



# 2013 Vulnerability Index Survey Results

Public Briefing – Monday, March 25, 2013

# WELCOME

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. What the Point-In-Time (PIT) Survey Tells Us
- III. What the Vulnerability Index (VI) Is and How We Use It
- IV. Data from 2013 PIT & VI
- V. Next Steps: 100K Homes & C3H
- VI. Q&A

# Why the PIT Survey

Since 2003, all Continuum of Care Communities (*those receiving Federal Grant Funds serving the homeless*) have been required to report the number of people who are homeless at a particular time.

Collecting good baseline data:

1. Is essential to understanding the causes of homelessness
2. Can be used for designing effective responses
3. Used for comparison in future years
4. Needed to measure and track progress toward reducing homelessness



# What the “Point-In-Time” Survey Tells Us

The “Point-In-Time” (PIT) Count is:

- ✓ A physical count of the homeless people encountered county-wide during a pre-determined set of days, or “point in time”.
- ✓ Required every two years by U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
- ✓ Timeframe is determined by HUD

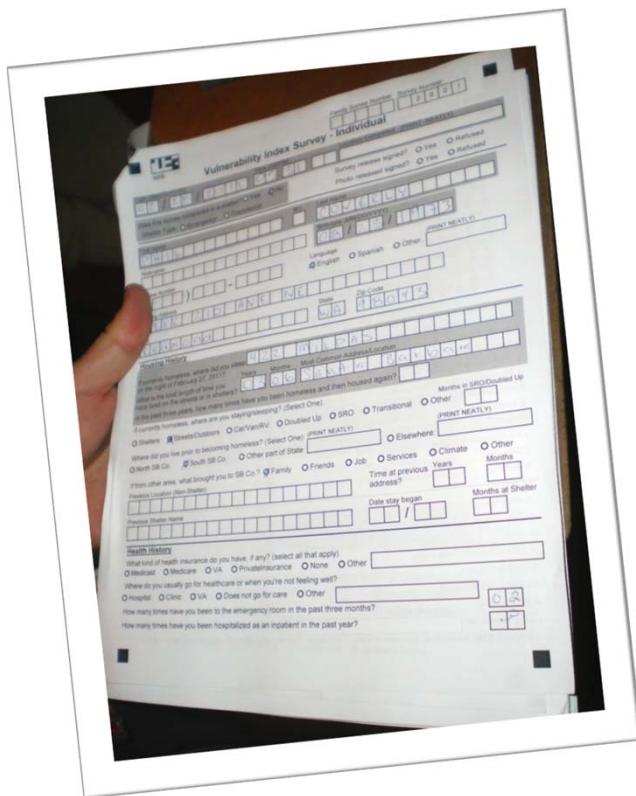
This PIT was conducted in Santa Barbara County on  
*January 22-23, 2013*

*A point in time*



# Survey Week (January 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>)

## What we did!



- Over 600 volunteers throughout SB County attempted to survey homeless individuals and families encountered on the streets, and in shelters, using a locally adapted Vulnerability Index Survey



2011 – 500 Volunteers  
2013 – 650 Volunteers

# Chronic Homelessness

HUD defines a Chronically Homeless person as:

1. An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more,

- OR-

2. An unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.”

HUD defines “homeless” in the definition of Chronically Homeless as:

“a person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. living on the streets, for example)

- OR-

living in a homeless emergency shelter.”



# Chronically Homeless & The Vulnerability Index

We implement The VI Survey of the Chronically Homeless along with the PIT Count.

- Interviews the homeless who *self-report* a more in-depth survey than what is required by the PIT Survey.
- Determines individuals and family health needs
- Rank orders the most vulnerable at risk of dying prematurely due to health conditions

*The VI Survey is self-reported* details regarding physical, mental health status, substance use, if Veterans, have children, # of times in the emergency room, hospitals, jail, etc.

Santa Barbara County (C3H) has chosen to implement this “best practice” to capture more details to determine who are the most vulnerable, to prevent deaths and target our strategies.



# 2013 Survey Data

Bottom Line:

- There are too many people who are homeless and living in our communities.
- The reasons are diverse and solutions complex.



# Data Results

	2013 Survey	2011 Survey	% Change from Survey years
# of People Encountered	1,466	1,536	-4.56%
# of Surveys Completed	1,111	1,143	-2.80%
# Deemed “vulnerable” with an elevated risk of premature mortality	886 (80%)	932 (82%)	

During January 22 and 23 2013, the surveyors encountered 886 people during the PIT who have an elevated risk of premature mortality.

