



# MAKING EVERYONE COUNT

The 2019 Single Point in Time Count for Erie County

Identifying the Erie County Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing,  
Permanent Housing, and Unsheltered Homeless Population

Prepared by the Mercyhurst University Civic Institute for the Erie County  
Department of Human Services and Erie County Home Team Homeless  
and Housing Coalition

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## *Executive Summary*

The 2019 Single Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count was conducted on February 1, 2019. This Executive Summary provides an overview of key findings from the initiative. An in-depth analysis of all portions of the Single Point in Time count can be found later in this report.

The Single Point in Time count is conducted locally for the Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, the HUD-designated Continuum of Care in Erie County. The Erie County Department of Human Services contracted with the Mercyhurst University Civic Institute to facilitate the process. Also assisting were staff from multiple provider agencies as well as community-based volunteers. The Single Point in Time Count consisted of multiple components: a formal Unsheltered Street Count, which sought to identify those living in uninhabitable places during the evening of the count; a Direct Service Provider Count, which collected information on those within their program on this given night; a Causes of Homelessness survey, which asked for feedback from providers regarding what they see as the leading contributors to their clients' homelessness; and a Housing Needs survey, which sought input from clients regarding issues that led to their state of homelessness. In addition, a Housing Inventory Count (HIC) was conducted simultaneously. This count provides the number and type of bed units that clients may access throughout Erie County. The following is a summary of findings from each component of the Single Point in Time Count for 2019.

Unsheltered Street Count: A total of 6 persons were identified the evening of February 1, 2019 that were deemed unsheltered homeless. All were male, over the age of 25, and classified as residing in households without children. Two of the identified persons also reported information that classified them as being chronically homeless.

Direct Service Provider Count: Direct Service providers are those that are described as offering shelter or housing spaces for homeless individuals and families. For Single Point in Time reporting to HUD, figures for Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing are utilized. For local data collection and analysis (such as this report), Permanent Supportive Housing programs are also included in the process. Thirty-two programs from 14 different agencies submitted data for the night of the count. A total of 1,034 individuals, residing in 650 households, were identified as homeless. There were a total of 273 persons in Emergency Shelters, 109 in Transitional Housing units, 8 in Safe Haven spaces, and 644 in Permanent Supportive Housing programs. Of the total number, 151 were identified as veterans, largely found in the local Permanent Supportive Housing programs. There were also 185 persons who were identified as chronically homeless.

Causes of Homelessness Survey: A Causes of Homelessness Survey was distributed to each Direct Service program that was asked to participate in the SPIT count. A total of 25 surveys were completed and returned. Respondents were asked to rate factors that are key contributors to homelessness using a Likert Scale. The three top-rated factors in 2019 were Mental Health Problems, Poor Money Management Skills, and Poor Decision Making Skills.

Housing Needs Survey: Programs were asked to distribute a Housing Needs survey to up to 10 clients and ask them to fill out anonymously. The Housing Needs Survey was developed to collect information from homeless individuals regarding the reasons they are homeless and what they need to improve their situation. A total of 196 surveys were filled out and returned. Clients identified not having enough money and lack of employment as the primary causes of their homelessness. When asked what the most needed skills are to help get them in stable housing, the most common responses were those pertaining to income issues and employment. Clients also cited housing and transportation as being barriers to independence.

Housing Inventory Count: Locally, there were a reported 1,112 bed spaces available during the evening of February 1, 2019. With 1,034 persons identified as homeless that evening, bed capacity was over 90%.

## *Making Everyone Count – Why Count the Homeless?*

Throughout history, homelessness has been an issue that communities have had to grapple with. In the United States, there has always been a presence of homelessness in our cities and towns. In the early days of our country, homeless persons were seen as beggars, or tramps, who would travel from place to place looking for short-term work or a hand-out. During the Great Depression, shantytowns, tent cities and encampments sprung up as millions of Americans found themselves in dire straits. Post-Depression, homelessness was seen as a single-man's issue... often seen as a 'wino', living on the streets or alleys of central business districts. For much of our history, most people have, sadly, tried to avoid those persons and often looked down on their situation. Too often, homelessness has been viewed as a choice. If only they would get a job...if only they would learn to manage their money better....if only they would stop drinking...if only. Avoidance was a common tactic in dealing with this population.

During the 1980s, something changed. The national homeless population wasn't just single, older men. A much more diverse population found themselves with no place to live. More frequently, women, families with children, non-whites, and runaway youth were found on the streets. A fortunate outcome from this sad situation was how we began to view homelessness. Who are they? Why are they in this situation? If only...if only communities would have a better understanding of the plight of the homeless, perhaps there may be fewer in need of housing. <https://www.urban-initiatives.org/resources/why-do-we-count>

As with any census count, knowing who and what your population is will allow for better use of resources to work with them. Easier said than done, however. Historically, counting homeless persons has proven to be difficult for many reasons. Early efforts were localized, with various methodologies and data collection techniques in place. The population is quite mobile, and many homeless persons would rather not 'be found.' Even more surprising, it is difficult to gain a true figure of homelessness....*how do we exactly define homelessness?* Early estimates of homelessness derived from either an indirect estimation, a single-contact census, and monitoring of movement in and out of certain populations. Each with its own pros and cons, there was still no uniform approach for communities to grasp their needs. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK218229/>

Reasons for homelessness are numerous, and in our changing economic landscape more and more of us are susceptible to falling into this category. The National Coalition of Homeless has identified multiple reasons that lead to people finding themselves in this situation: <https://nationalhomeless.org/about-homelessness/>

- Lack of affordable housing and limited number of housing assistance programs
- The link between poverty and homelessness is inextricably linked, as poor people are faced with paying for housing, food, childcare, healthcare and education
- Mental illness
- Addiction and substance abuse
- Victim of domestic violence

In the early 2000s, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development set out to align communities across the country in how homelessness is both defined as well as counted. In what is known as the Single Point in Time count, HUD-led initiative requires Continuums of Care (CoCs) across the country to administer a census of homeless individuals and families. Since 2003, all communities that receive housing funds from HUD are directed to participate in this initiative. Dates of conducting this count must be held within the last ten days of January, as HUD has identified this as a peak time to locate individuals in shelters and transitional housing units. HUD requires that the count be held during the last 10 days of January so that it can account for people who cycle in and out of homelessness, and may be unable to pay for temporary shelter at the end of the month. HUD also says that holding the count "on one of the coldest nights of the year can be very effective in raising public awareness of the challenges faced by homeless people without shelter."

That makes it easier to recruit volunteers to conduct the counts. Local initiatives may also collect additional data that they find helpful for their local decision making efforts.

- Communities benefit from knowing this population. Having a better understanding of the population will allow both HUD and local decision makers:
- To better distribute resources
- Help better understand trends, such as whether the homeless population is shrinking or growing, and what it looks like
- Describe people's characteristics, including race, disability status, and age
- Inform where people are staying and how long
- Determine whether the strategies being used to end homelessness are working or whether they are being offset by the headwinds of housing affordability, low wages and benefits, poverty, racial inequality, etc.

Homeless individuals and families remain an important concern locally, as well as across the United States. It is difficult to imagine the day-to-day struggles of people having no place to live and nothing to eat for themselves or for their children. The root causes of homelessness need to be fully examined to understand how to empower people and society in order to avoid this situation. Locally, the Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition is charged with this endeavor. Through the efforts of the collaborative, decisions can be made on how to best serve this population in need. Using data can eliminate much of the guessing in how to best work with local providers to address homelessness and its causes in Erie County. The Single Point in Time Count, held annually, is only one of such directives to guide data-driven decision making and program implementation. These efforts, and evidence-based programs, are the surest way to assure that our region is begin most effective and efficient in working to end homelessness.

## *Methodology*

The 2019 Single Point in Time (SPIT) count of the homeless population in Erie County, Pennsylvania was conducted on Friday February 1, 2019. Originally scheduled for January 25, 2019, severe weather in the Erie region and a mandatory street evacuation caused the postponement until the next best date available. This national Housing and Urban Development (HUD) initiative was overseen by the Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition, the county-level Continuum of Care (CoC) that addresses the needs of homeless individuals and families and works toward the elimination of homelessness in our region. The Erie County Department of Human Services, member of the CoC and administrator of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), had extensive involvement with the implementation of the process. The SPIT count was conducted simultaneously with the local Housing Inventory Count (HIC), which provides data on the number of beds/slots available at local emergency shelters and transitional housing programs that serve homeless individuals.

Erie County Department of Human Services contracted with the Mercyhurst University Civic Institute (MCI) to facilitate the process and work alongside staff that oversees the Housing Management Information System (HMIS) for gathering needed data for both HUD reporting as well as for this report. The MCI is a local university-based research and evaluation organization that has been providing services to Erie County and state-based agencies and governments in the areas of youth and family services, drug and alcohol, mental health, and criminal justice for over 20 years. Also instrumental in the administration and carrying out the process were staff from Erie United Methodist Alliance and the Erie Veteran's Affairs hospital. Several other volunteers from local providers and universities also contributed and assisted with the count. Planning for the 2019 Single Point in Time count began in the Fall of 2018. There were three main data collection pieces to this year's count: a Sheltered Count, Unsheltered Count, and Housing Inventory Count.

