



COUNCIL MEMBERS

AGENDA

Alaska Council on the Homeless

October 12, 2016

1:30 – 4:00 PM, Marriott Downtown Anchorage
820 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage

- 1:30 - 1:35 Welcome by Council Chair, AHFC CEO/ED Bryan Butcher
- 1:35 – 2:05 Public Comments
- 2:05 – 2:15 Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness – Brian Wilson
- 2:15 – 2:20 Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness – Carmen Wenger
- 2:20 – 2:25 Municipality of Anchorage – Nancy Burke
- 2:25 – 2:30 Federal Program Update – Colleen Bickford and Carma Reed
- 2:30 – 2:35 United Way – Sue Brogan
- 2:35 – 2:55 AHFC Program Update
1. Planning and Program Development Department– Daniel Delfino and Carrie Collins
 2. Public Housing Department– Cathy Stone and Mike Courtney
- 2:55 – 3:10 Department of Health and Social Services – Randall Burns, Susan Musante, and Kelda Barstad
- 3:10 – 3:25 Alaska Supportive Housing Plan – Kevin Martone, Technical Assistance Collaborative
- 3:25 – 3:35 Alaska’s Plan to End Long Term Homelessness – Suzi Pearson and Dave Kuiper
- 3:35 – 4:50 Council Member Reports
- 3:50 – 4:00 Other Matters to Come Before the Council

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Opportunity begins with a home

Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness

Year-Round Emergency Shelter Beds Per Capita by Census Area

Beds Per 1,000 Residents

Ketchikan Gateway	4.16	Nome	1.26
Kodiak Island	3.53	North Slope	1.17
Dillingham	3.30	Kenai Peninsula	0.94
Juneau City & Borough	2.78	Northwest Arctic	0.80
Sitka	2.25	Valdez-Cordova	0.73
Anchorage Municipality	2.07	Aleutians West	0.72
Fairbanks North Star	1.95	Matanuska-Susitna	0.53
Bethel	1.47		

According to the 2015 Housing Inventory Count, 14 of the 29 Census Areas in Alaska have no year-round Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Support Housing Facilities

Legend: Beds Per 1000 Residents



Bering
Sea

BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Prince
George

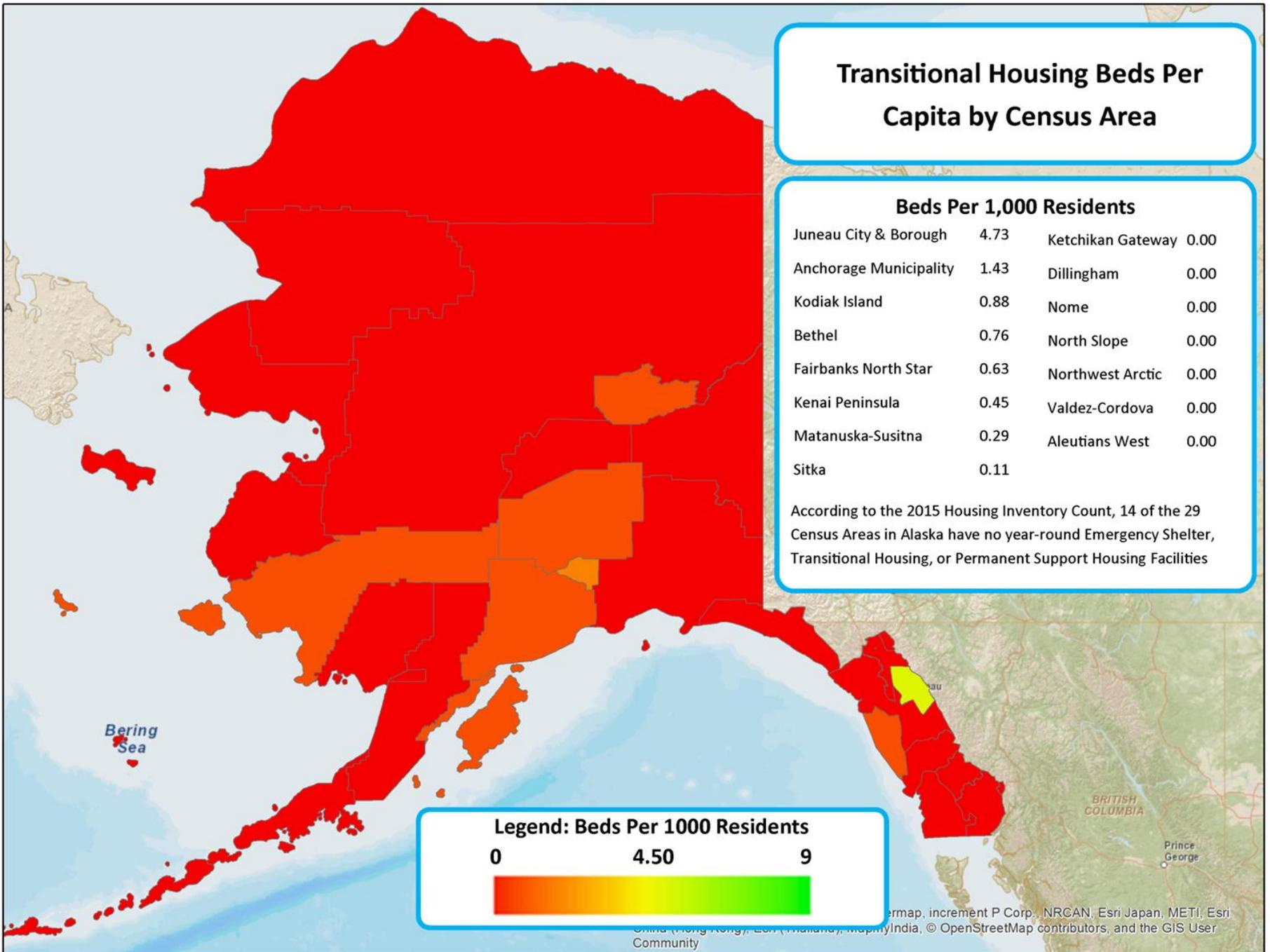
Transitional Housing Beds Per Capita by Census Area

