

SECTION 3 - HOMELESS

Homeless Needs (91.205 (b) and 91.215 (c))

**TABLE 66
HUD Homeless Needs Table**

CPMP Version 1.3																				
Continuum of Care Homeless Population and Subpopulations Chart																				
Part 1: Homeless Population		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total	Jurisdiction														
		Emergency	Transitional			Data Quality														
1. Homeless Individuals		112	3	39	154	<input type="text" value="(N) enumerations"/>														
2. Homeless Families with Children		16	0	10	26															
2a. Persons in Homeless with Children Families		54	0	68	122															
Total (lines 1 + 2a)		166	3	107	276															
Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total	Data Quality														
1. Chronically Homeless		25		42	67	<input type="text" value="(N) enumerations"/>														
2. Severely Mentally Ill		4		0	4															
3. Chronic Substance Abuse		33		0	33															
4. Veterans		26		0	26															
5. Persons with HIV/AIDS		0		0	0															
6. Victims of Domestic Violence		16		0	16															
7. Youth (Under 18 years of age)		74		0	74															
Part 3: Homeless Needs Table: Individuals		Needs	Currently Available	Gap	5-Year Quantities								Total			Priority H, M, L	Plan to Fund? Y, N	Fund Source: CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG or Other		
					Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Goal				Actual	% of Goal
					Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete						
Beds	Emergency Shelters	300	234	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	#	H	Y	ESG, C
	Transitional Housing	310	39	271	8	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	%	H	Y	C
	Permanent Supportive Housing	50	25	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	25	0	50	0	0	%	H	Y	C
	Total	660	298	362	8	0	25	0	42	0	0	25	0	100	0	0	%			

Chronically Homeless																				
Part 4: Homeless Needs Table: Families		Needs	Currently Available	Gap	5-Year Quantities										Total			Priority H, M, L	Plan to Fund? Y N	Fund Source: CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG or Other
					Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Goal	Actual	% of Goal			
					Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete	Goal	Complete						
Beds	Emergency Shelters	334	234	100	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0%	H	Y	C
	Transitional Housing	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	48	0	0%	H	Y	C
	Permanent Supportive Housing	24	0	24	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0%	H	Y	C
	Total	608	234	374	32	0	24	0	24	0	0	0	24	0	104	0	0%			

Nature and Extent of Homelessness

The U. S. Census Bureau's 2000 Census counted people at emergency shelters for people experiencing homelessness, which included shelters for children who are runaways, neglected, or without conventional housing; transitional shelters for people without conventional housing, including shelters providing a maximum stay for clients of up to two years and offering supportive services to promote self-sufficiency and to help clients obtain permanent housing; and hotels and motels used to provide shelter for people without conventional housing. The 2000 Census counts of homeless did not include people counted at shelters for abused women, shelters against domestic violence, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The Census Bureau cautioned that the figures do not constitute and should not be construed as a count of people without conventional housing and that any attempt to use the results as a measure of the number of people experiencing homelessness would be inaccurate. The Emergency and Transitional Shelter Population 2000 prepared by the Census Bureau reported 158 persons in emergency and transitional shelters in Rapid City, including 78 persons under 18 years of age and 80 persons 18 years of age and over. The Census Bureau did not report information regarding the race or sex of the population in emergency and transitional shelters for Rapid City in 2000.

As the major city in western South Dakota, homeless people from the entire region come to Rapid City and therefore homelessness is not simply a Rapid City issue. As a hub of employment and supportive services, people travel to Rapid City in hopes of finding work. Because they arrive in the area without jobs, they do not have funds for rent deposits or utility hook-ups needed to secure permanent housing, so they often reside in local motels or shelters. Shelters outside Rapid City, in Sturgis and Hot Springs also serve Rapid City's homeless. Once a year the Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition conducts a point-in-time survey of homeless people in the region in order to provide a more accurate count. The homeless count attempts

to capture those people living in motels and doubled up with family and friends in addition to those living in, emergency shelters, domestic violence shelters, transitional housing, jail, de-tox, outside, and in structures not meant for habitation. A count of homeless children in the Rapid City public schools is also maintained. The following table shows the results from the most recent point-in-time survey, conducted on September, 2007. HUD bi-annual counts are conducted in the winter, usually in January. The Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition conducts their counts in years not covered by the HUD count. In addition to the count, a survey of the homeless is conducted to determine demographics of the homeless, what services they may be receiving and what services they feel they still need.

