Homeless Services Providers Taskforce Report on Homelessness in Manhattan and Riley County, KS

(December 2025)

Prepared by Brian Peete, Riley County Police Department

Contents

Executive Summary

In July 2025, representatives from many community organizations and government agencies met to discuss the resources needed to assist homeless individuals within the City of Manhattan. These meetings documented complaints and concerns from many local businesses regarding disruptive behaviors from several homeless individuals. Stakeholders then brainstormed potential solutions to reduce disruptive and illegal behavior committed by some of the homeless population within Manhattan and worked to identify what resources were needed to help reduce homelessness. As a result, a permanent multi-disciplinary team was formed to develop standardized coordinated responses for homeless services providers and viable solutions designed to reduce homelessness unique to the needs of our community. This team has become the Homeless Services Providers Taskforce of Manhattan, Kansas (HSPTF). The HSPTF has met monthly since July 2025, with the goal of providing locally elected officials and community/business leaders and organizations short, medium, and long-term solutions rooted in dignity and empathy to help reduce and prevent homelessness within Manhattan. It is the group's belief that system gaps, not individuals, are the core issues to be addressed and overcome.

Homelessness is more than the image of what is commonly picture of a person living in the elements, it is a very complicated and multi-faceted issue and its causes and prolongment are affected by a variety of factors. For purposes of this report, HSPTF defined homelessness as an individual(s) who lack stable, fixed, reliable and consistent adequate permanent housing. This includes the "visible" homeless which are often seen living and loitering in public places, and/or at private locations and businesses.

Available data supports the business and community perception that disruptive behaviors from homeless individuals has increased. There is also information which suggests an increase of visually homeless people coming into the city from outside the county who are in need of services, but there is no supporting evidence of the structured, intentional or sponsored relocation of homeless people into Manhattan by outside agencies, organizations, or governments. In some cases, homeless individuals have relocated into Manhattan because their origin community may have higher costs of living when compared to Manhattan, and/or their origin community lacks the resources they need (i.e. food, counseling, medical care, shelters, emergency and affordable housing, and medical assisted treatment). It is also very important to note that current economic and employment trends and information suggest more individuals and families in Manhattan (and in the County) may be at a higher risk for imminent loss of housing. As such, HSPTF cautions community organizations which assist the homeless, or those at risk of being homeless, will most likely be in more need of additional resources for 2026: this includes the KState and Manhattan Christian College student populations. The HSPTF also foresees a real potential of more individuals and families within Riley County in future need of services and resources, as well as the potential of more individuals from outside Manhattan coming into the city. This may equate to an increase in the visible symptoms of homelessness such as strained existing services, more individuals sleeping or loitering in public, private and vacant places, more arrests of individuals who are homeless, and more complaints of disruptive behaviors or welfare check-related calls for service. The HSPTF also found that adequate services and policies are in place to help the existing percentage of homeless people from Riley County and Manhattan, however to maximize the speed in which these resources are dispersed, new technology is needed to enhance stakeholder communication for faster response, and to collect data to determine the effectiveness of current and proposed policies and programs. Such technology also minimizes the denial of a person or family's access to these much-needed resources. The group's short term solutions included: 1) Strengthening stakeholder's pre-existing standardized compassionate response to assist homeless people via a communications platform which will allow stakeholder agencies to share information and request assistance to aid those in need of resources or who are in crisis and reduce access barriers, 2) outreach efforts to entrepreneurs and community members on their options when dealing with an individual who is loitering, sleeping, or staying at their home or business while also reviewing ordinances related to camping, disturbance and loitering, and potentially establishing future respite centers or emergency shelter space, and 3) incorporate preventative measures, such as assistance to families, individuals and students to ensure they do not lose their homes, or are given the opportunity to purchase or rent housing. It is vital that any such efforts are made in transparency with the public and those experiencing homelessness, so to minimize unintended consequences while maximizing opportunities for people to find and keep sustained housing.

Though stakeholder organizations collect specific data relevant to their unique requirements, there is still an absence of overall data which shows how often each agency comes into contact with homeless people and those in jeopardy of being homeless, as well as the combined the overall effectiveness of the existing partnerships and resources. Once this baseline data is collected over time and trends are identified, the HSPTF will be in a better position to determine permanent and long-term needs such as additional personnel, facilities and funding, etc. Still, the HSPTF can unequivocally state that Riley County and its municipal governments only have the resources to aid the homeless population currently existing within their Areas of Responsibility as all stakeholders are seeing an increase in out-of-city individuals and families coming into Manhattan which increases the strain on existing resources. The HSPTF stresses the incumbency upon all counties within the state to provide or establish the resources and services to aid their own homeless populations rather than moving them to neighboring or other municipalities.

Participants

Susan Adamchak, Manhattan City Commission
Tiffany Anders, Riley County Police Department
Daryl Ascher, Riley County Police Department
Sarah Barrett, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation
Sarah Becker, Konza Prairie Community Health Center
Alyssa Boley, Manhattan Housing Authority
Josh Brewer, Habitat for Humanity
April Brothers, Pawnee Mental Health Services
Sydney Carlin, Kansas State Representative District 66
Erica Christie, Three Rivers Inc.
Dennis Cook, Aggieville Business Association
Robert Copple, Ascencion Via Christi
Kirk Crabtree, Manhattan
Dr. Diane Di Hinrichs-Toburen, Pawnee Mental Health Services
Danielle Dulin, City of Manhattan City Manager
Aaron Estabrook, Manhattan Housing Authority
Stephanie Foran, Crisis Center, Inc.
Mark French, Riley County Police Department
Scott French, City of Manhattan Fire Chief
Stephanie Grynkiewicz, Be Able
Scott Hajek, Riley County Police Department
Jeremy Harmon, Center of Hope and Ministry
Vernon Henricks, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation
Jason Hilgers, City of Manhattan Deputy City Manager
Jennifer Jones, Ascension Via Christi Health
John Matta, Manhattan City Commission
Tabatha Neubert, Court Services and Probation
Eric Norris, Manhattan Public Library
Debbie Nuss, Flint Hills Wellness Coalition
Brian Peete, Riley County Police Department
Kathy Ray, The Crisis Center
Mike Rezkalla, Pawnee Mental Health Services
Jonathan Sapaugh, Pawnee mental Health Services
Scott Seel, Housing MHK
Gina Snyder, Downtown Manhattan Initiative
Scott Voos, Be Able
Emily Wagner, Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc.
Becky Woodward, Pawnee Mental Health Services

Background

In June 2025, representatives from the City of Manhattan and the Riley County Police Department (RCPD), and Pawnee Mental Health Services (PMHS) met with a business regarding complaints of homeless individuals causing multiple disturbances and committing criminal infractions within the city's downtown area. There were also concerns that unknown agencies from outside the City and County were bringing their homeless populations into Manhattan. RCPD and PMHS offered to convene a meeting with community stakeholders in Riley County to discuss the incidents, perform a count as to the estimated number of homeless individuals within Manhattan (if needed), and brainstorm solutions to more rapidly provide services to those in need.

In August 2025, representatives from RCPD, Be Able, and the Manhattan Emergency Shelter Inc. (MESI) met with the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce to gather information as to what, if any, negative effects that disruptive behaviors from homeless individuals in and around the Blue Earth Plaza area had on local businesses. The Chamber emphasized its strong desire to partner with government and community organizations to identify and work on solutions that provided individuals in need with housing security and mental health resources. A stakeholder task force was then created, now called the Homeless Services Providers Taskforce of Manhattan (HSPTF). The HSPTF's goal is to identify the services within Manhattan to help homeless people and families find stable and safe housing, to determine what additional resources are needed to reduce homelessness in the community, and provide locally elected officials and community/business leaders and organizations with recommended short, medium, and long-term solutions (rooted in dignity and empathy) to help those in the community struggling with homelessness.

Since then, the HSPTF has met on an ongoing monthly basis to brainstorm potential short-, medium-, and long-term solutions to reduce homelessness in the community and provide resources to those experiencing homelessness. The information collected by the group, as well as the group's recommendations on minimizing homelessness in the community, is presented in this report.

Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Experienced and passionate leadership and staff across agencies (MHA, Pawnee, MESI, Be Able, City, Riley County). • Strong collaboration and partnerships among community providers — rapid coordination and shared resources. • Access to diverse housing and shelter resources (emergency, transitional, permanent supportive, HUD-assisted). • Dedicated volunteer base and community support through GMCF, churches, civic groups, and donors. • Innovative, data-informed leadership aligning housing work with broader community goals. • Strong police and public agency cooperation. • Small enough homeless population to know many individuals personally, building rapport. • Effective communication among service providers and willingness to take a team approach.	• Limited funding, staff shortages, and capacity constraints across agencies. • Insufficient affordable housing; long waitlists for vouchers and limited three-bedroom units. • High housing and utility costs make housing unaffordable even with assistance. • Fragmented coordination and lack of unified homeless data system. • Burnout and turnover among frontline workers; lack of case management coverage. • Inadequate public transportation and few public facilities for unsheltered individuals. • Lack of detox or acute mental health inpatient services. • Barriers due to HIPAA and limited communication among agencies hinder tracking outcomes. • Insufficient crisis response and mental health access; lack of timely interventions. • Zoning and regulatory hurdles for affordable housing development.
Opportunities	**Threats**
• Access to new and expanded funding streams (KHRC HOME, ESG, HUD CoC, CDBG, IRA, GMCF, Morgan Fund). • Development of a local Homelessness Coordinator or Navigation role to unify strategy and data. • Creation of affordable and workforce housing through public–private partnerships (LIHTC, RHID, adaptive reuse). • Integration of housing and healthcare systems ("housing as healthcare"). • Community education to reduce stigma and build advocacy through campaigns and events. • Innovative housing models: rapid rehousing, low-barrier shelters, and prevention-focused strategies. • Opioid Settlement Funds and Kansas Fights Addiction grants. • Expansion of partnerships among government, nonprofits, and private entities to provide wrap-around services.	• Sustainability of funding; reliance on competitive or restricted grants. Reduction in state/fed funding • Rising housing costs, gentrification, and increasing demand for affordable units. • Economic instability, inflation, and construction cost spikes threatening housing projects. • High prevalence of mental illness and substance use disorders complicating service delivery. • Limited employment opportunities and community stigma toward homeless individuals. • Potential state and federal funding cuts impacting HUD and KHRC programs. • Community resistance (NIMBYism) delaying shelter or housing projects. • Extreme weather events increasing pressure on shelter capacity. • Public misunderstanding and stigmatization of homelessness, leading to fear-based policy responses. • Increased inflow of individuals from outside the community straining resources.