Beds Per 1,000 Residents

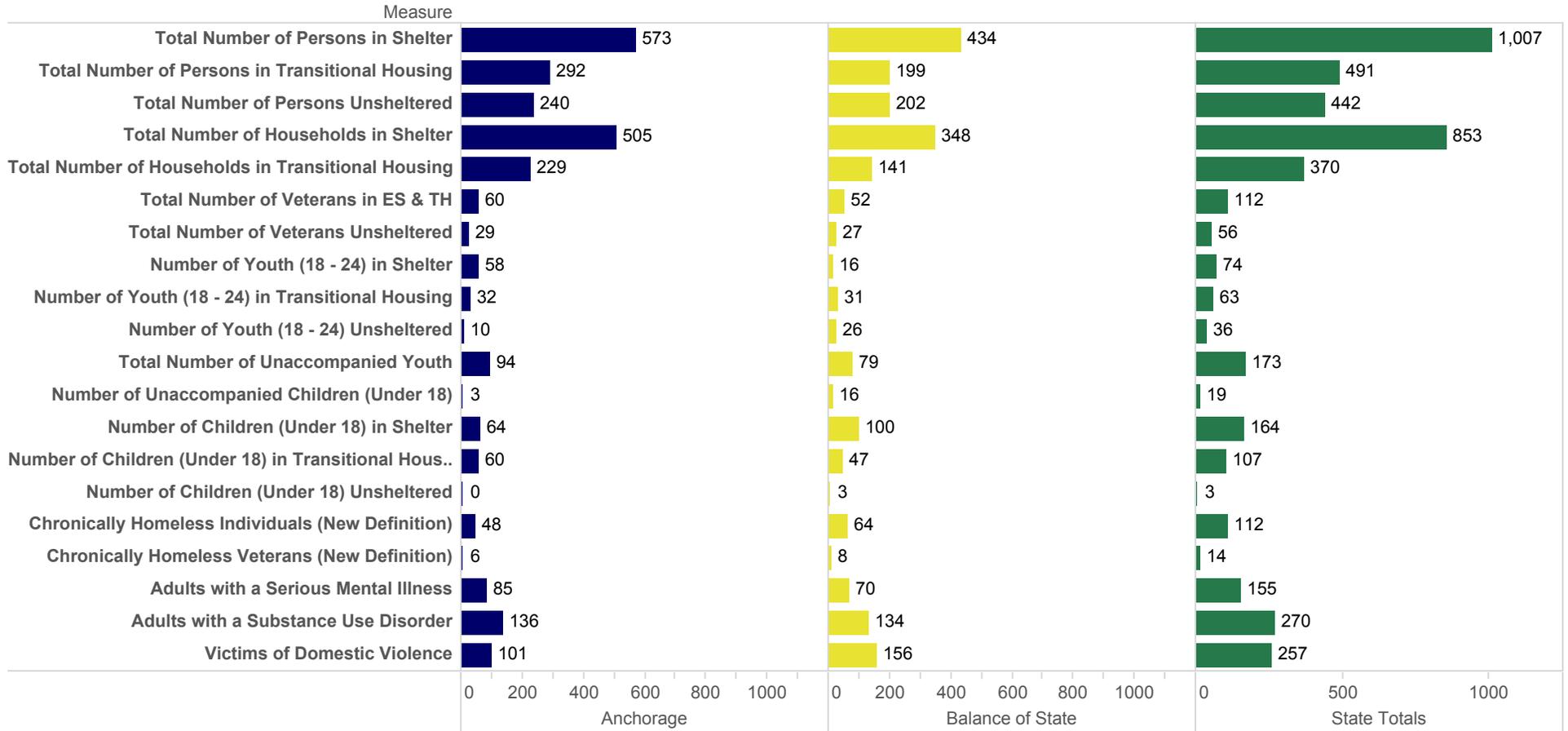
Juneau City & Borough	4.73	Ketchikan Gateway	0.00
Anchorage Municipality	1.43	Dillingham	0.00
Kodiak Island	0.88	Nome	0.00
Bethel	0.76	North Slope	0.00
Fairbanks North Star	0.63	Northwest Arctic	0.00
Kenai Peninsula	0.45	Valdez-Cordova	0.00
Matanuska-Susitna	0.29	Aleutians West	0.00
Sitka	0.11		