Men		Women		Children		Total	
128		74		74		276	
Outdoors	Vehicle	Shelter	Transitional Housing	Hotel/Motel	Abandoned Building	Treatment	Other
51	11	99	33	31	3	17	31

Source: Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition Point-in-Time Homeless Count - 2007

In 2002, the South Dakota Homeless Consortium (SDHC) completed the Continuum of Care (COC). Due to the broad geographic area covered by the SDHC, localities and regions are encouraged to develop Regional Collaborative Groups to carry out local planning and implementation, as well as meet regularly to ensure broad representation in preparation of the Continuum of Care. Then in September 2003, Governor Rounds signed Executive Order 03-7 to establish the South Dakota Interagency Council on Homelessness to evaluate and address homelessness issues in South Dakota. Governor Rounds' action supports President Bush's federal Interagency Council initiatives, which were created after it was determined that twenty percent of homeless individuals, those now categorized as chronically homeless, are using eighty percent of the federal funding resources targeted for homeless initiatives. The Council is challenged with a variety of duties including identifying and defining homeless issues, determining effective strategies for the prevention of homelessness in South Dakota, providing public education to, and working with various advocacy, business, and faith-based groups and consumers regarding policy and program development.

The Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition serves as a linking organization to the local communities and service providers ensuring that the region's goals and priorities are considered in the COC. The Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition meets on a monthly basis to discuss the needs of the community and ways to address identified needs. The organizations have formed partnerships and referral

systems in an effort to better coordinate the delivery of services and treatment to their mutual clients.

Homeless Prevention

State-wide the South Dakota Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) caseworkers provide case management and refer clients in danger of being homeless to shelters and the local welfare offices, while the Community Action Agencies may be able to provide rental, mortgage assistance, and other assistance for living expenses. DOL and DSS partner in a One-Stop Career Center which can assess assistance needed by clients seeking employment. Other service providers often have their representatives in the One-Stop Career Centers. There are several organizations that provide homeless prevention services. The Salvation Army provides assistance to persons already housed who may be behind on their rent, mortgage payment, or utility bills due to unemployment or other unexpected extenuating circumstances. The Salvation Army also provides funds for a security deposit and first month's rent for homeless person entering permanent housing. To receive assistance persons must document employment adequate to continue paying the rent on a monthly basis. Assistance with rent and utilities is also provided by Pennington County Health and Human Services. A local faith-based organization, Church Response, has limited funding available to assist with utility shut off notices for those who qualify.

Homeless Outreach

In South Dakota, outreach is provided by emergency shelters, mental health centers, crisis hot lines, meals programs, programs serving Native Americans, churches, community health nurses, community action agencies, law enforcement officers, and the courts. Because many indigents' first point of contact in South Dakota is their County Welfare Offices, caseworkers work with clients to assess their housing service needs and make referrals. The following provides a review of outreach available to special needs populations.

- There is a state-wide domestic violence hotline that makes referrals to shelters in the State. Law enforcement personnel act as local partnering agencies also making referrals.
- All persons diagnosed with HIV are referred to the Communicable Diseases Division of the State Department of Health, who in turn assigns a case manager to help them assess resources. Homeless persons with HIV are referred to the local shelters and public housing authorities.
- Homeless Outreach Workers with the South Dakota Department of Mental Health respond to referrals and go out into the communities to find and engage homeless individuals and families in services and shelters. The Homeless Outreach Workers target chronically homeless persons. The 11 non-profit community health centers in the State, including the outreach, mental health, substance abuse, case management, and other support services. Assertive Community Treatment Teams seek out the homeless by searching the streets, drop-in centers, meals programs and conduct outreach to extremely high need homeless and chronically homeless individuals.

- TRI-STATE HELP (Housing Environments for Living Positively administers HOPWA funds in the form of rental assistance to persons residing in Rapid City. TRI-STATE HELP is a consortium of three states, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota offering housing and related supportive service opportunities for people living with HIV/AIDS.
- The City/County Alcohol and Drug Program in Rapid City works with the chronic homeless including those who come to detox after being picked-up by the local law enforcement.
- The Rapid City Vets Center does outreach, linking homeless veterans to the appropriate service providers.

In September 2005, the Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition conducted a housing needs assessment to identify and quantify the housing and service needs of the low-income community, and identify any gaps in services. Local agencies were asked to provide the survey to their clients during the month of September, 2005. Screening mechanisms were employed to avoid respondent duplications. The information gathered assisted the City of Rapid City in setting priorities for housing. Additionally information collected presented a true picture of what the homeless, near homeless, and the extremely low income are requesting for services.

Annually, the Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition conducts a “point in time” count of the homeless in the Rapid City community. Local agencies participated in Homeless Connect Week in December, 2006 and June, 2007 by holding a Homeless Connect Day during which homeless people were able to access information and services from many agencies at one time, in one spot. Booths were set up by 23 agencies to offer information on services available to the homeless, and participants were assisted with intake applications requesting needed services. In addition, free haircuts, health screenings, eye exams, and dental checks were provided. Due to the success of these days, the Homeless Connect Day will be repeated annually, and additional services providers will be invited to participate.

