

MINUTES

Clallam County Homelessness Task Force
Clallam County Courthouse
Virtual and In Person
BOCC Meeting Room 160
June 3, 2025
2:30 pm-4:00 pm

Members Present: Amy Miller – *City of Port Angeles*, Joe Soha – *City of Forks*, Paul Cunningham – *Healthcare Provider*, Charlie Commeree – *Law and Justice System*, Christy Smith – *United Way of Clallam County*, Dan Butler – *City of Sequim*, Debbi Tesch – *Peninsula Housing Authority*, John DeBoer – *Homeless/Formerly Homeless*, Johnny Ankrom - *Worksource*, Loni Greninger – *Tribal Representative*, Sandra Allen - *Mental Health / Substance Use Provider*, Sharon Maggard – *Serenity House*, Viola Ware – *OlyCAP*, Caleb Anderson – *Business Community*, Cheri Tinker – *Advocate for Veterans' Issues*

Absent: Abby Bohman – *Faith Community*, Joseph Mocerri – *Homeless or Formerly Homeless*, Joyce Stuart – *At – Large*, Sandra Allen - *Mental Health / Substance Use Provider*, Iliana Jones – *Advocate for Youth Issues*

General Attendance: Christine Dunn, Jenny Oppelt, Tiffany Dunaway, Timothy Dalton, Jean Pratschner

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm

2. AGENDA

- Majority approved the agenda as presented.

3. MINUTES – May 6, 2025

- Majority approved the minutes as presented.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jean Pratschner provided public comment on the Sequim Warming Center.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- Position Vacancies
 - WA State Department of Social and Health Services representative

- Tribal Government representatives from Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Quileute Tribe, and Makah Tribe
- Service Providers on the West End representative

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Clallam and Jefferson counties PIT updates- Sharon Maggard and Viola Ware
Viola Ware shared a PowerPoint Presentation on the Jefferson County Point in Time Count. In 2025 147 individuals counted; 66 unsheltered and 81 sheltered. The number of homeless individuals in Jefferson County is increasing over the 3 year trend but the amount sheltered is also increasing. Viola shared more statistics and demographics about the individuals and discussion followed.

Sharon Maggard shared a PowerPoint Presentation on Clallam County Point in Time Count. From 2022 to 2025, homeless individuals grew by 131. Sharon shared statistics and demographics about the individuals. Discussion followed.

- Jefferson County Shelter Discussion – Viola shared updates about the current status of the shelter. The closure has been stayed and it has been funded through June and possibly through December. OlyCAP is building shelter units at Caswell Brown, but is not due to break ground until fall.
- Clallam County Shelter Updates – Serenity House and Sequim Warming Center
Sharon stated that the Serenity House is open 24/7 and acts as a Warming Center.

Viola discussed the Sequim Warming Center which is managed by OlyCAP. This shelter opens if the weather is predicted to be 36 or lower and operates from 9pm to 7am. Viola discussed the future goals of the Warming Center to make it more easily accessible for individuals to come. Discussion followed.

7. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- Trinity United Methodist Church Safe Parking
- Tiny Shelter Discussion
- Therapeutic Courts presentation
- Benchmarks from current agencies for 5-year plan
- Ongoing funding for service agency operations
- Safe Parking – Environmental aspects
- Salvation Army
- Food Bank Presentation
- Economic Development Council – Prevailing Wages

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Maggard provided an update on the Serenity House funds for the shelter.

Jenny Oppelt provided an update on the 5 Year Plan and presenting to the Board of County Commissioners. Another update is receiving additional supplemental funding, document recording fees, from the Department of Commerce.

Viola provided an update on a new outreach program with their housing staff at OlyCAP.

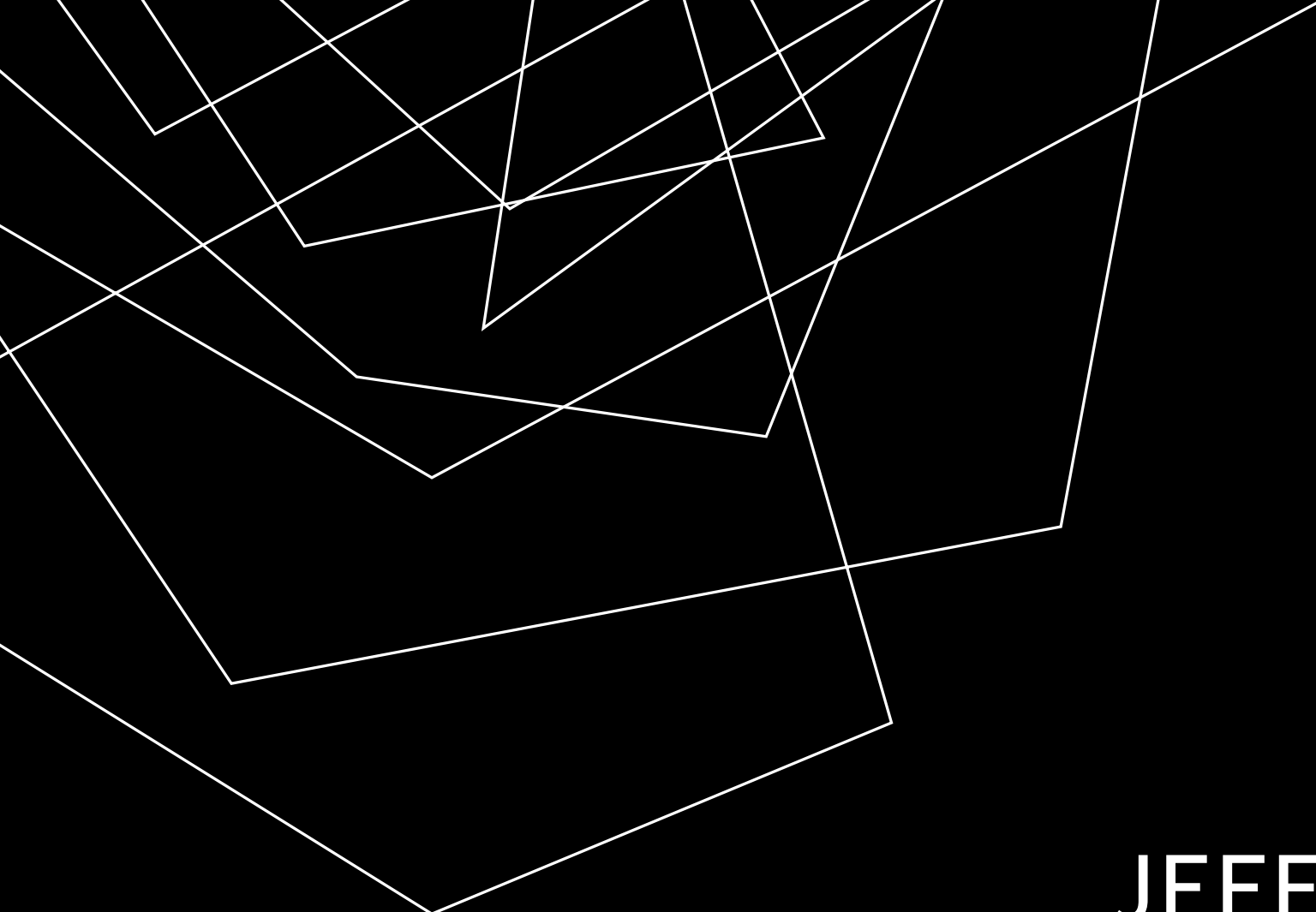
9. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Next meeting: October 7, 2025
Clallam County BOCC Meeting Room

