

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

One City Center

**Thursday, March 19, 2020
9:00 AM**

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions**
 - a. Review and Approval of February 20, 2020 Minutes
- 2. Homeless Voices for Justice**
- 3. Monthly Shelter Bed Usage Statistics**
 - a. February Statistics
- 4. LTS Update**
- 5. Unsheltered Update**
- 6. Federal, State and Local Legislation**
 - a. Upcoming public hearing for GA bill.
 - b. Federal safety net efforts as part of COVID-19 response.
- 7. Proposed 20/21 ESG Budget**
- 8. The National Forum on the Human Right to Housing Washington, DC**

Limited travel scholarships for low-income individuals and people currently or formerly experiencing homelessness.

 - a. Application and link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020ForumScholarship>
- 9. March 30 and 31 Census Outreach Days for People Experiencing Homelessness**
- 10. COVID-19 Preventative Measure Updates and Coordination**
- 11. Other Business**

Next Meeting

April 16, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: One City Center

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

One City Center

Thursday, February 20, 2020

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Minutes

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Adam Harr	City of Portland	Norm Maze	Shalom House
George Rheault	Bayside Resident	Jeff Tardif	City of Portland
Heather Zimmerman	Preble Street	Vickey Rand	CHOM
Dan Coyne	United Way	Josh Ruitto	City of Portland
Aaron Geyer	City of Portland	Donna Yellen	Preble Street
Jim Divine	HVJ	Deb Ibonwa	MEJP
Harrison Deah	City of Westbrook	Ginny Dill	Shalom House
Tom Natalie	Milestone	Pastor Jeff Logan	Grace Street Ministry
Bill Higgins	HA4A	David Ochsenbein	Amistad

ESAC February 20, 2020

- Introductions
 - Review and Approval of January 16, 2020 Draft Meeting Minutes.
 - Homeless advocacy for all moved to accept the minutes norm seconded and the minutes passed unanimously.
- Homeless Voices for Justice
 - Ongoing advocacy and meetings and are actively recruiting.
 - They are happy with the vote on shelter policy at the new homeless services center.
 - They declined partnering with a Riverton neighborhood group that is against the location of the new shelter.
 - On 2/12 HVH went to the citizens review committee at with the Police Department.
 - HA4A is working with Jon Bradley.
- Monthly Shelter Bed Usage Statistics

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- o January, 2020 Shelter Bed Usage Statistics
- o Bill asked when FS started tracking to see upticks in intakes.
- o Jeff explained that the FS staff are housing people out of the warming center that are not reflected in the ESAC statistics and asked if there is a motion to include intakes and housing placements from the warming center.
 - The group sees value in this.
 - Donna said it would be interesting to see how many came in, how many were housed and how many left, continuing on to Canada.
 - Leaving stats would be anecdotal.
 - It is common for people to not say they are going but then we find they have left, from the warming center and from housing placements.
 - Is there a way to capture this data?
 - There is distrust in the system.
 - When people stay and leave, it wastes resources and in some cases there are double security deposits that landlords end up keeping.
 - o Want to place families who will stay as not only does it waste resources when people leave placements, landlord relationships are jeopardized who may stop accepting people.
 - The group agreed to include the warming center intakes, nightly count and housing placements in the ESAC statistics.
- LTS Update
 - o 93% success rate.
 - o Some housed data was not showing the actual numbers but the current numbers reflect them.
- Federal, State and Local Legislation
 - o Federal
 - FY20 Budget passed and FY21 is likely a continuing resolution which does not bode well for section 8.
 - Budget deficits will affect this cycle as caps will need to be lifted.
 - Medicaid guidance allowing states converting funding into block grants which will generally not be positive for the consumer population.
 - February 11th bill S3276 allowing steady savings by eliminating asset test which would eliminate asset limits for TANF, LIHEAP and SNAP.
 - Donna asked about Senator Collins' response to ESAC.
 - All of the bills would help, but many of the items in the letter are old.
 - Sponsored a bill to reduce the wait time for work authorization which would be immensely helpful.
 - o Senator King sponsored a similar bill in 2015.
 - She and Senator King cosponsored an amendment to the DREAMERS act.
 - DHHS public charge stay was lifted.
 - Lawsuit is still being pursued.
 - Goes into effect February 24th.
 - It won't be retroactive.

