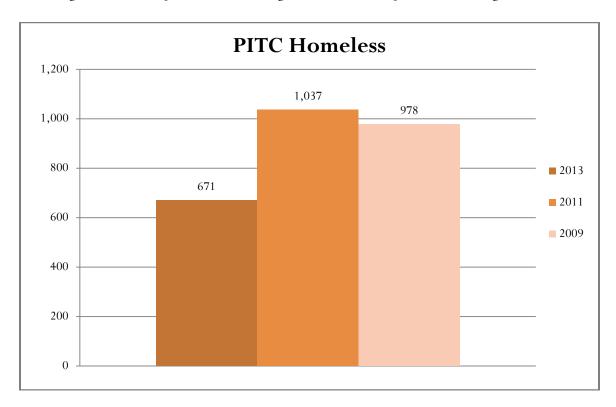
#### **BURLINGTON COUNTY**

On January 30, 2013 there were 671 homeless men, women and children counted in Burlington County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.



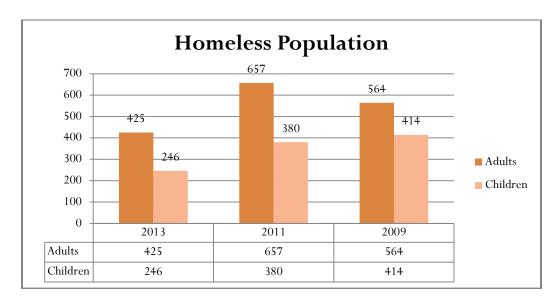
Homelessness in Burlington County has fluctuated over the last three (3) full HUD count years with a significant decrease between the 2011 and the current 2013 count. The decrease totaled 35.2% over the two full HUD count years.

The actual number of people who are homeless over the course of the year may be between two to four times larger than the number counted at one point in time. Using the statistical formula developed in the publication "Estimating the Need," it is projected that over the course of a year, 1,311 adults and children are homeless in Burlington County.

Of the 671 people who were homeless on the night of the count 246 of them were children as outlined in the chart below.

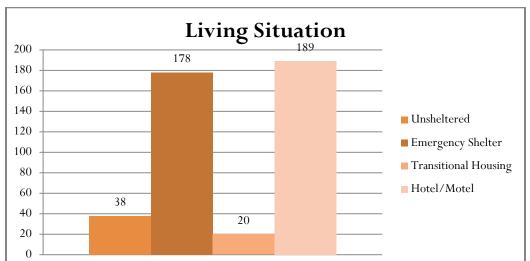
2013 Homeless Breakdown		
Respondents (Adults)	425	
Family Members (Children)	246	
Total Homeless	671	

As the chart below details, the number of homeless adults and children has fluctuated proportionally with the increases and decreases in the total numbers for adults; however, the number of children has been on the decline over the past three full HUD count years.



### **Living Situation**

As reflected in the Living Situation chart, 38 or 8.9% of the homeless respondents were unsheltered the night of the count. The remainder of the homeless were in living in sheltered situations with the largest percentage of the homeless population residing in hotels/motels placements as emergency shelter (n=189, 44.4%) followed closely by those in emergency shelters (n=178, 41.8%).



Emergency Shelter includes those in ES, Domestic Violence Shelters, Youth Shelters and Safe Havens where applicable

The number of unsheltered homeless in Burlington County has been significantly small in proportion to the total homeless population but has risen slightly over the three full HUD count years. The sheltered homeless numbers saw a significant decrease since 2011 of 38.8%.



### **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

As HUD continually encourages CoCs to utilize HMIS to complete the sheltered count for a community, as part of this 2013 report, there is a comparison between what was reported in HMIS for emergency shelters and transitional housing for the night of the count with what was reported in the same categories for the PITC. The numbers from HMIS are based on respondents over the age of 17 in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the count.

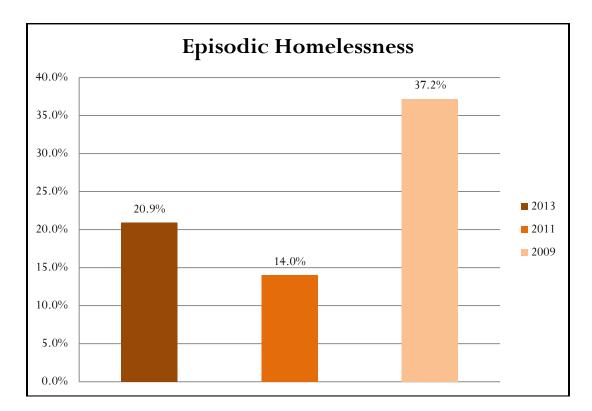
In Burlington County, there were a total of 305 adults in emergency shelter in HMIS on the night of the count and there were 26 in transitional housing in HMIS on the night of the count. These numbers are higher than what was recorded as part of the count. On the night of the count 178 respondents stated that they would be in emergency shelter and 20 reported residing in transitional housing.

