance to gather information from participants about their current life circumstances. Their responses are contained in this PHC report.

PHC provided an important opportunity for homeless individuals to begin the process of ending their homelessness and rebuilding their lives, engaging them in a process to help them learn about housing programs, mental health services, substance abuse counseling and other services.

The majority of PHC participants were single (81.3 percent), men (61.1 percent), between the ages of 41 and 60 (58.5 percent), and unemployed (85.6 percent).

At PHC, 692 volunteers and 86 service providers came together to offer free clothing, food, and a variety of services, such as flu shots, dental exams, haircuts, housing assistance information, and identification cards from the State Department of Motor Vehicles.

For the fourth consecutive time, the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) was the lead organizer for PHC, providing financial support and, through SDHC’s website, volunteer recruitment. Major partners were the City of San Diego, Interfaith Shelter Network, Family Health Centers of San Diego and St. Vincent de Paul Village.

We were honored to have had Interim Mayor Todd Gloria serve as Honorary Chair of PHC.

The generosity of San Diegans and the participation of our elected officials, local businesses, and the community made a difference in the lives of these San Diegans.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Gentry
President & Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Housing Commission
Participant Information

This report is based on the information homeless participants at PHC provided about themselves.

Alfred, 53, was one of the 38.8 percent of the 854 PHC participants who said they are currently living on the streets and the 85.6 percent who said they are unemployed.

Alfred said he has been homeless for about eight months, after being laid off from his janitorial job. He attended PHC to find help to get a job, clothes and something to eat.

“This is very good for the community, and it’s very good for the homeless people,” Alfred explained. “A lot of these people lost their jobs, they were making good money and everything; and it all went down the drain.”

Another 18.4 percent of the PHC participants said they were residing in an emergency shelter; and 10.0 percent were living with family or friends.

Women represented 36.3 percent of the PHC participants.

Jennifer, 33, who is living in a shelter for women, has been homeless since July because of domestic violence.

Jennifer attended PHC to receive legal aid, clothing, housing information, counseling, and, as a childhood cancer survivor, to learn about health care options.

“I didn’t even know there was such a thing—it’s amazing,” Jennifer said about PHC. “There is so much help out there, and people actually care about us.”

Additional characteristics of PHC participants:
• 58.5 percent of homeless men and women were between the ages of 41-60;
• 81.3 percent were single;
• 61.1 percent were male;
• 36.3 percent were female;
• 58.3 percent were white;
• 24.4 percent were Hispanic;
• 21.3 percent were black or African-American;
• 15.3 percent were military veterans;
• 53.5 percent had a medical condition or disability;
• More than half – 56.9 percent – relied on clinics for health care, while 14.3 percent do not go anywhere for health care treatment;
• 49.3 percent said they had mental health issues, but only 37.2 percent said they were receiving treatment;
• 30.9 percent had mobility limitations;
• 36.3 percent had an average monthly cash income of $999 or less;
• 46.0 percent received non-cash benefits, such as Medi-Cal, CalFresh or County Medical Services; and
• 11.6 percent were families with children.

SDHC’s Housing Innovations Department compiled the data for this report.
The 8th Project Homeless Connect Report

Statistics

854 Participants Served
522 Males
310 Females
4 Transgender
18 did not respond to gender question

Services Rendered
150 ID Re-instatements/Cards Approved by DMV Services
85 New ID Cards Issued
125 Flu Shots
355 Haircuts
85 Dental Exams/Education/Referrals
39 Social Security Inquiries Serviced
38 HIV Tests Administered
32 Dental Cleanings Administered
22 Hepatitis-C Tests Administered
18 Dental/Educational Referrals
14 Social Security Card Applications Processed

Agencies & Volunteers

692 Registered Volunteers
86 Service Providers
The 8th Project Homeless Connect - Participant Responses
December 4, 2013 - Golden Hall - Downtown San Diego

Demographics

Gender

- Male - 61.1% (522)
- Female - 36.3% (310)
- Transgender - 0.5% (4)
- Did not respond - 2.1% (18)

Age

- 20 & Younger - 2.7% (23)
- 21-30 - 8.5% (73)
- 31-40 - 13.5% (115)
- 41-50 - 25.6% (219)
- 51-60 - 32.9% (281)
- Over 60 - 14.2% (121)
- Did not respond - 2.6% (22)

Race*

- American Indian/Alaska Native - 3.2% (27)
- Asian - 2.5% (21)
- Black/African-American - 21.3% (182)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander - 1.9% (16)
- Refused - 5.2% (44)
- Caucasian - 58.3% (498)
- Did not respond - 7.7% (66)

Hispanic*

- Yes - 24.4% (208)
- No - 66.9% (571)
- Did not respond - 8.9% (75)

Veterans*

- Yes - 15.3% (131)
- No - 81.6% (697)
- Did not respond - 3.0% (26)

*Percentages do not total 100 because of rounding to the nearest tenth.
The 8th Project Homeless Connect - Participant Responses
December 4, 2013 - Golden Hall - Downtown San Diego

Families

Family Type

- Single - 81.3% (694)
- Single Parent w/ children - 8.2% (70)
- Two Parents w/ children - 3.4% (29)
- Couple w/o children - 3.4% (29)
- Did not respond - 3.7% (32)

Marital Status*

- Divorced - 24.0% (205)
- Married - 6.9% (59)
- Never Married - 53.6% (458)
- Separated - 7.6% (65)
- Widowed - 4.8% (41)
- Did not respond - 3.0% (26)

*Percentages do not total 100 because of rounding to the nearest tenth.

