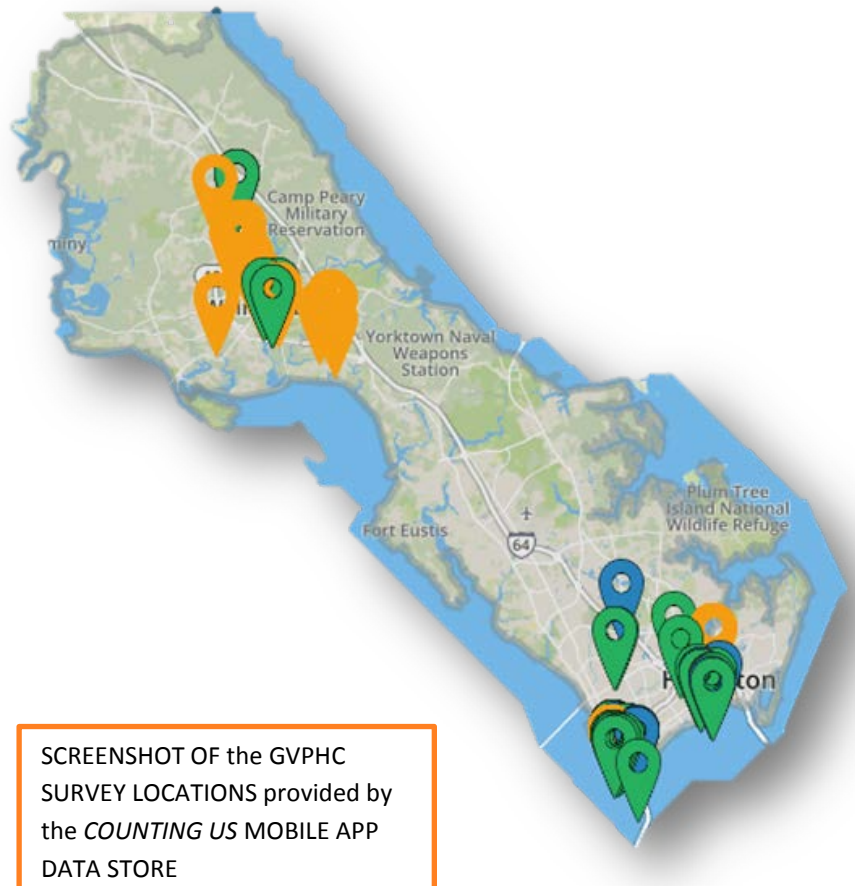


## 2016 POINT IN TIME COUNT RESULTS

The 2016 Point in Time Count was conducted across the six (6) jurisdictions that comprise the Greater Virginia Peninsula Homelessness Consortium (GVPHC), including the cities of Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, Williamsburg, and the counties of James City and York. The 24-hour Count fulfilled the requirements of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and occurred on the evening of January 26, 2016 (sheltered) and the morning of January 27, 2016 (unsheltered).

The Point in Time Count is an unduplicated count of persons who are experiencing homelessness, whether sheltered or unsheltered during a specific 24 hour period, once a year. The Point in Time Count provides simply a “snapshot” of what the level of need is on a certain day. Not everyone in need that day is found, and those who are at-risk of homelessness are not counted. It does not demonstrate the total need for the community, but does tell how the need compares to previous years and the level of representation within each subpopulation in the count. This helps the community assess the services currently provided as compared to the need; the data is also a tool for planning and resource development.



The Count was conducted using both the *Counting Us* mobile app developed by Simtech Solutions, Inc., and data reported in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). In addition to being used in the GVPHC, the *Counting Us* app was also implemented in the Southeastern Virginia Homeless Coalition (SVHC), the Portsmouth Continuum of Care (CoC), and the Virginia Beach CoC. Both the HMIS software provider, Bowman Systems, and the developers of the *Counting Us* mobile app, Simtech Solutions, Inc., provided report tools to enable completion of the HUD report requirements.

The sheltered count was conducted in all identified emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Haven programs across the GVPHC on the evening of January 26. Provider staff and volunteers worked to collect the required information from all sheltered persons with either direct input into the HMIS or via interview and the completion of surveys using the *Counting Us* mobile app. For the unsheltered count, teams of service providers and volunteers canvassed known locations on the morning of January 27 and completed surveys to collect the required information on all unsheltered homeless persons identified during the count.

The survey identifies respondents based on first and last name, or initials, and date of birth to develop a unique client identifier to eliminate duplicates. The survey also consists of additional questions to identify subpopulations,

including veterans and persons with HIV/AIDS, and those who have experienced domestic violence, mental illness, or substance abuse. Persons are identified as chronically homeless if they have a disability and have been homeless more than one year or at least four times in the last three years. This report also includes a count of parenting youth households and unaccompanied youth households. Youth households include those 24 years of age and younger who are parents of children under the age of 18, or are unaccompanied by a parent or guardian.