According to the 2015 Housing Inventory Count, 14 of the 29 Census Areas in Alaska have no year-round Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Support Housing Facilities

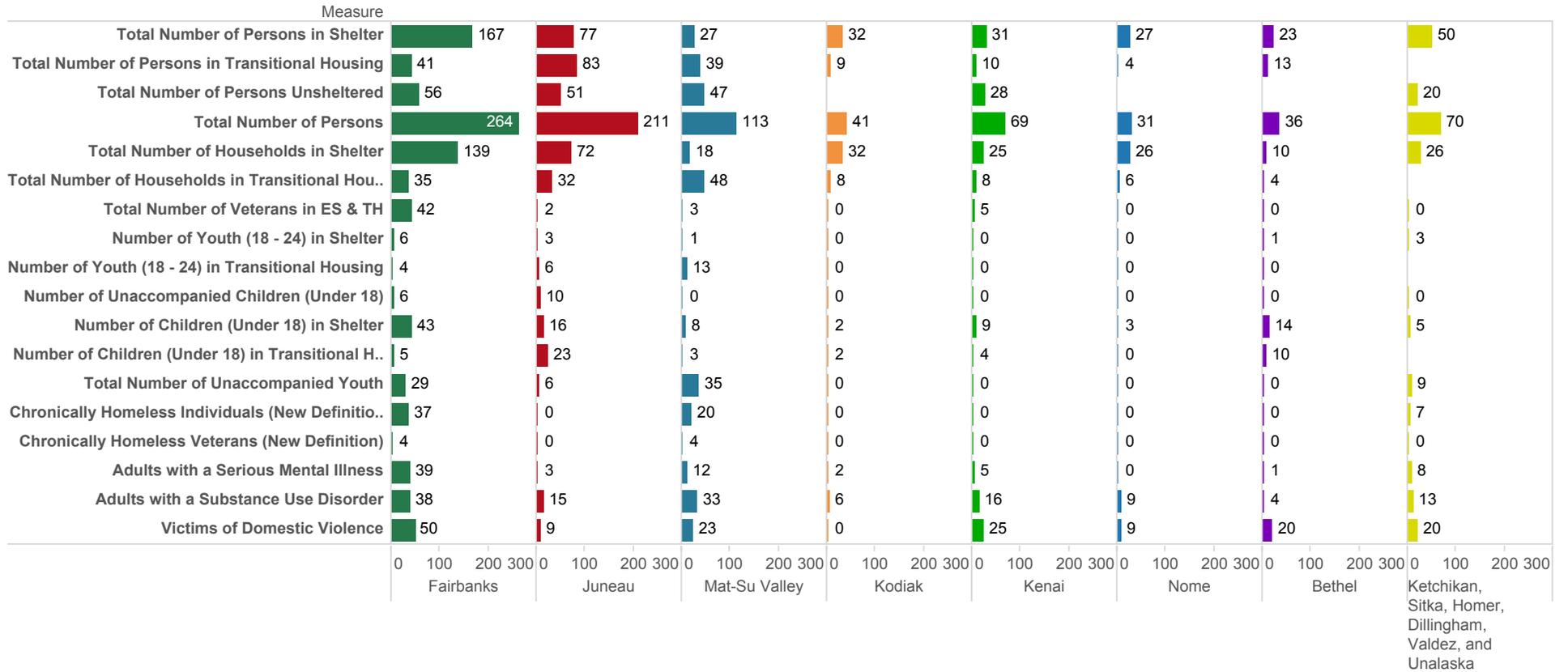
Legend: Beds Per 1000 Residents



Alaska January 2016 Point-in-Time Count



Alaska Balance of State January 2016 Point-in-Time Count by Community



AHFC Program Update

Alaska Council on the Homeless Update
Basic Homeless Assistance Program (BHAP)
&
Special Needs Housing Grant (SNHG)

Collectively, 42 awards have been made through the BHAP and SNHG programs to support ongoing activities that fall within six broad categories.