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- It would mean participation in public assistance would count against people seeking a green card but does not affect humanitarian statuses including asylum seekers.
 - Misconceptions, people should speak with ILAP to make sure they do not needlessly remove themselves from assistance.
 - Geographic Waiver on Able bodied adults.
 - Maine joined the lawsuit.
 - King is looking to champion the asset test removal.
 - Last Summer's FEMA money. \$5 million for other states; Maine got \$900,000 and there will be a separate funding announcement. It is unclear how much is left for non-southern border states. There may be an opportunity to apply for more funding.
 - People are encouraged to apply by the March 16th deadline.
- o State.
 - Emergency LD1909 \$3million funding for emergency shelters was amended to not only go to low barrier shelters (meant to promote low barrier access).
 - Expand use of funds to support shelter operations at all shelters.
 - Funding would run through the homeless solutions rule.
 - o Not meant to go through the formula and had been intended to be more flexible.
 - It was a good negotiation, although it will run through the ESHAP formula, it will only go to operations.
 - Passed as amended in the House and is likely to be passed to be enacted but will go to the appropriations committee because it has a fiscal note.
 - o Will need advocacy and may get added to the budget.
 - LD2056 FUSE. Work session next week. There is not fiscal note and if there is unanimous support out of committee it will likely move quickly.
 - LD1645 Bill to create workforce and senior housing (State low income housing tax credit) create about 1,000 units over 8 years. 30% housing for older Mainers, 20% for rural and amended to include 4 units or 20% of new units for housing with persons with special needs, including chronic homelessness and DV. Signed into law.
 - LD1294 Homeless bill of rights amended and sent to governor for signature on the 13th.
- Unsheltered Data
 - o Heather explained canvassing count by Preble street and TOA staff in September. They give an incomplete picture quantitatively but gave meaningful qualitative data.
 - People camping with inadequate equipment or support to sleep outside.
 - o Not as equipped to survive outside the people engaged with PATH.
 - o Benefit to continue these efforts in warmer weather.
 - o People are up early.
 - o Promotes engagement.

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- o Does it make sense to keep looking at CTOs and Unsheltered and separate them from housing to focus on unique needs of unsheltered homelessness.
- o PIT results not released yet; only 4 were encountered on the night of. Results including service days will be released in April.
 - Takes time to remove people who had shelter check-ins.
- o Timing makes a huge difference (day and season).
 - 6PM and 6AM would yield different results.
- o PIT is an unfunded mandate so there was pushback on a quarterly PIT.
 - It is hard to find volunteers for one night.
- o The media sensationalization has died down which is positive but so has volunteer participation.
- o Relationship building with this population is important because people do not want to be found because that can mean getting their camp and equipment destroyed.
- o Atlantic charitable trust is not here but their unsheltered count and analysis starts today.
- o Are people sleeping out know about the PIT count?
 - Outreach workers speak with camps.
 - Should there be more outreach or posting; it may lead to people hiding further away.
 - George said there is an effort to drive down the PIT count.
 - Jim said advocates and providers know what's going on but consumers generally are occupied with their day to day and are not aware of things like the PIT.
- o Statewide Homeless Council retreat: one of the 4 goals targeted was unsheltered homelessness.
- o Donna moved ESAC send a response letter to the City Council with unsheltered data analysis the sub group is working on. Norm seconded and the motion passed with City staff abstaining. The original senders plus Preble Street and anyone else can send on behalf of ESAC.
 - What is the review process when a public statement is made in the future?
 - Letter include data and an ask to continue considering the needs of the unsheltered in the new shelter planning process.
 - Is there a concern of multiple sets of data that could confuse the Council?
 - There will be multiple sets and the letter can explain them.
 - Communities across Maine are seeing an increase so more data can build on.
- o Pastor Jeff has a sense that there will be more unsheltered after the shelter moves and this data would be good for comparison.
- o Heather moved to add unsheltered Homelessness as a standing agenda item, Ginny seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Homeless Services Center
 - o Shelter Policy Resolution Passed, setting the building capacity to the larger option on the table. It will be sufficient on most nights and insufficient on some nights.
- Other Business
- Next Meeting March 19

PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters per Night:

	February 2019	February 2020
ADOLESCENTS	18 Individuals	20 Individuals
FAMILIES	196 Individuals 64 Average Families	204 Individuals 64 Average Families
ADULTS	321 Individuals	256 Individuals
Total	536 Individuals	480 Individuals

