



## Hypothermia FY 19 Debrief – Families Prepared for the District of Columbia Interagency Council on Homelessness May 2019

### ***Families Accessing Virginia Williams During Hypothermia '19***

A total of **1647 unique households** sought services at the Virginia Williams Family Resource Center (VWFRC) during Hypothermia '19 (November 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019). This is a **three (3) percent** increase in households seeking services at VWFRC compared to Hypothermia '18. All told, these households made **2157 visits<sup>1</sup>** to the VWFRC during the Hypothermia season representing a **four (4) percent** increase in total visits since the previous season.

### ***Site Living at When First Visiting Virginia Williams***

Similar to previous seasons, **seventy (70) percent** of households seeking services reported that they were living with family or friends at the time of their visit during the season, and an additional **seventeen (17) percent** were staying in their own housing (subsidized or unsubsidized). **Five (5) percent** of households indicated that they were staying in a place not meant for human habitation (i.e. a car) during their first visit to VWFRC during Hypothermia '19.

<b><i>Site Living at When First Visiting VWFRC During Hypothermia '19 (n=1647)</i></b>	
<b><i>Housing Situations</i></b>	
Rental or Owned by Client, No On-Going Subsidy	12%
Rental or Owned by Client, With On-Going Subsidy	5%
Staying or Living with Family Members or Friends	70%
<b><i>Experiencing Homelessness</i></b>	
Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing	5%
Place Not Meant for Habitation	5%
<b><i>Institutional Settings</i></b>	
Incarceration; Hospital/Nursing Home/Psychiatric/"Detox" Facilities; Foster Care/Group Home	1%
<b><i>Other</i></b>	
Other Place	2%
Data Not Collected	1%

<sup>1</sup>In FY18, DC Department of Human Services (DHS) implemented a change in protocol regarding documenting visits to Virginia Williams. In the past, a HMIS entry documenting a family's eligibility assessment was added to the system during a family's initial visit to VWFRC and that entry remained open for up to 60 days. DHS' new protocol provides a shelter entry for each HH seeking homeless services and allows HMIS to capture actual entries and outcomes of household assessments as they occur.

## Family Shelter Entries and Exits

On November 1, 2019, there were 574 **families** in Emergency Shelter for families; this included:

- **457 families** in motels operated by either DHS or The Community Partnership;
- **22 families** in Short Term Family Housing sites; and
- **95 families** in Temporary/Apartment-style shelter.

There were **401 placements**<sup>2</sup> into family Emergency Shelter during the season. However, **379 unique families** received placements as **22 families** either were placed more than once during the season or were in shelter at the beginning of the season, exited, and returned to shelter during the season.

There were **435 exits** from the emergency shelter over the course of the season, with **540 families** remaining in shelter on March 31, 2019.

<i>Emergency Shelter Exits and Entries During Hypothermia '19</i>	
Families in ES on November 1, 2018	574
Families Placed in ES During Hypothermia '19	401
Families Exited ES During Hypothermia '19	435
Families Remaining in ES on March 31, 2019	540

The table below shows the number of exits by destination category.

<i>Destinations of Families Exiting Emergency Shelter, Hypothermia '19 (n=435)</i>		
	#	%
Transitional Housing	38	9%
Rapid Rehousing	276	63%
PSH & Other Permanent Housing w/ Subsidy	45	10%
Unsubsidized, rented or owned	6	1%
With Family or Friends	15	3%
Institutional Setting	2	0%
Transfer to another ES but did not accept placement	14	3%
Destination Not Reported	39	9%

## Length of Stay

The families served in Emergency Shelter during Hypothermia '19 spent, on average, **219 days** in shelter with a median of **136 days**.<sup>3</sup> The table below details the mean (average), median, and mode length of stay in shelter (in days) for the families served during Hypothermia '19 broken down by whether they exited during the season and when or if they were still in shelter at the end of the season.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Placement made either via referral from Virginia Williams or on an emergency basis as needed.

<sup>3</sup> Refers to the number of continuous nights spent collectively in motels, Short-Term Family Housing programs, and/or Temporary/Apartment-style shelter in an episode of homelessness that occurred at least in part during Hypothermia FY 19.

<sup>4</sup> Exits from shelter displayed in tables on this page do not include those families that exited one emergency shelter site for another shelter site, i.e. moving from a motel to apartment-style housing. Rather, these types of "exits" are counted as a continuous stay in

**Length of Stay (LOS) of Families Served in ES, Hypothermia '19**

	# of Families	Mean LOS	Median LOS	Mode LOS
Exited During Hypothermia '19	435	191	125	116
Stayed After Hypothermia '19	540	240	152	81

The table below details the average length of stay cross-referenced with destinations for the 415 families exiting the emergency shelter level of the Continuum of Care during Hypothermia '19.

**Length of Stay (LOS) of Families Exiting ES During Hypothermia '19**

	# of Families	Mean LOS in Days
Transitional Housing	38	164
Rapid Rehousing	276	182
PSH & Other Permanent Housing with Subsidy, including VASH	45	358
Unsubsidized Housing, Rented or Owned	6	215
Living with Family or Friends	15	110
Institutional Setting	2	70
Transfer to another ES but did not accept placement	14	101
Destination Not Reported	39	119

**Returns to Emergency Shelter After a Previous Episode of Homelessness**

Of the 401 households placed into family shelter during Hypothermia '19, **255 families** were seeking housing or shelter resources in District's CoC for the first time, while **146 families** were CoC-involved at some point the past.

**Thirty-seven (37) percent of the 146 families** returning to the CoC were last served in emergency shelter. Additionally, **forty-two (42) percent** were in a rapid rehousing program within the CoC; **fourteen (14) percent** had been referred to a prevention program; **five (5) percent** were in a transitional housing program; and **one (1) percent** were in a permanent supportive housing program.

**Most Recent CoC Program Type of Those Returning (n=146)**

Emergency Shelter	38%
Rapid Rehousing	42%
Transitional Housing	5%
Prevention Program	14%
Permanent Supportive Housing	1%

***Destination Upon Exit from Most Recent Type of CoC Program***

**Twelve (12)** of the families that returned to the CoC during Hypothermia '19 had exited the CoC prior to this episode to move into other subsidized housing and **fifty-two (52)** moved to their own unsubsidized housing. **Twenty-seven (27)** went to live with family or friends after staying in a CoC program. **Nine (9) families** moved to an emergency shelter program outside of the CoC and **three (3)** exited to a transitional housing program outside of the CoC. An additional **forty-two (42) families** did not provide destination information at exit from their last CoC program.

<b><i>Time Between Exit and Return to CoC (n=146)</i></b>	
1 to 3 months	29
4 to 6 months	14
7 to 12 months	33
13 to 18 months	21
19 to 24 months	8
25 to 36 months	18
37 to 48 months	8
49 to 60 months	7
61 + months	8