Program Type	Number of Activities Funded	Communities Served	Alaskans Served Annually	Annual Grants	Annual Grant per Household Served
Shelter Operations	8	4	7,018	\$2,331,802	\$332
Domestic Violence Shelters	6	5	1,700	\$581,115	\$342
Rapid ReHousing - Prevention	9	16	3,842	\$2,353,007	\$612
Transitional Housing	4	2	487	\$866,532	\$1,779
Re-Entry	3	1	184	\$704,976	\$3,831
Permanent Supportive Housing	12	7	199	\$1,819,888	\$9,145
Program Types	42		13,430	\$8,657,320	\$645

Future Activity

- Increased Supportive Housing:
 - Staff anticipates releasing a Notice of Funding Availability that combines noncompetitive Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Sponsor Based Rental Assistance through AHFC's Public Housing Division, and 811 Rental Assistance in early November with proposals due in the early Spring of 2017.
 - Subject to appropriations, the AMHTA and AHFC may coordinate an additional Notice of Funding Availability in SFY 2018.
- Coordinated BHAP Application Round: In SFY 2018 organizations will apply for BHAP funding through a community, coordinated application process.

Program Notes

- At proposed funding levels, SNHG and BHAP programs are sustainable through 2026.
- These programs also support AHFC's matching contribution to the HUD 811 program and resources such as the United Way's 211 Program and the Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness.

October 7, 2016

Summertime Homeless Assessment Pilot

Over the summer, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) partnered with the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) to quantify the visible presence of homeless Alaskans in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Purpose

From late July to mid-August, UAA and UAF students canvassed their respective cities in teams of two to record the presence of homeless individuals, panhandling activities and tents.

Through repeated sampling of the communities over a series of three weeks, the observations attempted to assess the data's potential sensitivity to changes in weather and time of observation.

The observation summaries from Anchorage and Fairbanks are reported in the following pages.

Data Collection and Reporting

Data were collected and recorded over three weeks from July 29th to August 21st.

Students were provided with worksheets to classify and record their observations during their fieldwork. AHFC staff developed the worksheet, then UAF faculty with expertise in survey design reviewed it. Prior to initiating the field work, UAF cleared the project scope through the Institutional Review Board. Students were explicitly instructed to never interact with, or even approach, homeless individuals.

The fundamental process was simple: students were instructed to go out into their respective communities and record what they saw. If students stopped to record something, it was counted as an observation. An observation could record 1 homeless person, or a group of 10 homeless people gathered in one place.

Limitations

This research effort was exploratory. Data collected were obtained through a randomized observation model by students without expertise in homelessness. Out of safety concerns, student routes were limited to highly visible public spaces and trails. The small number of students working on this project, coupled with their deliberately restrictive routes, limited the scope and quantity of observations.

Funding

The total expenses paid to the University for the homeless assessment pilot were \$6,078. This amount includes student time for both cities, mileage, the University's indirect rate and the faculty advisor.

Summer of 2016 - Homeless Assessment Pilot - Anchorage

Week 1 July 29- August 5	Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Area(s)	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
	Day 1	6:00 PM	warm	2	5	Downtown	12	58	0	0
	Day 2	9:00 AM	cloudy	2	5	Chester Creek Trail	10	4	0	13
	Day 3	5:00 PM	cloudy	1.5	3.5	Northern Lights - Benson	21	50	9	0
	Day 4	7:00 PM	sunny	2	4	C and A Streets	7	16	2	0
	Day 5	8:00 PM	Rainy	2	30	Muldoon to Dimond	2	4	0	0
<i>Weekly Total</i>				9.5	47.5		52	132	11	13

Week 2 August 6 - August 12	Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Area(s)	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
	Day 1	10:00 AM	not recorded	2	4	Campbell Creek Trail	0	0	0	0
	Day 2	6:00 PM	cloudy	1	2	Gambell Street	9	18	0	0
	Day 3	6:51 PM	rainy	4	10	Northern Lights - Benson	5	10	0	0
	Day 4	7:30 PM	cloudy	2	4	Tudor Road	1	2	0	0
	Day 5	8:25 PM	cloudy	1.5	3	Chester Creek Trail	7	1	0	8
Day 6	10:00 AM	very rainy	1.5	17	Muldoon to Dimond	0	0	0	0	
<i>Weekly Total</i>				12	40		22	31	0	8