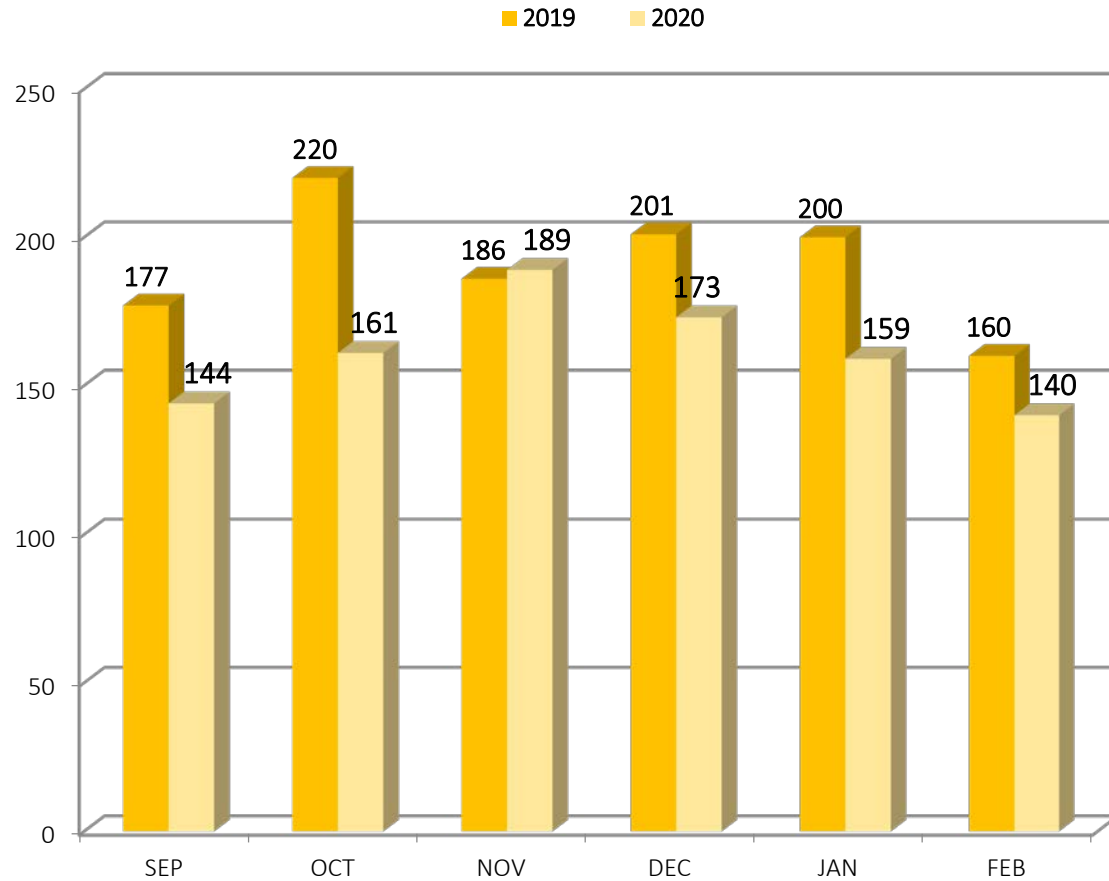
OXFORD STREET SHELTER

FEBRUARY 2020

Intakes by Residency

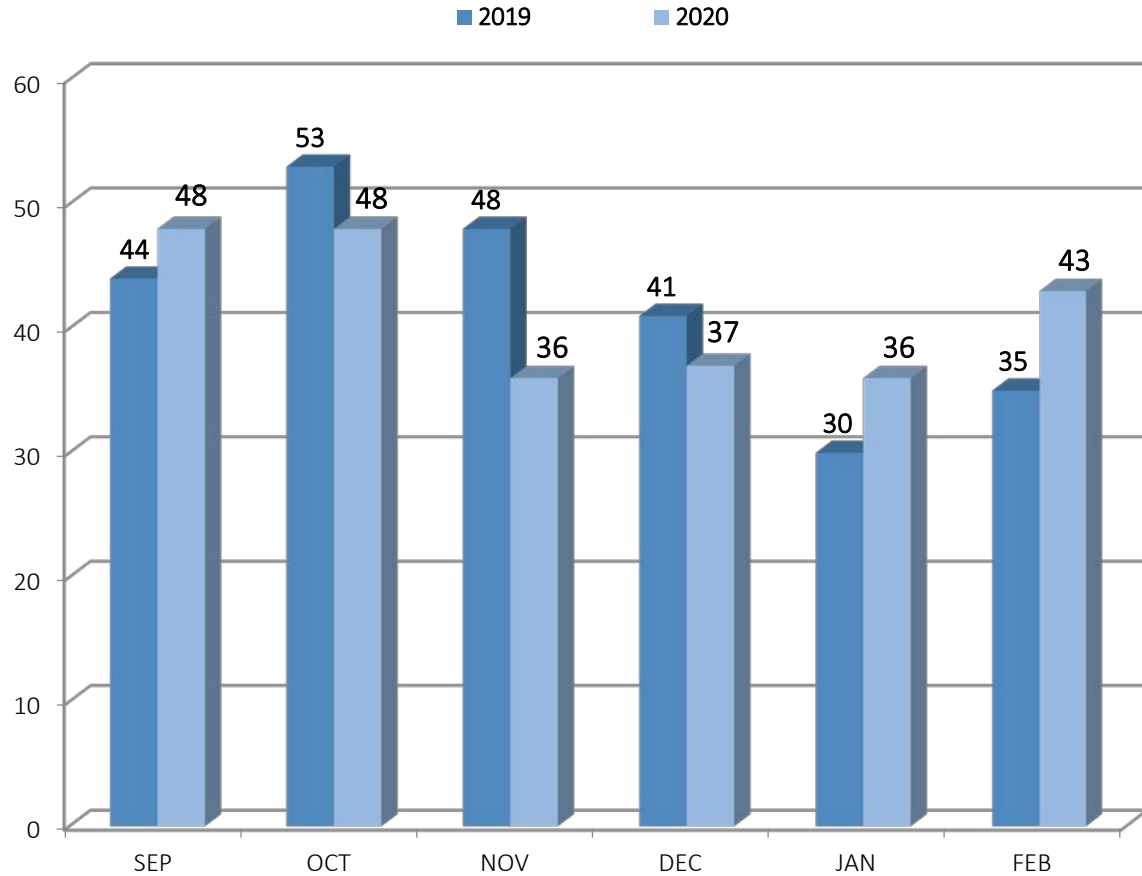
MAINE TOWN						OUT-OF-STATE						OUT-OF-COUNTRY	
Auburn	1	OOB	1			AR	1					Madagascar	1
Augusta	1	Perry	1			GA	1					Sudan	1
Bangor	3	Sanford	3			MA	1						
Biddeford	1	Searsport	1			NH	3						
Brunswick	1	Sidney	1			NY	2						
Caribou	2	Skowhegan	2			OH	1						
Falmouth	1	South Portland	4			PA	1						
Greene	1	Surry	1			SD	1						
Lewiston	5	Warren	2			TX	1						
Limerick	1	Waterboro	1			UT	1						
Lyman	1	Westbrook	4										
Mechanic Falls	1	Windham	1										
MAINE TOWN:	41	OUT-OF-STATE:	13	OUT-OF-COUNTRY:	2	PORTLAND:	23	Unknown:		TOTAL:	79		