Summarized Snapshot Data

Riley County Police Department	1.- Homeless-related disturbance Calls For Service (CFS) 2022 – 353 2023 – 386 2024 – 385 2025 – 514 This is an increase of 37% in one year Top 10 arrest categories of homeless subjects include, warrants, trespass, violations of Protection From Abuse, larceny (theft), battery, drugs, disorderly conduct, and criminal damage to property. Warrant arrests are most often affiliated with violations of trespassing, not paying citations for previous petty crimes, or are out-of-jurisdiction charges (NOTE: RCPD pays housing and medical costs to hold individuals arrested from outside of Manhattan on out-of-jurisdiction warrants). October 2025, RCPD reported that at least 40% of its ADP is on mental health-related drugs.
Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc. (MESI)	**1.** MESI noted that many individuals they have served have made the following observations: coming into Manhattan, they have researched the city and believed the to be an ideal place to live, move to, or have access to services, but upon arrival realized "how expensive" it is, and that there is an actual lack of resources. **2.** For 2025, to date, MESI has seen 69 people from out of state. Most of these individuals only stayed 48 hrs. Previous year's out-of-state numbers are below: OUT OF STATE # OUT OF COUNTY # (Riley/Pottawotamie) 2025 – 69 18.3% 10.7% 2024 – 45 10.7% 19.9% 2023 – 45 10% 20.8% 2022 – 17 4.4% 40.7% 2021 – 25 7.4% 30.0% 2020 – 14 4% 38.7% 2019 – 20 3.6% 28.6% **3.** 82% of MESI clients leave the shelter to permanent housing **4.** MESI estimated their current strategic planning and needs are sufficient and accurate, assuming they only provide services to those with Riley County or nearby addresses. However, if the Riley County community continues to welcome transients or households in need from outside of the county or nearby areas, MESI will need to expand. **5.** MESI has ideas for partnership programs to work with neighboring agencies to facilitate collaboration, and/or assist other communities in providing services to their own populations. **6.** MESI estimated Manhattan and Riley County needs additional transitional supportive housing units than what it currently has. Should additional transitional supportive homes be made available, MESI believes the current shelter system would not need to expand. MESI maintains Shelters should be for emergency situations, whereas transitional housing allows time with guidance and case management to get back on track.

	7. As it relates to Point-In-Time (PIT) counts, the Flint Hills Region recently separated from the Northeast Region (2023). The Flint Hills Region includes Geary, Riley, Pottawatomie, Clay, Marshall, and Washington Counties. The PIT numbers are not good comparisons because the region has not had regional data except for 2024 and 2025. Furthermore, these count numbers largely depend on the weather on the night of the count. When PIT counts were done, both the warming shelter and MESI had fewer people on the night of the count because it was a "warmer" night and often individuals will choose to go back outside. *MESI has included the 2025 PIT report that includes all regions in Kansas and give 3 years of data.* **8**. The below information represents an estimate of how many people MESI has serviced/helped over the past five years: <table><tr><td>YEAR</td><td>Total Residents</td><td>Unduplicated</td><td>Additional Information</td></tr><tr><td>2025</td><td>378 (Jan-Oct)</td><td>(347)</td><td>Numbers through October</td></tr><tr><td>2024</td><td>422</td><td>(395)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2023</td><td>448</td><td>(405)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2022</td><td>385</td><td>(344)</td><td>COVID partial year reduced occupancy</td></tr><tr><td>2021</td><td>340</td><td>(291)</td><td>COVID reduced occupancy</td></tr><tr><td>2020</td><td>349</td><td>(313)</td><td>COVID reduced occupancy / SPARK Funding (214)</td></tr><tr><td>2019</td><td>558</td><td>(502)</td><td>Stimulus rental assistance funding Flood (96 hotel)</td></tr><tr><td>2018</td><td>232</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2017</td><td>556</td><td>(493)</td><td>Stimulus rental assistance funding</td></tr><tr><td>2016</td><td>571</td><td></td><td>Stimulus rental assistance funding</td></tr><tr><td>2015</td><td>494</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2014</td><td>495</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2013</td><td>475</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>
Be Able	**1.** Since November 2024, 40 individual tickets have been purchased to help individuals travel to locations they have requested which included Salina, Topeka, Shreveport, Denver, Jacksonville FL. Costs were $3,550 **2.** Emergency/Transition type of housing compared to Salina: Salina data 75 – Serenity House **3.** 80 – Oxford House **4.** 30 – DVACK (Domestic Violence Shelter) **5.** 11 – Ashby House (women and family shelter – way underserved) **6.** 95 – Salina Rescue Mission – we have been pretty much full all year and not taking people from other communities. You will likely hear that same message from others **7.** 40 – Emergency Winter Shelter **8.** BeAble strongly advocates for all counties within the U.S. and in the State of Kansas, especial nearby counties, provide emergency and other applicable services for those within their own communities rather than pushing people towards services in other municipalities: this equates to fewer emergency services to those within Riley County and Manhattan
Manhattan Housing Authority	Homeless Preference for Housing– 10 vouchers a year 70% of landlords don't participate in Section 8
Pawnee Mental Health Services	PMHS provides mental health services to Cloud, Clay, Geary, Jewell, Marshall, Mitchell, Pottawatomie, Republic, Riley, and Washington counties. It should be noted that sometimes, these individuals may come into the Manhattan area. PMHS has 4 beds for females, five beds for males
Manhattan Public Library	Historically, several homeless individuals often spend time at the library while waiting for other services, to stay safe/warm/cool, or to utilize library services. The library has been dealing with an increase in disruptive behaviors from homeless individuals resulting in a difficulty to attract and/or retain staff, complaints from community members utilizing library services, etc.

Demographic Data
According to the most recent U.S. Census Data (2023), the total population of Riley County was 71,108, with the average median income of $33,703.[1] The population for Manhattan is 53,951 with $34,520 as per capita income, and the average median household income at $58,441.[2] In 2025, federal poverty guidelines for household income are listed in the chart below:

Household Size (by Person)	2025 Poverty Guide
1	$15,060
2	$20,440
3	$25,820
4	$32,150
5	$37,650

Higher Education Demographics
Currently, 145 students from many states are enrolled in Manhattan Christian College. There are an estimated 21,213 students attending KState, an increase of 4.5% from the previous year. KState has set an ambitious strategic goal of increasing student enrollment to 30,000 learners by 2030 (NOTE: any student increase would include online and other campus learners). This will mean an increase in the local economy, but also higher competition for affordable housing. In October 2025, the Economics Club found KState students were experiencing a "slightly concerning" level of inflation at 3.1%.[3]

The following information is from opportunityzones.com[4]:

[1] https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2022.S0101?q=S0101:+Age+and+Sex
[2] https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US2044250-manhattan-ks/#:~:text=Poverty%20*%201.4%20times%20the%20rate,than%20double%20the%20rate%20in%20Kansas:%2011.5%25
[3] https://www.ksnt.com/news/local-news/how-hard-is-inflation-hitting-students-at-kansas-state-university/
[4] https://opportunityzones.com/zones/20161000801/#:~:text=46%25,%25%2023%25%2011%25%2012%25
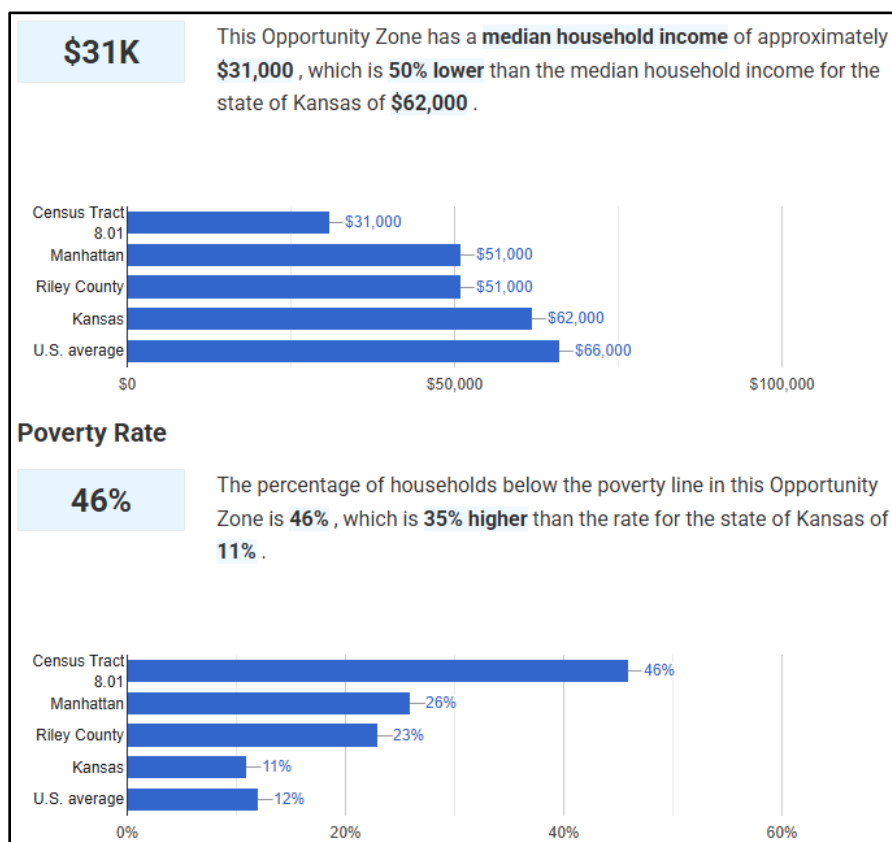
The average household size in Manhattan is approximately 2.41 with the average family size of 2.93 persons. 33.4% of households are estimated to have one person living alone.[5] It is estimated that approximately 26.12% of homes in Manhattan are at or below the poverty line, which is more than double the rate in the state.[6]

A 2023 study by the U.S. Census Bureau, which included 341 counties across the country where poverty rates are maintained at 20% or more over the past thirty years (including Riley County), Riley County was selected as the only county from Kansas where persistent poverty existed.[7]

Based on a totality of information, it can be assumed that around 1 in every four homes within both Manhattan and Riley County are at, below, or close to the poverty line, and according to the Flint Hills Breadbasket, 1 in every 6 homes in the city is struggling with food insecurity.

HUD Continuum of Care Program
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Program is the primary federal program which provides resources for homelessness people in the U.S. through nonprofit providers, states, Indian Tribes or Tribally-designated Housing Entities, and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless people, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness.[8] The primary federal agencies that provide data on homelessness are the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Annual Homeless Assessment Report (which uses data from point-in-time counts and Homeless Management Information Systems for estimations)[9], and the Department of Education's Annual Student Homelessness Report in America. In 2024, HUD estimated 2,793 homeless in Kansas[10] and the Department of Education reported 7,650 students as experiencing homelessness.[11]

National Data on Homeless Veterans
On Nov. 18, 2025, the Veteran's Administration (VA) reported[12] it permanently housed 51,936 homeless Veterans across the country in fiscal year 2025, which 4,011 more than FY 2024 (47,925). In January 2025, the VA, using data from HUD, estimated 178 homeless veterans in Kansas. In May 2025, the VA initiated the "Getting Veterans Off the Street" program (https://news.va.gov/141162/getting-veterans-off-street-ending-homelessness/) where every VA health care system in the U.S. hosted outreach surge events to locate unsheltered veterans and offer them immediate access to housing programs, healthcare, behavioral health services, and VA benefits resulting in moving 25,065 unsheltered veterans to interim (emergency and transition) or permanent housing. As of the date of this report, the Working Group does not have data related to this program and outreach placement efforts in Kansas or in Riley County. Contact information for the Homeless Program Manager for VA Kansas Center Health Care is Colleen Recker (colleen.recker@va.gov).

