

OUR MISSION

LEADING SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITY PRACTICES
TO REDUCE
HOMELESSNESS



We accomplish our mission in three ways:

Effective, engaging, nonjudgmental, consistent street outreach. (PATH, UCM, H.O.T. teams)

Efficient systems development, management, training and implementation practices. Coordinated Entry, Homeless Management Information System, Lead Agency for the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

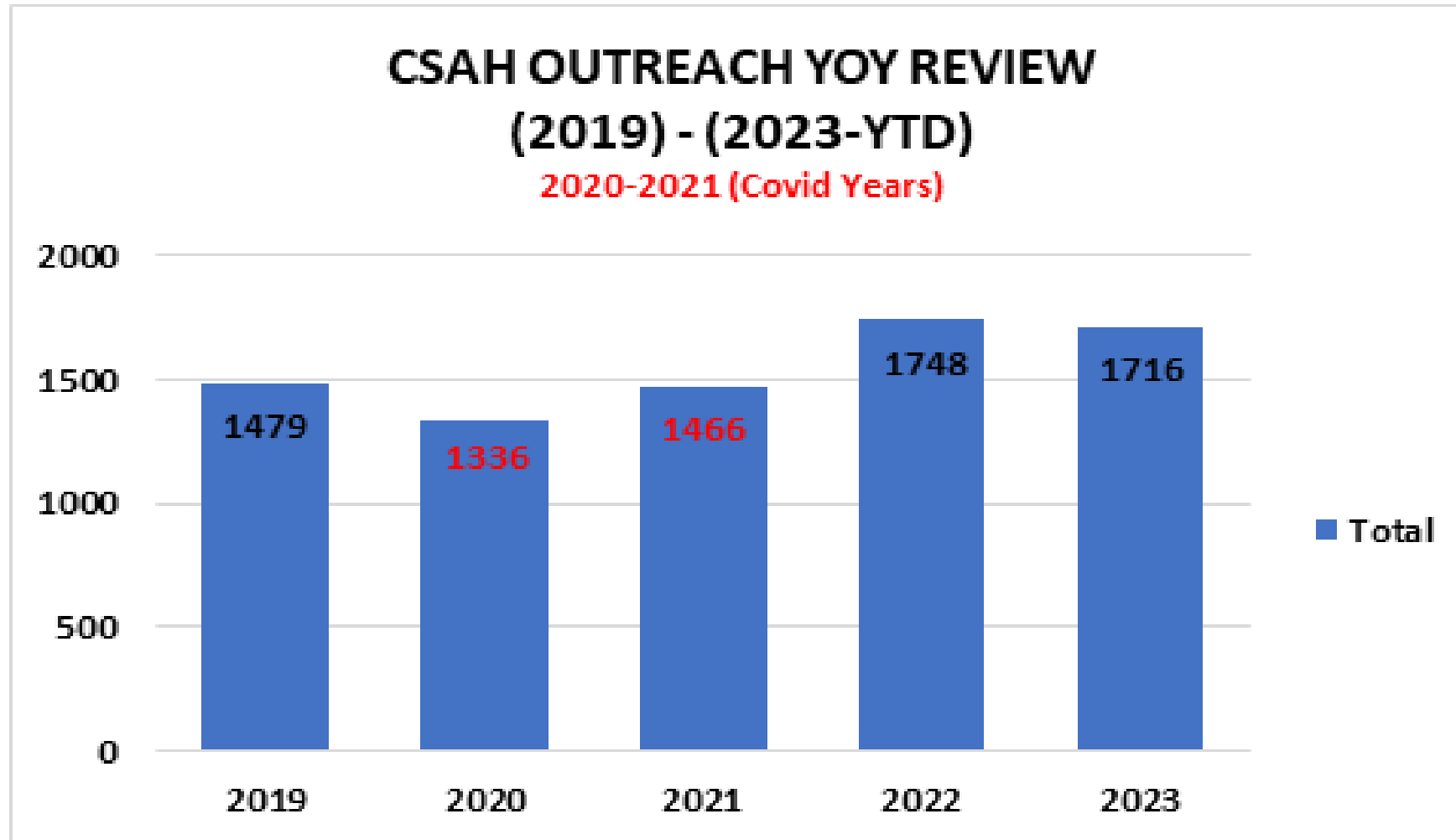
The development of housing for people experiencing homelessness. Low barrier housing with a “housing first approach”, wrap around services and case management support.