Intake and Assessment

The homeless in South Dakota typically access the system at a rescue mission or emergency shelter, at the local Social Service Office or County Welfare Office, a hospital or State psychiatric hospital, a Veteran's Center, domestic abuse center, a drug and alcohol treatment center, a mental health drop in center, local law enforcement officials, food pantry, or a facility designed to help Native Americans. Once in the system, the point of contact makes referrals for assessment and services.

Each initial point of contact has its own assessment process. While some have become coordinated and share intake information, others are less sophisticated and simply pass the person on to one of the more highly developed facilities to complete the assessment. Once the crisis has been assessed, provisions for immediate basic needs such as shelter, clothing food and safety are made. Persons with particular needs are referred to other organizations for more comprehensive assessments or evaluations. Some referrals include the community based mental health center, a substance abuse treatment or detoxification center, homeless

health care clinic, and legal aid. At the most appropriate service provider, a case manager is assigned to help individuals develop a plan for self-sufficiency. To accomplish this, many providers strive to help the client establish goals for education and employment; recovery from addiction, mental health treatment; financial, saving, and debt reconciliation; housing; and participation in activities that assist with developing personal, social, and community skills.

Housing for the Homeless

Housing for the homeless includes emergency shelters, transitional housing, overnight vouchers for motel rooms when the shelters are full, and domestic violence shelters. Currently, there are two emergency homeless shelters in Rapid City, Cornerstone Rescue Mission and Cornerstone Women and Children's Home, and two domestic violence shelters, Working Against Violence (WAVI) and Ohitika Najin Win Oti, a Native American culturally sensitive shelter for battered and abused women.

Cornerstone Rescue Mission has undergone renovations to the main shelter to add a three story addition that includes a new veteran's wing, additional counseling offices and expanded space for the kitchen and pantry. The VA wing can handle up to 60 people. Currently 40 beds are being used and the extra space is used as a TV/Recreational activities room for the veterans when not needed as sleeping space. The Mission's other 129 general shelter beds serve homeless men, 22 women and 20 families. Vouchers for motel rooms are provided to an additional 20 families or women when the shelter facilities are full. The shelter also includes on-site medical and mental health services.

The Cornerstone Women and Children's Home provides emergency homeless shelter for 38 women and children at a location separate from the men's shelter. It provides a safe, homelike setting with a childcare center on site.

The Ohitika Najin Win Oti shelter provides shelter for 9 is currently looking for property to expand to meet the growing need for emergency shelter and transitional services. The current shelter site is leased and has been sold, necessitating relocation. There is a need for larger family units in the new shelter, as Native American families typically have more children or larger multi-generational households. Supportive services are culturally sensitive to the needs of Native American domestic violence victims.

Working Against Violence, Inc.'s domestic violence shelter is a newer building, opened in early 2004. It provides 13 bedrooms with a total of 50 beds, along with support space, including offices, meeting rooms, and a play area for children.

Priority Homeless Needs

A State Homeless Point-In-Time count conducted in September 2007 identified 276 homeless in Rapid City. There were 166 homeless staying in emergency shelters, 3

in transitional housing and 107 were unsheltered. Sixty-seven (67) of the homeless met the definition of chronically homeless, with 42 of them unsheltered. For safety reasons the local shelters cannot accept clients who are actively drinking or doing drugs and there are a limited number of beds available in detox to service the need. This leaves a continuing need for emergency shelter for homeless who are intoxicated or involved with some type of substance abuse. In addition, many homeless are parolees or released sexual offenders. It is extremely difficult for them to find housing and/or obtain jobs. Addressing their housing needs is a high priority for Rapid City.

TABLE 68

HOMELESSNESS & SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATION – 2008 through 2012				\$4,610,000	\$477,975
Homelessness - Individuals					
Emergency Shelter - Beds or Units	50 Beds	\$1,070,000	HIGH	12 beds	
Transitional Housing - Beds or Units	100 people	\$50,000		100 people	
Case Management - Supportive Service					
Life Skills Training - Supportive Service					
Homelessness - Families				24 beds/ 150 people	
Emergency Shelter - Beds or Units	50 beds	\$50,000	HIGH	12 beds	
Transitional Housing - Beds or Units	100 people	\$50,000		100 people	
Case Management - Supportive Service	50 people	\$90,000		50 people	
Life Skills Training - Supportive Service					
Permanent Housing				61 units	
Beds or Units			HIGH		
Chronic Substance Abusers	25 beds			25 beds	
Dually Diagnosed					
Victims of Domestic Violence	36 beds	\$3,200,000		36 beds	
Homelessness and Special Needs Population - Families with Children				123 units/200 people	
Emergency Shelter - Beds or Units	75 beds		HIGH	10 beds	
Transitional Housing - Beds or Units	24 units			12 units	
Case Management - Supportive Service	200 people	\$100,000		200 people	
Life Skills Training - Supportive Service					
Permanent Housing - Assisted Living	24 units			24 units	
Chronically Mentally Ill					
Homelessness - Support Services for Outreach & Referrals			HIGH		

