Fall 2017 Partnership with Apache Junction

ASU Project Cities
Homelessness Project

Understanding Homelessness—PAF 509: Public Affairs Capstone

Joan Serviss, et. al.– Dr. Malcolm Goggin
Capstone Overview
Eight Student Projects
Group Composition

- Eight capstone students
- Four are local and four live outside the metro area
- Two of the locals met with Heather and toured the city and observed locations where the homeless gathered, slept, and ate
- Two of the locals visited the soup kitchen
Sample Research Questions

- Who are the homeless people in the City of Apache Junction and how can they be helped?
- What programs are proven to be most effective?
- Will more police presence have an impact on illegal activities?
- What is the nutritional content of Genesis Project meals?
Student’s Research Methods

- Data collected through obtaining personal narratives from Apache Junction citizens
- Case studies about programs and strategies that have been implemented in other cities
- Survey of city council members
- Content analysis of documents
Sample of Key Findings

- Transportation in the city of Apache Junction is limited.
- Local businesses may not be as concerned about the homeless population and its perceived rapid increase.
- Support services and addition are two of the homeless populations’ greatest needs.
- Comparable cities are beginning to incorporate the need for additional housing, safe havens, and resources facilities within their districts.
- When the homeless are approached as victims of the situation instead of criminals or nuisance, there will be a decrease in the homeless population.
Sample Recommendations

- Improve transportation options for the homeless population
- Make available affordable low-income housing within walking distance of jobs and support services
- Create a public marketing internship position
- Encourage more non-profits to organize and implement programs to aid the homeless
Understanding Homelessness

Joan Serviss
Research Purpose: Understanding the Federal, State, & Local Resources Dedicated to Homelessness in Apache Junction, AZ & Recommendations

Joan Serviss, Arizona State University
PAF 509 Student – Fall 2017
Statement of the Problem

- 549,928 individuals experiencing homelessness in the U.S. on any given night
- 9,682 men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in Arizona
THE COST OF ENDING HOMELESSNESS

DOLLARS
(In billions)

$80

$60

$40

$20

Cost of Ending Homelessness in the U.S.

Taxpayer Subsidies for the Oil Industry*

Responsibly Cutting Nuclear Weapons Spending

Eliminating Capital Gains Tax Cuts*

Amount Americans Will Spend on Christmas Decorations & Flowers

Eliminating Corporate Meals & Entertainment Write-Offs

* FY 2012 - FY 2016
† Cost over five years
Increased funding creates an increase in sheltered homelessness
- Increased funding expands shelter availability
- Families “couch-surfing” find “room at the inn”
- Increased funding expands outreach
Literature Review

- Addressing homelessness thought to be a local official’s issue to resolve
- Highly dependent on community’s perceptions
- Community task force can lead to shared advocacy and participatory budgeting
Data Methodology

- Arizona Department of Economic Security’s Coordinated Homeless Services
- Arizona Department of Economic Security’s Domestic Violence Prevention Program
- Arizona Department of Economic Security’s Emergency Solutions Grant Program
- Arizona Department of Housing’s Community Development Block Grants
- Arizona Department of Housing’s Community Development Block Grants-State Special Projects
- Arizona Department of Housing’s HOME Investment Partnership Program
- Arizona Department of Housing’s HOME Investment Partnership Program
- Arizona Department of Housing’s Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
- Arizona Department of Housing’s National Housing Trust Fund
- Arizona Department of Housing’s State Housing Trust Fund
- Arizona Department of Health Services’ Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
- Arizona Department of Health Services’ Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals
- HUD’s Continuum of Care Program
## Data Findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entitlement &amp; Non-Entitlement Communities</th>
<th>AZ Coordinated Homeless Program (DES)</th>
<th>AZ Domestic Violence Program (DES)</th>
<th>HUD’s Community Development Block Grants Non-Entitlement (DESH)</th>
<th>HUD’s Community Development Block Grants- State Special Project (ADOH)</th>
<th>HUD’s HOME Investments Program (ADOH)</th>
<th>HUD’s Housing Opportunities for People w/AIDS (ADOH)</th>
<th>HUD’s National Housing Trust Fund (ADOH)</th>
<th>AZ State Housing Trust Fund (ADOH)</th>
<th>SAMHSA Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (ADHS/AHCCS)</th>
<th>SAMHSA Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals-State &amp; Expanded (ADHS/AHCCCS)</th>
<th>HUD’s Continuum of Care Grants</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona (statewide)</td>
<td>$3,522,600</td>
<td>$13,903,700</td>
<td>$1,685,724</td>
<td>$10,578,395</td>
<td>$1,373,054</td>
<td>$4,804,047</td>
<td>$239,786</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
<td>$1,173,429</td>
<td>$711,818</td>
<td>$43,492,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance of State (covers 13 remaining counties)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016 Total</td>
<td>$3,522,600</td>
<td>$13,903,700</td>
<td>$1,685,724</td>
<td>$10,578,395</td>
<td>$1,373,054</td>
<td>$4,804,047</td>
<td>$239,786</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
<td>$1,173,429</td>
<td>$711,818</td>
<td>$47,492,542</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Apache Junction’s Homelessness & Housing Support Funding Availability

0.9% available to City of Apache Junction to fund homelessness and housing supports
Recommendations

- Expand Chronic Homelessness Workgroup to include citizen subcommittee
- Continue seeking public comments as part of budget
- Engage with local Continuum of Care
- Coordinate homelessness-ending activities with neighboring cities to learn best practices, new funding sources (horizontal diffusion)
Thank you!

Malcolm.Goggin@ASU.edu