## **Length and Episodes of Homelessness**

Of the homeless population surveyed in Burlington County, 117 or 27.5% responded that they have been homeless for more than one year. This was closely followed by those homeless for six (6) to twelve (12) months. Of those who were homeless less than one year, 21.6% reported that they had been homeless at least one other time within the past 12 months.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	16	3.8
8 days to 1 month	39	9.2
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	56	13.2
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	91	21.4
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	104	24.5
More than 1 year	117	27.5

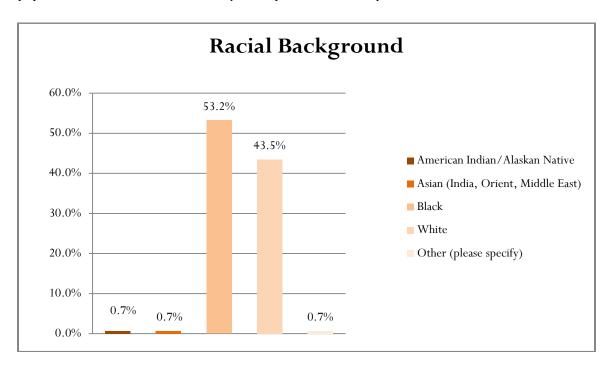
As reflected in the Episodic Homelessness chart, a total of 89 or 20.9% of the total homeless population reported having at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. The percentage of episodic homelessness has fluctuated over the three full HUD count years with the lowest percentage being seen in 2011.



## **Demographics**

In 2013, of the total homeless population in Burlington County, 198 people or 46.6% were male, 226 or 53.2% were female and one (1) or 0.2% was transgender.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless persons in the 2013 count. The largest majority identified their race as Black (53.2%) followed by White (43.5%). The total percentage of the homeless population that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 4.5%.

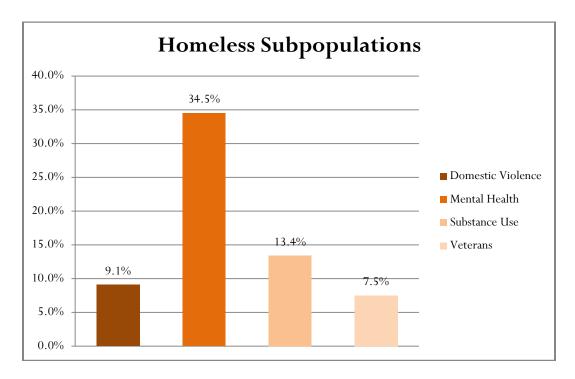


The largest percentage of homeless in Burlington County fell within the 40 to 49 year old age range, totaling 22.1%, closely followed by those within the 50 to 59 year old age range (21.6%).

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	33	7.8%
22-24	32	7.5%
25-29	63	14.8%
30-39	78	18.4%
40-49	94	22.1%
50-59	92	21.6%
60-64	13	3.1%
65 or older	12	2.8%

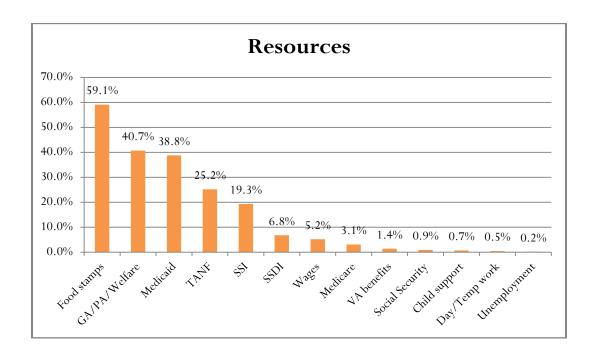
# **Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart outlines the breakdown of the homeless subpopulations in Burlington County for the 2013 count. The largest subpopulation was the homeless who had mental health issues (34.5%). This was most closely followed by those with substance abuse issues (13.4%). The number of homeless veterans equaled 7.5% (n=32).



