Oklahoma’s Five-Year Plan to End Homelessness Planning Survey Results

Presented December 11, 2018, to the Governor’s Interagency Council on Homelessness, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
Methodology and Limitations

- Not scientific
- Focused on individuals and organizations serving Oklahomans experiencing homelessness
- Distributed through professional and personal networks
- Promoted via social and traditional media
- 653 responses submitted between Nov. 4 and Dec. 6, 2018
  - Vast majority were nonprofit service providers (35 percent, n=220); concerned citizens (33 percent, n=211); and, state employees (19 percent, n=117)
  - Represented all CoCs: OKC (45 percent, n=280); Southeast (18 percent, n=111); Northwest (16 percent, n=99); Tulsa (15 percent, n=94); Cleveland County (13 percent, n=79); Southwest (12 percent, n=73); Northeast (11 percent, n=68); and, North Central (11 percent, n=65)
Which of the following would be beneficial in your community?

- a. Statewide resource map and contact information: 68% 430
- b. Overview of relationships and funding sources for those working to end homelessness: 56% 359
- c. Increased sharing of best practices: 51% 330
- d. Increased sharing of state and local data: 44% 283
- e. Increased sharing of gaps in information, programs and services: 58% 374
- f. Increased sharing of local stories that convey challenges and successes: 40% 259
- g. Increased communication of factors that contribute to homelessness: 51% 328
- h. Hosting local town halls/forums: 33% 209
- i. Increased local media coverage: 42% 270
- j. Talking points, handouts for educating others: 43% 274
Which of the following would be beneficial in your community?

- k. Toolkit for education/awareness that can be tailored with local information: 77% 468
- l. Speaker’s bureau: 21% 126
- m. Virtual presentations, speakers: 33% 200
- n. Peer learning opportunities: 54% 325
- o. No additional resources are needed to increase awareness in my community: 7% 40
- Other (Please specify below.): 8% 46

Skipped: 46  Answered: 607
What obstacles do you believe hinder progress in your community or in the state?

- a. Lack of funding: 80% 506
- b. Lack of flexibility in addressing local needs: 47% 298
- c. Lack of expertise in particular areas: 34% 217
- d. Lack of collaboration: 52% 331
- e. Lack of emergency shelter: 60% 384
- f. Lack of affordable housing: 77% 487
- g. Lack of transportation: 68% 432
- h. Lack of jobs: 39% 247
- i. Lack of employment supports (e.g., job coaching): 54% 344
- j. Lack of access to healthcare: 54% 343
What obstacles do you believe hinder progress in your community or in the state?

- Lack of access to mental health services: 86% (509)
- Lack of services for victims of domestic violence: 50% (295)
- Lack of full enrollment of children experiencing homelessness in school, Head Start or early education programs: 49% (290)
- Other (Please specify below.): 17% (102)

Skipped: 63  Answered: 590
Variation by location

- Tulsa
  - Lack of collaboration (41 percent compared to 52 percent statewide)
  - Lack of emergency shelter (37 percent compared to 60 percent statewide)
  - Lack of services for victims of domestic violence (40 percent compared to 50 percent statewide)

- Southeast
  - Lack of jobs (57 percent compared to 39 percent statewide)
    - SE region has an unemployment rate of 3.9 compared to 3.4 statewide; yet, the three counties with the highest rates are located in the SE, including Latimer (6.3), McIntosh (5.1) and McCurtain (4.6).
What obstacles do you believe hinder progress in your community or in the state?

- Variation by employment/role of respondent
  - Lack of collaboration—52 percent statewide indicated this hinders progress
    - Among nonprofit service providers (n=220)—half of whom were located in OKC—42 percent indicated this hinders progress
    - Among state employees (n=117)—40 percent of whom were located in the SE region—63 percent indicated this hinders progress
    - Among concerned citizens (n=211)—55 percent of whom were located in OKC—58 percent indicated this hinders progress
Capacity to design, implement and evaluate innovative solutions

