

**Continuum of Care
Member Agencies**

American Red Cross

*Center for Women in
Transition*

*Champaign County
Regional Planning
Commission*

*Champaign-Ford Counties
Regional Office of
Education*

City of Champaign

City of Urbana

*Community Service Center of
Northern
Champaign County*

Crisis Nursery

C-U at Home

Cunningham Township

*Developmental Services
Center*

*Family Service of
Champaign County*

*Greater Community AIDS
Project*

Homestead Corporation

*Housing Authority of
Champaign County*

*Mental Health Center of
Champaign County*

*Persons Assuming Control
of their Environment*

*Prairie Center Health
System*

Restoration Urban Ministries

Salvation Army

*Social Security
Administration*

TIMES Center

*University of Illinois-
Chancellor's Office*

Veterans' Affairs

As of Jan 2012

Urbana-Champaign Continuum of Care



Agencies Committed to Ending Homelessness

Date: April 29, 2013

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The Champaign County Continuum of Care, comprised of agencies and governmental units committed to ending homelessness in Champaign County, conducted a survey of the area's homeless population on January 24, 2013. According to the survey, on that day 214 persons, including 41 children, in 171 households were homeless in Champaign County. Of those surveyed, at least 8 individuals were classified as chronically homeless (i.e., homeless for over one year or 4+ times in 3 years and having a disabling condition). Twenty-two persons had no indoor shelter located for that night. Primary reasons given for homelessness were related to inability to pay bills, or mental/physical disability.

The homelessness point-in-time survey is completed at least once every two years so that local homeless providers can measure the effectiveness of existing services and identify additional approaches that are needed to address local needs. The previous count in January 2011, identified 549 homeless persons in Champaign County, however this previous number may have reflected some persons as homeless using less stringent definitions of homelessness, such as "couch surfing," "precariously housed" or "doubling-up with family or friends." It is important to note that the count is held during the week selected for the national count by HUD and may be affected by weather or other factors, and that positive results also were achieved from significant HUD funding committed over the past two years for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing of homeless households.

This year's count used data from electronically-collected information in the Continuum's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for all persons sheltered at local agencies and from a "street count" which collected information manually for unsheltered persons not duplicated at shelter locations, including the Salvation Army's Canteen Run, soup kitchens and public buildings. Details gathered about household characteristics and causes of homelessness aid local efforts to plan targeted housing solutions through the Continuum's strategic plan to end homelessness. For example, Continuum of Care agencies tailored development of the United Way's pilot Emergency Shelter for Families and partnered for the expansion of local tenant-based rent assistance programs in response to the identified need for these specific gaps in services to move households into more stable housing situations. The Continuum's goal is to work toward ending homelessness through prevention, speeding intervention and affordable housing initiatives.

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