

HOMER AREA

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CONNECT 2024 REPORT

(Formerly known as Project Homeless Connect)



No one deserves to lose hope.

The Homer Community Resource Connect Steering Committee is proud to report on our fifth annual Community Resource Connect (CRC) event. This year the event was held on January 30th, 2024, in conjunction with the Kenai Peninsula’s 13th Annual Project Homeless Connect (PHC). The success of this event was due to the collaborative effort between service providers from the public and non-profit sectors, local businesses, and volunteer community members.

Population Served

There were 154 individuals who attended the CRC event between our two locations in Homer and Anchor Point. The event was held at the SPARC in Homer, and at the VFW in Anchor Point. A total of 140 people participated in the Intake process, 105 in Homer and 35 in Anchor Point. Of the 93 participants who completed the Exit Survey, 66 reported this was their first time attending a CRC/PHC event.

The following information is data collected by Intake Volunteers utilizing an Intake Form provided by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. This Form is created specifically for gathering information at CRC/PHC events throughout Alaska each year for the Balance of State Point-In-Time count.

Where did you sleep last night (Monday, January 29th, 2024)?

	Frequency	Percent
On Streets/Homeless Camp	9	6.5%
Abandoned Property (Not meant for habitation)	1	.7%
Vehicle/Car	13	9.1%
Local Homeless Shelter	3	2.1%
Friends/Family (Doubled up)	30	21%
My Apartment/House	66	46.2%
Hotel/Motel	6	4.2%
Jail/Institutional Setting	0	0%
Other (Specify*)	9	6.5%
No Answer	6	4.2%
Total	143**	100.5%**

**Other responses included: Trailer/Motorhome/RV, Couch surfing, Boat, Work Housing*

***The total percentage is based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.*

Were you with a household or by yourself?

	Frequency	Percent
By Myself (Single)	54	38.5%
With Household	82	58.5%

No Answer	4	3%
Total	140	100%

Age Category

	Frequency	Percent
Under 18 years	18	13%
18 years – 24 years	7	5%
25 years – 34 years	19	13.5%
35 years – 44 years	33	23.5%
45 years – 54 years	20	14.3%
55 years – 64 years	27	19.3%
65 years and older	15	10.7%
Don't know/No answer	1	.7%
Total	140	100%

Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Woman (Girl if child)	63	45%
Man (Boy if child)	51	36.5%
Transgender	0	0%
Non-binary	2	1.5%
Questioning	0	0%
Culturally Specific Identity	0	0%
Different Identity (Specify)	0	0%
Don't know/No answer	24	17%
Total	140	100%

Race/Ethnicity

	Frequency	Percent
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	13	9.1%
Asian or Asian American	0	0%
Hispanic/Latin(o)(a)(x)	4	3%
Black, African American, or African	0	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	.7%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(o)(a)(x)	1	.7%
White	72	51.5%

Middle Eastern or North African	0	0%
Don't know/No answer	49	35%
Total	140*	100%*

* The total percentage is based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.

How long have you been living on the streets or in Emergency Shelters?

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 year	19	13.5%
1 year or more	39	28%
Don't know/No answer	82	58.5%
Total	140	100%

Number of times you have been homeless on the streets or in shelters in the past 3 years.

	Frequency	Percent
This is the first time	23	16.5%
Two to three times	28	20%
Four or more times	22	15.5%
Don't know/No answer	67	48%
Total	140	100%

Total number of months you spent at least 1 day homeless on the streets or in shelters in the past 3 years.

	Frequency	Percent
Fewer than 12 months	28	20%
12 months or more	41	29%
Don't know/No answer	71	51%
Total	140	100%

Do you have any disabilities?

	Frequency	Percent
None	58	41.5%
Alcohol use disorder	9	6.5%
Chronic health condition	11	8%
Developmental	1	.7%
Drug use disorder	13	9.1%
HIV/AIDS	0	0%
Mental Health Disorder	26	18.6%
Physical Disability	46	33%
Don't know/No answer	12	8.6%

Total	176*	126%*
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*The total percentage is based on the total number of responses. Some participants chose more than one option.