### **Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by people who were homeless in Burlington County on the night of the 2013 count were Food Stamps (59.1%), Welfare (40.7%) and Medicaid (38.8%). Additionally, 4.5% (n=19) of the homeless population reported receiving no form of government benefit on the night of the count.



As part of the 2013 count, homeless respondents were asked to provide a current income that provided a potential estimated yearly income. In Burlington County, the largest percent of respondents stated that they earned less than \$5,000. Furthermore, a majority of the homeless population had an estimated income of less than \$15,000 with 1.4% reported no income at all on the night of the count.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	57	13.4
\$1.00- \$4,999	224	52.7
\$5,000- \$9,999	87	20.5
\$10,000- \$14,999	35	8.2
\$15,000-\$19,999	9	2.1
\$20,000-\$24,999	0	0.0
\$25,000-\$29,999	2	0.5
\$30,000-\$34,999	2	0.5

# **Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Burlington County was eviction or risk of eviction. Other top ranking factors included relationship breakdown and housing costs being too expensive.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	46.8
Relationship/family breakup or death	34.6
Housing costs are too high	32.5
Lost job/can't find work	25.2
Utility costs are too high	21.9
Mental illness/emotional problems	16.0
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	13.6
Have work but wages are too low	12.7
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	12.2
Domestic violence	11.3
Lost job due to lack of transportation	11.1
Incarceration	10.1
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	4.9
House condemned	2.1
Natural disaster	1.4
Loss of child support	0.5

The types of services that respondents stated that they have received in the past three years or are currently needed are reflected in the chart below. In Burlington County, the top service received was emergency shelter and the top service that was reported as needed was housing.

2013 Service Needs	#	%
Received		
Emergency shelter	363	85.4
Emergency food or meal assistance	281	66.1
Housing	128	30.1
Need	#	%
Housing	217	51.0
Emergency shelter	120	28.2
Employment assistance	95	22.3

## **Discharge from Mainstream Institutions**

As part of the 2013 survey, homeless respondents were asked if they had been discharged into homelessness from certain mainstream institutions within the past three years (since January 30, 2010). The discharge information is based on the homeless population that responded to the survey and relies on self-report.

The top two institutions that had a higher rate comparatively were city/county jail and city/county mental health facilities as reported by respondents.

Discharged Into Homelessness (Past Three Years)		
Corrections	#	%
City or County Jail	45	10.6
State Prison	13	3.1
Juvenile Detention Center	1	0.2
Inpatient Care	#	%
City/County Inpatient mental health	31	7.3
Medical Hospital	23	5.4
State inpatient mental health	6	1.4

## **Last Permanent Address**

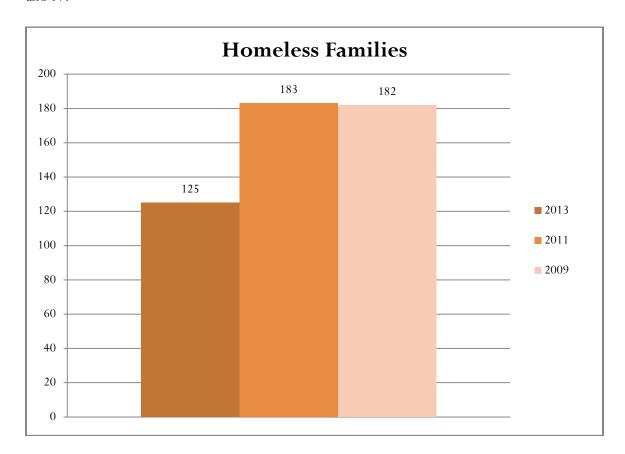
In the 2013 count, 95.2% (n=405) of the homeless respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless. In looking at surrounding states, a total of 0.4% (n=2) reported last living in Pennsylvania and 0.7% (n=3) reported last living in New York.

The cities /towns most frequently cited by respondents as the last place they lived before becoming homeless are reflected in the chart below (a rate of 3% or higher). The largest number reported last living in Mount Holly.