The Sheltered Count was conducted with Direct Service providers, which are those that offer Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Supportive Housing spaces for homeless populations and individuals. These providers primarily used HMIS for tracking their clients within their program, as only a few providers use a separate 'internal' data-tracking process and generate reports from this process. They are asked to submit HUD-requested information identifying the number of homeless individuals within their programs for that evening. The data consists of demographic information as well as service-oriented breakdown to help identify the most pressing needs facing the population.

Discussions within the planning team led to a change in how to collect data more efficiently. Historically, one of the stumbling blocks in completing the process is gaining accurate data from the direct service providers. HMIS is the primary tool used by providers to collect information on each client stay. Additionally, HUD recommends that this data also be the basis for reporting in the Single Point in Time count. In previous years, providers were given templates to fill out with the needed information, which would then be validated by third parties. Due to multiple reasons, data was not always accurate and significant time was spent attempting to compile correct figures. For 2019, MCI and HMIS staff circumvented the issue by visiting each site and completing the forms with program staff during a brief HMIS audit. This not only allowed accurate data to be given immediately, but also allowed for program staff to make corrections to their data. These visits were held during the two weeks after the SPIT count date.

The second component of the Single Point in Time count consists of conducting a census of homeless individuals and families that are unsheltered on the night of the count. This effort utilizes volunteers who traverse the CoC area and attempt to locate members of the local homeless population that are unsheltered. Once found, volunteers approach the individuals in attempt to ask them to complete a questionnaire that will gather information also found in the Direct Service survey. An observation tool is also made available for those situations which the identified homeless persons do not wish to talk to the data collector. Because of large geographic areas that CoCs cover, volunteers traditionally begin canvassing areas that are known 'hang-outs' of homeless individuals and families. The unsheltered count began at the

Erie Veterans Affairs hospital as teams set out in two shifts: 10pm to 1am, and 1:30am to 3am. This year the count utilized over 30 volunteers, including those from the Veterans Affairs behavioral health program, Erie United Methodist Alliance, Mercy Center for Women, and students from the Public Health program of Mercyhurst University, among other concerned persons.

In addition to the primary components of the SPIT count portion, a Housing Inventory Count (HIC) was also conducted. Agencies that provide emergency shelter or transitional housing are asked to provide the number of bed slots available for the evening of the count. In addition, they provide general census data that is reported along with SPIT count data. Historically, this count was administered by the local-level HMIS system administrator. This year the request for HIC data was included with the SPIT form.

## *2019 Erie County Single Point in Time Survey*

The information contained in the 2019 Single Point in Time (SPIT) report is critical to understanding the extent of homelessness in Erie County, Pennsylvania. Though it is a one day ‘snapshot’, it allows for annual and consistent trend data to gauge effectiveness of the services offered locally. This report aims to capture the number of individuals and families that are considered homeless in Erie County, as well as to document the causes of homelessness as described by both the program recipients and service providers.

The number of homeless people including families, individuals, and children has fluctuated considerably since the beginning of the HUD-directed SPIT count. Various factors may impact the actual count, such as date of count and economic factors, among others. In terms of reported numbers, there is also variance that is tied to project methodology as well as the number of programs reporting data. Site reporting can be impacted by staff changes, knowledge and willingness to participate in the Single Point in Time count, accurate HMIS use, and other factors. Figures can also vary from year to year depending on the number of providers and programs being utilized throughout the county. Since the beginning of the count in Erie County, significant outreach and coordination efforts has been done to include all programs. *The reader should understand that the annual reporting is based off of figures and numbers provided by the participating agencies each year, therefore making it difficult to draw solid conclusions regarding homeless population fluctuations.*

This local report also contains additional information that is above and beyond what is required for the Point in Time Count that is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development each spring. Numbers seen here are significantly higher than what is submitted to HUD, as it is inclusive of Permanent Supportive Housing data, which is not submitted on the HUD Exchange report. This information is found to be helpful in generating a complete picture of the local homeless population and how they are being served. With the adaptation of Housing First, the premise of assuring that the primary goal of serving homeless persons is to align them with permanent housing as quickly as possible, viewing this data long-term allows for the programs and Continuum of Care to view this progress.

**Total Homeless Population**

Figure 1 illustrates the total number of homeless in Erie County on the night of February 1, 2019. This number is derived from information gathered from Emergency Shelters, Safe Havens, Transitional Housing, Permanent Housing, and the unsheltered count. The current year represents the highest reported figure over the comparative period. There were 1,040 persons identified as homeless within Erie County on the night of the count.

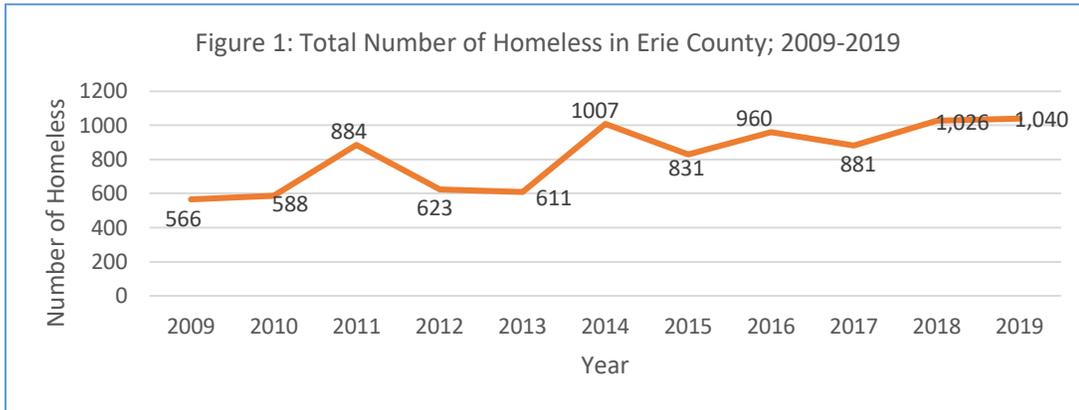


Figure 2 illustrates the breakdown of those who were in a Shelter, Transitional Housing or Permanent Housing program, versus those that were found to be unsheltered the evening of the SPIT count. Year 2019 had the largest number of reported homeless individuals (1,040); there were 6 individuals identified in the unsheltered count, slightly up from 2018, but still the second lowest of the measured time periods.

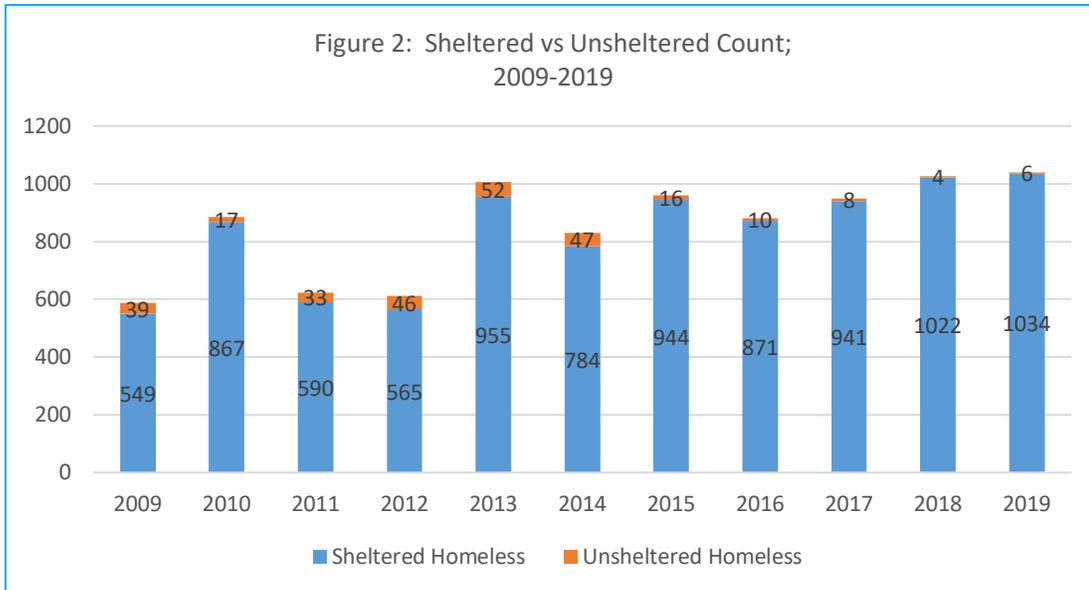
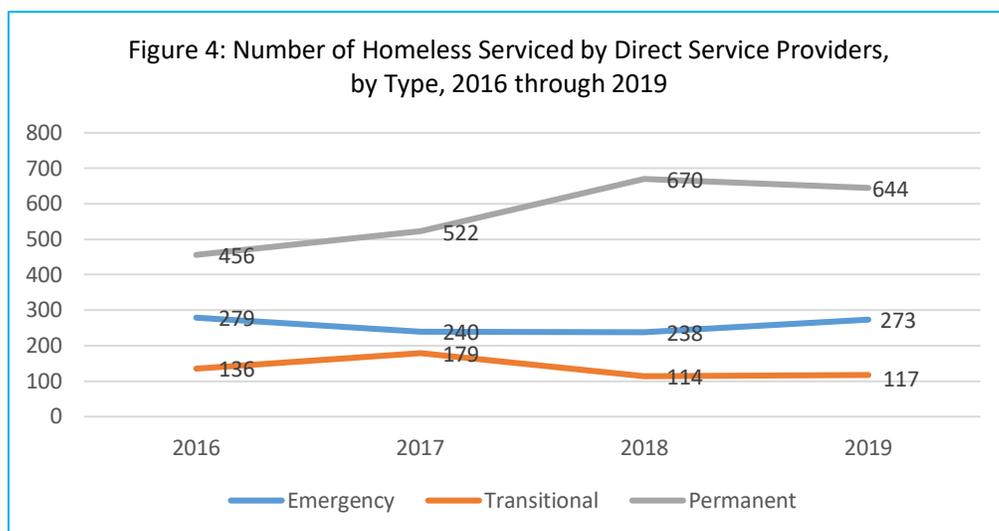


