



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

As part of the planning process, the County conducted an analysis and review of HUD-sponsored data that summarizes housing needs for lower income households. The County also reviewed the needs of homeless populations, and persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with alcohol or other drug addiction, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and public housing residents.

Both CDBG and HOME funds are focused on assisting individuals and households earning less than 80% of the area-median income, based on family size. These income limits are published on a yearly basis by HUD. For reference, the income limits for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 are included below.

It is important to note that these income limits are significantly higher than other means-tested programs that often rely on poverty or percentage of poverty. Quite often there are stigmas and stereotypes that are incorrectly associated with the beneficiaries of these programs. While the programs can and often do focus on the lowest incomes, such as the homeless and those at risk of homeless, the programs can also help households usually considered

HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

% Area Median Income	Size of Household					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
30%	\$14,550	\$16,600	\$18,700	\$20,750	\$22,450	\$24,100
50%	\$24,200	\$27,650	\$31,100	\$34,550	\$37,350	\$40,100
60%	\$29,040	\$33,180	\$37,320	\$41,460	\$44,820	\$48,120
80%	\$38,750	\$44,250	\$49,800	\$55,300	\$59,750	\$64,150

“middle class”. Based on the current income limits and annual mean wages calculated by the Bureau of Labors Statistics for the area, the following occupations could qualify for assistance: cashiers and retail salespersons, firefighters, nursing assistants, and carpenters.

HUD DATA SETS

HUD received a special tabulation of data, Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), from the U.S. Census Bureau specifically designed to help jurisdictions with the development of the Consolidated Plan. HUD uses some of these data in allocation formulas for distributing funds to local jurisdictions. Part of this data set addresses quality of housing stock and estimates the number of units that have housing problems. HUD considers a unit to have a housing problem if it is overcrowded, cost burdened, or without complete kitchen and plumbing facilities.

In addition to the data sets provided by HUD, the County consulted local service providers, County staff, and local stakeholders regarding the condition of housing stock. The condition of the housing stock in the County is considered to be fair for the most part, but there are a large number of homes in substandard condition. Some of the homes are suitable for rehabilitation while some units are beyond repair, especially in low and moderate income, CDBG-eligible areas.

This section addresses the requirements of 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

HOUSING DEFINITIONS

EXTREMELY LOW INCOME

A household having an income equal to or less than 30% of area median income.

LOW INCOME

A household having an income equal to or less than the Section 8 very low-income limit (50% of area median income).

MODERATE INCOME

A household having an income equal to or less than the Section 8 low-income limit (80% of area median income).

STANDARD CONDITION

A housing unit is in standard condition when the unit is in compliance with the local building code, which is based on the International Building Code.

SUBSTANDARD CONDITION BUT SUITABLE FOR REHABILITATION

A unit that is out of compliance with one or more code violations and it is both financially and structurally feasible to rehabilitate the unit.

OVERCROWDED

A unit that has more than one person per room is considered overcrowded.

COST BURDENED

A unit where the household pays more than 30% of its income on housing costs has a cost burden. For renters, housing costs include rent paid by the tenant plus utilities. For owners, housing costs include mortgage payment, taxes, insurance, and utilities.

SEVERELY COST BURDENED

A unit where the household pays more than 50% of its income on housing costs has a cost burden. For renters, housing costs include rent paid by the tenant plus utilities. For owners, housing costs include mortgage payment, taxes, insurance, and utilities.