CSAH Street Outreach efforts

Our outreach approach is nonjudgmental conversation coupled with rapport and relationship building while engaging with citizens living in places not meant for human habitation. Trauma informed, harm reduction, de-escalation trained professional team members work to gain trust through consistent interactions with our unsheltered community members. Client information is tracked in our community data platform (HMIS).

- PATH Mental Health outreach staff partners directly with CCPD, SPD, BHU, BHCC, American Works and JC Lewis medical outreach.
- Homeless Outreach Team (H.O.T.) partners directly with SPD, BHU, BHCC, American Works and JC Lewis medical outreach.
- Unified Case Management Outreach- includes assisting with housing applications, various public benefit enrollments, coordination of mental health and health assessments in the field.
- Inclement weather: coordination activities for our unsheltered citizens including direct communications for vital resources and transportation when needed.
- Encampments: Offer services and linkages to vital resources prior to camp closure, provide coordination support and transportation for residents during the process; development of a camp closure policy for local government consideration.

CSAH Street Outreach by the numbers (HMIS data)



Resources provided through street outreach in 2023

- CSAH has provided 337 Greyhound bus tickets to help unsheltered families and individuals travel to stable homes.
- CSAH has provided 249 nights in hotel/motels for medically fragile people experiencing homelessness.
- CSAH has responded to 448 calls from SPD, CCPD, local business owners and concerned citizens.
- CSAH has provided 1877 transports (documented/logged) for people experiencing homelessness.

Give Change That Counts

- Give Change That Counts public education initiative hopes to reduce panhandling in the community by providing a more effective and safer way for people to help those in need. People compelled to panhandle are often in need of services- help with housing, food, mental health and medical needs, employment services- that they aren't accessing.
- When we support panhandling, it can exacerbate the broad economic and social factors instead of helping. Through this countywide effort, we hope to educate the community and provide a meaningful pathway to donate to local day centers. These critical community partners work to quickly connect our community's most vulnerable to housing, food, mental health and medical care, and employment opportunities.
- Aimed to increase public education and awareness, this program hopes to encourage compassionate community members, tourists, and others to support local day centers where citizens who feel the need to panhandle can connect with critical services and support. While panhandling is not illegal, there are more meaningful ways to support people in need. When you give to this initiative, you join our efforts to help make Chatham/Savannah the very best place to live, work and play.
- Funds donated through this initiative will help support the day centers at Union Mission, Salvation Army, Family Promise and Come As You Are Deliverance Center. These vital partners provide resources, linkages to services, and act as safe havens during inclement weather.

PANHANDLING
WILL STOP WHEN YOU
GIVE CHANGE
THAT COUNTS

DONATE
To local day centers
that provide resources
for those in need.



givechangethatcounts.com



CSAH is the Lead Agency (Collaborative Applicant) for the ICH/CoC

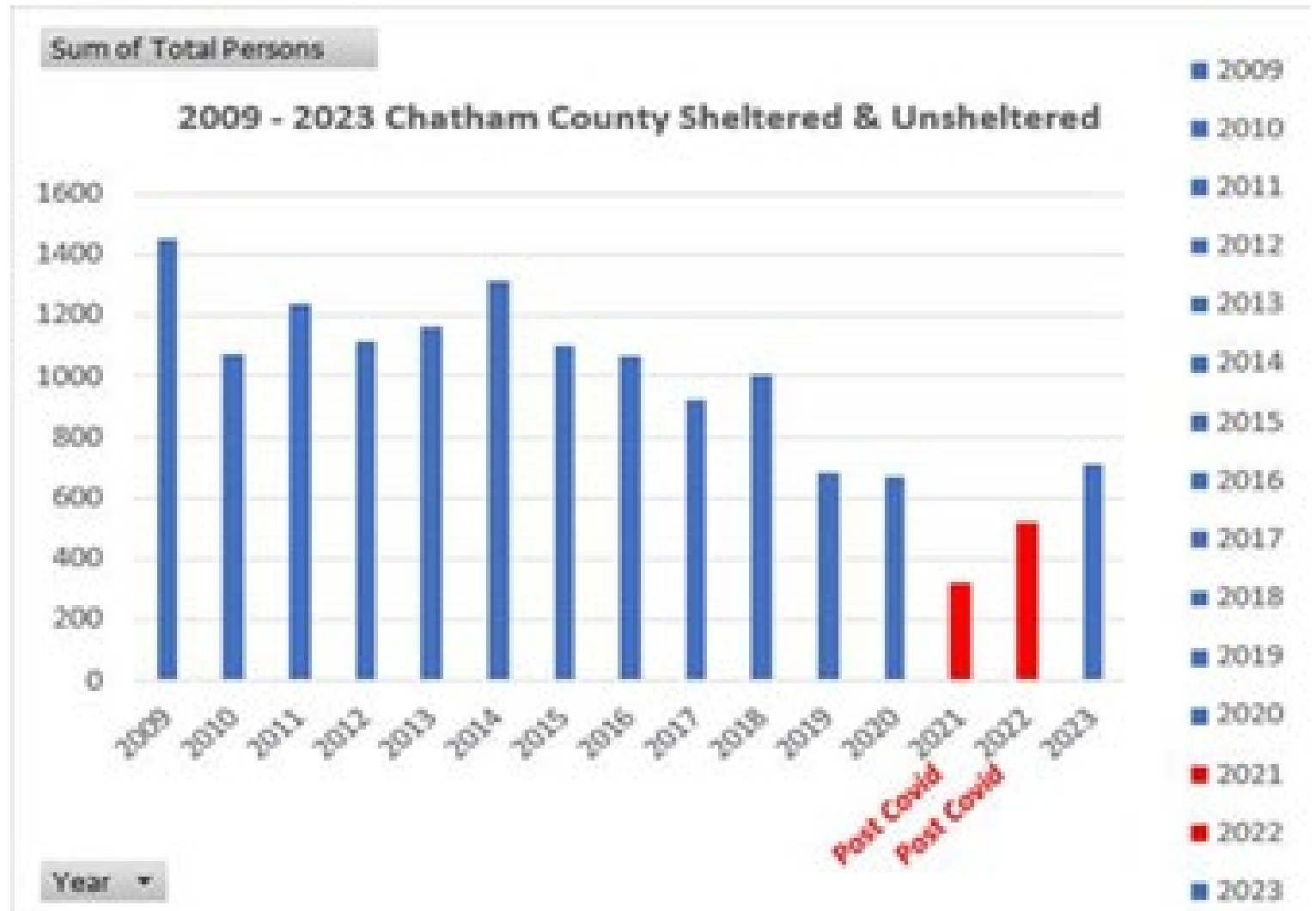
Primary functions as the Lead Agency:

1. The eligible applicant designated by the CoC to collect and submit the CoC Registration and CoC Consolidated Application; administers the HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity Competition (NOFO) annually.
2. Develops, manages, provides technical assistance and trainings, promotes system implementation throughout the CoC (Coordinated Entry and Homeless Management Information System data platform).
3. Applies for CoC planning funds during the CoC Program Competition (NOFO).
4. Assembles data, provides data analysis, tracks the outcomes of the homeless services delivery system.
5. Responsible for administration, research, drafting regarding strategic planning and system-wide coordination in conjunction with CoC board and strategic planning committee.
6. Conducts an annual gaps analysis.
7. Ensure strategic goals to develop and implement a housing strategy, including Fair Housing, Housing First approaches, and access to affordable housing for Chatham County (that goes beyond HUD performance requirements); Coordinate the implementation of a housing and service system within Chatham County.
8. Works to build awareness for public/stakeholder confidence in the ICH/CoC and will publicize its work.
9. Plans and conducts the annual Point In Time Count.
10. Provides development opportunities, support and training for ICH/CoC partners.

