

## January 28, 2010–Point-In-Time Count of Homeless Persons

### All Respondents

|                                |     |      |                 |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|------|-----------------|-----|-----|
| Number of People               | 918 | 100% | 0-5 Years Old   | 137 | 15% |
| Number of Households           | 481 | 100% | 6-12 Years Old  | 243 | 26% |
| Males                          | 402 | 44%  | 13-17 Years Old | 116 | 13% |
| Females                        | 516 | 56%  | 18-21 Years Old | 64  | 7%  |
| Children (under 18 years)      | 496 | 54%  | 22-25 Years Old | 35  | 4%  |
| Veterans                       | 18  | 2%   | 26-35 Years Old | 148 | 16% |
| Veterans w/Benefits            | 6   | 33%  | 36-55 Years Old | 139 | 15% |
| Individuals w/a Disability     | 292 | 32%  | 56-65 Years Old | 21  | 2%  |
| Mental Illness & Alcohol/Drugs | 41  | 4%   | 66+ Years Old   | 3   | <1% |

Children represent more than half of all respondents.

56% of the respondents are females.

About 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the respondents are disabled.

Less than 3% of respondents are senior citizens.

When the school districts reported, they did not include information about the parents in the household. This means that there could have been at least 214 (the number of households reported by the school districts) more homeless persons on the day of the count. This means the total number of homeless persons could have been 1,132 or more.

| <b>Disability Status by Individual</b> |     |     |                     |    |    |
|--|-----|-----|---------------------|----|----|
| Permanent Physical                     | 84  | 9%  | Temporary Physical  | 35 | 4% |
| Mental Health                          | 152 | 17% | Alcohol or Drug Use | 80 | 9% |
| Visual                                 | 30  | 3%  | Developmental       | 34 | 4% |
| Untreated Dental                       | 71  | 8%  | Literacy            | 27 | 3% |
| Persons w/ HIV/AIDS                    | 4   | <1% | Other               | 12 | 1% |

About 1 in 5 respondents described themselves as mentally ill.

“Permanent Physical” and “Alcohol or Drug Use” were each indicated by 9% of respondents.

| <b>Living Situation by Household</b> |     |     |                            |    |    |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------|----|----|
| Emergency Shelter                    | 33  | 7%  | Out of Doors (street/tent) | 24 | 5% |
| Transitional Housing                 | 96  | 20% | Vehicle                    | 15 | 3% |
| Permanent Supportive                 | 2   | <1% | Abandoned Building         | 4  | 1% |
| Temp w/ Family/Friends               | 297 | 62% | Jail                       | 10 | 2% |

More than 60% of the responding households indicated that they were temporarily living with family or friends (precariously housed).

96 (or 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the respondents) households indicated that their household was currently living in a transitional housing unit. This is 9 more transitional housing units than were reported in the capacity inventory. However, the shelter units were under reported by 13 units. Respondents might have simply confused the “label” of their supportive housing.

| <b>Causes of Homelessness by Household</b> |    |     |                         |    |    |
|--|----|-----|-------------------------|----|----|
| Victim-domestic violence                   | 70 | 15% | Evicted for non-payment | 29 | 6% |

|                       |     |     |                             |     |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----|
| Job lost              | 100 | 21% | Evicted for other reasons   | 65  | 14% |
| Medical costs         | 21  | 4%  | Unable to pay rent/mortgage | 122 | 25% |
| Convicted of a felony | 43  | 9%  | Convicted of misdemeanor    | 21  | 4%  |
| Poor credit rating    | 45  | 9%  | Family break-up             | 34  | 28% |
| Mental illness        | 92  | 19% | Failed job drug screening   | 5   | 1%  |
| Medical problems      | 51  | 11% | Lack of job skills          | 41  | 9%  |
| Alcohol or drug use   | 94  | 20% | Temp living situation ended | 59  | 12% |
| Lack of child care    | 17  | 4%  | Discharged institute/jail   | 22  | 5%  |
| Language barrier      | 6   | 1%  | Aged out of foster care     | 7   | 1%  |
| Other                 | 64  | 13% |                             |     |     |

“Family break-up”, at 28 % of households, was the number one reason indicated by respondent households as a cause of homelessness.