Members of the Homelessness Task Force:

Sandra Allen, Dan Butler, Amy Miller Paul Cunningham, John DeBoer, Joe Soha, Joyce Stuart, Joseph Mocerri, Loni Greninger, Iliana Jones, Johnny Ankrom, Sharon Maggard, Viola Ware, Caleb Anderson, Abby Bohman, Jenny Oppelt, Charlie Commeree, Christy Smith, Debbi Tesch, and Cheri Tinker

NOTE: These meeting notes are not verbatim



JEFFERSON COUNTY 2025 PIT COUNT

THE NUMBERS*

Total (individuals)	147
Total Unsheltered	66
Total Sheltered	81

Agency Name	Program Name	Program Type	Total	Total HHs
Olympic Community Action Program (Jefferson)	PIT Count	Unsheltered PIT Count	43	40
Dove House (Jefferson)	Dove House Emergency Shelter	Emergency Shelter – Entry Exit	16	7
Dove House (Jefferson)	Dove House Transitional Housing	Transitional Housing	10	4
Bayside Housing & Services	Bayside Emergency Shelter	Emergency Shelter – Entry Exit	21	15
Dove House (Jefferson)	Dove House Hotel Vouchers	Emergency Shelter – Entry Exit	1	1
Olympic Community Action Program (Jefferson)	Caswell Brown Village RV's	Emergency Shelter – Entry Exit	11	10
Bayside Housing & Services	Bayside Night by Night ES	Emergency Shelter – Night-by-Night	22	22
Olympic Community Action Program (Jefferson)	Caswell Brown Village (Tiny Homes)	Other*	23	18

*Provided by the Department of Commerce 6/2/2025

3 YEAR COMPARISON

Year	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
2023	47	79	126
2024	60	62	132
2025	81	66	147

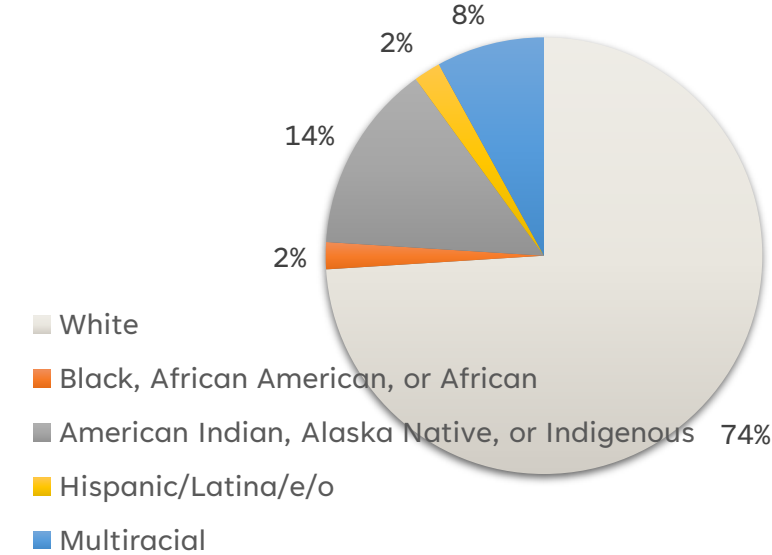
- “Other” Category shifts the unsheltered number by 23 individuals

WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR

NOTE: As Commerce does not anticipate having demographic numbers available until Mid-July, the following information was gathered directly from PIT forms collected this year.



