



# **KERRVILLE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP AGENDA**

**JULY 9, 2019, 4:00 PM**

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**701 MAIN STREET, KERRVILLE, TEXAS**



**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

- 2.A. A report regarding the Homeless Population in Kerrville. Requested by and presented by Councilmember Delayne Sigerman.

Attachment:

[20190709\\_Report\\_Kerrville Homeless - Councilmember Sigerman.pdf](#)

- 2.B. Presentation of results from the 2019 National Citizen Survey.

**3. ADJOURNMENT**



**TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF KERRVILLE, TEXAS**

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**SUBJECT:** A report regarding the Homeless Population in Kerrville. Requested by and presented by Councilmember Delayne Sigerman.

**AGENDA DATE OF:** July 9, 2019

**DATE SUBMITTED:** Jul 02, 2019

**SUBMITTED BY:** Shelley McElhannon

**EXHIBITS:** [20190709\\_Report\\_Kerrville Homeless - Councilmember Sigerman.pdf](#)

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| <b>Expenditure<br/>Required:</b> | <b>Remaining Budget<br/>Balance in<br/>Account:</b> | <b>Amount Budgeted:</b> | <b>Account Number:</b> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| \$0                              | \$0                                                 | \$0                     | N/A                    |

**PAYMENT TO BE MADE TO:** N/A

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|-----------------------------|-----|
| <b>Kerrville 2050 Item?</b> | No  |
| <b>Key Priority Area</b>    | N/A |
| <b>Guiding Principle</b>    | N/A |
| <b>Action Item</b>          | N/A |

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

Councilmember Sigerman requested report be added to this agenda.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

No action required, discussion only.

Kerrville Homeless

2/25/2019

**Updated 7/1/2019**

Report by: Delayne Sigerman, Kerrville City Council – Place 4

Outside sources: Police Chief, David Knight  
First United Methodist Church, Beth Palmer  
Salvation Army, Theresa Gage & Judy Johnston  
Steve Schulte  
Mayor Blackburn  
Alfredo Mamani  
Principal Balser Tivy High School

In October of 2018, the question was posed “where can the homeless go in winter months to escape freezing temps”. And I asked “and in any other time of the year”. So the quest was on.

I received a report **from Chief Knight** which read:

Statewide and national efforts in place to track the homeless population in communities are primarily comprised of data that is compiled through the Texas Homeless Network as well as data that is reported and tracked annually to HUD through various reporting mechanisms. These reports occur annually from data collected in January of each year through area polling efforts or what is referred to as Point in Time Reporting or a PIT report. This is an actual physical count of the homeless population in communities. The PIT report for data collected in January 2018 indicates there were two (2) adults and no children identified as homeless and unsheltered in Kerr County. **An update as of June 7<sup>th</sup>, there have been eight individuals we have contacted at various times over the past three months. These eight individuals are best described as “transients”. Out of those eight, two are believed to have left the area and six remaining are here for rehab and two have relapsed leaving four to hopefully get their life on track. Historically, there is an uptick in transient/homeless population during the summer months. Moderate, warm weather is a contributing factor for this effect and in the past we have seen area events as a draw for individuals who remain for a period of time without accommodations such as the Folk Festival, etc.**

The Kerr County Veterans Affairs Commission had conducted an annual PIT count until recently in an effort to identify the homeless veteran population in our area. Information from this organization indicates that they were able to identify one or two individuals per year over the three year period they conducted PIT counts that were in the homeless/unsheltered category.

The HUD annual data reflects the numbers in homeless populations and subpopulations statewide but does not provide the “drill down” numbers specific to Kerrville. As an example the 2017 HUD data indicates that there were 8,493 unsheltered homeless statewide.

The Hill Country Mental Health Development and Disabilities (MDD) organization does not have a mechanism to collect data and track the extent of the homeless population in our community.

The Kerrville Police Department does not have a tracking system to expressly identify the homeless population within the city at any given time. We do however collect data upon contact with individuals during the course of calls for service identified as victims, suspects, witnesses or other affiliations for law enforcement contact. Those individuals who are transient in nature or homeless are usually listed as “general delivery” in terms of the address of these individuals. We have had 19 people in the last 12 months list general delivery as their address, 10 of those were handled within the last 6 months. It is unknown how many of these persons are still in the area or if they have established a residence.

It should be noted that it is unknown how many of these individuals are still present in the city, whether or not they availed themselves of the local shelter options offered through the Salvation Army Shelter or if they are taking advantage of transitional housing.

Street level contacts with transient or homeless individuals who are “unsheltered” or sleeping outside either in vehicles or in a public camping context are generally doing so not because they are unable to gain admittance to the Salvation Army Shelter but because they are unwilling to abide by the sobriety rules and curfew required by the shelter.

Providing an accurate number for the homeless population present in our community during the winter months is difficult, particularly the subset of homeless who are unsheltered. The information available to us would lead me to propose an estimate of between two and five who might on occasion need sheltering assistance during these winter months. The following facilities provide assistance but are also not currently able to track visitors.

**Light on the Hill**– Outreach through First United Methodist Church – Mustard Seed Ministries is open on Monday and Wednesday afternoons with a hot meal served at 1:00pm each of those afternoons. Also access to resources available in our community plus some groceries from their food pantry. Beth Palmer – 830-459-5847 610 Methodist Encampment Road

### **Salvation Army Shelter**

This shelter is located at the North end of Hays Street @ 855 Hays Street. Their hours are open 10:00 – 4:00 Monday through Friday to speak to someone about shelter and pick up donated food compliments of HEB and inquire about various programs, next door 6:00pm check in for bed, dinner served @ 6:30 and out by 7:00am next morning unless below freezing.