Low-Cost Housing and Affordable Housing Shortages in Manhattan
Based on data from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness[13], in 2024, a record-high 771,480 people experienced homelessness in the U.S.: an 18% increase from 2023. While adults comprise most homeless people, the number of children experiencing homelessness grew by 33% between 2023 and 2024. Contributing factors often include lack of affordable housing, high rent costs, substance abuse and mental health crisis, and inflation. According to a February 2024 report by KSNT.com, rent in Manhattan increased over 20% in three years.[14]

---

[5] https://www.manhattanks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/58409/Analysis-to-Impediments-to-Fair-Housing-2020-2024#:~:text=Manhattan%20is%20primarily%20composed%20of,family%20size%20is%202.93%20persons. and https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US2044250-manhattan-ks/

[6] https://opportunityzones.com/zones/20161000801/#:~:text=46%25,%25%2023%25%2011%25%2012%25

[7] https://www.ksnt.com/news/local-news/only1-kansas-county-ranks-as-being-in-persistent-poverty-in-nationwide-study/

[8] https://www.hud.gov/hud-partners/community-coc

[9] https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/ahar/#2024-reports

[10] https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2024-AHAR-Part-1.pdf

[11] https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SY-21-22-EHCY-Data-Summary_FINAL.pdf

[12] https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-houses-largest-number-of-homeless-veterans-in-seven-years/

[13] https://www.usich.gov/guidance-reports-data/data-trends

[14] https://www.ksnt.com/news/rent-in-manhattan-increases-over-20-in-3-years/

A Nov. 18, 2025, data pull from RentCafe.com reported rental prices in Manhattan have increased by 2.73% over the past year with the average rent increasing from $1,035 to $1,063.[15] Zillow.com reports the average rent prices in Manhattan to be $1,200.[16] Zumper.com reports rent prices for all bedroom counts and property types in Manhattan have increased by 8% in the last month, and have increased by 17% in the last year.[17] According to Rentcafe.com, renter-occupied households represent 59% of Manhattan housing, while just 41% of homes are owner-occupied,[18] with Point2homes.com listing renters as taking up 60% of Manhattan[19]real estate, while bestneighborhood.org reports 40.60% of people rent their homes or live in apartments in Manhattan.[20] Furthermore, bestneighborhood.com provided a map of the concentration of owner-occupied vs. renter-occupied dwellings in Manhattan (see map below).

Owners vs. Renters Key

| Mostly Owner Occupied | Owners and Renters | Mostly Renter Occupied |
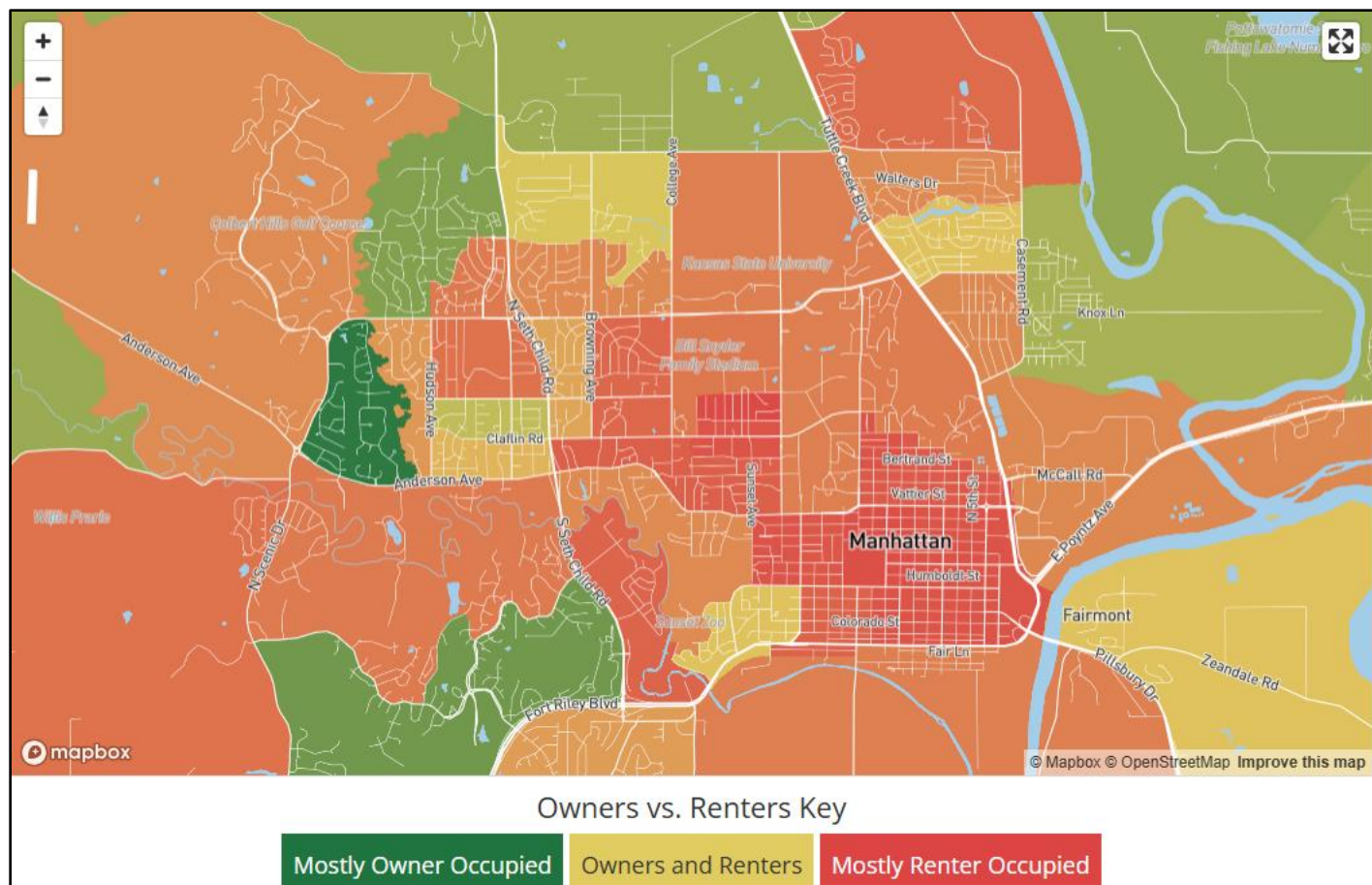
Homelessness Data in Manhattan

According to the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition, In January 2025, Kansas counted 2,658 homeless people, which is a decrease from 2,815 in 2024. However, Kansas has seen a long-term increase in homelessness since 2007 at a rate of 32%.[21] The data used by the Coalition is based on 2024 Point-in-Time counts of which this working group warns may not be the most accurate reflection of data for a variety of factors (see page 8, line 7).

---

[15] https://www.rentcafe.com/average-rent-market-trends/us/ks/manhattan/

[16] https://www.zillow.com/rental-manager/market-trends/manhattan-ks/

[17] https://www.zumper.com/rent-research/manhattan-ks

[18] https://www.rentcafe.com/average-rent-market-trends/us/ks/manhattan/#:~:text=Do%20most%20people%20rent%20or%20own%20in,renter%2Doccupied%20while%208%2C953%20or%2041%25%20are%20owner%2Doccupied.

[19] https://www.point2homes.com/US/Average-Rent/KS/Manhattan.html

[20] https://bestneighborhood.org/housing-data-in-manhattan-ks/

[21] https://www.ksnt.com/news/homeless/kansas-homeless-population-is-increasing-hud-report/#:~:text=Kansas'%20homeless%20population%20has%20increased,%25%20since%202010%20shows%20that.%E2%80%9D

Business Observations and Information

From Oct. 14-21, 2025, a non-scientific eight-question survey (designed to get basic information) as to if individuals who were homeless were involved in any disruptive behaviors, and whether such behaviors had an impact on local businesses. There were approximately 243 respondents to the survey from businesses across Manhattan. See this link, and/or the figure below for a map of the general location areas of the businesses:
https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?hl=en&mid=1HnL1_aazqhDissczHgbqE2bhbbPyF-I&ll=39.20050610591781%2C-96.59296869172661&z=13.
(NOTE: some of the respondents have tagged locations in which there were elevated issues of criminal or otherwise disorderly conduct. These areas are also noted on this map).
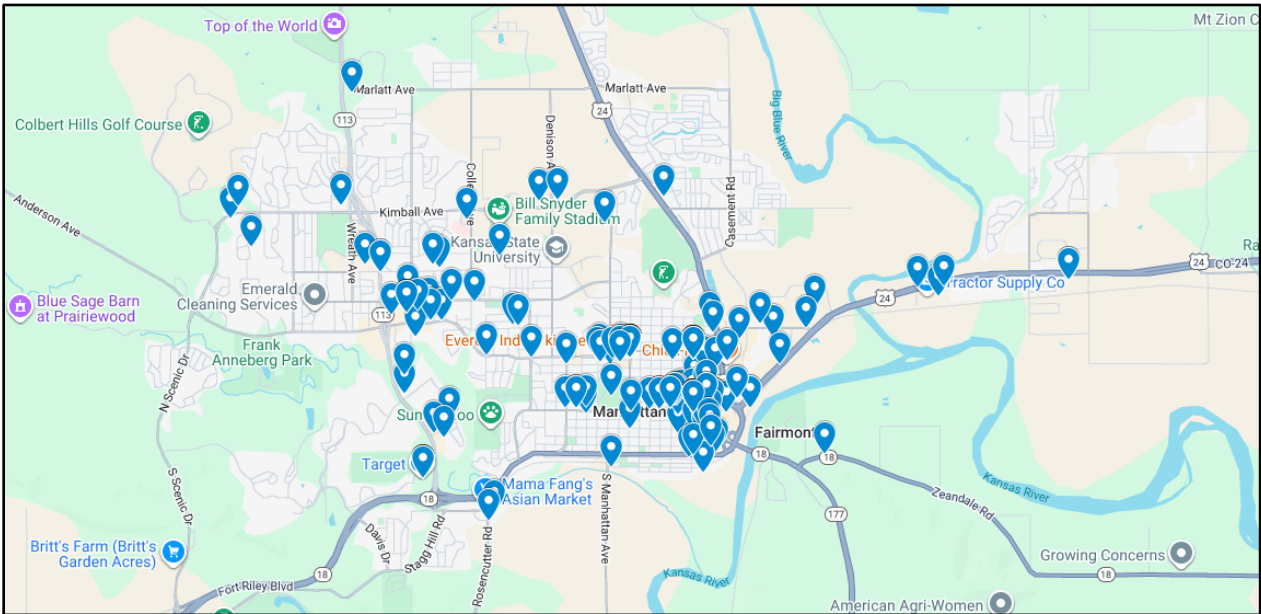
Figure 1. Location map of business owners who participated in the survey

Customize   Export▼

If your business has been negatively affected by disruptive or criminal behaviors from individuals whom you believe are homeless, please select one of more from the following.

Answered: 206   Skipped: 37
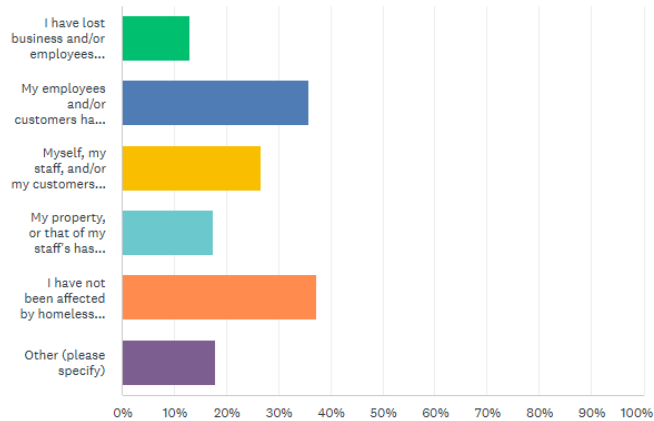
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES ▼	
▼	I have lost business and/or employees because of the behaviors	13.11%	27
▼	My employees and/or customers have expressed concerns frequenting my business because of the behaviors	35.92%	74
▼	Myself, my staff, and/or my customers have been verbally or physically threated by individuals I believe to be homeless	26.70%	55
▼	My property, or that of my staff's has been damaged or stolen by individuals I believe to be homeless	17.48%	36
▼	I have not been affected by homeless individuals at my business	37.38%	77
▼	Other (please specify) Responses	17.96%	37
Total Respondents: 206			

Q3

Customize Export ▼

Do you, your employees, or you customers not feel safe because of individuals you believe to be homeless loitering in or around your location?