Town	#	%
Mount Holly	64	15.1%
Willingboro	46	10.8%
Burlington	31	7.3%
Browns Mills	19	4.2%
Maple Shade	18	4.2%
Beverly	13	3.1%
Burlington Twp.	13	3.1%

### **FAMILY HOMELESSNESS**

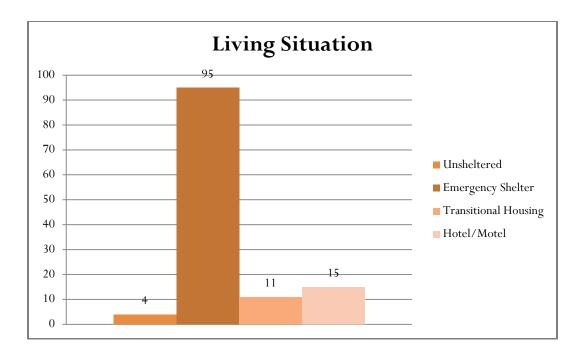
In 2013, of the 425 homeless respondents in Burlington County, 125 or 29.4% had at least one dependent child under 18 with them the night of the count and are considered a homeless family. Of the total of 246 homeless children in these families, 114 were six (6) years or younger and 132 were between the ages of 7 and 17.



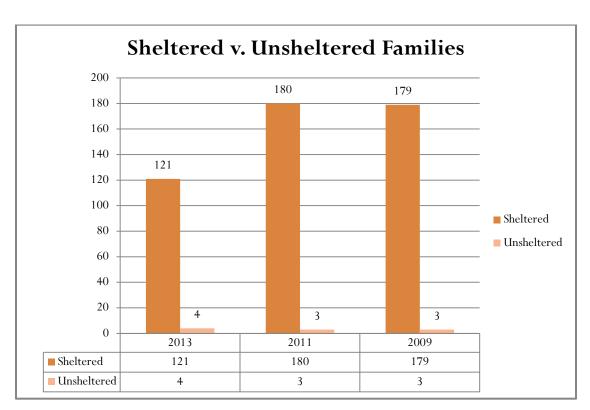
### **Living Situation**

In Burlington County, four (4) homeless families were in an unsheltered living situation on the night of the count. A total of four(4) children were unsheltered as part of these families on the night of the count.

The remaining 121 homeless families were in sheltered living situations that included emergency shelter, hotel/motels used as emergency shelter and transitional housing. The largest percentage (76%) of homeless families were residing in emergency shelter on the night of the 2013 count.



As the chart below shows, homeless families in Burlington County have mainly been in sheltered living situations over the last three (3) full HUD count years with the number of unsheltered remaining about the same each year.



### **Length of Homelessness**

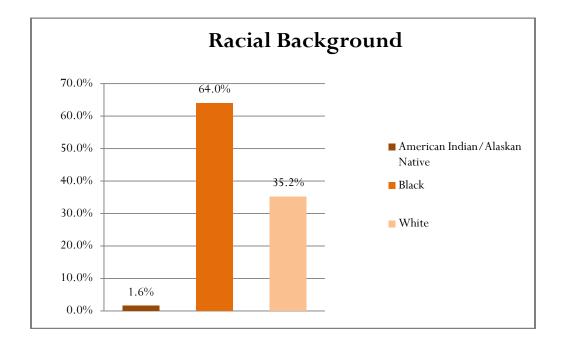
The largest percentage (24.8%) of homeless families had been homeless three (3) months to six (6) months; however, this is followed closely by those homeless less than one month and those homeless more than a year. This differs from the total homeless population overall where the highest percentage was homeless more than one year.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	5	4.0
8 days to 1 month	26	20.8
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	19	15.2
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	31	24.8
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	20	16.0
More than 1 year	24	19.2

## **Demographics**

Of the total 125 homeless families in Burlington County, 88% (n=110) were female headed households and 12% (n=15) were male headed households.

The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of homeless families in the 2013 count. The largest percentage of the respondents defined their race as Black (64%). The next largest group was those that defined their race as White with 35.2%. A total of 5.6% (n=7) defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino.

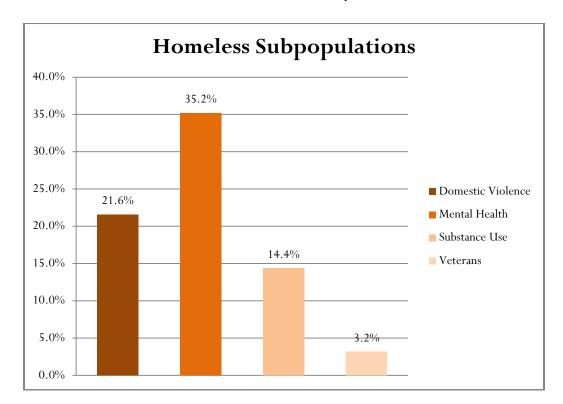


The largest percentage of homeless families in Burlington County had a head of household that fell within the 30 to 39 year old age range most closely followed by those 25 to 29 years of age. This is much younger than the total homeless population in the County.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	15	12.0
22-24	19	15.2
25-29	29	23.2
30-39	33	26.4
40-49	20	16.0
50-59	5	4.0
60-64	0	0.0
65 or older	1	0.8

