

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

One City Center

**Thursday, March 21, 2019
9:00 AM**

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions**
 - a. Review and approval of February 21, 2019 meeting minutes.
- 2. HVJ Update**
- 3. Monthly Shelter Bed Usage Statistics**
 - a. February 2019 Citywide Emergency Shelter Statistics
- 4. LTS Update**
- 5. Federal, State and Local Legislation**
 - a. Policy/Advocacy Update – 2/6/2019
- 6. Other Business**

Next Meeting

DATE April 18, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: One City Center

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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Social Services Division
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Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

One City Center

Thursday, February 21, 2019

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Minutes

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Adam Harr	City of Portland	Harrison Deah	City of Westbrook
Brian Townsend	Amistad	Norm Maze	Shalom House
George Rheault	Bayside	Sara Fleurant	City of Portland
Peggy Lynch	Preble Street	Meaghan Void	City of Portland
Ginny Dill	Shalom House	Leah Bruns	MaineHousing
Amy Geren	Portland Downtown	Aaron Geyer	City of Portland
Jim Divine	HVJ	Christina Cook	TOA PATH
Sara Ewing Merrill	Family Promise	Jeff Tardif	City Of Portland Family Shelter
Jenny Stasio	Through These Doors	Christina Cook	TOA PATH
Amanda Methot	City of Portland HCD	William Higgins	Homeless Advocacy for All

Announcements & Minutes: Motion to accept minutes passed without discussion.

Agenda will be updated to have Aaron and Adam as the City Contact's

HVJ:

- Don't hide us include us effort to be included in the new shelter planning at
 - o OSS
 - o PTLA
 - o City Hall: Jon Jennings to have a March community forum

Monthly Statistics: The January 2019 shelter statistics are available here:

<https://www.portlandmaine.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/976>

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- Previous Warming Center MOU was just with Family Shelter for intakes from Westbrook and South Portland years ago before the Family Shelter became full.
- WC numbers is at a downward trend at the warming center
 - Families in the warming center are being fed by the city. Separate breakfast by the City. Lessons Learned: St Vincent De Paul is closed over holidays and snow days: need to get a list of their closings and a warning system when they will be closed unexpectedly. Food waste had been an issue but last night there were no leftovers.
 - Anna Foley from the WIC director made a good schedule
 - Adam to email to the group

Typical placements for the FS; Portland GA pays the gap for asylum seeking families.

- In the past, have had to switch apartments between families in other municipalities that lose eligibility with families that still have eligibility.
- Folks from the southern boarder have already applied for asylum and have an A number
 - Visa holders are in the gap and are 30-40% of the overall population.
 - Some families want to stay in Portland due to services and community.
- Family Shelter's mean length of stay is averaging in the 70s.
 - Change over time: in 2006 most families left within 45 days.

Asylum Seekers when entering the country: the towns of entry aren't under any true obligation to assist them. When families enter the country and leave the town of entry, the funding doesn't follow them.

- Money set aside not following feels like a penalization to the State/Portland for doing exceptional work.
- Who to ask why the funding doesn't follow?
 - Aids to the congressional delegation
 - MSHA to ask
- Portland could Document.

Out of towners coming into the emergency shelter system may have a pipeline from sober houses?

- Is there evidence of this at the shelters?
 - Sober houses threaten residents with staying at the shelter
 - Majority of people coming from out of state are attracted to housing or service opportunities.
 - Rarely heard that people have come from sober living
 - Providers have a sense that the people in sober living have a lot of family supports
 - Sober housing statistics are hard to track
 - Each shelter can identify its location in a set of resources and supports in centers a primary reason for people entering the shelter system there.
 - There is movement from all over the state, especially to the coast.
- Path sees people who are very Chronic and newly entering homelessness in their car, or are on the brink cashing in all of their social and financial supports to avoid homelessness
 - Roll back in Maine Care

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- An unprecedented level of people with intellectual disabilities in homelessness
- Once entering this situation is so traumatic it is that much harder to recover.

Long term process for getting ESAC reporting from HMIS

- Mary is GREAT!

271 is a high number for OSS

- 11 folks didn't get a bed that night.
- Fewer people choosing to sleep out during inclement weather

LTS had 5 placements into housing

- HVJ has done a great job engaging newly housed folks

Adam to send the article on crisis stabilization center news

<https://www.portlandmaine.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/976>

Point in Time (PIT) Data will be in April

- