

A word cloud graphic on a purple background. The largest word is "Five hundred one". Other prominent words include "Collin County", "shelter", "housing", "affordable", "home", "house", "together", "awareness", "future", "services", "needs", "debate", "advocate", "Basic", "every", "homes", "all", "Homelessness", "homelessness", "Homes", "need", "End", "assist", "connect", "help", "Homeless", "bed", "for", "helps".

**COLLIN COUNTY HOMELESS CENSUS**

**JANUARY 21, 2016**

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**COLLIN COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION  
MEMBERS**

Acts/Two Seventh Day Adventist Church	Legal Aid of North Texas
Allen Community Outreach	Life Source
Allen ISD	The Lightening Alliance CDC
American GI Forum	McKinney ISD
Assistance Center of Collin County	Metrocares
BedStart	Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance
Blake's House	911 Traffick
Child and Family Guidance	North Texas Job Corp
Child Care Group	Plano Housing Authority
Christ United Methodist Church	Plano ISD
Church of Latter Day Saints	Plano Presbyterian Hospital
City House	Preston Meadow Church
City of Allen	Preston Trail Community Church
City of Frisco	Project Excess
City of McKinney	Reach Inc.
City of Plano	Samaritan Inn
City of Wylie	St Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church
Collin College	St. Marks Catholic Church
Collin County Adult Clinic	St. Vincent De Paul Society
Community Advocates	Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital
Community Church	Texas Impact
Community Dental	Texas Military Forces National Guard
Community for Permanent Supportive Housing	Texas Muslim Women's Foundation
Family Promise of Collin Co	The Bridge Connection
First United Methodist Church	The Lightening Alliance CDC
Frisco ISD	The Point
Frisco Family Service	The Roadside Church
Hope's Door	United Way of Metropolitan Dallas
Jewish Community Relations Council	Urban League
Junior League	Veterans Center of North Texas
Kingdomatwork	Wylie ISD
Legacy Senior Communities	Wylie United Methodist Church
	Wylie United Methodist Church

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Annual Homeless Census event sponsored by the Collin County Homeless Coalition (CCHC) was conducted Thursday, January 21, 2016 throughout Collin County, Texas. This one-night event resulted in a snapshot of the lives of **501 persons** experiencing homelessness in Collin County, Texas. The 2016 Homeless Census showed an increase of 134 or 36% in the number of persons identified as experiencing homelessness in Collin County during the one-night Homeless Census in comparison to the 2015 Homeless Census.

### What is the Homeless Census?

Annually between \$350,000 and \$500,000 in grant funds is awarded to Collin County homeless service providers by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address the needs of persons experiencing homelessness. The implementation of the Annual Homeless Census is a requirement of the grant awards.

### What is the definition of a person experiencing homelessness?

For the purposes of this survey, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development definition of a person experiencing homelessness was used. The abbreviated definition is as follows:

***“This years’ Homeless Census showed an increase of 134 persons or 36% in the number of persons identified as experiencing homelessness in Collin County during the one-night Homeless Census in comparison to last years’ Homeless Census.”***

*Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including (1) Unaccompanied youth; (2) Families with children and youth; (3) Individuals and families who are fleeing from domestic violence.*

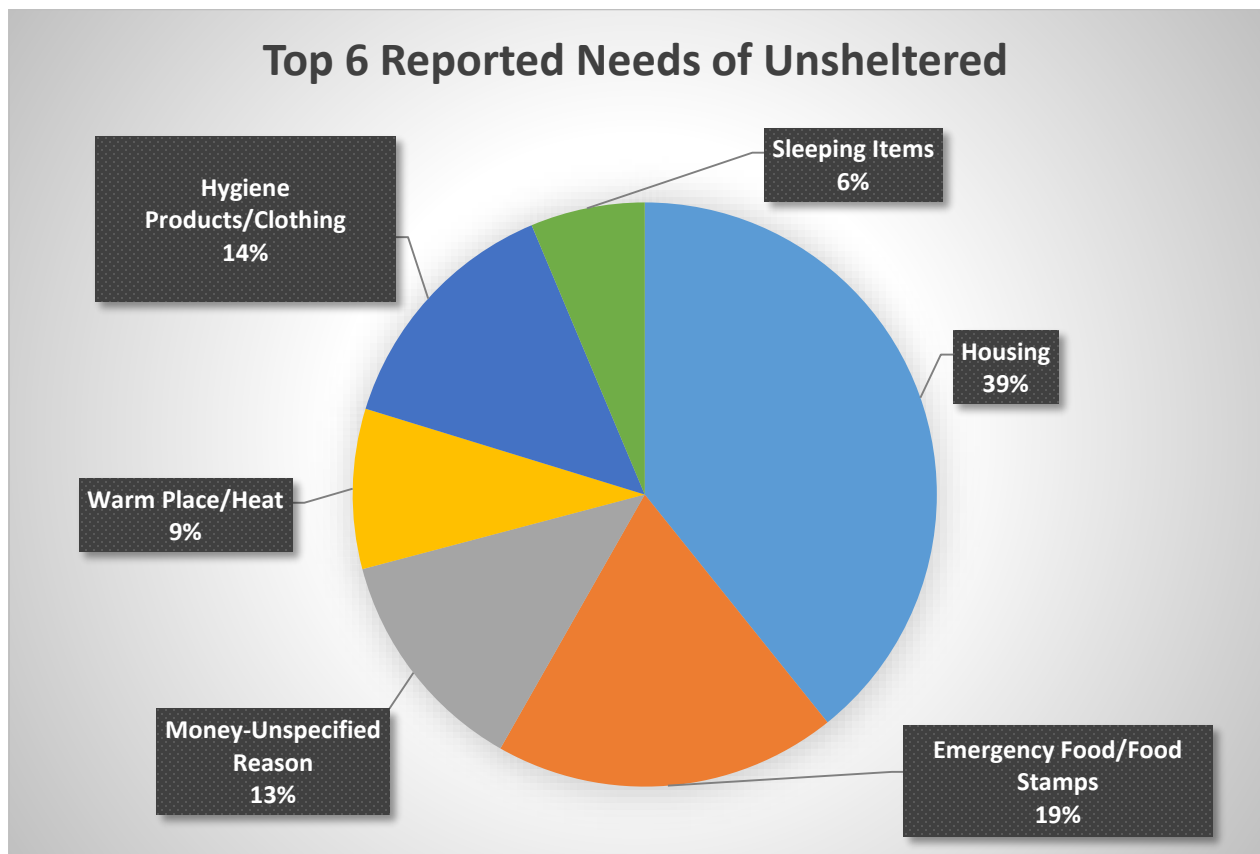
### What were the Results of the Homeless Census?