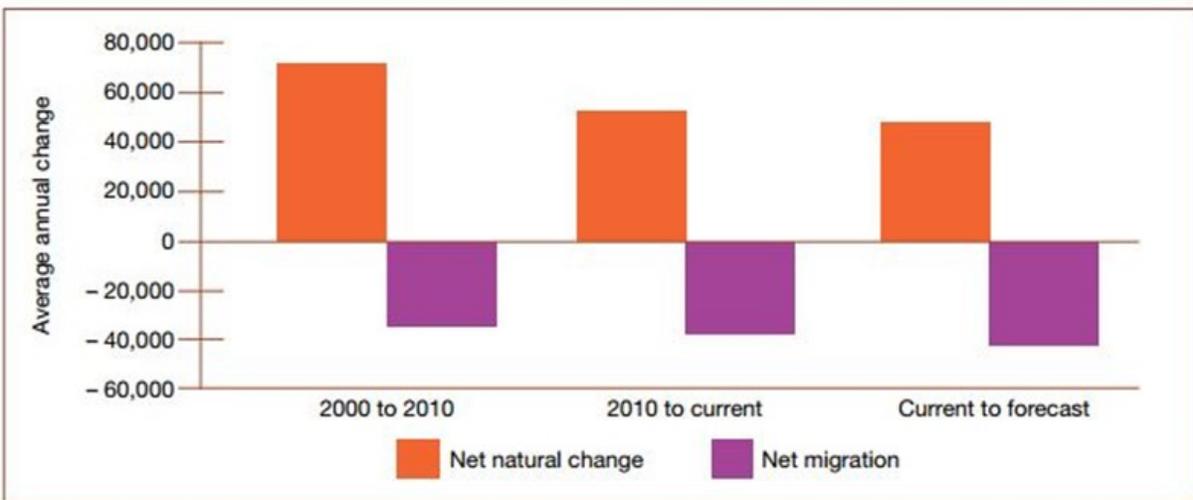
POPULATION TRENDS

Lake County is part of the Chicago metro area. The cities closest to Chicago, including Hammond, East Chicago, and Gary, are older communities that have experienced long, slow declines in populations as upper income households have moved further from the central core. Since the 1970's, the heavy manufacturing industry in the area has reduced its workforce by half.

With the exception of Chicago, new housing development continues to be concentrated in the communities on the outskirts of the metropolitan region. Older communities closer to Chicago, especially those in southern Cook County and northern Lake County, are not experiencing large levels of redevelop-

ment of housing. This lack of private investment within the older neighborhoods has resulted in a disparity of opportunities.

The graph below is from a HUD market profile created for the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin HMA. Since 2000, population gains due to natural change (i.e. births and deaths) have been offset by negative net migration (i.e. households relocating outside of the region).