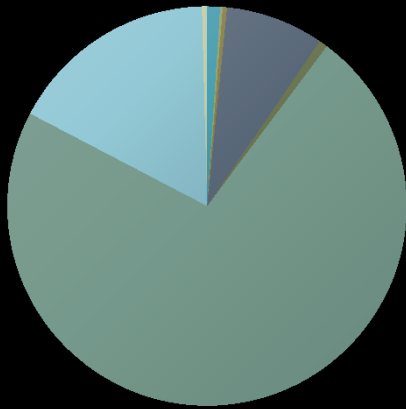


# Contacts by Region

Area	2013 # of Contacts	2013 %	2011 # of Contacts	2011 %
Carpinteria	10	0.68%	15	0.98%
Cuyama Valley	0	0%	3	0.20%
Guadalupe	1	0.07%	5	0.33%
Isla Vista/Goleta	81	6.53%	114	7.42%
Lompoc	104	7.09%	110	7.16%
Santa Barbara	946	64.53%	1,040	67.71%
Santa Maria	300	20.46%	243	15.82%
Santa Ynez Valley	24	1.64%	6	0.39%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,536</b>	<b>100%</b>

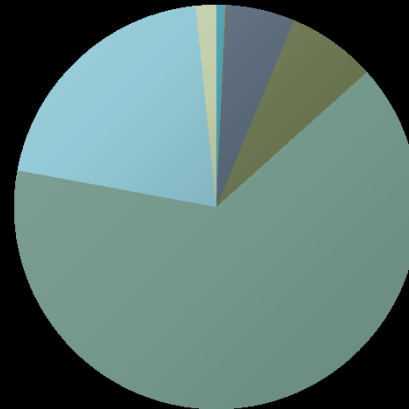
# Distribution – Visual Comparison

2011 Distribution



- Carpinteria
- Guadalupe
- Lompoc
- Santa Maria
- Cuyama Valley
- Isla Vista/Goleta
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Ynez Valley

2013 Distribution



- Caprinteria
- Guadalupe
- Lompoc
- Santa Maria
- Cuyama Valley
- Isla Vista/Goleta
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Ynez Valley

# Living Situation

2013 Survey		
Reported Staying	Count	% of Eligible Surveys
Street	278	31%
Vehicle	142	16%
Shelter	287	32%
Doubled Up	21	2%
SRO	29	3%
Transitional	103	12%
Other	26	3%
Unknown	0	0%

2011 Survey		
Reported Staying	Count	% of Eligible Surveys
Street	270	29%
Vehicle	138	15%
Shelter	291	31%
Doubled Up	46	5%
SRO	35	4%
Transitional	117	13%
Other	22	2%
Unknown	13	1%

# General Demographic Information

	Count	%	National %*
Male	603	68%	62%
Female	282	32%	38%
Veterans	120	14%	13%
Youth – 25 & under	88	10%	
Elderly – 62 and older	80	9%	4.2%

\* 2011 – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration --AHAR Fact Sheet

# General Demographics – cont.

Average Age	43	<b>Hospital / ER Visits</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Oldest Individual Contact	84	ER Visits – 1 Yr.	732	\$732,000
Youngest Individual Contact	18	Hosp. Admissions – 1 Yr	685	\$4,110,000
Average Time Homeless	6.4 years	<b>Incarceration Type</b>	<b>% of Participants</b>	<b>Cost*</b>
Foster Care	124 (14%)	Jail	72%	\$977,900
Victim of Violence/Trauma	265 (30%)	Prison	25%	\$12,318,750
		<b>Total Cost of Incarcerations</b>		<b>\$13,296,650</b>

\* Source: CA Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Bureau of Justice



# Reason became Homeless

	#	%
Economy/Home Loss	168	19%
Health	164	18.5%
Loss of Job	231	26.1%
Military Discharge	9	1.0%
Other	277	31.3%
Unknown	37	4.2%

# Education Level

Level	Count	%
K-8	45	5.1%
Some High School	179	20.2%
High School Graduate	220	24.8%
GED	83	9.4%
Some College	276	31.2%
College Graduate	71	8.0%
Post Graduate	17	1.9%
Other	12	1.4%



# Income

Income	Count	%
Work on Books	134	15.1%
Work off Books	111	12.5%
SSA/SSDI	121	13.7%
VA Benefits	23	2.6%
Public Assistance	60	6.8%
CalFresh/Food Stamps	223	25.2%
CalWorks	48	5.4%
Sex Trade	3	0.3%

Income	Count	%
Drug Trade	12	1.4%
Recycling	126	14.2%
Pan Handling	110	12.4%
Pension	19	2.1%
Child Support	5	0.6%
No Income	120	13.5%
Other	24	2.7%

420 participants listed multiple sources of income



# Health Insurance

	Count	%
Medicaid	204	23%
Medicare	79	8.9%
Medi/Medi	25	2.8%
VA	45	5.1%
Private Insurance	19	2.1%
MIA/HCH	106	12%
No Insurance	386	43.6%
Not Listed	22	2.5%

# Access to Care

	Count	%
Clinic	439	49.5%
Hospital	207	23.4%
VA	41	4.6%
Other	8	0.9%
No Care	172	19.4%
Not Listed	19	2.1%

