



SNAP

SHOT

on ENDING & PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

in DuPage County

Who is homeless?

- An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, staying overnight in an emergency shelter; exiting an institution after less than 90 days having resided in one of the above before entering an institution.
- An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days and nowhere to go and no resources.
- Unaccompanied youth under 25 or families with children and youth who don't meet other definitions.
- People who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, have no other residence, and no resources or support for permanent housing.

Homelessness

	FY 10	FY11	FY 12
Number of persons who utilized an emergency shelter ¹	1,486	1,460	1,384*
Number of nights emergency beds were used	48,537	54,827	55,620
Number of:			
Single men	733	639	598
Single women	520	330	335
Veterans			91
Families with children under 18	254	258	142
Children under 18	359	280	250
Children under 5	136	97	104
Single adults 18-21	55	57	48

Housing

Number of subsidized housing units ²	6,657	6,090	6,850
Number of persons on wait list for subsidized housing ³	4,588	4,588	4,500
Rental vacancy rate ⁴	7.7%	7.9%	6.2%
Average rent for a 2-bedroom apartment in DuPage County ⁵	\$1,015	\$1,016	\$958**
Average rent for a 1-bedroom apartment in DuPage County ⁵	\$903	\$904	\$853**

Income

S.S.I. monthly benefit (Supplemental Security Income) ⁶	\$674	\$674	\$698
Minimum wage in Illinois ⁷	\$8.25	\$8.25	\$8.25
Hourly wage per household needed to live in a 2-bdrm apartment ⁸	\$19.52	\$19.54	\$18.42
Hourly wage per household needed to live in a 1-bdrm apartment ⁸	\$17.36	\$17.38	\$16.40

* Includes persons who accessed emergency shelter services, but did not stay, as well as a building move that caused a decrease in the number of available beds, limiting the number of families served.

** HUD analysis of housing in the Chicagoland Metropolitan area indicated housing downturns statistically, therefore the price of housing went down.



WHAT'S WORKING IN DUPAGE

Permanent Supportive Housing - An Investment in Our Community

Permanent Supportive Housing is proven to help families, individuals, and veterans who face the most complex challenges who are not only homeless, but who also have very low incomes and issues that may include mental illness, substance use, and disabling health condition to live more stable lives. Permanent Supportive Housing in DuPage County focuses on serving individuals and families who have been homeless for one year or longer, or three times within the last four years and have been diagnosed with a disabling health condition, mental health or substance abuse disability. The families and individuals served in this program are unable to sustain permanent and stable living conditions without external support. This program benefits our community by providing permanent housing that helps people live more stable and productive lives and is cost effective by saving tax payers in the areas of medical, mental health and substance abuse and the criminal justice system.

In the last 8 years, there has been a 44% increase in number of Permanent Supportive Housing Beds available in DuPage County.

	2010	2011	2012
Total PSH beds	258	286	300



Children & Homelessness

Children who experience homelessness are more likely to be homeless when they are adults.

From 2011 to 2012, the number of homeless students identified and served in DuPage County has increased from 1,000 to 1,287.⁷

Each time a child moves schools, they lose 4-6 months of academic progress.

Access to a free and appropriate education and the ability to stay stable in school are two of the most significant ways to decrease homelessness in the future.

Low family income can:

- impede children's cognitive development and their ability to learn
- contribute to behavioral, social, and emotional problems
- cause and exacerbate poor child health

The children at greatest risk are those who experience economic hardship when they are young and children who experience severe and chronic hardship.

Causes of Homelessness

- Mental illness, which if left untreated may result in the inability to hold a job and keep housing.
- Substance abuse, which is associated with domestic violence, unemployment and mental illness.
- Lack of adequate health care, which can result in deteriorating physical or mental conditions that pose real barriers to employment.
- Domestic violence and experiences of trauma.
- Inadequate income or loss of a job for persons living paycheck to paycheck.

1384 people in DuPage County were homeless and stayed in a shelter in 2012 *

Who is at risk of homelessness?

Individuals and families can lose their housing for any number of reasons, such as losing a job or fleeing from domestic abuse.

Some are at risk because of mental illness, substance abuse, disabling health conditions or a lack of the life skills or ability to live on their own.

What is Needed

- Access to affordable housing and, for many, ongoing community support and access to support services in order to remain housed.
- Jobs that pay a living wage
- Credit/budget education
- Investment in homeless prevention services to keep people in their homes
- Health care and access to treatment

**Fiscal year ending 6/30/12*

MAKING PROGRESS IN DUPAGE

Homeless Prevention... a strategic, cost-effective strategy

Prevention services provided:	FY2011	FY 2012
Number of unduplicated households	1,732	1,697
Number of unduplicated individuals	5,148	4,631
Average amount of financial assistance per household	\$1,129	\$530

*84% of the households served remained housed six months or more after financial assistance was provided. Those served represent less than 22% of households requesting assistance.

Financial assistance formerly received from state government funding for homeless prevention services has declined dramatically in recent years - leaving the burden to provide additional support to local communities. The State of Illinois provided \$9.5 million in FY 2008, but only \$1.45 million in FY2012.

Efforts to End and Prevent Homelessness a county-wide issue

Ending homelessness requires the cooperation of the entire community as well as all levels of government. Many agencies and their dedicated staffs assist individuals and families who are homeless.

For more information about the Snap Shot or the Continuum, please call DuPage County Community Services at (630) 407-6500. A PDF version of the Report Card on Homelessness in DuPage County is available at www.dupagehomeless.org.

Sources

- 1 DuPage County HMIS Homeless Management Information System; Catholic Charities Hope House; DuPage P.A.D.S. Inc.; Family Shelter; Hamdard Center; 360 Youth Services
- 2 <http://dupageco.org/humanservices/> (6/2012)
- 3 DuPage Housing Authority
- 4 http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_DP04&prodType=table
- 5 http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/fmr/fmrs/FY2012_code/2012summary.odn
- 6 <http://www.ssa.gov/pressoffice/factsheets/colafacts2012.ht>
- 7 State of Illinois
- 8 National Low Income Housing Coalition, Out of Reach 2012- <http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/2012-OOR.pdf>