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE FEBRUARY 2020 SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH



	INTAKES
Through These Doors	8/8
Family Shelter	13/43
Joe Kreisler	7
Milestone	20
Oxford Street (Men)	60
Oxford Street (Women)	19
Florence House	13
TOTAL	140

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE FEBRUARY 2020 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH



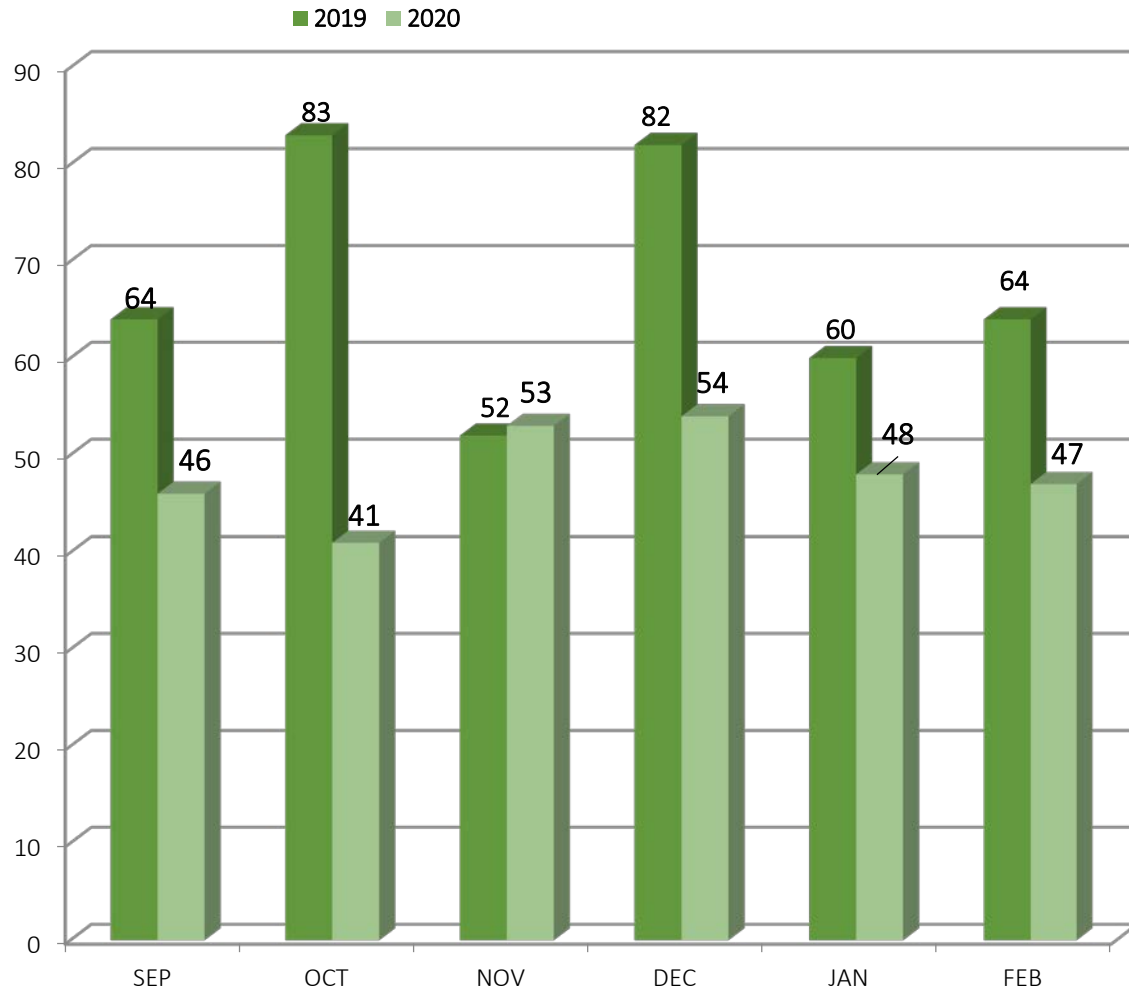
*Starting November, 2013, Oxford Street Shelter shifted prioritization of housing placements to their 30 longest-term stayers.

