



Compassion Strategies

All Hands On Deck  
Campaign To End  
Chronic Homelessness  
Topeka/Shawnee Co.  
2030



# Summer Point in Time Count

Topeka/Shawnee County Homeless Task Force  
July 2024



TOPEKA/SHAWNEE COUNTY  
HOMELESS  
TASK FORCE

The Summer Point in Time Homeless Count was conducted on July 17, 2024. This one-day event produces a snapshot of the individuals in our community experiencing homelessness as defined by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This data supports federal funding for the Continuum of Care Initiative.

## demographics

546

### PEOPLE

experiencing homelessness  
January: 537

2023: 412 | 2022: 365 | 2021: 298

433

### HOUSEHOLDS

experiencing homelessness  
January: 442

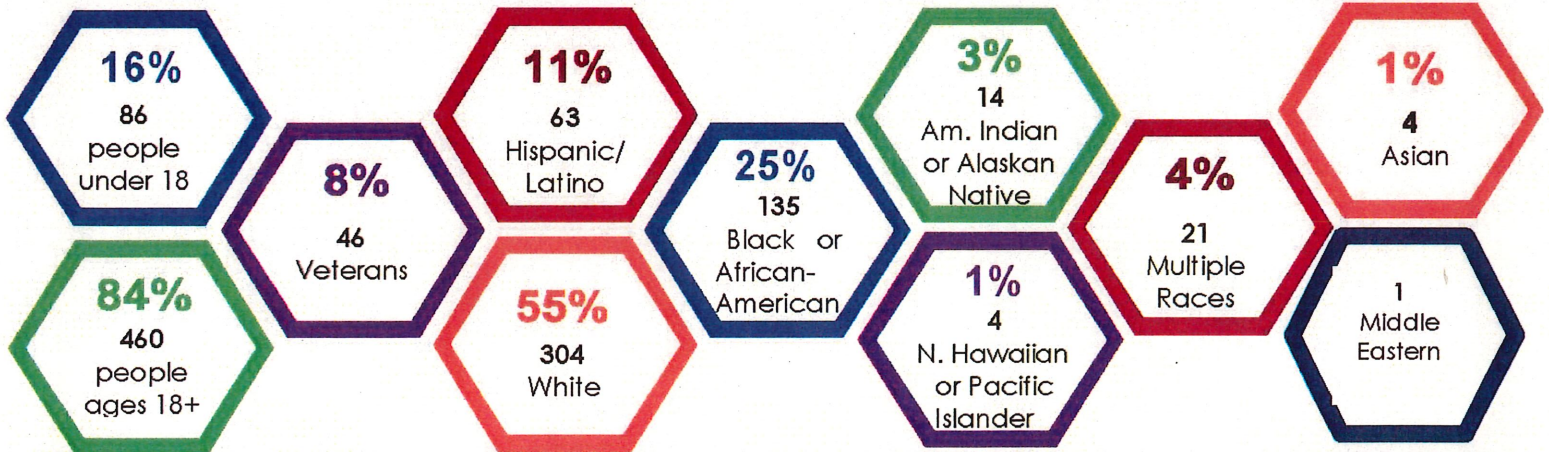
2023: 322 | 2022: 297 | 2021: 306

321 MALES

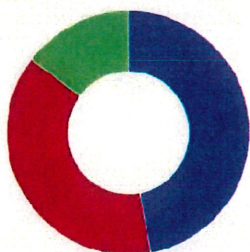
223 FEMALES

2 GENDER NON-SINGULAR\*

\*neither male or female (nonbinary)



## nighttime locations



47%  
255 in Emergency Shelter  
39%  
216 Unsheltered  
14%  
75 in Transitional Housing

## volunteers

42 Community Volunteers  
4 Topeka Police Officers  
1 SNCO Deputy Sheriff  
5 Planning Committee

### contact:

City of Topeka Division of Housing Services  
620 SE Madison St., 1st Floor - Unit 8, Topeka, KS 66607  
785-368-3711

# SNCO DOC: Homeless Population

Comparing 1/1/2024 & 7/1/2024

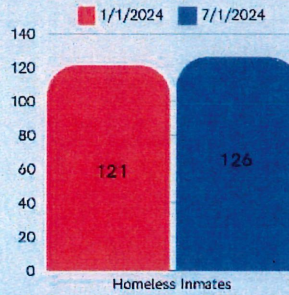


*\*Homeless counts are based on an address listed as either Homeless or the Topeka Rescue Mission (600 N Kansas Ave Topeka, KS)\**

