



Wilder
Research



Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect

*Summary of guests served on
March 29, 2010*



M A Y 2 0 1 0



Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect

Summary of guests served on March 29, 2010

May 2010

Prepared by:

Emily Warren

Wilder Research

451 Lexington Parkway North

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104

651-280-2700

www.wilderresearch.org

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Methods.....	2
Comparison with previous Hennepin Project Homeless Connect events.....	3
Demographic characteristics.....	5
Living situation.....	8
Income and sources of assistance	11
Income and sources of assistance	12
Services sought	13
De-duplication with data in Minnesota’s HMIS.....	14
Known contact with homeless service providers prior to event	15
Known contact with homeless service providers after the event.....	16
Known involvement with previous Project Homeless Connect events	17
Conclusion	18
Appendix.....	19

Figures

1. Households and individuals served at event – comparison to previous events	3
2. Households served, as presenting at event, by head of household	5
3. Individuals served at event, by household type	5
4. Household types served, comparison to previous events.....	6
5. Age of heads of households served at event	6
6. Race and ethnicity of guests served at event	7
7. Disability, veterans status, and previous experience with Project Homeless Connect	7
8. Homeless status of guests served at event, comparison to previous events.....	8
9. Status of guests at event who are homeless or “doubled up,” comparison to previous events.....	8
10. Living situation last night	9
11. City where guest stayed last night	9
12. City where guest stayed last night, comparison to previous events.....	10
13. City where guest stayed last night	10
14. Household income sources last 30 days.....	11
15. Other assistance currently received by household	11
14. Household income sources last 30 days.....	12
15. Other assistance currently received by household	12
16. Main types of service sought by household.....	13
17. Percent of identifiable guests served by an organization participating in HMIS prior to the event	15
18. Homeless status of event guests with records in HMIS prior to event compared with those without records in HMIS prior to event	16
19. Household status of event guests with records in HMIS prior to event compared with those without records in HMIS prior to event	16

Acknowledgments

Data entry by Pat Crosby, Danita Banks, Debra Deaton, Lisa Weber, Christy Olson, Antoinette Dawson, Greg Frank, Snoti Friday, Rachel Petersen, Cheryl Reisewitz, Linda Larkin, Mary Sandmeier, Rodney Alexander, Jane Lawrenz, Alison Legler, Matthew Ayres, and Barb Keske.

Data entry set up, coordination, and reporting paid for by the Hennepin County/City of Minneapolis Office to End Homelessness.

Introduction

This report summarizes information about the guests served at the Minneapolis/Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect event held on March 29, 2010 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. This was the ninth Project Homeless Connect to be held in Minneapolis. The event was organized by the Minneapolis/Hennepin County Office to End Homelessness in partnership with the Family Housing Fund, and a steering committee made up of community members, service providers, and persons who have experienced homelessness.¹

Overall, Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect served:

- 1,597 households²
- 2,028 individuals
- 431 children age 17 or younger
- 33 unaccompanied youth age 14-18

After a discussion of data collection methods this report presents a brief comparison to the population of guests served at the previous Minneapolis/Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect events, along with events held in St. Paul/Ramsey County. This report also includes a series of tables summarizing characteristics of guests served at Project Homeless Connect, including: basic demographics, living situation, income and sources of assistance, services sought, and a de-duplication of guests served at Project Homeless Connect with records of persons known to be previously served by agencies in Minnesota who serve those experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

¹ For further information on the event, see www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org

² Households include couples with and without children, single parents with children, single adults, unaccompanied youth, and guests identifying as an “other” household type.

Methods

The data reported below were collected on paper by volunteer intake workers on the day of the event, using the form found in the Appendix.³ The data were later entered into Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) by a team of trained data entry volunteers. Minnesota's HMIS is a statewide database that includes client-level data from many agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness.⁴

Project Homeless Connect guests received consent forms and were recorded as "anonymous" if they preferred to not have personally identifiable information entered into the HMIS. As a result, 166 of the 1,597 households served (10%) were entered without the ability to run matches in the HMIS database to see whether they have prior service records, or to see whether they were served by providers participating in HMIS after the event.

Guests who agreed to be entered with identifiable information were entered as "unnamed clients." That is, their names were only held temporarily by the database. Upon entering the client name in the initial data entry screen, the database automatically generated a unique identifier comprised of parts of the name, date of birth, gender, and race. The database then discarded the name. The creation of the unique identifier enabled Wilder Research to assess whether Project Homeless Connect guests were served by other programs participating in Minnesota's HMIS either before or immediately after the event.