	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	TRANSITIONAL	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	6/9	4/4	2/5
Family Shelter	12/41		12/41
Joe Kreisler	2	2	
Milestone	3		3
Oxford Street (Men)	9		9
Oxford Street (Women)	6		6
Florence House	5		5
TOTAL	43	6	37

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

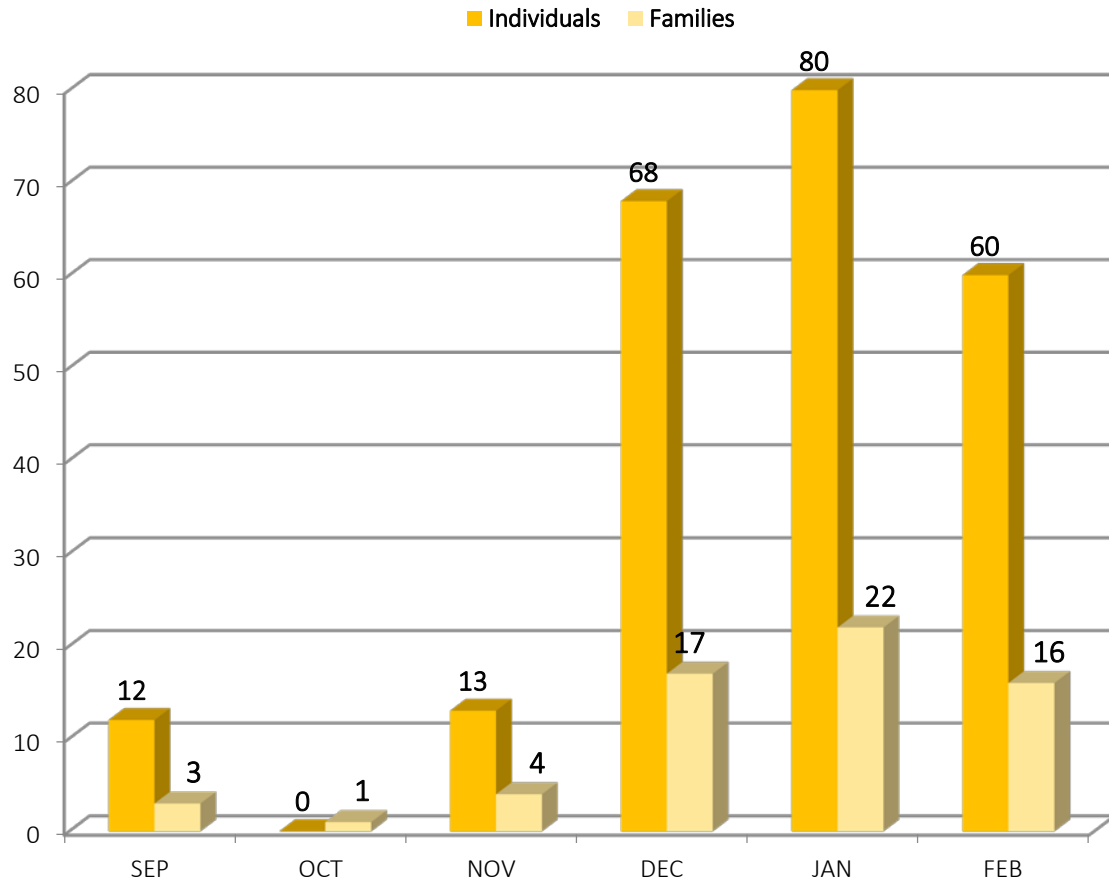
FEBRUARY 2020

1st TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)



1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of Total Intake	% of Total First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	1/1	0.71%	2%
Family Shelter	13/43	9.29%	28%
Joe Kreisler	6	4.29%	13%
Milestone	10	7.14%	21%
Oxford Street (Men)	13	9.29%	28%
Oxford Street (Women)	2	1.43%	4%
Florence House	2	1.43%	4%
TOTAL	47	33.57%	100%