Have Minor Children*

- Yes - 5.6% (48)
- No - 90.0% (769)
- Did not respond - 4.3% (37)
Summary of Employment Status

- Unemployed - 85.6% (731)
- Part-Time - 4.6% (39)
- Full-Time - 1.2% (10)
- Seasonal Worker - 1.4% (12)
- Student - 0.1% (1)
- Retired - 2.3% (20)
- Self-Employed - 1.2% (10)
- Did not respond - 3.6% (31)

Average Monthly Cash Income

- $1-$250 - 12.6% (108)
- $251-$500 - 4.0% (34)
- $501-$999 - 19.7% (168)
- $1,000-$2,000 - 4.1% (35)
- More than $2,000 - 0.1% (1)
- Refused to respond - 58.1% (496)
- Did not respond - 1.4% (12)
Non-Cash Benefits*

- CalFresh - 24.5% (209)
- County Medical Services - 4.4% (38)
- Medi-Cal - 17.1% (146)
- None - 35.2% (301)
- Refused to respond - 1.3% (11)
- Did not respond - 17.4% (149)

*Percentages do not total 100 because of rounding to the nearest tenth.
Medical and Mental Health Conditions

Medical Conditions or Disabilities

- Yes - 53.5% (457)
- No - 43.1% (368)
- Did not respond - 3.4% (29)

Mobility Limitations

- Yes - 30.9% (264)
- No - 65.1% (556)
- Did not respond - 4.0% (34)

Mental Health Issue

- Yes - 49.3% (421)
- No - 47.8% (408)
- Did not respond - 2.9% (25)

Mental Health Treatment

- Yes - 37.2% (318)
- No - 45.2% (386)
- Did not respond - 17.6% (15)
Substance Abuse

Alcohol Abuse
- Yes: 14.5% (124)
- No: 81.6% (697)
- Did not respond: 3.9% (33)

Alcohol Treatment
- Yes: 5.2% (44)
- No: 3.5% (30)
- Did not respond: 91.3% (780)

Drug Abuse
- Yes: 14.1% (120)
- No: 80.4% (680)
- Did not respond: 5.5% (47)

Drug Treatment
- Yes: 5.3% (45)
- No: 3.7% (32)
- Did not respond: 91.0% (777)
The 8th Project Homeless Connect - Participant Responses

December 4, 2013 - Golden Hall - Downtown San Diego

Living Situation*

- Emergency Shelter: 18.4% (157)
- Transitional Housing: 9.3% (79)
- Homeless on the Street: 38.8% (331)
- Transitional Housing: 9.3% (79)
- Saving Haven: 1.2% (10)
- Group Home: 0.4% (3)
- Hotel/Motel: 4.1% (35)
- Renting: 3.5% (30)
- Treatment Facility: 2.8% (24)
- Subsidized Housing: 1.3% (11)
- Did not respond: 7.5% (64)

*Percentages do not total 100 because of rounding to the nearest tenth.
The 8th Project Homeless Connect - Participant Responses
December 4, 2013 - Golden Hall - Downtown San Diego

Health Care Access

- Clinic - 56.9% (486)
- Emergency Room - 9.4% (80)
- Do Not Go for Care - 14.3% (122)
- Clinic - 5.5% (47)
- Urgent Care - 0.1% (1)
- VA Hospital - 6.2% (53)
- Did not respond - 7.6% (65)
The 8th Project Homeless Connect - Participant Responses
December 4, 2013 - Golden Hall - Downtown San Diego

Legal Services Requested*

*Percentages do not total 100 because of rounding to the nearest tenth.
The San Diego Housing Commission is the lead organizer for Project Homeless Connect. Our main organizing partners are the City of San Diego, Interfaith Shelter Network, Family Health Centers of San Diego and St. Vincent de Paul Village.