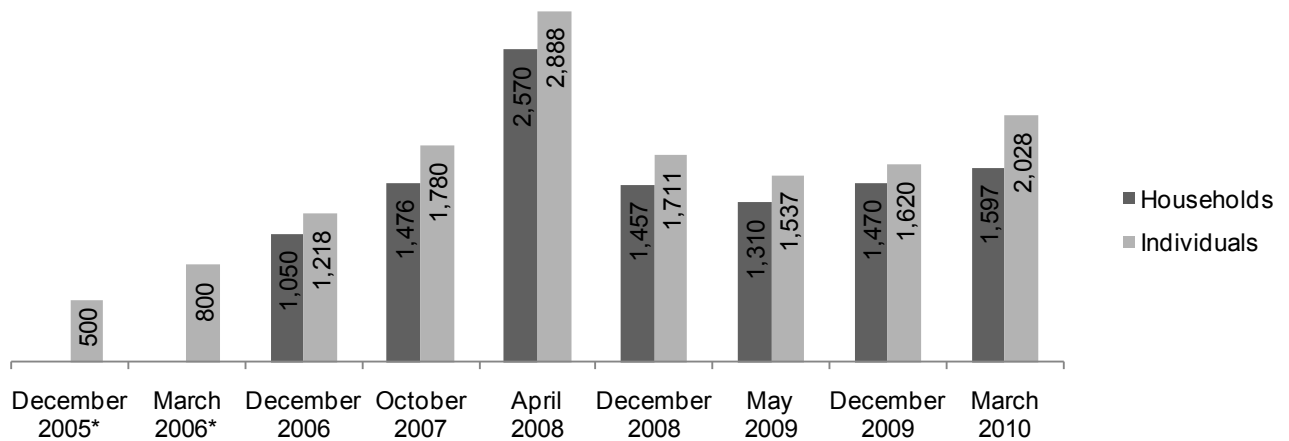
³ Two questions included on the intake form that relate to wages and hours worked are not included in this report due to the fact that only a small proportion of event guests provided answers to them.

⁴ For more information, see www.hmismn.org

Comparison with previous Hennepin Project Homeless Connect events

The Minneapolis/Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect held on March 29, 2010 served 2,028 individuals, a 20 percent increase from the December 2009 event that served 1,620 individuals.⁵

1. Households and individuals served at event – comparison to previous events



* HMIS was not used for reporting for the first two events.

The proportion of guests identifying as not currently homeless increased slightly, from 25 percent in December 2009 to 28 percent. In addition, the proportion of guests reporting living “doubled up” increased by 8 percentage points. Breakdowns of demographic characteristics such as race, age, veteran status, and disability status were similar to previous events. Families represented a somewhat greater proportion of guests than at previous events, perhaps due to the fact that the event was held during spring break for Minneapolis public schools.

Compared to previous events, a greater proportion of guests at the March 2010 event reported receiving public benefits such as MFIP, Medical Assistance, and food stamps. Fewer families with children reported receiving income from employment. The five services most commonly sought by guests were housing, employment, eye care, dental care, and help obtaining a state ID.

⁵ The previous Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect event reports can be found at <http://www.hmismn.org/reports/>

The remainder of this report presents information on the guests served at the March 2010 Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect, including demographic characteristics, living situation, income and sources of assistance, and services sought by event guests. The report concludes with a section showing how many guests of the event had been served at previous events or had prior contact with agencies participating in Minnesota's HMIS. The report looks at guests receiving services within four weeks after the event by looking at their contact with providers participating in HMIS. In addition, the report examines outcomes from guests served at the event based on services found in HMIS.

Demographic characteristics

2. Households served, as presenting at event, by head of household

	Male	Female	Gender Unknown*	Total
In households without children				
Adults	732	294	62	1,088
Unaccompanied Youth (14-18)	6	18	-	24
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>738</i>	<i>312</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>1,112</i>
In families with children				
Adults	114	342	20	476
Unaccompanied Youth (14-18)	1	8	-	9
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>485</i>
TOTAL				1,597

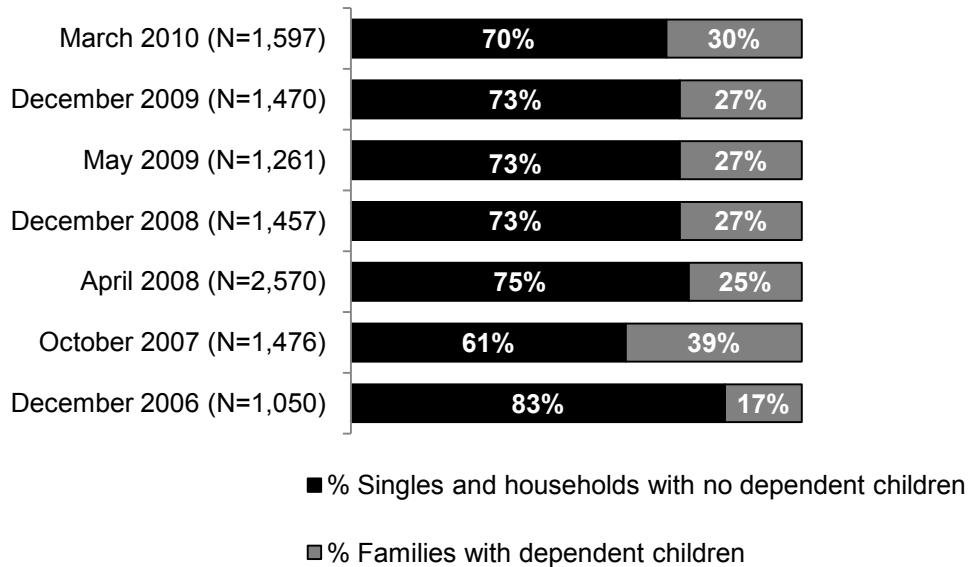
* Gender recorded as "Don't know" or left blank by intake volunteer. Includes one person identifying as transgender (not shown separately to maintain confidentiality).