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE FEBRUARY 2020 WARMING CENTER STATISTICS BY MONTH



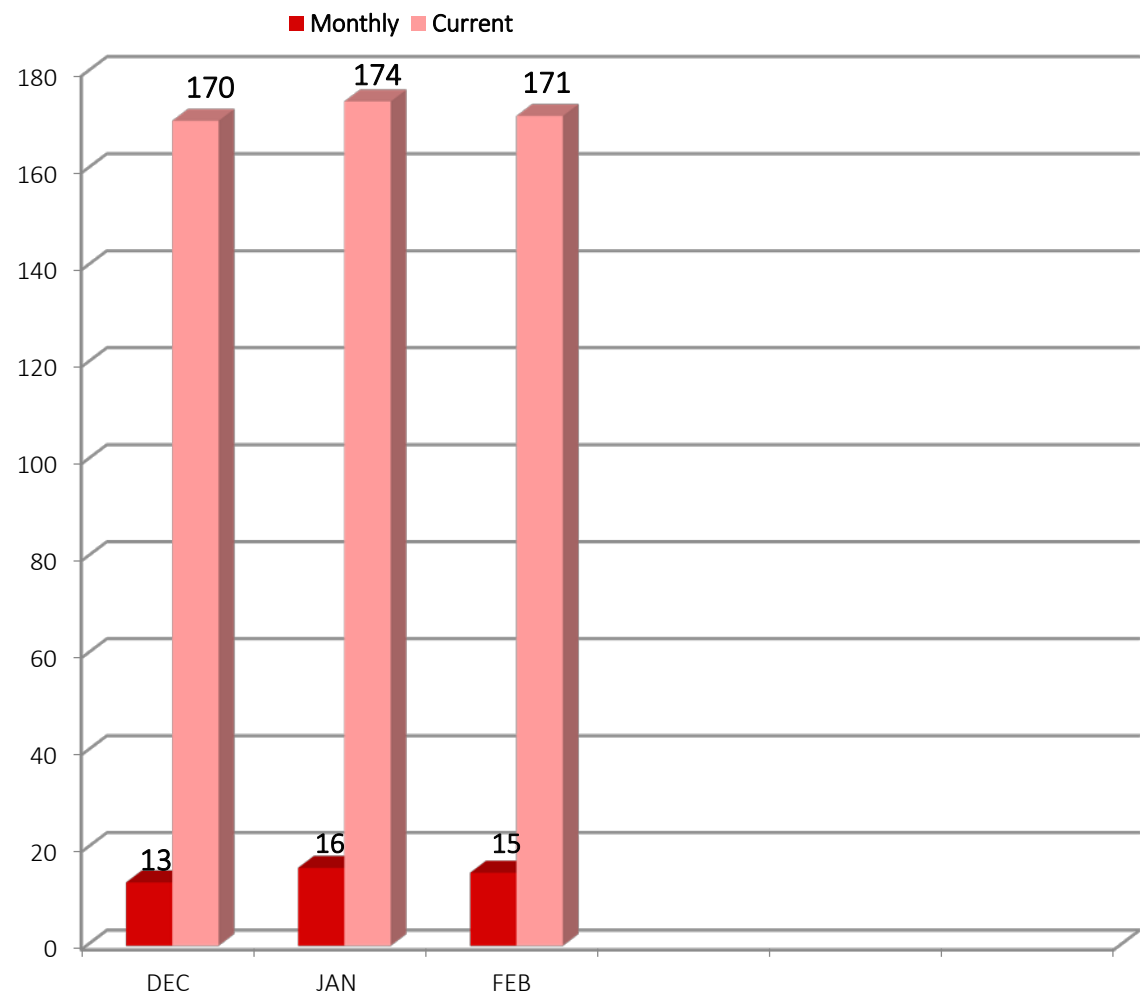
Warming Center	
Intakes	11/45
Housing Placements	2/11
Family Promise	1/4

Date	Families	Individuals
1	18	71
2	20	74
3	19	71
4	19	71
5	17	65
6	15	58
7	15	61
8	16	62
9	17	66
10	16	62
11	14	59
12	15	58
13	14	55
14	13	49
15	13	49
16	14	53
17	15	56
18	17	64
19	16	64
20	19	71
21	16	60
22	16	60
23	15	56
24	16	60
25	16	60
26	16	60
27	14	52
28	14	52
29	14	53

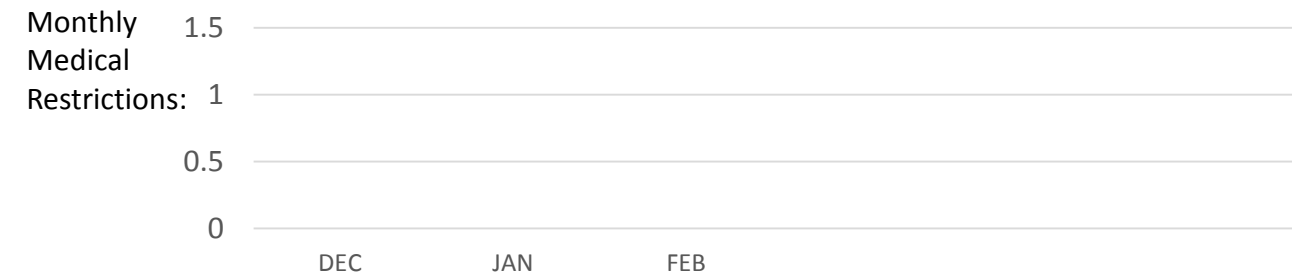
PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

FEBRUARY 2020

CTOs FROM SHELTER



CTO STATISTICS	CTOs in the Month	Medical Restrictions by Month	Current CTOs
Family Shelter	0	0	0
Joe Kreisler	0	0	4
Milestone	4	0	51
Oxford Street Shelter	11	0	114
Florence House	0	0	2
TOTAL	15	0	171



PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE FEBRUARY 2020 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