Homelessness Goal:

Housing and services for the homeless and persons at-risk of homelessness in Rapid City are available through various service providers, many of whom participate in the Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition. The goal of the homeless strategy of this Consolidated Plan is to assist the service providers in Rapid City, when possible with their efforts to reduce homelessness by providing the services

that the homeless and persons at-risk of homelessness need so that over the long-term they may become self-sufficient. Additionally, the goal is to support provision of the services throughout the City making the services accessible and easily available to the homeless and at-risk of homelessness population City-wide.

Rapid City will continue to work cooperatively with the service providers in the region providing funding as available for the activities implemented by the service providers. Rapid City will provide technical support as requested. Rapid City will consider requests for funding to create or enlarge housing or services for the homeless based on demonstrated need. Rapid City will consider supporting applications by agencies seeking HUD, State, and private funding for housing, supportive services and activities to assist the homeless and at-risk population.

The Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition, which represents the area as a regional collaborative group participating in the South Dakota Homeless Consortium (SDHC) in formulation of the South Dakota Continuum of Care (COC), has closely analyzed the homeless system in Rapid City and the region. Because of the transitory nature of the homeless population, homelessness is a regional concern. Information from SDHC's Continuum of Care Plan for the Homeless provides information regarding the needs and gaps in the continuum serving the homeless in Rapid City. A high priority in Rapid City is to create a new shelter for Native American women and women with children who are victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence continues to affect more women every year, with a very high percentage of Native American women subjected to the violence. The Native American shelter, Ohitika, needs to expand their shelter to meet the demand and to provide culturally sensitive case management and counseling. Additionally, there is the need for emergency shelter space for fathers, mothers and children living as a unit, and a half-way house for parolees.

Support services given a high priority to assist homeless persons and persons at-risk of homelessness include case management, and life skills training for individuals. Sub-populations given high priorities among individuals are chronic substance abusers, victims of domestic violence, parolees and sexual offenders. Case management and life skills training are also high priorities. Sub-populations given high priorities among families are chronic substance abusers and dually-diagnosed person and victims of domestic violence. Outreach and referral are always important.

Preventing Low-Income Households from Becoming Homeless

In Rapid City, the Salvation Army provides assistance to persons already housed who may be behind on their rent, mortgage payment or utilities due to unemployment or extenuating circumstances. The Salvation Army also provides funds for a security deposit and first months rent for homeless persons entering permanent housing. To receive assistance persons must document employment adequate to continue paying the rent on a month basis. Assistance with rent and utilities is also provided by Pennington County Public Health & Human Services.

The Native American Heritage Association provides rent assistance to Native Americans in Rapid City.

The South Dakota Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) caseworkers provide case management and refer clients in danger of being homeless to shelters and the local welfare offices and Community Action Agencies for rental and mortgage assistance and other assistance with living expenses. DOL and DSS partner in a One-Stop Service Center. At the One-Stop Service Center clients can assess assistance programs by visiting just one location. Other service providers often have their representatives in the One-Stop Service Centers.

Over the next five years Rapid City will consider use of its' CDBG funds, as available, to assist with funding activities given a high priority by Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition as part of its efforts through the SDHC COC. The highest priority is for permanent supportive housing; that is housing with services to assist households with independent living.

Reaching out to Homeless

A variety of agencies work to conduct outreach to direct the homeless to housing and services in Rapid City and the region. Outreach is provided by emergency shelters, mental health centers, crisis hot lines, meals programs, programs servicing Native Americans, churches, community health nurses, community action agencies, law enforcement officers and the courts. The following provides a review of outreach to various sub-populations in Rapid City:

- A State-wide domestic violence hotline that makes referrals to shelters in the State. Law enforcement personnel in Rapid City act as local partnering agencies also making referrals.
- Persons diagnosed with HIV are referred to the Communicable Diseases Division of the State Department of Health, who in turn assigns a case manager to help them access resources. Homeless persons with HIV are referred to the local shelters and public housing authorities.
- Homeless Outreach Workers with the South Dakota Department of Mental Health target chronically homeless persons. Staff with the community health centers in Pennington County work with persons on the street providing community-based outreach, mental health, substance abuse, case management, and other support services. Assertive Community Treatment Teams seek out the homeless by searching the streets, drop-in centers, meals programs and conduct outreach to extremely high need homeless and chronically homeless individuals.
- The City/County Alcohol and Drug Program in Rapid City works with the chronic homeless, including those who come from detox after being picked-up by the local law enforcement.

