



American Planning Association
**Planning and the
Black Community Division**

Making Great Communities Happen



Home for the holidays, except when you have
no place to call home.

Homelessness in the Black Community



Homelessness- The Big Picture

“Most minority groups in the United States experience homelessness at higher rates than Whites.”

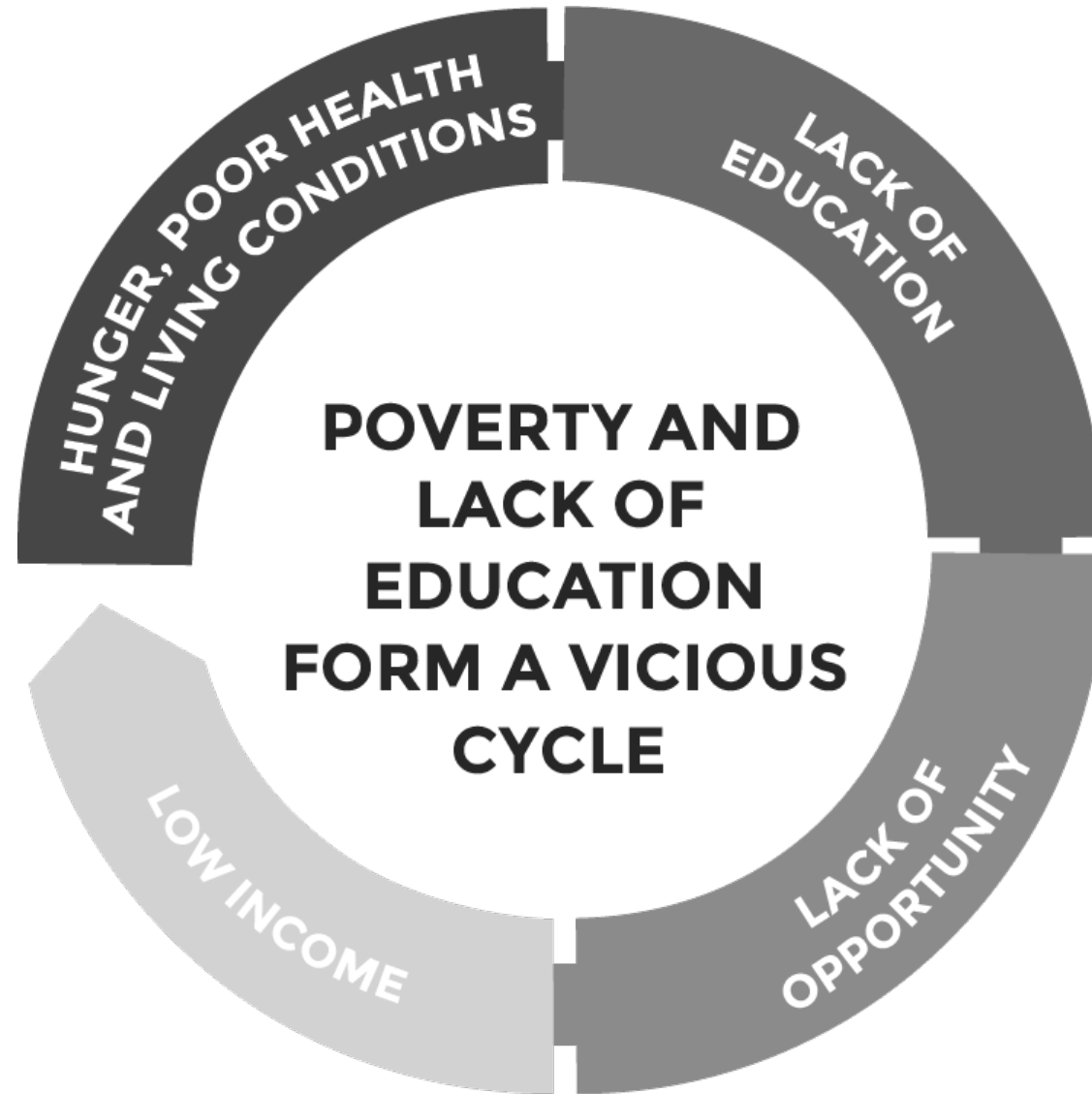
National Alliance to End Homelessness



Public Policies Contribute to
Higher Percentages of Black
Homelessness



Impact on the Black Community





Black Homelessness (by the numbers)

- 40% of homeless population, 13% of the general population*
- 6.5% of CA residents are Black, but represent approximately 40% of CA homeless population. #
- In Monterey County, CA, the percent of Blacks that are homeless is seven times higher than the County's black population (3.5 % residents in County vs 25% of the county's homeless population). +

* National Alliance to End Homelessness

U.S. Census Bureau

+ Cal Matters

Today's Presentations and Speakers



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Home for the Holidays...