Figure 3 illustrates the total number of households counted, as well as the total number of persons, during the night of the count. This figure is broken down by the type of housing the persons were in, as well as the type of households, for that evening. The 1,040 persons counted during the evening resided in 656 households. The largest population of homeless individuals were those in households without children (502 people in 496 households).

Figure 3: Total Households and Number of People, by housing type and household status

	<i>Unsheltered</i>	<i>Shelter</i>	<i>Safe Haven</i>	<i>Transitional Housing</i>	<i>Permanent Housing</i>	<i>TOTALS ALL</i>
Total # of Households with ADULTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER	0	17	0	14	104	<b>135</b>
Of those, the total # of people residing in these households	0	61	0	40	386	<b>487</b>
Total # of Households WITHOUT CHILDREN	6	185	8	56	241	<b>496</b>
Total # of people who reside in these households.	6	185	8	56	247	<b>502</b>
Total # of Households consisting of ONLY CHILDREN	0	12	0	9	4	<b>25</b>
Total # of children who reside in these households.	0	27	0	13	11	<b>51</b>
<b>TOTAL HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>656</b>
<b>TOTAL # PEOPLE RESIDING IN HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>1040</b>

Figure 4 illustrates the number of persons served by provider type over the past four years. Permanent Housing residents have seen the largest increase in population over this measured time period.



\*\* 2019 transitional housing data is inclusive of 8 persons residing in Safe Haven category.

### Emergency Shelters

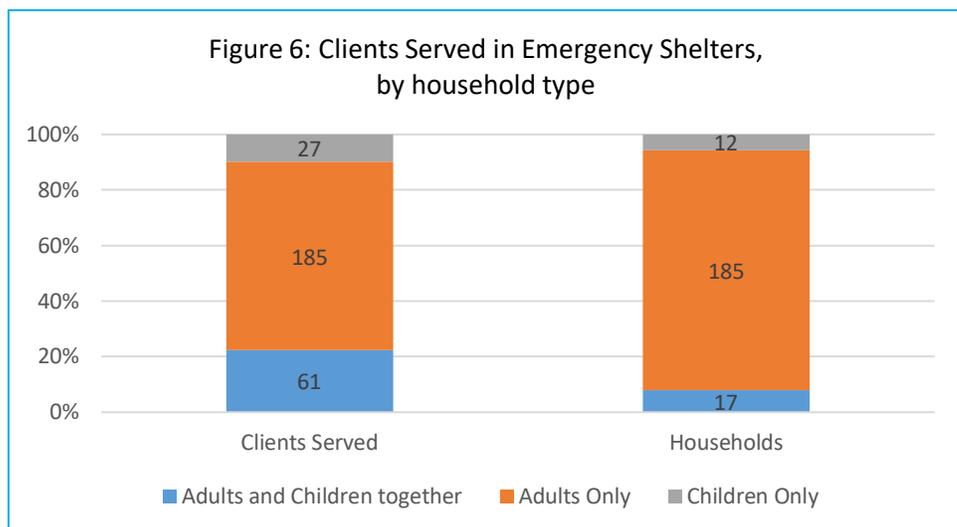
Erie County has multiple Emergency Shelters that provide beds for clients throughout the year. There were ten (10) facilities that reported clients were with them during the evening of February 1, 2019. Figure 5 illustrates the program, number of beds within the program, as well as the number of clients reported that evening. Using only those shelters that had both number of beds and clients served provided, Erie County Shelters were at 82% capacity.

Figure 5: Responding Emergency Shelter Programs, Bed Usage Rates

Figure 5	<i>Clients Served</i>	<i># Beds</i>	<i>% capacity</i>
SafeNet Hospitality House	17	44	39%
Safe Journey**	0	0	NA
EUMA Refuge	47	34	138%
City Mission Samaritan Care	47	56	84%
CSS Shelter	50	61	82%
St Patrick's Haven	21	26	81%
COC Emergency Shelter	23	24	51%
CoC Mary Rose Sanctuary	5	12	42%
EUMA Our Neighbors Place	36	75	48%
MHA Warming Center	27	NA	NA
<b>TOTALS FOR SHELTERS</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>82%</b>

\*\* Safe Journey did not have any clients reported; facility reported a bedbug infestation.

Figure 6, below, illustrates the number of households, by type, as well as the number of clients served within each household type, on the night of February 1, 2019.



Children Only households were reported by six providers on the night of the count. As shown in Figure 6, there were 12 households comprising of 27 persons. Twenty of the youth were between the ages of 18 and 24, seven being identified as being a parenting youth (responsible for 14 additional youth). There were six unaccompanied youth identified during the night of the count.

Households with Adults Only were reported by eight providers on the night of the count. As shown above, there were 185 households (185 persons) staying in shelters on evening of February 1, 2019. Of those, 179 were ages 25 or older. Seventy-seven percent were male, 56% were white, and 39% were African American.

Adult Household with Children were reported by three (3) shelters; 17 households consisted of 61 persons. Forty of these persons were under the age of 17. Sixty percent were females, approximately the same proportion that was African American. Twenty-five percent of those reported in this category were identified as White.

**Transitional Housing and Safe Havens**

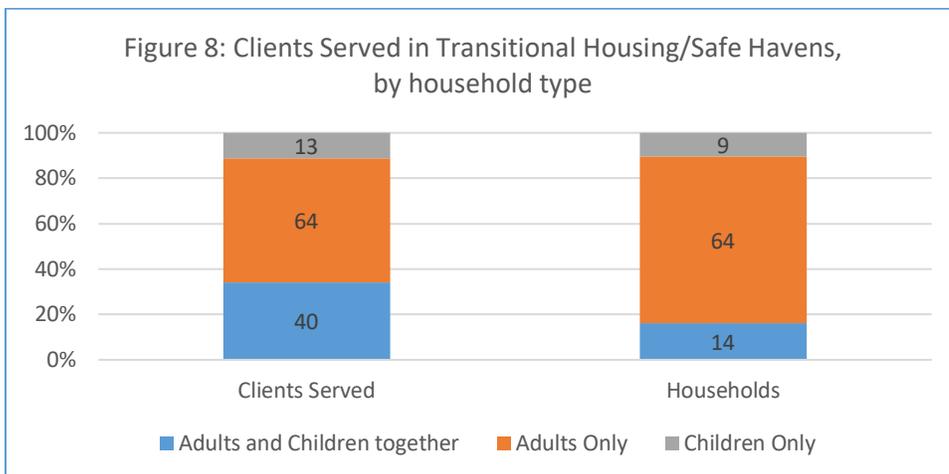
Erie County has multiple Transitional Housing programs (and one Safe Haven) that provide beds for clients throughout the year. These facilities house persons from 30 to 90 days. There were seven facilities that reported clients were with them during the evening of February 1, 2019. Figure 7 illustrates the program, number of beds within the program, as well as the number of clients reported that evening. Using only those shelters that had both number of beds and clients served provided, Erie County Shelters were at 81% capacity.

Figure 7: Transitional Housing/Safe Haven Responding Programs, Bed Usage Rates

	<i>Clients Served</i>	<i># Beds</i>	<i>% capacity</i>
MCW	27	27	100%
City Mission NLP	34	38	89%
SafeNet TLC	6	12	50%
SafeNet Bridge House	13	28	46%
Erie Dawn TH	12	10	120%
COC Transitional Housing	17	22	77%
EUMA Liberty House (Safe Haven)	8	8	100%
<b>Totals for Transitional Housing and Safe Haven</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>81%</b>

*\*\*Note: City Mission NLP not included in calculations due to not having # of beds*

Figure 8, below, illustrates the number of households, by type, as well as the number of clients served within each household type, on the night of February 1, 2019.



Children Only households were reported by five providers on the night of the count. As shown in Figure 8, there were 9 households comprising of 13 persons. Nine of the youth were between the ages of 18 and 24, with seven being identified as being a parenting youth (responsible for 5 additional youth).