**Community Partners & Service Providers - Thank You!**

- **2-1-1 San Diego**
- **Alpha Project**
- **Alpine Special Treatment Center**
- **American Health Services**
- **American Medical Response - CPR Training**
- **Bellus Academy of Hair Design**
- **California Department of Motor Vehicles**
- **California Hair Design School**
- **Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego - Rachel’s Women’s Center**
- **Children’s Reading by Charlotte Perry**
- **Center for Justice & Social Compassion**
- **City of Refuge**
- **Community Research Foundation - (CRF)**
- **Areta Crowell BPSR Center**
- **Consumer Center for Health Education & Advocacy**
- **County of San Diego Animal Services**
- **County of San Diego - Health and Human Services Agency (HHSAP)**
- **Centre City Family Resource**
- **Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)**
- **Public Assistance Programs**
- **Downtown San Diego Partnership**
- **East County Transitional Living Center**
- **Episcopal Community Services**
- **Friend to Friend**
- **Head Start**
- **Family Health Centers San Diego**
- **Father Joe’s Villages - Registration of Participants**
- **Healing Touch Program**
- **Homeless Advocacy Program**
- **Housing Opportunities Collaborative**
- **Kaplan College Nursing Program**
- **McAlister Institute - Hope Program**
- **Melody’s Mobile Dental Hygiene**
- **Mental Health Systems**
- **Courage to Call**
- **Serial Inebriate Program**
- **Pastoral Care**
- **People Assisting the Homeless - (PATH)**
- **Veteran Services**
- **PAWS**
- **Point Loma Nazarene University - School of Nursing**
- **Foot Washers**
- **Providence Community Services**
- **Recovery Innovations of CA**
- **Religious of the Sacred Heart**
- **SDHC Rental Assistance**
- **Salvation Army**
- **Adult Rehabilitation Center - (ARC)**
- **Social Services**
- **San Diego Book Project**
- **San Diego County Dental Society**
- **San Diego County - Mental Health Services**
- **San Diego Humane Society**
- **San Diego Rescue Mission**
- **San Diego Youth Services**
- **The Association for Community Housing Solutions (TACHS)**
- **The Drake Center**
- **The Meeting Place Clubhouse**
- **U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development - (HUD)**
- **UCSD**
- **Antiviral Research Center**
- **Bridges to Recovery**
- **U.S. Social Security Administration**
- **Union of Pan Asian Communities**
- **Uplift**
- **Veterans Community Services**
- **Veterans Village of San Diego**
- **Vista Hill Foundation**
- **Volunteers**
- **- Chaplains**
- **- Dental Hygienists**
- **- Hair Stylists**
- **- Nurses**
- **- Way Back, Inc. - Substance Abuse Recovery**
- **Women’s Resource Fair**
- **YMCA Childcare Resource Services**
- **YWCA**

**Food & Beverages**

- **American Medical Response - 2,000 Bottles of Water**
- **City of Refuge - 500 Snacks**
- **D’Lush - Smoothies**
- **Einstein Brothers Bagels, San Carlos - 100 Bagels**
- **Episcopal Community Services - 50 Snacks & Juices for Children**
- **Just Call Us Volunteers - 1,200 Salads and Bread**
- **San Diego Rescue Mission - 1,200 Desserts**
- **SoupPlantation, La Mesa - 100 Muffins**
- **St. Vincent de Paul Village – 1,200 Meals**
- **The Coca-Cola Company - 1 Pallet of Water**
- **Whole Foods - 450+ Bananas**

**Clothing**

- **American Medical Response - 1,000 Pairs of Socks**
- **Mountain View Rec Center - 100 Bags of Clothing**
- **Pure Fitness - 80 Bags of Clothing**
- **Rangel & Associates - 1,000 Pairs of Socks**
- **San Diego Airport Authority - 14 Boxes Gently Used Uniform Jackets, Shirts, and Pants**
- **SDHC Staff - 518 Pairs of Socks**
- **The Gold Diggers - Shoes and Socks Valued at $1,000**
- **Teenage Insurance - 200 Jackets**

**Toiletries**

- **Downtown Fellowship - 200 Hygiene Kits**
- **James Justus - 250 Hygiene Kits**
- **ResMed - 1,200 Bags for Hygiene Items**
- **San Diego County Dental Society - 500 Toothbrushes, Toothpaste and Floss**
- **Sunstar Butler - 250 Toothbrushes and Dental Floss**

**Information Technology**

- **Cox Communications - Increased Bandwidth**
- **Meeting Tomorrow - Discounted Rental Computers**
- **Skyriver Communications - Wireless Infrastructure**
- **San Diego Housing Innovations Department**

**Large Donations - Thank You!**

- **Gold Field - Transportation - 49 Passenger Van for Shuttling Veterans to and from Event**
- **Bank of America - $1,000 Donation**
- **Big Frog-T-Shirt $400 Discount on Volunteer T-Shirts**
- **Center for Justice & Social Compassion and Episcopal Church Center - $800 Donation for DMV ID Cards**
- **Craig & Juli Smith - Locks for Storage, Plastic Floor Covering for Haircuts, Home Depot Gift Cards**
- **Melody Swaroop, Dental Hygienist - 40 Cleanings**
- **PAWS - 80 Bags of Dog Food**
- **Rumberger Foundation - Foundation Award, $1,500 Cash Donation**
- **San Diego County Dental Society - $500 for Dental Equipment**
- **SuperMedia LLC - 100 Bags & 50 Bars of Soap**

SDHC Housing Innovations Department
Prepared the Project Homeless Connect Report and Data Analysis

Established in 1979, the San Diego Housing Commission provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and impact the lives of more than 125,000 individuals in the City of San Diego annually.