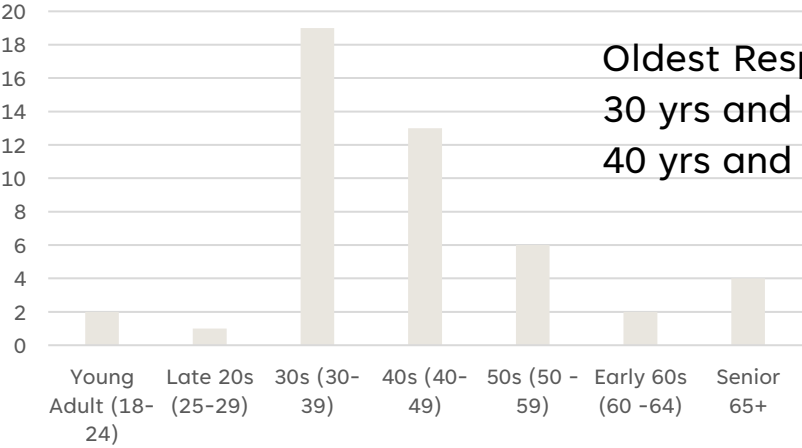
Race, Unsheltered, PIT Count



Veteran Status	
Veteran	4%
Not Veteran	90%
Unknown	6%

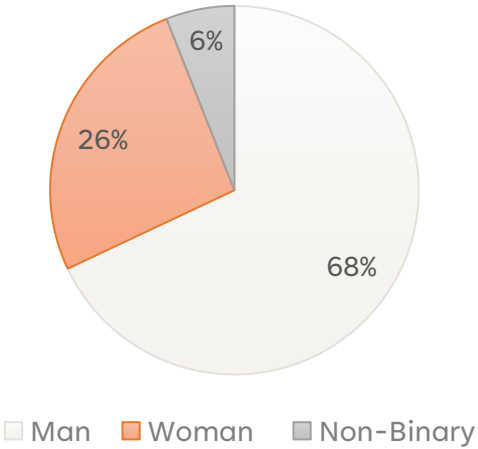
Household Type	
Single Person Household	96%
Partner Household	4%
Household with Children	0%

