



**HeadingHome**  
HENNEPIN

# 3-Year Community Report

Together, we are ending  
homelessness.



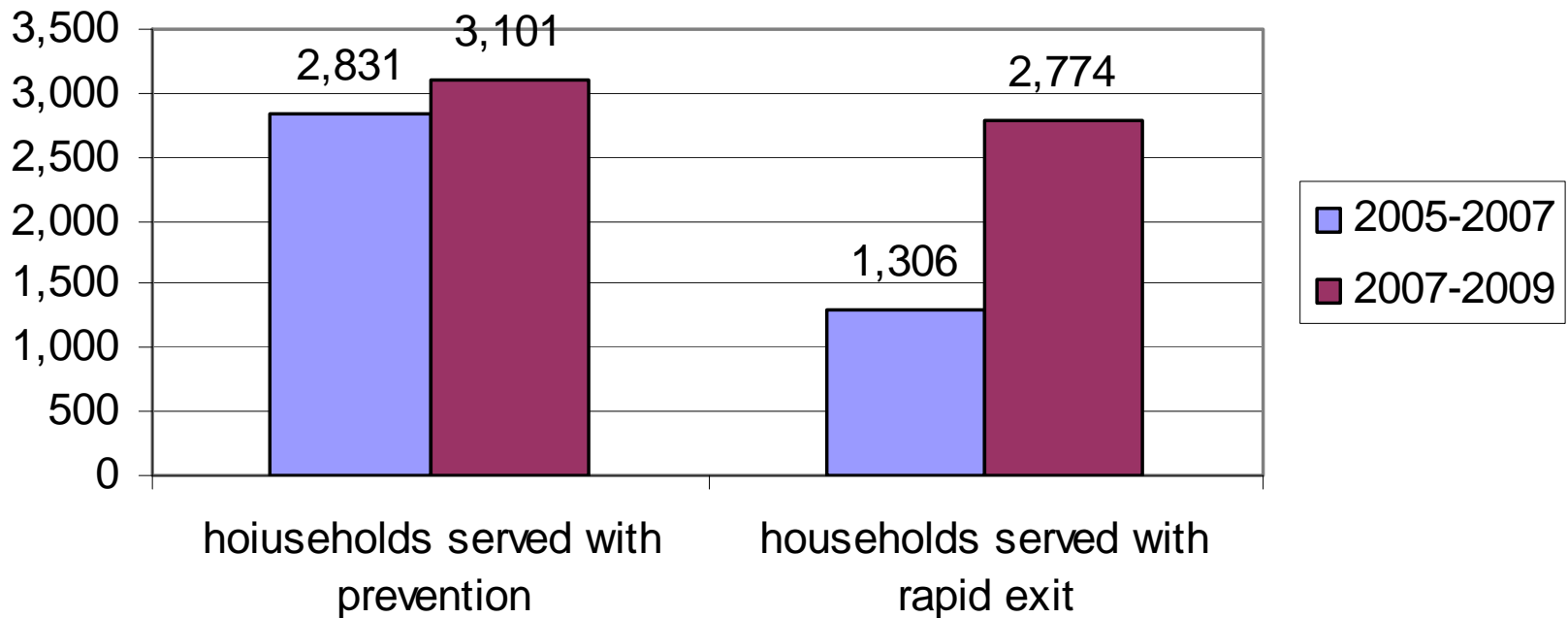
# PREVENTION

- **Keep people in the housing they already have**
  - Doubled funding for the Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program.
  - \$6.4 million in federal stimulus funding (Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program) is being used to expand prevention and rapid re-housing capacity in Minneapolis and Hennepin County.
  - For youth, there has been an increased focus on family reunification through conflict resolution and mediation.
  
- **Ensure people do not become homeless when leaving public institutions**
  - With support of the Minneapolis Foundation, Hennepin County established an Adult Discharge Planning Coordinator to assist people exiting Hennepin County Medical Center and Adult Correctional Facilities.
  - Through a broad collaboration between the County and the community (OnRamp) we are improving discharge for youth aging out of foster care by changing policy and practice to extend supports through the age of 21.