**Except when you have no
Place to call Home**

Alison Korte

Associate Director, Capacity Building & Training

Friday, December 20, 2019



About LAHSA



LOS ANGELES CONTINUUM OF CARE

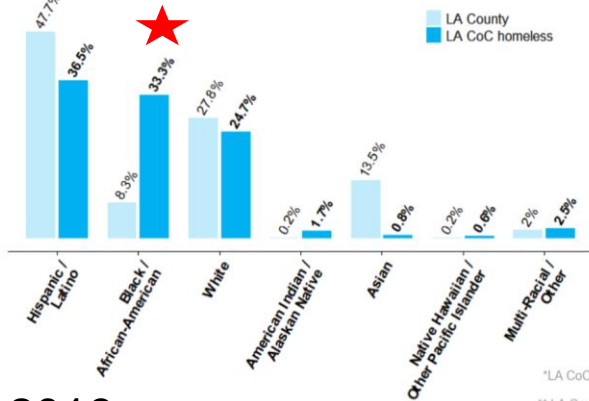
- Lead agency in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care, which is the regional planning body that coordinates housing and services for homeless families and individuals in Los Angeles County.
- LAHSA coordinates and manages over \$300 million annually in federal, state, county, and city funds for programs that provide shelter, housing, and services to people experiencing homelessness.
- LA County Coordinated Entry System Administrator



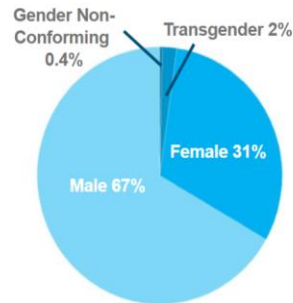
Los Angeles
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Working Together to End Homelessness in Los Angeles

Impact of Homelessness in the Black Community

Total Homeless Population by Race and Ethnicity Los Angeles CoC*



Total Homeless Population by Gender Los Angeles CoC*



*LA CoC excludes Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach CoCs
 **LA County prevalence from US Census Bureau, 2010 Census

KEY FACTS:

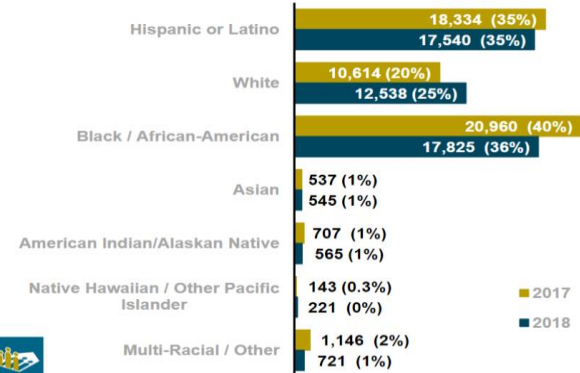
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- Black people in LA continue to be 4 times more likely to experience homelessness
- Ad Hoc Committee On Black People Experiencing Homelessness – continued implementation of 67 recommendations
- 200 new interim housing beds for women
- Ad Hoc Committee On Women and Homelessness – continued implementation of 53 recommendations

Race/Ethnicity: (LA CoC*)