Unsheltered by Age, PIT Count 2025

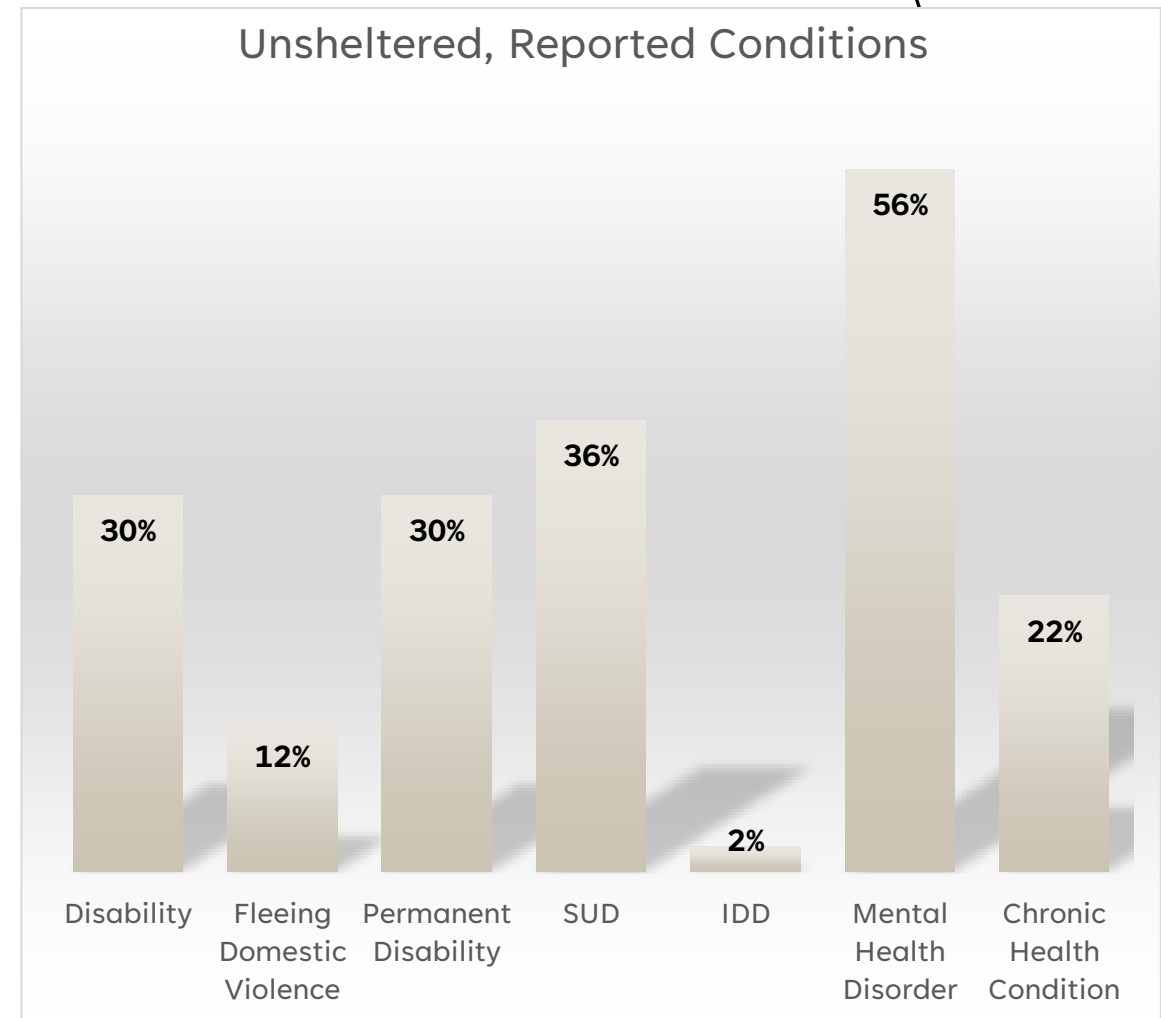


Oldest Respondent was 73
30 yrs and older - 40%
40 yrs and older - 28%

Unsheltered by Gender, PIT Count 2025



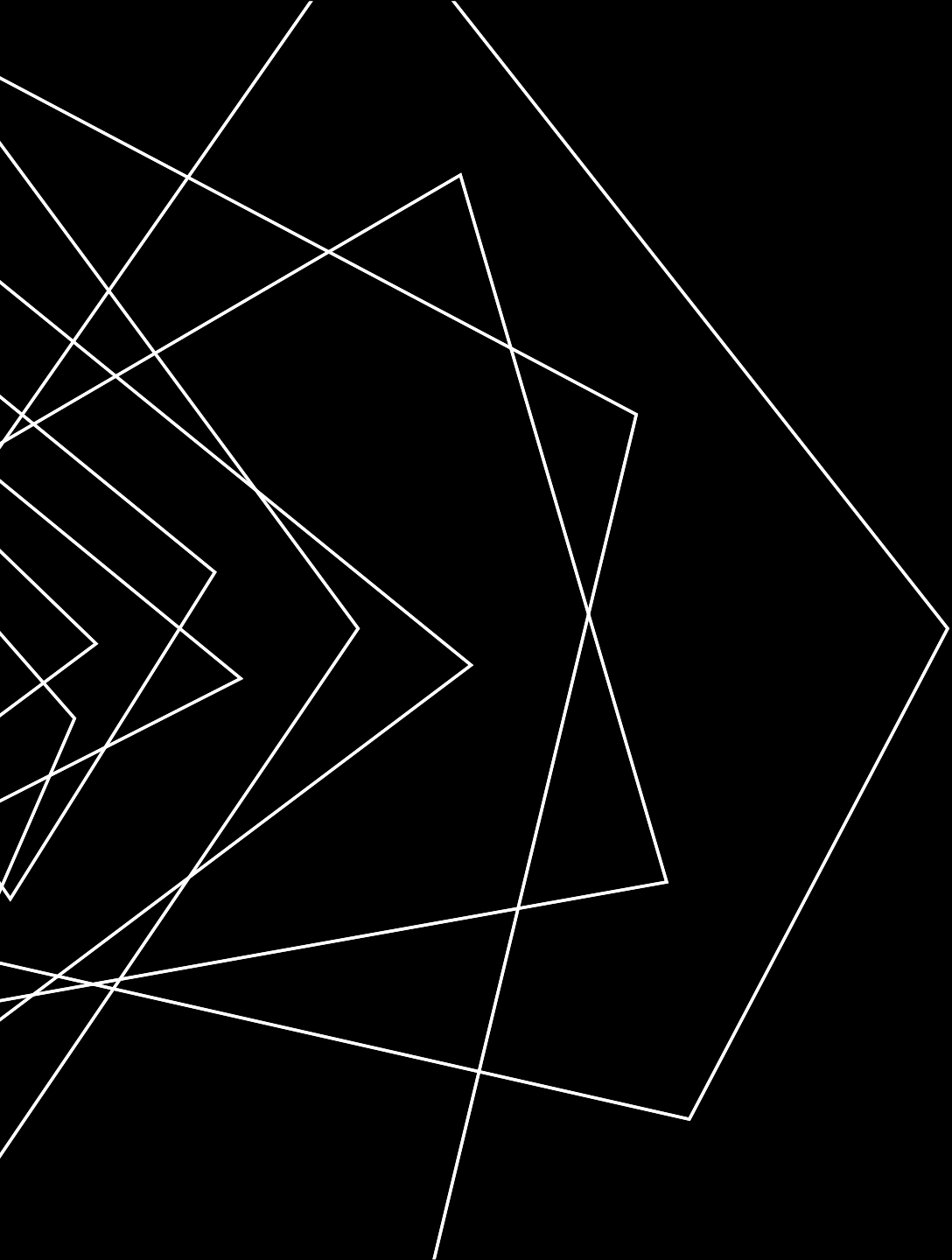
- 78% of unsheltered respondents are chronically homeless
- 68% report lack of affordable housing as the reason for their homelessness
- Only 10% report drug and alcohol abuse as reason for current homeless crisis with less than 20% citing mental health.
- 50% report some form of financial resource.
 - 20% gainful employment.
 - 16% SSI/SSDI
 - 12% TANF
 - 2% panhandling
- 68% Reported living out of doors





NEEDS ASSESSMENT KEY FINDINGS

- Emergency housing availability is limited relative to the number of those unsheltered.
- Diverse options for housing and shelter is needed, specifically clean and sober housing and shelter options.
- #1 Need cited by Lived Experts:
“A sense of Community”

