Claiborne Encampment Survey Results
February 28, 2008
Claiborne Encampment Survey Overview

- 46 question survey designed to identify housing and health care needs of people sleeping in the Claiborne Encampment to inform housing placement strategy
- Gain a post-Mardi Gras portrait
- Includes Vulnerability Questions to find those who are at the highest risk of dying on the streets
- By-name and picture registry of individuals found sleeping outside
Vulnerability Index

• Based on Dr. Jim O’Connell research from Boston’s Healthcare for the Homeless
• Presence of a risk factor indicates a 40% mortality rate over 7 years
Vulnerability Index
Factors that Increase Risk of Dying on the Streets

More than 6 months street homeless AND at least one of the following:

- End Stage Renal Disease
- History of Cold Weather Injuries
- Liver Disease or Cirrhosis
- HIV+/AIDS
- Over 60 years old
- Three of more emergency room visits in prior three months
- Three or more ER or hospitalizations in prior year
- Tri-morbid (mentally ill+ abusing substances+ medical problem)
Survey Teams

- UNITY
- Louisiana Public Health Institute
- NOPD Homeless Assistance Collaborative
- Common Ground Institute New York
Baseline Estimate Results

- Baseline Count 6:00 am Feb 19th
- Walk each sector and plot individual sleeping or tent on map
- 50 individuals awake counted
- 100 tents Counted
- 84% of tents had only 1 person, assume 1 per tent
- Estimate 150 people sleeping Under Claiborne Corridor
Interview Methodology

- Surveys administered starting 6 to 9 am Feb 20th and 5 am to 8 am Feb 21st
- Teams of two interviewers
- Stay together for safety
- Divided Encampment into 4 sectors
- Covered each sector on 2 mornings with same team
- Woke each person up and asked to participate in survey
- 46 question survey in exchange for $5 Subway sandwich card
Interview Methodology

• Safety First
• Assertive
• Respectful
• Sensitive
• Persistent
Interview Questions

- Demographics
- Hurricane impact
- Health Risk Indicators
- Institutional Usage (prison, shelter, jail)
- Employment, Benefits, and Citizenship
- Identification: SSN and Picture
Interview Results

• 118 (79% of baseline estimate) interviews completed
• 80 pictures allowed (68% of respondents)
## Claiborne Encampment
### Risk Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk indicator</th>
<th># of people</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tri-morbid</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3x hospital last year</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 60 years old</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver Disease</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3x ER last 3 months</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frostbite/Cold Weather</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV+/AIDS</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

39 (33%) of those surveyed met at least one High-Risk Criteria
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of co-occurring risk indicators</th>
<th># of people in risk category</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2 person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>12 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>19 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>39</td>
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</table>

High Risk Means there is a 40% mortality rate over next 7 years
Claiborne Encampment
One of the Most Vulnerable

- 42 year old man
- New Orleans resident for 26 years
- lived in a shelter before Katrina
- 5 years on the streets
- HIV+/AIDS
- History of Hypothermia/Frostbite
- 4 trips to the ER in last 3 months
- “Tri-morbid” = mentally ill + abusing substances + medical problem
- Surveyor suspected developmentally disabled
- No reported income or insurance
Claiborne Encampment – Three Distinct Cohorts

- Pre-Katrina, 26%
- Recent Arrivals, 14%
- Due to Katrina, 60%
Claiborne Encampment - Vulnerability

Due to Katrina
Pre-Katrina
Recent Arrivals

% of Cohort Vulnerable

- 53% of the cohort is vulnerable due to Katrina.
- 41% of the cohort is recent arrivals.
- 22% of the cohort is pre-Katrina.
Claiborne Encampment - FEMA

31% lost FEMA trailer or Rental Assistance
Abandoned Buildings

• 74 (64%) have slept in an abandoned building since becoming homeless
Claiborne Encampment
Victims of Violent Crime

• 33% report being a victim of a violent crime since becoming homeless
Institutional History

- 19 (15.6%) are veterans
  - 8 have VA insurance
  - 3 have VA benefits
- 83% have been in jail
- 37% have been in prison
- 9% were in foster care
Claiborne Encampment – Mental Health & Substance Abuse (of the 39 Most Vulnerable)

- Mental Illness ONLY: 5
- Substance Abuse ONLY: 7
- Dually-Diagnosed: 20
Claiborne Encampment – Average Monthly Income

Due to Katrina
Pre-Katrina
Recent Arrivals

Monthly Income

$0 $100 $200 $300 $400 $500 $600

$380 $307 $480
Up-Front Rental Assistance Requests of Employed Homeless

Due to Katrina
Pre-Katrina
Recent Arrivals

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$400</td>
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<td>$1,200</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<td>$1,420</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,141</td>
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Claiborne Encampment – “Could Make it Once in Apartment”

![Graph showing percentage of people who think they could make it due to Katrina, Pre-Katrina, and Recent Arrivals.]

- 26% Due to Katrina
- 25% Pre-Katrina
- 35% Recent Arrivals

% Think Could Make It
Hospital Use by Claiborne Encampment Residents

61 hospitalizations reported by 118 respondents
Emergency Room Visits by Claiborne Encampment Residents

91 reported ER visits in past 3 months
Where Claiborne Residents go for Routine Health Care Needs

- Tulane Hospital: 12%
- Rebuild Center: 17%
- Nowhere: 26%
- University Hospital: 22%
- Healthcare for the Homeless: 4%
- VA: 5%
Claiborne Encampment – Emergency Health Care Services

- Tulane Hospital: 13%
- Rebuild Center: 5.00%
- Nowhere: 26%
- University Hospital: 42%
- Healthcare for the Homeless: 3%
- VA: 1%
Claiborne Encampment - Insurance

- Medicaid, 10%
- Medicare, 2%
- None, 75%
- VA, 7%
- Private, 2%
Different Strategies for Disabled and Non-Disabled

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<tr>
<th>Disabled</th>
<th>Non-Disabled</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Permanent Supportive Housing</td>
<td>- Housing Search Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Apartments linked to tenant stabilization services (case management)</td>
<td>- Job Training and Placement Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Involvement of Government Agencies for Different Disabled Sub-populations</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Focus First on the 39 Most Vulnerable</td>
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Recommendations

- Different strategy for each cohort:
  - 30% - Lost FEMA assistance and are now homeless (29)
  - 10% Employment and “1 shot deal” for 11 Recent Arrivals seeking work
  - 5% Diversion to their home town for 6 people who were homeless when they arrived in New Orleans
  - 15% - Veterans Administration 19 veterans, but only 3 have VA benefits
  - 42% - University Hospital – 51 individuals have been to the emergency room – Hospital to Home for frequent users
Recommendations

• Find or Fund immediate housing-based case management services
• Assemble Permanent State and Federal Supportive Housing Resources
• Health Care for the Homeless to assist with physical and mental health services for vulnerable cohort now and once housed
• Greater NOPD enforcement presence in camp to reduce victimization and violent attacks
• City-wide strategy with targeted interventions similar to those for the Claiborne Encampment