

ECPAC/ Friends In Deed

Bad Weather Shelter Report

2010/2011 Winter Season

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6/29/2011

A Statement from the Executive Director

Bad Weather Shelter Advisory Board

Wayne Walker,
Pasadena Covenant Church

Ron Grassmann,
New Hope Christian Fellowship

Leo Hurtado,
Lake Avenue Foundation

Kitty Galt,
Passageways/Pacific Clinics

Ann Lansing,
City of Pasadena Housing Department

Woody Hain,
ECPAC Board Member

Christy Letson,
Church of Truth

Pat O'Reilly,
ECPAC Executive Director

Staff

William Shelby,
Co-Director

Kari Herwig,
Co-Director

The Pasadena Bad Weather Shelter is a remarkable, cooperative effort of congregations, the City of Pasadena and other community groups, coming together to provide dry, warm shelter and a hot meal for the homeless in Pasadena during the winter months. The Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Congregations (ECPAC) acts as the lead agency coordinating the efforts of various participant groups. ECPAC is very grateful for those who care so deeply about the homeless and give both their time and money to alleviate the suffering of those living on the streets.

According to the 2011 Pasadena Homeless Count 1,216 people live on the streets on any given day within the City of Pasadena¹ (Urban Initiatives, 2011). Among the root causes of homelessness are eviction, illness, physical and developmental disabilities, mental illness and drug and alcohol addiction. Of those surveyed in the 2011 City of Pasadena Homeless Survey, 53% had a physical disability, 50% felt that they had a mental health problem, and 37% had a drug or alcohol problem (City of Pasadena, 2011).

During the 2010/2011 winter season, the Bad Weather Shelter served 847 homeless people in the area. Staff and volunteers fed and sheltered 70% of the 1,216 people listed as homeless in the 2011 Homeless Count. The care provided at the shelter prevented illness, improved nutrition and encouraged people to take the necessary steps to change their lives.

This year's co-directors, William Shelby and Kari Herwig, skillfully led the operation of the shelter. They ensured that everything ran safely and efficiently during the seventy-four nights of operation. A huge volunteer base also played a vital role in the Bad Weather Shelter operations this year as always. Thirty-four volunteer congregations and community groups assisted the shelter staff and provided 8883 hot meals to its patrons.

The number of clients served at the shelter during the 2010/2011 season increased 15% from the 2009/2010 season reflecting the growing homeless population in the City of Pasadena. Furthermore, the number of children served during the 2010/2011 season rose. 125 children slept at our shelter this year, a 33% increase since 2009.

The Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Congregations wishes to thank the City of Pasadena, the volunteer congregations and other community organizations that worked together to make this extraordinary, life-giving effort possible.

The Rev. Patricia O'Reilly

Why does Pasadena Have a Bad Weather Shelter?

The Bad Weather Shelter is a humanitarian effort to provide shelter for those individuals living on the street during the inclement winter season. Its primary function is hypothermia prevention. However, it also provides outreach and services for some of the most service resistant homeless persons in our community.

History

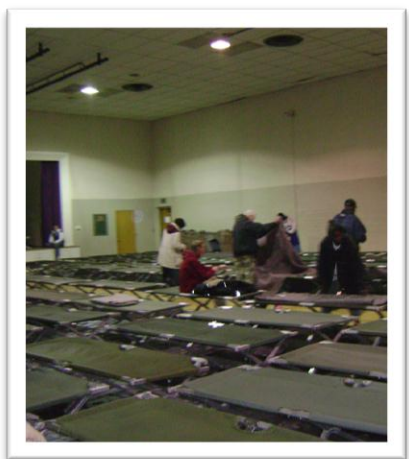
The Bad Weather Shelter first opened in 1986 in response to the hypothermia related death by a homeless individual in Memorial Park, as well as two other hypothermia related deaths in Los Angeles County. At that time the critical needs of homeless persons in Pasadena became apparent, and action was taken to protect the homeless from hypothermia related trauma. The shelter was first located at the Salvation Army gymnasium and in 1988 it moved to its present location at the gymnasium of the Pasadena Covenant Church. The first director of the shelter was Dr. Joe Colletti whose vision, care and energy made the shelter possible. In 1988 the shelter became an official program of the Ecumenical Council of the Pasadena Area Churches (ECPAC).

How does the Bad Weather Shelter operate?

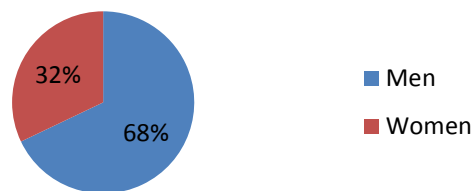
During the 2010/2011 season, the shelter was open each night from 7:00 PM until 7AM continuously during the month of January through February 28th, and from the day after Thanksgiving until December 30th, and from March 1st through March 15th the shelter is “weather activated”. The term “weather activated” means that the shelter is open only when the overnight temperature is expected to be 40 degrees or lower and/or if there is a 40% chance or more of rain. The decision to open the shelter is made by the Program Director at 12 noon each day and is based on the forecasts found online at the National Weather Service and at www.accuweather.com. In order to find out if the shelter is open, anyone can call the Bad Weather Shelter hotline after 12 noon at 888-915-8111.