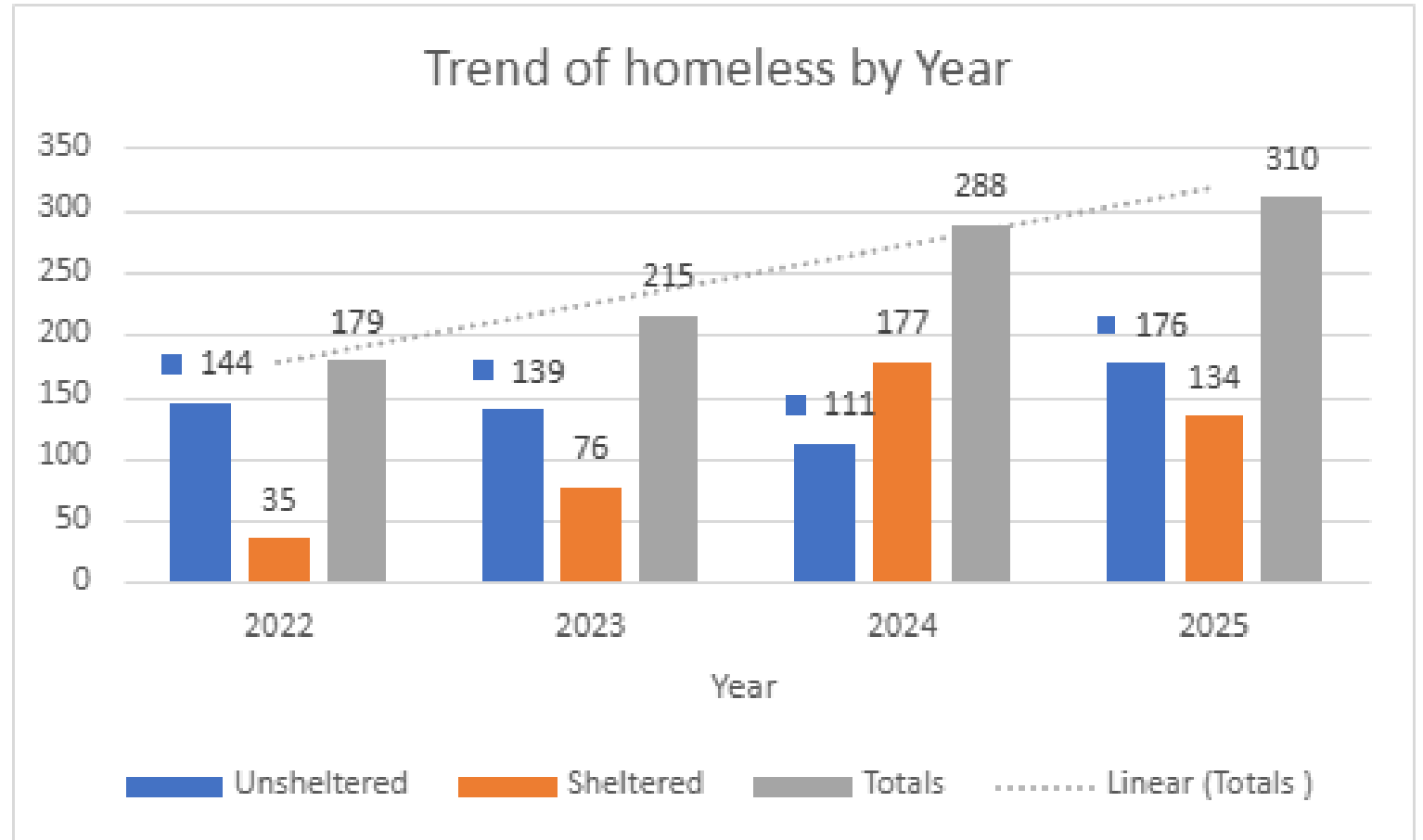


THANK YOU

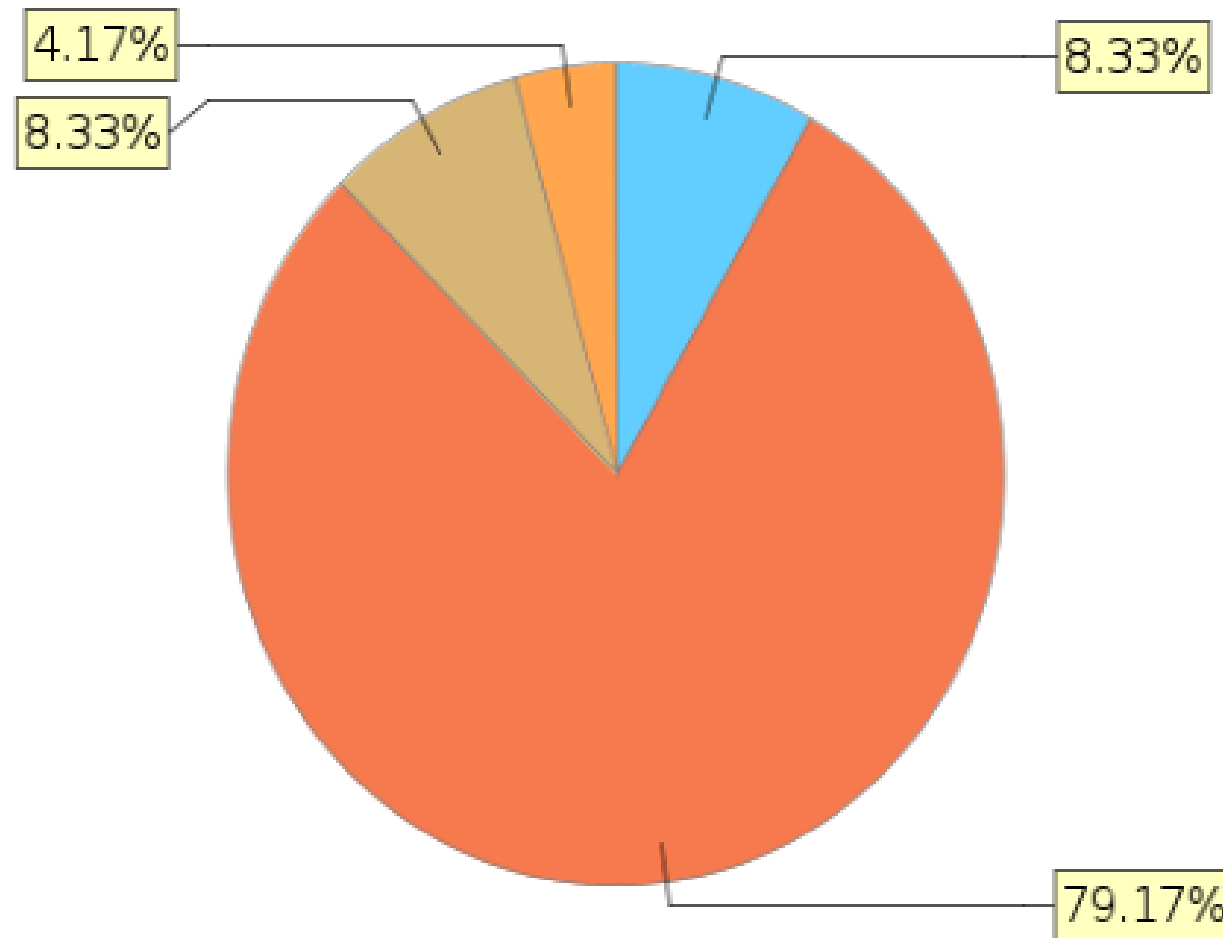
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Clallam County 2022 to 2025 Homeless Trend

- Homeless Count grew from 2022 to 2025 by 131 individuals.
- 2024 Count guidelines added transitional housing the PIT count.
- Gender identity is 62% male and 37% female 1% other
- Ethic distribution reflects the county demographics