## 2016 Results

Overall, **464** persons were identified as being homeless in the GVPHC's 2016 Point in Time Count, compared to 520 counted in January 2015. With 407 persons counted in shelter this year, the sheltered count decreased by 10% from the previous year: it is important to keep in mind that some people may not have presented for services that day and were therefore not counted. Additionally, any homeless persons who sought shelter in hotels/motels (paid for by self), or with friends and family, could not be counted because they did not meet the HUD definition of homeless. The unsheltered count on the morning of January 27, 2016 identified 57 persons—a 19% decrease compared to 2015. Count teams increased the coverage of known areas in cooperation with outreach workers and local Police Departments. The 2016 Count again included the use of observation surveys administered by team leads and used with discretion; observation surveys allowed for persons to be counted who refused to complete the survey or were unable to be interviewed because they were sleeping or unapproachable.

This year, out of the 464 people counted, 18% reported having a Serious Mental Illness (SMI), 13% had a substance abuse problem, and 11% were considered chronically homeless. 65 persons identified themselves as veterans; this number represents a 32% decrease when compared to 2015, when 96 veterans were reported. 13% of the population reported having experienced Domestic Violence, and 1% had HIV/AIDS. 69% were single adults, and 31% were persons in households with children. Only 1% were parenting youth, and 3% were unaccompanied youth (between the ages of 18-24).

In 2016, the number of chronic persons counted increased from the previous year, with 53 chronic persons counted. In 2015, many HMIS participating agencies were continuing to come into compliance with the new 2015 HMIS Data Standards, impacting data quality. Chronic numbers were also affected by the new definition of chronic homelessness released in HUD's final rule which went into effect January 4, 2016. The final rule updated previous guidelines to include a requirement that the "4 or more times homeless in the past 3 years" must be separated by at least 7 days of not being literally homeless in order to count as a new episode; the 4 episodes also must add up to at least 12 months homeless. This added reporting requirement aims to improve the identification of the truly chronic population, as defined by HUD.

### Mobile App

Use of the mobile app improved data quality, report capability, and report validity in the following ways:

- Reduced the possibility of the overlap of count teams due to real time updates in the regional Command Center data store.
- Increased data quality related to legibility issues, challenges with paper forms in inclement weather, and entry of paper forms into databases.
- Improved validity with access to information about interviewers, date and time the interviews were completed, and the exact geographic location of the interview (precautions were taken to protect the location of Domestic Violence shelters).
- Report tools provided by Simtech, Inc. allowed for consistent reporting of both the overall population as well as subpopulation data across the region.

A post-count survey was conducted to gather valuable feedback from users of the app; that information will be used to improve the app for future Counts.

The following table shows a breakdown of the 2016 Point-in-Time Count Results, both regionally, as well as by jurisdiction.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT	2016 RESULTS GVPHC	2015 RESULTS GVPHC	2016 RESULTS HAMPTON	2016 RESULTS NEWPORT NEWS	2016 RESULTS Williamsburg	2016 RESULTS POQUOSON	2016 RESULTS JAMES CITY COUNTY	2016 RESULTS YORK COUNTY
<b>Total Number of Homeless Persons Counted</b>	464	520	127	199	59	0	71	8
<i>2015 Total Number of Homeless Persons</i>	520	520	167	222	39	0	90	2
<b>Total Number Sheltered</b>	407	450	111	166	51	0	71	8
<b>Total Number Unsheltered</b>	57	70	16	33	8	0	0	0
Total Number of Families*	48	49	12	13	5	0	18	0
Total Number of Persons in Families*	145	169	39	36	15	0	55	0
Total Number of Unsheltered Families	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Adult Only Households	319	351	88	163	44	0	16	8
Total Number of Persons in Adult Only Households	319	351	88	163	44	0	16	8
Total Number of Unsheltered Persons in Adult Only Households	57	65	16	33	8	0	0	0

*\*Total number of families and total number of persons in families include both sheltered and unsheltered households with at least one adult and one child.*

