

**Summary of the  
Erie County (PA) Continuum of Care  
2021 HUD Point in Time Count  
Conducted on Wednesday January 27, 2021**

*Prepared by the Mercyhurst University Civic Institute for the  
Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition*

## Overview of the 2021 Erie County Point in Time Count

- The Erie County (PA) Continuum of Care conducted their annual Point in Time Count of unhoused persons on Wednesday January 27, 2021.
- Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, a waiver to not conduct the unsheltered count was submitted to HUD and accepted.
- The 'zero' reported for the unsheltered portion of the count will be looked upon as an outlier regarding trend data.
- The pandemic had impacted operations at many of the sheltered programs. Some were operating at a reduced capacity, while others had restrictions in place regarding residential stays.
- The total number of persons identified as homeless the night of the Point in Time count was the highest it has been in the time period data has been reported (since 2017).
- 1,137 total persons were reported during the evening as being in an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, Permanent Supportive, or Rapid Rehousing Program. This figure represents a 13% increase over the 2020 figure.
- Of the 1,137, a total of 261 were identified by Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing Programs and Safe Havens. It is important to separate this figure from the overall totals, as this figure is reported to HUD, along with unsheltered individuals. HUD does not quantify those in long-term housing programs as being homeless. Our community identifies them as being near homeless; without the permanent housing and rapid rehousing programs they utilize many may, indeed, be reliant on the short-term programs. It is important for local planning efforts to keep track of this population as their situations may change.
- Some of the data points included in the 2021 PIT count may not be truly reflective of the ongoing homelessness issue in our community. 2022 and forward (barring the end of the pandemic) should be more reflective of longitudinal data.

## 2021 Point in Time Count - OVERALL SUMMARY TABLE

<b>Households with Adults and Children Together</b>		
	Total # Of Households	Total # people living in these households
Unsheltered	0	0
Emergency Shelters	17	44
Transitional Housing	22	41
Safe Haven	10	10
Permanent Housing/Rapid Rehousing programs	259	667
<b>TOTAL ADULTS WITH CHILDREN</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>762</b>
<b>Households Adults Only (without Children)</b>		
	Total # Of Households	Total # people living in these households
Unsheltered	0	0
Emergency Shelters	121	121
Transitional Housing	45	45
Safe Haven	0	0
Permanent Housing/Rapid Rehousing programs	199	209
<b>TOTAL ADULTS ONLY (WITHOUT CHILDREN)</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>375</b>
<b>TOTALS COMBINED</b>		
	Total # Of Households	Total # people living in these households
Unsheltered	0	0
Emergency Shelters	138	165
Transitional Housing	67	86
Safe Haven	10	10
Permanent Housing/Rapid Rehousing programs	458	876
<b>TOTAL ALL</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>1137</b>

## Trend Analysis of Erie County Point in Time Count Data

Trend Analysis of data for the Erie County Point in Time Count consists of years 2017 through 2021.

<b>TOTAL Number of Identified Homeless Persons (Erie County CoC Point in Time Count)</b>					
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Total # Homeless	949	1,026	1,040	1,004	1,137
Total # Sheltered	941	1,022	1,034	996	1,137
Total # Unsheltered	8	4	6	8	-

<b>Total Number of Identified Homeless Persons by Housing Type</b>					
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Emergency Shelter	240	238	273	255	165
Transitional/Safe Haven	179	114	117	85	96
Permanent/RRH	522	670	644	656	876

### Trend Data

- Comparative data is utilized for years 2017 through 2021.
- Methodology of how data is collected and reported had changed at this interval from previous years. The most notable change was the identification of those with 'unmet needs'. No longer collected, in many instances this was at times duplicative of who was reported in other areas.
- The 2021 year saw the highest number of persons in permanent housing or rapid rehousing programs over the comparative period. This was likely caused by federal policies that prohibited evictions as well as increased rental assistance programs during the pandemic.
- This figure also was the driver in 2021 recognizing the highest figure over the compared periods.
- Emergency Shelter figures were significantly lower in 2021, likely due to reduced capacity of the overflow shelter and a local drop-in shelter not being in operation due to the pandemic.