3. Individuals served at event, by household type

	Number	Percentage
In households without children		
Adult singles	1,020	92%
Adults in couples (no dependent children)	68	6%
Unaccompanied youth, age 14-18	24	2%
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>1,112</i>	<i>100%</i>
In families with children		
Parents or guardians	485*	53%
Children, age 13-17	73	8%
Children, age 5-12	154	17%
Children, age 0-4	204	22%
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>916</i>	<i>100%</i>
TOTAL	2,028	

* Includes nine unaccompanied youth who attended the event with dependent children.

4. Household types served, comparison to previous events



5. Age of heads of households served at event

	Male	Female	Gender Unknown*	Total
14-17	3 (<1%)	7 (1%)	-	10 (1%)
18-21	39 (5%)	84 (13%)	1 (1%)	124 (8%)
22-24	35 (4%)	72 (11%)	3 (4%)	110 (7%)
25-34	122 (14%)	158 (24%)	22 (26%)	302 (19%)
35-44	184 (22%)	139 (21%)	14 (17%)	337 (21%)
45-54	284 (33%)	120 (18%)	20 (25%)	424 (26%)
55-64	120 (14%)	48 (7%)	15 (19%)	183 (12%)
65-79	15 (2%)	5 (1%)	2 (2%)	22 (1%)
80+	-	1 (<1%)	-	1 (<1%)
Missing age	51 (6%)	28 (4%)	5 (6%)	84 (5%)
TOTAL	853 (100%)	662 (100%)	82 (100%)	1,597 (100%)
Average age (mean)	44	36	43	40

* Includes one guest identifying as transgender (not shown separately to maintain confidentiality).

6. Race and ethnicity of guests served at event

	Number	Percentage
American Indian/Alaskan Native	228	14%
Asian	10	1%
Black/African American	840	53%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3	<1%
White	352	22%
Other	31	2%
Other Multi-Racial	29	2%
Missing	104	6%
TOTAL	1,597	100%
Hispanic/Latino (any race)	95	6%

* Up to two categories, including "other multi-racial," were recorded for each guest. The answers are reported here in a manner consistent with reporting used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

7. Disability, veterans status, and previous experience with Project Homeless Connect*

	Adults				Youth** N=33	ALL*** n=1,597
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown Without children N=61	Adults with children n=476		
Has a disability of long duration	48%	51%	49%	27%	12%	42%
Served in US military	15%	1%	14%	2%	3%	9%
Has been to a Project Homeless Connect event like this one before*	42%	32%	49%	29%	9%	36%

* Previous experience according to self-report (not through de-duplicating with prior events).

** Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

*** Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

Living situation

8. Homeless status of guests served at event, comparison to previous events

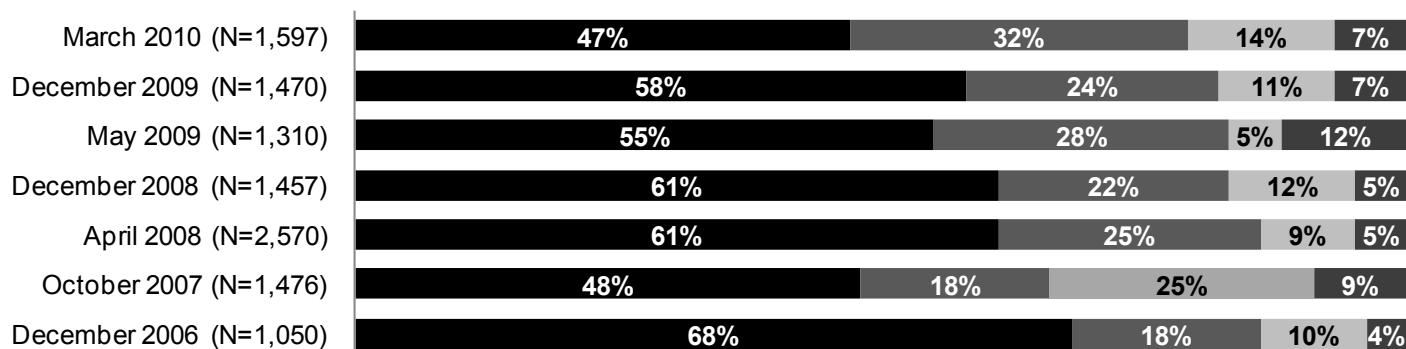
	December 2006	October 2007	April 2008	December 2008	May 2009	December 2009	March 2010
Not currently homeless	187 (18%)	399 (27%)	558 (22%)	342 (24%)	281 (22%)	369 (25%)	438 (28%)
Living with family or friends*	45 (4%)	181 (12%)	219 (9%)	92 (6%)	66 (5%)	90 (6%)	123 (8%)
Homeless, but status unknown**	86 (8%)	49 (3%)	97 (4%)	62 (4%)	45 (4%)	60 (4%)	64 (4%)
1st time homeless and less than 1 year without home	291 (28%)	316 (22%)	652 (25%)	383 (26%)	318 (24%)	375 (25%)	372 (23%)
Multiple times homeless, but NOT meeting LTH definition***	112 (11%)	142 (10%)	371 (14%)	168 (12%)	160 (12%)	185 (13%)	182 (11%)
Long term: At least 1 year OR at least 4 times in past 3 years***	315 (30%)	253 (17%)	543 (21%)	339 (23%)	279 (21%)	291 (20%)	302 (19%)
Unknown/Missing	14 (1%)	136 (9%)	130 (5%)	71 (5%)	161 (12%)	100 (7%)	116 (7%)
TOTAL	1,050	1,476	2,570	1,457	1,310	1,470	1,597