Answered: 239   Skipped: 4

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Yes	47.28%	113
▼ No	41.42%	99
▼ Does Not Apply	11.30%	27
TOTAL		239

Q4

Customize Export ▼

In the past two years, have you observed individuals whom you to believe to be homeless commit a crime (Select all that apply)?

Answered: 240   Skipped: 3

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ No	57.50%	138
▼ Yes - Minor or Nuisance Crimes	35.42%	85
▼ Yes - Moderate Crimes such Theft, Fighting, or Damaging Property	16.25%	39
▼ Yes - Serious Crimes such as Crimes Involving Drugs or Weapons	7.08%	17
Total Respondents: 240		

Q5

Have disruptive behaviors by individuals you believe to be homeless negatively affect the property valuation of your business?

Answered: 239   Skipped: 4
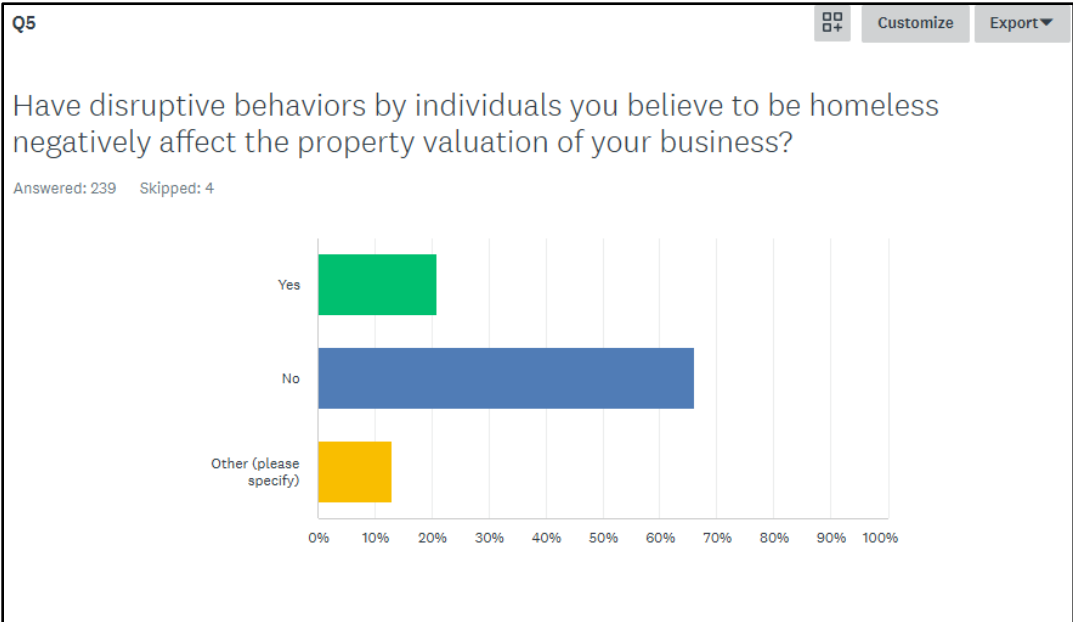
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
▼ Yes		20.92%	50
▼ No		66.11%	158
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses	12.97%	31
TOTAL			239

Q6

Over the past three years, do you believe issues surrounding the homeless have gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?

Answered: 236   Skipped: 7
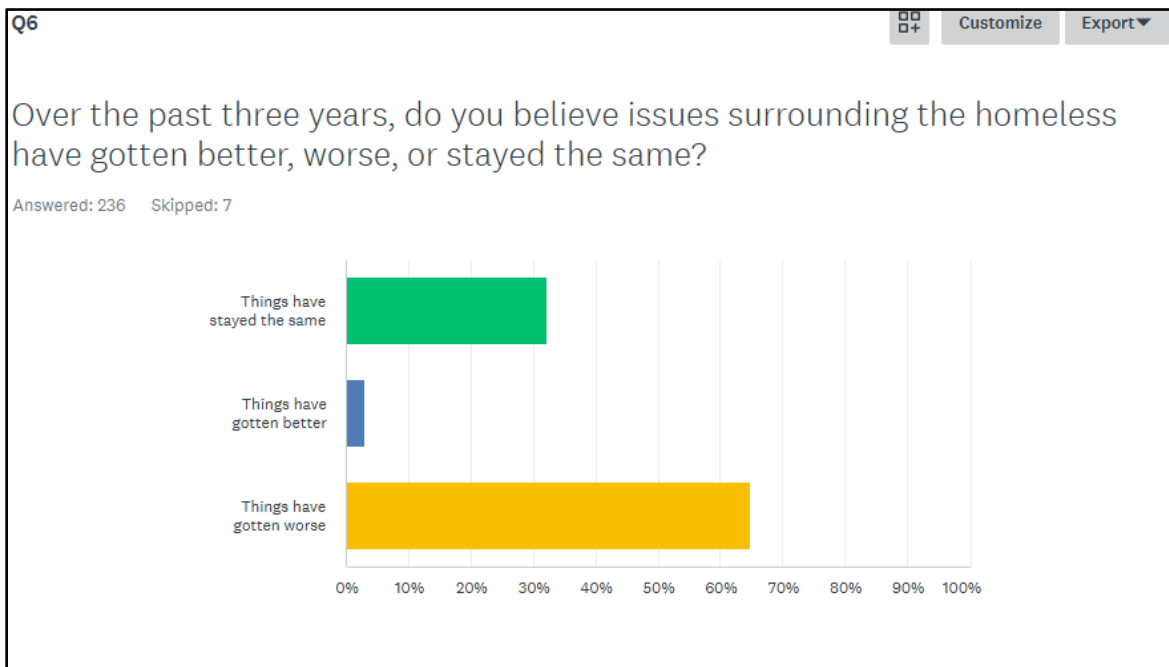
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
▼ Things have stayed the same		32.20%	76
▼ Things have gotten better		2.97%	7
▼ Things have gotten worse		64.83%	153
TOTAL			236

Please briefly provide any additional information you would like for the Coordinated Response for Homeless Services in Manhattan Working Group to know.

Answered: 114   Skipped: 129

RESPONSES (114)   WORD CLOUD   TAGS (0)   THEMATIC ANALYSIS Beta

How people feel:

😊 Positive: 15%   😐 Neutral: 20%   ☹ Negative: 61%   ❓ Undetected: 4%
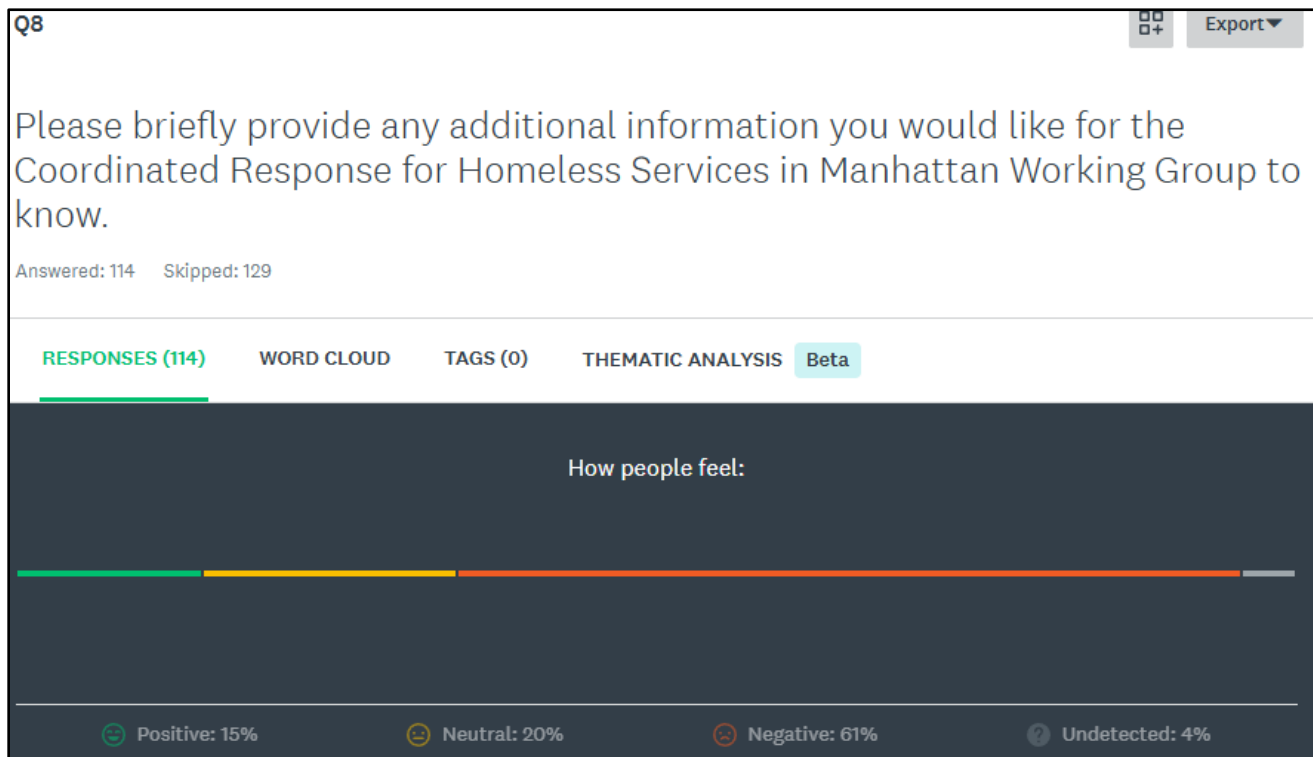
Below are examples of disruptive behaviors from homeless individuals uncovered by the HSPTF. These examples are similar/consistent to complaints received from survey respondents and calls for service to RCPD:

1. 200 blk of N 4th St: An individual was camping next to the front door of a business for about a week.
2. 300 blk of N 4th St: An intoxicated individual appearing to be unhoused was hiding in the bushes alongside the parking lot. The individual would jump out of the bushes and yell at people walking by on the sidewalk and go into the parking lot hitting cars and yelling at others in the parking lot.
3. 1125 Laramie Plaza: Multiple individuals camping in the lower-level stairwells of the basement commercial spaces using tents, sleeping bags, and furniture in these areas, and were peeing/defecating in the stair well. Staff had them trespassed by RCPD and now do checks every day in the area. Same location had an incident of individuals urinating/defecating on vehicles in the parking lot.
4. 500 blk of N 12th: Laundry room door has been kicked in several times and the lock broken. Staff found possessions in that room as if someone had been camping there.
5. 910 Garden Way: Multiple incidents of unhoused individuals breaking into the laundry room. Staff called RCPD to have them trespassed. One individual was aggressive and RCPD had to physically remove them from the property.
6. Statement from business owner who routinely allowed homeless individuals to use the facilities: Individuals are repeatedly loitering the building and the owner feels guilt in asking them to leave/refusing services or handout, and can no longer focus on working: "It's like having someone come into your job at the department and stand in your office all day long."

