

DR. THERESA DANIEL DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018



Fight the Bite with Dallas County HHS Mosquito Services and Information

DCHHS is committed to protecting the health and welfare of the communities we serve from mosquitoes and vector-borne disease. Residents experiencing a mosquito problem may call 214-819-2115 to set up a free service request.



There are more than 40 mosquito species in Dallas County. While mosquitoes can be active year round, generally, mosquito season is from May to November. During the winter *Culex quinquefasciatus* survive as adults in sheltered areas while *Aedes* species survive as eggs in flood prone environments.

Seasonally, with warm temperatures and proper water conditions, these species developed or emerge from their winter habitats. During the summer months, July-August, is when the risk of mosquito-borne disease transmission is greatest.

Health officials urge the public to take protective measures by utilizing the '4Ds' to reduce the risk of West Nile virus:

DEET All Day, Every Day: Whenever you're outside, use insect repellants that contain DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

DRESS: Wear long, loose and light-colored clothing outside.

DRAIN: Remove all areas of standing water in and around your home.

DUSK & DAWN: Limit outdoor activities during dusk and dawn hours when mosquitoes are most active.

District 1 Hold Annual Board Appointee Appreciation Reception

Commissioner Theresa Daniel likes to show her board and commission appointees her appreciation for giving of their time and service to help make Dallas County a better place.

This year the celebration was held at Café Momentum. Founder and Head Chef Chad Houser addressed the group, sharing the impact that treating previously incarcerated juveniles with respect and teaching them a trade can have on their lives and futures.



Pictured LEFT to RIGHT: Norma Minnis, Keith Pomykal, Angela Scheurle, Tim Sexton, Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Casie Pierce, Harold Collum, Corey Golomb, Jesse Tafalla, Diana Muñoz, Gary Cochran, Bob Ackerman, Dr. Scherry Johnson, James White

IGNITE at Skyline is Honored for Women's History Month



IGNITE

POLITICAL POWER IN EVERY YOUNG WOMAN

MDHA Holds 2018 State of the Homeless Address

On Wednesday, March 21, 2018, the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA) held its fourth annual State of the Homeless Address, at Goodwill Industries of Dallas. The Address was delivered by MDHA President and CEO, Cindy J. Crain. It covered the results of January's annual homeless count, as well as the progress of Dallas' homeless response system, in making homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring.

Homeless Count Results:

- **Overall homelessness** in Dallas and Collin Counties, clocking in at 4,140 individuals, **rose by 9%**, when compared to 2017.
- **Unsheltered homelessness**, clocking in at 1,341 individuals, **rose by 23%** during the same time period.
- The **number of homeless veterans dropped** from 356 individuals or 9.5% of the homeless population to 331 individuals or 8% of the homeless population.
- The **number of chronically homeless individuals** (those homeless for a year or more, with a documented disability) **continued to drop, for a second year now**, clocking in at 424 individuals, or **21% fewer than in 2017**.
- **The rise** in the overall numbers and specifically the unsheltered numbers **is in line with national trends across urban centers in the United States**. It is attributable to the lack of affordable housing.

MDHA is working with its partners, on a number of simultaneous projects, from a 90-day Emergency Shelter Housing Challenge through a separate State of Homeless Youth event in April to creating a detailed "My Housing Plan"

All Homeless – 2018 Point in Time Count

	Unsheltered	Emergency Sheltered	Safehaven	Transitional Housing	Total	Change Year to Year
2018	1,341	1,991	23	785	4,140	+9%
2017	1,087	1,861	19	822	3,789	-5%
2016	739	1,968	23	1,080	3,810	21%+
2015	363	1,748	23	1,007	3,141	

23% increase in Unsheltered homelessness
 Safehaven units back online in 2018
 Reductions in Transitional Housing due to reduced inventory and conversion of 22 units of family facility-based transitional housing to emergency shelter

framework for as many individuals as possible, to help them make progress in ending their homelessness, and eventually become housed.

Ms. Crain ended her address, by emphasizing that the primary driver of homelessness is still extreme poverty, i.e. the lack of sufficient household income to meet the cost of housing. Demand for safe, affordable and accessible housing continues to dramatically outpace supply.

- David Gruber

For more information, visit MDHADallas.org

You can watch the address here:
<https://youtu.be/mbXS3-9fa4E>

UPDATE: Dallas Area Partnership To End and Prevent Homelessness

The Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness has now had four full board meetings, working toward the goal of creating a board structure, setting up committees and, most importantly, creating a plan to advance the work of ending homelessness in Dallas County. As previously reported, this work is based on the Dallas Commission on Homelessness report. Updates have been presented on the progress of the six recommendations in the report. The remaining discussion has been on what are the next steps on advancing those goals and developing a high-level plan to end and prevent homelessness.

Those six recommendations are:

1. Get organized and aligned: Develop a Community-Wide System of Leadership, Accountability, and Sustainable Funding.
2. Act now: Increase Targeted Street Outreach, Housing Placement, and Supportive Services to Manage Encampments and Unsheltered Individuals.
3. Use technology: Convert to Community-Wide Coordinated Entry and Single System HMIS.
4. Address Capacity: Facility Development and Shelter Capacity.
5. Add housing: Increase Supportive Housing to Correspond to the Demand.
6. Prevent homelessness: Create System Navigator Program within Criminal Justice and Treatment Facilities.

Substantial progress has been made on most of these larger goals, therefore the Partnership has decided to focus on #5, while coming up with short-term immediate tactical goals and a longer-term plan of resolving financial gaps and barriers to rentals.