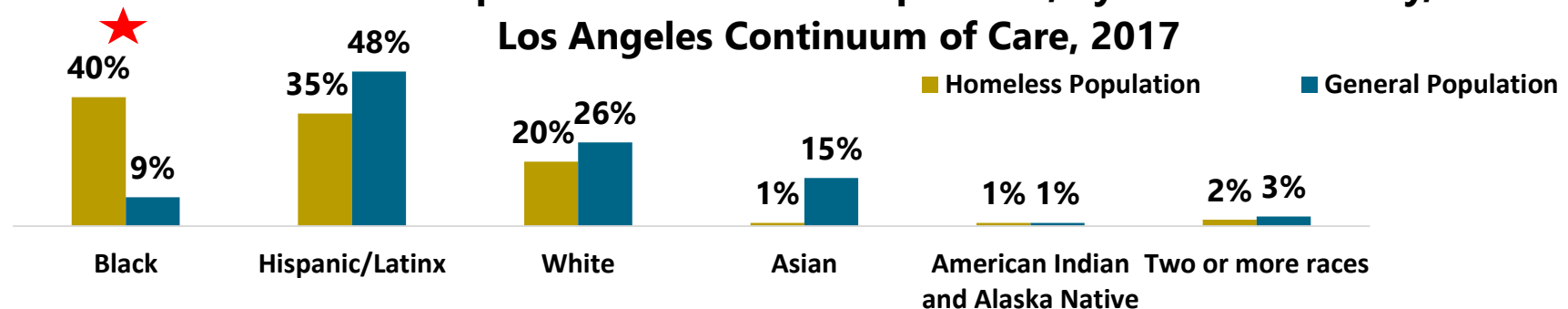
While the Black/African-American population experiencing homelessness decreased 15%, they continue to be overrepresented. Black/African-Americans make up 35% of the homeless population while only making up 9% of the general population in the county.

Total Homeless Population by Race and Ethnicity Los Angeles Continuum of Care, 2017 & 2018



2018 HOMELESS COUNT RESULTS

Homeless Population vs. General Population, by Race & Ethnicity, Los Angeles Continuum of Care, 2017



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Historical Perspective

PART II

Analysis & Key Insights

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“African Americans are disproportionately represented in homelessness because they are [over]represented in every area of disparity in our country. And that goes back to our roots of racism, oppression, and institutional racism. It doesn’t change with the category. It is almost expected.”

BLACK WOMAN
South Los Angeles listening session participant

I have a Black boyfriend. When we look for apartments, I have to go alone because they always turn us down when he is around. We have to try to trick them into giving us the apartment before they find out he is Black. We both have bad credit but “for me they are willing to make an exception; for him they are not.”

WHITE YOUTH
Paraphrased from Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles (HYFLA) focus group participant

According to analysis conducted by the Center for Social Innovation regarding American homelessness, “although Black people comprise 13% of the general population in the United States and 26% of those living in poverty, they account for more than 40% of the homeless population, suggesting that poverty rates alone do not explain the overrepresentation.”⁴

Indeed, the circumstances that lead Black people to disproportionately experience homelessness cannot be untangled from the impact of institutional and structural racism in education, criminal justice, housing, employment, health care, and access to opportunities. Institutional and structural racism impact Black people experiencing homelessness on a daily, life-long basis, from renting an apartment, to seeking employment, to the trauma of living in an anti-Black society.

Fifty years ago, in 1968, the Fair Housing Act legally outlawed landlords and real estate companies, municipalities, and banks from denying people housing based on their race in response to rampant redlining⁵ and exclusionary zoning.⁶ However, according to a recent report by the National Fair Housing Alliance, the federal government has overwhelmingly failed to enforce the law, and in turn, racial discrimination in housing continues to be a pervasive problem across the country.⁷ A recent analysis of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data gave evidence that Black people continue to face housing discrimination despite policy efforts to prevent discriminatory lending practices.⁸ The analysis found that Black borrowers were charged higher fees and interest rates than White borrowers, making credit less affordable to Black borrowers. Further, mortgage loan denial rates showed that Black applicants were denied far more often than White applicants in some of the country’s largest cities.

As a result of the vestiges of redlining and exclusionary zoning, Los Angeles County ranks as one of the most segregated metropolitan areas in the United States. According to Richard Rothstein, author of *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*, data show that more than half (60%) of Black people in Los Angeles live in neighborhoods where few White people are present.⁹

Segregation is associated with lower homeownership, lower wealth accumulation, and higher rents. Over the past two decades, Black homeownership has declined at nearly five times the rate of White homeownership, according to a study by the Urban Institute.¹⁰ The same study found that, while homeownership rates have increased for every other group over the past 50 years, Black homeownership has fallen to levels similar to those before the passage of the Fair Housing Act. Another nationwide study focused on renters found that while neighborhoods with concentrated minority populations have a median income that is 28% below the metro-wide median, their rent is only 12% below the metro-wide median, suggesting that people who live in segregated neighborhoods are more likely to have higher housing cost burdens.¹¹ In Los Angeles specifically, a 2016 report found that White households have a median net worth of \$355,000 compared to just \$3,500 for Black households.¹² As discussed further in the subsequent section of this report (focusing on cost of living and employment-related challenges), these economic impacts of discrimination and segregation contribute to increased risk of homelessness for Black people, further compounding the disparity.

Racial discrimination has also persisted locally, according to a recent Resident Fair Housing survey conducted by the City of Los Angeles and the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) from late 2016 to early 2017. Twenty-eight percent of survey respondents reported being discriminated against based on race/ethnicity; of those, approximately half were Black. According to the Los Angeles Housing Rights Center, who presented to the Committee in September 2018, racial bias (particularly against Black men and boys), lack of tenant protections, lack of access to subsidized housing, and the use of criminal records in tenant screening practices cause or maintain segregation.¹⁴



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Impacts

"We need to stop these systems that are forcing us to lie. Have you ever had to lie on an application or the social worker told you to lie unless you won't get this program? How do you think we feel after we lie and walk away? You are talking about lowering our self-esteem; it effects our spiritual life. I am already in a bad place, and I have to lie on top of it. Sleeping on someone's couch, and I have to lie and say I am sleeping on the street. It doesn't make sense."

BLACK WOMAN
South Los Angeles
listening session
participant

29% of people experiencing homelessness report a serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder



KEY FACTS:

- Intensive case management services provided to over 900 people with severe mental illness
- Expanded interdisciplinary outreach through Department of Mental Health
- 5 new Mental Health Urgent Care and Sobering Centers on Skid Row

However, economic factors are driving increases in homelessness



Los Angeles Times



Opinion: Is L.A. County's foster system raising the next generation of homeless people?



Criminalization of Homelessness, Incarceration, and Re-entry

"I had a gentleman that went to our church who was arrested 13 times in one year. We are in Skid Row. Every time he got arrested, he would lose his place for housing." —Black Man, Pastor at South Central listening session

"I think we need to take into consideration the criminalization and incarceration rates in the communities. Not only does it remove an adult from the family, it also removes an income, and creates other barriers. I think it is worth mentioning the criminalization and our justice system." —Woman at Venice/Santa Monica listening session

"It is nearly impossible to house Black people with criminal histories." —Black Woman, Service Provider

The affordable housing crisis is driving a regional increase in homelessness

- Rising homelessness is a statewide challenge
- The simple average increase among reporting areas statewide is +27%
- LA is the least affordable housing market in the United States*



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Strategies and Current Activities



FEDERAL

2019	H.R.4302	Homeless Assistance Act of 2019	Rep. Brad Sherman (CA-30)	Authorizes public housing agencies to share data regarding individuals experiencing homelessness with the lead entity in a Continuum of Care.	In House Committee	Support
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STATE

2019	SB 329	Source of Income Discrimination	Sen. Holly Mitchell (SD-30)	Prohibits discrimination by landlords based on a prospective tenant's source of income.	Signed by Governor	Support
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STATE

2019	AB 1482	Statewide Rent Cap	Asm. David Chiu (AD-17)	Establishes a statewide cap on annual rent increases of 5%+CPI for apartments and other rental units built at least 15 years ago.	Signed by Governor	Support
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STATE

2019	AB 1481	Just Cause Eviction Protections	Asm. Rob Bonta (AD-18)	Establishes statewide just cause eviction protections.	Inactive File	Support
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STATE

2019	AB 53	Ban the Box for Rental Applications	Asm. Reggie Jones-Sawyer (AD-59)	Prohibits landlords from inquiring about an applicant's criminal background record during the initial application phase for rental housing.	Held at Request of Author	Support
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Strategies and Current Activities



LAHSA AD HOC COMMITTEE ON BLACK PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Align planning efforts so that Black people can stay in their communities and are not displaced by prosperity and gentrification – rental protections
- Advocate for the return of first-time homebuyer incentive programs
- 67 recommendations, 7 types
 - Overarching
 - Cross System Collaboration
 - Data and research
 - Policy and Advocacy
 - Programs and services
 - Funding
 - Overarching