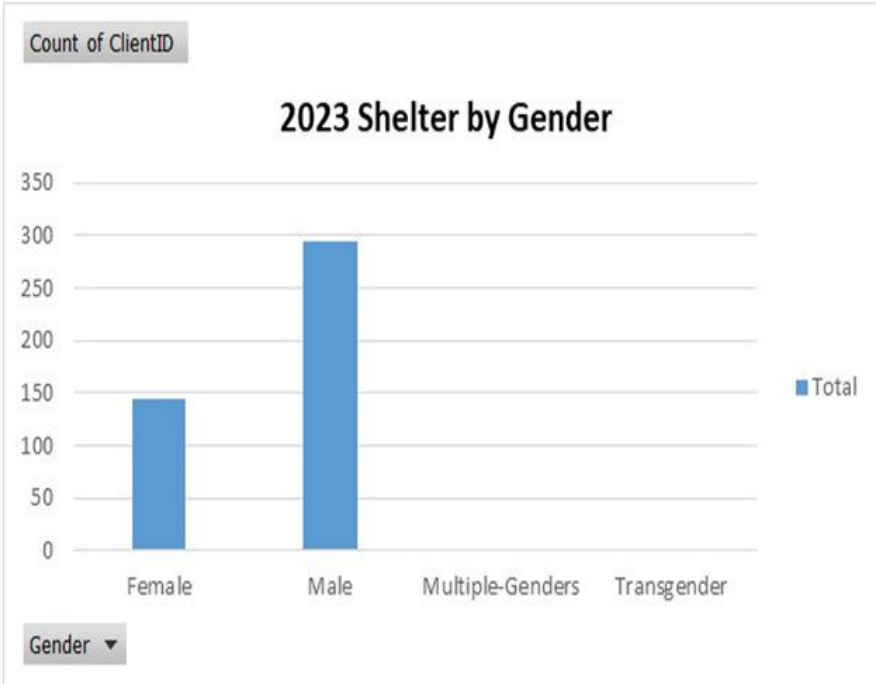
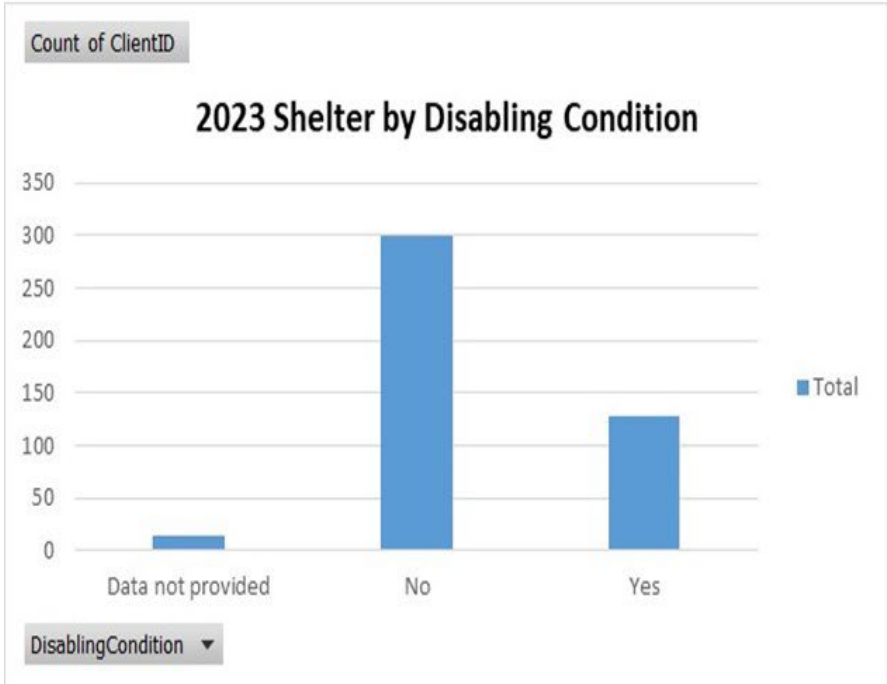
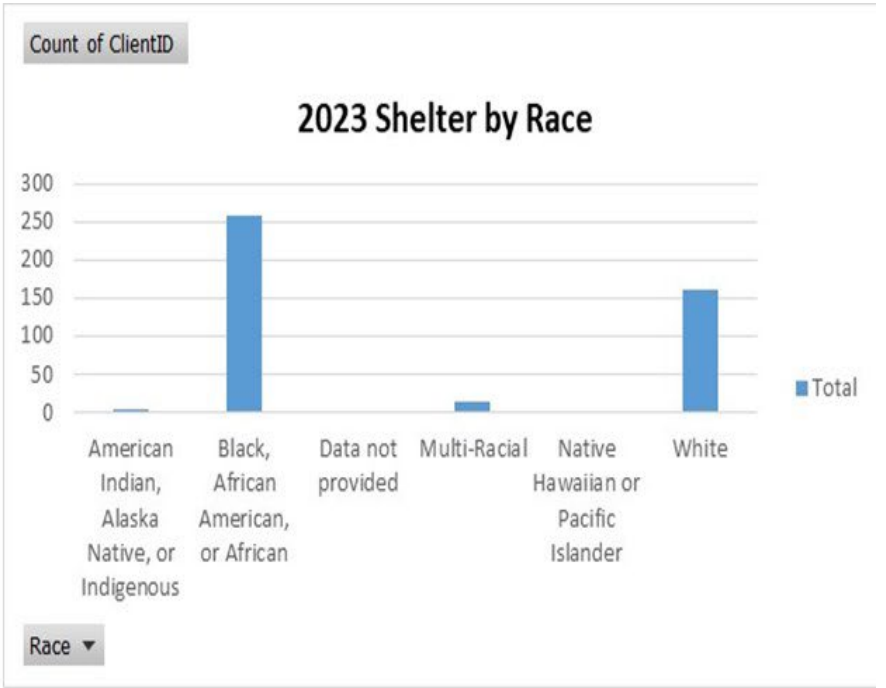
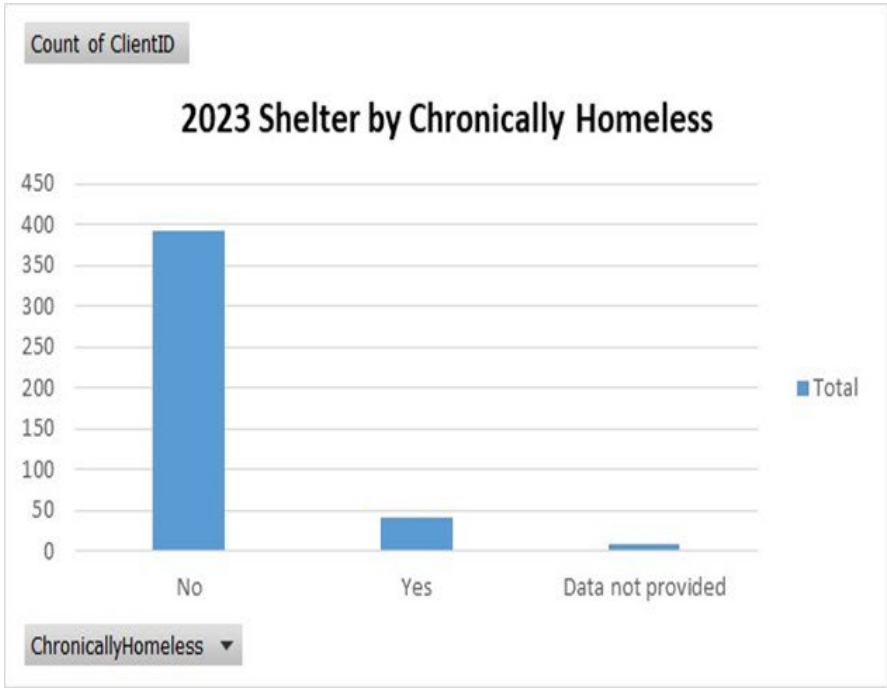
What is the Point in Time Count?

