

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Kansas Balance of State
Continuum of Care



Kansas Statewide
Homeless Coalition



KANSAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE



Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition

The Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition, Inc. (KSHC) is a not-for-profit organization with eight employees. KSHC is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Our work is to coordinate with communities throughout Kansas to provide advocacy, training, education, and support to end homelessness in Kansas.

As such, KSHC serves as the collaborative applicant for the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC), which covers 101 mostly rural counties. As the collaborative applicant, KSHC also coordinates an annual point-in-time homeless count, gathers data for an annual housing inventory count, manages the Coordinated Entry System, and applies for the CoC planning funds on behalf of the CoC.

KSHC also provides support to the BoS CoC by helping to organize and coordinate regional meetings aimed at developing plans to address homelessness in each of the designated 8 regions of the 101 counties ([see page 4](#)). Through our partnership with Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, KSHC serves as the system administrator for the BoS CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

The BoS CoC, which is governed by a 19 to 32 member Steering Committee, has a broad and inclusive membership including, but not limited to persons with lived experience of homelessness, nonprofit homeless assistance providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, local governments, tribal organizations, organizations serving historically marginalized populations, funding providers, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health and substance abuse agencies, healthcare providers, universities, affordable housing developers, landlords, and criminal justice providers.

CONTINUUM OF CARE DEFINED

- The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

- The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) identifies four necessary parts of a continuum:

1. Outreach, intake, and assessment to identify service and housing needs and provide a link to the appropriate level of both.
2. Emergency shelter to provide an immediate and safe alternative to sleeping on the streets, especially for homeless families with children.
3. Transitional housing with supportive services to allow for the development of skills that will be needed once permanently housed; and
4. Permanent and permanent supportive housing to provide individuals and families with an affordable place to live with services if needed.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

CoC General Members

Anyone interested in ending homelessness who lives or works in the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (KS BoS CoC) geographic area.

CoC Steering Committee

The decision-making entity with no more than 32 members and no fewer than 19 members. Designated seats on the Steering Committee are those which represent a particular entity or region. Representatives for designated seats are selected by the entity or region that they represent. Elected seats are open to nomination and selection by the CoC membership, and elected persons may represent more than one seat, depending on their experience and expertise. All CoC Steering Committee members must also be CoC general members.

CoC Committees

Groups composed of CoC General Members that carry out the high-level work of the CoC.

CoC Collaborative Applicant/CoC Lead Agency

The agency that applies for CoC Program funds and the agency appointed by the CoC to carry out the mandated duties established by the CoC. In the KS BoS CoC, this role is filled by the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition.

CoC HMIS Lead Agency

The agency appointed by the CoC to administer and operate HMIS. In the KS BoS CoC, this role is filled by Kansas Housing Resources Corporation.