- The Rapid City Vet's Center does outreach, linking homeless veterans to the appropriate services providers.
- The Black Hills Homeless Coalition has a Homeless Prevention Coordinator who is responsible for working with members to identify the needs of the homeless and resources to meet the needs; to provide coordination of services and planning; to educate and inform the community about the homeless; to increase the quantity and alter the character of resources available to the homeless; to empower the homeless; and to challenge the institutional mechanisms that contribute to homelessness.

Addressing Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Needs

Rapid City will consider requests for funding to develop housing for the homeless and will support applications by agencies seeking HUD, State, and private funding to provide emergency shelter and transitional housing. Rapid City will consider requests to provide funds for operations of emergency shelters.

Obstacles to meeting the Needs

- Shortage of funding for acquiring property, construction costs, and operations costs;
- Staff shortages to oversee a large project and write grant applications;
- Lack of affordable properties suitable for a shelter; and
- Lack of community support for location of shelters and transitional housing units in existing neighborhoods.

Helping Homeless Make the Transition to Permanent Housing

Case management and life skills training are high priorities in assisting the homeless with making the transition to permanent housing. Rapid City will support applicants for HUD, State, and private funds to provide opportunities to assist with helping the homeless make the transition to permanent housing.

Other Special Needs

Key housing problems facing special needs populations include affordability, security, transportation, and child care issues. Financial constraints are central to most housing issues faced by special needs populations. Financial problems often appear to be accentuated by the inability to work and expenses for medical care and medicines beyond the scope of insurance. Additional private rental units that are accessible to persons with disabilities, along with funding for devices that make it possible for persons with disabilities to live independently are needed. There is also a need for sprinkler systems in private housing to protect the health and safety of persons with disabilities. Priority will also be given to in-home services that allow the elderly to age in place.

There are a variety of services and facilities in Rapid City that provide services that assist populations with special needs. Services are provided directly by City or County agencies as well as non-profit agencies. The services provide a direct benefit to populations with special needs in Rapid City. Over the next five years, Rapid City will continue to support public service needs of populations with special needs in agreement with identified needs.

Rapid City will consider requests by the municipalities and agencies in the community for assistance with public services and facilities.

Obstacles to Meeting the Needs

- Shortage of funding for public services;
- Staffing shortages in agencies;
- Lack of funding sources for operations costs for non-profit agencies.

TABLE 69				
HOMELESS & SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES				
2008 through 2012				
Program	Objective	Outcomes Categories		
		Availability/ Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability
Homelessness- Individuals Shelter	Decent Housing	X	X	
Homelessness – Families Shelter	Decent Housing	X	X	
Homelessness – Supportive Services	Decent Housing	X	X	X
Special Needs Groups - Permanent Supportive Housing	Decent Housing	X	X	
Special Needs Populations – Permanent Assisted Living Housing	Decent Housing	X	X	
Homelessness – Supportive Services for Outreach and Referrals	Decent Housing / Suitable Living Environment	X	X	X

Homeless Inventory (91.210 (c))

Housing for the homeless is available in Rapid City as follows:

TABLE 70 EMERGENCY SHELTER HOUSING					
Type of Housing	Agency	Type of Beds	# Beds - 2002	# Beds - 2007	# Increase 2002-2007
Homeless	Cornerstone Rescue Mission (2003-2007)	Women	22	22	0
		Men	62	87	25
		Families	16	20	4
		Vouchers	0	20	20
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			100	149	49
Homeless Women & Children	Cornerstone Women's & Children's Home - (2004)	Women	0	16	16
		Families	0	22	22
		TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE	0	38	38
Homeless Veterans	Cornerstone Veterans Wing (2006-2007)	Men	0	60	40
		TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE	0	60	40
Victims of Domestic Violence	WAVI Shelter (2004)	Women/Children	26	37	11
		TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE	26	37	11
Victims of Domestic Violence	Ohitika Najin Win Oti (Standing Strong Woman Shelter)	Women/Children	10 adult beds + room for children	0	0
		TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE	10	0	0
TOTAL EMERGENCY SHELTER BEDS AVAILABLE			136	285	138

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS

Transitional housing provides an important link in the success of homeless people moving from emergency shelter to permanent rental housing or home ownership. Behavior Management Systems provides transitional units for clients with severely persistent mental illness, and women with children and pregnant youth recovering from alcohol and drug addictions. The Friendship House is run by the City/County Drug and Alcohol Division, and provides transitional housing for persons recovering from alcohol and drug addictions.