# **Homeless Family Subpopulations**

Of the HUD homeless subpopulations in the 2013 count, in Burlington County the largest subpopulation among homeless families was those with a head of household with mental health issues (35.2%). The next largest percentage was households experiencing domestic violence (21.6%) as reflected in the chart below. The number of heads of households who are veterans equaled 3.2% (n=4).



## Financial Resources and Income

The three main sources of income reported by homeless families in Burlington County on the night of the 2013 count were:

- TANF (80.8%);
- Food Stamps (78.4%); and
- Medicaid (44%)

There were no families that stated they did not receive some type of government benefit on the night of the count. In looking at yearly income, the majority of the homeless families were earning less than \$10,000 a year with 11.2% reporting no income on the night of the count.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	14	11.2
\$1.00- \$4,999	58	46.4
\$5,000- \$9,999	38	30.4
\$10,000- \$14,999	8	6.4
\$15,000-\$19,999	3	2.4
\$20,000-\$24,999	0	0.0
\$25,000-\$29,999	1	0.8
\$30,000-\$34,999	2	1.6

### Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness

The highest ranking factor that respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Burlington County was eviction. The other top ranking factor was domestic violence.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	29.6
Domestic violence	21.6
Housing costs are too high	17.6
Relationship/family breakup or death	16.0
Lost job/can't find work	14.4

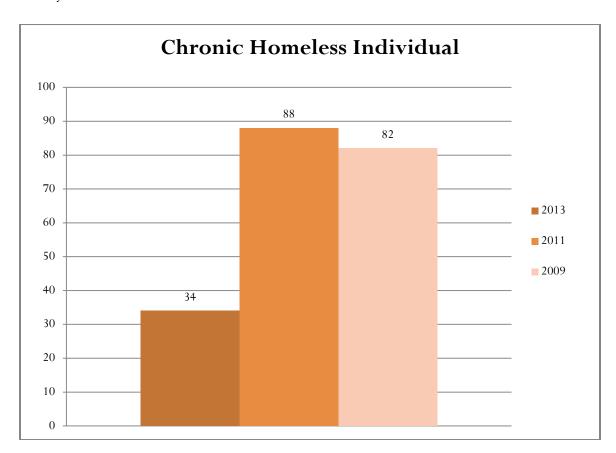
When homeless families were asked what their top needs were on the night of the count the top three needs included:

- Housing (44.8%);
- Employment assistance (24.8%); and
- Child Care (12.8%)

### **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**

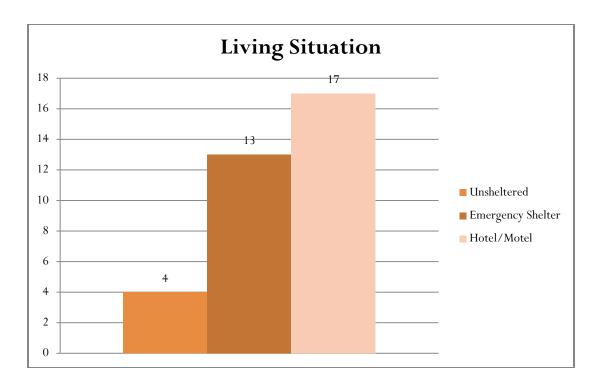
#### **INDIVIDUALS**

On the night of January 30, 2013, there were 34 chronically homeless individuals counted in Burlington County equaling 0.8% of the total homeless population. The number of chronically homeless in Burlington County saw a major decline from 2011 (61.3%) reaching its lowest level from the last three (3) full HUD count years in 2013.