16

The following information is a summary synopsis of open-ended responses left by those who took the survey.[22]

Property & Safety Concerns
- Individuals sleeping outside businesses, inside sheds, or in vacant homes
- Trespassing into offices, storage sheds, apartments, or vacant buildings
- Damage to property, including vandalism, breaking in, denting vehicles, or leaving behind personal items
- Dumpster diving, digging through trash, and leaving large messes behind

Behavior Toward Employees & Customers
- Loitering near entrances, sidewalks, bus stops, or parking lots, creating discomfort or fear
- Approaching employees or customers for money, cigarettes, or assistance
- Erratic, aggressive, or unpredictable behavior tied to intoxication, drug use, or mental health crises
- Instances of verbal threats, confrontations, or refusal to leave

---

Perceived Impact on Business Operations
- Loss of customers due to unsafe perceptions
- Reduced foot traffic
- Businesses locking doors, modifying hours, or increasing security

Reputation & Property Value
- Concerns that downtown business and home neighborhood images are deteriorating
- Potential impact on renting or selling nearby property

Perceptions of Change Over Time
- Many respondents believed the situation has worsened in the last 2–3 years
- Some report stable or minimal impact in their specific area

---

Key Themes in Community Opinions
A. Concern About 'Importing' Homelessness
Belief that non-local individuals are coming to Manhattan for services
B. Need for More Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
Strong consensus that many behaviors stem from untreated mental illness or addiction
C. Enforcement vs. Compassion
- Community sentiment is split: Some want increased enforcement while others pushed for compassion, decriminalization, and supportive services

---

Suggestions from Respondents
- Increase shelter capacity
- Improve mental health and addiction resources.
- Implement outreach programs similar to Wichita's H.O.T.
- Educate businesses about compassionate interactions

---

[22] The open-ended responses were summarized by AI. The original responses were reviewed by a human, and the AI summary was deemed as an accurate condensed summarization of the survey responses.

The following information represents the frequency of the concerns mentioned by survey respondents.

Keyword Frequency in Open-Ended Responses
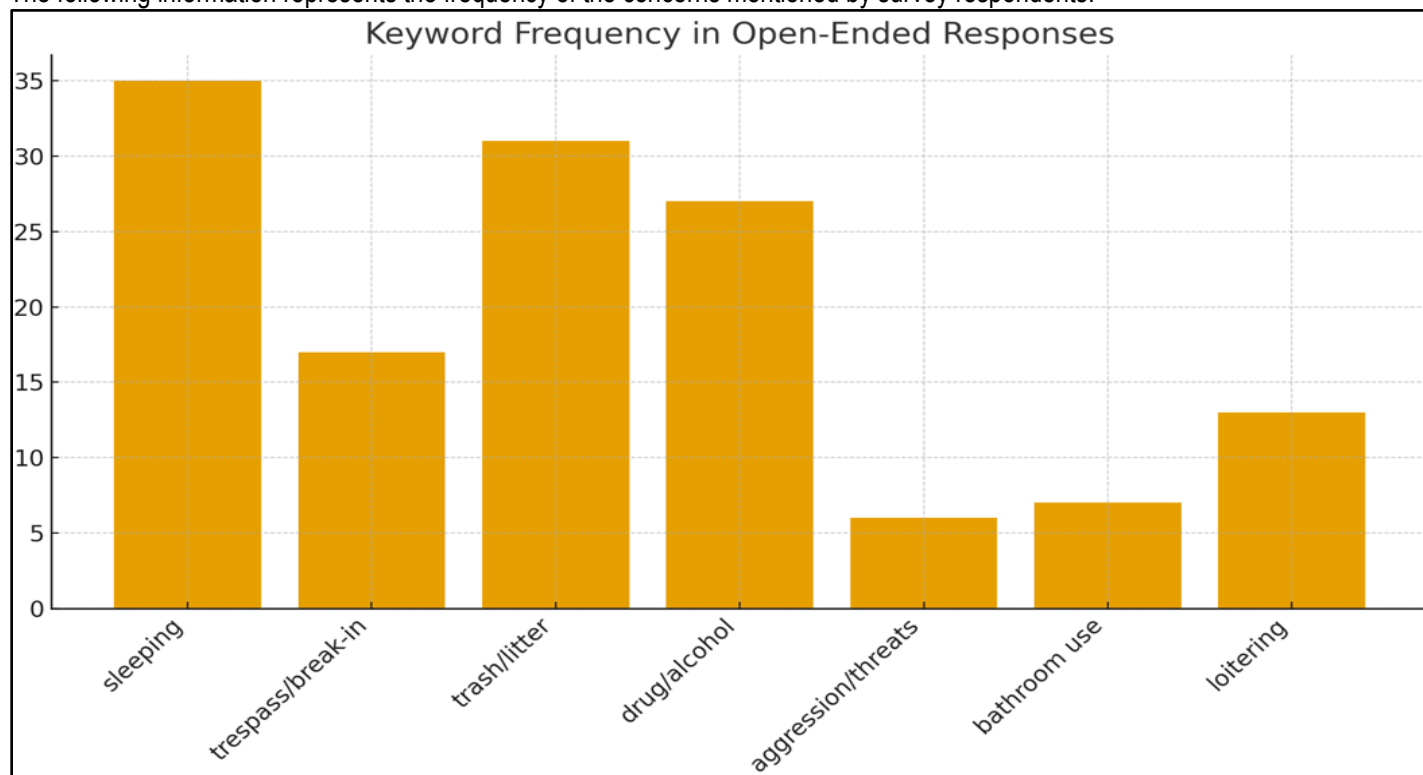
The below images are side-by-side comparisons of the low-income population map in Manhattan[23] with the homeowner vs. Rental properties, locations of concern of increased disruptive behavior (as listed by businesses) from homeless individuals, and RCPD disruptive homelessness-nexus calls for service data (see Addendum 2).

Low Income Population

Ratio of Income to Poverty Level: 200% and Under
- 0% – <26.4%
- 26.4% – <44.8%
- 44.8% – <74.4%
- 74.4% – 90.8%

23
https://reports.mysidewalk.com/f2b2f5a69c#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Census%20identifies%20individuals,are%20jobs%20in%20your%20community

Owners vs. Renters Key

Mostly Owner Occupied   Owners and Renters   Mostly Renter Occupied
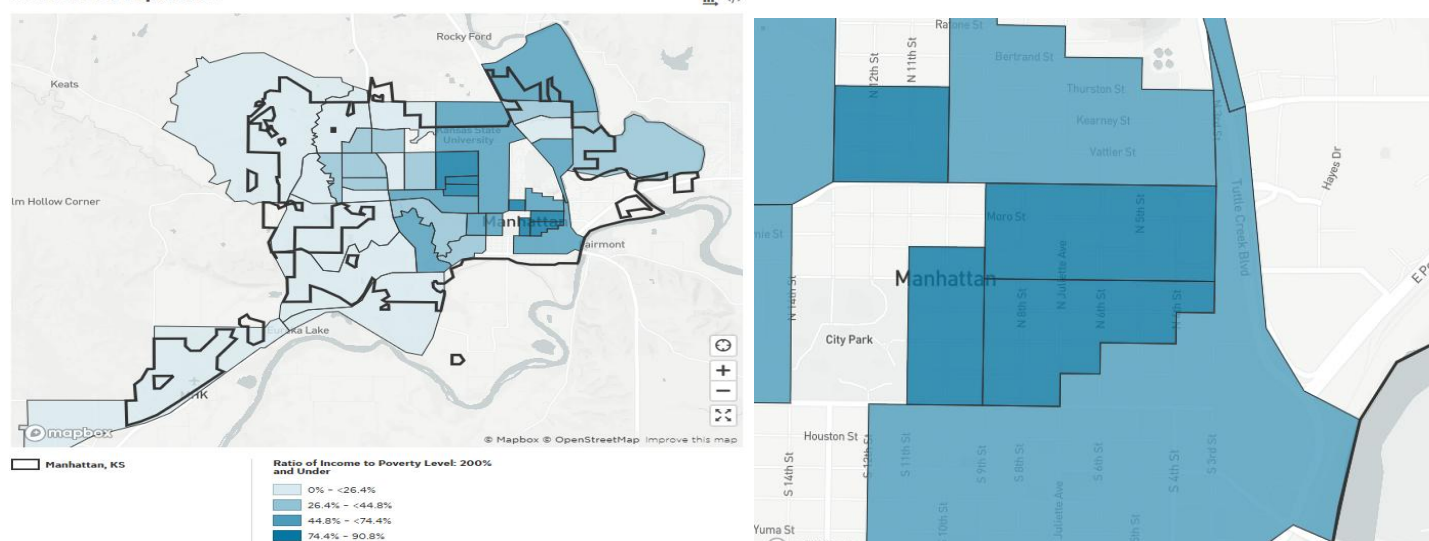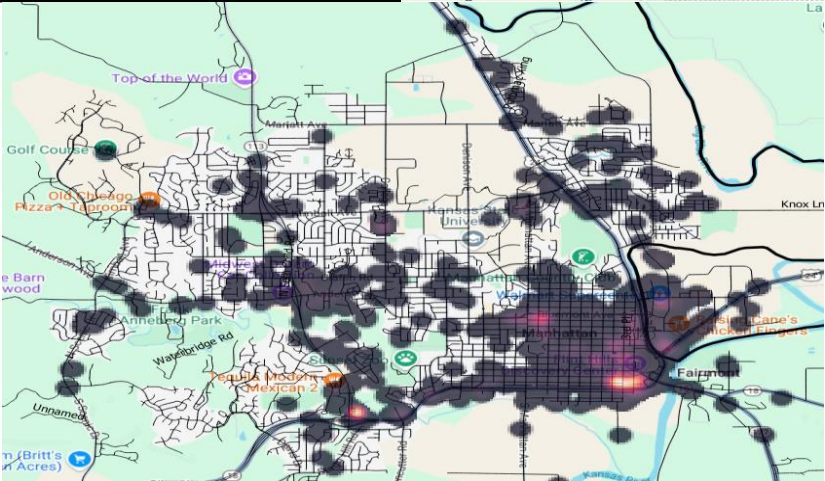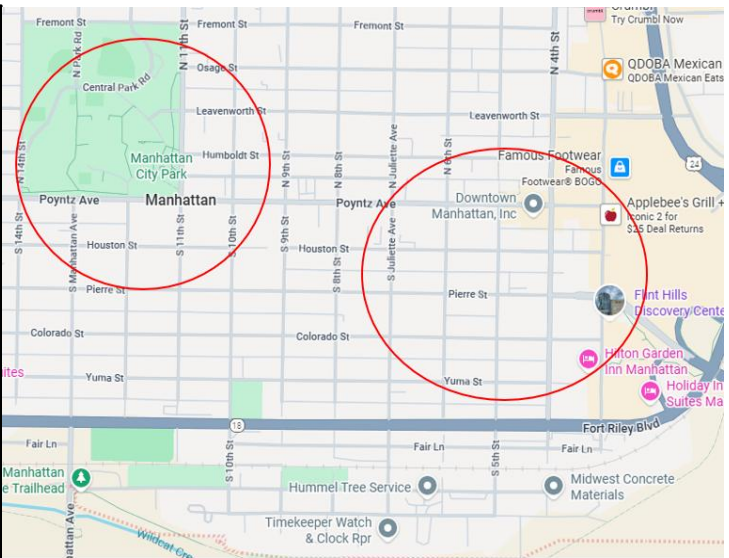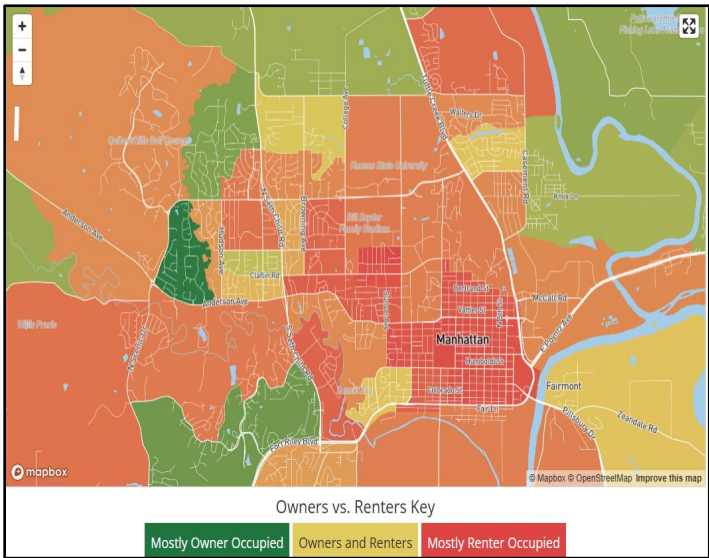
Feedback from Homeless Populations in Manhattan

The HSPTF is in the process of reaching out to individuals who are homeless to gather information. Some of the questions posed could include, but would not be limited to the following:

1. Are available resources adequate, effective, and provided in a timely manner/are there any barriers to resources?
2. What additional resources would help provide sustainability, stability, and self-reliance?
3. What preventative efforts could be incorporated to reduce the likelihood of individuals and families becoming homeless?
4. If previously homeless and from outside Riley County, what brought you to Riley County/Manhattan, KS?
5. If previously homeless and from outside Riley County, what resources were available to you in your home state/city?