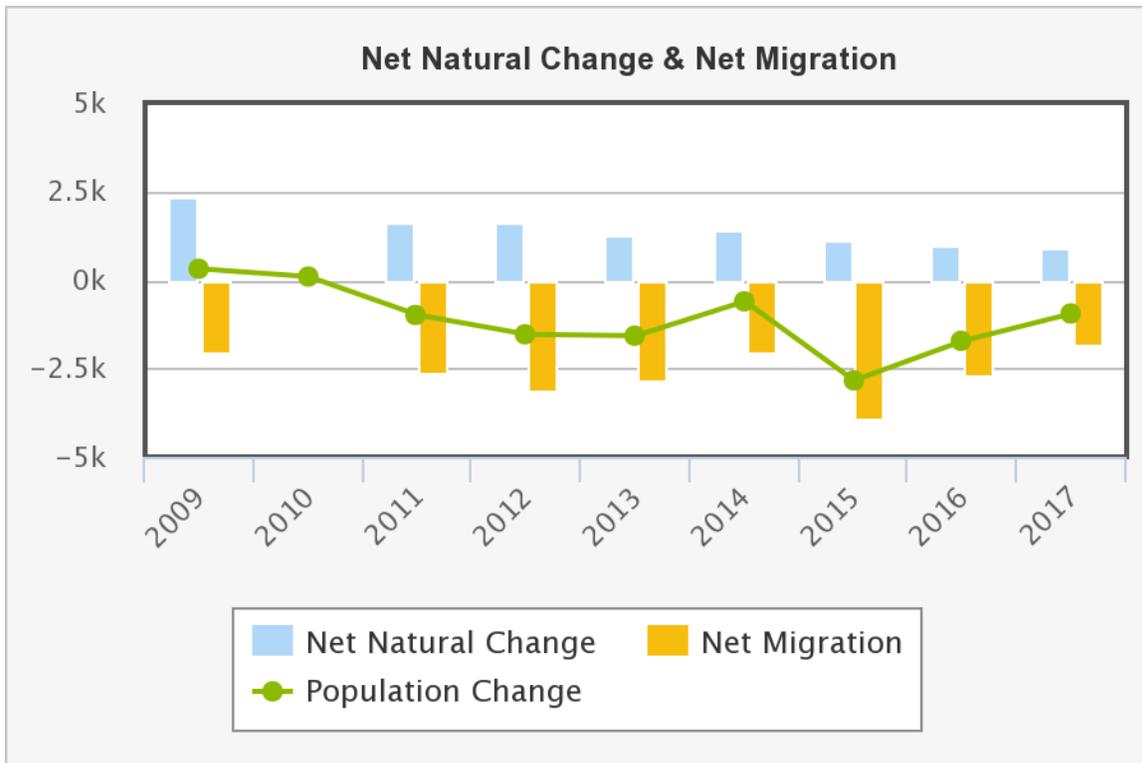


* Chicago-Naperville-Elgin HMA.

This section addresses the requirements of 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

POPULATION TRENDS

The graph below depicts ACS Census estimates for the last nine years for Lake County as a whole (including Hammond, East Chicago, and Gary). The trend over this period is loss of population due to negative net migration.



NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS

Household Type	% of HUD Adjusted Median Family Income				
	0-30%	>30-50%	>50-80%	>80-100%	>100%
Total	8,760	10,645	16,025	11,804	65,700
Small Family	2,396	2,923	5,095	4,853	36,885
Large Family	852	758	1,458	1,199	6,388
At least one person 62-74 years of age	1,641	1,968	3,462	2,765	13,005
At least one person age 75 or older	1,408	3,020	3,891	1,570	3,902
At least one child 6 years old or younger	1,470	1,608	2,310	2,206	6,404

HOUSING NEEDS SUMMARY

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	Renter				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen	43	90	215	0	348
Severely Overcrowded - >1.51 people per room	135	25	0	0	160
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room	194	225	115	34	568
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income	3,074	1,814	162	35	5,085
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income	353	1,468	1,870	409	4,100
Zero/negative Income	585	0	0	0	585

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Lacking complete plumbing	15	70	14	10	109
Severely Overcrowded	0	24	0	39	63
Overcrowded	14	54	120	105	293
Housing cost burden	2,300	2,362	1,751	441	6,854
Housing cost burden	535	1,513	3,470	2,144	7,662
Zero/negative Income	579	0	0	0	579

HOUSING PROBLEMS BY INCOME LEVEL

Housing Problems— Renter	Income Level % of AMI				Total
	0-30%	30-50%	50-80%	80-100%	
1 or more housing problems	3,454	2,145	498	69	6,166
No housing problems	893	2,163	3,975	2,544	9,575
Negative income, but no housing	585	0	0	0	585

Cost Burden	Renter			
	0-30% AMI	30-50% AMI	50-80% AMI	Total
Small Related	1,202	1,383	723	3,308
Large Related	528	211	134	873
Elderly	691	775	633	2,099
Other	1,338	1,102	726	3,166
Total	3,759	3,471	2,216	9,446

Severe Cost Burden	Renter			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Small Related	1,072	740	74	1,886
Large Related	518	119	0	637
Elderly	532	503	179	1,214
Other	1,260	572	33	1,865
Total	3,382	1,934	286	5,602

HOUSING PROBLEMS BY INCOME LEVEL

Housing Problems— Owner	Income Level % of AMI				
	0-30%	30-50%	50-80%	80-100%	Total
1 or more housing problems	2,335	2,512	1,877	595	7,319
No housing problems	919	3,794	9,705	8,609	23,027
Negative income, but no housing problems	579	0	0	0	579