Households with Adults Only were reported by seven providers on the night of the count. As shown above, there were 64 households (64 persons) staying in these programs. Of those, 59 were ages 25 or older. Eighty-three percent were male; 72% were white, and 27% African American.

Adult Household with Children were reported by four transitional housing programs; 14 households consisting of 40 persons. Twenty-six of these persons were under the age of 17, while ten were over the age of 25. Seventy-five percent were females. Forty-four percent were African American, while the rest were split evenly between those identified as White or Multiple Races (23% each).

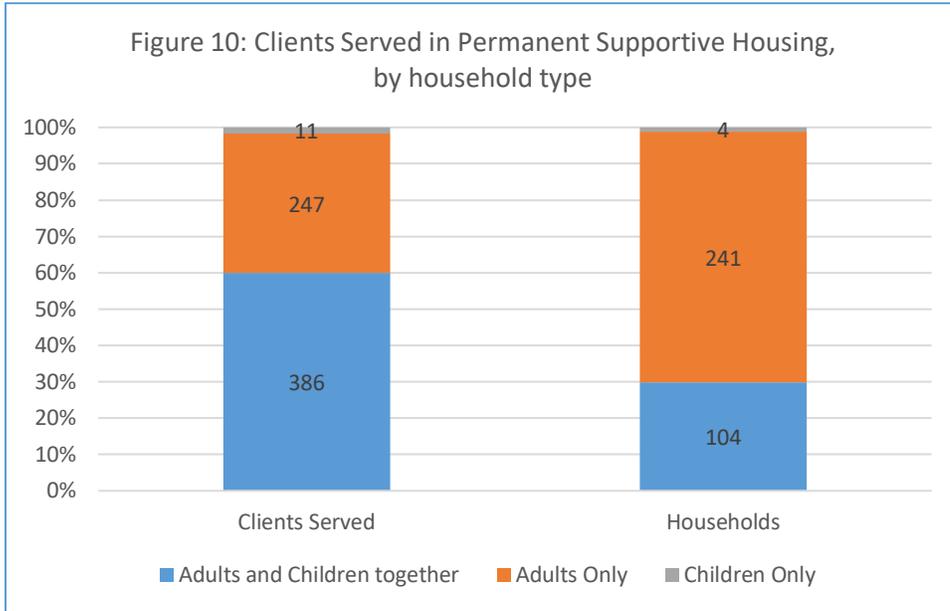
### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

Erie County has multiple Permanent Supportive Housing programs that provide beds for clients throughout the year. These facilities house persons from 90 to 120 days. There were 16 facilities that reported clients were with them during the evening of February 1, 2019. Figure 9 illustrates the program, number of beds within the program, as well as the number of clients reported that evening. Using only those shelters that had both number of beds and clients served provided, Erie County Shelters were at 100% capacity.

Figure 9: Permanent Supportive Housing Responding Programs, Bed Usage Rates

	<i>Clients Served</i>	<i># Beds</i>	<i>% capacity</i>
EUMA My Way Home	142	137	104%
CSS Lodge on Sass	48	50	96%
CSS Columbus Apartments	39	40	98%
CSS Light the Candle 2	38	25	152%
CSS Light the Candle 1	31	22	141%
MHA MIAHA 2	2	11	18%
MHA MIAHA 1	8	12	67%
Gaudenzia Fresh Start	29	32	91%
Erie Dawn RRH	16	16	100%
HUD VASH	102	102	100%
Soldier On RRH	2	2	100%
ECCM SS1	93	90	103%
ECCM SS2	44	44	100%
ECM SS3	27	30	90%
EUMA Project Independence	23	23	100%
<b>TOTALS FOR Permanent Supportive Housing</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>100%+</b>

Figure 10, below, illustrates the number of Permanent Supportive Housing households, by type, as well as the number of clients served within each household type, on the night of February 1, 2019.



Children Only households were reported by three providers on the night of the count. As shown in Figure 10, there were 4 households comprising of 11 persons. Three of the youth were parenting youth between the ages of 18 and 24.

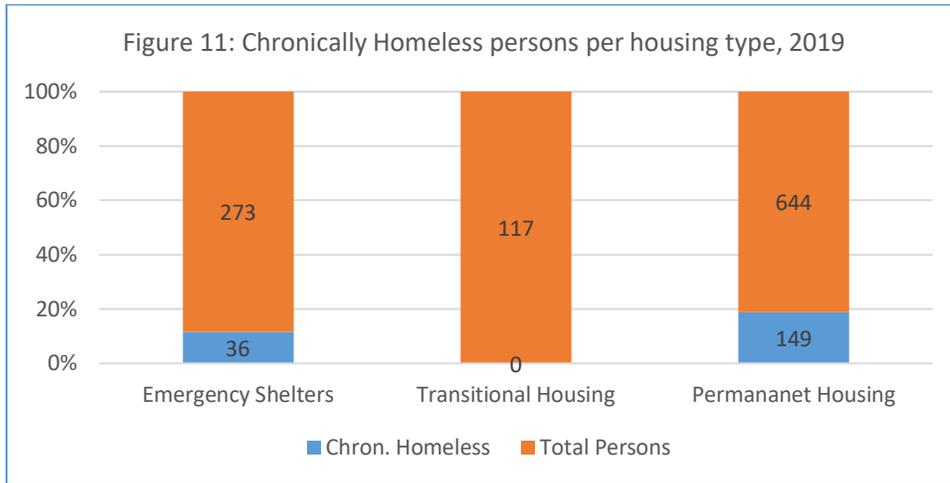
Households with Adults Only were reported by thirteen providers on the night of the count. As shown above, there were 241 households (247 persons) staying in these programs. Of those, 243 were ages 25 or older. Seventy-five percent were male; 71% were white, and 25% African American.

Adult Household with Children were reported by nine programs; 104 households consisting of 386 persons. Two-hundred and fifty-five of these persons were under the age of 17 (66%), while 111 were over the age of 25 (29%). Sixty-three percent were females. Half were African American, while 39% were identified as White.

**Chronically Homeless, Veterans, and Additional Items of Note**

The Erie County Continuum of Care follows HUD guidelines in working with priority populations and assuring they are placed in housing in an expedited fashion. Included in these subgroups are those identified as being chronically homeless. HUD defines this population as a person who must have a disability and have been living in a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, or a safe haven for the last 12 months continuously *or* on at least four occasions in the last three years where those occasions cumulatively total at least 12 months. The following figure shows the number of Chronically Homeless persons within each housing type during the night of the SPIT count.

On the night of the 2019 SPIT count, there were 185 persons identified as being chronically homeless. Figure 11 shows that 36 of the 273 in Emergency Shelters that night were categorized as such, as were 149 of the 644 in Permanent Housing programs. There were no identified chronically homeless persons in Transitional Housing programs that night.



Veterans are also a priority population, as HUD has sought to end homelessness within this subgroup. The following illustrates the total number of persons living in veteran households the evening of the SPIT count.

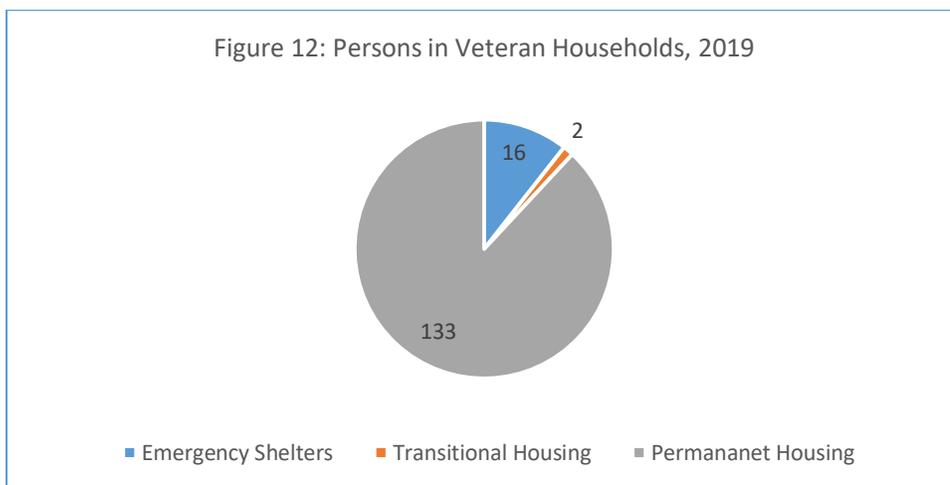
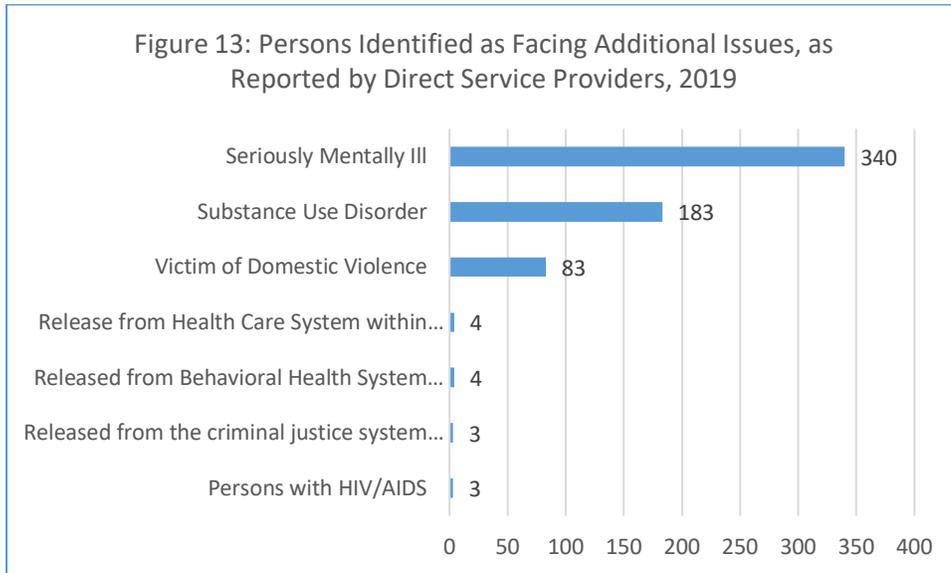


