



The Rest of the Story

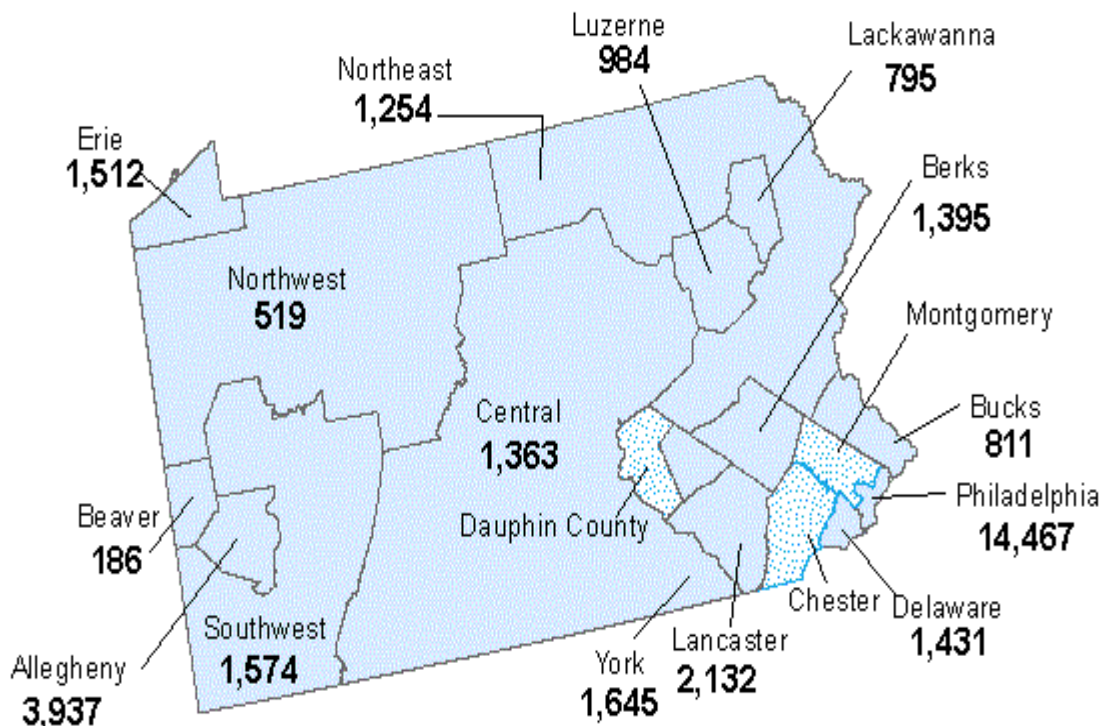
Executive Summary

October 2012

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its many regions have plans to end homelessness, but measuring success is a challenge. Without a reliable count of how many people who are homeless, how can we know we are succeeding? How can communities and policymakers know the level of resources needed to eradicate the problem?

The People's Emergency Center contends that an accurate count is essential in order to set a baseline for policy makers who are interested in ending homelessness. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) requires Pennsylvania's regions to

34,004 Persons Experiencing Homelessness Served in Pennsylvania, 2011*



submit data in a number of ways, including the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). “The Rest of the Story” is a summary of the AHAR data from those regions that provided data to PEC. A complete report can be received by sending a request to policy@pec-cares.org

The data below shows the number of persons who spent at least one night in an emergency or transitional housing program that reports to HUD. It does not represent all those who were homeless in Pennsylvania. In addition, it includes the number of persons who are residing in permanent supportive housing, programs that house formerly homeless persons and are included in the AHAR report.

Total persons residing at least one night in either emergency, transitional or permanent supportive housing in 15 Continuum of Care programs in Pennsylvania, October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011ⁱ				
	Emergency Housing (EH)	Transitional Housing (TH)	Total Homeless Persons Served (EH + TH adjusted for duplicates)	Total Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) (adjusted for duplicates)
<i>Pennsylvania</i>	26,518	9,227	34,004**	9,368
<i>Philadelphia</i>	12,237	2,971	14,467	4,916
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	1,140	364	1,431	265
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	854	180	984	222
<i>Berks Co.</i>	1,020	446	1,395	367
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	888	545	1,363	312
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	502	334	795	66
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	594	724	1,254	385
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	1,501	740	2,132	158
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	344	508	811	34
<i>York Co.</i>	1,578	151	1,645	223
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny</i>	2,933	1,206	3,937	1,204
<i>Southwest PA</i>	1,200	455	1,574	267
<i>Northwest PA</i>	430	116	519	371

<i>Beaver Co.</i>	73	122	186	118
<i>Erie Co.</i>	1,224	365	1,512	462
**Please Note: The number of individuals and persons in families does not add up to the total due to the adjustment for duplicates. Refer to the Methodology section in the complete report for more details.				

The Rest of the Story presents the AHAR data to policymakers and practitioners with a measure of the scale of the need. It can add understanding to important outcome measurements that HUD, other funders, and program evaluators can use to measure success, including:

- How many people exited shelter for permanent housing?
- How many people left with employment?
- How many people did not become homeless again?
- How many people were connected to mainstream human service systems, i.e., health care, employment training, etc., that would help them not become homeless again?

The Rest of the Story offers an opportunity for the Commonwealth’s policy makers to understand the scope of homelessness in Pennsylvania as they consider supporting efforts to end homelessness. PEC intends to dialogue with policy makers, members of the media and the public to raise the awareness of the need for high quality data that demonstrates the effectiveness of the homeless services delivery system.

The **People’s Emergency Center’s** mission is to nurture families, strengthen neighborhoods and drive change in West Philadelphia. Through a community of more than 200 housing units and three educational centers offering job training, parenting and early childhood education, and technology coursework, PEC seeks to change the life trajectory for the women and children who seek its services and inspire them to aspire to new heights. PEC community development programs respond to community needs and build on neighborhood assets to help bridge the digital divide, expand mixed-income housing opportunities, stimulate economic growth, create wealth, and improve the quality of life for all West Philadelphia residents.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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* ⁱ Pennsylvania has 18 Continuum of Care programs, 15 of which are represented here. Please refer to the Methodology section for a full explanation. The sums of those served in EH and TH may not add up to the total due to the adjustment factor for duplicates determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). See *Adjustment for Duplicated Data* under the Methodology section for a full explanation.