## 2021 Point in Time Count - Emergency Shelters

Erie County, PA CoC 2021 Point in Time Count WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 2021	Adults and Children Together		Adults Only	
	TOTAL	Vets	TOTAL	Vets
Total # Households	17	1	121	15
Of those, the total # of people residing in these households	44	6	121	15
# of People 17 or younger	28	4	-	-
# of People 18-24	8	-	6	-
# of People age 25 and older	14	2	115	15
Female	33	0	25	0
Male	17	1	96	15
Transgender	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	-	-	-	-
Non-Hispanic	43	1	115	15
Hispanic	7	-	6	-
White	14	0	67	11
Black/African American	27	1	46	2
Asian	-	-		
American Indian/Alaska Native	-	-	3	1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	-	-	1	-
Multiple Races	9	-	4	1
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless	2	1	42	7
Of these, the total number of people who reside in these households (adults and children combined)	12	6	39	4

### Emergency Shelters

- Nine Erie County programs submitted figures for Emergency Shelter portion of the count.
- There were 138 households and 165 persons identified residing in Emergency Shelter programs on the night of the 2021 PIT Count.
- Four of the programs reported households consisting of Adults with Children.
- Seven of the programs reported households of Adults Only
- Programs included in Emergency Shelter counts each year are Our Neighbors Place and Mental Health Association Warming Center – both programs' figures were impacted due to the COVID pandemic.
- MHA Warming Center was closed, and Our Neighbors Place was at reduced capacity
- Inclusive of the figures reported were 7 households of unaccompanied youth (9 persons), and 2 parenting youth households (6 persons).

*Of the figures reported in the table above, 72 individuals were reported to have a Serious Mental Illness, 37 faced a Substance Use Disorder, and 11 were a Victim of Domestic Violence.*

## 2021 Point in Time Count - Transitional Housing Programs

Erie County, PA CoC 2021 Point in Time Count WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 2021	Adults and Children Together		Adults Only	
	TOTAL	Vets	TOTAL	Vets
Total # Households	22	1	45	12
Of those, the total # of people residing in these households	41	1	45	12
# of People 17 or younger	19	-	-	-
# of People 18-24	15	1	5	1
# of People age 25 and older	7	-	40	9
Female	20	-	7	-
Male	21	1	38	12
Transgender	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	-	-	-	-
Non-Hispanic	26	1	43	11
Hispanic	-	-	2	1
White	21	-	16	9
Black/African American	16	1	9	1
Asian	1	-	-	-
American Indian/Alaska Native	-	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-
Multiple Races	3	-	-	-
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless	1	-	4	3
Of these, the total number of people who reside in these households (adults and children combined)	2	-	4	3

### Transitional Housing Programs

- Six Transitional Housing programs reported residents staying within their program for the 2021 Point in Time Count.
- A total of 67 Households resided in Transitional Housing programs on the night of the 2021 Erie County PIT Count.
- Inclusive of the 67 households were 86 individuals.
- Four of the programs reported Adults and Children together.
- Four of the programs reported Adults Only residing in the program.
- Of the figures to the left, there were 4 unaccompanied youth households reported (4 persons).
- Of the figures to the left, there were 4 Parenting Youth Households reported (8 persons).
- There were 13 households that were headed by a veteran, housing 13 persons.

*Of the figures reported in the table above, 48 individuals were reported to have a Serious Mental Illness, 45 had a Substance Use Disorder, and 15 a Victim of Domestic Violence.*

## 2021 Point in Time Count - Safe Haven Programs

Erie County, PA CoC 2021 Point in Time Count WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 2021	Adults Only	
	Total	Vets
Total # Households	10	10
Of those, the total # of people residing in these households	10	10
# of People 17 or younger	-	-
# of People 18-24	1	1
# of People age 25 and older	9	9
Female	-	-
Male	10	10
Transgender	-	-
Unspecified	-	-
Non-Hispanic	9	9
Hispanic	1	1
White	9	9
Black/African American	1	1
Asian	-	-
American Indian/Alaska Native	-	-
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	-	-
Multiple Races	-	-
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless (see definition of chronically homeless)	3	3
Of these, the total number of people who reside in these households (adults and children combined)	3	3

