



A 1989 report organized by Columbia Mayor Patton Adams was one of the first to examine needs for housing, services, and existing capacity to address these needs. It is time for another systematic examination of family homelessness.



Analyses of requests for homeless services document that **need for services clearly outpaces our current capacity**

- Need for much more affordable housing.
- Develop rapid re-housing for large majority of families who have one crisis.
- Expand emergency housing capacity with rapid re-housing.
- Target transitional housing for families most in need of extended support.

Family homelessness services need coordination across a continuum of care.

4,113

PERSONS USED FAMILY HOMELESSNESS SERVICES IN RICHLAND COUNTY FROM 2004 - 2015

81.8%
USED THESE SERVICES ONLY ONCE

4%
USED THESE SERVICES ONLY ONCE



according to the HUD-funded Homeless Management Information System

Different types of family homelessness would best be served with different interventions tailored to family needs.

Analyses of the number and length of homeless episodes reveal five distinct patterns of homeless service used by families in Richland County over 12 years:

69% **ONE BRIEF CRISIS**
one episode for 54 days on average

14% **TWO BRIEF CRISES**
two episodes for 4 months on average

10% **EXTENDED SUPPORT**
one episode for 17 months on average

4% **LONG-TERM SUPPORT**
one - two episodes for nearly 5 years

3% **PERSISTENT HOUSING INSECURITY**
three or more episodes for 4.5 months



HOMELESS NO MORE
putting families first