Cost Burden	Owner			
	0-30% AMI	30-50% AMI	50-80% AMI	Total
Small Related	689	1,195	1,846	3,730
Large Related	229	356	685	1,270
Elderly	1,422	1,784	1,692	4,898
Other	508	683	1,040	2,231
Total	2,848	4,018	5,263	12,129

Severe Cost Burden	Owner			
	0-30% AMI	30-50% AMI	50-80% AMI	Total
Small Related	581	838	502	1,921
Large Related	229	180	192	601
Elderly	1,069	845	535	2,449
Other	444	573	507	1,524
Total	2,323	2,436	1,736	6,495

ADDITIONAL HOUSING NARRATIVES

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

What are the most common housing problems?

As noted above, the most common housing problem is housing costing over 30% of household income. This is the maximum housing cost percentage recommended by HUD and other housing agencies. While overcrowding and substandard (by the very low definition of the U.S. Census) are problems, they pale in comparison to the housing cost problem.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

Elderly households are more adversely affected by housing problems, by far, than any other group. They are followed by small families. It is interesting to note that number of owner households who experience housing cost burden problems is roughly double the number of renter households. Cost burden problems are often associated primarily with renters. However, as the data indicates it is also a severe problem for homeowners. It is not surprising to find that the largest segment of LMI households to have more than one housing problem (severe cost burden and another factor) are in the lowest income range of 0-30% of area median income. However, it is somewhat surprising to find that the number of very, very low income households is virtually the same (2,800 area) for both owners and renters.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

The County really has no way of providing this kind of information. However, it has, for years, carried out a homeless prevention program which makes available financial assistance to at risk households. However, it does not track these households after they are out of the program. In FY11 it provided counseling to 339 applicants. Roughly half of these were minority households and two thirds were female. Of the female households, 88 had children. Of the 339 households 133 were in the 50-80% low income range, while 117 were in the 0-30% range. One of the biggest needs is transitional housing for those exiting domestic violence shelters, after the 60 days maximum stay, with children, and no job or housing.

This information was obtained from the FY11 Grantee Performance Report for the CDBG/

ADDITIONAL HOUSING NARRATIVES

HOME program.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

The County has no means of providing an estimate of the at risk of being homeless population other than what is provided above. It has no definition of this term. It does know from the above mentioned programs that there are definitely a number of households that are at risk of being homeless.

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

Households that have low, or no income are, obviously, likely to be unstable and have an increased risk of homelessness.

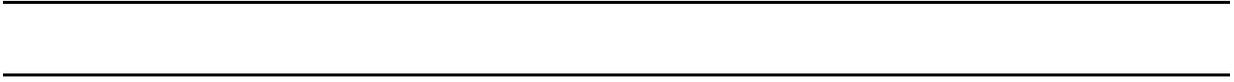
Discussion

There is obviously a need to provide either decent paying jobs for households, housing assistance payments or subsidized housing for such households.

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: HOUSING PROBLEMS

As defined by HUD, a disproportionate housing need exists for a specific racial or ethnic group if the percentage of that racial or ethnic group's households within a particular category of need is 10% or higher than the jurisdiction as a whole. For example, if 80% of low-income Hispanics suffered a cost burden, whereas only 60% of all low-income households within the jurisdiction encountered a cost burden, then low-income Hispanics would be considered to have a disproportionately greater need ($80\% - 60\% > 10\%$).

The following tables provide disproportionate need by income level and type of housing problem. For the purpose of this discussion, the statistics only include households that experience one of the HUD-defined housing problems, including lack of complete kitchen or bathroom, overcrowding, and a housing cost burden greater than 30% of income. These numbers do not include substandard housing due to age and deferred maintenance.



DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: HOUSING PROBLEM

LESS THAN 30% OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,679	943	1,164
White	4,364	813	844
Black / African American	1,148	55	155
Asian	58	0	45
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	30	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	909	38	103

30-50% AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,650	2,998	0
White	5,516	2,752	0
Black / African American	1,134	70	0
Asian	105	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	839	135	0

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: HOUSING PROBLEM

50-80% OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,694	8,324	0
White	5,800	6,917	0
Black / African American	1,059	539	0
Asian	80	49	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	15	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	721	773	0

80-100% AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,216	8,604	0
White	2,252	7,054	0
Black / African American	444	482	0
Asian	25	155	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	512	784	0

**DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED:
SEVERE HOUSING PROBLEMS**

As defined by HUD, a disproportionate housing need exists for a specific racial or ethnic group if the percentage of that racial or ethnic group's households within a particular category of need is at least 10% higher than found for the category as a whole.

The following tables provide disproportionate need by income level and type of severe housing problem. For the purpose of this discussion, the statistics only include households that experience one of the HUD-defined severe housing problems, including lack of complete kitchen or bathroom, more than 1.5 persons per room, and a housing cost burden greater than 50% of income. These numbers do not include substandard housing due to age and deferred maintenance.



DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: SEVERE PROBLEM

LESS THAN 30% OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	5,789	1,812	1,164
White	3,674	1,477	844
Black / African American	1,103	100	155
Asian	58	0	45
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	30	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	819	128	103

30-50% AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	4,657	5,957	0
White	3,182	5,062	0
Black / African American	819	384	0
Asian	55	60	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	539	430	0

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: SEVERE PROBLEM

50-80% OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,375	13,680	0
White	1,763	10,965	0
Black / African American	375	1,218	0
Asian	15	114	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	19	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	209	1,288	0

80-100% AREA MEDIAN INCOME

Housing Problems	Has one or more housing problem	Has no housing problem	No/negative income, no housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	664	11,153	0
White	525	8,754	0
Black / African American	15	923	0
Asian	0	180	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	124	1,163	0

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: HOUSING COST BURDENS

As defined by HUD, a disproportionately greater housing need exists for a specific racial or ethnic group if the percentage of that racial or ethnic group's households within a particular category of need is at least 10% higher than found for the category as a whole.

The following tables provide disproportionate need by income level and level of cost burden. If a household's housing cost is greater than 30% of income, the household has a cost burden, which is one of the HUD-defined housing problems. If housing cost is greater than 50% of income, the household is considered to have a severe cost burden.

ADDITIONAL HOUSING NARRATIVES

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: COST BURDEN

Housing Problems	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income
Jurisdiction as a whole	82,247	16,472	13,036	1,194
White	67,750	12,478	9,009	859
Black / African Ameri-	5,673	2,019	2,254	165
Asian	1,178	175	124	45
American Indian, Alaska Native	132	15	10	0
Pacific Islander	15	0	0	0
Hispanic	6,974	1,648	1,551	103

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED: DISCUSSION

PUBLIC HOUSING

NWICA: They currently serve 320 active HCVP Participants in Lake County.

HUD requires the County to coordinate with public housing agencies (PHAs) that share jurisdiction with the County when preparing its plan. It is important for the County and PHAs to coordinate their strategies and approaches to assisted housing. The County consulted with the Lake County Housing Authority and used the HUD-provided data to assess the need of public housing residents and housing voucher holders.

In most cases, the federal resources available to the County and the public housing agencies are not co-mingled. Public Housing agencies, including the County's Lake County Housing Authority, receive HUD funds that are not included in this plan. The HHA receives an annual allocation from the Capital Fund for capital and management activities, including modernization and development of new public housing. HUD also provides funding to the HHA to administer a housing choice voucher program (formerly Section 8). This program provides housing assistance payments to local landlords on behalf of eligible tenants to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing for very low income families at rents they can afford. Housing assistance payments are generally the difference between the local payment standard and 30 percent of the family's adjusted income.