Week 3 August 14 - August 21	Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Area(s)	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
	Day 1	11:00 AM	cloudy	1.5	17	Dimond to Campbell Creek	1	1	0	0
	Day 2	not recorded		2	4	Bragaw, Debarr, Boniface	0	0	0	0
	Day 3	2:00 PM	sunny	1.5	3	5th and 4th Avenue	11	20	0	0
	Day 4	not recorded		1.5	3	Wisconsin - Spenard	0	0	0	0
	Day 5	6:30 PM	cloudy	2	4	C and A Streets	8	9	0	1
Day 6	10:00 AM	light rain	2	4	Northern Lights - Benson	12	23	8	0	
<i>Weekly Total</i>				10.5	35		32	53	8	1

Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents	
Survey Total				32	122.5	106	216	19	22

Summer of 2016 - Homeless Assessment Pilot - Fairbanks

Week 1 July 29 - August 4	Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Area(s)	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
	Day 1	10:30 AM	warm	2.5	15	Bus Route	0	0	0	0
	Day 2	1:30 PM	sunny	4	20	Fairgrounds, 14th, 29th, Farmer's Loop, Pioneer Park	5	1	1	17
	Day 3	11:30 AM	rainy	3	20	Fairgrounds, 14th, 29th, Farmer's Loop, Pioneer Park	5	1	1	18
<i>Weekly Total</i>				9.5	55		10	2	2	35

Week 2 August 5 - August 12	Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Area(s)	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
	Day 1	10:00 AM	cloudy	2	20	Fairgrounds, 28th and 29th, Pioneer Park, Johanssen and Farmer's Loop	3	0	0	12
	Day 2	9:00 AM	sunny	3.5	20	Fred Meyer West, Parks and Geist, Pioneer Park, Johanssen and Farmer's Loop, Fairgrounds	5	1	0	15
	Day 3	11:30 AM	sunny	3	20	Fred Meyer East and West, Lowes	3	3	0	0
<i>Weekly Total</i>				8.5	60		11	4	0	27

Week 3 August 13 - August 21	Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	Area(s)	Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
	Day 1	11:00 AM	sunny	2.5	20	Fairgrounds, Rescue Mission, Youth Facility, Johanssen and Steese, McDonalds, Parks and Geist	5	2	1	12
	Day 2	7:30 PM	sunny	2.5	20	Johanssen and the Old Chili's Building	2	5	0	0
	Day 3	9:30 AM	cloudy	2.5	20	Fairgrounds, Rescue Mission, Parks and Geist, Johanssen and Steese, Pioneer Park, Fred Meyer West	5	2	1	10
<i>Weekly Total</i>				7.5	60	0	12	9	2	22

Date	Start Time	Weather	Hours	Miles	
<i>Survey Total</i>				25.5	175

Observations	People	Panhandlers	Tents
33	15	4	84

Alaska Supportive Housing Plan

Summary of Alaska Strategic Supportive Housing Plan Goals

Prepared by the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc

Goal 1: Develop a policy framework to guide implementation of permanent supportive housing as an essential component of the DBH service system.

- 1a. Convene a DBH-led PSH Steering Committee to establish policies, identify priority populations, and coordinate access and services for those individuals who cross DHSS, the Department of Corrections, and Homelessness/Continuum of Care systems.
- 1b. Develop and implement outcome/performance measures related to access, housing stability, tenancy, and community integration.
- 1c. Create a structure and process within DBH to oversee and coordinate implementation of the PSH plan that includes timelines and accountability.
- 1d. Align this plan with statewide housing planning efforts, including the Governor's Housing Summit, the Governor's Council on the Homeless, and the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education.

Goal 2: Establish a coordinated and consistent approach to housing and housing-related services across all DHSS divisions.

- 2a. Convene a standing DHSS Housing Committee to coordinate policy, practice, and services related to DHSS-supported housing and residential programs.
- 2b. Conduct a DHSS-wide assessment to estimate the need for PSH and other residential service options for vulnerable Alaskans served across all DHSS divisions.
- 2c. Conduct an assessment of all currently enrolled GRA recipients and develop individualized housing plans based on level of care/service needs, housing needs, and preferences.

Goal 3: Establish a PSH pipeline to create between 465 and 615 PSH opportunities over the next five years.

- 3a. Establish a PSH Funders Collaborative to align and leverage resources to encourage the production of permanent supportive housing.

- 3b. Through the Funders Collaborative, oversee and review progress on meeting PSH production goals.
- 3c. Conduct a comprehensive review of the Special Needs Housing Grant program in order to enhance and sustain its role as a significant driver of PSH production.
- 3d. Adopt further enhancements to the current special needs set-aside within the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program to encourage the creation of integrated PSH.
- 3e. Commit Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance from AHFC to support the operation and development of PSH.
- 3f. Leverage future federal funding opportunities through the National Housing Trust Fund and Section 811 PRA to support the creation of new PSH development.
- 3g. Leverage all available resources and encourage the replication of innovative financing models to create PSH.

