



Until everyone has a place to call home

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMMUNITY COUNTS HOMELESS

The annual point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County was held yesterday, January 25, 2023. 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,” said Shannon Isom, President & CEO of Community Shelter Board. “What we already know going into the count is that between fiscal year 2021 and FY2022, homeless shelters in Franklin County served 2% more people overall, and the number of families with children seeking shelter increased by 19%.”

The method for yesterday's count was comprehensive and included more than 1,300 people who spent the night of Jan. 25 in one of several emergency shelters. Other input will be added to the count, including the number of people counted on the streets and at known encampments, and those counted at soup kitchens and warming centers 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. Three hundred forty-two (342) people were counted on the streets during the 2022 count, along with 1,570 in shelter and transitional housing.

Community Shelter Board leads a coordinated, community effort to make sure everyone has a place to call home. We bring together 20 agencies across the community to work together as a cohesive system for change, driving effective strategy and productive collaboration to achieve the best outcomes for people facing homelessness. With the support of a compassionate community, our system of care served 15,000 people last year with homelessness prevention, shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

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

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