This section addresses the requirements of 24 CFR 91.205 (b)

HOMELESS NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Data for homeless and about to be homeless is very difficult to develop and find. It is even more difficult to segregate out information for an urban county where there are three entitlement cities (Gary, Hammond and East Chicago) where most of the homeless persons and households exist, as well as those "at risk of becoming homeless". The local Continuum of Care (region 1A under the State of Indiana balance of State program) does a Point In Time (PIT) every January to get an estimate of the homeless population. The data presented here depends on that information. Again, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to screen out information for just the Urban County area. In addition, in Indiana, the local townships are the "first responders" for those who are homeless, or "at risk of becoming homeless". They provide assistance to such households. They file a report with the State each year detailing what assistance they have provided. However, again, this information does not segregate out assistance to households in the entitlement cities. For instance, Calumet Township provided over \$57,000 for emergency shelter, \$1.4 million for housing assistance, and over \$1.2 million for utility assistance. However, most of Calumet Township covers the City of Gary and only a small portion of the Urban County. The same is true

of several other townships. So, the data here is flawed in that it indicates large "poor relief" assistance to persons outside the Urban County.

The township reports, while very useful in providing some limited information, do not provide much beyond raw numbers and dollars spent. There is no information on repeat assistance, gender, sex, ethnicity or race, children, age, whether veterans, chronically homeless and such. The only sources of information for the requested data are the Township annual reports, the mail in survey responses requested by the County, and the COC Point in Time survey of 1/31/12. Results from the 2013 survey were not available prior to this Consolidated Plan. While the point in time survey is heavily slanted toward the Entitlement cities of Gary, Hammond and East Chicago, it is overall, the best available, if it is accepted that the primary location of the homeless population is in Gary, Hammond and East Chicago. That is not to say it does not exist in the Urban County, just that it is not as severe in the Urban County. The County, via its counseling and homeless prevention activities sees hundreds of households a year, primarily those at risk of homelessness.

The County was informed by social workers at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in

This section addresses the requirements of 24 CFR 91.205 (c)

Crown Point that they were working with 38 homeless veterans at that time from all over the County and surrounding area. They noted that they were often able to assist these veterans when they obtained housing vouchers through VASH. They were able to obtain a \$500 grant through the County's Homeless Prevention Program to use to provide for deposit so these persons could gain housing.

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CATEGORIES OF HOMELESS

There is not information available to provide any kind of accurate data as to the number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year. Obviously, this will vary according to economic conditions. Homelessness increased greatly as the housing crisis of 2008 hit the County and country. It appears to be going down as the housing situation improves slightly. This can be seen in the decrease in homeless persons between 2011 and 2012.

That said, the County was able to glean some information which indicates trends (up or down) in these various categories from the Point in Time surveys and the responses to the mail survey of entities providing assistance to those "persons becoming and exiting homelessness". These trends, due to the data used, reflect the total of Lake County and not just Urban Lake County.

Persons in households with adult(s) and child(ren) - This would be those which have at least one adult and one minor child. Data indicates a reduction of approximately 10%.

Persons in households with only child(ren)

(children with no adult present) - Data indicates a decrease of roughly 50%.

Persons in households with only adults with no children present - Data indicates an increase of approximately 70%.

Chronically homeless individuals (adults who are regularly, and long term homeless, usually accompanied by underlying problem with drugs, alcohol, mental illness and such) - Data indicates very small in absolute numbers but with a 300% increase.

Chronically homeless families (adult(s) with child(ren) who are regularly, and long term homeless) - Data indicates very small in absolute numbers but with a 100% increase.

Veterans (former members of the U.S. Military who are homeless, often with mental problems, drugs, alcohol and such) - Data indicates a 100% increase.

Persons with HIV (any person with HIV who is homeless) - Data indicates a reduction of about 60%.