* Guests identified as “not currently homeless” but also indicated “living with family” or “living with friends” (see Table 11 for living situations).

** Guests identified as “not currently homeless” but also indicated living in situations typically considered homeless (emergency shelters, living on the streets/squatting, and transitional housing programs for the homeless).

*** The state of Minnesota defines an individual, unaccompanied youth or family as “Long-Term Homeless” if they are without a home for a year or more OR have had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. Any period of institutionalization or incarceration (including transitional housing, prison/jail, treatment, hospitals, foster care, or refugee camps) is excluded when determining the length of time the household has been homeless.

9. Status of guests at event who are homeless or “doubled up,” comparison to previous events



■ Homeless ■ "Doubled up" with friends or family ■ Not currently homeless ■ Homeless status unknown

10. Living situation last night

	Number	Percentage
Emergency shelter	351	22%
Rental house or apartment	347	22%
Living with friends	222	14%
Living with family	201	13%
Transitional housing for homeless	168	11%
Substance abuse treatment center	77	5%
Owned house or apartment	27	2%
Place not meant for habitation	35	2%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless	31	2%
Foster care/group home	10	1%
Hotel or motel (without an emergency voucher)	6	<1%
Safe Haven	1	<1%
Jail, prison, or juvenile facility	3	<1%
Psychiatric hospital or facility	1	<1%
Other (unspecified)	66	4%
Missing/don't know/refused	51	3%
TOTAL	1,597	100%

11. City where guest stayed last night

	Adults				Youth*	ALL**
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown Without children n=61	Adults with children n=476		
Minneapolis	68%	70%	61%	63%	67%	67%
St. Paul	3%	4%	1%	4%	3%	3%
Other suburb	7%	7%	5%	11%	3%	8%
Missing	22%	19%	33%	22%	27%	22%

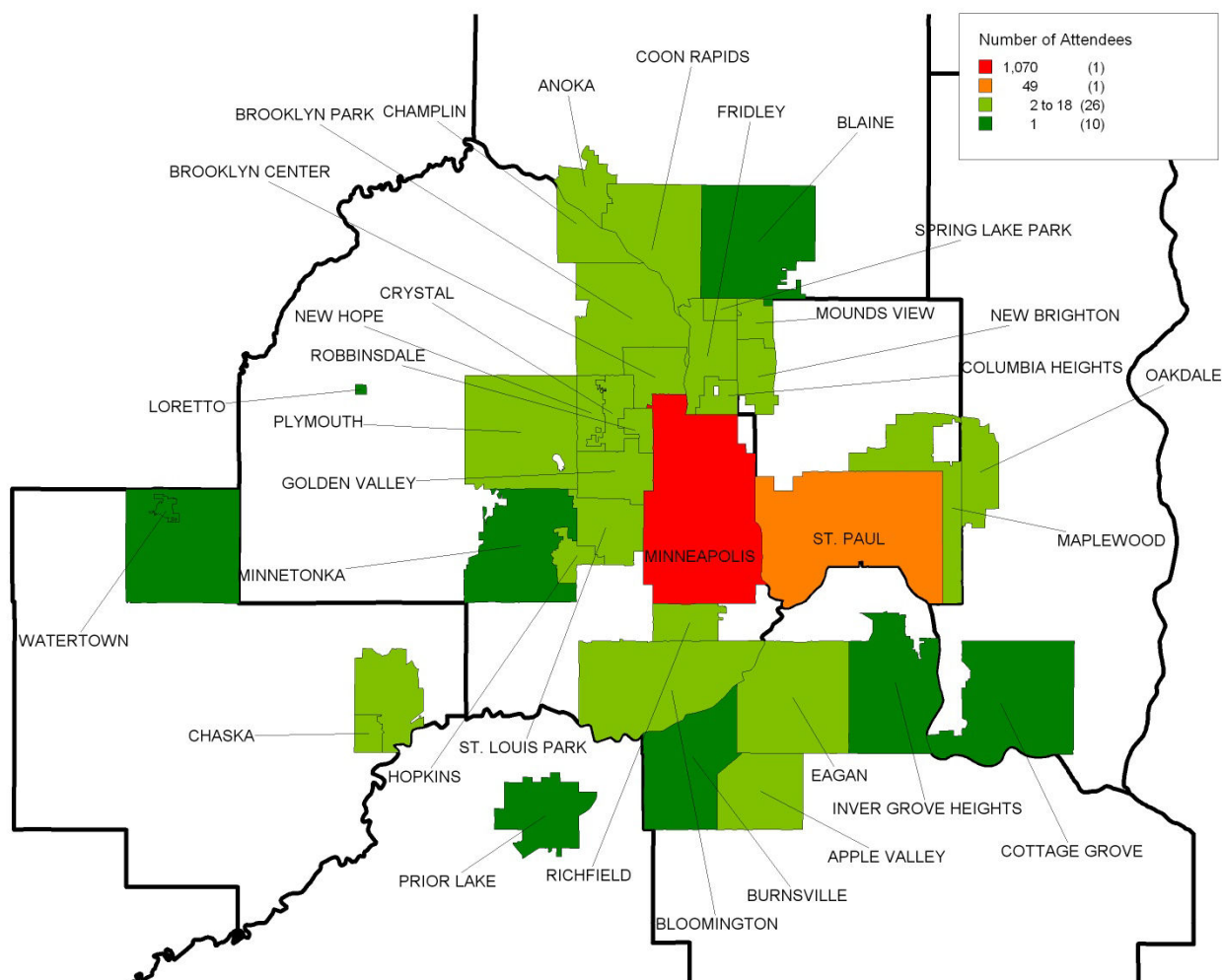
* Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

** Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

12. City where guest stayed last night, comparison to previous events

	December 2006	October 2007	April 2008	December 2008	April 2009	December 2009
Minneapolis	819 (78%)	972 (66%)	1,989 (77%)	1,039 (71%)	820 (62%)	1068 (67%)
St. Paul	55 (5%)	52 (4%)	83 (3%)	63 (4%)	35 (3%)	49 (3%)
Other town/suburb	49 (5%)	110 (7%)	166 (6%)	104 (7%)	76 (6%)	126 (8%)
Unknown/Missing	127 (12%)	342 (23%)	332 (13%)	251 (18%)	379 (29%)	354 (22%)
TOTAL	1,050	1,476	2,570	1,457	1,310	1,470

13. City where guest stayed last night



Income and sources of assistance

14. Household income sources last 30 days*

	Adults				Youth ^b N=33	ALL ^c n=1,597
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown without children n=61	Adults with children n=476		
General Assistance	47%	42%	37%	27%	18%	39%
Social Security (other)	11%	20%	2%	14%	12%	14%
No income	17%	14%	7%	11%	15%	14%
SSDI	13%	17%	2%	10%	3%	13%
MFIP	1%	4%	5%	33%	18%	11%
Other income sources	9%	8%	1%	13%	6%	10%
Employment ^a	9%	9%	9%	12%	18%	9%
Contributions from others	6%	4%	7%	8%	12%	6%

* Intake staff were encouraged to report all sources received by the household, from the list above. They also recorded other income sources, reported by the guest. The "other" sources reported included recycling, pensions, child support payments, donating plasma, unemployment benefits, tribal payments, and other miscellaneous sources.

^a Includes temporary employment and day labor.

^b Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

^c Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

15. Other assistance currently received by household*

	Adults				Youth ^{**} N=33	ALL ^{***} n=1,597
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown without children n=61	Adults with children n=476		
Medical assistance	56%	58%	61%	69%	42%	60%
Food stamps	52%	54%	56%	73%	46%	59%
Medicare	13%	15%	21%	12%	12%	13%
Public housing	8%	9%	13%	7%	6%	8%
Other rent assistance	5%	8%	3%	7%	-	6%
Section 8	5%	6%	7%	8%	-	6%
Veterans medical or other veterans benefits & services	5%	1%	2%	1%	-	3%

* Intake volunteers were encouraged to report all sources received by the household, from the list above.

^{**} Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

^{***} Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

Income and sources of assistance

14. Household income sources last 30 days*

	Adults				Youth ^c N=33	ALL ^d n=1,597
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown without children n=61	Adults with children n=476		
General Assistance	47%	42%	37%	27%	18%	39%
Social Security (other)	11%	20%	2%	14%	12%	14%
No income ^b	17%	14%	7%	11%	15%	14%
SSDI	13%	17%	2%	10%	3%	13%
MFIP	1%	4%	5%	33%	18%	11%
Other income sources	9%	8%	1%	13%	6%	10%
Employment ^a	9%	9%	9%	12%	18%	9%
Contributions from others	6%	4%	7%	8%	12%	6%

* Intake staff were encouraged to report all sources received by the household, from the list above. They also recorded other income sources, reported by the guest. The "other" sources reported included recycling, pensions, child support payments, donating plasma, unemployment benefits, tribal payments, and other miscellaneous sources.