*Of those reported in the figures in the table above, 4 were identified as having a Serious Mental Illness, 4 had a Substance Use Disorder, and 2 were released from the criminal justice system within the past 30 days.*

### Safe Haven Programs

- Erie County has one Safe Haven Program.
- There were ten households reported for the evening of the 2021 PIT count.
- All were reported as veteran households.

## 2021 Point in Time Count - Permanent Supportive & Rapid Rehousing Programs

<b>Erie County, PA CoC 2021 Point in Time Count WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 2021</b>	Adults and Children Together		Adults Only	
	TOTAL	Vets	TOTAL	Vets
Total # Households	259	23	199	91
Of those, the total # of people residing in these households	667	39	209	98
# of People 17 or younger	377	12	-	-
# of People 18-24	28	2	5	-
# of People age 25 and older	263	25	204	93
Female	406	7	63	5
Male	298	19	141	85
Transgender	-	-	5	1
Unspecified	-	-	-	-
Non-Hispanic	643	27	192	77
Hispanic	62	-	17	14
White	317	23	144	60
Black/African American	278	7	63	30
Asian	11	-	-	-
American Indian/Alaska Native	5	-	1	-
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-
Multiple Races	93	-	1	1
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless (see definition of chronically homeless)	100	1	49	33
Of these, the total number of people who reside in these households (adults and children combined)	145	1	54	34

### Permanent and Rapid Housing Programs

- A total of 458 households were reported in this category by 11 different programs.
- 876 persons resided within those households.
- All programs reported housing adults with children.
- Eight programs reported housing adults only.
- Inclusive in the table are 10 unaccompanied youth households (19 persons).
- A total of 114 Veteran-led households were reported the evening of the 2021 PIT count, consisting of 137 persons.
- 149 households were identified as being Chronically Homeless (199 persons).

*Of the figures reported above, 237 were reported to have a Serious Mental Illness, 122 a Substance Use Disorder, and 46 were victims of Domestic Violence.*



## 2021 Point in Time Count - Agency Participation by Program Type

### **EMERGENCY SHELTERS**

*Provides temporary overnight shelter for homeless persons for up to 90 days.*

- *Community of Caring Drop in Shelter*
- *Community of Caring Mary Rose Sanctuary*
- *Community Shelter Services Emergency Shelter*
- *Erie City Mission Samaritan Care*
- *Erie United Methodist Alliance Refuge*
- *Erie United Methodist Alliance Our Neighbors Place*
- *Erie City Mission Samaritan Care*
- *Safe Journey*
- *SafeNet Hospitality House*
- *Saint Patrick's Haven*

### **TRANSITIONAL HOUSING**

*Provides temporary housing and supportive services for homeless persons for 12 to 24 months.*

- *Community of Caring Transitional Housing Program*
- *Erie City Mission New Life Program*
- *Erie United Methodist Alliance Liberty House*
- *Mercy Center for Women*
- *SafeNet Bridge House*
- *SafeNet TLC Program*

### **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE**

*Permanent housing and supportive services for homeless persons.*

- *Community Shelter Services Lodge on Sass*
- *Community Shelter Services Columbus Apartments*
- *Community Shelter Services Lighting the Candle*
- *Erie County Care Mgmt Permanent Supportive Housing 1 and 2*
- *Erie United Methodist Alliance My Way Home*
- *Gaudenzia Fresh Start*
- *Veteran Affairs HUD-VASH*

### **RAPID REHOUSING**

*Provision of short-term rental assistance and services to help people obtain housing quickly*

- *Erie County Care Mgmt Rapid Rehousing*
- *Erie Dawn Rapid Rehousing*
- *Soldier On Rapid Rehousing*

*For more information on the Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, visit [www.eriehometeam.org](http://www.eriehometeam.org)*