Unsheltered homelessness was relatively uncommon during the Point in Time survey. There were only 12 persons out of 114 (10%) in the entire County, with one being a household with children. There were none in the rural areas. This is supported by the fact that these rural townships had only a couple of cases where they funded actual shelter for persons during the past year.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This section provides descriptions and estimates of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing. This includes:

- ◆ the elderly and frail elderly,
- ◆ persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental),
- ◆ persons with alcohol or other drug addiction, and
- ◆ persons with HIV/AIDS.

ELDERLY AND FRAIL ELDERLY

For the purpose of this plan, HUD defines elderly households as those where the head of household is at least 62 years old. According to the ACS used for this plan, approximately 15% of the Lake County population is over the age of 60. According to the HUD CHAS data, there are 7,650 households with at least one elderly person. Fifty seven percent of these households are income-eligible (earning less than 80% of the area median income). The frail elderly are defined as those persons over 75 years of age who require some assistance in the performance of daily activities, such as cooking, dressing, bathing, household management or eating. According to the National Institute on Aging, roughly forty percent of those over 75 meet the definition of frail elderly. Using HUD's CHAS data as a basis, this would mean there

are approximately 1,226 frail elderly households within the County.

The cost of maintaining a home rises with age of the house, yet incomes of elderly households are often fixed. Many elderly persons prefer to remain in their current homes than to downsize. As a result, a strong emphasis is placed on the elderly maintaining an independent, to semi-independent lifestyle, with close, convenient and immediate access to recreational, medical, and social service resources. The frail elderly are likely to need housing assistance and require in-home or institutional assistance for daily living. Also, they benefit from programs for the aging, such as senior centers, transportation services, and feeding programs.

Overall, the elderly accounted for a small portion (14%) of rental households with a cost burden and 26% of owners with a cost burden. Through the consultations and citizen outreach process, the County documented that while cost burden may not affect a large number of senior households, those on fixed incomes did not have sufficient funds to pay for rehabilitation of their homes or improvements necessary to make the unit accessible.

Northwest Indiana Community Action is an Aging & Disability Resource Center that serves all of Lake County and the surround-

This section addresses the requirements of 24 CFR 91.205 (c)

ing counties in Indiana. Aging and Disability Resource Centers, or ADRCs, offer the general public a single entry point for information and assistance on issues affecting older people, and people with disabilities regardless of their income. These resource centers are welcoming and convenient places to get information and access to a wide variety of services. Services can be provided through the telephone, in the resource center, or in home. Program offerings are available at: <http://www.nwi-ca.com/seniors/index.html>

**PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL/
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY**

According to the ACS used for this plan, approximately 15% of the County population (12,093) is considered to have a disability. Of this population, 10% are under 18, 58% are working age, and 32% are 65 and older. Ambulatory difficulty was the most common disability reported (6,420 residents), followed by those with a cognitive disability (4,533) and those with an independent living disability (4,239). It should be noted that persons may be counted in more than one category.

The ideal housing situation for the developmentally disabled is one that integrates the person into the community while still providing the supportive services needed. Options include supervised apartments, supported living housing, skill development homes, and family care homes. An emerging problem for

agencies serving these populations is the limited capacity to adequately serve the increasing number of older individuals with developmental disabilities. The number of persons in this population group has increased mainly due to the aging of the U.S. population. Persons with developmental disabilities often have multiple physical disabilities which create the need for additional services. A larger community issue that adversely affects housing choice for persons with disabilities is the lack of public transportation options within the County.

**PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS,
DRUG OR ALCOHOL ADDICTION**

While there is not a reliable data source that estimates the number of persons with mental illness within the community, those with untreated severe mental illness often become homeless and are served by the local homeless agencies. Similar to those with mental illness, persons recovering from drug or alcohol addictions require intensive case management in order to return to independent living.

OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS

The housing and supportive services needs of persons with mental illness and those with substance abuse issues are similar. There is also a degree of overlap between these two populations. Those that suffer from both mental illness and drug and alcohol addiction are considered "dually diagnosed". Those most affected by mental illness, substance