Appendix V: Racial Equity Toolkit

The Racial Equity Toolkit used to guide the Committee's work was created in 2008 by the Seattle Office for Civil Rights' Race and Social Justice Team. The purpose of the Toolkit is to "center race" with the goal of eliminating racial disparities and advancing racial equity. The Racial Equity Toolkit is a process and set of guiding questions the Committee implemented to inform and assess how the homeless service delivery system's policies, programs, and budgetary decisions benefitted and/or burdened Black people experiencing homelessness. More information can be found here: www.seattle.gov/civilrights/programs/race-and-social-justice-initiative/racial-equity-toolkit.

The Toolkit process as applied by the Ad Hoc Committee on Black People Experiencing Homelessness, is outlined in detail below.

STEP ONE: SETTING RACIAL EQUITY OUTCOMES

Set key community outcome for racial equity analysis. The Committee chose to conduct a racial equity analysis to better understand the racial inequities impacting Black people experiencing homelessness, and the unique barriers Black people may face when trying to exit homelessness by accessing services and affordable housing. The Committee chose the following outcome to guide its work: **Eliminate racial disparities impacting Black people experiencing homelessness by ensuring racial equity within the homeless crisis response system.**



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Closing Remarks



[Home](#) [Volunteer](#)

Everyone counts.
No matter where
they live.



<https://www.theycountwillyou.org/>

Volunteer For Your Local Homeless Count



Income & Poverty

Income is the gauge many use to determine the well-being of the U.S. population. Survey and census questions cover poverty, income, and wealth.

[Read More](#)

- Income
- Income Inequality
- Poverty
- Public Assistance
- Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)
- Supplemental Poverty Measure
- Wealth and Asset Ownership
- Well-Being
- CPS ASEC Redesign and Processing Changes



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The Impact of Homelessness in the Black Community

JAMES GILLEYLEN, PRESIDENT
AND CEO, J-QUAD PLANNING
GROUP WWW.JQUAD.COM

Who We Are



Planning and Development

- Urban Planning & Design
- Commercial Corridor Planning
- Neighborhood Planning
- Revitalization Planning
- Disaster Recovery Planning
- Community Engagement
- Housing Market Analysis
- Housing Needs Assessments and Forecasting
- Economic Assessments and Forecasting
- Demographic Analysis
- HUD Entitlement Grant Management



Grant Management

- Consolidated Plans
- Assessment of Fair Housing
- Public Housing - Entitlement Program Deconcentration Plans
- Site and Neighborhood Standards Analysis
- CAPERS, IDIS, and Regulatory Reporting
- Program Design & Administration
- Davis Bacon Compliance
- Federal Manpower [Validation](#)
- Fair Housing Consent Decree Compliance