Sequential Intercept Mapping (Crime and Crisis Intervention)

The Below Charts are a visual representation as to how individuals often encounter either Law Enforcement, Community and Social Resources, or both. Utilizing sequential intercept mapping helps in identifying gaps in services so to set strategic planning and fundraiser goals.
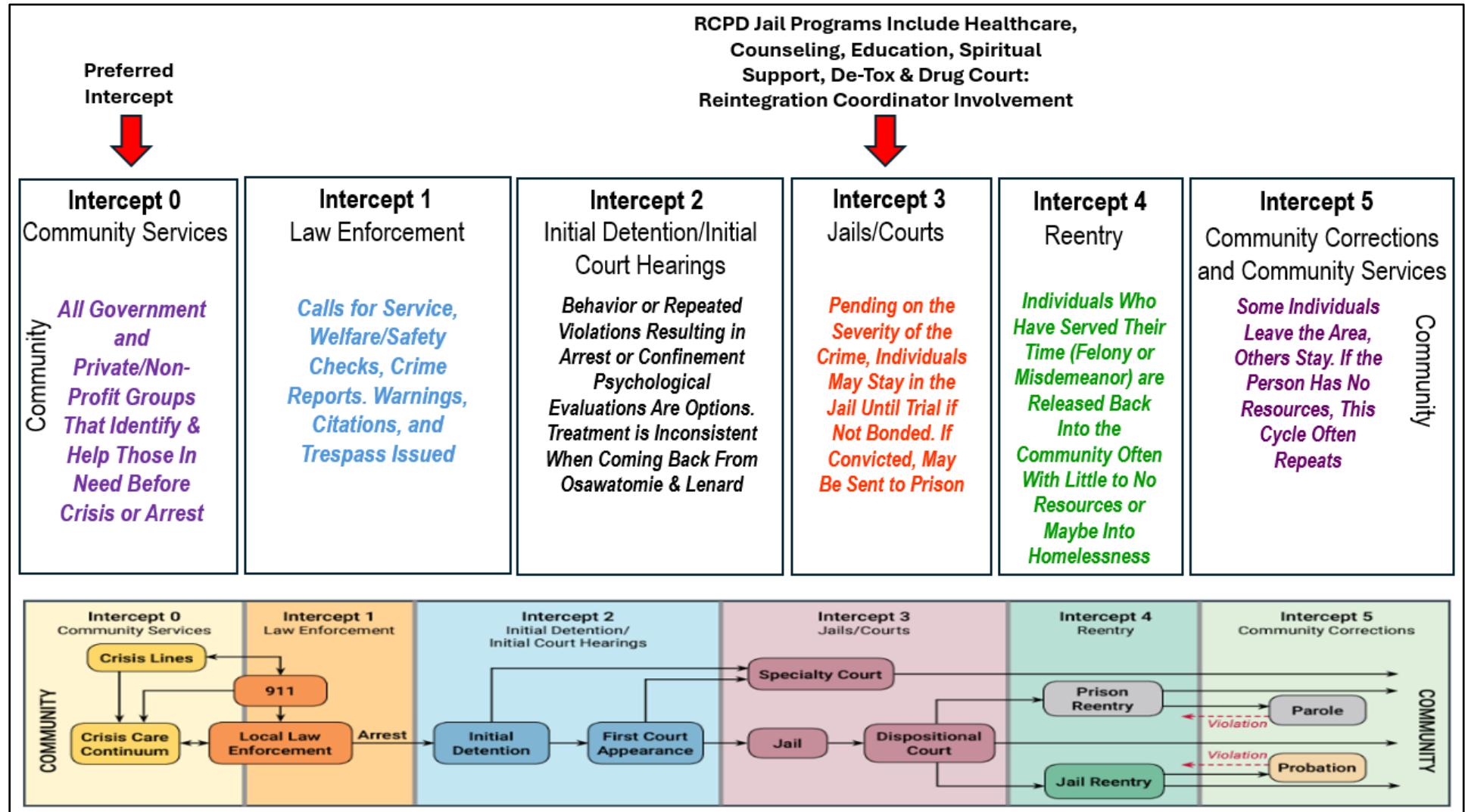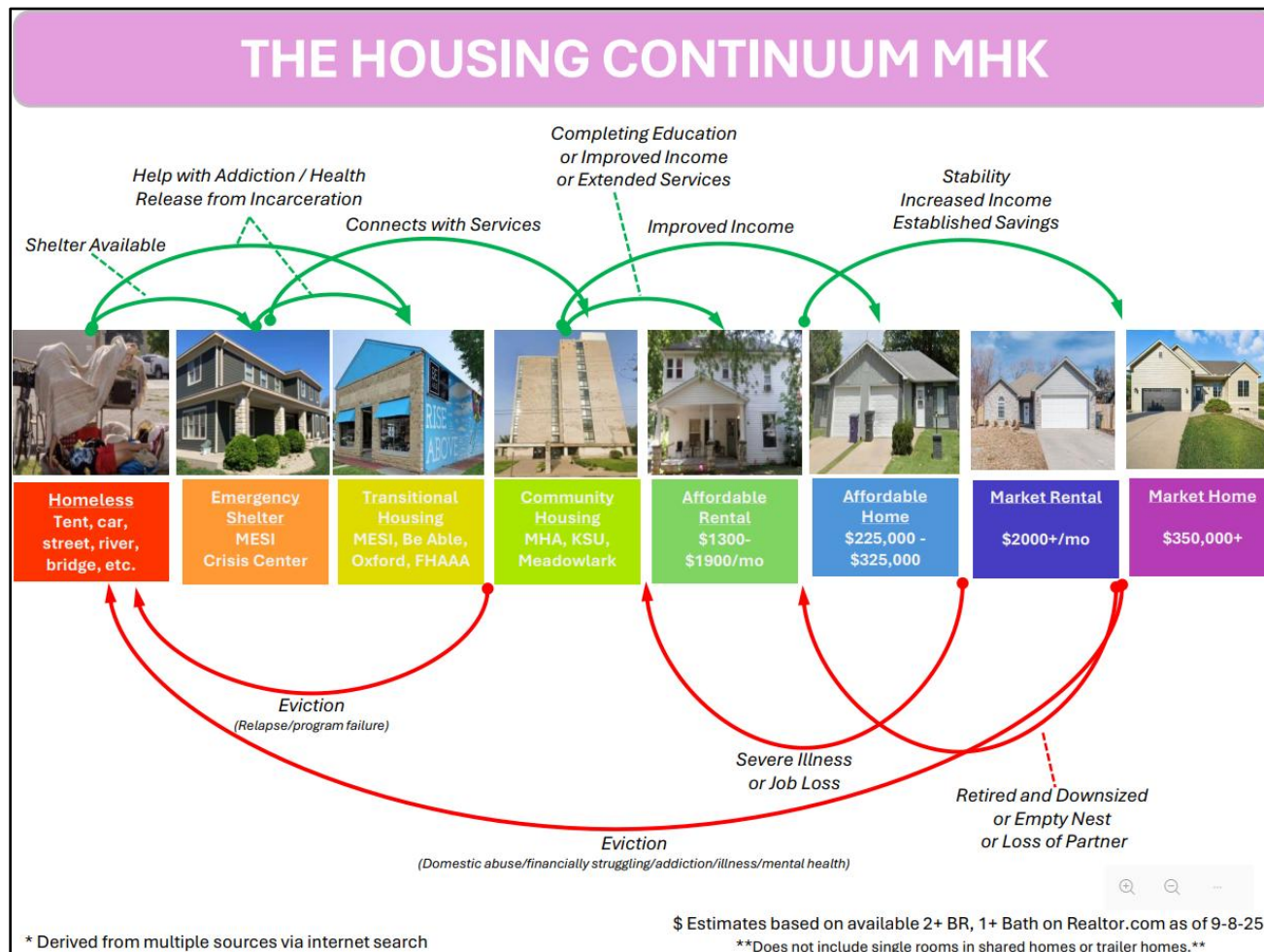

Figure 3. Sequential Mapping of the common Law Enforcement involvement/contact with people who are homeless. With the exception of eviction, this map often does not include contact with many individuals or family members unless there tends to be a substance abuse or mental health disorder or crisis.

Sequential Intercept Mapping (Resources and Housing Provided by the Center of Hope)

Homelessness is complicated with many different definitions and context. These include how "affordable" is defined, and what is attainable versus what is "affordable." Homeless can be defined as living on the street, "couch surfing" or living with friends or family, squatters, staying in a hotel room, living in cars or other unsafe or uninhabitable structures. There are also individuals living in Emergency Shelters or Jail. Transitional or Supportive Housing may be program-based (e.g., clean, sober, and working requirements) and are often limited based on availability. Community housing includes government or private subsidized housing. Affordable or rental housing has barriers including availability, cost, as well as other barriers that may be requirements by the property owner. Finally, Market housing costs change and often trends higher and upwards even if the other categories do not. It should be noted individuals and families can easily go from Market to Homeless if affected by a variety of external and internal factors.

THE HOUSING CONTINUUM MHK

* Derived from multiple sources via internet search

$ Estimates based on available 2+ BR, 1+ Bath on Realtor.com as of 9-8-25.
Does not include single rooms in shared homes or trailer homes.