Race and Ethnicity Chart

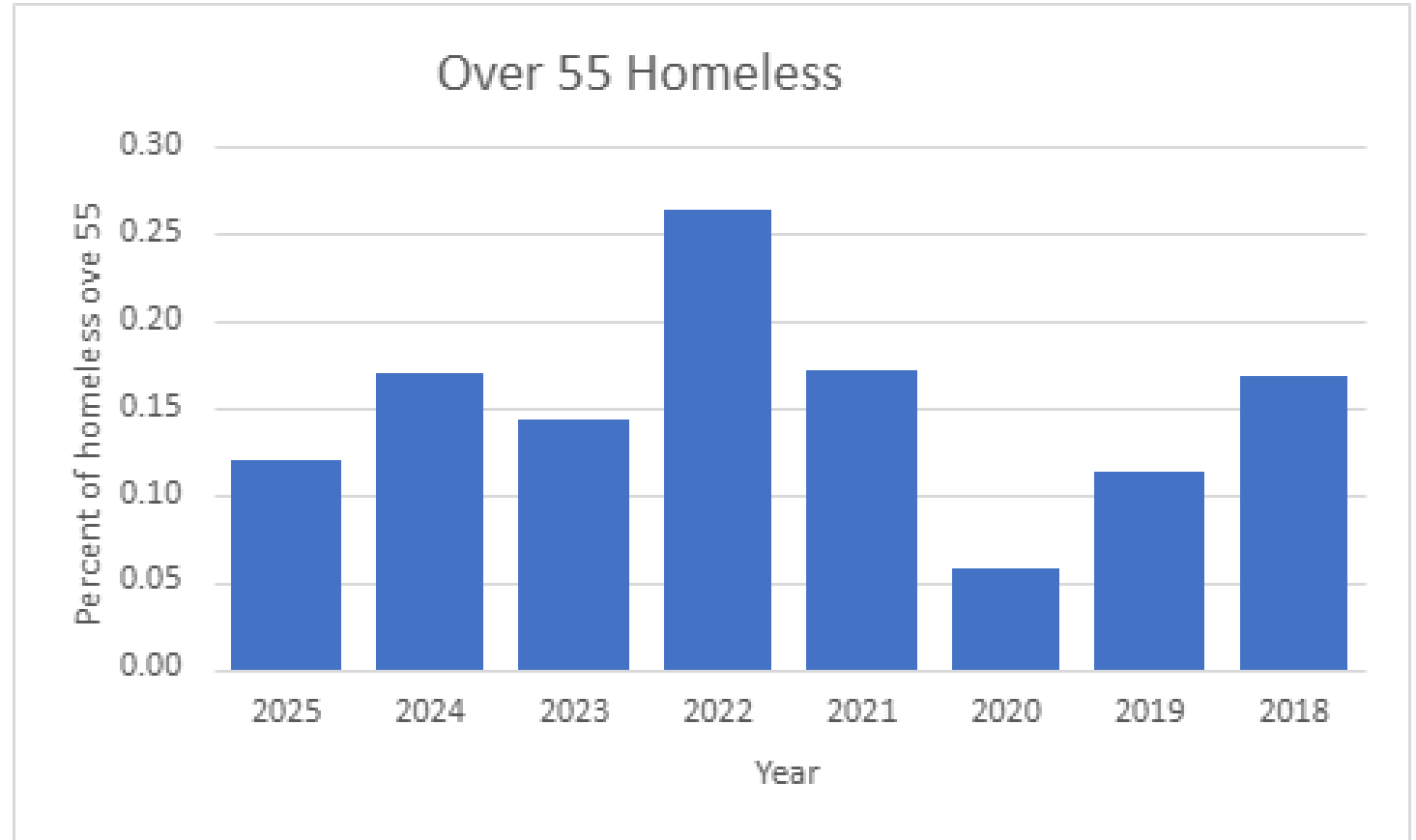


● American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous ● White ● Multiracial ● Client doesn't know / prefers not to answer

2025 Clallam County Senior Homeless

Concerns

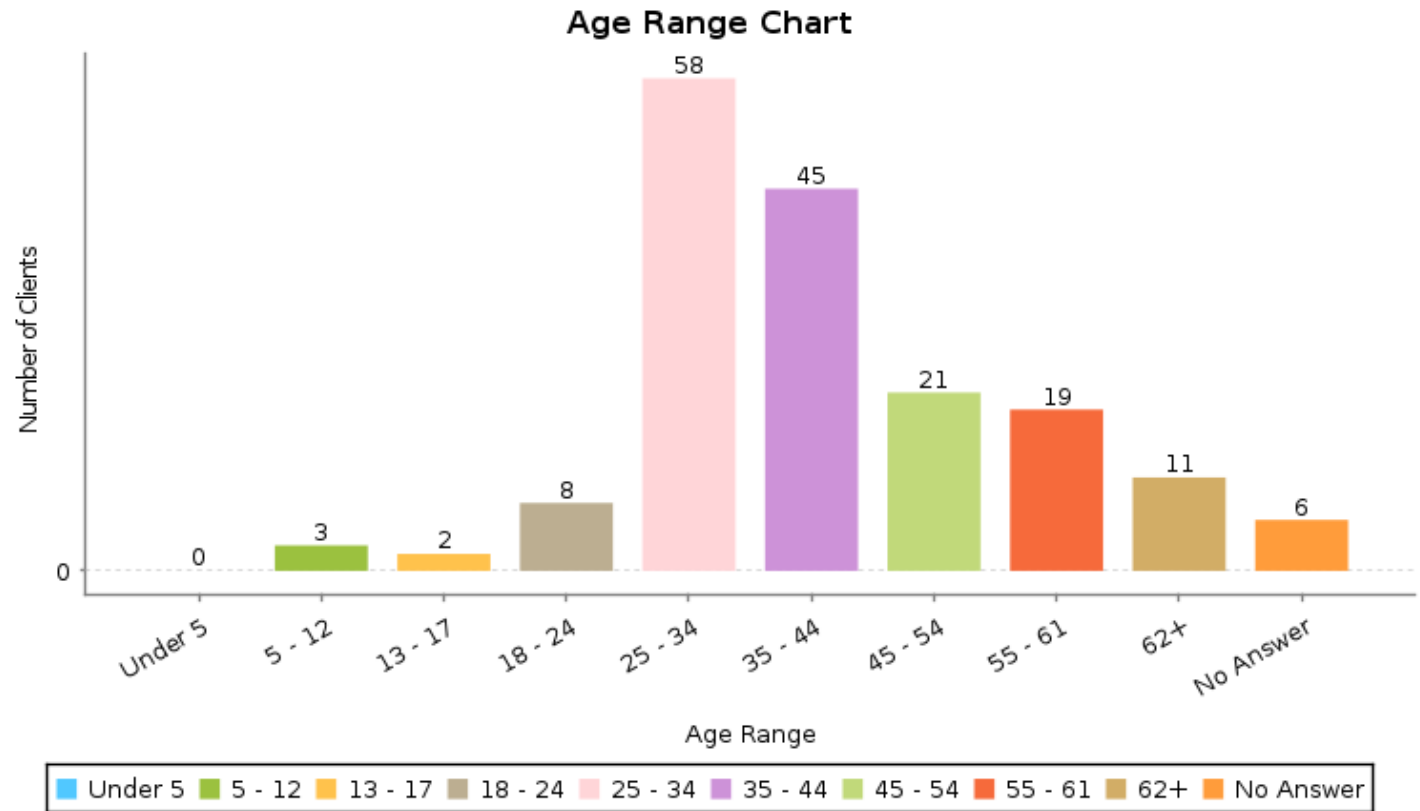
- Seniors have moved into the shelter
- The shelter percentage of over 55 in the shelter is 35 percent.
- In Discussion with Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic that provides medical services at the shelter there are at least 12 that should be in nursing homes.
- We have 10 that should have home care aide this service was provided for the first time in shelter in 2024.
- This continues to be problem as people must have the ability to feed and care for themselves.