The number of persons in Collin County represented by the Annual Homeless Census event on Thursday, January 21, 2016 was 501 persons; 103 unsheltered persons and 398 temporarily sheltered persons. The Annual Homeless Census Report details the lives of persons experiencing homelessness on January 21, 2016. A few of the results include:

- 501 persons were identified as experiencing homelessness.
- 165 children were among the people experiencing homelessness.
- In comparison to last year,
  - There was an increase of 36% or 134 persons identified as experiencing homelessness.
  - There was an increase from 31% children to 33% children.
- The number of homeless females (53%) was more than males (46%), and transgender was 1%.
- 37% of the number unsheltered were employed.

## TOP 6 REPORTED NEEDS OF UNSHELTERED PERSONS

The chart below shows the top six (6) reported needs of unsheltered persons that completed the survey. Housing was the top need at 39%, the other five needs included: emergency food/food stamps (19%); hygiene products/clothing (14%); money-unspecified reason (13%); warm place heat (9%); and sleeping items (6%).



The Annual Homeless Census Report 2016 will be used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the local cities, social service providers, faith communities, school districts, Collin College, and businesses, to enhance the lives of those experiencing homelessness in Collin County by providing solutions to the barriers they face on a daily basis.

### What can you do?

Join the Collin County Homeless Coalition efforts to end homelessness in Collin County, Texas. Learn of ways to partner with organizations to make a difference in lives of persons experiencing homelessness.

**The Collin County Homeless Coalition** [www.facebook/collin/homeless](http://www.facebook/collin/homeless)

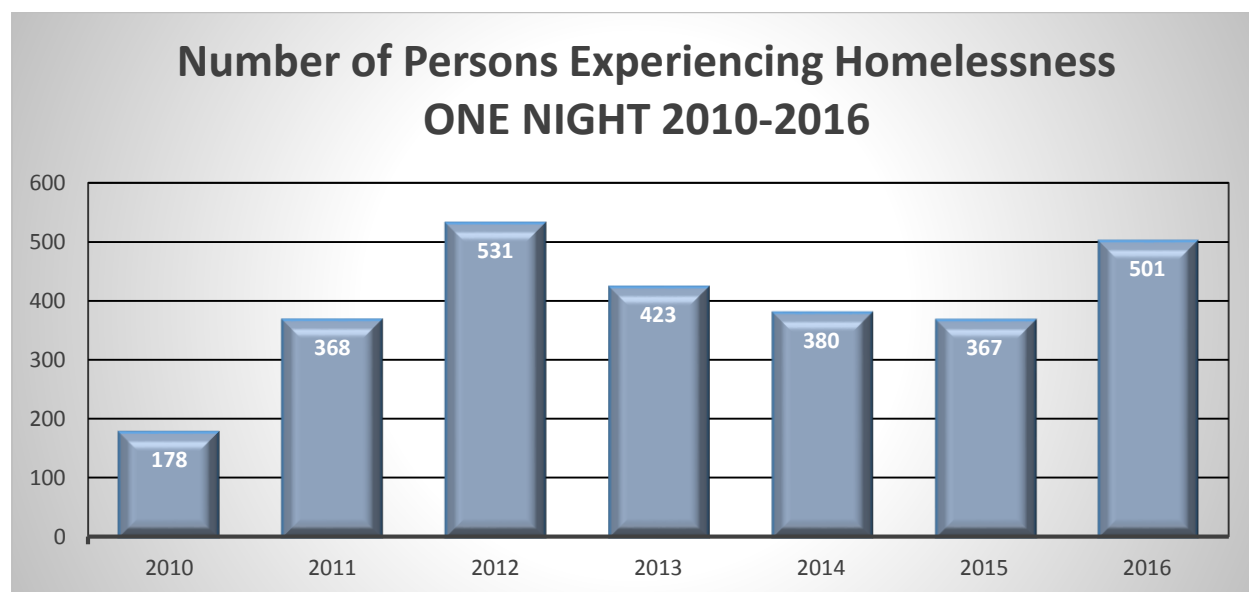
Meets the first Thursday of every month, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

City of Plano, 1520 K Avenue, Training Room A, Plano, Texas 75074.

## HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

This one-night event resulted in a snapshot of the lives of 501 persons experiencing homelessness in Collin County, Texas. This is an increase of 134 persons or 36% persons from the 2015 Homeless Census. The table below represents the number of persons experiencing homelessness who completed a survey or were residing in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs on one-night during January during the past 7 years.

The number of persons represented in the Annual Census of persons experiencing homelessness fluctuates due to weather conditions, citizen responsiveness, the number of cities participating, and time of the event. Mild weather results in the most surveys being completed while severe (cold – below 32 degrees, snowy, rainy, sleeting) weather limits finding persons experiencing homelessness and thus fewer surveys are completed. Some people do not choose to participate in the survey while experiencing homelessness and their information is represented by no response or refused to answer in the report. During the past seven years, the timing of the survey event has ranged from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM resulting in the most surveys being completed the later in the evening the event is held.



The total number of persons in Collin County represented by the Annual Homeless Census on Thursday, January 21, 2016 was 501 persons. It is difficult to compare many of the items from year to year due to the changing survey and this year to the introduction of spreadsheets for emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, but we do have the total number of persons identified as experiencing homelessness on each night of the Homeless Census since 2010.