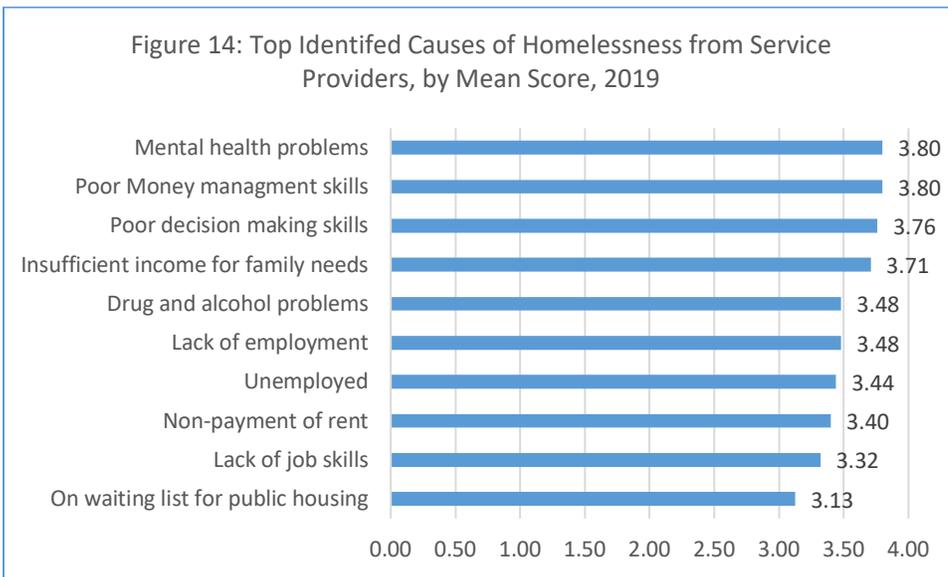
Figure 12 shows that there were 151 persons residing in a veteran-identified household; 133 in permanent housing programs (101 households); 2 in transitional housing programs (2 households), and 16 in Emergency Shelters (16 households).

In addition to receiving specific services that contribute to homelessness, many persons are identified as facing other issues that may be linked to their housing situation. The most common identified issues were having a Serious Mental Illness (340) followed by Substance Abuse (183) and fleeing Domestic Violence (83), as shown in Figure 11.



*Causes of Homelessness Survey*

The Causes of Homelessness survey captures the significant contributors of homelessness from the perspective of the individuals who work with the homeless within each agency. Twenty-five service providers returned surveys. Respondents were asked to rate a series of 29 issues that are common factors that may contribute to homelessness. By identifying on a Likert scale the Level of Significance (1-no significance, 2- little or some significance, 3- moderate impact, or 4- significant impact), mean scores were derived to illustrate what respondents felt were the primary causes. The top ten causes of homelessness rated as most significant by employees of the responding agencies are listed below from highest to lowest, (Figure 14). The full results can be found in the Appendix of this document. The Appendix also lists additional responses that were noted by those that completed the survey.

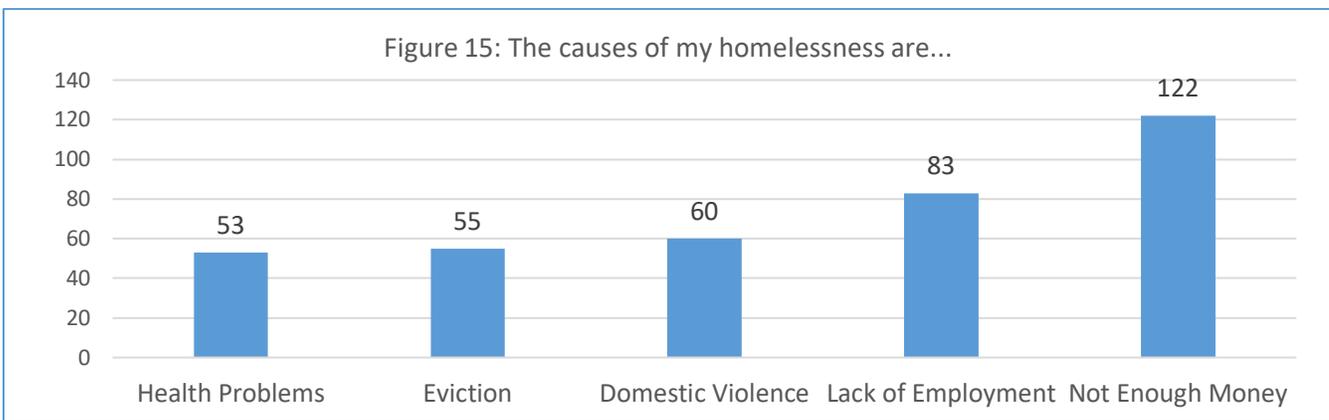


The most common reason identified leading to homelessness was mental health problems, followed by poor money management skills and poor decision making skills. Mental health problems and poor decision making skills, two of the top three, were two of the highest rated in 2017 and 2018, as well. In addition to the items that respondents were asked to rate, they also noted that owing back payments on utilities and having friends/family live with them were also causes of homelessness for the clients.

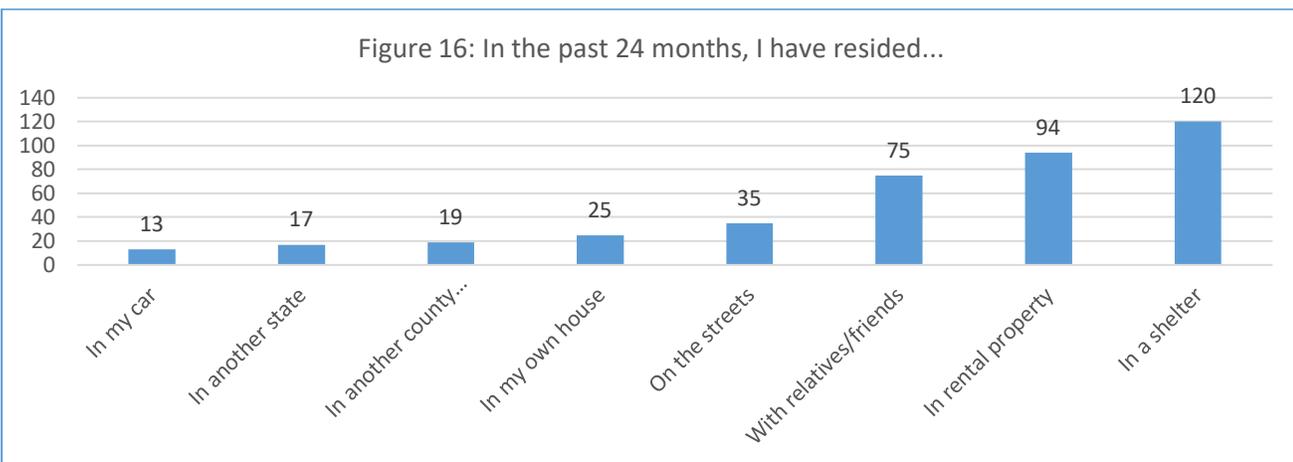
*Housing Needs Survey*

The Housing Needs Survey was developed to collect information from homeless persons (including individuals and families) regarding why they are homeless and what they need to improve their situation. The survey also gives the respondents an opportunity to report those services that have been most and least helpful to them. One hundred and ninety six homeless individuals completed the survey. Respondents were asked to identify emergency and transitional shelters that they have stayed at during the past year. The individuals were also asked a series of questions in which they were instructed to check off all answers that apply to their situation.

