

BOARD OF TRUSTEES//

Barbara H. Benham Chair
Teresa L. McWain Vice Chair
Amy Dawson Vice Chair
Patrick F. Jarvis Secretary
Timothy T. Miller Treasurer
Jeffrey Lyttle Past Chair

Nancy Jeffrey Chair Emeritus
Michelle Heritage Executive Director

Darnita M. Bradley
Susan Carroll-Boser
Joseph Hayek
Erik Janas
Chad A. Jester
Andy Keller
Timothy King
Ian Labitue
Dawn Tyler Lee
Karen Jefferson Morrison
Sheila Prillerman
Stephen M. Smith
Paul M. Stachura
Jonathan D. Welty

FOUNDING SPONSORS//

City of Columbus
Columbus Chamber
The Columbus Foundation
Franklin County Board
of Commissioners
Metropolitan Area Church Council
United Way of Central Ohio

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 24, 2019

For more information, contact:
Sara Loken scloken@csb.org 614-715-2527

COMMUNITY COUNTS HOMELESS

(Columbus, OH) – The annual point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County was held today. Community Shelter Board worked in collaboration with local service providers, partner agencies, and volunteers to count the area’s sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations, including adults, youth, and children.

“Point-in-time counts are an important method used to better understand the extent of homelessness across the nation. With this data, we can better understand our community’s progress on reducing homelessness and plan and advocate for the right programs and services for people facing homelessness,” said Michelle Heritage, executive director of Community Shelter Board.

The method for today’s count was comprehensive and included more than 1,000 people who spent the night of Jan. 23 in one of 10 emergency shelters. Other input will be added to the count, including the number of people counted on the streets and at known encampments early this morning, and those counted at soup kitchens and other service-based agencies throughout the day.

Careful review and comparison of the numbers is conducted to remove duplication and assure accuracy. Results are typically finalized and made available in April. Two hundred eighty-eight (288) people were counted on the streets during the 2018 count, along with 1,519 in shelter and transitional housing.

Community Shelter Board leads a coordinated, community effort to make sure everyone has a place to call home. CSB is the collective impact organization driving strategy, accountability, collaboration, and resources to achieve the best outcomes for people facing homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County. With the support of a compassionate community, our system of care served more than 12,000 people last year with homelessness prevention, shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

Community Shelter Board is funded by the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the United Way of Central Ohio, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation, American Electric Power Foundation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the State of Ohio, and many other public and private investors.