**TABLE 71
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING**

Type of Shelter	Agency	Type of Beds	# Beds - 2002	# Beds - 2007	# Increase
Severely, persistently mentally ill	Behavior Management Systems - Mainstream	Individuals	24	24	0
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			24	24	0
Women/Children	Behavior Management Systems - Full Circle	Women w/children who are recovering from alcohol &/or drug addiction	15	15	0
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			15	15	0
Men	VA Rapid City	Homeless Veterans	8	8 (Now part of Cornerstone)	0
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			8	8	0
Youth	Stepping Stones - Lutheran Social Services	Youth aging out of foster care system or juvenile detention	15	15	0
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			15	15	0
Families w/children	Cornerstone Transitional Apartments -24 units (2006-2007)	Families	0	56	56
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			0	56	56
TOTAL TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BEDS AVAILABLE			62	118	56

Permanent Supportive Housing

**TABLE 72
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

Type of Shelter	Agency	Type of Beds	# Beds - 2002	# Beds - 2007	# Increase
Individuals	Behavior Management Systems	Seriously and persistently mentally ill	12	12	0
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			12	12	0
Individuals	Behavior Management Systems (2005 - 2006)	Homeless - Dually Diagnosed	0	25	25
TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE			0	25	25
TOTAL PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING BEDS AVAILABLE			12	37	25

Support Services

A variety of agencies assist with the homeless, identifying homeless people and helping to connect them with services that include social workers with the Department of Social Services, employment specialists with the Rapid City One-Stop Career Center, and case workers at mental health centers throughout the State. Alcohol and drug abuse treatment, including detoxification, inpatient and outpatient services, and follow-up is offered at accredited treatment centers throughout the State.

The Cornerstone Rescue Mission in Rapid City provides life skills training and vocational development through job and employment training. The Cornerstone Rescue Mission also provides meals, clothing, case management, and transportation to other service providers.

Working Against Violence, Inc. and Ohitika Najin Win Oti both offer advocacy and education services to foster independence from domestic violence situations.

The Rapid City School District provides an education program for homeless youth. The main service is tutoring homeless students. The school district liaison also ensures that students are enrolled without delays, assists with gathering required immunizations and school records, and arranging transportation. Rapid City also provides a summer reading program for homeless youth.

Homeless Strategic Plan (91.215 (c))

Strategy

The Mayor of Rapid City appointed an Affordable Task Force in November 2004 to research affordable housing issues in the community, determine priority levels for the issues and develop a five year plan to address the issues, to include ending chronic homelessness. The Task Force held a series of four meetings to gather input from stakeholders and the community. They then determined that some assessments needed to be accomplished to establish base line numbers for future comparisons of results and to find out directly from homeless and low people what their needs and barriers are. Three assessments were accomplished. A homeless housing needs survey that included supportive service needs was accomplished in September 2005. Rapid City participated in the January 2006 HUD Point in time Homeless Count and then in August 2006 participated in a homeless point in time count statewide to determine the seasonal fluctuations in homeless numbers, if any.

Finally, the City participated in a Black Hills Area Community Needs Assessment in partnership with United Way, the Black Hills Homeless Coalition, and other non-profit organizations. The Needs Assessment was contracted out to the Institute for Educational Leadership and Evaluation of the Chiesman Center for Democracy. The City and the United Way, as well as many non-profit agencies, utilize five-year long range plans to determine program needs, priorities and goals, so it was beneficial to combine resources for the assessment. It also provided us all with one standardized report for base line numbers from which all agencies could utilize in showing program results. The Black Hills Homeless Coalition, with the support of the City, has taken the leadership role for developing a plan for addressing homeless issues, to include supportive services, and the Rapid City Community Development Corporation has taken the leadership role for developing a plan to address affordable housing issues. The final plan will be presented to Council in 2008, along with funding recommendations for the programs.

Outreach

In September 2005, the Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition conducted a housing needs assessment to identify and quantify the housing and service needs of the low income community, and identify any gaps in services. Local agencies were asked to provide the survey to their clients during the month of September, 2005. The information gathered assisted the City of Rapid City in setting priorities for housing. Additionally information collected presented a true picture of what the homeless, near homeless, and the extremely low income are requesting for services.

Annually the Homeless Coalition conducts a 'point in time' count of the homeless in the Rapid City community. Local agencies participated in *Homeless Connect Week* in December, 2006 by holding a Homeless Connect Day during which homeless people were able to access information and services from many agencies at one time, in one spot. Booths were set up by 23 agencies to offer information on

services available to the homeless, and participants were assisted with intake applications requesting needed services. Due to the success of this day, the Homeless Connect Day will be repeated in future years, and additional service providers will be invited to participate.