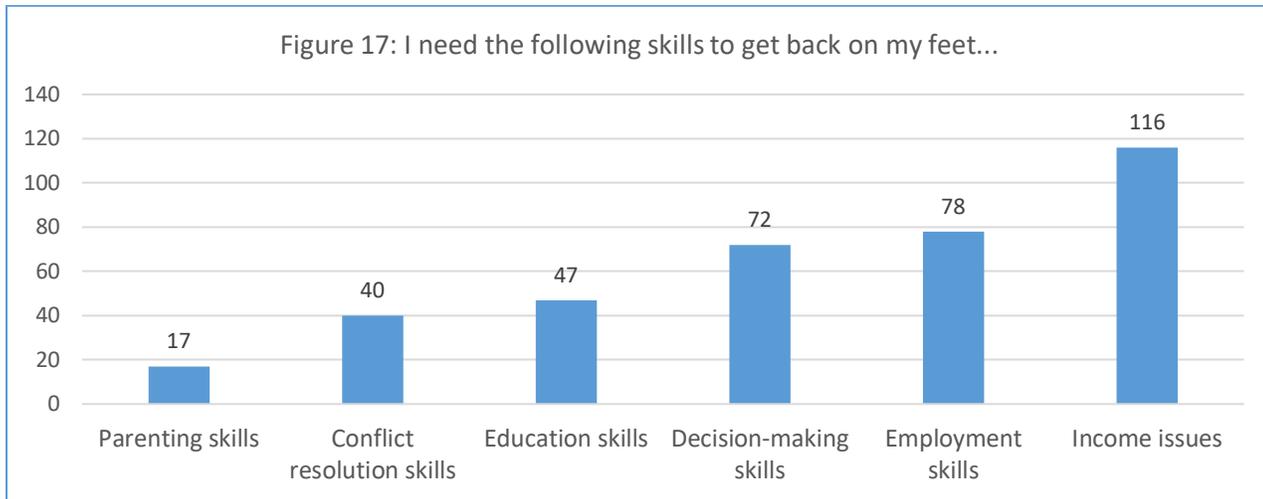
*Question 1. Causes of Homelessness.* Not Having Enough Money was cited most frequently as the cause of homelessness (122), followed by Lack of Employment (83), Domestic Violence (60), Eviction (55), and Health Problems (53), as shown in Figure 15. In addition, individuals were given the opportunity to write in ‘other’ answers, which represent a wide-array of responses and reasons. Those answers can be found in the Appendix.



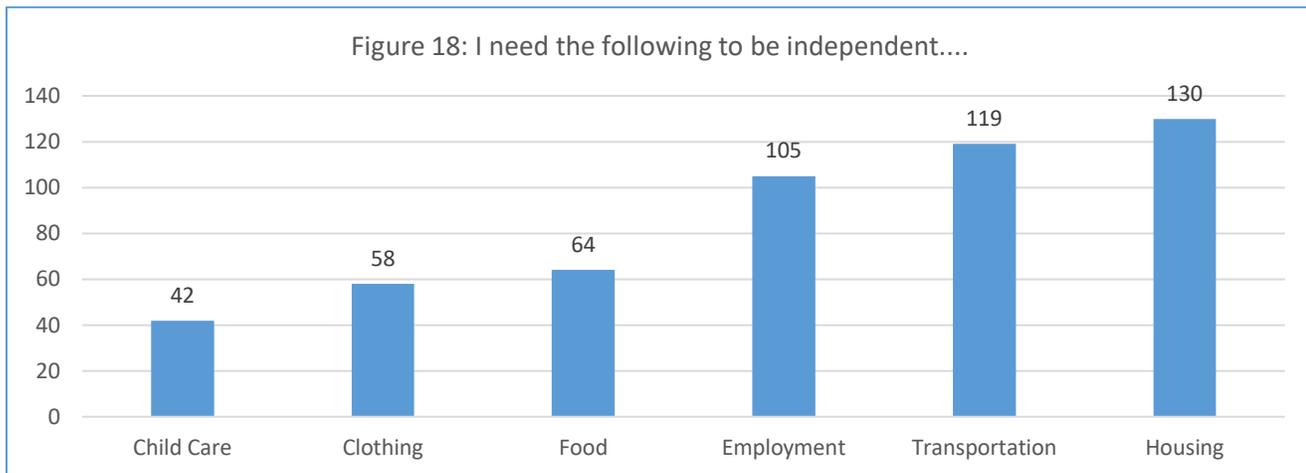
*Question 2. Living Arrangements.* Respondents were asked to identify what types of places they have resided in within the past 24 months. Individuals reported that in the past 24 months they predominantly lived in either a Shelter (120), in a Rental property (94), and/or with Relatives/Friends (75), as shown in Figure 16.



**Question 3. Skills to Get Back on their Feet.** Skills related to Income Issues (116) were listed as the most commonly reported need for the respondents to get back on their feet. This was followed by Employment Skills (78), and Decision Making Skills (72), as shown in Figure 17.



**Question 4. To Gain Independence.** The majority of the respondents reported that they needed the following to gain independence: Housing (130), Transportation (119), and Employment (105), as shown in Figure 18.



*Appendices*

Appendix A: Table of Identified Persons Included in SPIT count, including Sheltered and Unsheltered Counts

Appendix B: Causes of Homelessness Survey – 2019

Appendix C: Housing Needs Survey – 2019

Appendix D: Agencies that Responded to the 2019 SPIT Survey

Appendix A: Table of Identified Persons Included in SPIT count, including Sheltered and Unsheltered Counts

	Unsheltered		Shelter		Transitional Housing		Permanent Housing		Safe Haven		TOTALS ALL	
	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	-	-	Total	Vets
Total # of Households with <i>ADULTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER</i>			17	0	14	0	104	7			135	7
Total # of people residing in these households			61	0	40	0	386	34			487	34
# of People 17 or younger			40	0	26	0	255	24			321	24
# of People 18-24			8	0	4	0	20	0			32	0
# of People age 25 and older			13	0	10	0	111	10			134	10
			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Female			37	0	30	0	242	19			309	19
Male			24	0	10	0	144	15			178	15
Transgender			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Unspecified			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Non-Hispanic			54	0	40	0	332	34			426	34
Hispanic			7	0	0	0	54	0			61	0
			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
White			15	0	11	0	150	18			176	18
Black/African American			34	0	18	0	192	11			244	11
Asian			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Multiple Races			12	0	11	0	44	5			67	5
			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless (see definition of chronically homeless)			1	0	0	0	19	1			20	1
Total number of people who reside in these households (adults and children combined)			4	0	0	0	79	7			83	7

MAKING EVERYONE COUNT

	Unsheltered		Shelter		Transitional Housing		Permanent Housing		Safe Haven		TOTALS ALL	
	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	-	-	Total	Vets
Total # of Households <i>WITHOUT CHILDREN</i>	6		185	16	56	2	241	94	8	8	496	120
Total # of people who reside in these households.	6		185	16	56	2	247	99	8	8	502	125
# of people age 18-24	0		6	0	5	0	5	0			16	0
# of people age 25 or older	6		179	16	51	2	243	99	8	8	487	125
	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Female			43	1	11	0	69	13			123	14
Male	6		142	15	45	2	180	86	8	8	381	111
Transgender	0		0	0	0	0	1	0			1	0
Unspecified	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Non-Hispanic	5		177	15	53	2	243	98	8	8	486	123
Hispanic	0		8	1	3	0	7	1			18	2
			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
White	4		108	12	41	1	175	75	5	5	333	93
Black/African American	1		73	3	14	1	62	24	3	3	153	31
Asian	0		0	0	0	0	2	0			2	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0		1	1	0	0	1	0			2	1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0		0	0	0	0	1	0			1	0
Multiple Races	0		3	0	1	0	9	0			13	0
			0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless (see definition of chronically homeless)	2		32	5	0	0	66	23			100	28
Total number of people who reside in these households (adults and children combined)	2		32	5	0	0	68	23			102	28

MAKING EVERYONE COUNT

	Unsheltered		Shelter		Transitional Housing		Permanent Housing		Safe Haven		TOTALS ALL	
	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	Total	Vets	-	-	Total	Vets
Total # of Households consisting of ONLY CHILDREN	-	-	12	0	9	0	4	0	0	0	25	0
Total # of children who reside in these households.	-	-	27	0	13	0	11	0	0	0	51	0
	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Female	-	-	8	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	8	0
Male	-	-	5	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	5	0
Transgender	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Unspecified	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Non-Hispanic	-	-	12	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	12	0
Hispanic	-	-	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	1	0
	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
White	-	-	4	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	4	0
Black/African American	-	-	7	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	7	0
Asian	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Multiple Races	-	-	2	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	2	0
	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Total # of Households that are Chronically Homeless (see definition of chronically homeless)	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Total number of people who reside in these households	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0

NOTE: all numbers reported are from Direct Service Providers, except for those in the Unsheltered Count. Figures returned to the Mercyhurst University Civic Institute on SPIT forms were reconciled against HMIS data, and if adjustments made, they were edited on the forms and recorded in the table above. There are some instances in which certain providers do not have all demographic information available; therefore, there are some instances where categories such as race, age, etc do not equal the total numbers for each. The Vets column denotes the number of identified veterans that were inclusive of the Total for each housing type.

