



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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Results of 2018 Annual Point in Time Homeless Count Released

April 4, 2018 (Barnstable, MA) – The Cape and Islands Regional Network on Homelessness has released its 2018 findings from the Annual Point in Time Count which took place on January 30, 2018 on Cape Cod, Martha’s Vineyard, and Nantucket.

The total number of homeless persons (sheltered and unsheltered) on the night of the count was 358, an increase of 34 persons from the 2017 count. While the number of unsheltered individuals, families in shelter, and individuals in transitional housing remained at the same levels as recorded during the 2017 PIT Count, the number of individuals in shelter increased by 34 from the previous count. Subfreezing temperatures on the night of January 29 and 30 may have motivated unsheltered homeless individuals to “come in” from their usual sleeping locations to seek indoor accommodations for the night. On January 30, 2018, 31 people were sheltered in motels paid for by charitable non-profit organizations. The results of the 2018 PIT are available at www.bchumanservices.net.

The Point in Time (PIT) counts all people experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters, transitional housing, motels (if paid for by an agency), on the street, in cars, in abandoned buildings, and in other places not meant for human habitation. Counts are conducted annually in every community in the United States during the last ten days of January, and are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The PIT does not count persons or families that are doubled-up and/or living with family and friends.

Volunteers from dozens of agencies across the Cape and Islands assisted in collecting information during this year’s count. According to Beth Albert, Director of Human Services for Barnstable County, “The Point in Time is a snapshot of homelessness in our region on a given night. By collecting this data on an annual basis, we have a better understanding of the number and demographics of the homeless population. The information helps us in planning and allocating scarce resources.” The count also collects information on age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity and veteran’s status of the individuals and families included in the count.

Creating a Healthy Connected Cape Cod

The Mission of the Department of Human Services is to plan, develop, and implement programs which enhance the overall delivery of human services in Barnstable County and promote the health and social well-being of County residents through regional efforts that improve coordination of services.

The Cape and Islands Regional Network on Homelessness is a broad based public private partnership committed to identifying and implementing solutions to ending homelessness on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

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