## HOMELESS CENSUS RESULTS

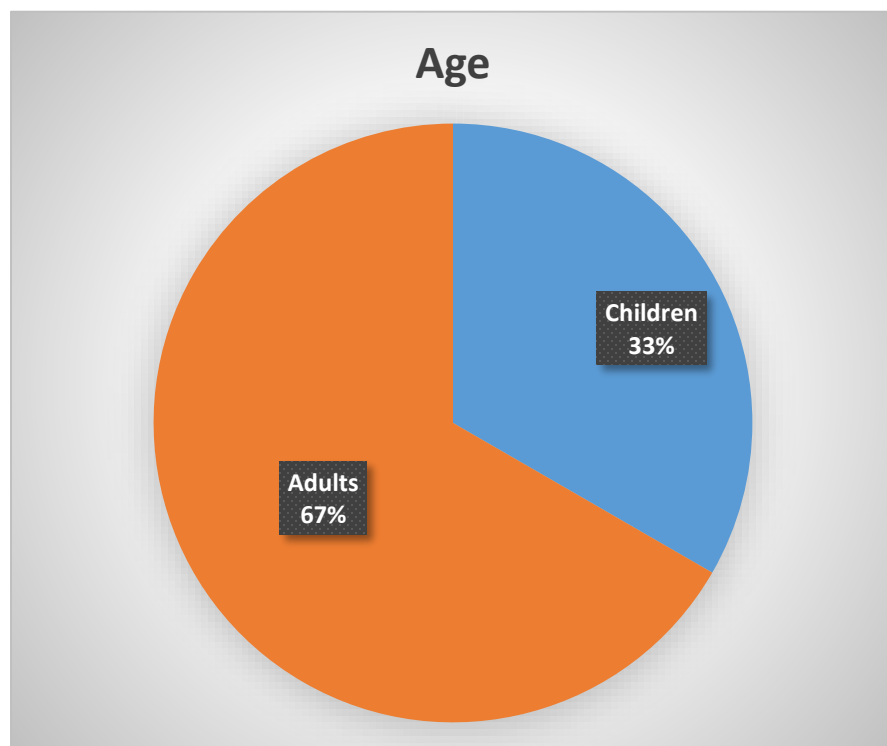
The results will be presented by charts and graphs and will depict one of the following groups:

- (1) Unsheltered Persons
- (2) Sheltered Persons (residing in emergency shelters or transitional living housing)
- (3) Combined Unsheltered and Sheltered Persons

Most of the information beyond the demographic data will be from unsheltered persons' surveys due to the method of gathering the data. Only basic demographic information was submitted by the emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.

### AGE OF PERSONS

The age of persons represented by the surveys and secondary data are categorized by adults and children in the following table. The definition of "children," a person from birth to 17 years of age, and the definition of "adult", a person 18 years of age and older were used as definitions of the categories. Children account for 33% of the persons and adults make up 67%



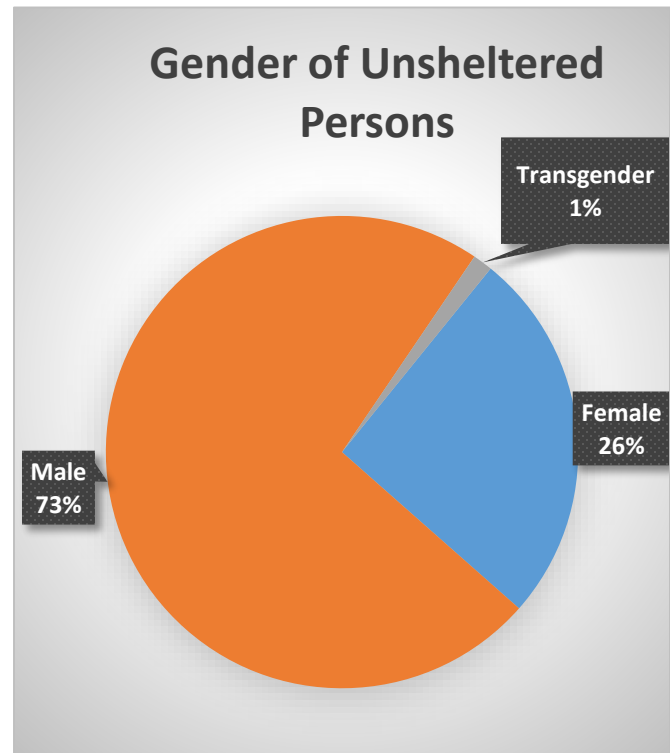
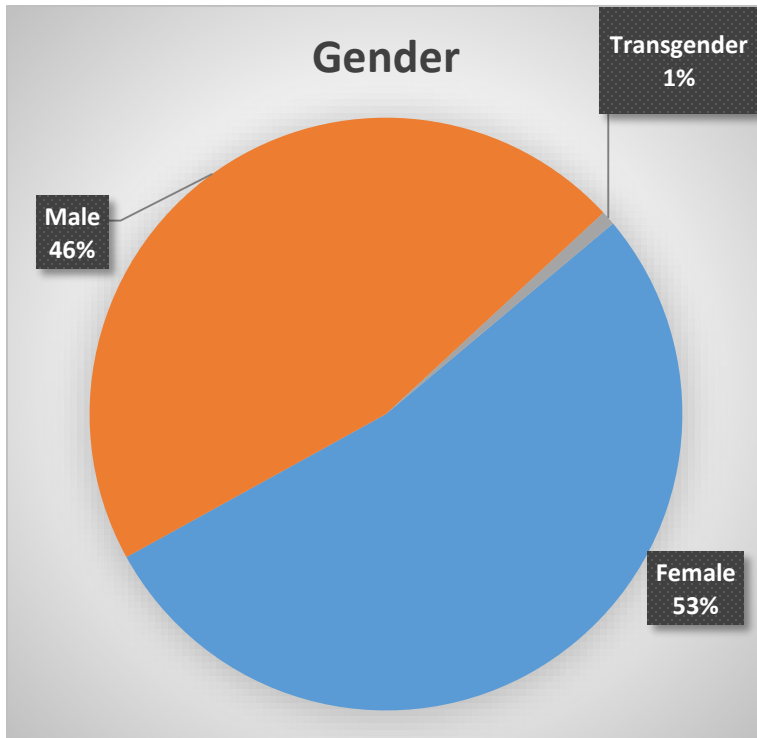
***As you can see, children account for 33% of the total number of persons... This is a 2% increase in comparison to last years' results.***

of the persons identified as experiencing homelessness on January 21, 2016. This is a 2% increase in the number of children in comparison to 2015 results, and a decrease of 2% in the number of adults. The category of children was

not segmented into age ranges this year, so there is no data to support a chart depicting the age ranges of the children.