Goal 4: Establish a PSH clearinghouse to coordinate the timely referral of eligible households for PSH opportunities.

- 4a. Create a PSH Clearinghouse to coordinate the referral and supportive service provision of households eligible for PSH opportunities.
- 4b. Coordinate design and implementation efforts with the two CoCs' work on coordinated entry.
- 4c. Align the access and referral policies and procedures for the Moving Home program with the proposed PSH Clearinghouse and the CoCs' coordinated entry system.
- 4d. Provide PSH property owners and managers with sustained training opportunities to build understanding of their obligation under the Federal Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, with the goal of eliminating barriers to access and reducing stigma.

Goal 5: Establish a funding source for services delivered in supportive housing settings that is sustainable and tailored to the needs of individuals.

- 5a. Assign responsibility to a new Medicaid task force to improve Medicaid coverage of services in supportive housing.

- 5b. Improve DHSS leverage of existing Medicaid services (CCSS, Case Management, and RSS).
- 5c. Engage CMS to maximize coverage of services in supportive housing.
- 5d. Determine rates for services that reflect accurate costs of providing flexible home and community-based services.
- 5e. Budget state funds to pay for important supportive housing services that are not covered by Medicaid.
- 5f. Work with the Trust to use funds for services in strategic and targeted ways.
- 5g. Plan ahead to restructure provider agreements and contracts when additional Medicaid revenue is expected.
- 5h. Continue to pursue Medicaid expansion through the ACA to provide more Alaskans with health insurance coverage and to and maximize federal financial participation.

Goal 6: Expand service delivery in home- and community-based settings to promote housing stability and community integration.

- 6a. Design services to be provided in home and community settings that will promote housing stability and community integration.
- 6b. Increase the use of evidence-based best practices that lead to the attainment of valued life roles including tenant, worker, community member, and family/friend/partner.
- 6c. Increase the availability of community-based crisis services.
- 6d. Develop a community-based residential crisis stabilization and behavior training program.
- 6e. Improve provider performance in supporting individuals to achieve housing stability and community integration.
- 6f. Adapt home- and community-based services and delivery of services to meet the needs of individuals living in rural and remote Hub and village communities.

Goal 7: Strengthen community provider workforce capacity to deliver home- and community- based housing services that promote wellness, recovery, and community integration.

- 7a. Develop a PSH certification requirement for providers receiving state, federal, or Trust funds to deliver services in PRA, Moving Home, HUD CoC programs, and settings receiving GRA funds.
- 7b. Identify providers who excel in delivering services aligned with the principles and practices of PSH and community integration to serve as role models, system champions, and peer provider coaches to other providers.

Alaska's Plan to End Long Term Homelessness

Alaska's Plan to End Long Term Homelessness 2016 Progress Report

The Alaska Council on the Homeless adopted *Alaska's Plan to End Long Term Homelessness* (Plan) in October 2015. The Plan is designed as a framework for communities to utilize in their local planning efforts around issues of homelessness. It is organized around five priorities; housing development, supportive services, education, engagement and policy, and data. Within each priority are recommended strategies for communities and state agencies to guide progress in addressing a specific priority.

This progress report covers the first year of the Plan from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 with accomplishments reported by communities and state agencies, including the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Department of Corrections (DOC), Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (AMHTA).

Priority 1: Housing Development *Every Alaskan should have access to an affordable, accommodating, and safe place to call home.*

Strategy: Expand Housing Options (Construction/Rehab/Rental Assistance)

- AHFC's Greater Opportunities for Affordable Living (GOAL) program provided funding to construct 141 new units of housing for low-income Alaskans in the communities of Anchorage, Juneau, Wasilla, Seward, Ketchikan, and Ninilchik. Funding was also provided to rehabilitate 46 units through the GOAL program.
- A redesign of the Anchorage Continuum of Care Sponsor Based Rental Assistance Program added over 20 vouchers for persons experiencing chronic homelessness.
- AHFC in partnership with the DOC provided Tenant Based Rental Assistance to 115 persons re-entering the community in locations outside of Anchorage.
- AHFC received 24 new vouchers through the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program for a total of 271 vouchers to assist Alaska's homeless veterans.
- Providence Health and Services has partnered with the Municipality of Anchorage, United Way, and the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness to provide financial support for rapid re-housing activities and a landlord risk pool.