22

The below concept of "Pillars of the Community" can be explained using the simile of outside pressures building and pushing downwards. As the roof (needs, expectations or demands) increases, strain is generated on the pillars (all are needed to disperse the pressures), each of which is held up by the Foundation of Taxpayer Funds and local government bandwidth. Outside community organizations exist to provide resources that reduce the weight of the roof to reduce disproportionate strain on one or more of the pillars. When it comes to homelessness, the factors that affect Manhattan and Riley County include poverty, hunger and food insecurity, housing availability and cost, substance abuse and mental health. Community organizations such as the Center of Hope help reduce the strain and pressures of the roof through a reduction of visits to hospitals and mental health providers, less calls of services to police, reduction in illnesses or injuries, and a positive community image with the reduction of visible homelessness.
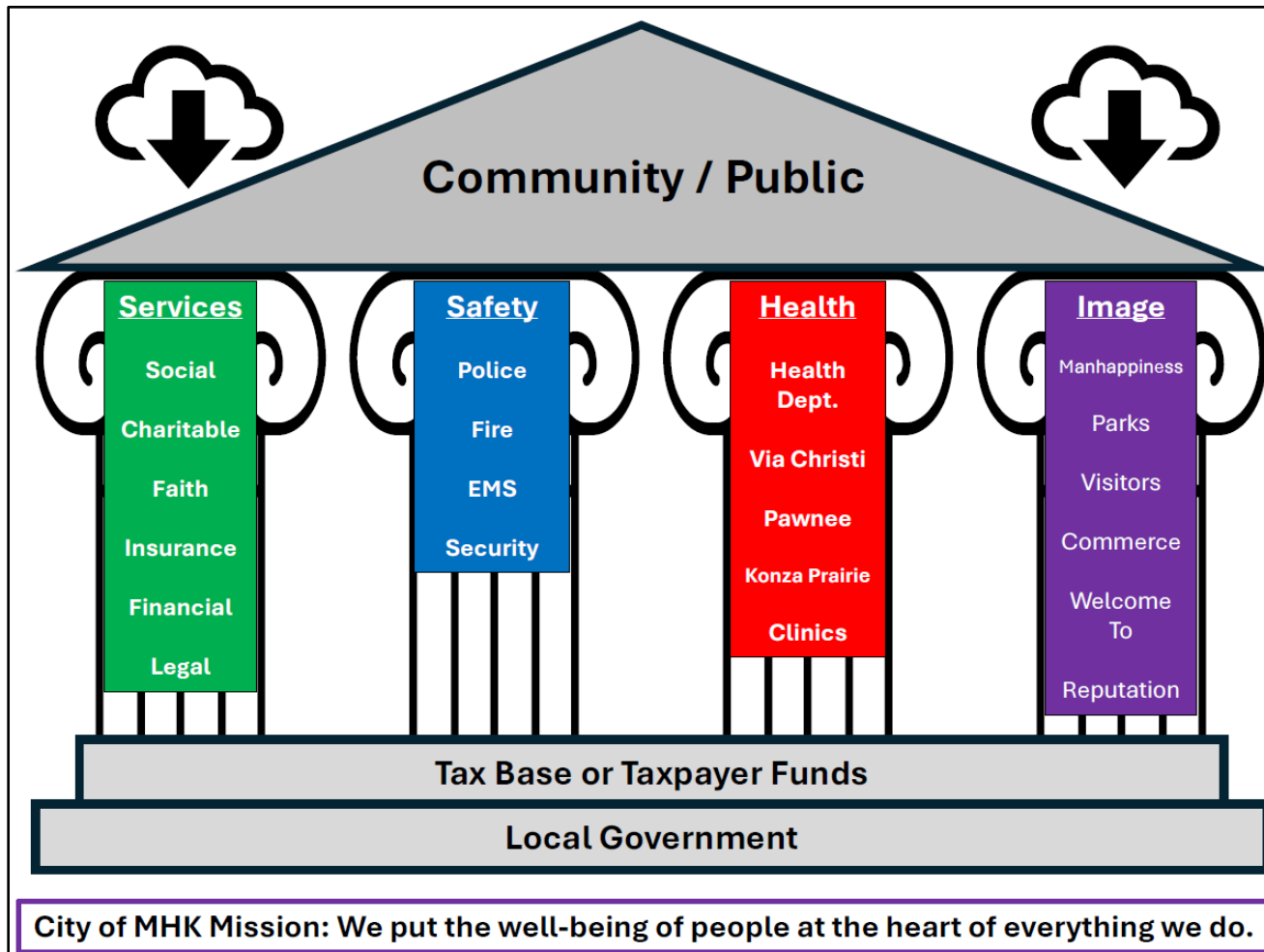
Homeless Populations within the Unified School District

The following information is from the Manhattan-Ogden Unified School District, USD 383, regarding homeless children and families within the District *of whom they are aware*. It is important to note the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which is a 1987 U.S. Federal Law defining homelessness to include students living in shelters, motels, cars, parks, etc., as well as those who are "doubled up" with others due to economic hardship.

Living in a Shelter	13
Doubled-Up	97
Unsheltered	2
Living in a Hotel	1
TOTAL	**113**

Programs and Newly-Implemented or Actions Designed to Increase Services and Outreach to the Homeless Population, as well as Reducing Surges in Disruptive Behavior/Criminal Violations

1. The Riley County Police Department (RCPD) has created a Reintegration Coordinator position who works with HSPTF partners for resources and education for successful reintegration upon release from custody.
2. RCPD increased law enforcement responses to trespass violations (playbook assignments in areas of high call volume).
3. RCPD has created pamphlets with QR codes linking local resources in Manhattan and in the county. These pamphlets were passed out by staff in areas where homeless individuals often congregate.
4. RCPD has partnered with HSPTF partners to identify individuals in need and sign them up for the Affordable Health Care plan.
5. The HSPTF has begun preliminary research for the possible implementation of potential camping and loitering ordinances (using Topeka ordinances, as well as those of other Kansas municipalities as a starting point).
6. The group is involved in initial discussions and coordination with Jeannie Tarkenton of Funding-U. Funding-U provides loans to students based on hard work, tenacity and focus.[24]
7. Pawnee Mental Health Services (PMHS) is in the process of creating a Jail Liaison Position to coordinate needs and information between PMHS and the counties they serve.
8. The Flint Hills Community Wellness Coalition (FHWC) launched the local community needs assessments which will gather data to assist the HSPTF in identifying the effectiveness of current services, and what if any gaps or barriers to service the community perceivers to exist in Manhattan and Riley County.
9. Since 2018, nearly thirty service agencies, nonprofit, government, and private organizations continue to participate in the Flint Hills Community Care Team (FHCCT) providing coordinated case management and wrap around services to some of the most vulnerable individuals in our community. A significant number of the referred clients are unhoused or at risk of losing housing. FHCCT works collaboratively to try to prevent individuals from losing their housing and placing others in housing who need it. No one agency can accomplish this task alone in connection with some of the more complicated cases. On average FHCCT serves 65 individuals each year.
10. Manhattan Housing Authority (MHA) has secured $16.5 million for the Sunflower Flats Project.
11. MESI: The Letter of Intent for the 2026 NOFO for homeless programs will be released soon by Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition. MESI is potentially looking at not renewing their HUD CoC grant. There are a lot of hidden requirements with HUD which makes it hard to serve the most vulnerable. MESI hopes the State of Kansas will step up to provide funding for homeless. Currently, Kansas provides funding for DV shelters and Veterans, but not homeless shelters.
12. BeAble has sponsored a newly formed Veteran's Support Network (led by Josh Durbin) which holds monthly events at BeAble to provide assistance to veterans in the community. This includes resources to veterans who are homeless or in need of resources.
13. The City is housing a warming shelter at the Douglas Center Annex: The Task Force will reach out with the City to track the number of people served in the shelter and annual comparisons.
14. St. Paul's Episcopal Church is reported to have experienced an increase in homeless people sleeping on the church's stairwell. The Task Force will reach out to the Church, as well as other houses of worship, to document their insight, efforts and resources.

---

[24] https://www.funding-u.com/about-us

Recommendations

1. **Short-Term** The HSPTF should establish a formal Steering Committee to establish best practices which ensure strong continued collaboration and information sharing between stakeholder resource organizations designed to reduce homelessness in Riley County and Manhattan by providing resources which assist individuals and families secure stable housing. Recommendations from this Steering Committee should be included as strategic goals and planning in local government (Riley County, Manhattan, and RCPD), and all government organizations should establish Memorandums of Agreement in adopting Steering Committee Recommendations. The Steering Committee should chair partner ongoing stakeholder meetings which should continue on a monthly, then quarterly basis (upon successful setup and start). Strong input and partnership is needed from NEK-CAP, Inc. (Northeast Kansas Community Action Program).

2. **Short-Term** The HSPTF should procure an information-sharing platform which allows for partner agencies to rapidly share information and provide resources to those in need of housing and services, and those in mental health crisis. This system should also gather applicable data which helps determine the effectiveness of current programs, identify any potential gaps in or barriers to services.

3. **Short-Term** Immediately convene a working group with RCPD, the County, the County Attorney, and the City to review existing ordinances, and whether additional ordinances (camping and loitering) are necessary.

4. **Short-Term** Begin outreach efforts to businesses and community members on the available options when dealing with an individual who is loitering, sleeping, or staying at their home or business.

5. **Medium-Term** Research the viability in implementing Mental Health and Veterans courts in Riley County.

6. **Medium-Term** Coordinate with organizations that assist KState and Manhattan Christian College students with local food, resource and funding needs to ensure graduation while minimizing cycles of debt. This includes Partnering with Funding-U.

7. **Long-Term (and Ongoing)** To eliminate generational poverty cycles for students: Support sustained and reliable FIT Closet Efforts (consider quarterly public drives or actual fiscal donations) for underwear, FIT closet staffing, laundry detergent, basic hygiene products, school supplies, ATA bus passes or Ride-sharing vouchers for families, children and students, prescription glasses for students, establishing hotspot locations for students in need of reliable WiFi to complete homework and study assignments, and prioritize professional development for educators identify and support students experiencing homelessness.

8. **Long-Term (and Ongoing)** Research as to whether there is a correlation of a lack of affordable housing to high percentages of non-owner-occupied housing.

9. **Long-Term (and Ongoing)** Aggressively seek opportunities (including lobbying elected officials) to support or advocate for adjacent communities to implement social services and resources for their respective populations in need. As other jurisdictions provide services, stress on local resources in Riley and Manhattan are reduced.

10. **Long-Term (and Ongoing)** Lobby the State of Kansas to provide funding for homeless-related programs and projects. Currently, Kansas provides funding for DV shelters and Veterans, but not homeless shelters.

11. **Long-Term (and Ongoing)** Strategically plan for the potential need for additional transitional housing for families, women and children, as well as supportive transitional housing units.

12. **Long-Term (and Ongoing)** Procure long-term sustainable funds to replace the loss/reduction of state and federal resources, especially with the recent significant increases in costs and operations for all the stakeholder organizations working to reduce or eliminate homelessness.

Addendum 1
Riley County Mental Health Taskforce Charter

Scope:

The Riley County Mental Health Taskforce is a multidisciplinary group of stakeholders dedicated to identifying, coordinating, and improving mental health and substance use efforts in Riley County. The Taskforce aims to support community efforts around mental health and to support individuals experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorders by fostering collaborative systems, data-sharing, advocacy and strategic improvements that ensure effective, compassionate, and accessible care.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Riley County Mental Health Taskforce is to:

- **Assess Mental Health Needs**
  Utilize local data, research, and community input to determine the prevalence and impact of mental illness and substance use disorders in Riley County.
- **Identify Resources**
  Research and identify services, treatment options, crisis resources, and support systems currently available to individuals with mental illness.
- **Determine Service Gaps**
  Evaluate unmet needs within the community and among service providers to inform future planning and program development.
- **Foster Collaboration**
  Create a venue for open communication and ongoing collaboration among key stakeholders across systems including mental health, law enforcement, courts, jails, corrections, social services, education, and healthcare.
- **Develop a Strategic Roadmap**
  Propose improvements to existing services and develop a coordinated roadmap to guide the Taskforce's response to mental health challenges.