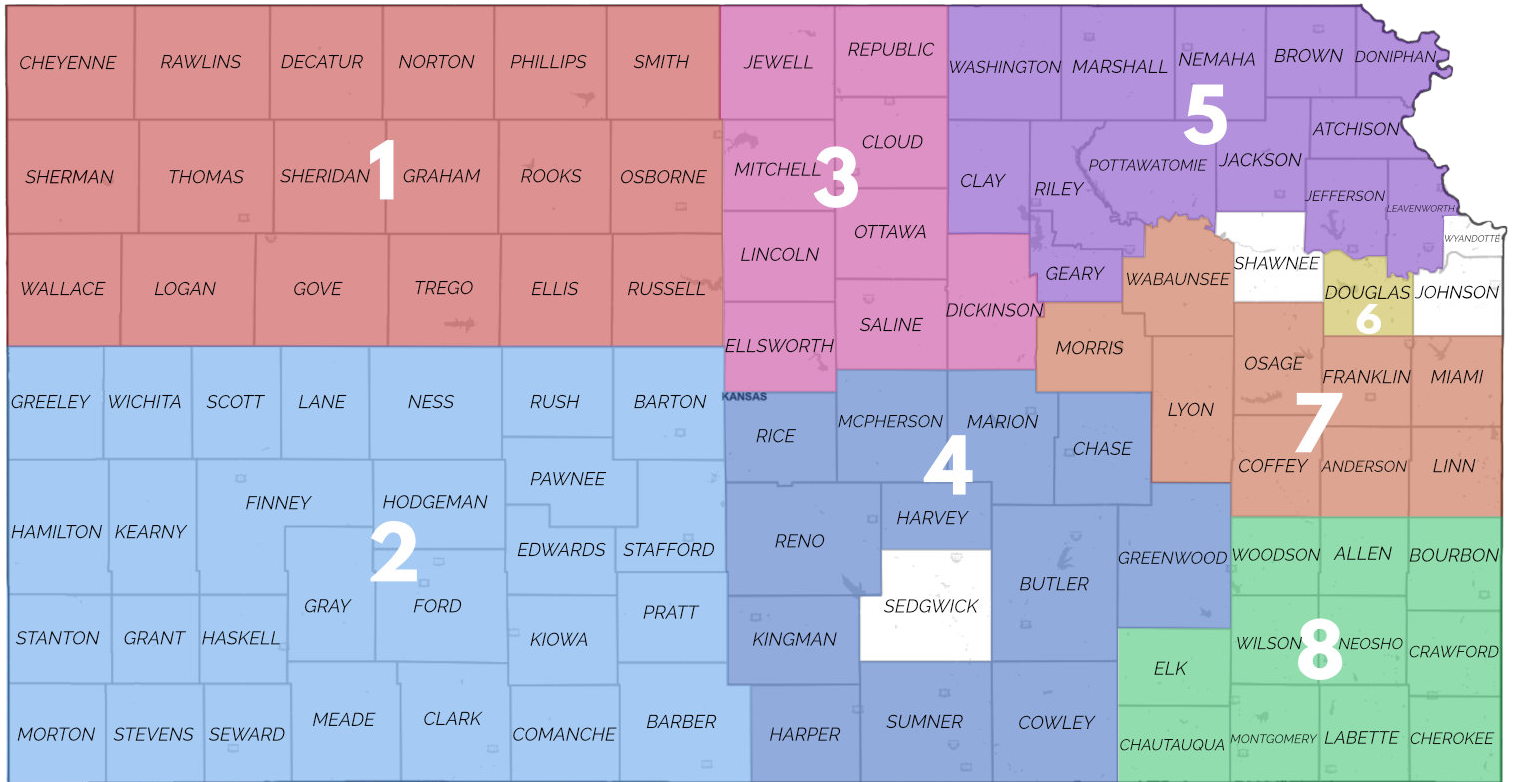
BECOME A MEMBER

Membership to the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) is open and free to all parties who support the mission of the CoC as described in the CoC's Governance Charter. Organizations and unaffiliated individuals residing or working within or providing services within the KS BoS geography may be members of the CoC.

To become a member, please visit www.kshomeless.com/membership-form.html



COC REGIONS



REGIONAL COORDINATORS

1

Northwest

Eric Arganbright
earganbright@kshomeless.com

2

Southwest

Debbie Snapp
dsnapp@catholiccharitiesswks.org

3

North Central

Eric Arganbright
earganbright@kshomeless.com

4

South Central

Megan Thompson
thompsonml@pvi.org

5

Northeast

Eric Arganbright
earganbright@kshomeless.com

6

Douglas

David Tucker
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7

East Central

Beth Waddle
bethwaddle@my-fathers-house.com

8

Southeast

Casey Brown
cbrown@catholiccharitieswichita.org

YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2021, the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (KS BoS CoC) put in motion the Governance Model that was approved in 2020. Key to the governance model was establishment of these committees:

- Steering Committee
- Coordinated Entry Systems Committee
- HMIS Committee
- Performance and Compliance Committee
- Membership and Nominations Committee
- Equity Committee

These committees improved the BoS CoC system by updating and creating several policies and procedures, developing online training materials, adding members to the CoC Steering Committee, and enhancing project and system compliance. As a result, the BoS CoC improved its score on its annual application for homeless assistance funds by 22% over the last time we received a score.

In addition, KSHC changed and enhanced its coordination with the KS BoS CoC's 8 regions, and standing committees, by purchasing online cloud-based meeting accounts for KSHC staff, Regional Coordinators, and Committee Chairpersons to limit in-person meetings. KSHC also invested in team collaboration software that granted CoC committees to share and store necessary and important documentation for improved team communication.