Are you a survivor or have you been a victim of domestic violence?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	60	43%
Yes – Currently fleeing	4	3%
Yes – Not currently fleeing	47	33.5%
No	65	46.4%
Don't know/No answer	13	9.1%
Total	189*	135%*

*Total responses are more than 140 because individuals who responded 'yes' may have also responded 'yes-currently/not currently fleeing'.

Have you ever served in the United States Military?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	8.6%
No	101	72.8%
Don't know/No answer	26	18.6%
Total	140	100%



Participants getting oriented at the entrance of the event in Homer.

Participant Needs

This year participants received a ‘passport’ upon entering the event which listed all the vendors present. Once they completed the Intake process a Navigator talked to them about the information they were looking for, what resources they needed, and who they would want to connect with before they left. While participants were encouraged to visit as many vendors as they liked, there was an incentive for visiting at least 10 vendors; to be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card. Additionally, items from the ‘shopping list’ this year was spread throughout the vendors, which also encouraged greater participation interacting with vendors.

Below is a list of all the free items available to participants, which were either donated or purchased through cash and in-kind donations. As always, the items chosen were based on the most popular items distributed/requested at the previous year’s event. The number represents an estimate of how many of each item was distributed (as the information was available).

Shopping List 2024

100	Comfort Care Pack – socks, hand/foot warmers, flashlight, space blanket, lotion
100	Hygiene Kit – hand towel, washcloth, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, soap, tissues
	Hygiene and personal care supplies – toothbrush/paste, soap, nail clippers, etc.
14	Feminine Hygiene Products
607	Condoms/Oral Dams
30	Emergency Contraception
204	Vitamins/Supplements
2	Baby Formula
2	Diapers/Baby Wipes
33	Narcan
	Covid Test
	Canned Food
	Snack Pack
100	Sack Lunch
	Pet Food
4	School Supplies
37	Sleeping Bag
8	Sleeping Pad
30	Blanket
12	Tent
10	Tarp
25	Emergency Blanket
30	Utensil Pack
19	Water Bottle
6	Water Jug
6	Sled
30	Reflective Vest
20	Plastic Poncho

78	Ice Cleats
80	Flashlight
16	Headlamp
54	First Aid Kit
7	Flu shot
20	Health Screening
6	Pregnancy Test
7	HIV Self-test Kit
55	Backpack
100	Reusable Grocery Bags
65	Laundry/Shower Voucher
17	Taxi Voucher (to and from the event)
65	Clothing Voucher
50	Gas Card
Additionally, there was an open 'shopping' area which included gently used items including:	
Coats	
Hats	
Gloves	
Socks	
Misc. winter gear and supplies	



**Donations collected through community drives being organized for both events.
We live in such a generous Community!**

Vendors

The following is a list of vendors who were present at the Homer and Anchor Point Events. The number represents the approximate number of participants who interacted with that agency. (The Homer numbers were taken from the 65 Passports that were entered into the prize drawing and Vendor tallies).

Homer Vendors 2024

61	Affordable Connectivity Program
46	Alaska Housing Finance Corporation & Homer Job Center
47	All Things Recovery
52	Choosing Our Roots
56	Cook Inlet Counseling
39	Department of Veteran Affairs, Vet Center
69	Homer Food Pantry
11	Homer Medical Clinic, Medication-Assisted Treatment Program
53	Independent Living Center
91	Kachemak Bay Family Planning Center
41	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, Students in Transition
51	Kenai Peninsula College, Adult Education
57	Kenai Peninsula College, Nursing Students
40	Regent Life, The Galley
45	Seldovia Village Tribe Health & Wellness
66	Set Free Alaska
51	South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services
52	South Peninsula Haven House
90	South Peninsula Hospital, Infection Prevention
37	South Peninsula Hospital, Patient Financial Navigator
11	Sprout Family Services
45	United States Department of Veteran Affairs

Anchor Point Vendors 2024

	All Things Recovery
	Division of Public Assistance, Homer Office
	Homer Public Health
	Nine Star
	Seldovia Village Tribe
	South Peninsula Haven House
	South Peninsula Hospital, Patient Financial Navigator



Homer Public Health packed up and ready to head to the Anchor Point Event.