Membership and Stakeholders

The Taskforce is comprised of representatives from:
- Pawnee Mental Health Services
- Individuals with lived experience and family advocates
- Mental health and substance use treatment providers
- Law enforcement and public safety agencies
- Judicial and court systems
- County jails and community corrections
- Social services and housing organizations
- Public health officials
- Educational institutions
- Community and advocacy organizations

Guiding Principles:

The Taskforce operates under the following guiding principles:

- **Collaboration**: We believe that collective action across systems leads to stronger, more sustainable outcomes.
- **Equity**: We strive to ensure access to services for all community members, regardless of their background, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or socioeconomic status.
- **Evidence-Based Practice**: We use data and research to guide our decisions and strategies.
- **Transparency**: We commit to open communication and shared decision-making.
- **Compassion**: We recognize the dignity of all individuals affected by mental illness and substance use disorders.

Goals and Objectives:

Over the course of its work, the Taskforce will:
- Conduct a county-wide assessment of mental health and substance use needs
- Develop and maintain an up-to-date directory of available services
- Identify service delivery gaps and barriers to care
- Recommend new programs, policy changes, or funding priorities
- Serve as a liaison between the community and policy-making bodies
- Track and evaluate the outcomes of implemented improvements

Meeting Schedule and Governance:

- The Taskforce will meet monthly with additional subcommittee meetings as needed.
- Decisions will be made by consensus whenever possible, or by majority vote.
- Meeting minutes and reports will be shared with Taskforce members and be made available on Pawnee Mental Health Service's website.

RILEY COUNTY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service and Arrests Involving Homeless Individuals

This report is an overview of Calls for Service (CFS) and arrests reported between January 1, 2022 - October 31, 2025. CFS were pulled based on a search of the term "HOMELESS" in all call comments. Warrant, probable cause (PC), and notice to appear (NTA) arrests were pulled solely on arrestee's name screen address listed as "HOMELESS". Because homeless status is not specifically tracked per incident, at this time, these numbers are tracked only based on manual input from dispatch, patrol, and corrections and are subject to change over time.

Calls for Service
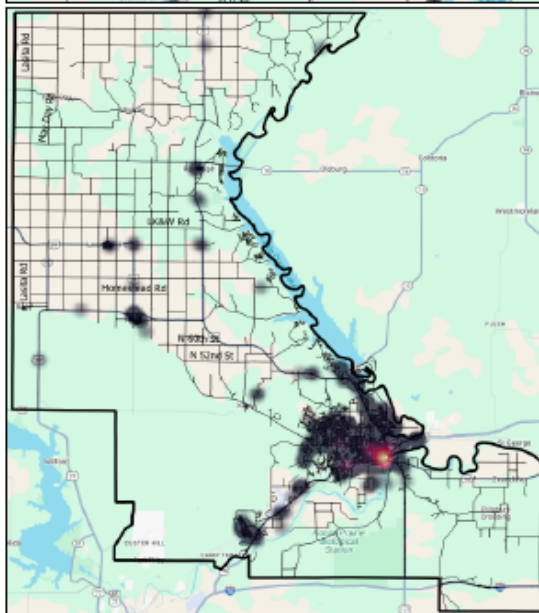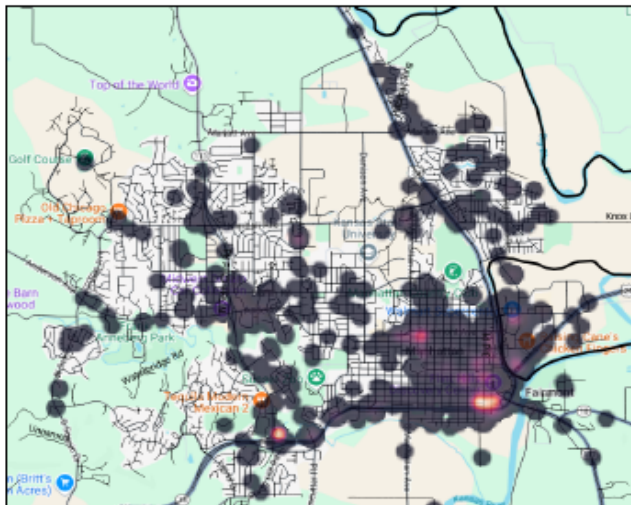
> The majority of CFS at RCPD include incidents in the jail from homeless inmates, citizens coming to the PD to file a report, and arrests made on warrants either in the jail or individuals turning themselves in at the front lobby.

> CFS without an address in the records are typically internet/phone crimes, large general areas, general information reports, or incidents that happened over multiple locations.

> The areas with the highest CFS, other than RCPD or unavailable addresses, are generally around the downtown Blue Earth Plaza area, Super 8 Motel, large retail stores, and Aggieville.

> While Aggieville shows as a higher hotspot on the map compared to other areas in Manhattan, it is not listed in the Top 10 Locations below because these are spread out among the many businesses within the entire Aggieville area as opposed to a few specific locations.

TOP 10 LOCATIONS OF HOMELESS RELATED CFS JANUARY 1, 2022 - OCTOBER 31, 2025	
LOCATION	# of CFS
NO ADDRESS IN RECORD	81
RCPD	79
BE ABLE COMMUNITY CENTER	35
HILTON GARDEN INN	26
BLUE EARTH PLAZA	24
WALMART	20
SUPER 8 MOTEL	18
MANHATTAN PUBLIC LIBRARY	17
MANHATTAN EMERGENCY SHELTER INC	17
HILTON PARKING GARAGE	14

The following heat chart shows the comparison of CFS by month from January 2022 – October 2025. The totals, averages, and percent changed numbers are color coded separately from the main body. The bottom of the chart shows the percent change between the monthly average from 2022 – 2024 and the monthly totals for 2025, up to and including October. In 2025, July, August, and October showed over 100% increase in CFS related to the homeless. Overall, there has been a 37% increase in CFS based on yearly average compared to January 2025 – October 2025 alone.

| Homeless Related CFS Heat Chart Comparison January 1, 2022 - October 31, 2025 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Year / Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2022	27	23	33	33	37	32	28	34	35	27	18	26	353
2023	47	32	28	19	33	38	26	36	29	32	33	33	386
2024	20	23	15	31	41	39	38	44	50	33	27	24	385
2025	25	31	29	36	35	52	62	93	68	83			514
2022-2024 Avg.	31	26	25	28	37	36	31	38	38	31	26	28	375
% Change of Avg.	-20%	+19%	+14%	+30%	-5%	+43%	+102%	+145%	+79%	+171%			+37%

The heat chart to the right compares the Top 10 CFS natures by year. Each column is color coded separately.

➢ Several categories show some stability, suggesting consistent behavioral patterns despite population shifts.

➢ Officer-initiated categories – public contact (+71%) and warrant (+57%) – show the largest increases, indicating heightened engagement more than increased criminal behavior.

➢ Suspicion calls notably decrease (-27%), implying either growing community familiarity or a shift toward labeling incidents as unwanted subject (+46%) instead.

➢ Trespass and battery calls fluctuate year to year, implying episodic concerns rather than sustained trends.

➢ Serious or violent call types remain low and stable, indicating no major escalation in high-risk behaviors within the homeless population.

| TOP 10 CFS NATURES - HOMELESS RELATED JANUARY 1, 2025 - OCTOBER 31, 2025 | | | | | | |
CALL NATURE	2022	2023	2024	Avg.	2025	% Change
UNWANTED SUBJ	68	102	87	86	125	+46%
WELFARE CHECK	63	54	67	61	76	+24%
SPEAK W/ OFC	26	25	29	27	34	+28%
SUSPICION	20	29	29	26	19	-27%
PUBLIC CONTACT	22	15	19	19	32	+71%
WARRANT	13	15	16	15	23	+57%
DOMESTIC	14	13	15	14	16	+14%
LARCENY	13	12	15	13	13	-3%
TRESPASS	7	13	11	10	14	+35%
BATTERY	9	3	11	8	7	-9%

Arrests

The following heat chart shows the comparison of arrests by month from January 1, 2022 – October 31, 2025. The totals, averages, and percent changed numbers are color coded separately from the main body. The bottom of the chart shows the percent change between the monthly average from 2022 – 2024 and the monthly totals for 2025, up to and including October. Both July and October of 2025 showed an almost 120% increase in arrests of homeless individuals. There has been about a 28% increase in arrests so far in 2025.

Homeless Related Arrests Heat Chart Comparison January 1, 2022 - October 31, 2025													
Year / Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2022	10	11	13	9	7	13	9	13	15	10	10	7	127
2023	19	14	12	12	17	13	12	16	16	10	11	14	166
2024	14	8	14	12	13	8	11	22	19	19	7	17	164
2025	11	11	15	11	18	21	23	32	25	28			195
2022-2024 Avg.	14	11	13	11	12	11	11	17	17	13	9	13	152
% Change of Avg.	-23%	+0%	+15%	+0%	+46%	+85%	+116%	+88%	+50%	+115%			+28%

The charts below compare crime classification levels and crime natures by year. Each column is color coded separately for both tables.

Crime Class Comparison of Homeless Related Arrests January 1, 2022 - October 31, 2025					
Crime Class	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Felony	22	34	57	41	154
Misdemeanor	85	117	87	130	419
Unclassified	20	15	20	24	79
Total	127	166	164	195	652

➤ Felony arrests in 2025 are currently showing little change compared to 2024, with a 28% decrease as of October 2025. This further indicates that the more serious or violent crimes have not risen significantly.

➤ Misdemeanor arrests in 2025 have increased significantly compared with previous years, with a 49% increase as of October 2025. This correlates with the increase in warrant, larceny, and battery arrests, below.

➤ Warrant arrests remain the highest overall arrest nature, with a moderate increase in 2025 that will likely trend higher by the end of the year. Even with only a 24% increase, warrant arrests outnumber all other categories combined in most years.

➤ Trespass, larceny, and battery remain the next highest categories with larceny and battery arrests showing a moderate increase of about 60%.

➤ Most other categories remain generally stable, except for violation of protection order, which shows an increase of 7 cases since 2024. *Note: While the percentage appears high, the increase represents a small number of cases.*

TOP 10 ARREST NATURES - HOMELESS RELATED JANUARY 1, 2022 - OCTOBER 31, 2025						
NATURE	2022	2023	2024	Avg.	2025	% Change
WARRANT	55	61	60	59	73	+24%
TRESPASS	10	27	15	17	21	+21%
LARCENY OTHER	17	15	15	16	25	+60%
BATTERY	13	12	13	13	20	+58%
DRUGS	3	6	14	8	9	+17%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	3	8	9	7	7	+5%
CDP	5	8	5	6	7	+17%
OTHER MISD. CRIME	1	2	7	3	4	+20%
VIOLATION OF PFA	1	2	1	1	8	+500%
BURGLARY	3	4	1	3	4	+50%

Summary

An analysis of calls for service (CFS) and arrests involving homeless individuals from 2022–2025 shows that increased activity in 2025 is driven primarily by a rise in non-criminal contacts rather than an increase in criminal behavior. The most frequent CFS categories—Unwanted Subject and Welfare Check—reflect service and assistance needs and rarely result in arrests, indicating most encounters are non-enforcement in nature. Arrest trends, while also elevated in 2025, are shaped largely by warrant discoveries, trespass enforcement, and a small number of individuals involved in repeat incidents. Crime-related arrests such as larceny, battery, and burglary have increased, but these categories do not show corresponding rises in CFS and represent a minority of overall activity. Overall, the data suggests that the uptick in arrests corresponds with higher officer contact volume rather than a substantial growth in underlying criminal behavior, underscoring that most interactions with homeless individuals remain service-oriented rather than enforcement-driven.