2025 Clallam County

Unsheltered is 176

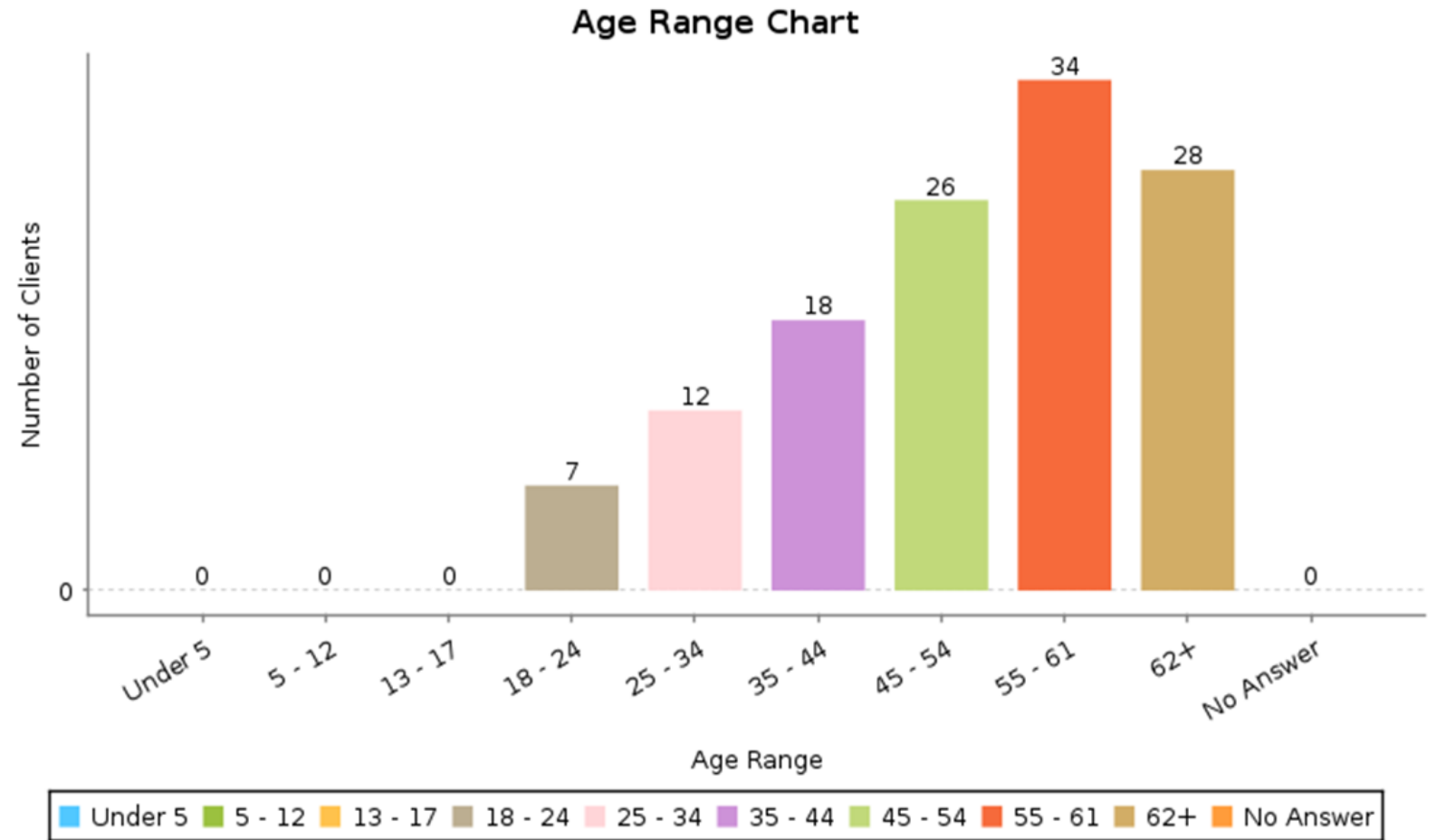
- 5 to 17 count is 5
- 18 to 34 count is 66
- 35 to 54 count is 66
- 55 to over 62 count is 30
- No Answer 6



