



# Addressing Homelessness

## Housing and Community Development Advisory Board

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City of Mesa

Administrator, Office of Homeless Solutions

HCDAB Presentation

March 6, 2025



## Maricopa County: Homeless Trends Report, Quarter #3, 2024

- For every **10** people leaving homelessness, **19** people are entering homelessness.
- On average, **948** new households coming in each month.
- **31,201 unique people** have been served in the past year through street outreach, emergency shelter and transitional housing.



5,783 Mesa residents received services in 2024, an increase of 5.9% compared to 2023.

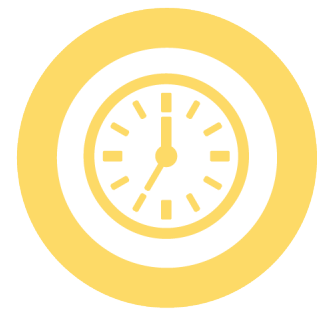
COVID-19 relief, federal funding sources are coming to an end, making it difficult to sustain the stability of some programs.

Police and Park Rangers seeing success in the field— building relationships and using human services vs. only enforcement.

Mesa still one of the most affordable cities in the region; need more attainable housing options, prevention programs and services.



## Mesa's Housing Path



### EMERGENCY

Immediate shelter.  
Safety.  
Housing Plan.

### STABILIZATION

Congregate.  
More rules and responsibilities.  
Health and employment needs.

### BRIDGE TO SUCCESS

Demonstrated success.  
Transitional housing.  
Continued support services.  
Connected to housing vouchers.

### RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Rental assistance.  
Housing vouchers.

### INDEPENDENCE

Move to complete independence.  
Home ownership.

Expand the Office of Homeless Solutions staff & the Off the Streets program.

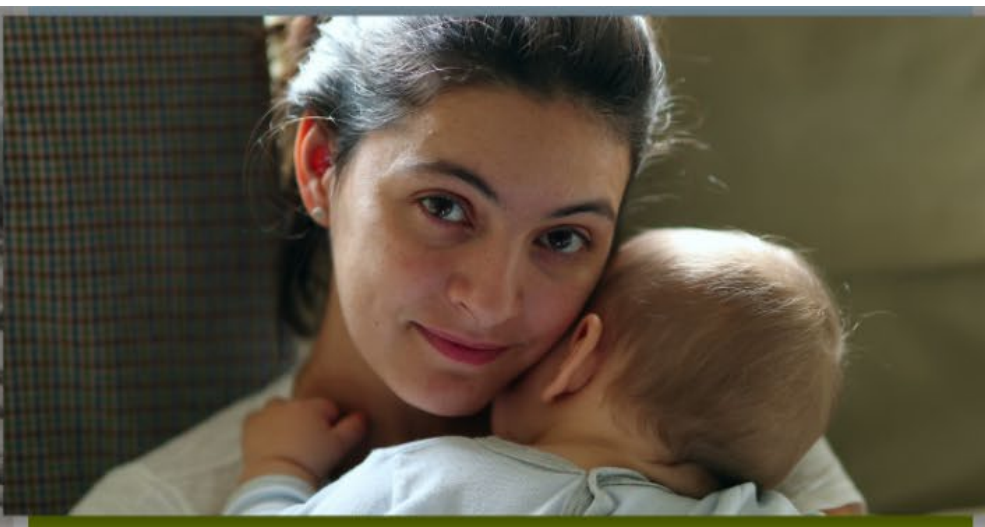
Services are available, robust and accessible.

Strategic collaborations maximize resources.





- Referrals only
- Intake with triage to other facilities and services
- Most vulnerable are given priority
- Community Bridges, Inc
- 90 day stay
- Rules and requirements
- Housing plan
- Wrap around services
  - Mental health
  - Substance use treatment
  - Employment services



- Construction began on January 13<sup>th</sup>
- Will serve seniors, domestic violence survivors and families
- Referrals only
- Open, early 2026