- The Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count) is federally mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for all communities receiving federal funds through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants Program. The PIT Count takes an annual unduplicated census of people experiencing homelessness, sheltered or unsheltered, on a given night in January. Given its limitations, the PIT Count should not be viewed as an exact number, but rather a useful tool that can be used to estimate characteristics of the Chatham/ Savannah homeless population and gauge changes over time.

Annual PIT comparison year over year



Chatham Savannah
 Point in Time
 Count 2023
 Sheltered
 unduplicated total
441



Chatham Savannah Point in Time Count 2023 Sheltered Data Review

1. Men (295) outnumbered women (144) by more than 2 to 1.

Key factors: more bed inventory for men than women. Examples; Old Savannah City Mission, Union Mission Grace House for Men and more male bed spaces than female bed spaces at Inner City Night Shelter.

2. There are a higher number of single unattached adults (370), while 66 adult shelter residents have children.

Key factor: more bed inventory for single adults, nearly 6 times more, than available bed inventory for families with children.

3. Chronic homeless status of shelter participants revealed only 9.3% as being “chronically homeless” and the vast majority or 88.89% as not chronically homeless. This is a significant finding signaling a vast majority of participants currently in shelters are episodically homeless and could mean many are experiencing homelessness for the first time.

4. The data also revealed 67.8% or 299 shelter participants with no disabling condition while 29% or 128 shelter residents reported a disabling condition. This is significant finding as many permanent supportive housing programs for people experiencing homelessness have eligibility requirements and criteria around disabilities (mental health, physical health and/or addiction) and chronic homelessness. **There is a critical shortage of housing for people without these qualifications.**

What is chronic homelessness?

Chronic Homeless- HUD defines someone as chronically homeless when they have at least one disabling condition (i.e., a substance use disorder, mental illness, chronic health condition, disability, etc.) AND have been consecutively homeless for at least one year OR have been homeless at least four times in the past three years, with a cumulative time of at least one year.

How many
emergency and
transitional
shelter beds are
available in our
community?

2019 emergency shelter beds= 215 total

96 beds for families with children

87 beds for men

24 beds for women

8 beds for children only

2023 emergency shelter beds= 405 total

184 beds for families with children

153 beds for men

56 beds for women

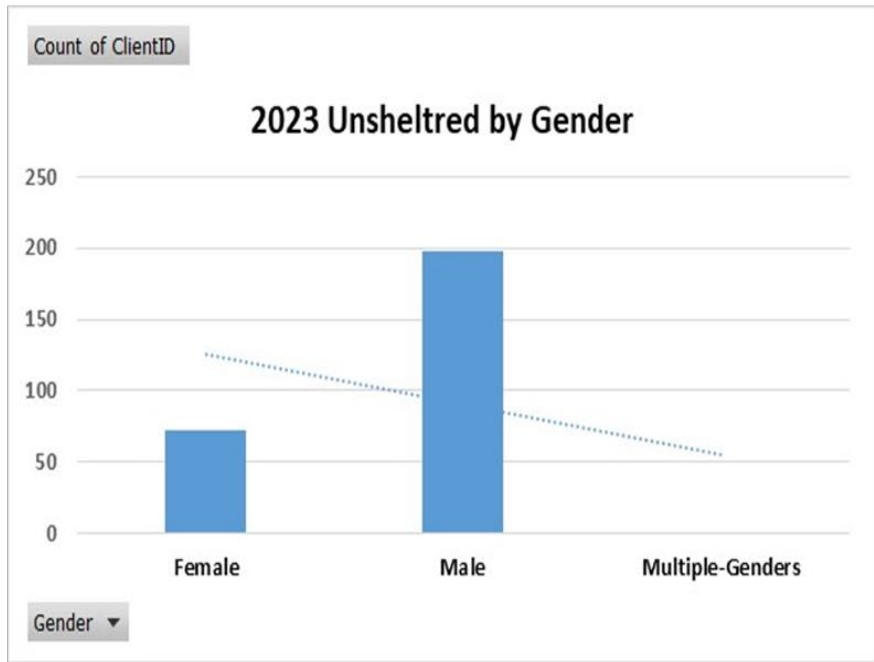
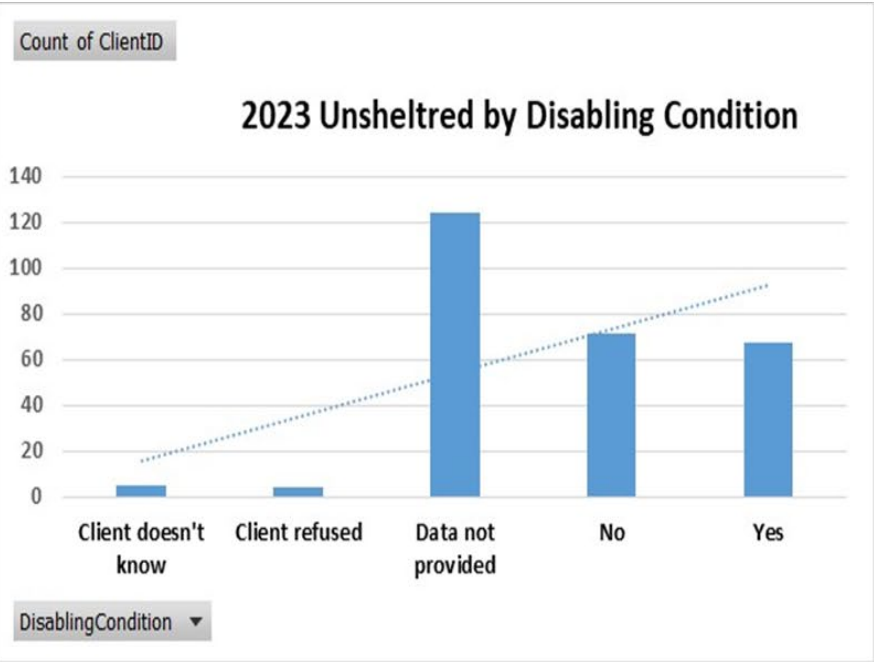
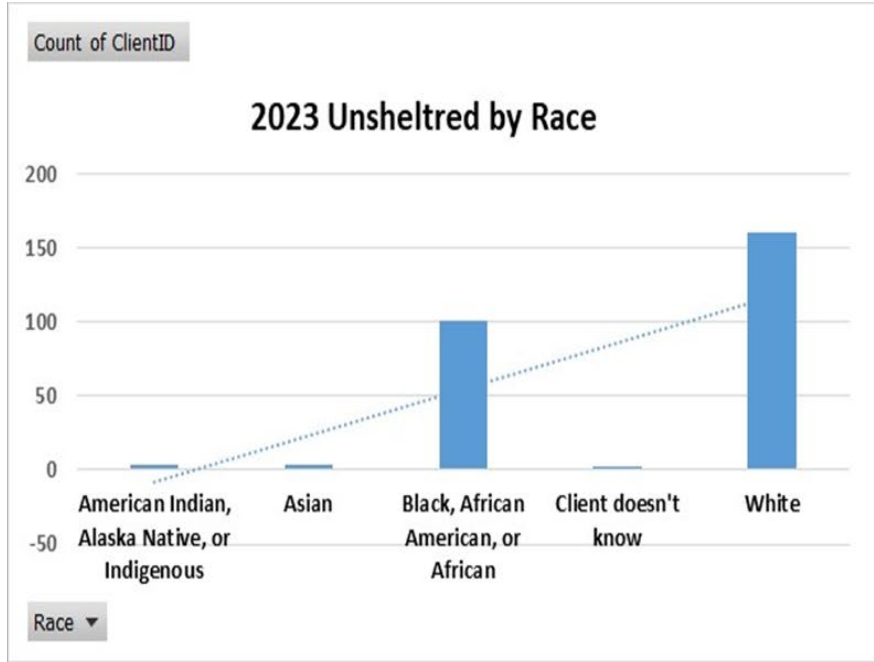
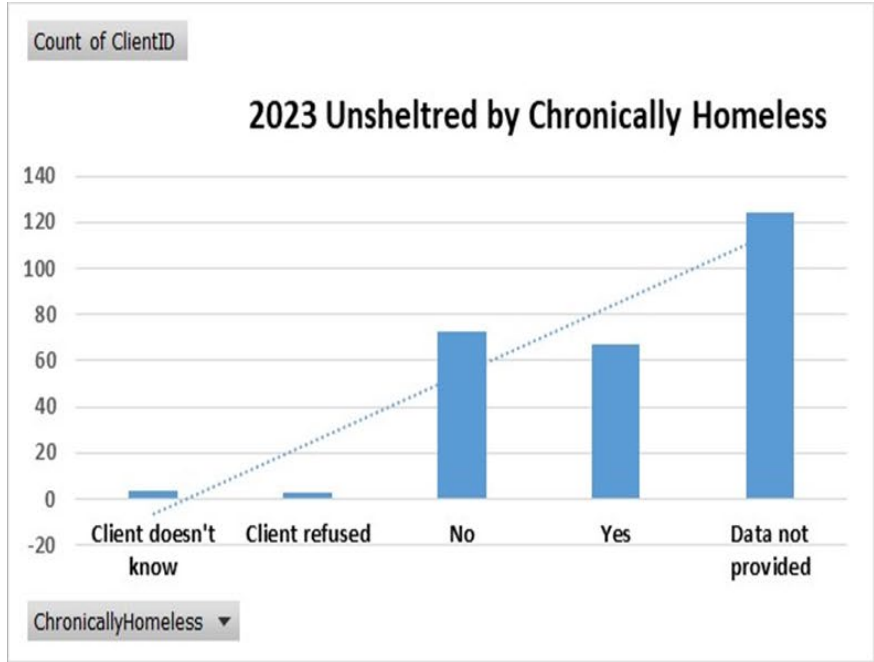
12 beds for children only