## Homeless Inmates

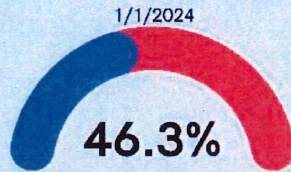
SNCO DOC saw a 5 inmate increase in the count of Homeless Inmates from 1/1/2024 to 7/1/2024

	1/1/2024	7/1/2024
Males:	108	107
Females:	13	19
<b>Total:</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>126</b>

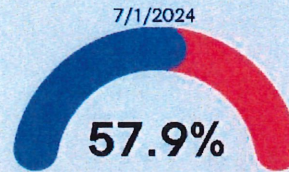


## SMI vs NON-SMI

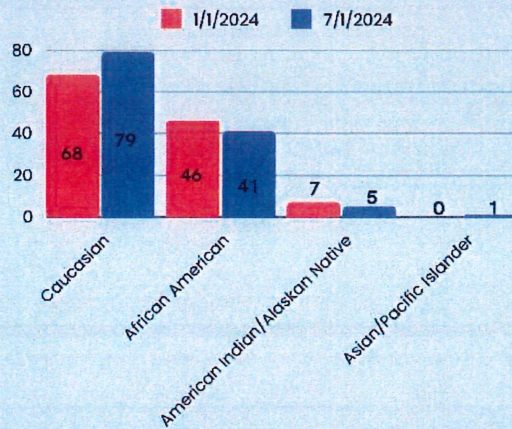
### Breakdown of Homeless Inmates



56 of the 121 inmates listed as Homeless are considered SMI (Serious Mental Illness)



73 of the 126 inmates listed as Homeless are considered SMI (Serious Mental Illness)

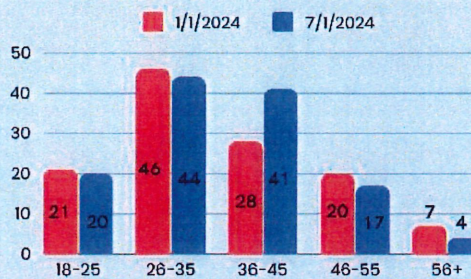


## Homeless Inmates by Race

SNCO DOC saw an increase in both Caucasian and Asian/Pacific Islander Inmates, while a decrease in African American and American Indian/Alaskan Native was also present for Homeless Inmates from 1/1/2024 to 7/1/2024.

## Homeless Inmates by Age

SNCO DOC saw a increase in 36-45 year olds, while seeing a decrease in every other age group from 1/1/2024 to 7/1/2024.



# Chronic Homeless Crisis

## IMPACT

\*Humanitarian Suffering

\*Moral/Ethical/Spiritual

\*Community Conscience

\*Community Health

\*Safety

\*Financial

The Cost

# There are nine recommended next step actions

\*\*Two ideas were advanced for prototyping and testing. These represent ideas that we feel are necessary for the community to gain traction in the goal towards reducing homelessness.

60 community members were engaged in helping to shape these ideas for maximum impact.

## RECOMMENDED FOR NEXT STEP ACTION IN 2024 - 2025

- 1. One Stop Homeless Resource Center\*\***
- 2. Investment in a Continuum of Housing Solution\*\*** — specifically a low-barrier shelter and permanent tiny home villages
- 3. Multi-Sector Community Coalition** — Development of a multi-sector community coalition, designed to support systemic and collaborative action towards solutions designed to reduce/end homelessness
- 4. Transportation Service** to help people experiencing homelessness to access support services and employment, when available public transit is gapped
- 5. Doubling Down on Programs and Services that are Working in the Community** — conducting an audit, guided by a rubric of various programs in the city and investing in grant writers to support channeling more money to those programs
- 6. Housing and Employment Second Chance Offering** — designed to reconcile housing and employment problems that might lead to a person becoming homeless
- 7. Creation of a Centralized Data Hub** — aggregate data from across agencies is collected and analyzed to support data-driven decisions community-wide on where and how funding for services should be invested in the community

## RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION 2026 AND BEYOND

- 8. Workplace Connections** — designed to create job matches between people experiencing homelessness and the employers in the Topeka region needing skilled labor
- 9. Landlord Incentives for Second Chances** — creating intentional partnerships with landlords, where they are willing to “take a chance” on someone who might have poor credit or other red flags in their background, in return for attractive incentives



# Compassion Strategies All Hands On Deck Campaign To End Chronic Homelessness

Topeka/Shawnee County  
Evaluation Tool

## Homeless Engagement Goals

Implementation Score (0-5)	Strategy	Goals
_____	Data Mapping and ongoing analysis of trends and policy impacting people experiencing homelessness	Investment in a strategic approach to identifying the number, geographic location, condition and contribution factors, trends and policy leading to chronic homelessness.
_____	Homeless Outreach Program Expansion	Strengthen and expand identification of the needs of those who are experiencing homelessness and are unsheltered. Provide needed items, support and services.
_____	Coordinated Mobile Access Partnership – MAP	Through taking services into communities, engage those experiencing homelessness and are unsheltered by building trust through relationship development and providing for immediate needs.
_____	<u>One Stop Shop Homeless Resource Center</u>	Development of a coordinated system and process by which homeless assistance is allocated as effectively as possible and is easily accessible to all homeless persons.