Chronic Homelessness

Chronic homelessness is a high priority issue for Rapid City. Our winter weather is life threatening for those who live on the streets, in their cars, or in other locations not meant for habitation. Chronic homelessness is also a financial drain on the community. The homeless point-in-time count conducted in Rapid City in August 2007 identified 276 homeless. Only twenty-three (23%) percent of the homeless population were chronically homeless, however they account for approximately 80% of the funding spent on the homeless, with funds going to the high costs of incarceration, detoxification, emergency medical response and treatment, emergency shelter, and supportive services.

There are a number of reasons why people suffer chronic homelessness, with the main reasons being mental illness, substance abuse issues, loss of job, criminal records and a lack of, or too little income. In order to end homelessness, we must address the underlying issues by providing education, medications and counseling, job training, transitional housing, treatment programs, and jobs. The Affordable Housing Task Force and the Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition are working together to formulate a plan to end chronic homelessness by 2012. Although the plan has not been completed and presented to the City Council for approval, several priority items identified in the plan have already been completed or are in process. The plan will be finished in 2008. A multi-level plan will be presented that includes additional domestic violence shelter beds, a plan for transition-in-place with supportive services housing, utilization of a land trust for permanent affordability for homeownership, and rental assistance vouchers from non-federal funds for hard to place clients. It will also address asset building, education, job training and counseling programs.

Rapid City participates in the State Homeless Consortium and the Mayor is a member of the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness. The Community Development Specialist for the City of Rapid City also participates in meetings for the Consortium, the Interagency Council on Homelessness, the Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition and the Affordable Housing Task Force. The Interagency Council on Homelessness is working on a statewide plan to improve communication between state agencies and between state agencies and the non-profit service providers in the state, as well as ways to streamline and improve intakes and program delivery for the clients. In addition, they will conduct a state-wide needs assessment to create a baseline of information on which to base results of programs going forward.

Homeless Prevention

No information is available to quantify the population of persons threatened with homelessness. The following is a list of the characteristics of those at-risk:

People without adequate and stable income will be continually at risk of a housing crisis. There are some adults in Rapid City who work for low or minimum wages, without job skills that support long-term employment or without adequate formal education. People with no or minimum job skills are at risk of repeated housing crises. The 2000 Census reported that in Rapid City, about 13 percent of the population age 25 years and over have not finished school.

Cost burden, particularly among households whose income is less than 80 percent of MFI, is a concern. When households pay higher proportions of their incomes for housing, they are forced to sacrifice other basic necessities such as food and clothing. As was previously noted, using data from the 2000 Census, it is estimated that 91.5 percent of the cost burdened households in Rapid City have annual incomes at or below 80 percent of MFI.

Using the 2000 Census it is estimated that

- 67.3 percent of the extremely low-income households are cost burdened;
- 43.7 percent of the total very low-income households are cost burdened; and
- 22.6 percent of the total low-income households are cost burdened.

Those who are vulnerable to residing in shelter or on the street, and are at risk of becoming homeless include:

- Persons leaving institutions;
- Households with incomes less than 30 percent of the median family income;
- Households paying in excess of 50 percent of their income for housing;
- Victims of domestic violence;
- Special needs populations (persons with HIV/AIDS, disabilities, drug and alcohol addiction);
- People who are doubling up, which is often identified by overcrowding;
- Large families who are low income; and
- Residents of rooming houses.

Information regarding services available to persons threatened with homelessness in Rapid City is listed in Part II of this CP.

State-wide the South Dakota Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) caseworkers provide case management and refer clients in danger of being homeless to shelters and the local welfare offices, while the Community Action Agencies may be able to provide rental, mortgage assistance, and other assistance with living expenses. The Department of Labor and the Department of Social Services partner in a One-Stop Career Center which can assess assistance needed by clients seeking employment. Other service providers often have their representatives in the One-Stop Career Centers.

There are several organizations that provide services to prevent homelessness. The Salvation Army provides assistance to persons already housed who may be behind on their rent or mortgage payment or utilities due to unemployment or extenuating circumstances. The Salvation Army also provides funds for a security deposit and first months rent for homeless persons entering permanent housing.

To receive assistance persons must document employment adequate to continue paying the rent on a monthly basis. Assistance with rent and utilities is also provided by Pennington County Health and Human Services. A local faith-based organization, Church Response, has limited funding available to assist with utility shut off notices for those who qualify.

