The Night Ministry: Facing the Loss of a Founder
1. Background of Homelessness

A. Definition: having no home or permanent place of residence (Webster Dictionary)

B. In order to truly understand homelessness you need to know who is involved and what causes them to be homeless and their effects. After you know that you can find treatment and ways of prevention.

C. According to History of Homelessness Frequently references are made that homelessness as we know it today is rooted in severe HUD cuts in the early 1980s. While policy changes did have a large impact exacerbating the problem, homelessness has been documented in America since 1640 (History of homelessness).

Many people are affected by homelessness, 30% are victims to domestic violence, 25% of homeless are children under the age of 18, 35% are families with children, and 23% are U.S. Military veterans. In total there are more than 3.5 million that experience homelessness each year (Students against Hunger. Org).
Statistics

A. How big is the issue?

-National:
  • On a single night in the US in January 2013
  -610,042 people were homeless total (Henry)
  -Two thirds of people were in emergency shelters (Henry)
  -More than one thirds are living in sheltered locations (under bridges, in cars or in abandoned buildings). (Henry)
  • On a single night in January 2010
  -407,966 individuals are homeless (doesn’t include people in a family)

-State: 13% or 77,430 people of homeless people in the US live in New York. (Henry)

-Local: In 2013 (Monroe County) there were 6,179 individuals homeless
  -2,678 families
  -8,857 total
  -Monroe county department of Human Services made 8857 emergency housing placement for individuals and families.
  (Housing/Homeless services)

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Breakdown of Demographics

**AGE**
- 21.8% of homeless are under the age of 18
- 23.7% are 18-30 years
- 27% are 31-50 years
- 14.9% are 51-61 years
- 2.8% are 62 and older (Students against Hunger. Org).

**GENDER**
- 62% were male (SAMHSA)
- 38% were female (SAMHSA)

**RACE**
- 41% are white, Non-Hispanic (SAMHSA)
- 9.7% are white, Hispanic (SAMHSA)
- 37% are African American (SAMHSA)
- 4.5% are other single races (SAMHSA)
- 7.2% are multiple races (SAMHSA)
- Data shown from HUD 2013 Annual homelessness assessment report, data showed that minorities (Hispanic, African Americans, and other non-white races) are more vulnerable to homelessness. (SAMHSA)
- One in 29 minorities and one in 69 African Americans experience homelessness in shelters in 2012. (SAMHSA)

**GROUPS**
- 20% of all declared persons who are homeless had a mental illness (SAMHSA)
- 24% of all declared adults who are homeless had mental illness (SAMHSA)
- 12 million people experience homelessness in the US (SAMHSA)
- One in five adults (19%) were likely to be in families in shelters (SAMHSA)
- According to the report on the direct Federal Response to the Homeless, the number of homeless falls between 2007 and 2012. (SAMHSA)
- One in five youth (18-24) experienced homelessness at least one time (SAMHSA)
- One in five youth (18-24) experienced homelessness in the United States. A large portion of these young adults were veterans. (SAMHSA)
- Mental Illness: In 2013, about 34% of homeless adults experience mental illness. (SAMHSA)
- Substance Abuse: In 2013, about 34% of homeless adults experience substance abuse. (SAMHSA)
-   Students against Hunger. Org.

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GROUPS

- 26.2% of all sheltered persons who were homeless had a severe mental illness (SAMHSA)
- 34.7% of all sheltered adults who were homeless had chronic substance use issues (SAMHSA)
- In 2009, the National Center on Family Homelessness found that nationwide, 1.5 million children experience homelessness in a year (SAMHSA).
- On a given night 241,951 people in families were homeless in shelters (SAMHSA).
- According to the report on the streets: Federal Response to Gay and Transgender homeless youth between 240,000 and 400,000 lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and questioning youth experience at least one episode of homelessness each year. (SAMHSA)
- Veterans: In 2013, Almost 50,000 veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States down from more than 75,000 in 2009. 50% have a mental illness, 70% have a substance use disorder and 74% are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of experiencing homelessness live with lingering effects of post-traumatic stress disorder. (SAMHSA)
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