Increasing Stability



Compassion Strategies  
All Hands On Deck

## CAMPAIGN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

### TOPEKA/SHAWNEE COUNTY

### SECTOR TEAM COALITION AS OF 9/12/24

#### **Campaign Chair**

Brett Martin (United Way)- Campaign Chair

To be determined- Campaign Vice Chair

#### **Coaching Team**

Barry Feaker (Compassion Strategies)- Campaign Strategy/Project Development Consultant

Carrie Higgins (City of Topeka)- Sector Team Coach

Kourtney Barr (TRM)- Sector Team Coach

#### **Strategic Development Team**

Miriam Krehbiel- TRM

La Manda Broyles- TRM

Brett Martin- UW

Barry Feaker- CS

Carrie Higgins- COT

Bradley Hopper- Medical Developer

SJ Hazim- Community Advocate

Chris Palmer- Cornerstone

TBD- Behavioral Health

Kourtney Barr- TRM

Chris Gnagi- LT. Col Retired 190<sup>th</sup> ARW

Jennifer Schmidt- KU Law

Misty Bosch Hastings- City of Lawrence  
Homeless Solutions

Trey George- THA

Greg Schwerdt- Schwerdt Design Group

Brad Wheeler- 1<sup>st</sup> UMC

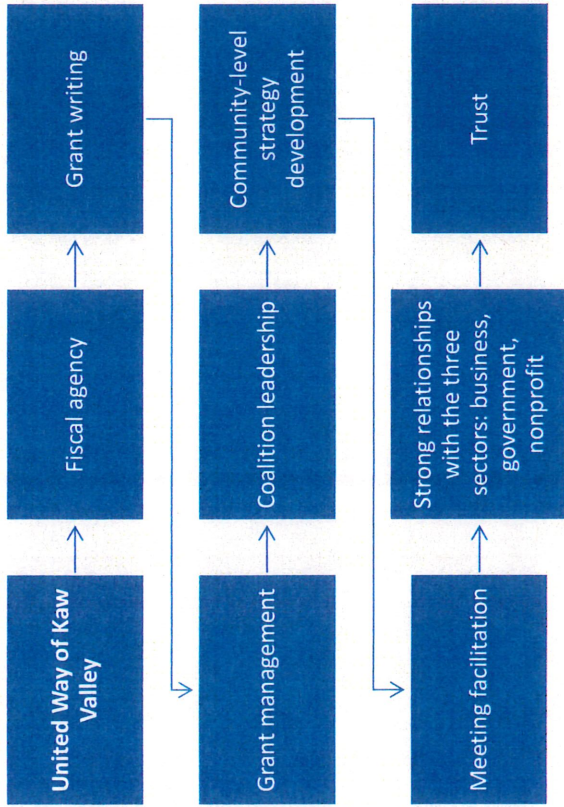
Mary Thomas- CRC

Austin Parker- Attorney

Pat Michaelis



## United Way of Kaw Valley

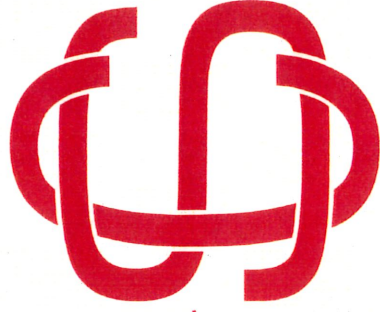


**Working together  
to end chronic  
homelessness in  
Topeka/Shawnee  
County by 2030**



Same, Different,  
Competition, or What?

**Built  
For  
Zero.**  
COMMUNITY  
SOLUTIONS



Compassion Strategies  
All Hands On Deck

# AHOD SYSTEM TEMPLATE



CAMPAIGN SYSTEM  
DEVELOPMENT



TEAM SELECTION



COMMUNICATION  
PLATFORM  
DEVELOPMENT



CAMPAIGN LAUNCH



PROJECT SELECTION



PROJECT  
MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM



PROJECT LAUNCH



PROJECT  
COMPLETION

