

# About House Everyone STL

Our Vision: House Everyone STL is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization created to lead the way in ending homelessness in the greater St. Louis area using data-centric solutions that support community service providers and drive systemic change.

Composed of a governing body and staff, House Everyone STL is devoted to eliminating and preventing homelessness in St. Louis. HESTL works with service providers, business leaders, government agencies, media partners, and private funders to further this goal.



## Staff - Samantha Stangl, Executive Director



Samantha has a Bachelor's of Social Work from the University of Iowa and a Master's of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis. She spent nearly ten years doing direct service social work in a variety of capacities, including providing services for Spanish speaking victims of intimate partner violence, connecting first generation students to higher education, and providing case management and crisis intervention to immigrant children and families. She also worked for the St. Louis County Children's Service fund, the Clark-Fox Family Foundation, and most recently worked in the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Samantha has a passion for systems change thinking and collaborative approaches to solving problems. She volunteers with YouthBridge Community Foundation and was selected as a 2019 Brown School Emerging Leader award winner.

## The National Landscape

- Homelessness increased nationally by 12% between 2022 and 2023
- 653,104 were experiencing homelessness during the 2023 Point-in-Time (PIT)
  Count. This figure represents a record high since homelessness data collection
  began in 2007.
- People who are homeless have higher rates of illness and die on average 12 years sooner than the general U.S. population.

#### Understanding the Issue-Who

- 1.28 million students experienced homelessness at some point during the school during the 2019-2020 school year
- According to HUD, people living in shelters are more than twice as likely to have a disability than the general population
- Domestic violence is the leading cause of homelessness for women
- In 2021, 5.5 percent of the general population had serious mental illness (SMI).
  In contrast, 31.4 percent of people who experienced homelessness had SMI.

### Understanding the Issue-Why

- Poverty-According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition-a full time worker needs to earn \$25.82/hr for a two-bedroom rental
- Affordable housing shortage: U.S. has an estimated shortage of 7.3 million units for renters with extremely low incomes
- 11 million low-income renters pay over half their income for housing

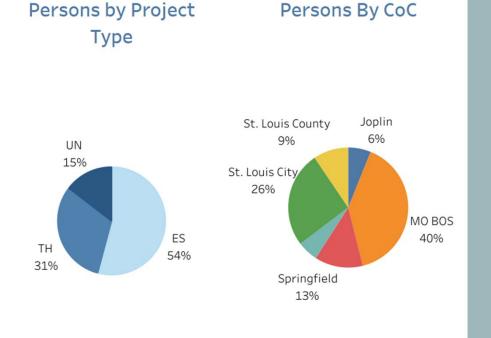
#### **Economic Impact**

- According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, a person experiencing chronic homelessness costs the taxpayer an average of \$35,000 a year (public safety, hospitals, etc.) (2016).
- For the general homeless population, temporary or permanent housing (without services) reduces public costs by 50%. But for the chronically homeless, supportive housing reduces public costs by 79% suggesting that adding services gets communities an even greater return for their investment in those that have been homeless the longest.

## **Data Limitations**

- Point in Time Count limitations: One night a year, physical count of individuals in shelters or unsheltered.
- At-risk of homelessness: Not technically considered homeless but in financially challenging circumstances or staying with family.
- Data Silos: Organized by CoC, each state is organized differently. Each CoC selects its own HMIS vendor.

# Regional Scope-Missouri



- St. Louis City: 1,235
- St. Louis County: 452
- St. Charles, Franklin, Warren CoC: 395
- Total in state: 4,780
- Overall change in state from 2022 to 2023 was +11.9%

## **Regional Scope-Illinois**

- East St. Louis, Belleville, St. Clair CoC-264 sheltered and unsheltered (2023)
- Madison County CoC-88 Sheltered and Unsheltered (2023)
- Southern Illinois CoC-230 Sheltered and Unsheltered (2023)
  - \*Southern Illinois CoC is comprised of 27 counties, including Monroe
- Total in state in 2023: 11,947
- Overall change in state from 2022-2023 was +29.7%

# Housing First

- People need permanent and stable housing before the rest of their needs can be attended to (jobs, budgeting, sobriety).
- Need people to rapidly exit the system and provide connecting services when a person is prepared to participate.
- Evidence from a systematic review of 26 studies indicates that Housing First programs decreased homelessness by 88% and improved housing stability by 41%, compared to Treatment First programs.

# Data Driven Regional Strategies

- Other cities like Houston and Dallas have built successful models that we can learn from:
  - HUD Stella Modeling Tool
  - Private and Public Coalitions
  - Lead by regional governments
  - Focus on rapid exits and housing solutions