Variation: 52 percent of Tulsa respondents rated their capacity as good or excellent compared to 30 percent statewide
Access to quality data to guide and evaluate work in your community
Variation by Location
- Tulsa
  - 35 percent rated access as good or excellent compared to 22 percent statewide
- Cleveland County
  - 32 percent rated access as good or excellent compared to 22 percent statewide

Variation by employment/role of respondent
- 32 percent of nonprofit service providers rated access as good or excellent compared to 22 percent of all respondents
- 13 percent of state employees rated access as good or excellent compared to 22 percent of all respondents
- 12 percent of concerned citizens rated access as good or excellent compared to 22 percent of all respondents
In what areas would you like to have access to additional training or resources?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Building strong collaboration</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Planning</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Leadership development</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Research and data collection</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Integrating best practices in programs and services</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Communication, Marketing, Outreach</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. I do not need additional training or resources</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Other (Please specify below.)</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Variation: 40 percent of Tulsa respondents requested training or resources in communication, marketing and outreach compared to 51 percent statewide.
Would you benefit from opportunities to “ask an expert” questions about specific challenges or issues you face?

Examples given: locating resources, mental health, making referrals, legal questions.
How would you rate the current status of adopting evidence-based practices in your community?

Variation: 34 percent of Tulsa respondents rated their status as good or excellent compared to 16 percent statewide; 28 percent of nonprofit service providers rated their status as good or excellent compared to 7 percent of state employees and 5 percent of concerned citizens.
How would you rate the effectiveness of collaboration in your community?

Variation: 33 percent of Tulsa respondents rated their collaboration as effective or very effective compared to 14 percent statewide; 23 percent of nonprofit service providers rated their collaboration as effective or very effective compared to 11 percent of state employees and 5 percent of concerned citizens.
Degree to which Oklahomans experiencing homelessness are included in the design and planning of programs and services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Not at all included</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Sometimes included</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Uncertain</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Often included</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Always included</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Skipped: 8  Answered: 645
How often is your community leveraging public-private partnerships?

Variation: 38 percent of Tulsa respondents said often or very often compared to 14 percent statewide; 23 percent of nonprofit service providers said often or very often compared to 8 percent of state employees and 6 percent of concerned citizens.
How effective are public-private partnerships in your community?

Variation: 29 percent of Tulsa respondents and 22 percent of Cleveland County respondents rated their public-private partnerships as effective or very effective compared to 12 percent statewide.
Discharge planning or transition from healthcare system into permanent housing
Discharge planning or transition from child welfare system into permanent housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncertain</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discharge planning or transition from criminal justice (adult) system into permanent housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Poor</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Fair</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Uncertain</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Good</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Excellent</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Discharge planning or transition from juvenile justice system into permanent housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Poor</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Fair</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Uncertain</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Good</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Excellent</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Skipped: 10  Answered: 643
Discharge planning or transition from behavioral health system into permanent housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Poor</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Fair</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Uncertain</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Good</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Excellent</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Degree to which children experiencing homelessness in your community are enrolled in school, HS or early ed program

- a. Poor: 14% 87
- b. Fair: 24% 156
- c. Uncertain: 50% 319
- d. Good: 11% 72
- e. Excellent: 1% 9

Skipped: 10  Answered: 643
Availability of resources in your community for meeting needs of veterans experiencing homelessness

Variation: 37 percent of Tulsa respondents rated availability as good or excellent compared to 19 percent statewide; 30 percent of nonprofit service providers rated availability as good or excellent compared to 17 percent of state employees and 7 percent of concerned citizens.
Degree to which programs serving homeless are effectively coordinating referrals & care with other programs when needed

Variation: 25 percent of Tulsa respondents rated coordination as good or excellent compared to 11 percent statewide; 20 percent of nonprofit service providers rated coordination as good or excellent compared to 10 percent of state employees and 0 percent of concerned citizens.
What is working well?

- Common responses
  - Nothing
  - Not sure
  - Names of primarily urban, nonprofit service providers
  - Names of programs such as Housing First, VASH, etc.
Council discussion

How can we group the needs identified in the survey into broad focus areas for the five-year plan?

For example:

- Service infrastructure
- Capacity-building (systemic and local)
- Transition from social services
- Data
- Public policy