^a Includes temporary employment and day labor.

^c Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

^d Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

15. Other assistance currently received by household*

	Adults				Youth** N=33	ALL*** n=1,597
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown without children n=61	Adults with children n=476		
Medical assistance	56%	58%	61%	69%	42%	60%
Food stamps	52%	54%	56%	73%	46%	59%
Medicare	13%	15%	21%	12%	12%	13%
Public housing	8%	9%	13%	7%	6%	8%
Other rent assistance	5%	8%	3%	7%	-	6%
Section 8	5%	6%	7%	8%	-	6%
Veterans medical or other veterans benefits & services	5%	1%	2%	1%	-	3%

* Intake volunteers were encouraged to report all sources received by the household, from the list above.

** Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

*** Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

Services sought

16. Main types of service sought by household*

	Adults				Youth** N=33	ALL *** n=1,597
	Men without children n=732	Women without children n=294	Gender unknown without children n=61	Guests with children n=476		
Housing	57%	62%	46%	64%	64%	60%
Employment	39%	41%	44%	53%	64%	44%
Dental Care	34%	37%	30%	32%	27%	34%
Eye care	34%	34%	30%	31%	27%	33%
Wants help obtaining ID	26%	27%	25%	32%	36%	30%
Wants help obtaining a birth certificate	22%	29%	20%	30%	39%	25%
Haircut	29%	25%	31%	20%	9%	25%
Education	19%	23%	18%	30%	12%	23%
Legal assistance	20%	20%	15%	22%	6%	20%
Medical care (other)	14%	25%	15%	14%	9%	16%
Public Assistance	12%	16%	13%	17%	6%	14%
Social Security benefits	14%	13%	12%	11%	6%	13%
Mental health	10%	10%	8%	10%	6%	10%
Emergency shelter	8%	5%	5%	8%	12%	8%
Voicemail	9%	7%	10%	7%	3%	8%
Other: miscellaneous	6%	7%	1%	10%	1%	7%
Veterans benefits	8%	1%	7%	1%	3%	4%
Chemical health	4%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Other: transportation assistance (includes bus cards)	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Other: shoes or shoe vouchers	3%	1%	1%	1%	-	2%
Domestic violence services	-	2%	2%	3%	-	1%

* Guests were asked what their top three services were from the list provided above. Some indicated more than three.

** Includes nine unaccompanied youth with dependent children.

*** Includes one guest identifying as transgender.

Matching with data in Minnesota's HMIS

One of the reasons Project Homeless Connect organizers wanted to enter data from the event into Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) was to get a sense of how many of those served at the event were already involved with social service providers, particularly providers whose mission is to serve people experiencing homelessness. While Minnesota's HMIS remains imperfect for the task, an increasing number of organizations whose mission is to serve those experiencing homelessness participate in HMIS.

As of November 2009, Minnesota's HMIS included 74 percent of shelter beds, 84 percent of transitional housing program beds, and 65 percent of permanent supportive housing beds in Hennepin County. The HMIS also includes the County's large homeless prevention program, as well as some other "services only" programs not associated with beds. Further, entering the data into HMIS enabled us to run matches against people served in other parts of the state, as well as earlier Project Homeless Connect events held in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

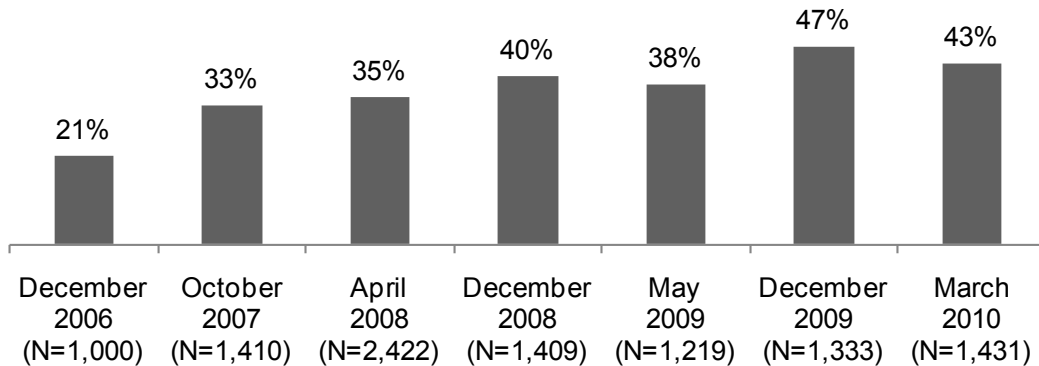
As discussed in the introduction, all guests who signed a consent form at Project Homeless Connect were entered as "unnamed clients" in the HMIS database. This means that while elements of the clients' names were used in creating a unique identifier, the name was not permanently stored. This procedure allows Wilder to match clients served in Project Homeless Connect with other records in the database without permanently storing their names. The unique identifier is created using parts of the name, date of birth, and gender.