KSHC HOTEL/MOTEL PROGRAM

In 2021, the KS BoS CoC's collaborative applicant, the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition (KSHC), in its response to the COVID 19 pandemic, shifted its role as a system coordinator to a direct service provider. Through Emergency Solutions Grant-Coronavirus (ESG-CV) funding provided by Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, KSHC was able to assist Kansans find temporary shelter in hotels and motels across our state.



363 INDIVIDUALS SERVED



250 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED



47 AVERAGE DAYS IN PROJECT



70 EXITS TO PERMANENT HOUSING

CoC SUMMARY

Includes all funding sources: Continuum of Care (CoC), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), & Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)

10/01/2020 until 09/30/2021

30 Agencies
85 Programs

3,865

Total Individuals

2,549

Total Households

4,665

Total Enrollments

Previous year

25 Agencies
70 Programs

1,995

Total Individuals

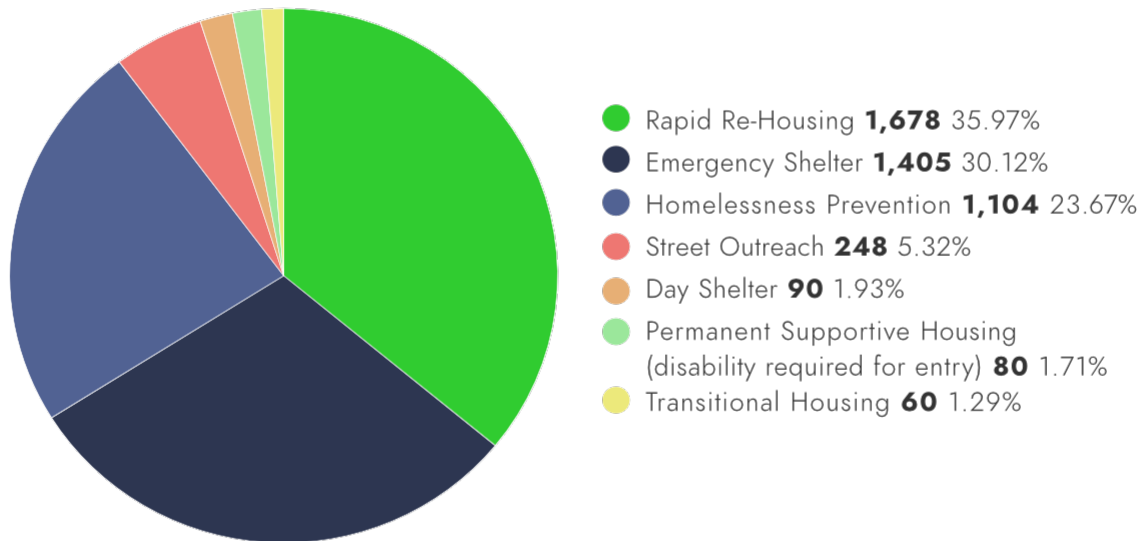
1,352

Total Households

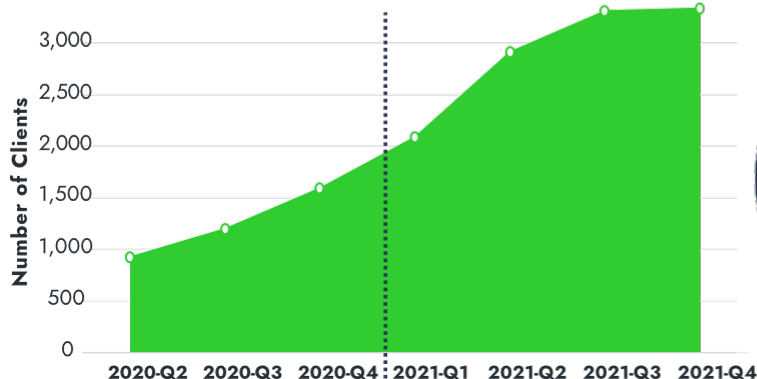
2,243

Total Enrollments

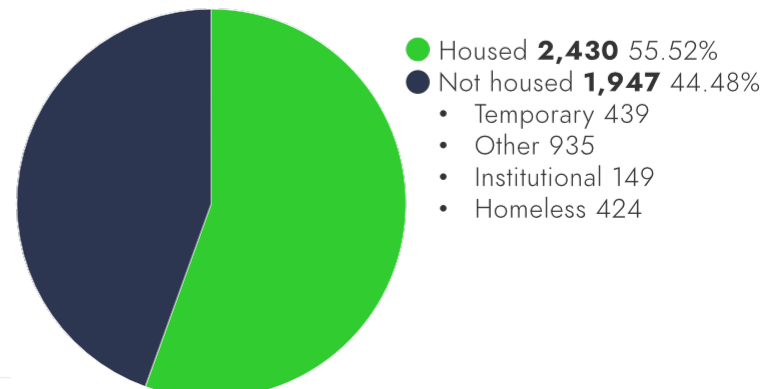
Enrollments by project type



Individuals served over time



Enrollments housed at exit



PIT SUMMARY

The 2021 Point-in-Time (PIT) count took place on Thursday, January 28th. Because of safety concerns around COVID-19, the CoC was granted a waiver for the unsheltered count. However, a sheltered count was completed for the date. The report below includes information from both HUD and non-HUD funded homeless programs within the 101 counties of the CoC.

Total Households and Persons	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven	
Total Number Of Households	363	246	8	617
Total Number of Persons	430	345	8	783
Number of Children (under age 18)	63	68	0	131
Number of Persons (18 to 24)	41	45	0	86
Number of Persons (over age 24)	326	232	8	566

Gender	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven	
Female	153	183	5	341
Male	276	162	3	441
Transgender	1	0	0	1
Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female)	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven	
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	382	304	8	694
Hispanic/Latino	48	41	0	89

Race	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven	
White	307	266	7	580
Black or African-American	60	48	1	109
Asian	5	0	0	5
American Indian or Alaska Native	23	6	0	29
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	4	0	6
Multiple Races	33	21	0	54