2023 Transitional Shelter Beds = 137 total

6 beds for families with children

131 beds for unaccompanied adults

Chatham Savannah
 Point in Time
 Count 2023
 Unsheltered
 unduplicated total
271




Chatham Savannah Point in Time Count Unsheltered Data Review

- Men (198) outnumber women (72) by more than 2 to 1. 73% male to 26% female
- 49% of the unsheltered surveyed were between the ages of 35 and 54, 30% were over 55 years of age and 21% were under the age of 34.
- 224 people were unsheltered in Savannah (which includes the unincorporated areas of Chatham) and 45 were unsheltered in Pooler/Bloomingdale and 2 in Port Wentworth.
- 67 self reported a disabling condition & 67 self reported as Chronically Homeless. This signifies high vulnerability-potentially life threatening.
- 18 reported as Veterans
- 69 people surveyed have been unsheltered for more than 36 months.

Mckinney Vento Student P.I.T 2023 Data

Chatham County School System reported 520 students registered as Mckinney Vento



Of the 520 students, 120 were living in a hotel/motel.

McKinney Vento Definition (Students)

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This definition also includes Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason. Nov 29, 2022



Factors Contributing to the Increase in the Point in Time Count

Several factors contributed to the increase in PIT totals from 2022 (523) to 2023 (712), including but not limited to;

1. New methodology.
2. Use of new technology (Counting US app with geo mapping capability).
3. Identification and higher participation levels of additional providers for the sheltered count.
4. More street outreach programs.
5. Better counting techniques.
6. Lack of affordable housing.
7. Evictions
8. Increased financial instability due to rapid rate of inflation.
9. The pandemic.