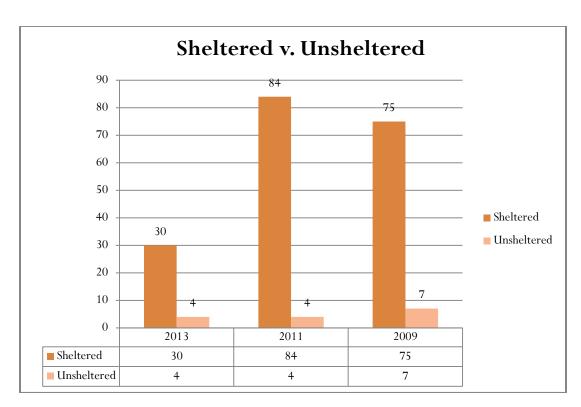


### **Living Situation**

As defined, homeless living situations for the chronically homeless can only include those living on the street, in places not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter. The Living Situation chart below is a breakdown of where the chronically homeless were residing on the night of the 2013 count. The largest percentage (50%) of the chronically homeless population in Burlington County was residing in hotel/motel placement on the night of the count.



Over the last three (3) full HUD count years, the number of both the sheltered chronically homeless individuals in Burlington County has fluctuated mirroring the overall increases and decreases as the number of unsheltered has remained low and stable over time.



### **Length of Homelessness**

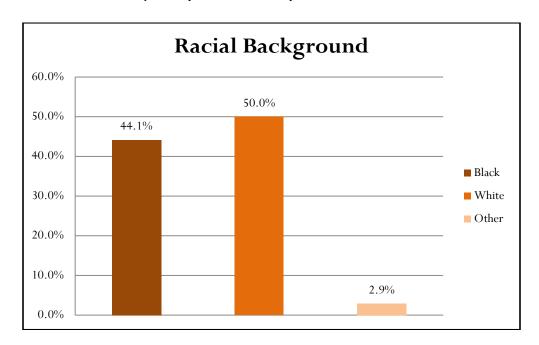
Of the total chronically homeless individuals in Burlington County, 64.7% (n= 22) reported they had been homeless for more than one year. Also, a total of 67.6% (n= 23) reported they had four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

2013 Length of Homelessness	#	%
1 day to 1 week	1	2.9
8 days to 1 month	0	0.0
1 month & 1 day to 3 months	0	0.0
3 months & 1 day to 6 months	3	8.8
6 months & 1 day to 12 months	8	23.5
More than 1 year	22	64.7

# **Demographics**

In 2013, a total of 18 or 52.9% of the chronically homeless individual population were male and 16 or 47.1% were female.

As the chart outlines, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals identified themselves as White (50%) followed by those who identified themselves as Black (44.1%). The total percentage that defined their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino equaled 8.8%.

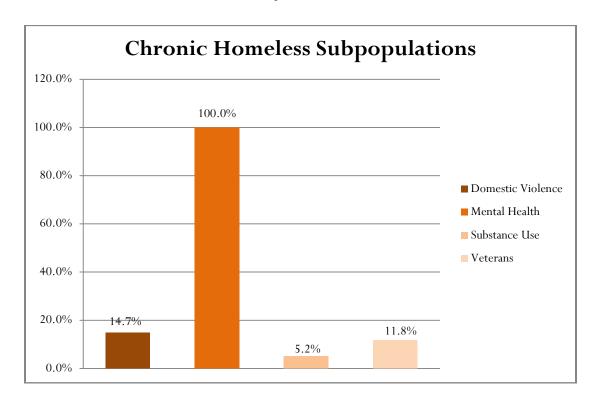


On the night of the 2013 count in Burlington County, the largest percentage of chronically homeless individuals fell equally between 30 and 59 years of age with each age range having a total of 26.5%.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	0	0.0
22-24	2	5.9
25-29	2	5.9
30-39	9	26.5
40-49	9	26.5
50-59	9	26.5
60-64	1	2.9
65 or older	1	2.9

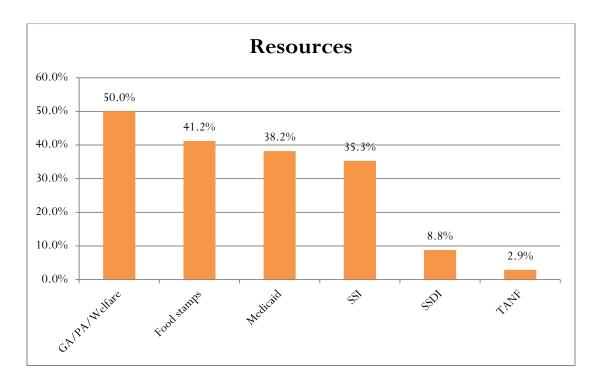
### **Chronic Homeless Subpopulations**

The chart below outlines the breakdown of the chronically homeless individual subpopulations for the 2013 count. As shown in the chart, 100% of the chronic homeless individuals reported they had mental health issues. The number of homeless veterans equaled 11.8% (n=4).