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven	
Total number of persons	40		0	40

CoC PROVIDER AWARDS

On March 14, 2022, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced over \$2.6 billion for the FY 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition Awards for 7,000 local homeless housing and service programs across the United States. Below are the BoS CoC agencies awarded funds from the 2021 competition.

Agency	Program	Type of Program	Award
Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas	Homeless to Housed	Rapid Rehousing	\$68,028
Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas	CoC Rapid Re-housing	Rapid Rehousing	\$419,569
Catholic Charities, Inc. (Wichita)	Southeast KS Rapid Re-housing	Rapid Rehousing	\$206,300
Kansas Housing Resources Corporation	Homeless Management Information System Lead	Homeless Management Information System Project	\$135,533
Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence	Housing First Rapid Re-housing	Rapid Rehousing	\$278,622
Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition	Coordinated Entry Lead	Coordinated Entry Support Services Only	\$168,734
Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition	Collaborative Applicant	Planning Grant	\$150,118
Mental Health America of the Heartland	Blaylock	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$141,099
Mental Health America of the Heartland	Marion Apartments	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$117,792
Mid-Kansas Community Action Program	Housing & Beyond	Rapid Rehousing	\$311,538
My Father's House	MFH Housing	Transitional Housing	\$219,778
Northeast Kansas Community Action Program	Housing w/ Opportunities	Rapid Rehousing	\$204,192
Prairie View	Meadowlark Leasing	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$107,920
Salina Housing Authority	Shelter Plus Care	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$164,729

KANSAS CONTINUA OF CARE TOTAL BEDS

The annual Housing Inventory Count is a snapshot of available beds dedicated to homeless persons within a Continuum of Care's homeless service system on a single night. Here is a summary of each Kansas CoC for 2021.



CoC	Shelters	Permanent Housing
Balance of State	1,335	713
Johnson County	164	78
Topeka	386	318
Wichita	653	1,037

Source: CoC Housing Inventory Count (HIC) reports www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-housing-inventory-count-reports/

Note: Does not include Wyandotte County data, as they are part of the Missouri MO-604 CoC.