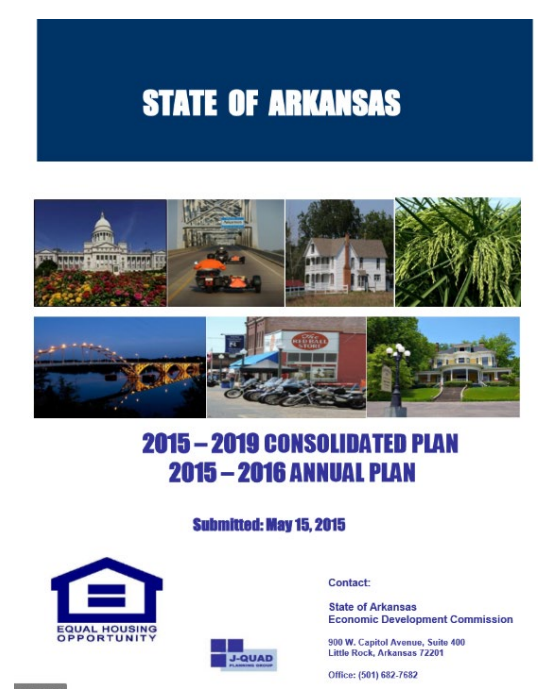
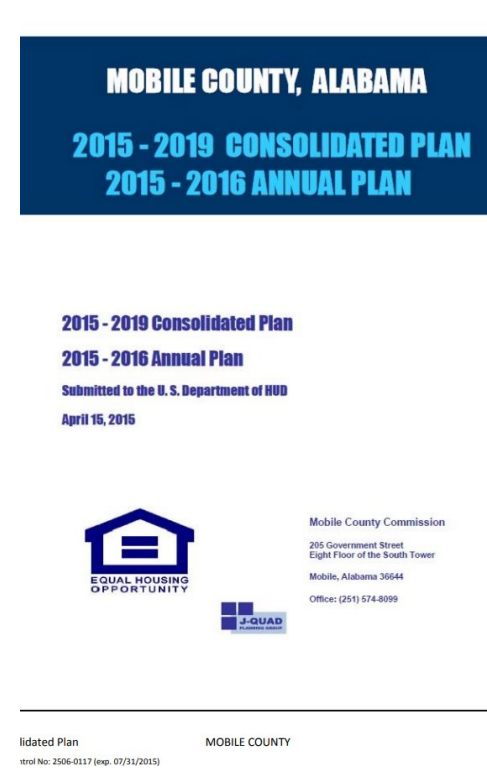
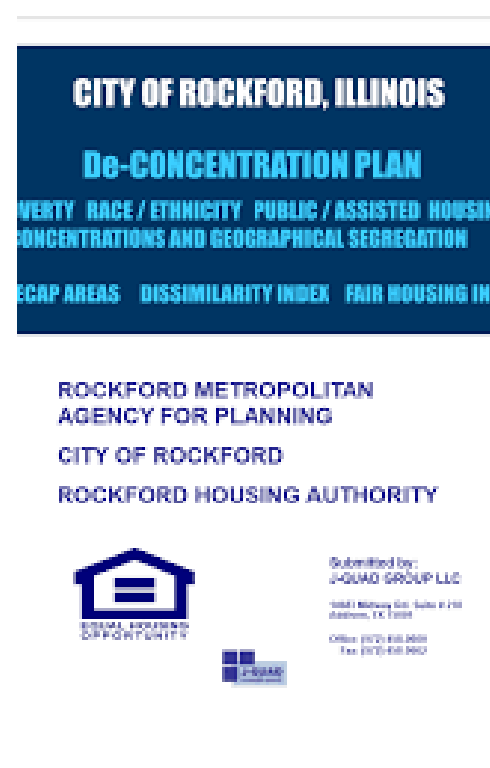
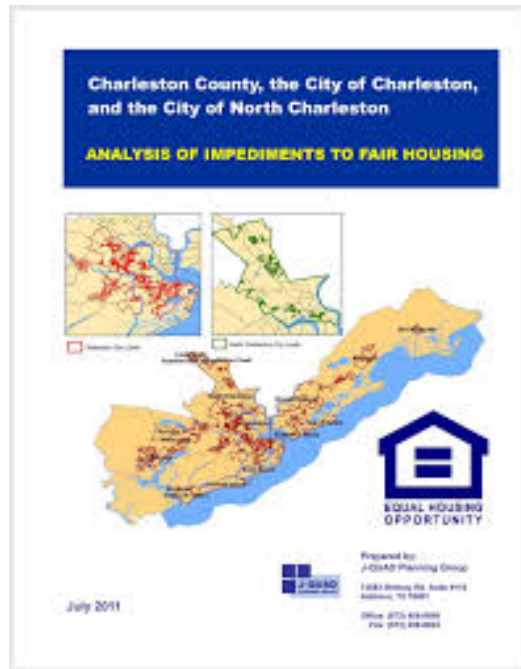
Housing and Economic Development

- Economic Development Finance
- Housing Finance
- Downtown and Specialty Housing
- Program Design & Administration
- Davis Bacon Compliance
- Housing Development Feasibility Analysis
- CDFI Program Development
- Planning and Zoning Changes and Compliance



Featured Projects

- EAPDD Regional Plan
- Cleveland Buckeye Larchmere Shaker Square Woodland Hills Transformation Vision Plan
- Port Arthur Texas Disaster Recovery Plan
- Port Arthur Downtown Housing Plan
- RMAP Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- Huntsville Housing Authority Deconcentration Plan
- Shreveport LA Assessment of Fair Housing
- [Mobile](#) Alabama Consolidated Plan
- Shreveport Housing Needs Assessment