## Appendix B: Causes of Homelessness Survey – 2019

Respondents were asked to rate each statement using the following scale regarding the impact each cause of homelessness has on clients. Results for the past three years are shown. Red scores identify the top three for each year.

4 = Significant Impact; 3 = Moderate Impact; 2 = Little or Some Significance; 1 = No Significance

	2017	2018	2019
<b><i>Employment Issues</i></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>
Lack of employment	3.53	3.23	3.48
Lack of job skills	3.25	3.45	3.32
Unemployed	3.25	3.29	3.44
Unobtainable public transportation	2.4	2.32	2.63
Lack of child care	2.9	2	2.54
<b><i>Income Issues</i></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>
Insufficient income for family needs	3.53	3.64	3.71
On waiting list for public housing	2.75	2.95	3.13
Change in family structure (divorce, separation, jail)	2.68	2.81	3.04
Loss of Welfare from Non-Compliance	1.8	1.67	2.13
Loss of Welfare from Got a job	1.78	1.86	2.38
Loss of Welfare from Maxed out	1.65	1.62	2
Benefits change	2.87	2.1	2.42
Pregnancy	1.93	2.14	2.4
Aging issues	1.87	1.81	2.12
Death—Loss of income	2.03	1.57	1.84
<b><i>Eviction</i></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>
Poor money management skills	3.68	3.55	3.8
Poor decision-making skills	3.65	3.68	3.76
Non-payment of rent	3.31	3.43	3.4
Poor housekeeping skills	2.5	2.76	2.68
Non-renewal of lease	1.87	2.24	2.48
Damage of rental property	2.03	2.19	2.56
Code enforcement	1.68	1.76	2.24
Landlord sells property	1.37	1.71	2
<b><i>Domestic Violence</i></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>
Individual/Family affected by domestic violence	2.83	2.76	2.88
<b><i>Health Issues</i></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>
Mental Health Problems	3.67	3.76	3.8
Drug & Alcohol Abuse	3.16	3.57	3.48
Medical/Physical reasons	2.45	2.71	3.04
<b><i>Other</i></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>	<b><u>Mean</u></b>
Just got out of jail/prison	2.5	2.84	2.52
Natural disaster	1.33	1.52	1.42

Appendix C: Housing Needs Survey – 2019

Results are based on 196 surveys returned. The following section contains the questions posed to clients of homeless programs. Numbers shown by each answer identify the number of clients who marked this response. In addition, respondents were also asked various open-ended questions. These responses are provided verbatim on how they were given.

***EMERGENCY SHELTERS respondent is currently staying at and/or has stayed during this past year.***

Shelter	# responses
City Mission	44
Community of Caring	43
Community Shelter Services	39
Crisis Residential Unit	7
St Patrick's Haven	15
Safe Journey (Union City)	4
SafeNet/Hospitality House	26
Salvation Army	2
The Refuge	25

Respondents who marked 'other' stated the following:

- Abington Crest Rehabilitation Center
- Housing
- Liberty House
- LTC
- Mary Rose Sanctuary
- Mercy Center for Women
- Overflow shelter/Warming Center

***TRANSITIONAL HOUSING respondent is currently staying at and/or has stayed during this past year.***

Transitional Housing	# responses
City Mission	39
Community House	7
Erie Dawn	6
Hope House	1
Liberty House	4
Mercy Center	11
SafeNet/Bridge	12
SafeNet/TLC	6
Stairways	4

Respondents who marked 'other' stated the following:

- Community of Caring
- Columbus Apt
- Community Shelter Services on Sassafra
- LTC
- Mary Rose Sanctuary
- Stairways LTSR
- St. James Haven
- St. Patrick's
- These are not posted or recommended publicly.

***Causes of respondent homelessness are:***

Causes	# responses
Domestic Violence	60
Lack of Employment	83
Eviction	55
Health Problems	53
Not Enough Money	122

Respondents were asked to note additional causes of homelessness. The following reasons were given:

- Addiction issues (drug and alcohol)
- Bad credit score
- City made us move earlier than eviction date - the day after Christmas
- Criminal past
- Depression
- Emotional Abuse
- Extremely difficult to rent an apartment because of background checks - I have an exciting background
- Father who I was residing with passed away and I couldn't go back to my home due to domestic violence
- I lost my SSI income and had to get it back
- Just got out of jail
- Lack of Mental Health Resources
- Many other issues too long to list
- Mental health problems
- Moved from Mississippi
- Moved here and didn't realize how much apartment was
- My mom and boyfriend
- No family or friends to live with
- Pending social security income case; I have to go in front the Law Judge and state my case
- Shared rent and other parties left
- Time to grow up
- Waiting to obtain housing
- Wanting to get my ID from immigration so I can be able to get housing
- unable to find housing

**Places where respondent has lived in the past 24 months:** Note: respondents were able to select more than one answer.

Location	# responses
In a shelter	120
In my own house	25
In rental property	94
With relatives/friends	75
On the streets	35
In my car	13
In another county in PA	19
In another state	17

Clients were asked to note any additional places they have lived within the past 24 months. The following answers were given.

- Columbus Apartments
- Community of Caring
- County jail
- Long term nursing rehabilitation
- Mercy Center
- My brother's house till I got told to leave then I came to Community of Caring
- Shelter Plus Care
- Slept outside in tent
- Stairways LTSR
- Subsidized housing
- Transitional housing
- Rehab
- House of Healing
- Grace House

**Needed skills to get back on respondent's feet:** Note: respondents were able to select more than one answer.

Needed Skill	# responses
Employment skills	76
Education skills	47
Parenting skills	17
Conflict resolution skills	40
Decision-making skills	72
Income issues	116

Clients were asked to note any additional skills they need to get back on their feet. The following answers were given.

- Better health
- Budgeting
- Business etiquette
- coping skills (in the workplace)
- Counseling
- Find a roommate to split the cost
- Food stamps
- Health problems
- Just steady housing
- Medical
- Mental health issues
- Need my ID
- Organization
- Recovery Program
- Shelter Plus Care
- SSI
- Staying in recovery
- Utilities help

**Identified Needs to be independent:** Note: respondents were able to select more than one answer.

<b>Identified Needs</b>	<b># responses</b>
Child Care	42
Transportation	119
Employment	105
Housing	130
Clothing	58
Food	64

Respondents were asked what else they needed to become independent. The following were given:

- Career
- Extra income
- Government assistance
- Health
- Income
- Income from SSI
- Job
- Money
- Safety
- Sustain mental health issues
- Trying to see if I am eligible for some sort of cash assistance
- Waiting on social security
- whatever it takes

***Least helpful services current organization has provided.***

- Apparently the help I am now receiving. My situation could have been avoided. I feel I was steered down the wrong path because people like to pass off the job to someone else, if they can.
- COC-GECAC were not helpful with their timeline guidelines and housing
- Community of Caring, Mary Rose
- Community of Caring, Emma Soup Kitchen, Rainbow Thrift Store
- Community of caring - very rude and very racist, judgmental staff
- Community Shelter Service, City Mission
- Counseling
- County jail
- Groups/group activities
- Having food stamps for the next month come too soon
- Help find a shelter with guidance
- Help with trying to apply for employment and housing
- Housing
- Housing Authority, GECAC, HANDS, Saint Martin Center, Martin Luther King Center
- Housing never sent me a letter to get started
- I felt lost and didn't know what to do or what actions to take - I thought I would be more guided, initially
- Judgment
- Lack of transportation, difficulty finding/obtaining employment
- Lakeshore, Erie County Care Management
- Mercy Center
- No avocation of civilian rights amendment # 55
- No more food stamps
- No real resources
- Not enough shelters for single homeless women/men
- Not getting told about the programs that's willing to help me
- Nothing at this moment, but the stealing of things by residents; it's not too bad, no complaints
- OCY
- RRH
- Safe Journeys didn't help me find any resources or help I may have needed
- Section 8 - I'm a convicted felon
- Shelter
- Shelters that do not address needing help
- Some of the least helpful services I have received are questions that never got answered
- That it took forever for us to get into The Refuge because we have a service dog
- There are no services to help you if you don't have a mental illness - need programs to help

ex-cons

- There's no where you can go to get help with bus fare to get employment or to help get you back and forth from work
- They give you 30 days to be here, even though they you extended time it's still not enough time
- Time management
- To have more resources for homelessness or more shelters for homeless people to go to not just overnight shelters because winter time is when the shelters are full the most and there a lot of homeless people out in the cold when there are not no shelters to go to, overnight

shelters are good, just need more shelters for winter time is more time in need

- Transportation
- Waiting lists
- When a worker came to Community Shelter Service from ECCM to do an intake and basically made it seem like I was definitely going to receive housing assistance, etc. then never follows up or helps you figure out anything else; while at CSS everybody I talked to had the same issues with that worker, I myself left 3 messages for her and never received a call back