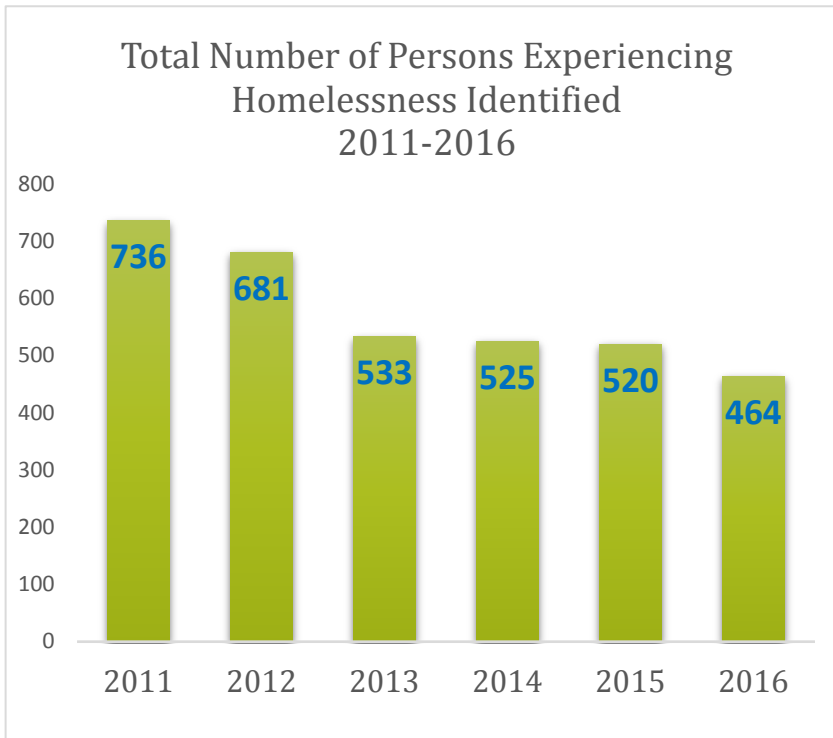
**HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS**

<i>Continued...</i>	<b>2016 RESULTS GVPHC</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS GVPHC</b>	<b>2016 RESULTS HAMPTON</b>	<b>2016 RESULTS NEWPORT NEWS</b>	<b>2016 RESULTS Williamsburg</b>	<b>2016 RESULTS POQUOSON</b>	<b>2016 RESULTS JAMES CITY COUNTY</b>	<b>2016 RESULTS YORK COUNTY</b>
Total Number of Chronically Homeless Individuals	53	<b>47</b>	13	33	5	0	2	0
Total Number of Chronically Homeless Families	0	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Veterans	65	<b>96</b>	21	39	4	0	0	1
Total Number of Female Veterans	7	<b>19</b>	3	4	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Domestic Violence Victims	60	<b>74</b>	22	13	4	0	21	0
Total Number of Individuals with a Substance Abuse Problem	59	<b>41</b>	20	20	11	0	7	1
Total Number of Individuals with a Mental Illness	85	<b>95</b>	33	37	8	0	7	0
Total Number of Persons with HIV/AIDS	6	<b>3</b>	1	5	0	0	0	0
Parenting Youth	5	<b>3</b>	4	1	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	14	<b>17</b>	2	8	1	0	3	0

An analysis of annual trends follows in the next section.

## Trend Analysis

The following charts show the annual trends across the region. Point in Time Count totals are decreasing overall, both in the total number of persons counted, as well as the special populations reported to HUD.



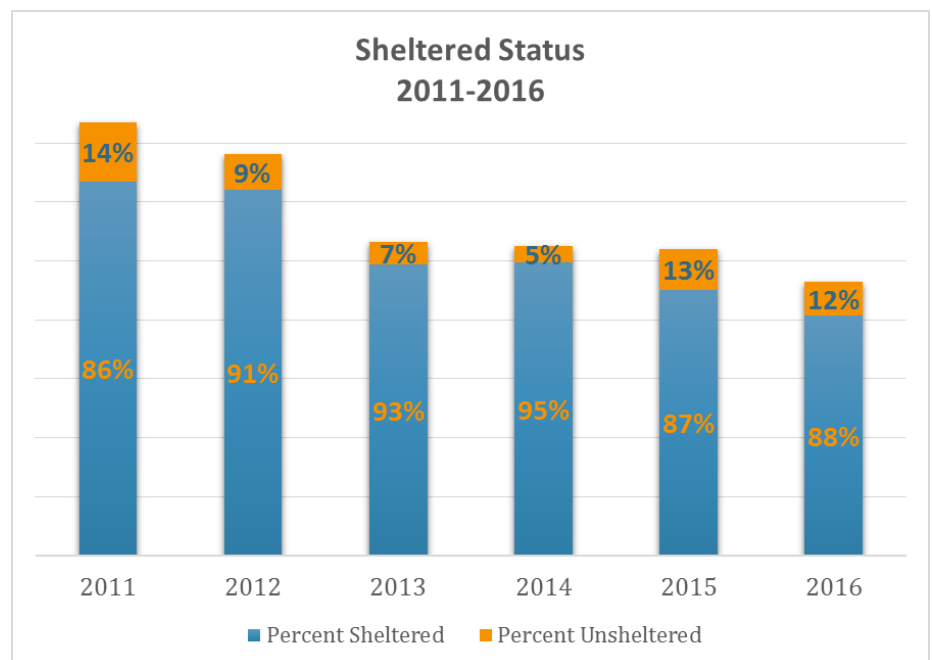
GVPHC Point in Time Count Results: 37% decrease since 2011