UAA Nursing Students offering health screenings, flu shots, and health education.



Anchor Point CRC event held at the VFW



Homer CRC event held at the SPARC

Participant Exit Survey

Responses from 92 completed Exit Surveys:

	Yes	No	Somewhat
The event was helpful to me.	92	0	0
I felt respected and supported.	91	0	1
Was this your first Community Resource Connect Event?	66	26	N/A

How many are in your household?

	Frequency	Percent
13 years and under	47	26.4%
14 years – 24 years	35	19.6%
25 years and over	96	54%
Total	178 individuals in approximately 92 households	100%

What items or services were most helpful?

- 65 – Resources/Vendors
- 64 – Comfort care/Hygiene items
- 44 – Vouchers (gas, shower, laundry, clothing)

Were there any items or services you needed that were not available/provided?

- 4 – Gas Card
- 3 – Pet food/Supplies
- 2 – Taxi Vouchers
- 1 – ASL Class at KPC
- 1 – Tent
- 1 – HEA Assistance
- 1 – Haircut
- 1 – World Peace
- 1 – PB&J Sandwich
- 1 – Meals on Wheels
- 1 – Shelter

- 1 – Firewood
- 1 – More autonomy
- 1 – IT help
- 1 – Cooking items
- 1 – GED info
- 1 – Shoes
- 1 – Snow gear
- 1 – Info on reinstating Driver’s License
- 1 – Heater



Homer Food Pantry Volunteers



All Things Recovery Table



Sprout set up a Kid's Zone to provide childcare on-site so parents could participate in the Homer event.

Volunteers



Homer Community Resource Connect Steering Committee:

Annie Garay – South Peninsula Hospital	Kammi Matson – South Peninsula Hospital
Cinda Martin – Homer Community Food Pantry	Dana Roberts – Independent Living Center
Lindsey Collins – South Peninsula Haven House	Jane Rohr – Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
Abby Ferrer – South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services	Cynthia West – State of Alaska
Missy Martin – Anchor Point Food Pantry	

Our gratitude and thanks to the volunteers and donors who helped make this event possible!