How much permanent supportive housing is available in our community for people experiencing homelessness?

Families with children= 352

Individual adult households= 585

Total= 937 throughout the CoC

HMIS data quality improvements

- Increased number of users in the Homeless Management information System from 18 to 37 (in comparison with active users from 2021).
- Increased number of programs/projects in HMIS from 19 (data from 2021) to 78 (most recent data 2023).
- Internal referral processes implemented in 2022.
- Increased data accuracy by 31% in 2022.
- Implemented document uploads directly into the system.
- Onsite project observation monitoring, help desk and technical assistance provided to all programs/projects/users.

CSAH housing programs

CSAH provides housing for veterans experiencing homelessness.

Starting in 2015, CSAH began building the Tiny House Project, The Cove at Dundee. With community support, the first veterans moved into the Cove at Dundee in 2019. Phase final phase will be complete in 2023, with a total of 46 units. All residents of the Cove at Dundee remain stably housed. To date, 61 veterans have obtained stable housing through this program.

CSAH is investing in housing for families with children experiencing homelessness.

CSAH is actively raising funds to acquire new affordable housing developments which will directly support ICH/CoC agencies. A new multi-use tiny home community, Dundee Cottages, adjacent to the Cove at Dundee. CSAH partners with organizations like Community Housing Services Agency, Landbank Authority, Savannah Affordable Housing Fund, the City of Savannah and Chatham County Affordable Housing Coalition to achieve its housing development goals.

CSAH manages permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities.

City 54 is comprised of 54 single family homes for persons with documented health challenges and is owned by the City of Savannah. CSAH manages the properties (including rent and maintenance) and provides case management for all residents of City 54.





Cottages at Dundee, 40 tiny homes and resident service center for families and individuals experiencing homelessness

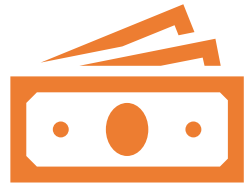
Chatham/ Savannah Advancements in transitional housing and permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness.

- Family Promise- Housing development in partnership with Community Services Housing Agency- Cummings Street 3 single family homes. 16 Savannah Gardens single family homes currently under development through Community Services Housing Agency.
- Union Mission -Transitional Shelter for unaccompanied homeless women- 32 beds –90-day program completed in 2022 with plans to expand.
- Chatham Savannah Authority for the Homeless- in 2022, completed 11 tiny homes for veterans. Currently in partnership with Community Services Housing Agency completing the Cove at Dundee with the final 12 tiny homes.
- CSAH partnering with CHSA, Landbank Authority, City of Savannah, and the SAHF to develop Dundee Cottages- 40 permanent supportive tiny homes for families and children with wrap around services, a residence center and a maintenance cottage. The community is currently under development expected to be complete in 2024.

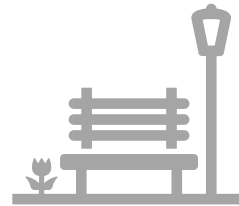
Innovative
community
work currently
under
development

- Chatham County Community Information Exchange (CIE) data integrations model.
- Familiar Faces- in partnership with the Behavioral Health Unit, Gateway, Emergency Medical Services, CCPD, SPD, Chatham County Jail, Memorial Health, JC Lewis Health and Chatham Savannah Authority for the Homeless.
- Homeless Court Initiative- data comparisons underway to identify level of need for justice involved people who are also experiencing homelessness.
- Mobile shower and laundry facility – recent RFP through Chatham County BOC.
- Chatham County Police Department homeless outreach officer, Sgt. Young coordinating efforts with CSAH outreach teams.

City of Savannah Investments in homeless services in 2023



For fiscal year 2023, a total of \$1,695,585.00 was invested in Homeless Services Allocations.



The City of Savannah budgeted \$601,279.00 from the General Fund towards homeless services, which include:

*Union Mission - Homeless Day Center:
\$226, 279.00*

*CSAH – Savannah Homeless Outreach Team:
\$155,000.00*

*Park Place Outreach – Mini Day Center:
\$10,000.00*

Come As You Are Deliverance Ministries – Mini Day Center: \$10,000.00

CSAH – Homeless System Services Admin (not for direct service provision): \$200,000.00



A total of \$1,094,306.00, came from Federal Grant Support, which included:

Continuum of Care City 54: \$800,827.00

Community Development Block Grant City 54 Support Services: \$98, 544.00

Emergency Solutions Grant: \$194, 935.00