Strategy: Increase Pool of Operating Support to Preserve Existing Housing Stock

- AMHTA and AHFC supported permanent housing for 277 households across the state through the Special Needs Housing Grant Program.
- The DHSS and the AMHTA partnered with the Technical Assistance Collaborative to develop the Alaska Supportive Housing Plan which identifies need and proposes a variety of integrated housing priorities.

Strategy: Increase Number of Units Available to Priority Populations

- Collaborations in Anchorage will result in 20 new units of housing for specialty populations through the John Thomas Building Project.
- The United Way of Anchorage in partnership with the Municipality of Anchorage received a technical assistance and capacity development grant to conduct a feasibility analysis and develop the capacity to implement a *Pay for Success* social investment bond program focused on chronic homelessness.

Additional Accomplishments

- The DHSS and Municipality of Anchorage provided support to retain Sitka Place, a 16 unit Housing First Program for chronically homeless individuals.
- The Municipality of Anchorage developed a Tenant Based Rental Assistance program for homeless persons which is expected to support 10-12 households.
- AHFC in partnership with the DHSS Office of Children's Services provided rental assistance to 20 youth transitioning out of foster care.
- The AMHTA provided grant funding to the Nome Emergency Shelter Team to provide supported housing for individuals participating in outpatient rehabilitation services in partnership with Norton Sound Health Corporation.
- The AMHTA provided funding to support the Juneau Housing First Project.
- The AMHTA and the DHSS have partnered to provide targeted technical assistance to supportive housing providers to address challenges in operating supportive housing programs.
- Through the Section 811 Project Based Rental Assistance Program, the DHSS and AHFC have partnered to develop a rental assistance and supportive services program for 200 extremely low income persons with disabilities.
- The DHSS and AHFC partnered to provide rental assistance to 150 of Alaska's most vulnerable, homeless individuals in multiple communities throughout the state through the Moving Home Program.

Priority 2: Supportive Services Individuals and families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness should have access to all eligible services and supports.

Strategy: Increase Funding and Sources of Supportive Services in Underserved Areas

- The AMHTA provided the state's share of expanding Medicaid which provided individuals who previously did not qualify for Medicaid (adult childless males) with access to health care services through Medicaid.
- The DHSS supported the CHOICES Assertive Community Action (ACT) team in Anchorage to provide multi-disciplinary support for 44 homeless adults with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorders.

Strategy: Increase Income and Employment Opportunities for Persons in Transition

- The AMHTA in partnership with the Department of Health and Social Services assisted 5 Supported Employment Programs around the state.
- The Mat-Su Job Center has dedicated a position to specifically work with re-entry clients through a partnership with the Mat-Su Coalition on Housing and Homelessness.
- The AMHTA and the Block Foundation partnered to provide start-up funding for Brother Francis Shelter in Anchorage to provide Individual Placement and Support Services which is an evidence based best practice for supported employment for individuals with severe mental illness.
- The AMHTA, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and DOC partnered to create a liaison position between the Department of Workforce Development and Department of Corrections to work on eliminating employment barriers for individuals returning to the community.

Strategy: Increase Outreach Services

- The DHSS, in partnership with the AMHTA supported RurAL CAP's Intensive Case Management Program which provides outreach, case management, and other supports for homeless individuals experiencing serious substance disorders. Twenty-one individuals have formally been enrolled in services and an additional 29 individuals have received outreach services through this program.

Strategy: Maintain and/or Expand Emergency Lodging Options as Needed

- AHFC and the AMHTA supported 17 emergency shelters statewide through the Basic Homeless Assistance Program.
- The Municipality of Anchorage approved the Downtown Soup Kitchen as an extension of the Brother Francis Shelter to provide the first women-only space for single adults.

Additional Accomplishments

- The AMHTA and DHSS, in partnership with key stakeholders, have developed a strategic plan to address the development of employment opportunities for all persons through a contractual agreement with the Institute for Community Inclusion.
- The Municipality of Anchorage, in partnership with Alaska WorkSource, implemented a Work Van Program for persons experiencing homelessness.
- The AMHTA provided funding for a culinary training program in Fairbanks and Anchorage modeled after the Catalyst Kitchen which is a social enterprise model working to provide training and employment opportunities for chronically homeless individuals.

- The AMHTA provided funding to the YWCA to develop and provide an ongoing economic literacy program to educate individuals on budgeting and support them to better understand their personal financial circumstances.
- The AMHTA provided funding to Anchorage Community Mental Health Services to develop and implement their supported employment vocational program for transitional aged youth and adults.
- The AMHTA and the Division of Vocational Rehab have partnered to provide startup funds to more than 10 agencies across the state to provide pre-employment services to ensure individuals have the skills and resources needed to seek and become employed.
- Anchorage partners and service providers are meeting weekly to coordinate outreach services to persons experiencing homelessness.
- New partnerships were created in Anchorage to provide emergency shelter beds for youth and single adults during the winter months when existing shelters were at capacity.
- MY House, Knik House, and Pacific Northwest Adult and Teen Challenge have added emergency housing beds to their programs in the Mat-Su Valley.
- The AMHTA and DOC continue to partner on the Discharge Incentive Grant Program that provides housing placement and services support to individuals re-entering the community.
- The AMHTA supported efforts to increase the number of certified benefits counselors throughout the state and developed an interactive website, DB101, so individuals can generate a customized benefits analysis.