## GENDER OF PERSONS

The pie chart on the left shows the gender of the persons represented in the combined data. Females comprise 53% of the persons, males comprise 46% of the persons, and 1% of the persons responded as transgender. This is the first year that transgender was given as a choice.



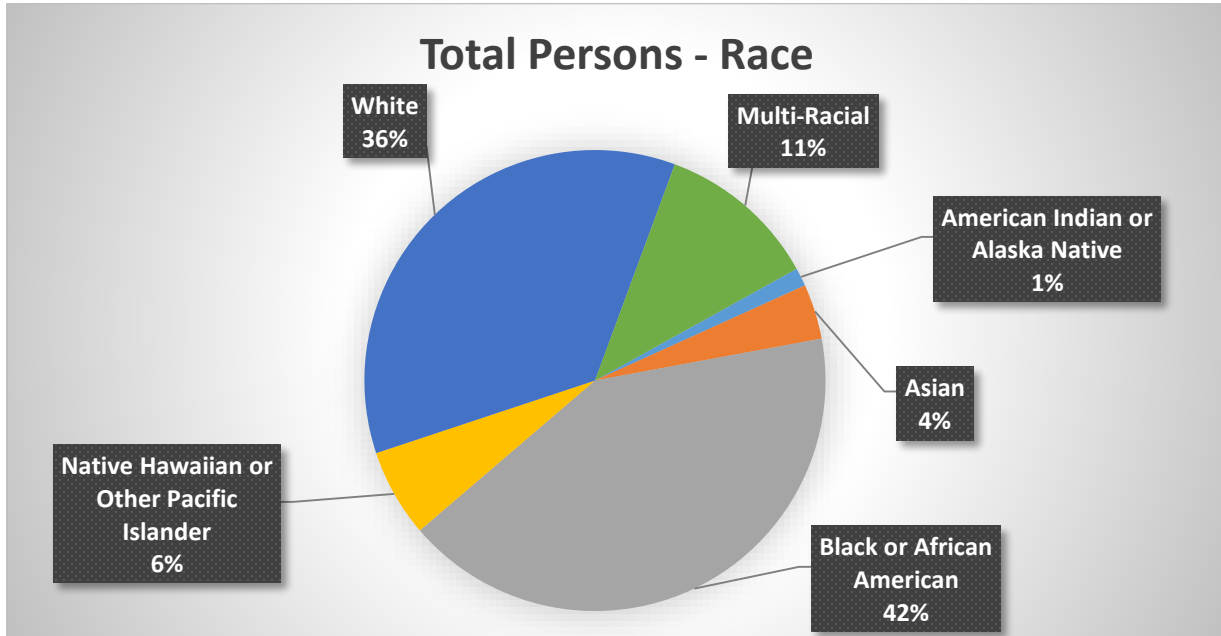
Comparing 2015 and 2016 combined data, we find in the 2015 Census 53% of persons selected female, 45% of persons selected male, and 2% selected other. "Transgender" was not a choice last year, and "other" was not a choice this year. The percentage of females remained the same and the number of males increased by 1% in comparison to 2015 results.

The pie chart on the right depicts the gender of the unsheltered persons. Males comprise the largest percentage of persons in the unsheltered survey at 73%; females represent 26%; and Transgender persons comprise 1%. The unsheltered group was not analyzed separately last year, so no comparisons can be made.

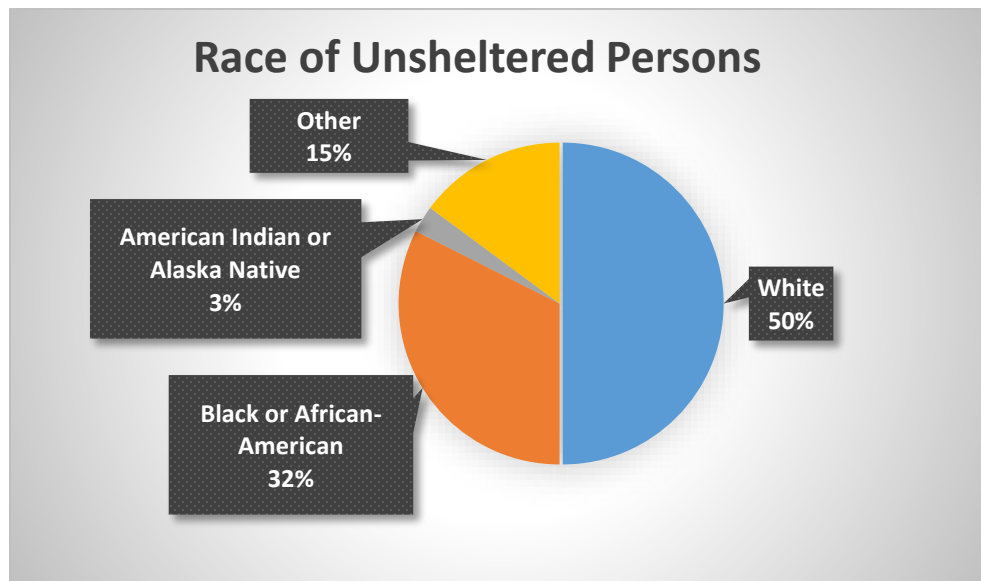


## RACE OF PERSONS

The top pie chart shows the combined data of persons by racial category. The bottom pie chart depicts the unsheltered group by racial category.



In comparison to 2015 results using the combined data, American Indian or Alaska Native remained the same at 1%; Asian remained the same at 4%; Black or African-American decreased by 3%; Multi-racial increased by 8%; and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander rose by 5%; White decreased by 6%.

