

# A Few Facts to Remember on Homelessness in Brevard

November 9, 2018

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1. Last year we had over 2,800 identified homeless students
2. 2017-2018 we had over 220 unaccompanied youth
3. Categories are doubled-up, motels, cars or campgrounds and shelters
4. Brevard has a severe need for more affordable housing
5. Legislature has guided Sadowski dedicated funds to support affordable housing to other expenses since 2013
6. In our county, making minimum wage you must work over 80 hours a week to afford a two –bedroom apartment
7. 30+ years on Childhood Trauma indicates long-term effects on health, learning and well-being for children experiencing ongoing issues of homelessness.

Children and youth experiencing homelessness are more likely to suffer from:

- ❖ Poor Nutrition
- ❖ Inadequate health-care
- ❖ Exposure to health Hazards ( e.g. Lead poisoning)
- ❖ Health problems associated with overcrowding and unhygienic living situations
- ❖ Chronic illnesses (e.g., asthma and ear infections)
- ❖ Exposure to domestic and other types of violence
- ❖ Severe emotional stress related to extreme poverty and unstable living conditions

## TOTAL COST OF HOMELESSNESS BREVARD

(Figures based on data from 2014)

HEALTH CARE	\$22,112,390
1 <sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS	\$410,812
LEGAL (PROSECUTION)	\$901,462
INCARCERATION (JAIL)	\$3,549,792
EDUCATION	\$658,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,632,446</b>

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE... YOUR GREATEST CONTRIBUTION!!!!

**Role models** for the rest of the community!!!

- **your** offices
- **your** children
- **your** churches
- **your** civic groups
- **your** neighborhood
- **You** can bring attention to homelessness and its blight on our kids!!

## ***What can we do to help??????????***

- **Donate used computers to Eckerd Connect or Computers for Kids**
- **Fund field trips for low income trips so the whole class can go**
- **Provide school with gift cards for unexpected needs of families**
- **Donate band instruments ( *are you really going to play that trumpet again?* )**
- **Include other kids-in-need in your family's social events**
- **Provide emergency food supplies for a family for school when needed**
- **Look around at your own neighborhood and community groups to see what can be done to PREVENT bad situations for families**
- **Mentoring a student**
  
- ***Take a look at the 40 Developmental Assets....***

***Extend yourself in a new way.... Have you ever called a politician?***

**Encourage community leaders  
to work toward provision of  
more **AFFORDABLE**  
**HOUSING** and  
**EMERGENCY DROP-IN**  
**SHELTERS****

**to prevent further trauma to our**

**Remember— In Brevard... Your **DOG** has a safe  
emergency shelter..... Your children do not**