The next two most popular reasons for causing the household to be homeless were economic:

-“Unable to pay rent/mortgage” – 25% of responding households

-“Job lost” – 21% of responding households

20% of the responding households indicated that “Alcohol or drug use” contributed to their homelessness.

19% of the responding households indicated that “Mental illness” contributed to their homelessness.

| Sources of Income By Household |     |     |                           |    |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|----|-----|
| None                           | 54  | 11% | Social Security           | 81 | 17% |
| Unemployment Insurance         | 11  | 2%  | Part-time work            | 29 | 6%  |
| Public Assistance              | 181 | 38% | Employed at low-wage job  | 35 | 7%  |
| Relatives, partners, friends   | 58  | 12% | Day labor type jobs       | 22 | 5%  |
| L&I/Workers Comp               | 2   | <1% | Farm/migrant/agricultural | 0  | 0%  |
| Other                          | 30  | 6%  |                           |    |     |

“Public Assistance” was the most indicated source of income of respondents – about twice as often as the second most indicated source of income – “Social Security”

No respondents indicated that their household income came from agricultural or migrant labor work.

| Where Household Stayed Last Night By Zip Code |     |     |                       |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----|-----|
| 98531   | 121 | 25% | 98596                 | 7   | 1%  |
| 98532   | 68  | 14% | 98572                 | 6   | 1%  |
| 98591   | 14  | 3%  | 98361                 | 6   | 1%  |
| 98356   | 9   | 2%  | Other in Lewis County | 24  | 5%  |
| 98377   | 8   | 2%  | No Answer             | 218 | 45% |

The majority of respondents, who answered this question, stayed in the cities of Centralia or Chehalis on the night of the count.

| Where Household Last Lived for at Least Six Months By Zip Code |     |     |                    |    |    |
|--|-----|-----|--------------------|----|----|
| 98531  | 173 | 36% | 98361              | 6  | 1% |
| 98591  | 73  | 15% | 98564              | 5  | 1% |
| 98532  | 62  | 13% | Other Lewis County | 31 | 6% |

|       |    |    |                        |    |     |
|-------|----|----|------------------------|----|-----|
| 98377 | 11 | 2% | Other Washington State | 34 | 7%  |
| 98596 | 10 | 2% | Other USA              | 2  | <1% |
| 98336 | 6  | 1% | No Answer              | 68 | 14% |

Less than 8% of the respondents indicated that their household resided outside of Lewis County prior to becoming homeless.

The next two categories measure chronic homelessness. This is the sub-population that HUD is most aggressively trying to end. HUD defines chronic homelessness as follows: an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

| <b>How Many Times the Household has been Homeless in the Past Three Years</b> |     |     |                |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|----------------|-----|-----|
| 1   | 116 | 24% | 4-6            | 14  | 3%  |
| 2   | 55  | 11% | More than 6    | 3   | 1%  |
| 3   | 18  | 4%  | Did not Answer | 275 | 57% |

Experiencing 4 or more episodes of homelessness in a 3 year period is considered by HUD as chronic homelessness. The chart above includes families – not just single individuals. However, in Lewis County, only about 4% of homeless households indicated that they were chronically homeless according to this measurement.

| <b>How Long the Household has been Homeless in Years</b> |     |     |                   |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|
| 1 Year or Less   | 182 | 38% | 4-5 Years         | 6   | 1%  |
| 1-2 Years  | 33  | 7%  | 5-6 Years         | 2   | <1% |
| 2-3 Years  | 17  | 4%  | More Than 6 Years | 10  | 2%  |
| 3-4 Years  | 12  | 2%  | Did not Answer    | 219 | 46% |

Experiencing homeless for more than one year is considered by HUD as chronic homelessness. The chart above includes families – not just single individuals. Using this measure, about 17% of respondents indicated that they were chronically homeless according to this measurement.