# Health Related Demographics

Condition	%
Liver Disease	8%
End Stage Renal Disease	3%
Alcohol Abuse	51%
Mental Illness	56%
Serious Mental Illness	31%
Treated for Mental Health	61%
Physical Disability	23%
Diabetes – Type 1,2	11%
Tuberculosis	3%
	67% being treated
Hepatitis	13%
	24% being treated
Traumatic Brain Injury	20%

Condition	%
Coronary Artery Disease	34%
Hypertensive Heart Disease	
COPD/Asthma	25%
Cancer	7%
Seizure Disorder	11%
Chronic Pain Syndrome	27%
Tobacco Use	58%
Cold Weather Injury	7%
Hot Weather Injury	12%
Prescribed Medications	42%
	95% taking Meds

# Locations before becoming Homeless

## 2013 SURVEY

Location	Count	%
North Santa Barbara County	235	26.5%
South Santa Barbara County	257	29.0%
Other Part of State	166	18.7%
Out of State	3	0.3%
Not Listed	225	25.4%

## 2011 SURVEY

Location	Count	%
North Santa Barbara County	215	23.1%
South Santa Barbara County	257	27.6%
Other Part of State	213	22.9%
Out of State	199	21.4%
Not Listed	48	5.2%

# Why Located to Santa Barbara County

Reason	Count	%
Climate	102	11.5%
Family	142	16%
Friends	58	6.5%
Job	63	7.1%
Not Listed	311	35.1%
Other	173	19.5%
Services	39	4.4%

# 2013 Family Survey Demographics

# Vulnerable Families

Vulnerable Families:

Residential instability, multiple places stayed or  
Pattern of recurrent shelter use

# Family Survey Demographics

Family Surveys	182
Determined "Vulnerable"	122*
Average Time Homeless	3.3 years
Average Age of Head of Household	37.5 years
Gender of Household:	
Males	45 (36.9%)
Females	77 (63.1%)
Currently Pregnant	6%
Adult Report Victim of Physical/Sex abuse	33%
Victim of Domestic Violence	2%
Head of Household w/ Mental Health Condition	53%
Head of Household w/Substance Abuse Condition	60%

Number of Children	149
Children < 1 year old	19%
Children ages: Under 6 yrs	38%
Children with serious medical condition	10%

**Note: Data from County Schools – Indicates much higher homeless rate of children**

Shelter	296
Doubled-Up	4,801
Unsheltered	61
Motel	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,274</b>

\*Figures based on the 122 Vulnerable Families



# Family Survey Locations

Survey Location	Count	%
Isla Vista/Goleta	1	0.8%
Lompoc	11	9.0%
Santa Barbara	51	41.8%
Santa Maria/Orcutt	56	45.9%
Santa Ynez Valley	2	1.6%

North County Distribution:  
2011 survey – 75% of Families  
2013 Survey – 56.5% of Families

# Findings

## From Individual VI Surveys:

- ✓ Distribution of Homeless Population and ratios similar to 2011 Survey
- ✓ Continued high self-reported rates of mental illness and substance abuse
- ✓ High levels of illnesses specific to homelessness, such as weather related impacts and exposure to violence
- ✓ Findings continue to correlate with local Public Health and National statistics

## From Family VI Surveys:

- ✓ High Rate of Homeless Families persist w/ majority in north county but with increased percentage in south county
- ✓ From the SBCEO school district reports, there is a much higher rate of family homelessness than captured through the VI Survey

# Actions to Date

- Created new Housing Placement Working Group that meets biweekly to work on find housing for the most vulnerable identified. \* Focus will be expanded to include Families and Veterans
- Since 2011 Housed over 181 vulnerable individuals and family members representing 92 households.
- Created a new unified countywide organization, Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness (C3H) for directing resources in an efficient and coordinated manner.

Since 2011, using the VI data to focus efforts to house individuals and families

Type	Households	# in Household
Individual Households	53	53
Family Households	39	128
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>181</b>



## Next Steps – Now What? The Focus of C3H

- C3H: community partners throughout the county will use data to consider actions in response issues related to homelessness
  - Partners include non-profit housing, shelter and treatment service providers, government agencies, policy makers, volunteers, and people who are or were homeless
- Participation in The 100K Homes Campaign to end **Chronic and Veteran Homelessness** by 2015
  - Using the data from the PIT and VI, developing a “100-day Plan” to kick-start getting more people housed



# More Information

Download this presentation at:

[www.commongrounds.org](http://www.commongrounds.org)

Questions about the survey or C3H

Angela Antenore, C3H Facilitator  
[c3hangela@gmail.com](mailto:c3hangela@gmail.com)

To volunteer,

Jeff Shaffer, C3H Community Coordinator  
[c3hjeff@gmail.com](mailto:c3hjeff@gmail.com)