***Most helpful services current organization has provided.***

- 814-SHELTER, The Refuge
- A place to stay while getting back on my feet, food, and access to other options
- A warm place to stay with meals
- Admission to ECM
- Advice, housing help
- BCM
- BCM who understands and cares, Community Caring, those who provided necessities, soap, shampoo, toilet paper, etc.
- Building self-esteem, giving me stable housing, connecting me with support groups
- Case management & support
- Case management, homeless team to get here in the shelter
- Clothes, food, and being warm and not sleeping outside; the shelter helps with services that will get you into an apartment or help gas or electric, etc.
- Clothes, roof over my head, food stamps
- Clothing support, mail contact with family
- Clothing, food, and shelter
- COC
- COC gave me a place to stay so I can get back on my feet
- COC Shelter Plus, Erie County Assistance office, food stamps
- Columbus Apt and GECAC - GECAC Rocks
- Columbus Apts - 2 years ago
- Coming to Erie, The Refuge
- Community of caring put me on their Shelter Plus program
- Community of caring, Mary Rose
- Community Shelter Service
- Community Shelter Service is the bomb
- Community Shelter Services, The Refuge
- Counseling
- Counseling and help getting a new place
- Counseling, pastoral support, self-improvement/awareness classes, transportation (AA meetings, church, medical appointments), shelter, clothing, food
- CSS got me signed up for the Lodge and Columbus Apartments
- Domestic violence counseling
- Drug and Alcohol support service
- ECCM (Shelter Plus), Stairways (MH services)
- ECCM rental subsidy, Family Center, Family Services of NWPA, Achievement Center, Safe Harbor, Stairways
- ECCM Shelter Plus Care, EUMA Rapid Rehousing, Coordinated Entry, Mercy Center for Women
- ECM new life program and Stairways Behavioral Health
- Erie City Mission; learning how to deal with "real life" situations; learning how to live without drugs

- Erie Dawn, Assistance Office, SafeNet
- Everything Mercy Center offered
- Financial literature, Addiction education
- Food stamps, Medicaid, Shelter, hot meals, bus pass
- GECAC - gave an allowance to buy current uniforms, given money for classes; Erie Dawn - helped to rent an apartment, gave cleaning supplies/daily essentials, Christmas gifts, helped pay for classes for work
- GECAC and Erie Housing - if it wasn't for Columbus apartments I'd be homeless
- GECAC and housing at Columbus
- Getting help with housing for me and my children
- Getting SSI and subsidized housing
- Getting subsidized housing
- Having a case manager I found is important because trying to apply for housing programs and other services on your own is extremely difficult to know who, what, when, and where to apply, especially you're not originally from Erie area; also, soup kitchens are a true blessing; having a childcare specialist guide you and help with my child needs while pregnant and after having my child really took a lot of stress and anxiety out of my mind and life
- Having a safe place to stay while I work on getting an apartment
- Help from Shelter Plus Care program, ACCESS, Medicare, Food stamps, LIHEAP
- Help through Safe Harbor that lead me to Mercy Center for Women, Mercy Center for Women - everything they have done, food stamps.
- Help with paying off a gas bill that I had in debt, Bridge house, help with necessitates
- Help with rapid rehousing
- Housing
- Housing and food, drug/alcohol treatment
- Housing assistance, shelter, soup kitchen
- Housing is very helpful with anything I've asked for
- Housing waiting list
- I got my VA benefits, a warm place to stay, meals, and help finding work and a place of my own
- I have been in PSH program since 10/31/18
- I have gotten subsidized housing program in December 2018
- I received a house to stay at
- I'm currently receiving mental health treatment
- I've been in Liberty House back in 2005, there I was guided in all the right directions to get on my feet
- I've been to ECCM for help and I'm waiting on the results
- IOP
- Lodge on Sassafras
- Mary Rose, Safe Net, GECAC
- Meals, a bed to sleep in, counseling
- Medical coverage, food stamps, Community Shelter Services
- Mercy Center has done so much for me and my 4 daughters; they took us in at a very dark time in my life and have done everything in their power to pick me back up again
- More helpful to me is the case manager; thankful I have a place to stay
- My family/sister, Safe Harbor, BCM, Rapid Rehousing, Community Shelter
- Paying my rent
- Program of housing for low income rates
- Rapid Rehousing
- Received help with clothing
- Rehab, health issues, housing
- Relapse prevention, coping skills, and most of all spiritual growth
- Rent payment, appointments with Stairways
- Rent payment/subsidy
- Rent subsidy, case management, mental health
- Rent subsidy, mental health services
- Rental assistance
- Rental assistance, budgeting, support for mental and emotional health, guidance, accountability
- Rental subsidy (ECCM), mental health services
- Rental subsidy (Shelter Plus Care)
- Rental subsidy (Shelter Plus)
- Rental subsidy (Shelter Plus), mental health case management, Community Shelter Services

(CSS)

- Rental subsidy (Shelter Plus), mental health case management, shelters
- Rental subsidy, ACT team
- Rental subsidy, case management
- Rental subsidy, case management, mental health care
- RRH guidance.
- Safe Harbor BCM and Erie County Care Management
- Safe Harbor issued me a BCM, and the BCM helped me fill out an application to be accepted at Mercy Center for Women
- Safe housing
- SafeNet Bridge program has been a very big help - the staff are always there for you pushing to get you all the resources and help you may need
- SafeNet Shelter, TLC Housing.
- SafeNet, The Refuge
- Self-sufficient, Budget
- Shelter
- Shelter at SafeNet, being accepted in the Light the Candle program
- Shelter Care Plus, food stamps, medical through welfare office
- Shelter Care Plus, government assistance programs
- Shelter help with rent
- Shelter housing (safe), resources to housing programs, CareerLink for employment
- Shelter Plus program
- Shelter Plus, SSI, food stamps
- Shelter, clothing, food
- Shelter, food, clothing
- Shelter, food, laundry
- Skills that were learned at Mercy Center, rental subsidy, mental health services
- Somewhere for kids to stay
- Staff at Light the Candle helped immensely- they exhibited great work along with helping with all needs that were asked
- Stairways
- Stairways outpatient/BCM, housing services
- Stairways treatment for my anxiety
- Stayed at CSS. Obtained housing thru Columbus Apts.
- Subsidized housing
- Support and encouragement, access to all available resources, treated with respect/dignity at St. Patrick's
- Support, guidance, shelter, counseling
- Talking to counselors and my BCM and just trying to get back on my feet and live independently
- Temp agencies
- The Community of Caring has been very helpful - It is very clean and the staff really cares
- The Erie City Mission's counseling
- The GECAC program, SSI, welfare office, upper room, and MHA
- The help with stabilizing me in a home
- The housing assistance I have received from Erie Dawn has been incredibly helpful
- The Mission and everyone there
- The most and only helpful service I have received is from the Mercy Center - I have a case manager and child specialist that give me lists and help on what needs done and how to do it; anything from a new PCP, how to apply for housing and building a resume
- The most helpful service is help with my child, dealing with food, clothes, diapers
- The most helpful working on farm
- The provider help me get assistance in a new state - they help me get what I need to get income
- The Refuge
- The Refuge has given me the GECAC referral, satisfied with the Refuge - staff are very nice and working with me to better my life
- The Refuge helped get a nice place and back on my feet
- The Refuge is a great emergency shelter
- The Refuge; Rapid Rehousing
- They help you get back on your feet
- Through Stairways Blended Case Management I was able to apply for shelter at Community Shelter Services, although the waiting list was long and it took 15 months
- Transitional housing, mental health services,

substance abuse programs

- Transportation to major grocery store and to doctors
- Transportation, places to live, food stamps, medical, Shelter Plus Care
- Voices of Independence: their services work

helping me at things; City Mission- their services and work helping me on issues; Community of Caring: calls and paperwork to shelter

- Welfare

Appendix D: Agencies that Responded to the 2019 SPIT Survey

<b>DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS (Agency and Program)</b>	
Community of Caring	<i>Emergency Shelter</i>
	<i>Finally Home</i>
	<i>Mary Rose Sanctuary</i>
	<i>Shelter Plus Care</i>
	<i>Transitional Living Center</i>
Community Shelter Services	<i>Columbus Apartments</i>
	<i>Homeless Shelter</i>
	<i>Lighting the Candle I</i>
	<i>Lighting the Candle II</i>
	<i>Lodge on Sass</i>
Erie City Mission	<i>Emergency Shelter</i>
	<i>New Life Program</i>
Erie County Care Mgmt	<i>Self-Start I, II, and III</i>
Erie Dawn	<i>Rapid Rehousing</i>
	<i>Transitional Housing Programs</i>
Erie United Methodist Alliance	<i>Liberty House</i>
	<i>My Way Home</i>
	<i>Our Neighbors Place</i>
	<i>Project Independence</i>
	<i>The Refuge</i>
Erie Veterans Affairs Medical	<i>HUD VASH</i>
Gaudenzia	<i>Fresh Start</i>
MHA of NWPA	<i>Make it a Home Always I and II</i>
	<i>Warming Center</i>
Mercy Center for Women	
Safe Journey	
SafeNet	<i>Bridge House</i>
	<i>Shelter</i>
	<i>Transitional Living Center</i>
Soldier On	
St. Patrick's Haven	



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