

Homeless Ministries:

In 2015, statistics showed us that more than 2,000 of Rhode Island's children, families, and domestic violence victims were homeless and in need. We continue to supply clothes to the Providence Rescue Mission and also to the homeless population being released from prison. The donations of our church members allows for us to reach the children of inmates and help care for many families in need. Please consider donating today!

Read More:

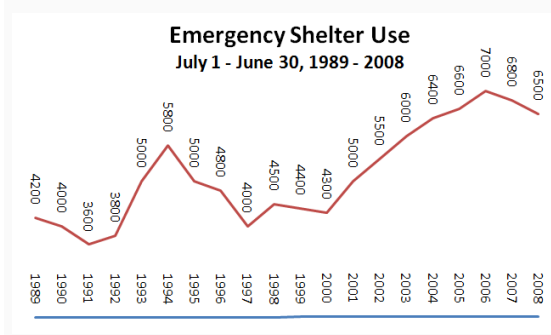
Who are the homeless?

Every year, close to 7,000 people enter into the shelter system in Rhode Island. According to a national report by the National Alliance to End Homelessness, cited by CBS news, Rhode Island is second only to Nevada in terms of percentage of population that is homeless.

The official figures, however, do not represent the total number of homeless in our state, but only those who are serviced by a shelter. Many homeless individuals and **families** never even set foot in our shelters. (Two of our church members were of this type of homelessness, moving from friend to friend's homes) Some homeless people sleep on couches, on inflatable beds in basements and other make-shift arrangements. Others sleep in their vehicles, moving from one parking lot to another. A few find shelter in the woods, or in campgrounds that are closed for the season.

Homelessness is indeed a growing problem, not only in Rhode Island but across this nation. According to the National Policy and Advocacy Council on Homelessness, admissions into Rhode Island shelters have been increasing and more first-time clients are among the working poor. (This surprised us, over 80% of the homeless have jobs!). The situation is not improving.

This chart (Emergency Shelter Use) shows how emergency shelter use has continued to rise in RI.



“As could be expected in such an economic climate, Rhode Island’s emergency shelters have experienced a drastic increase in the numbers of homeless clients. Aggregate data from service agencies throughout the state have shown shelter use up 43% in February 2009 from that of February 2008. Over a two-year period from 2008 to 2010, the percentage of people utilizing emergency shelters across the state rose by another 33%”.

From 2006 – 2008 the number of homeless children and families increased 28%!

According to this data: (Family Status of the Homeless in RI 2010)

- Adults in Families 16%
- Children 5 Years Old or Younger 13%
- Children 6 Years Old or Older 10%
- Single Adults 61%

Family Status of the Homeless in RI (2010)