In addition, agencies will target asset building programs designed to provide an incentive to low-income people to evaluate their income and budgets, set goals and save money towards particular goals that will help them build personal wealth, such as homeownership, higher education or start-up costs or expansion costs for a small business. This will be accomplished through Individual Deposit Accounts (IDA). Also, tax preparation assistance programs offered by non-profit agencies will encourage all qualifying low-income people to file returns so they may receive Earned Income Tax Credits or Child Tax Credits they are eligible for. Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Black Hills offers IDA's, budget counseling, financial literacy education, and homebuyer education programs. Western SD Community Action offers IDA programs. AARP provides tax preparation services to low-income and elderly residents. These programs will allow low-income people to access additional funds that they are entitled to, but often don't pursue. Earned Income Tax Credits received by Rapid City low-income tax filers in 2002 averaged \$1,652 in additional "income" for low-income families but only accounted for 25.4% of the low-income filers. The 2000 Census shows that there were 11,586 people with incomes below \$34,999. Households with adjusted gross incomes less than \$30,000 are eligible to apply for the EITCs. Potentially, over 9,000 people are eligible but not receiving the credits. The EITC funds can provide a household with funding to begin their savings plan.

Institutional Structure

In 2002, the South Dakota Homeless Consortium (SDHC) completed the Continuum of Care (COC). Due to the broad geographic area covered by the South Dakota Homeless Consortium, localities and regions are encouraged to develop Regional Collaborative Groups to carry out local planning and implementation, as well as meet regularly to ensure broad representation in preparation of the COC. Then in September 2003, Governor Rounds signed Executive Order 03-7 to establish the South Dakota Interagency Council on Homelessness to evaluate and address homelessness issues in South Dakota. Governor Rounds' action supports President Bush's federal Interagency Council initiatives, which were created after it was determined that twenty percent of homeless individuals, those now categorized as chronically homeless, are using eighty percent of the federal funding resources targeted for homeless initiatives. The Council is challenged with a variety of duties including identifying and defining homeless issues, determining effective strategies for the prevention of homelessness in South Dakota, providing public education to, and working with various advocacy, business, and faith-based groups and consumers regarding policy and program development.

The Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition serves as a linking organization to the local communities and service providers ensuring that the region's goals and priorities are considered in the COC. The Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition

meets on a monthly basis to discuss the needs of the community and ways to address the needs. The organizations have formed partnerships and referral systems in an effort to better coordinate the delivery of services and treatment to their mutual clients.

In addition, the Mayor's Affordable Housing Task Force has brought together stakeholders in all areas of the housing industry to identify housing issues, assign priorities, develop a plan to address the issues, and identify funding sources. The Task Force is made up of representatives from banking, real estate sales, housing development, property management, government, credit counseling, housing assistance, homebuyers education, financial literacy, homeless shelters, transitional housing, supportive services agencies and the community.

Non-profit housing agencies collaborate on projects in order to leverage funds for the maximum benefit of the low income homebuyers. The Rapid City Community Development Corporation (RCCDC) and Habitat for Humanity are discussing a mutually beneficial partnership to build homes. The RCCDC has money for purchasing properties for new construction and will hire Habitat for Humanity to build a home on the properties. Habitat will use their volunteer force for the construction, as they do for their own homes, but will be paid a construction fee for the work. The funds they earn on the home will allow them to buy materials for the construction of two homes for their own clients, thereby leveraging funds for one home to ultimately build three. Habitat homes will be sold to qualifying, previously homeless families transitioning out of Cornerstone Rescue Mission's Transitional Apartments.

Discharge Coordination Policy

There are no formal discharge coordination policies for the community. All of the health care facilities, foster care, youth facilities and corrections centers are under the jurisdiction of the state or county. Cornerstone Rescue Mission works closely with the Regional Hospital, State Department of Corrections, Health and Human Services in Yankton, the Detox Center in Rapid City and Court Services to coordinate services for people exiting state and local facilities. Additional efforts are being made to try to establish discharge policies with the Sheriff's office for people exiting the County jail.

Pennington County Health and Human Services has a pilot program called Rebound that works with people prior to their release from jail, Friendship House, the City/County Alcohol and Drug Program and Rapid City Regional Hospital. Rebound makes contact with clients at the jail prior to their release to begin developing a discharge plan, and then maintains contact with them providing case management after their release to ensure that the plan is implemented and followed. PCHHS receives referrals to the program from the medical and mental health staff at the jail, for people who are likely to succeed if they receive intensive case management and assistance with finding supportive permanent housing. The key to its success is finding additional supportive housing. It is also the most difficult aspect of the program, as few landlords are willing to rent to people with criminal records.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

The City of Rapid City does not receive Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds. ESG funds are disbursed through the state.

Cornerstone Rescue Mission and WAVI are recipients of ESG funding.