# FHPAP

**Number of Households Served with FHPAP funds in Hennepin County**



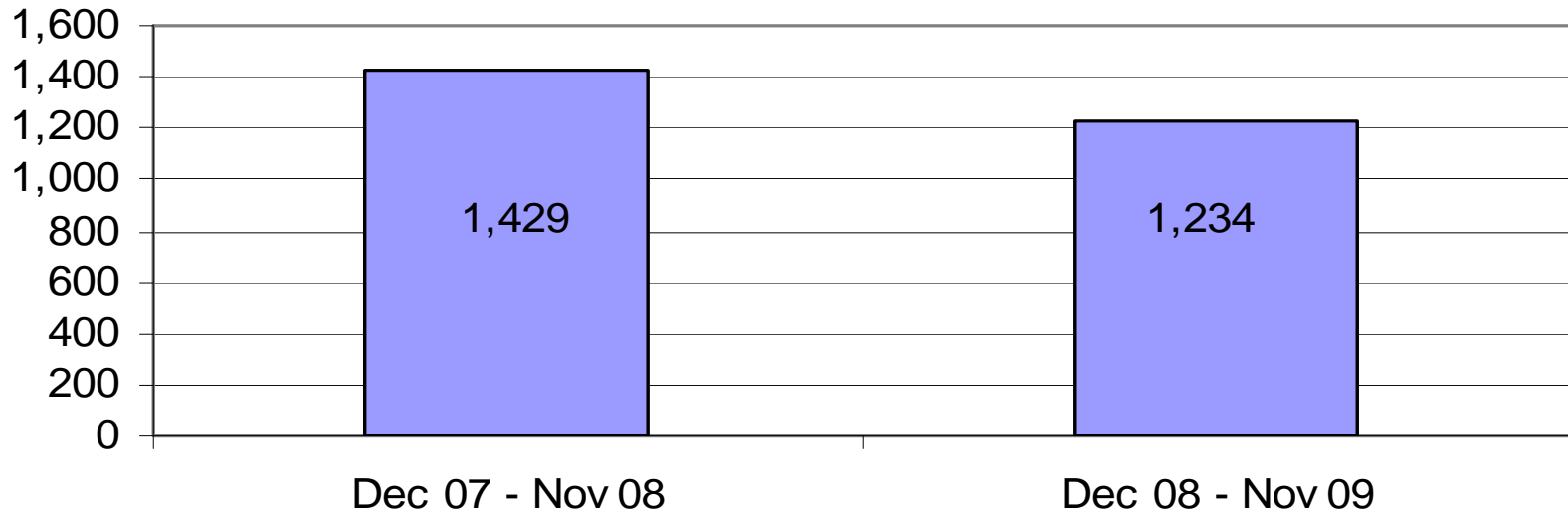
# OUTREACH

- **Develop a system of coordinated street outreach**
  - The St. Stephens Street Outreach Team was created in October 2007 with support of the City of Minneapolis. To date, they have housed 141 people directly from the street with an average length of homelessness of over 10 years.
  - A new veterans specific outreach worker has been hired by the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV).
- **Partner with police to reduce unnecessary arrests and improve community livability**
  - The Minneapolis Police Department reported a 14% reduction in arrests of people experiencing homelessness downtown as a result of their partnership with the Outreach Team. The Outreach Team also works closely with the Downtown Improvement District.
- **Expand youth outreach**
  - An “in reach” worker has been hired by Freeport West to identify and support youth in adult shelters and drop-in centers in order to connect them to age-appropriate resources.
  - Through an expansion of a mental health grant (PATH) Hennepin County secured a youth specific mental health access worker to assist youth in navigating the mental health system.



# MPD-STREET OUTREACH COLLABORATION

**Number of Arrests in Downtown West by People with  
No Permanent Address  
14% reduction compared to last year**



# HOUSING

- **Create 5,000 new housing opportunities for men, women, children and youth by 2016**
  - 1,419 new permanent housing opportunities were created between 2007 and 2009. In addition, hundreds of individuals and families were housed through short-term subsidies and rapid exit from shelter.
  - Examples of expanded housing initiatives include: the Refugees Service Network (Minnesota Council of Churches), Nicollet Square (Plymouth Neighborhood Foundation), Housing & Urban Development-Veterans' Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), Host Homes (Avenues for Homeless Youth), Group Residential Housing expansion for youth at Freeport West (funded by Finnegan's), housing for youth exiting foster care (24/7 program operated by Hennepin County in partnership with The Bridge for Youth and the YMCA), and the Currie Avenue Partnership (funded by the Downtown Council and the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness and operated by Simpson Housing Services, Spectrum, St. Stephen's, Catholic Charities, People Inc., and Our Saviours).
- **Target highest users of shelters and other publically funded systems to break the cycles of homelessness**
  - Examples include The Housing First Collaborative (Hennepin County and multiple housing agencies), The Frequent Users Service Enhancement (FUSE) program (St. Stephens Human Services) and the Women's Housing Partnership (Simpson Housing Services).



# HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

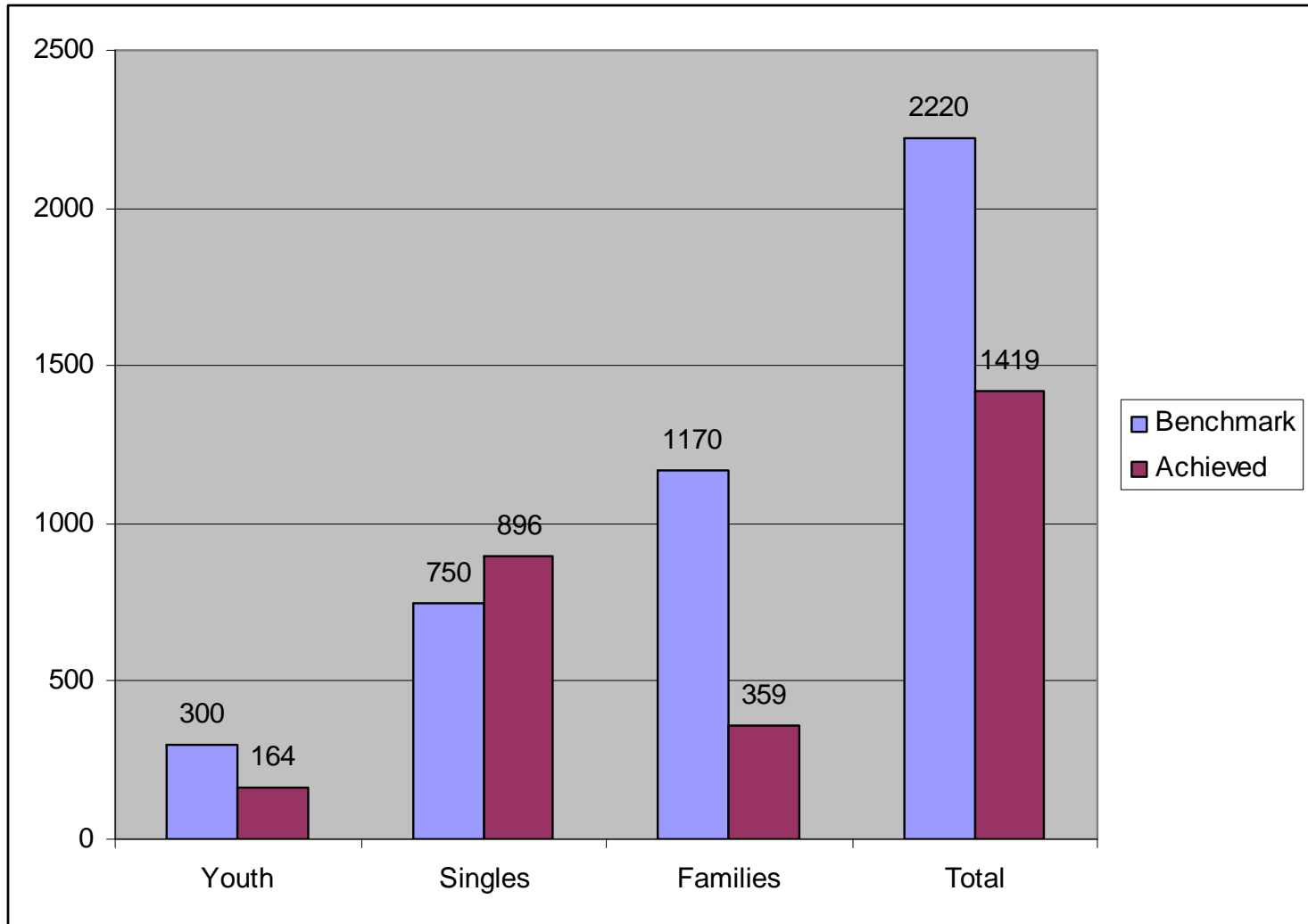
<b>2007</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Singles</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>New</b>	10	96	60	<b>166</b>
<b>TBR</b>	95	274	171	<b>540</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>719</b>