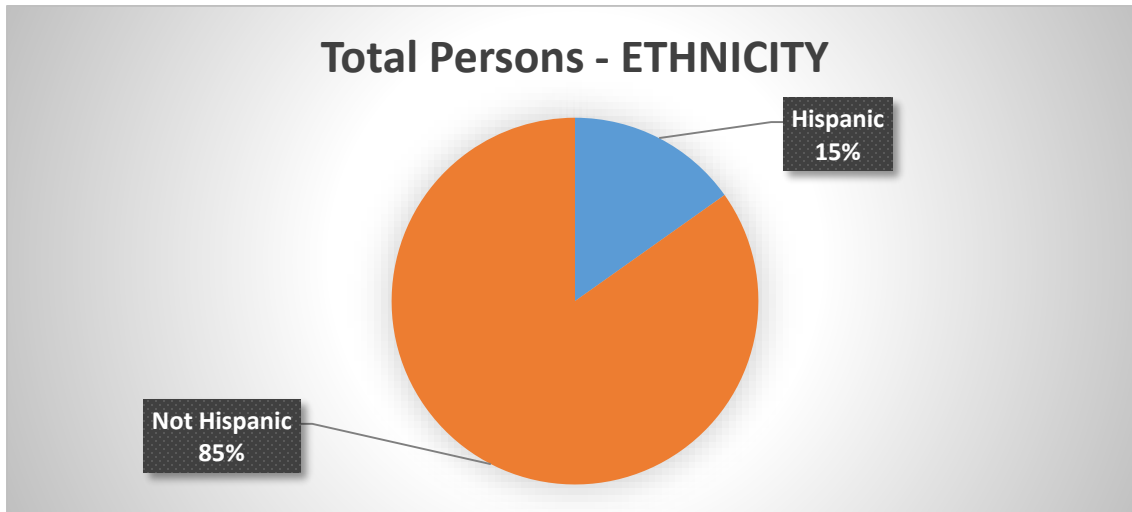


The unsheltered group in comparison to the combined group shows the highest percentage category as White at 50%, second Black or African-American at 32%, American Indian or Alaska Native at 3%, and other at 15% whereas, in the combined group; Black or African-American was the highest percentage category, at 42%, White was second at 36%, Multi-Racial was third at

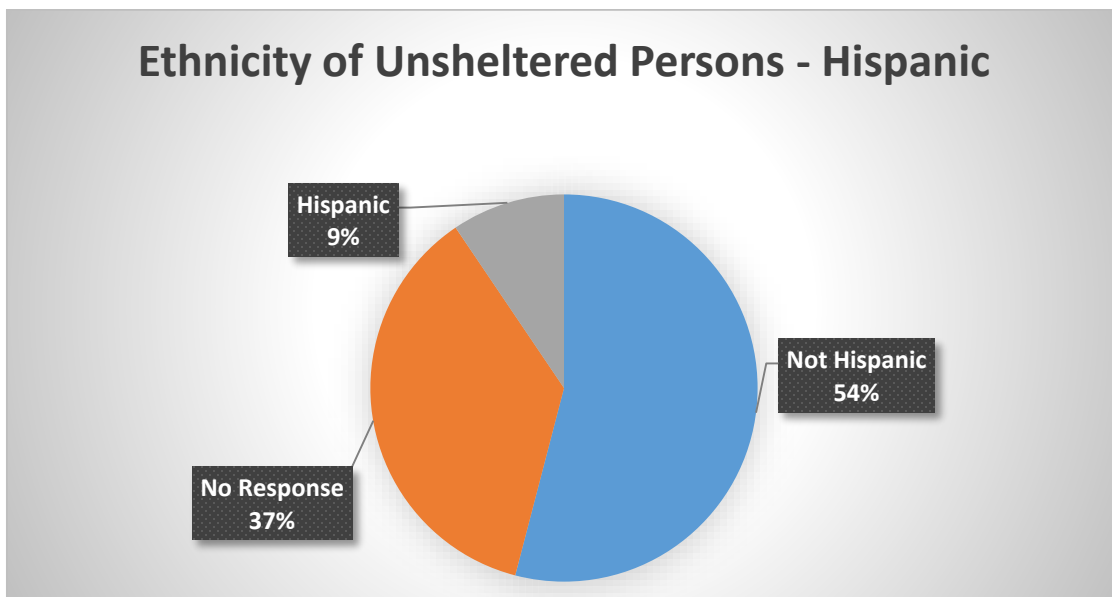
11%, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander was fourth at 6%, Asian was fifth at 4%, and American Indian or Alaska Native was sixth at 1%.

### ETHNICITY OF PERSONS

The top pie chart shows the percentage of combined persons identifying as the ethnicity Hispanic and persons not identifying as the ethnicity Hispanic.



In comparing 2015 combined results with 2016 combined results, we find the number of persons identifying as Hispanic increased from 12% to 15%; the number of persons identifying as Non-Hispanic increased from 55% to 85%. Last year 33% of persons did not respond to this question as opposed to this year when 100% of persons responded.