# **Financial Resources**

The three main sources of income reported by the chronically homeless individual population in Burlington County were Welfare (50%), Food Stamps (41.2%) and Medicaid (28.2%). Additionally, 11.8% of the chronically homeless population reported receiving no type of government benefit on the night of the count.



As reflected below, the largest percentage (32.4%) of chronically homeless individuals reported having an income of less than \$10,000. This is reflective of the general homeless population as well.

2013 Year Income	#	%
No Income	5	14.7
\$1.00- \$4,999	11	32.4
\$5,000- \$9,999	11	32.4
\$10,000- \$14,999	7	20.6

## <u>Service Needs and Contributing Factors to Homelessness</u>

The highest ranking factor that chronically homeless individual respondents stated contributed to their homelessness in Burlington County was mental illness. The other top ranking contributing factor was relationship breakdown.

2013 Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Mental illness/emotional problems	82.4
Relationship/family breakup or death	61.8
Eviction or at risk of Eviction	47.1
Housing costs are too high	44.1
Utility costs are too high	44.1
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	41.2
Lost job/can't find work	35.3
Medical problems/physical or developmental disability	29.4
Incarceration	17.6
Lost job due to lack of transportation	11.8
Domestic violence	8.8
Foreclosure or at risk of Foreclosure	5.9
Have work but wages are too low	5.9
Natural disaster	2.9

The types of services that respondents stated that they have received in the past three years or are currently needed are reflected in the chart below. In Burlington County, the top service received by the chronically homeless individual population was emergency shelter and the top service that was reported as needed was housing.

2013 Service Needs	#	%
Received		
Emergency Shelter	31	91.1
Emergency Food	20	58.8
Housing	18	52.9
Need		
Housing	28	73.5
Emergency Shelter	17	50.0
Employment	6	17.6

## **Discharge from Mainstream Institutions**

As part of the 2013 survey, the respondents were asked if they had been discharged into homelessness from certain mainstream institutions within the past three years (since January 30, 2010). The discharge information is based on the chronically homeless individual population that responded to the survey and relies on self-report.

As the chart shows, the only institution that had significant numbers of discharging chronically homeless individuals was city/county mental health facilities as reported by respondents.

Discharged Into Homelessness		
(Past Three Years)		
Corrections	#	%
City or County Jail	8	23.5%
State Prison	4	11.8%
Inpatient Care	#	%
City/County inpatient mental health	17	50.0%
Medical Hospital	7	20.6%
State inpatient mental health	3	8.8%

## **Last Permanent Address**

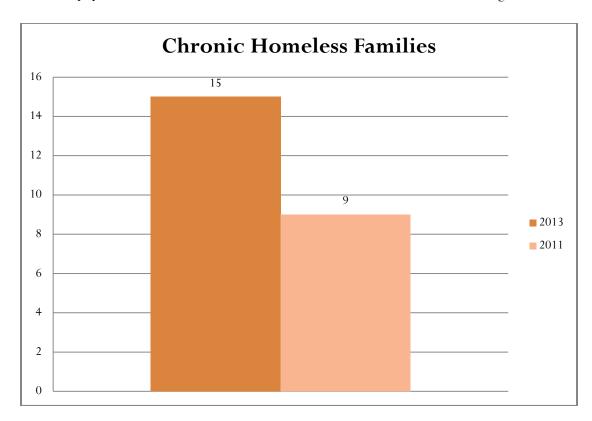
In the 2013 count, 97% of the chronically homeless individual respondents lived in New Jersey before becoming homeless.

The cities /towns most frequently cited by respondents as the last place they lived before becoming homeless are below (those with a rate of 5% or higher). The only town with a significant number was Mount Holly.

Town	%
Mount Holly	26.4%
Browns Mills	5.8%
Burlington	5.8%
Maple Shade	5.8%
Willingboro	5.8%

### **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES**

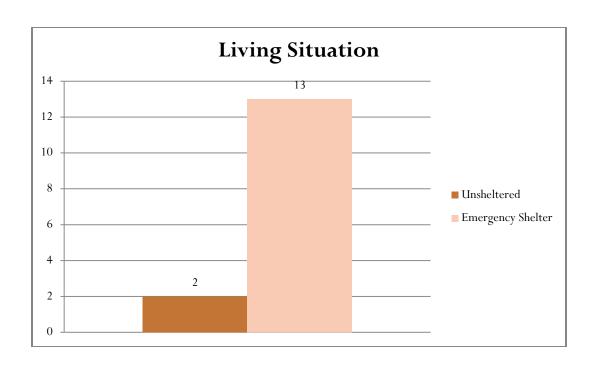
In Burlington County, a total of 15 families met the chronic homeless definition and could be considered a chronically homeless family. This is 3.5% of the total homeless population and 12% of the total family homeless population. These families had a total of 30 children with them on the night of the count.