Client Listing

The following table provides an estimate of homeless individuals and families within several categories. These numbers are taken from the previous 2014 Point-in-time count. To date, Mobile County has not provided a separate count of homeless individuals or families in rural areas. Estimates for the number of homeless persons each year, becoming homeless each year, number exiting homeless each year, and duration of homelessness have not been developed, as yet.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	12	189	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	12	189	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Individuals	36	32	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	0	7	0	0	0	0
Veterans	23	38	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	7	19	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	1	1	0	0	0	0

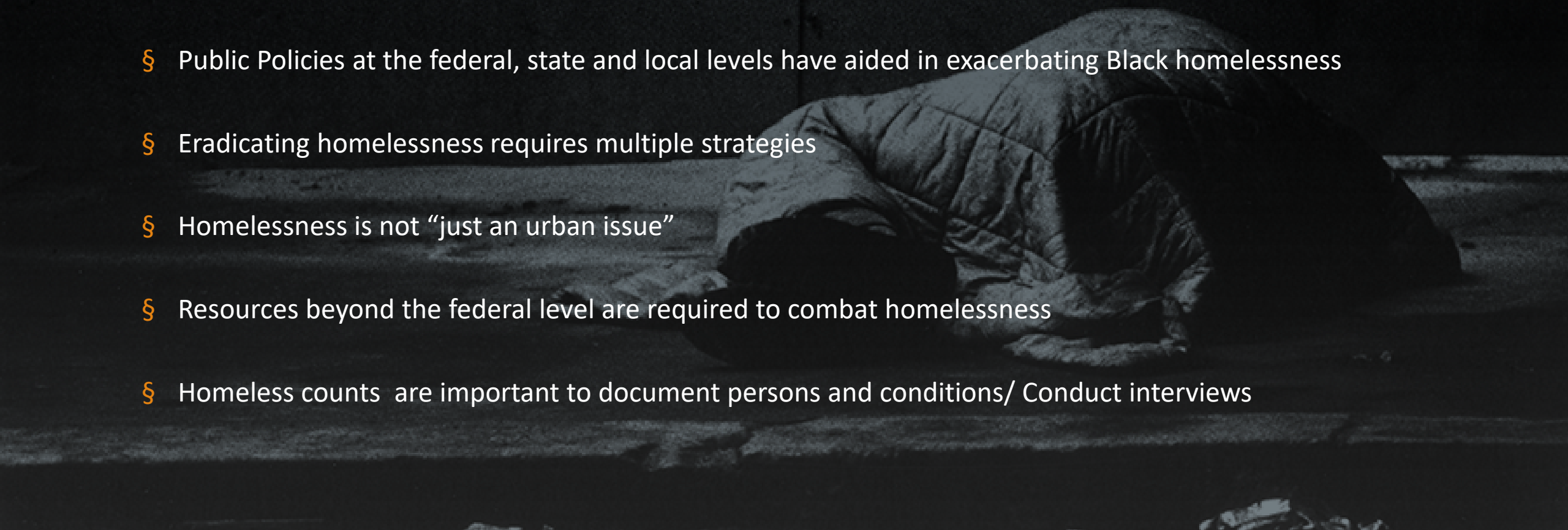
Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Mobile County, AL
Population 413,955

Lessons Learned

10- Year Plan to Eliminate Homelessness

- § People are homeless for a variety of reasons
- § Public Policies at the federal, state and local levels have aided in exacerbating Black homelessness
- § Eradicating homelessness requires multiple strategies
- § Homelessness is not “just an urban issue”
- § Resources beyond the federal level are required to combat homelessness
- § Homeless counts are important to document persons and conditions/ Conduct interviews





Recommendations/ Strategies

- § Multiple strategies are required- Comprehensive approach best serves homeless populations (Mental Health, Education, Job Resources, General Health Care, Housing/Shelter, Interviews and Follow Up)
- § Triage is important during intake to determine what services are needed
- § Consider including public safety personnel (Police, Fire, and Health Care) for Point in Time Count; Seek volunteers including family members to assist with count
- § Case management alone does not work. Access to a network of service providers is a better approach. Be sure not to duplicate services
- § Resources must be spread across regions (No time for NIMBYism) and not just in communities of color
- § Homelessness is “localized”. There must be a commitment at the local level to address the issue