While using the unique identifier to find matching records is the most reliable method available, it does present some limitations. Data entry errors and use of nicknames will cause different unique identifiers to be issued that will prevent matching. For example, if a guest is entered as "Bob Smith" at one event and then seeks services at a participating provider as "Robert Smith," this discrepancy will result in his records not being matched to identify him as the same person, using the method employed here. Further, around eight percent of all clients entered into Minnesota's HMIS are entered as anonymous, many of whom are clients of domestic violence or legal service providers. As a result, the matching conducted for this report is most likely under-representative of the number of guests who have been served before or after the event by a provider participating in HMIS. For the same reason, the matching process most likely also under-counts the number of guests who have attended previous Project Homeless Connect events.

Known contact with homeless service providers prior to event

The 166 guests who indicated a preference not to provide their name or other potentially identifying information at the event were entered anonymously, and it is not possible to match their records with others existing in the database. Forty-three percent of identifiable guests served at the March 2010 event had been previously served by an organization participating in HMIS prior to the event.

17. Percent of identifiable guests served by an organization participating in HMIS prior to the event



The 614 guests found to have been previously served by an organization participating in HMIS received a variety of services from programs located mostly in Hennepin County, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and homeless prevention and re-housing services through the state's Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) and through HUD's Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). Other services received include emergency services such as food and clothing.

Compared with the previous event in December, more guests at the March event are known to have been served by homeless service providers. There was an increase in the proportion of guests served prior to the event who were not currently homeless, perhaps related to the fact that many of the guests were served by homeless prevention programs like FHPAP and HPRP. There was a decrease in the proportion of guests served previously who reported experiencing first time homelessness and long-term homelessness. The rest of the breakdown of homeless status and household status remained similar to previous events.

18. Homeless status of event guests with records in HMIS prior to event compared with those without records in HMIS prior to event

	In HMIS prior to event	Not in HMIS prior to event
Not currently homeless	171 (28%)	218 (27%)
Living with family or friends*	28 (5%)	83 (10%)
Homeless, but status unknown**	38 (6%)	34 (4%)
1st time homeless and less than 1 year without home	117 (19%)	214 (26%)
Multiple times homeless, but NOT meeting LTH definition	87 (14%)	84 (10%)
Long term: At least 1 year OR at least 4 times in past 3 years	133 (22%)	136 (17%)
Unknown/Missing	40 (6%)	48 (6%)
TOTAL	614	817

* Some guests identified as “not currently homeless” and also indicated living with family or living with friends (see Table 9 for living situations).

** Some guests identified as “not currently homeless” but also indicated living in situations typically considered homeless (emergency shelters, living on the streets/squatting, and transitional housing programs for the homeless).

19. Household status of event guests with records in HMIS prior to event compared with those without records in HMIS prior to event

	In HMIS prior to event	Not in HMIS prior to event
Single head of household with dependent children	151 (25%)	165 (20%)
Single with no dependent children	373 (61%)	540 (66%)
Unaccompanied youth	13 (2%)	15 (2%)
Married/domestic partner with dependent children	49 (8%)	65 (8%)
Married/domestic partner with no dependent children	28 (4%)	32 (4%)
TOTAL	614	817

Known contact with homeless service providers after the event

Of the 1,431 identifiable guests served at the March 2010 event, 193 (13%) guests were served by organizations participating in Minnesota’s HMIS (and entered with identifiable records into the HMIS) within four weeks after the event. Of those 193 guests, 22 guests had not been served by a participating provider prior to the March event. The services that these guests received by participating providers included emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rent payment and deposit assistance through the state’s Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program. However, as many housing providers initially collect

information from clients on paper and then transfer it to HMIS, it is likely that more Project Homeless Connect guests were served than are represented here.

Known involvement with previous Project Homeless Connect events

As mentioned above, Minnesota's HMIS was also used to gather data on six of the eight previous Minneapolis/Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect events. Using HMIS data collected at those previous events, we examined the number of people who had attended more than one event. Setting aside the guests who were entered anonymously at each event:

- 151 (11%) of identifiable individuals served at the Hennepin County event in March 2010 had attended the previous event held in Hennepin County in December 2009.
- 377 (26%) of identifiable individuals served at the Hennepin County event in March 2010 had attended at least one previous event in held in Hennepin County.

These results still may under-represent the number of people who have attended more than one Project Homeless Connect event. In fact, when asked, "Have you ever been to a Project Homeless Connect event like this one before today?" 575 guests, or 36 percent, responded "yes." This discrepancy could be due to many factors: data entry errors that prevent the correct matching of their records, missing or incomplete intake forms from guests, or because guests may confuse previous Project Homeless Connect events with other similar events held in the Twin Cities, such as the Stand Down events for veterans, Project Youth Connect, and other homeless prevention and service efforts.