Since 2011, the number of persons identified during the Point in Time Count in the jurisdictions comprising the GVPHC has decreased by 37%, from 736 persons identified in 2011, to 464 persons in 2016. In that same time frame, the CoC has implemented a number of best practices that have contributed to decreasing the number of people who become homeless and the length of time they experience homelessness, such as:

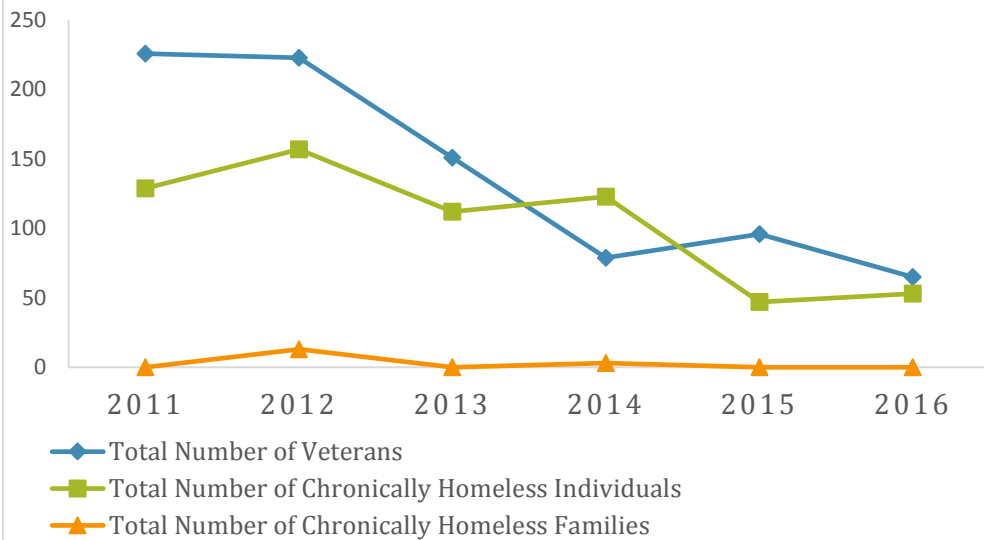
- the Service Coordination and Assessment Network (SCAAN),
- the Regional Housing Crisis Hotline for central intake,
- a standardized Diversion Assessment,
- the Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization and Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) for assisting the most vulnerable first, and
- the Housing First model, lowering barriers to housing across the Continuum.

Also during that time, the Continuum has increased coverage of known areas for the unsheltered count with the help of local Police Departments, as well as increased participation from both HMIS participating and non-HMIS participating shelter programs.

Additionally, the percentage of sheltered persons counted consistently exceeds those unsheltered. It is important to note that many of those persons were sheltered in seasonal shelters which operate for only a few months during the coldest part of the year. With 279 year round emergency shelter beds available in the CoC, and 165 seasonal beds between the months of October through March of each year, during the non-winter months, the GVPHC recognizes a 37% decrease in emergency shelter *capacity*. Since 2011, the sheltered count has decreased 36%, while the unsheltered count has decreased by 44%.



## HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS 2011-2016: CHRONICALLY HOMELESS & ALL VETERANS



## Subpopulations

Subpopulation data is provided by information gathered through HMIS and the results of the surveys completed by participants.

The GVPHC has realized a **59% decrease in the number of Chronically Homeless Individuals** counted since 2011; the number of Chronic Families has remained fairly constant. In addition to the new HUD Final Rule on Chronic Homelessness, the CoC has focused available resources on the most vulnerable, and often chronic, individuals through the SCAAN process. The

CoC's commitment to Housing First as a best practice and its increased investment in Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing options also contribute to the decrease in chronic homelessness in the region.

Since 2011, the GVPHC has realized a **71% decrease in the number of Veterans** counted during the Point in Time Count. On Veterans Day 2015, the state of Virginia declared that the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) had certified that the GVPHC and the Commonwealth of Virginia had reached the goal to functionally end Veteran's homelessness. The GVPHC will continue to work to connect Veterans who are disengaged, displaced, or at risk of homelessness, with resources to promote housing stability.

Similarly, the numbers of persons with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and with Substance Abuse (SA) Problems have also steadily decreased since 2011. The SMI population has decreased by 56%, and the SA population has decreased by 73%. The numbers of Domestic Violence Survivors and Persons with HIV/AIDS has held steady over the years. The CoC maintains their commitment to these special populations with two Domestic Violence Shelters, the HOPWA program provided by ACCESS AIDS Care, the Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) grant offered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and locally administered by the Hampton Newport News Community Services Board (HNNCSB) on behalf of the GVPHC, along with existing programs and services provided by the Departments of Human Services and Community Services Boards.

## HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS 2011-2016: SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HIV/AIDS