This is considered an emergency for a three-day period unless you join one of the programs offered and then you are allowed to stay another 90 days and adhere to the rules of the program which is to stay on campus first thirty days, look for job next 30 days and

transportation is provided via van, continue to go to meetings, etc. for eventual assistance to relocate to permanent residences. 28 beds total (10 men, 10 men in program, 4 women, 4 misc.) **830-257-3620**.

They distribute blankets and jackets free when they have them to those who don't wish to stay.

Most come from the CSU (Crisis Stabilization Unit) when they are stable to be released.

There are drug and alcohol brochures for programs handed out at all of these places for reference.

### **What are the Reasons for Homeless**

There are many reasons one may find themselves without a home.

Divorce, Loss of Job, Mental Health, Alcohol or substance abuse, recently aged out of Foster Care, Senior Citizens on dwindling income, children of domestic violence removed from their home by CPS or other, etc.

### **There is No One Size Fits All solution**

#### **How Can I Help**

**Educate** yourself to the various reasons of homelessness

**Show some respect** – they are not invisible, greet them or acknowledge them on the streets

**Volunteer** – there are many ways in Kerrville to give a little time to help serve food or clothing or more

**Donate** – all of the organizations mentioned in this report could use more financial support even though many of our businesses in Kerrville so generously already support them

**Job or Skill opportunities** – many homeless are skilled workers in some area and would love the opportunity to work or open to just a manual task you may have at your church or home or place of business. Some are ready to learn a skill.

**Teach** - Teaching someone a skill helps them for a lifetime not just for today

**Reach out** - Sometimes homeless newcomers to our town don't know where to get help. Tell them!

*Obviously, their future is in their own hands but we could be that one person who makes a difference!* [www.star-telegram.com/news/state/texas/article226972639.html](http://www.star-telegram.com/news/state/texas/article226972639.html).

### Other Ideas to Ponder

Tiny House Idea – similar to Community First Villages in Austin – affordable housing

Mentoring programs – be a mentor – Christian Women/Men’s Job Corp, etc.

City could host a Homeless Awareness Day – information, food, speakers, etc.

Acts of Kindness - these do more for people than you know!

Create a Citizens Interest Group – Delayne Sigerman will organize

### A few organizations in Kerrville Helping Already - volunteers/donations needed

|                                   |   |                                                                                            |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>CAM</u>                        | - | <b>Christian Assistance Ministries, 521 Barnett, 257-4222</b>                              | <b>Food, etc.</b>                                                                   |
| <u>Christian Women’s Job Corp</u> | - | <b>1140 Broadway, 895-3660</b>                                                             |                                                                                     |
| <u>Christian Men’s Job Corp</u>   | - | <b>301 Junction Highway, 257-3545</b>                                                      |                                                                                     |
| <u>BCFS</u>                       | - | <b>Dennis Ferguson, Director-Community Services</b>                                        | <b>830-896-0993, ext. 3439</b>                                                      |
| <u>Hill Country Crisis Center</u> |   | <b>257-7099,</b>                                                                           | <b>Council 257-7088, unit 257-5111</b>                                              |
| <u>Tivy High School</u>           | - | <b>Families help with housing and Tivy provides food assistance</b>                        |                                                                                     |
| <u>Dietert Center</u>             | - | <b>Meals on Wheels program, 451 Guadalupe Street, 792-4044</b>                             |                                                                                     |
| <u>Light on the Hill</u>          |   | <b>Beth Palmer 830-459-5847</b>                                                            | <b>610 Methodist Encampment Road</b>                                                |
| <u>Habitat for Humanity</u>       |   | <b>Just completed House #110 in Kerr County</b>                                            |                                                                                     |
| <u>HEB</u>                        |   | <b>Donates food to Salvation Army and others</b>                                           |                                                                                     |
| <u>St. Vincent dePaul’s</u>       |   | <b>Food Pantry and other assistance</b>                                                    |                                                                                     |
| <u>Veterans Administration</u>    |   | <b>3600 Memorial Blvd., 896-2020, <a href="http://www.vahouse.org">www.vahouse.org</a></b> |                                                                                     |
| <u>Salvation Army</u>             | - | <b>Back to School back pack program – need volunteers, 257-3620</b>                        |                                                                                     |
| <u>Families &amp; Literacy</u>    |   | <b>530 Methodist Encampment Rd., 896-8787,</b>                                             | <b><a href="http://www.familiesandliteracy.org">www.familiesandliteracy.org</a></b> |

**If you are interested in being on the Citizen’s Interest Group, contact:**

**Delayne Sigerman – 895-7765 or [delayne.sigerman@kerrvilletx.gov](mailto:delayne.sigerman@kerrvilletx.gov)**



**TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF KERRVILLE, TEXAS**

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**SUBJECT:** Presentation of results from the 2019 National Citizen Survey.

**AGENDA DATE OF:** July 9, 2019

**DATE SUBMITTED:** Jul 03, 2019

**SUBMITTED BY:** Stuart Cunyus

**EXHIBITS:**

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| <b>Kerrville 2050 Item?</b> | No  |
| <b>Key Priority Area</b>    | N/A |
| <b>Guiding Principle</b>    | N/A |
| <b>Action Item</b>          | N/A |

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

National Research Center's Damema Mann will present the results of the 2019 National Citizen Survey that was conducted in March and April 2019. The survey gauged citizen responses to issues facing Kerrville.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Present results of Survey.