Conclusion

The March 2010 Minneapolis/Hennepin County Project Homeless Connect event served approximately 1,600 households. The event served the largest proportion of guests not currently homeless as well as those “doubled up” since it began using HMIS for reporting in 2006. Compared to prior Minneapolis/Hennepin County events recorded in HMIS, the March 2010 event was the second highest attended. Additionally, this event served a higher proportion of family households than all but one prior event, and a slightly higher proportion of guests identifying as “not currently homeless.”

A smaller proportion of guests attending the event were found to have been previously served by an organization participating in HMIS, and a smaller proportion of guests had previously attended other Project Homeless Connect events in Minneapolis/Hennepin County. This suggests that the March 2010 event may have reached a larger proportion of guests who had not previously received housing or homelessness services.

Appendix

Project Homeless Connect Intake Form

Project Homeless Connect Intake Form

Hi, My name is _____. Thanks for taking a few minutes to help us gather information for this event. This also gives me a chance to tell you about the services available today. We hope that your answers will help us to better understand what services are needed in the community and also to help us direct you to the services that you want today. This should take about 10 minutes. Also, please take a few minutes before you leave to fill out an exit survey.

Now, I am going to ask a few questions about you (and your family). We hope that by answering these questions we will be able to better serve you today and in the future. You do not have to answer any of these questions if you do not want to.

What is your full Name?: _____				
FIRST	MI	LAST	SUFFIX	
BIRTH DATE: ____/____/____				
MO	DAY	YEAR		
GENDER: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				
Do you consider yourself ... (PRIMARY RACE)		(SECONDARY RACE (OPTIONAL/ IF OFFERED))		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native		<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American		<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American		
<input type="checkbox"/> White		<input type="checkbox"/> White		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino				
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian		<input type="checkbox"/> Asian		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Multi-Racial <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Multi-Racial <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Refused		<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Refused		
Household Type:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Single with NO dependent children		<input type="checkbox"/> Couple with dependent children		
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple with NO dependent children		<input type="checkbox"/> Single head of household with dependent children		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Refused		
How many children are you here with <u>today</u>?				
Teens (13 -17): ____ Children, 5-12yrs: ____ Children, 0-4yrs: ____				
EVER SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES <i>*NOTE If yes, please direct to veterans services area</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes * <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Refused				
Do you have any type of mental or physical disability that keeps you from working, shopping or other daily activities?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Refused				
During the last month did you receive any income from....				
Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
IF YES: How many hours do you work in <u>an average week</u>?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-10 Hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-30 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 31 or more hours
What is your hourly wage in <u>an average week</u>?	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6-8	<input type="checkbox"/> \$9-11	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12-14	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 or more
General Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
Social Security Retirement, Survivors, Disability Insurance (RSDI/SSDI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
SSI (Supplemental Security Income)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
MFIP (MN Family Investment Program)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
Contributions from other people	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
No income	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused
Any other source?				

Do you currently receive....					
Food stamps?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
A Section 8 Housing Voucher (for rent)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
Public housing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
Any other type of rental assistance?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
Medical Assistance (or Medicaid or MA)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
Medicare?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
Veterans Medical assistance or services?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused	
WHERE DID YOU STAY LAST NIGHT?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> Jail, prison, or juvenile facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/motel (without voucher)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Transitional housing for homeless	<input type="checkbox"/> Living with family	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster care/group home			
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent housing for formerly homeless	<input type="checkbox"/> Living with friends	<input type="checkbox"/> Living on the street/outside/squatting			
<input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatric hospital or facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Rental house/apartment	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know			
<input type="checkbox"/> Substance abuse treatment center, incl detox	<input type="checkbox"/> house/condo/apartment that you own	<input type="checkbox"/> Refused			
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital		<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			
HOW LONG HAVE YOU STAYED THERE?					
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 week or less	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 3 months but less than 1 year				
<input type="checkbox"/> More than 1 week but less than 1 month	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or longer				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 3 months					
WHAT CITY WAS THAT IN? _____ CHECK BOX IF Outside of Minnesota <input type="checkbox"/>					
Are you currently Homeless?					
<input type="checkbox"/> NO Not currently homeless					
<input type="checkbox"/> YES → First time homeless AND less than 1 year without home					
<input type="checkbox"/> YES → Severel times homeless, but for less than 1 year and NOT more than 4 times in 3 years					
<input type="checkbox"/> YES → Long term: at least 1 year OR at least 4 times in the past 3 years					
Have you ever been to a Project Homeless Connect event like this one before today?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Refused					
Now I have a few questions about how we can help you. What would you like help with today?					
Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Social Security Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Dental Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Veteran's Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Eye Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Legal assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Public Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Medical Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Haircut	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Emergency Shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Chemical Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Voice Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Other? (fill in)			
Would you like help getting a Minnesota picture ID?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Would you like help getting a birth certificate?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			

We would like you to feel free to visit as many resources and providers as you choose today. I am happy to walk around with you, show you where things are, and help you find the service and resources you want. Would that be okay? [IF NOT, LET CLIENT/FAMILY WALK AROUND ON THEIR OWN. IF THEY WANT TO WALK AROUND ON THEIR OWN, REMIND THEM TO PLEASE FILL OUT AN EXIT SURVEY]