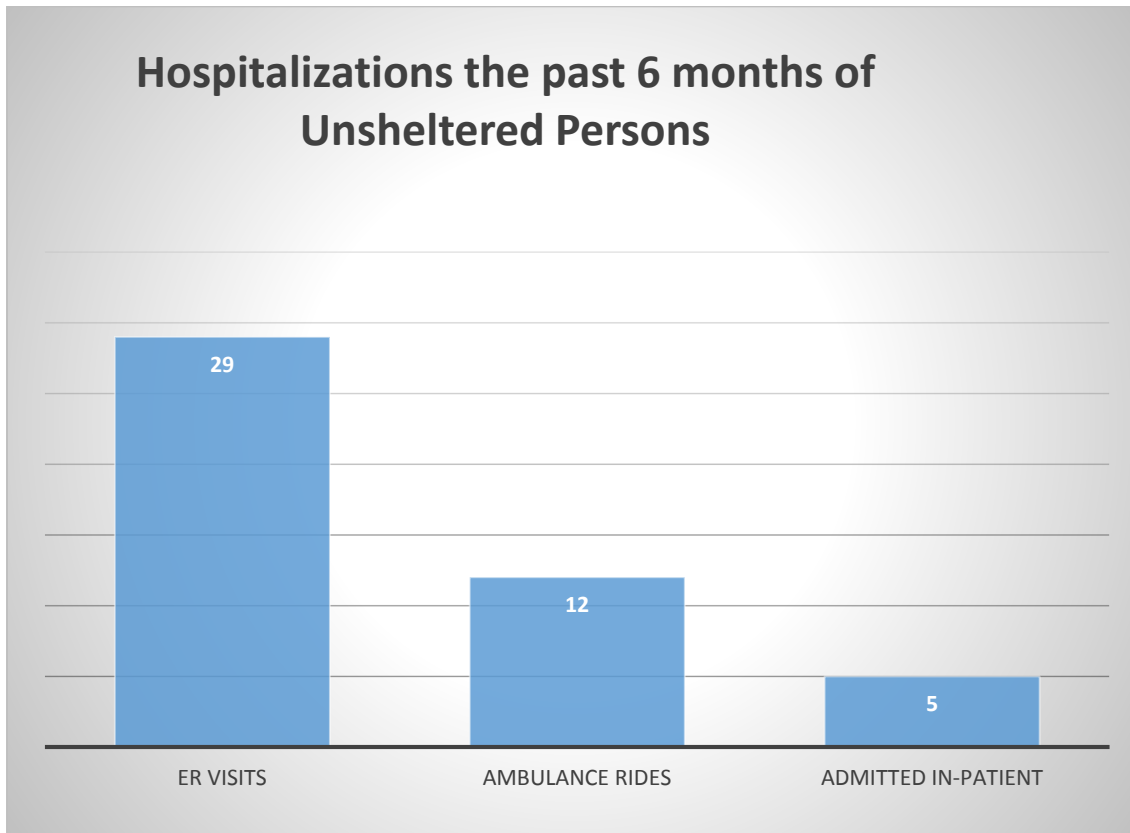


Only 9% of unsheltered persons identified as Hispanic whereas 15% of the combined group identified as Hispanic.

The next section of information will depict only the unsheltered group responses to the survey. The sheltered group did not take the survey.

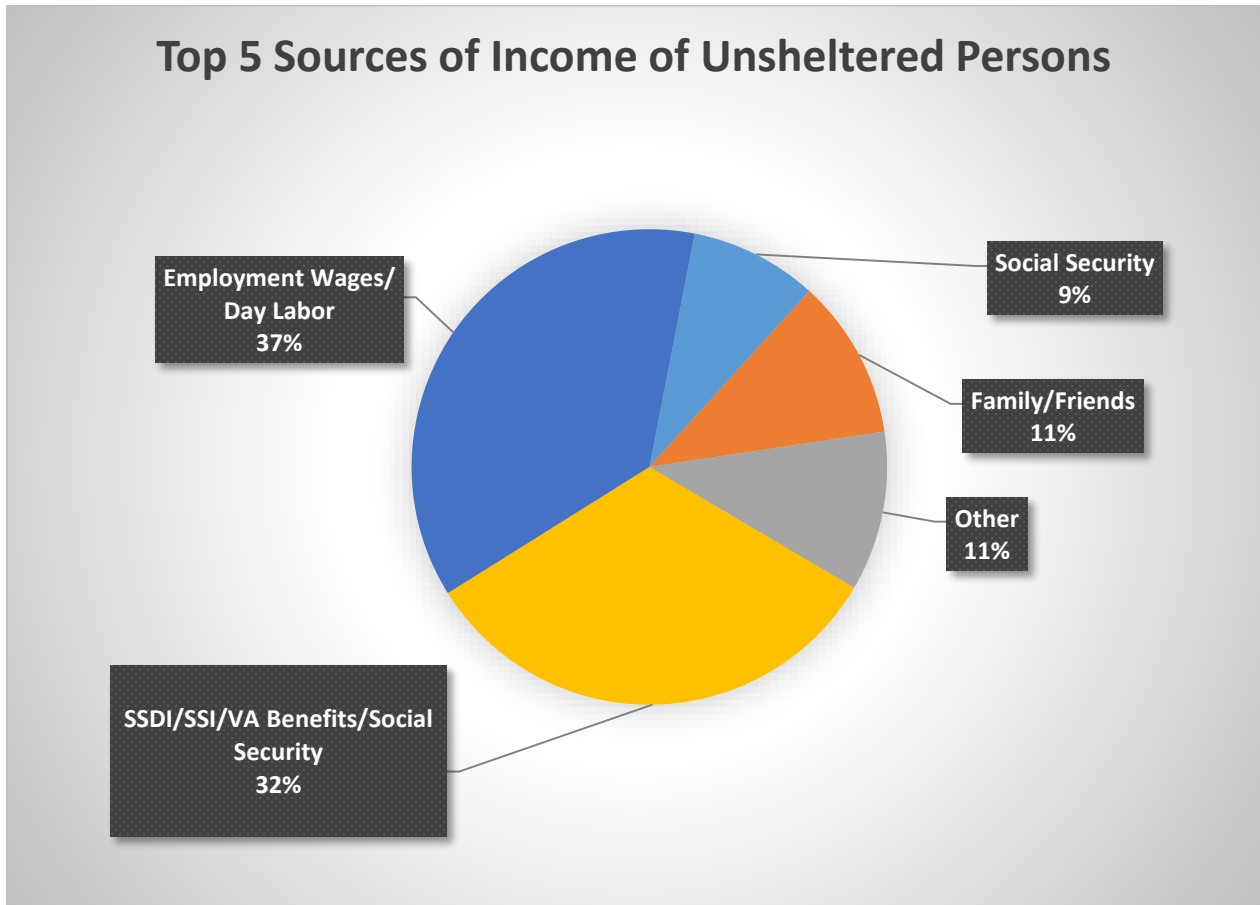
### HEALTH CARE

The graph below shows three methods of addressing health care needs in the unsheltered group. The column on the far left shows the number of Emergency Room visits in the past six months for the unsheltered group was 29. The middle column shows the number of ambulance rides taken in the past six months was 12. The number of times an unsheltered person was admitted to a hospital was 5.