<b>2008</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Singles</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>New</b>	0	32	10	<b>42</b>
<b>TBR</b>	36	281	60	<b>377</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>419</b>

<b>2009</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Singles</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>New</b>	0	64	24	<b>88</b>
<b>TBR</b>	10	149	34	<b>183</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>281</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Singles</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>New</b>	10	192	94	<b>296</b>
<b>TBR</b>	141	704	265	<b>917</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>1419</b>

# Total Housing Opportunities



# SERVICE DELIVERY

- **Connect people to the services they need to escape homelessness**
  - In addition to both single site and scattered site supportive housing, examples include the Homeless Youth Action Group/Hennepin County Mental Health partnership, which connects homeless youth with needed mental health evaluations, and a new pilot program providing support services to young mothers exiting shelter (funded by The Phillips Foundation and operated by St. Anne's Shelter).
- **Hold Project Homeless Connect events**
  - We have held 8 PHC events since December 2005, bringing together over 400 service providers and 1,300 community volunteers to serve more than 1,500 households experiencing homelessness at each event. Next event: March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010!
  - The youth community has held 3 Youth Connect events, the first of their kind in the nation.
- **Develop Opportunity Centers**
  - Funded by Hennepin County, 2 Opportunity Centers will be opening in 2010, serving single adults (operated by Catholic Charities Branch III) and youth (operated by YouthLink).



# SELF-SUPPORT

- **Increase incomes through education, job training, employment and access to benefits**
  - An adult employment pilot was developed for implementation at the new Opportunity Center for singles to open in 2010 (funded by The United Way and The City of Minneapolis).
  - Nicollet Square will include on-site employment training for youth (funded in part by The City of Minneapolis).
  - An employment specialist was created to target 40 new employment opportunities for youth aging out of foster care each year (funded by Hennepin County & operated by HIRED).
  - Significant investment by The United Way is increasing the number of households receiving the federal Earned Income Tax Credit. Between 2006-2008, over 7000 additional people received EITC.
  
- **Increase affordable transportation options**
  - Through the advocacy efforts of the St Stephens Human Rights program and Homeless Against Homelessness, the state legislature approved a 50% bus card discount pilot program for a select number of homeless serving agencies with the goal of expanding it more broadly.



# SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS

- **Improve the efficacy of our current system, collaboration throughout the system, and establish policies and procedures that increase the ability of people to escape homelessness**
  - Relationships between community partners continue to grow, resulting in a rapidly expanding, dynamic network of advocates, providers and public servants working together to end homelessness. Collaborations include the Family Services Network, the Single Adult Shelter Network, the Single Adult Shelter Directors group, the Homeless Youth Action Group, the Youth Services Network, the Youth Case Management Working group, and the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness, among many more.
  - The Office to End Homelessness is one of many voices working to influence local, state, and federal practices and policies. We also serve on the National Leadership Council providing input to the Obama Administration on issues that impact our work locally.
- **Enhance cultural competency across the system**
  - Consultants funded by The Minneapolis Foundation are helping the community assess ways to enhance the cultural competency of our homeless services delivery system.



# EVALUATION

- **Evaluate and monitor the progress of Heading Home Hennepin**

Through the efforts of Dr. Lisa Thornquist, The Office to End Homelessness and the University of Minnesota have developed a close working relationship for quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the 10-year plan to end homelessness.

## **Collaboration with the University of Minnesota:**

- Baseline research on the refugee experience with homelessness.
- Evaluation of Housing First.
- Evaluation of FUSE.
- Evaluation of Youth Aging out of Foster Care.
- Evaluation of YouthLink Services.
- Evaluation of the Currie Avenue Partnership as a collaboration.
- Baseline attitudes of citizens' view of homelessness.
- Examination of the criminalization of homelessness.
- Examination of strategies to limit panhandling.
- Development of resource brochure about transitioning out of hospitals and the criminal justice system.



# Next Steps

- Please join us at a facilitated strategic planning meeting on:

**Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-4pm**  
**St. Mary's Church**  
**3450 Irving Ave. South**

# For more information:

- [www.headinghomehennepin.org](http://www.headinghomehennepin.org)
- [www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org](http://www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org)