



# Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.

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*Ending homelessness and creating healthy communities*

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## THRESHOLDS PROGRAM

### 2014 Annual Report

Single men face unique challenges to overcoming the barriers of homelessness. As the needs differ, so do the objectives. The **Thresholds Program** is designed to provide short-term shelter and supportive services to chronically homeless single men. With a significantly shorter length of stay, program personnel work quickly with the men to develop gainful employment opportunities and to secure permanent housing. By providing practical, applicable information, education, and services in a condensed timeframe, men are provided intensive, "life-ready" skills in the shortest period possible. This efficient process moves men into stable, permanent housing swiftly but carefully. Moreover, they have other necessary resources and tools that will ensure that they can maintain it.

### PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

The population served in the Thresholds Program is homeless single men from the city of Milwaukee. These individuals have entered the program from extremely low-income backgrounds with inadequate resources to secure housing.

**During 2014, 145 single men were served by the Thresholds Program. There were 132 new intakes and 130 discharges. Demographically, of the new intakes, 49% were African-American, 42% were White, and 7% identified as more than one race. 11% also identified as Hispanic or Latino. 84% of participants exited the program after less than 2 months in shelter.**

**Issues other than homelessness faced by the new intakes include Mental Illness (41%), Physical Disabilities (41%), Alcohol Abuse (12%), Drug Abuse (14%), Domestic Violence (6%), and Developmental Disabilities (8%). Many of these men faced multiple issues simultaneously.**

### PROGRAM GOALS, INDICATORS AND RESULTS

The Thresholds Program is based upon the active and rapid involvement of single homeless men in a variety of activities, workshops, and concrete tasks that increase knowledge, improve skills, and teach new behaviors and strategies for future success in stable, long-term housing.

**GOAL 1: TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS IN SINGLE MEN.**

**Indicator: 30% of participants will obtain stable housing.**

**Results: 32% of participants who left Hope House obtained stable housing upon discharge.**

**GOAL 2: TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT INCOME FOR PARTICIPANTS**

**Indicator:** *20% of the Thresholds Project participants will secure employment upon exiting the program.*

**Results:** 32% of the participants have successfully obtained employment upon exiting the program.

**GOAL 3: TO INCREASE GREATER SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PARTICIPANTS.**

**Indicator:** *Adults that complete the Thresholds program will receive supportive services that prepare them for employment or housing.*

**Results:** 100% of program participants received supportive services during their stay.