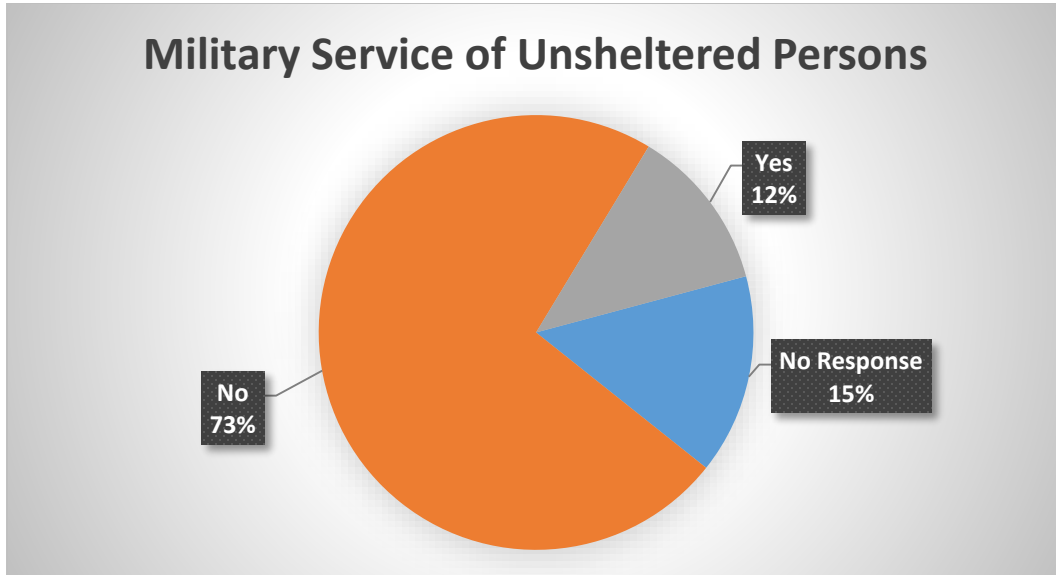
## SOURCES OF INCOME

The top 5 sources of Income of the unsheltered persons group is depicted below. As you can see the number one (1) source of income is employment. Number two (2) is a combination of social security disability and Veterans Benefits. Number three (3) is a tie with Family/Friends and other at 11%, and number four is Social Security at 9%.



## MILITARY SERVICE

The number of unsheltered persons reporting serving in the military was 12% whereas, 73% responded no, and 15% did not respond.



## CRISIS LEADING TO HOMELESSNESS

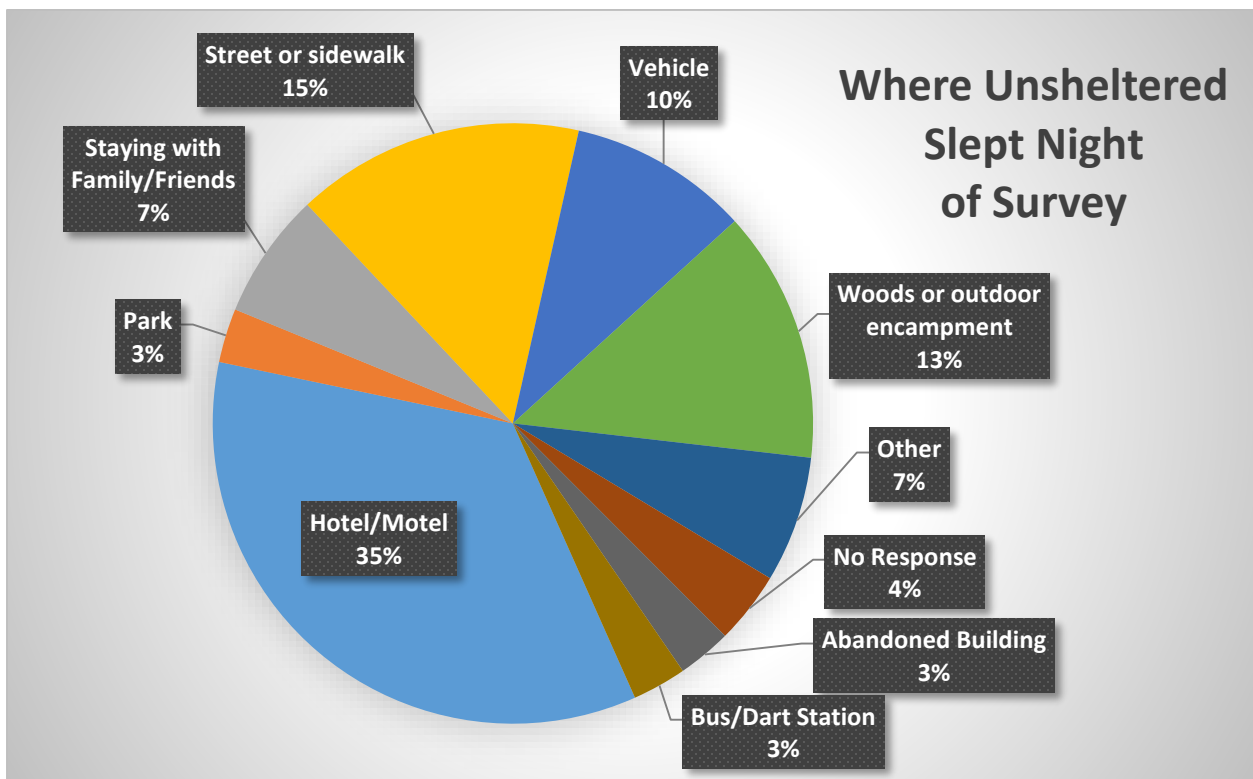
Of the unsheltered persons represented on the survey, the following top 10 reasons were given as to why persons are experiencing homelessness:

Not enough money	30%
Unemployed	17%
Family/Personal Illness	13%
Disabled	10%
Release from Jail	7%
Divorce/Separation	6%
Criminal History	6%
Other	5%
Moved seeking work	4%
Domestic Violence	2%

## WHERE UNSHELTERED PERSONS SLEPT NIGHT OF SURVEY

The pie chart below shows where the unsheltered group slept the night of the survey. The highest percentage category for the unsheltered group was the hotel/motel paid for by a church (35%).

Hotel/Motel (Paid faith-based organization)	35%
Street or sidewalk	15%
Woods or Encampment	13%
Car	10%
With Friends	7%
Other	7%
No response	4%
Park	3%
Bus/DART Station	3%
Abandoned building	3%



## SCHOOL DISTRICT DATA

The total number of students identified as experiencing homelessness in four Collin County school districts on January 21, 2016 was 1,992. The four school districts include: Frisco ISD, McKinney ISD, Plano ISD, and new this year, Wylie ISD.

When comparing the original three school districts that reported last year, namely; Frisco ISD, McKinney ISD, and Plano ISD, the total number of students identified as experiencing homelessness increased by 259 students or 16%.

With the addition of Wylie School District the total number of students identified as experiencing homelessness increased by 414 students or 26% when compared to last year.