Burlington County saw an increase from 2011, the first year reported, of 40.0%. Adding the chronically homeless families to the chronically homeless individuals gives Burlington County a total chronically homeless population of 79 men, women and children on the night of the 2013 count.

# **Living Situation**

The breakdown of living situations for chronically homeless families on the night of the count shows 86.6% (n=13) families were in sheltered situations residing in emergency shelter. The remaining 13.3% (n=2) were unsheltered as reflected in the Living Situation chart below.

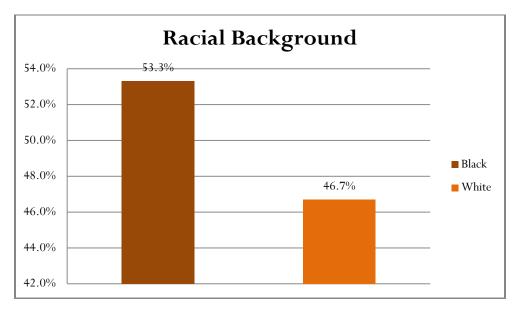


# **Length of Homelessness**

Of the total chronically homeless families, 80% (n=12) reported that they had been homeless for more than one year and 46.7% (n=7) reported that they had been homeless four (4) times in the past three (3) years.

## **Demographics**

In 2013, two (2) or 13.3% of the chronically homeless families were male headed households and thirteen (13) or 86.7% were female headed households. The chart below outlines the racial breakdown of the chronically homeless families in Burlington County. The largest percentage (53.3%) defines themselves as Black; while the remainder defined themselves as White (46.7%).

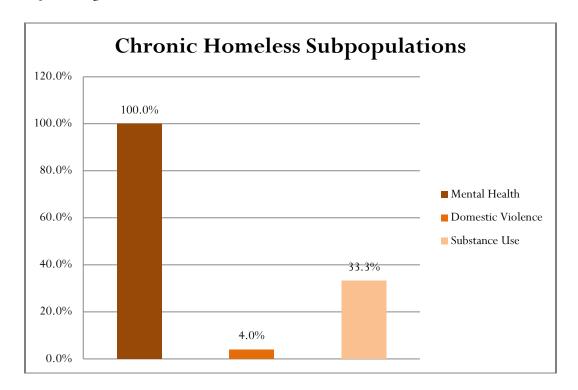


A total of eight (8) out of 15 (53.3%) heads of households were between the age of 25 and 39 years of age as represented in the chart below.

2013 Age	#	%
18-21	0	0.0
22-24	3	20.0
25-29	4	26.7
30-39	4	26.7
40-49	3	20.0
50-59	0	0.0
60-64	0	0.0
65 or older	1	6.7

# **Chronic Homeless Family Subpopulations**

In Burlington County, 100% of the chronically homeless families reported having mental health issues and 33.3% reported having substance abuse issues. The other subpopulation represented was families experiencing domestic violence.



## **Financial Resources and Income**

The three main sources of income reported by homeless families in Burlington County on the night of the 2013 count were:

- TANF (80%);
- Food Stamps (60%); and
- Medicaid (33.3%)

Every chronically homeless family reported receiving some type of government benefit on the night of the count. In looking at yearly income, the largest percentage of chronically homeless families has an estimated yearly income of less than \$5,000 a year.

2013 Year Income	#	%
\$1.00- \$4,999	8	53.3
\$5,000- \$9,999	6	40.0
\$10,000- \$14,999	1	6.7

### **Contributing Factors to Homelessness**

The chart below includes the top three factors, as reported by respondents in Burlington County, which led their family to become homeless. The largest percentage (33.3%) reported that top factor was domestic violence. The remaining factors were eviction and alcohol or drug abuse issues.

Contributing Factors to Homelessness	%
Domestic violence	33.3%
Eviction/Housing Cost/Mental Illness	26.7%
Alcohol or drug abuse problems	20.0%