On February: 19

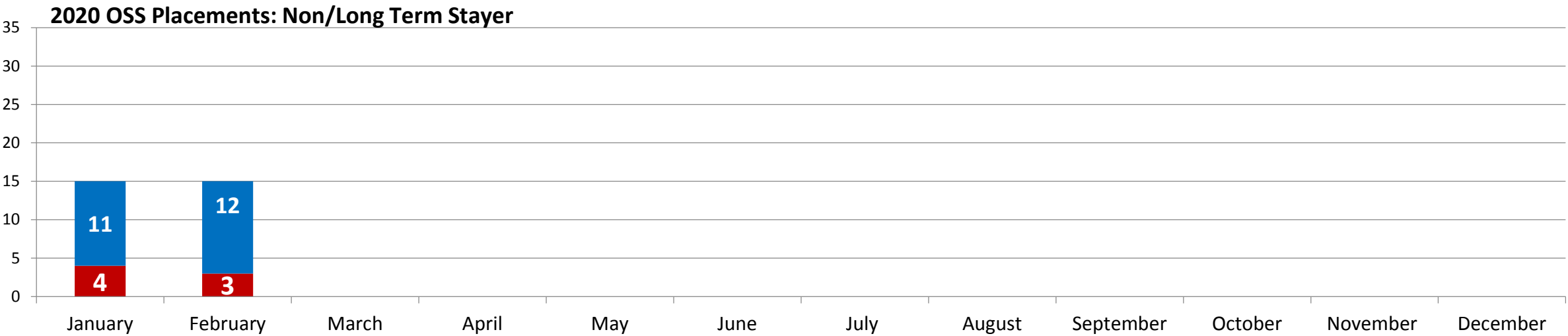
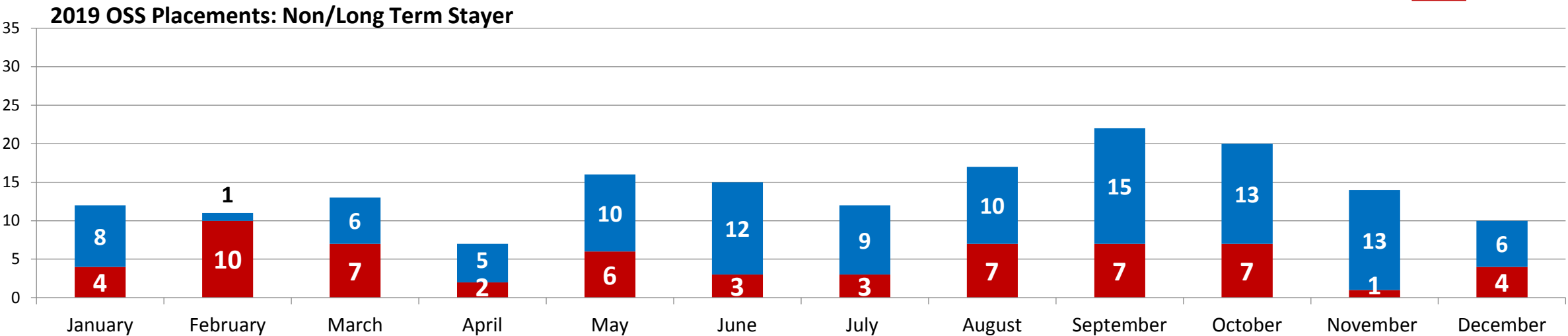
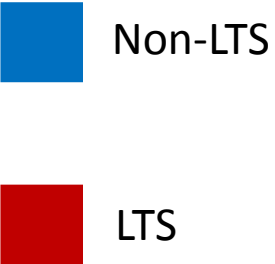
505 individuals

(including families)

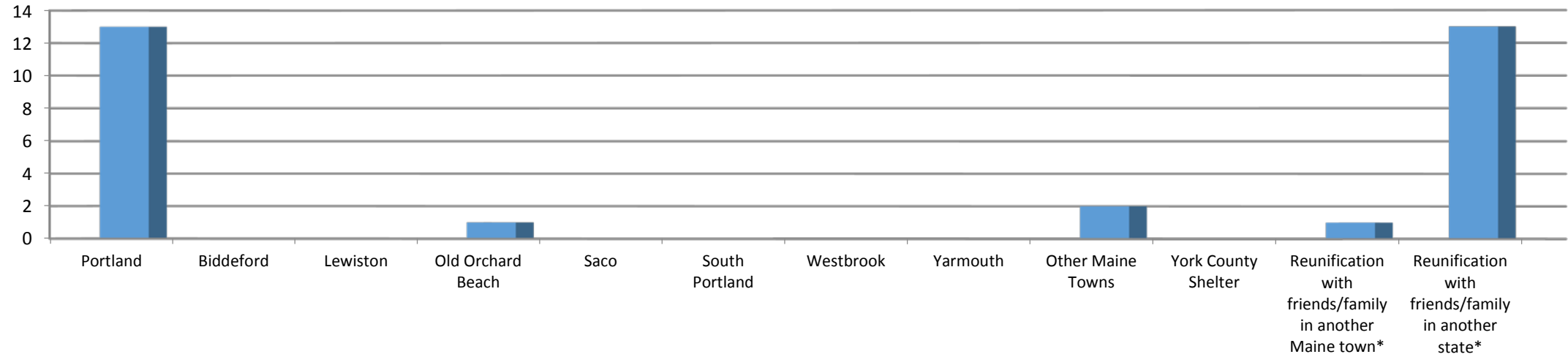
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	OSS Beds	OSS Chairs	Total Bed Nights
1	16	203	37	17	45	148		466
2	16	202	38	16	42	174		488
3	16	199	37	20	45	164		481
4	16	196	37	22	42	170		483
5	16	189	40	21	44	175		485
6	16	185	38	22	43	184		488
7	16	188	37	21	43	178		483
8	15	189	36	19	44	190		493
9	15	193	38	24	42	191		503
10	16	189	39	23	48	188		503
11	16	186	40	24	45	181		492
12	16	184	38	24	46	180		488
13	12	184	39	24	43	179		481
14	13	178	39	19	40	178		467
15	13	178	39	22	41	169		462
16	14	182	38	22	45	165		466
17	14	185	39	20	39	178		475
18	15	193	38	20	36	185		487
19	16	195	40	22	45	187		505
20	16	199	36	21	44	181		497
21	14	191	40	19	46	171		481
22	14	191	39	20	44	168		476
23	14	187	39	20	41	170		471
24	14	191	38	18	48	181		490
25	14	191	39	15	45	184		488
26	15	188	38	20	46	181		488
27	15	182	40	18	44	180		479
28	15	182	34	19	37	148		435
29	15	184	38	19	43	141		440
Total*	433	5,484	1108	591	1256	5069		13,941
Avg/night*	15	189	38	20	43	175		481
Highest*	16	203	40	24	48	191		505
Lowest*	12	178	34	15	36	141		435

OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

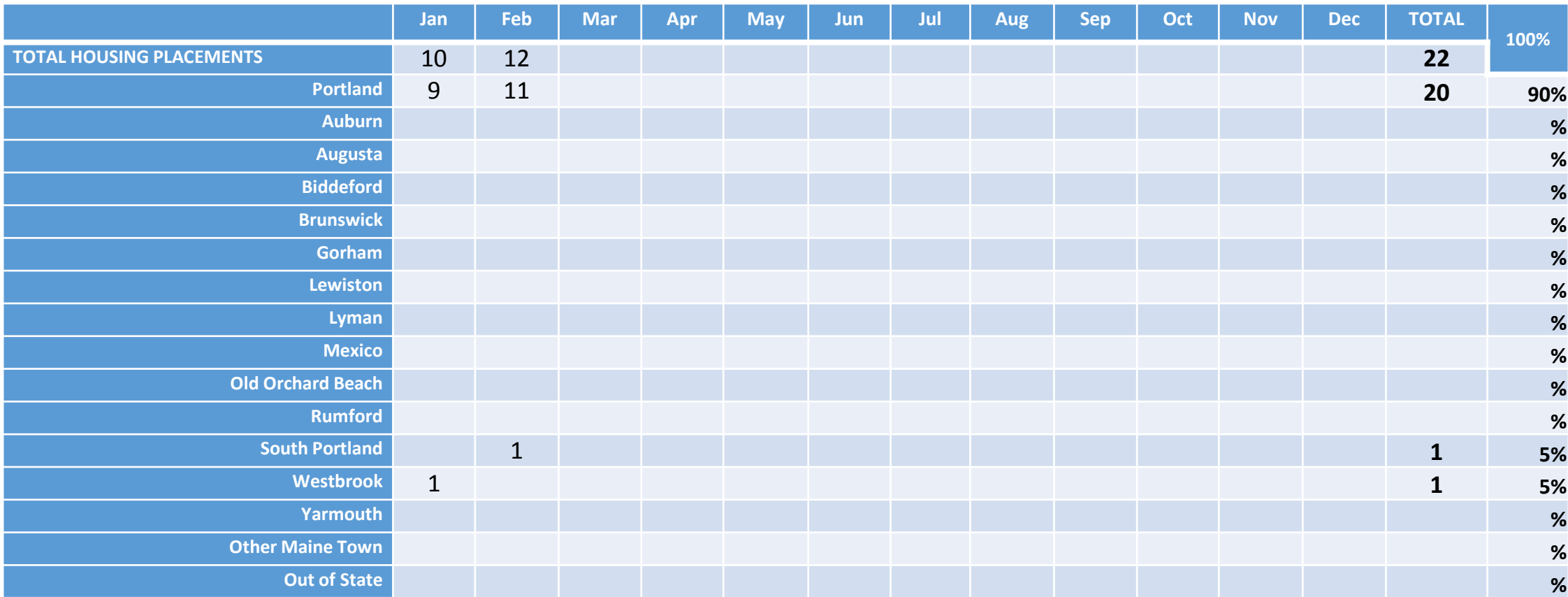


OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2020 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	15	15											30	100%
Portland	6	7											13	43.3%
Biddeford														0.0%
Lewiston														0.0%
Old Orchard Beach	1												1	3.3%
Saco														0.0%
South Portland														0.0%
Westbrook														0.0%
Yarmouth														0.0%
Other Maine Towns		2											2	6.7%
York County Shelter														0.0%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*	1												1	3.3%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*	7	6											13	43.3%

■ 2020



NATIONAL LAW CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

Please complete and submit online:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020ForumScholarship>

2020 Forum Scholarship Application

Scholarship Deadline: Friday, April 17

People experiencing homelessness and housing poverty are challenged by limited resources in their pursuit of gaining the tools they need to survive day to day and support themselves during the fight for housing justice.

Understanding the importance of having people with lived experience at the table and to lift the financial burden, the Law Center offers conference scholarships.

1. Please enter your information below:

Name

Pronouns

Organization

Social Media
Handle(s)

City/Town

State/Province

-- select state --



Country

Email
Address