The following schools provided the numbers of students identified as experiencing homelessness on January 21, 2016 according to the U.S. Department of Education definition:

Independent School Districts	2016 Students	2015 Students	Compare Original 3 ISDs	Overall comparison
Frisco ISD	108	137	(29)	(29)
McKinney ISD	1,295	1,081	214	214
Plano ISD	434	360	74	74
Wylie ISD	155	Not reported		155
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,578</b>	<b>Increase 259, 16%</b>	<b>Increase 414, 26%</b>

As noted in the Executive Summary, the school districts use the following U.S. Department of Education definition of students experiencing homelessness as worded in the 'McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001', Section 725: Definitions:



*“...individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and (B) includes —*

- (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;*
- (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C));*
- (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and*
- (iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).”*

## METHODOLOGY

Similar to the ten-year federal government census, the Annual Homeless Census gathers current detailed and situational information on persons experiencing homelessness.

This year the Homeless Census was conducted using two methods:

**(1) Survey - Unsheltered persons completed a survey, and**

**(2) Secondary Data - Sheltered persons' information was submitted by emergency shelters and transitional housing.**

### **Survey of Unsheltered Persons**

Community volunteers through the organizational efforts of the city staff of the following cities: City of Allen, City of Frisco, City of McKinney, City of Plano, and City of Wylie assisted a total of one hundred three (103) persons in completing the surveys. This was the first year for the City of Wylie to participate and they surveyed thirteen (13) people experiencing homelessness.

The surveys were completed by persons residing in a number of places including: outside, in homeless shelters and transitional living homes, in hotels paid for by faith communities, cars, and a number of other places that are detailed in the report. The survey data was then entered into the software program Access by volunteers, analyzed by staff, and made available in report form.

### **Secondary Data of Sheltered Persons**

Secondary data was submitted on the lives of 398 persons experiencing homelessness that were sheltered in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs. Homeless service providers submitted only the demographic information of the persons residing in their programs. The organizations providing this information include:

- CITY House
- Emily's Place
- Family Promise of Collin County
- Hope's Door
- Metrocare Services
- Samaritan Inn
- Shiloh Place
- Texas Muslim Women's Foundation



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Collin County Homeless Coalition would like to acknowledge the following participants and supporters of the Homeless Census 2016 including Homeless Service Providers, cities (Allen, Frisco, McKinney, Plano, and Wylie), School Districts, Collin College, Civic Groups, Advocates, Businesses, and Faith Communities:

### HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDER PARTICIPANTS

City House, <http://www.cityhouse.org/>

Emily's Place, <http://www.emilysplace.org/>

Family Promise, <http://www.familypromise.org/>

Hope's Door, <http://www.hopesdoorinc.org/>

Metrocare, <http://www.metrocareservices.org/>

Samaritan Inn, <http://www.thesamaritaninn.org/>

Shiloh Place, <http://www.shilohplacemckinney.com/>

Texas Muslim Women's Foundation. <http://tmwf.org/>

### HOMELESS CENSUS EVENTS BY CITY

#### City of Allen

**Patrick Blaydes**, *City of Allen, Community Integrity Planner*  
**Allen Police Department**  
**First Baptist Church of Allen**

#### City of Frisco

**Rebecca Barton**, *City of Frisco, Housing and Grants Manager*  
**Nell Lange**, *Assistant City Manager*  
**Jennifer Hundt**, *Assistant Financial Services Director*  
**Terri Brown**, *City of Frisco, Rehabilitation Specialist*  
**Mary Reiswig**, *City of Frisco, Administrative Assistant*  
**Frisco Police Department and Citizens on Patrol**  
**City House**  
**Junior League of Collin County**  
**Preston Trail Community Church**  
**Silver Sombreros, First United Methodist Church**

#### City of McKinney

**Christine Lawton**, *City of McKinney, Housing Services Coordinator*

**Volunteer McKinney Center  
McKinney Police Department  
Collin County Community College  
Independent Bank  
McKinney ISD**

**And all the gracious volunteers that gave of their time on this oh so cold night!!!**

#### **City of Plano**

**Jesse Madsen, City of Plano, Community Services Analyst  
Richard Grady, City of Plano Councilman  
City of Plano Police Department  
City of Plano Day Labor Center  
Custer Road United Methodist  
Assistance Center of Collin County  
Agape Resource & Assistance Center  
Christ United Methodist Church  
Junior League of Collin County  
Legacy Church  
Preston Meadow Lutheran Church  
All Plano census volunteers**

#### **City of Wylie**

**Ronni Fetzer, St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Terry Hockenbrough, Collin College, Director for the Center of Scholarly and Civic  
Engagement  
Amazing Grace Food Pantry  
Bridge Connection  
City House  
Collin College  
First Baptist Church Benevolence  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Wylie Christian Care  
Wylie ISD  
Wylie Police Department  
Wylie Police Academy  
Wylie United Methodist Church**

#### **Report Volunteers**

**Ron Johnson, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Rich Holmer, St. Marks Catholic Church**

### **Leadership Team – Collin County Homeless Coalition**

**Patrick Blaydes**, *City of Allen, Community Integrity Planner*

**Shanette Brown**, *City of Plano, Community Services Manager*

**Stacy Brown**, *City of Frisco, Housing and Grants Manager*

**Mary Alice Garza**, *First United Methodist Church of Plano*

**Christopher Green**, *The Point, Executive Director*

**PJ Holland-Rasor**, *Community Advocate*

**Terry Hockenbrough**, *Collin College, Director for the Center of Scholarly and Civic Engagement*

**Christine Lawton**, *City of McKinney, Housing Services Coordinator*

**Christine Ortega**, *Preston Trail Community Church, Community Outreach Director*

**LaShon Ross**, *City of Plano, Assistant City Manager*

**James Thomas**, *Plano Independent School District, Homeless Liaison*

## **COLLIN COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION**

The Collin County Homeless Coalition founded in 2004 is a community organization consisting of cities (Allen, Frisco, McKinney, and Plano), School Districts, Collin College, Homeless Service Providers, Businesses, Advocates, and Faith Communities **working together to provide solutions to homelessness in Collin County through:**

- 1. Increasing Awareness of Homelessness**
- 2. Coordinating Advocacy for the Homeless Issue**
- 3. Facilitating Information to the Community**
- 4. Empowering Collaborative Programs and Services**

[www.facebook/collin/homeless](http://www.facebook/collin/homeless)