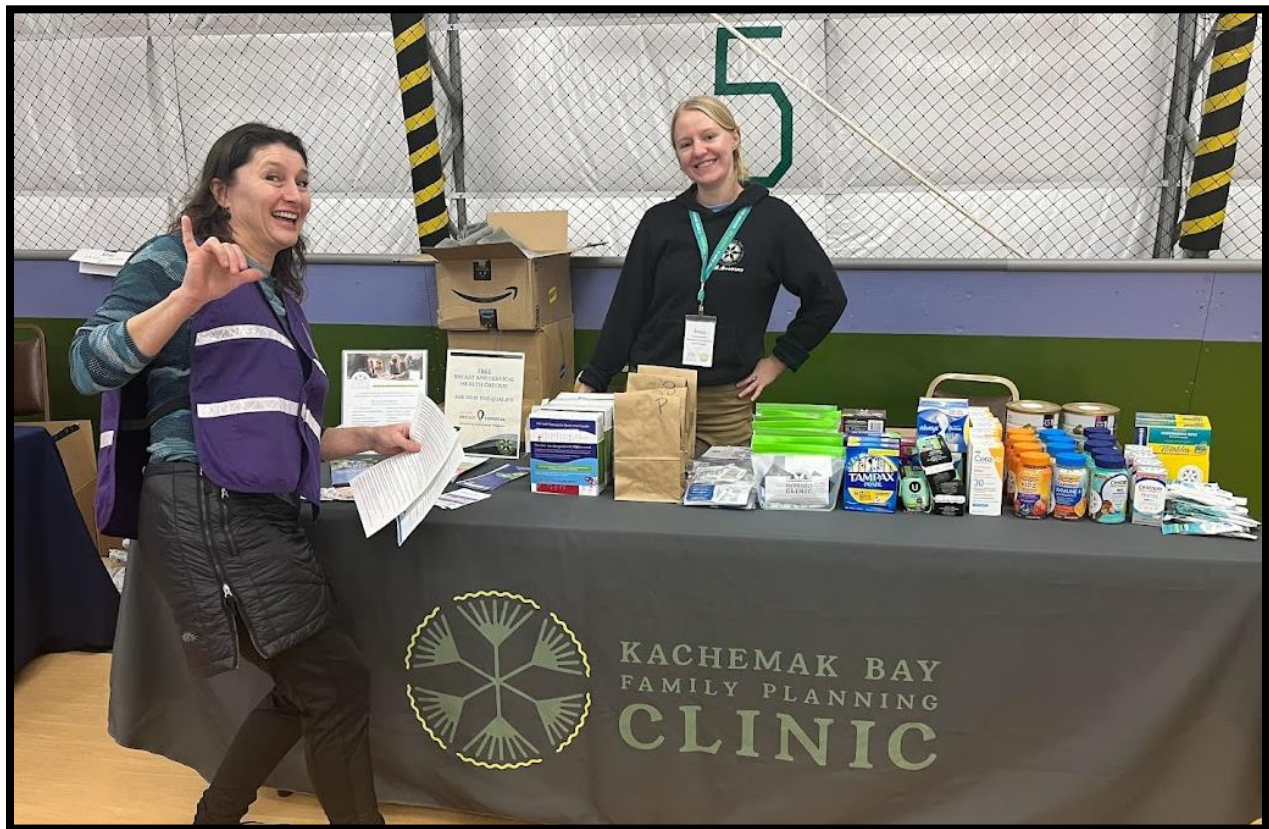


CRC committee members and volunteers

Event Volunteers

Sabrina Bishop	Lisa Talbott
Rich Bollwit	Candy Thornton
Nicole Bray	Shannon McBride-Morin
Marie Carlton	Bonny McDermott
Vianney Chauvet	Kate McGregor
Mark Conrad	Julie Nicholes
Kelly Cooper	Karen Nogle
Wendell Cummings	Allison O'Neill
Sherry Daughtery	Emily Otis
Tom Early	Susan Pacillo
Lori Evans	Danielle Peltola
Derotha Ferraro	Sherry Parrish
Tara Findlay	Virginia Pinnick
Bernie Griffard	Meghan Pollak
Linda Harris	Malachai Raymond
Bob Hartley	Michael Raymond
Sherrie Hartley	Deb Schmidt
Tressa Hidden-Friend	Paul Seaton
Kathy Hill	Tina Seaton

Rick Hoover	Lanny Simpson
Karen Howarth	Ali Sonne
Noralee Itchoak	Sherry Stead
Lia Jacobsen	Liane Stephens
Kordell Jones	Dean Sundmark
Laura Kelly	Lisa Talbott
Mel Kim	Hien Tran
Patricia Krant	Fran Van Sandt
Charles Kraushar	Leonard Van Sandt
Kim Kraushar	Debbie Vantrese
Cathy Kremer	Shawnisty Webber
Kerianna Lasiter	Bill Wells
Ronnie Leach	Eric Young
Devony Lehner	Linda Young



We love our community volunteers!

Cash and In-Kind Donations

Bridges Community Resource Network	Independent Living Center
Central Peninsula General Hospital	Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic
Cinda Martin	Kachemak Bay Rotary Club
Coop's Coffee	Kachemak Gear Shed
Cynthia West	Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
Homer Animal Friends	Kenai Peninsula Project Homeless Connect
Homer Chamber of Commerce	Safe Families for Children Homer
Homer Community Food Pantry	Save U More
Homer Dental Center	Shawnisty Webber
Homer Elks Lodge	South Peninsula Haven House
Homer Emblem Club #350	South Peninsula Hospital
Homer Knights of Columbus	Sprout Family Services
Homer Thrift	The Kraken Cafe
Homer United Methodist Church	Ulmer's Drug & Hardware

We sincerely apologize if we have mistakenly omitted any donor or volunteer.



We appreciate SPARC allowing us to use their facilities for the Homer event.

Endnote: Data was secured through the 2024 Community Resource Connect Events held in Homer and Anchor Point on January 30, 2024. Participants may have called in for services or received services by proxy; that data is included in this report.