

## **Homeless Street Count Results January 27, 2006 in Springfield Illinois**

**On Friday, January 27, 2006, the Heartland Continuum of Care and the Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness conducted a Homeless Street Count to determine the number of homeless individuals in Springfield.**

**The Continuum used a three prong approach as outlined below:**

- 1. Agencies who serve the homeless population conducted surveys in their offices that day and evening. They included, but were not limited to, Abundant Faith, Catholic Charities, Contact Ministries, Helping Hands, MERCY Communities, PORA, Salvation Army, Fifth Street Renaissance, Washington Street Mission and Youth Service Bureau.**
- 2. During both mealtimes homeless individuals were surveyed at St. John's Breadline.**
- 3. Between the hours of 9:30 pm and 1:00 am, volunteers assisted by eight Springfield police officers, canvassed the city looking for homeless individuals.**

**The survey revealed 382 homeless individuals. Of the 382 individuals, 201 individuals reported they were male, 165 female, 16 answered unknown; 254 were adults and 128 were children; 258 in shelters or transitional programs, 22 adults and 5 children reported they were residing in the area. The remaining 97 admitted they were living house to house with family, friends or anyplace they can stay.**

**258 individuals were sheltered, while 22 adults and 5 children admitted to living on the streets.**

**This was a wonderful collaboration effort between local agencies, community representatives, the Heartland Continuum of Care, the Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness and the Springfield Police Department. Because of the complexity of identifying this population, we know this number is not totally accurate but it is the best representation of our homeless population on January 27, 2006.**

**The 2005 street count yielded the following results:**

**443 Homeless; 420 were staying in shelters; 23 were on the streets.  
374 were adults and 69 were children.**