There are no admission requirements for entry into the shelter. At 7:00 PM families with children are admitted to the shelter, registered and served a hot meal by volunteers. They are then transported to a separate facility to spend the night. At 8:00 PM individual adult guests are admitted to the main shelter, register and are served dinner by staff and volunteers. Lights are out by 10 PM and wake up is at 6 AM. Guests leave the shelter by 7AM. There is no discrimination regarding race, sexual orientation, gender, ancestry, national origin, religion, familial status, or disabilities.

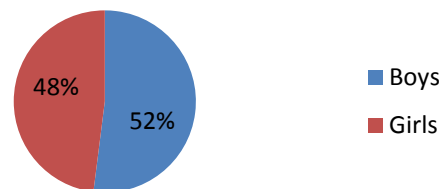




Gender Breakdown (Adults)



Gender Breakdown (Children)



Data on the Bad Weather Shelter

The data gathered from the registered 847 clients was entered into the HMIS computer program. Except for the unduplicated totals, the information in this report is based on the information given by these 847 clients.

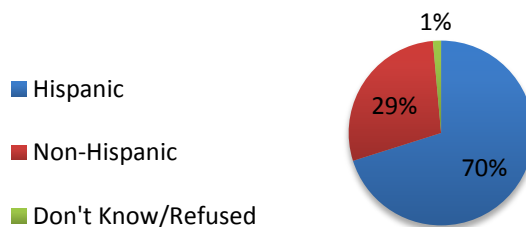
Nights opened and Average Numbers

The Bad Weather Shelter was open 74 nights during the 2010/2011 season. The number of clients ranged from 29 on the first weather activated night to 198 clients in mid-January. The average number of clients was 120 per night.

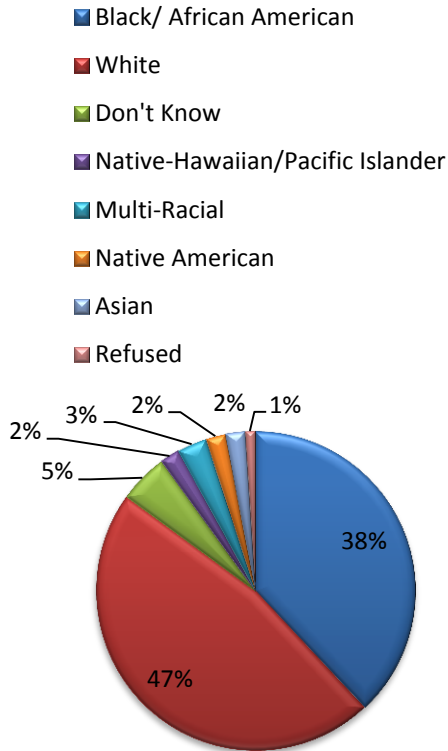
Total Unduplicated Clients 2010/2011	
Men	490
Women	235
Boys	65
Girls	40
Total Adults	722
Total Children	125
Total	847

Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity Breakdown (All Clients)

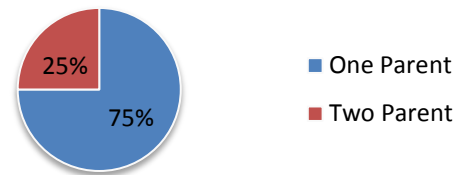


Race/Ethnicity-All Clients

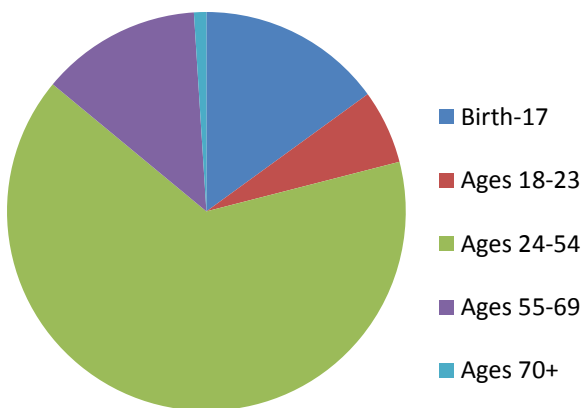


Types of Family Households 2010/2011	
1 parent household	51
2 parent household	17
Total:	68

Family Type



Participants by Age



- 15% of participants are children younger than 18.
- 14% are seniors over the age of 70.

Sources of household income

- 41% of Participants did not have a source of income.
- 5% had some income from employment.

Education

- 38% of participants did not complete high school.
- 34% have a high school diploma or GED.
- 9% have a college degree.
- 2% have a graduate degree.
- 7% have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Bad Weather Shelter Volunteer Groups

2010/11

All Saints' Church

Altadena Baptist Church

Assistance League of
Flintridge/Assistees

Beyond the Box

Church of the Ascension (Episcopal)

Community Bible Church

Cool Kids Care

Crescenta Valley United Methodist
Church

Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church

Duarte High School

Eagle Rock High School

First Congregational Church

First United Methodist Church

Foothills Community Church

Fuller Seminary

Hill Avenue/Grace Lutheran Church

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Lake Avenue Community Foundation

Lutheran Church of the Cross

Mosaic Church

New Hope Christian Fellowship

Pasadena Covenant Church

Pasadena Presbyterian Church

Pasadena High School

San Marino Congregational Church

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church

South Pasadena High School

St. Edmund's Episcopal Church

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Trinity Lutheran Church

Boy Scout Troop 110

Boy Scout Troop 359

Verdugo Hills Church