COORDINATED ENTRY

COORDINATED ENTRY DEFINED

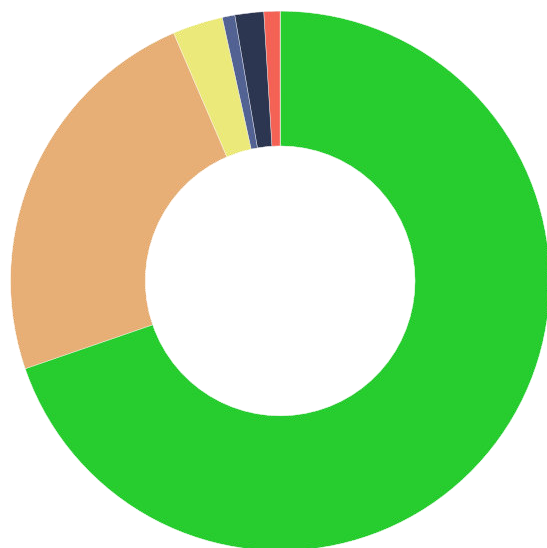
Each Continuum of Care is responsible for establishing and operating a coordinated system that provides a comprehensive assessment and referral of the needs of individuals and families seeking housing and services. This system is referred to as Coordinated Entry System (CES) in the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (KS BoS CoC) and is managed by Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition.

CES is a powerful piece of a community's housing crisis response system as it ensures that people at-risk of or experiencing homelessness can readily access and navigate housing assistance— no matter where in the community they first seek help. It is designed so that households are prioritized for and matched with the appropriate intervention as quickly as possible based on their vulnerability and severity of needs. Overall, CES aims to standardize the access, assessment, prioritization, and referral process across all agency providers in a community to provide aid quickly and successfully.

2021 COORDINATED ENTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- KSHC launched a recorded video training series so that CES participating agencies could complete CES trainings on their own schedule.
- KSHC customized easy access Help Desk Tickets to fix CES data errors, request CES help for conducting assessments and requesting CES referrals for housing programs with available funds.
- KSHC and the Coordinated Entry Committee drafted new CES Policies and Procedures in 2021 and approved them on January 21, 2022.
- The Coordinated Entry System wrapped up its first full year of integration into the BoS CoC's HMIS system, BitFocus Clarity Human Services, and published the first detailed CES Evaluation Report. The report is located at www.kshomeless.com/ces
- The Coordinated Entry Committee will utilize the CES Evaluation to review and implement recommendations to continue to improve the system going forward.

COORDINATED ENTRY EXIT DESTINATIONS



- Permanent Situations **647** 70%
- No Exit Interview **221** 24%
- Temporary Situations **28** 3%
- Emergency Shelters **7** .5%
- Institutional Settings **16** 2%
- Place not meant for habitation **9** .5%
- TOTAL 928 exits**

HMIS

HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) DEFINED

A Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for selecting an HMIS software solution that complies with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards.

HMIS HIGHLIGHTS

The Kansas BoS CoC HMIS system continued to make great strides this past year as 2021 marked the first full year since BoS CoC switched HMIS vendors to Bitfocus. Their software, Clarity Human Services, has provided a way for the CoC to get a clearer view of homelessness across our coverage area.

In 2021, the HMIS system recorded 4,665 enrollments for 3,865 individuals, which is double the enrollments for 2020. In fact, 2,430 individuals exited programs to permanent housing last year, which is more than the total enrollments of the previous year (2,243). We added 109 users throughout the year, up from 83 in 2020. These dedicated staff members represented 30 agencies and 85 programs who entered data.

The HMIS staff at the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition worked on these projects in 2021:

- Updated the kshomeless.com site to include training materials, including video tutorials.
- Prepared and submitted HUD reports, including Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA), Systems Performance Measures (SPM), Point-in-Time (PIT), and Housing Inventory Count (HIC).
- Developed and implemented an annual refresher training, which incorporated changes from the new 2022 HMIS Data Standards.
- Provided automated dashboard reports for participating agencies.
- Supported end users by overseeing the onboarding process and by providing ongoing technical assistance through the HMIS help desk.

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

A special thank you to these partners who helped Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition and the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care accomplish our goals, live our mission, and help those in need across Kansas.

- Partner agencies & their staff
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Kansas Housing Resources Corporation
- Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
- Kansas Department of Children and Families
- Aetna Better Health/CVS
- Abt Associates
- Bitfocus Clarity Human Services
- Nearly a 100 hotels and motels across Kansas
- Our generous donors

KSHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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