Priority 3: Education, Engagement, and Policy Community and statewide education, engagement, and policy efforts among stakeholders and interested parties is central to addressing issues of homelessness.

Strategy: Landlord Engagement, Education, and Support

- The Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness, and the United Way of Anchorage, launched Anchorage's first landlord liaison program designed to engage and educate landlords to increase the available pool of rental units for all agencies in Anchorage.
- The AMHTA provided financial support for Alaska Legal Services to deliver Fair Housing Advocacy and Education throughout Alaska.
- The Mat-Su Coalition on Housing and Homelessness hosted two Landlord Appreciation Luncheons to thank landlords and property managers who partner with the coalition to support homeless and special needs populations.

Strategy: Encourage Housing Policy at the Local Level

- The AMHTA partnered with the Municipality of Anchorage to create a Housing and Homeless Coordinator Position within the Mayor's office to lead the municipality's efforts to reduce homelessness.
- The Mat-Su Coalition on Housing and Homelessness in collaboration with the Mat-Su Borough Planning Department supported Resolution 2016-025 which is "A Resolution Supporting a Coordinated Public/Private Partnership on Housing and Housing Affordability in The Matanuska-Susitna Borough."

Strategy: Support Local Housing Organizations to Coordinate Planning Services and Reporting

- The AMHTA and AHFC support the Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness Executive Director Position to provide statewide education, engagement, and policy efforts on issues of housing and homelessness.
- The DHSS and the AMHTA support the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness Director Position to further community efforts to address issues of homelessness.

Priority 4: Prevention *Prevention support is essential to mitigating episodes of homelessness.*

Strategy: Eliminate Discharge to Homeless Shelters and the Streets from State Institutions

- Partnerships with the DOC has increased opportunities for service providers to share their programs and reentry services with clients prior to releasing to the community.
- Catholic Social Services and Providence Health and Services designed a medical respite pilot program to be implemented at the Brother Francis Shelter in Anchorage.

Strategy: Improve Outreach and Linkages to Housing Resources and Services

- The AMHTA in partnership with the DOC provided support for Re-Entry Coalitions in Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Anchorage, and Juneau to develop and implement a gap analysis and needs assessment to create a comprehensive plan for reducing recidivism and ensuring service supports are available.
- The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness in partnership with stakeholders and service providers designed and launched the Anchorage Coordinated Entry System.

Strategy: Maintain Centralized Pool of Prevention Resources

- Over 1,300 households were provided prevention assistance by 24 organizations statewide through AHFC's Basic Homeless Assistance Program in partnership with the AMHTA.

Additional Accomplishments

- Annually, communities throughout the state conduct a Project Homeless Connect event which connects persons experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness with service providers.
- The DHSS supported the CHOICES Assertive Community Action (ACT) team in Anchorage to provide multi-disciplinary support for 44 homeless adults with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorders.
- The DHSS supported RurAL CAP's Intensive Case Management Program which provides outreach, case management, and other supports for homeless individuals experiencing serious substance disorders. Twenty-one individuals have formally been enrolled in services and an additional 29 individuals have received outreach services through this program.
- Providence Health and Services has partnered with the Municipality of Anchorage, United Way, and the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness to provide support for coordinated entry transition coordinators, a case manager, and outreach support.

Priority 5: Data *Timely and accurate data is essential to making housing and homeless policy decisions.*

Strategy: Expand Homeless Service Provider HMIS Coverage

- The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness, Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness, and AHFC have partnered with the Institute for Community Alliances, HMIS System Administrator, to increase HMIS utilization. The implementation of coordinated entry, data sharing, and increased outreach efforts resulted in 23 new organizations and 73 new programs reporting data in HMIS in SFY 2016.

Strategy: Develop Strategies for Gathering Homeless Data from Organizations Not Connected to HMIS

- The DEED gathers information from school districts throughout the state to generate a yearly report on homeless children and youth.
- The Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness, Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness, and AHFC continue to gather homeless data from organizations not connected to the system through the annual Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Chart.

Strategy: Coordinate Community Prevention Services

- Community prevention services are coordinated in some communities through AHFC's Basic Homeless Assistance Program.