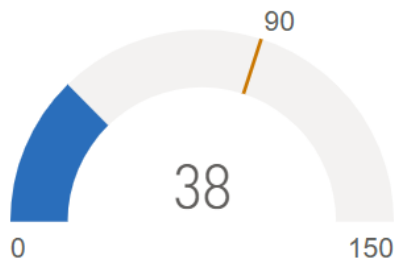
# Off the Streets Data- As of 1/20/2025



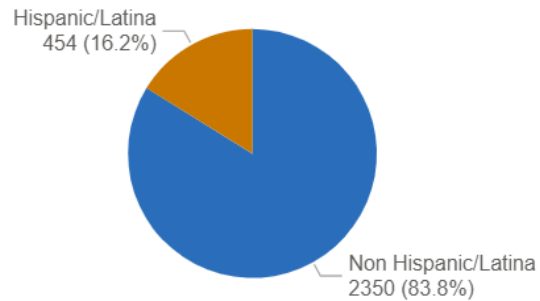
## Total Unique Clients

2827

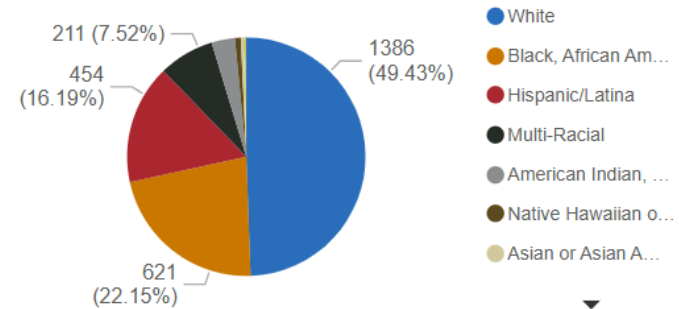
## Median Number of Days in the Program



## Clients by Ethnicity Simplified



## Clients by Primary Race



## Percentage of Veterans

3.8%

## Survivors of Domestic Violence

22.6%

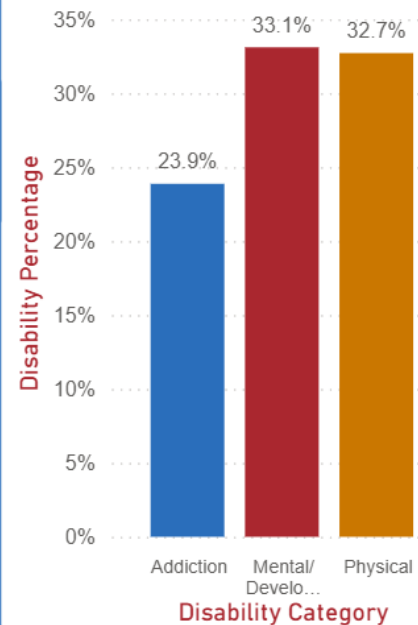
## Median Adult Client Age (18+)

43

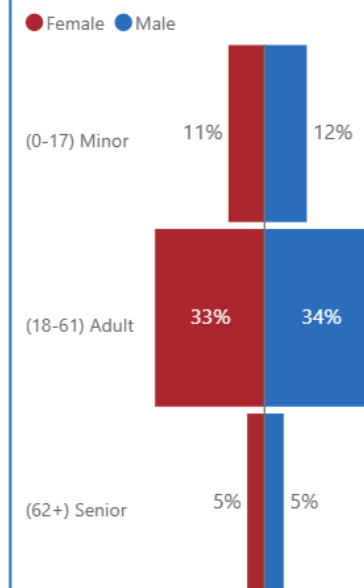
## Positive Exit Rate

70.9%

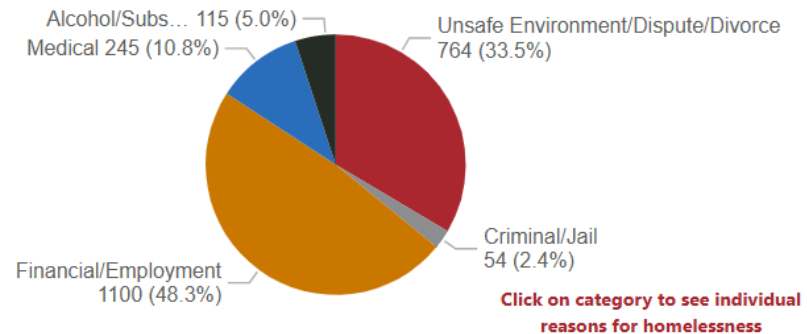
## Disabilities Reported by Clients



## Clients by Age and Gender



## Clients by Primary Reason for Homelessness







**1,480** street outreach contacts between July and December 2024



**326** unduplicated individuals enrolled in navigation services



**64** positive exits to housing placements

Prioritized support to first responders

Heat relief outreach, hydration, and transportation

Dedicated navigator for Main Library/Family Resource Center and other local partners

Opioid education, prevention, treatment and street outreach

Public hotline & internal COM service ticketing system to connect people in need directly to navigators

In Spring 2025 there will be 12 navigators dedicated to Mesa, 7 days per week, up to 16 hours per day

## 2024 Data (To Date)

- ❑ 65 confirmed deaths in Mesa.
- ❑ 66% were in stable housing.
- ❑ 34% were experiencing homelessness.
- ❑ 73% of indoor deaths had AC units present, but not functioning.



## 2025 Response

Respite & Cooling Center Expansion.

Continued Central Mesa Day Respite Center.

Continuation of AC Loan Program.

Navigators supply transportation.

## Problem Solving Court

Goal: help people set and achieve personal goals related to

- Address substance use
- Temporary shelter and eventually housed
- Gain employment (access to disability and SS benefits)
- Obtain identifying documents
- Address health concerns
- Access to other available resources including SNAP (food stamps), SSI (Supplemental Security Income), AHCCCS (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System) etc.

## Emergency 911

For a crime in progress.

If you feel unsafe for any reason.

Someone is unstable, yelling/crying hysterically, using substance, or causing a disturbance.

## Mesa PD Non-Emergency 480-644-2211

For non-emergency police questions.

To report an incident that has already happened.

## Mesa Homeless Resource Line 480-644-HOPE (4673)

M-Th business hour response.  
Non-emergency.

To refer anyone requesting services or resources.

For any other homelessness questions about getting/giving help.

## Phoenix Rescue Mission Outreach Hotline 602-346-3361

To refer anyone in need of immediate services.

Available 7 days per week.

## Encampment Reporting

Non-emergency pd  
480-644-2211

Mesa Now App

Citylink



# Additional Initiatives in Progress



Point In Time Count



Healthy Giving



Hydration Donation Campaign



Mesa Opioid Response



# Questions?

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