2025 Clallam County Shelter Count is 125

Age distribution

- 18 to 34 = 19
- 35 to 54 = 44
- Over 55 to 62 & older = 62



Clallam County Transitional Housing 24 Pit Count

Age Group

5 to 17 = 9

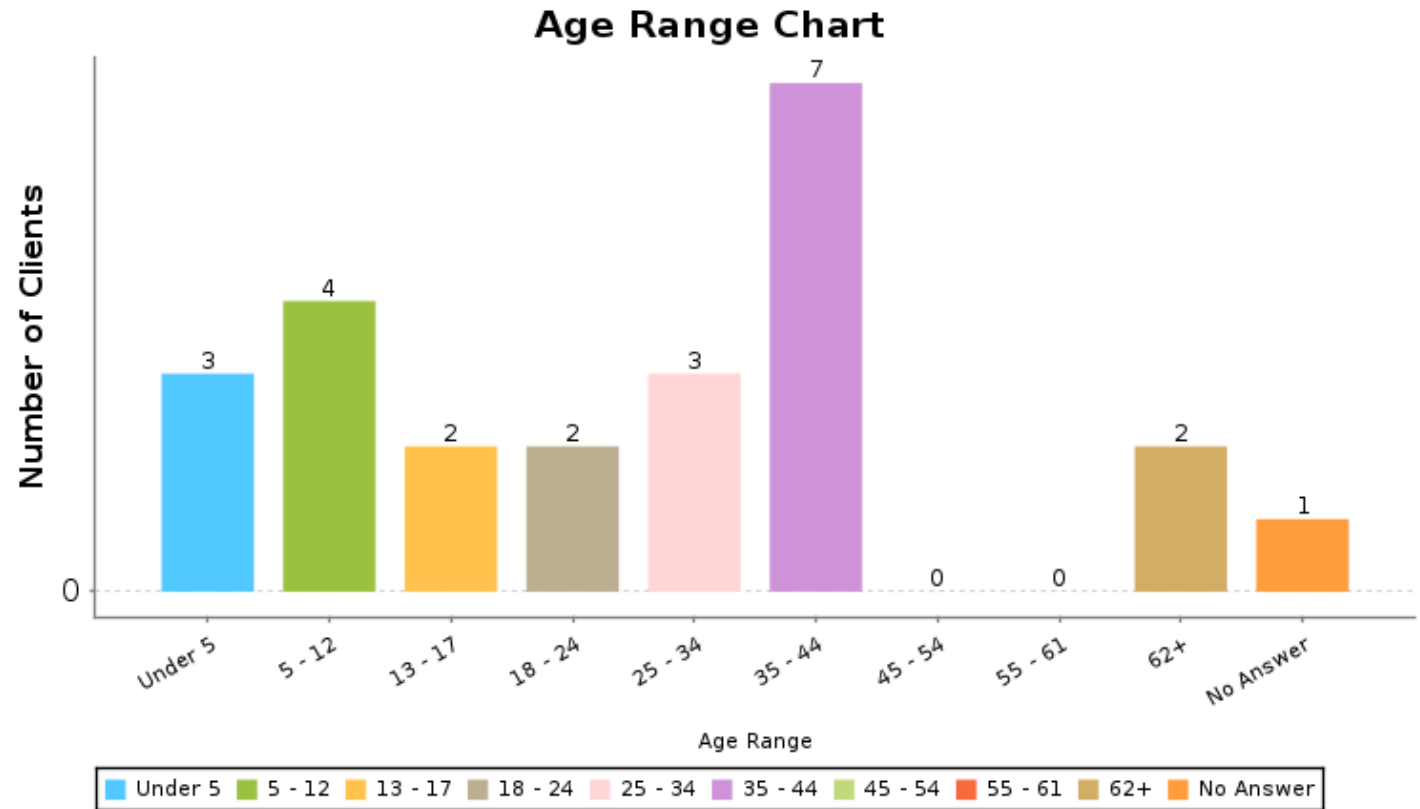
18 to 34 = 5

35 to 54 = 7

55 to 62 = 2

No answer 1

This is a new category add by HUD last year. New Administration: Next year we will have a Point in Time Count after that it count will be done every other year



SEQUIM WINTER WARMING CENTER



PURPOSE

The Warming Center serves as a crucial refuge for homeless individuals during cold months.

Its primary purpose is to provide a safe, warm place for people to escape the harsh winter conditions, which can be life-threatening due to risks like hypothermia and frostbite.

SHELTER FROM THE STORM

- Where: St Luke's Episcopal Church, 525 N. 5th Ave, Sequim, WA
- Hours: 9pm – 7am
- Additional Days:
 - Thanksgiving Eve
 - Christmas Eve
 - New Years Eve
- Four-legged Companions Welcome



OPENING PROTOCOL



- Review weather across Clallam County through forecast.weather.gov.
 - Scheduled to open if any part of the county is predicted to be 36 degrees or lower.
 - Windchill taken into account.
 - Email to 65 organizations and volunteers including KSQM. Social media post shared on Facebook. Sign posted outside on 5th St.
 - If no one arrives by midnight, Warming Center closes before 1am.
-



CHANGES TO PROTOCOL WINTER 2024-2025

- Threshold to open adjusted from 34 degrees to 36 degrees.
 - If the Warming Center is open on Saturday, automatically open the following Sunday.
-

DAYS OPEN AND NUMBER SERVED COMPARISON

- **2024 -25: Open 64 days and provided 174 shelter nights to approximately 52 persons. No one was turned away.**
- **2023 - 24: Open 31 days and provided 142 shelter nights. Do not have number of people served available.**

REFERRALS AND SUPPORT

Previous year did not track referrals or resources provided.

For Winter 24-25 we encouraged staff to support participants with referrals and resources and to track these.

50 Referrals

- Housing - 31
- Food Bank – 19

259 Essential Items

- 40 Blankets
- 92 pairs of socks
- 28 coats
- 12 shirts
- 9 pairs of pants
- 13 pairs of gloves
- 65 handwarmers

\$900 in Safeway and Walmart gift cards



LOOKING FORWARD

- Set up call line for Warming Center updates
- New flyers with QR code
- Seeking space that meets codes to allow people to sleep on cots.
- Staff being trained to process applications for Open Doors Fund, assist participants through Washington Connections benefit navigation, and other resources.
- Coordination with the Trinity United Methodist Safe Parking Program due to launch late summer.

THANK YOU

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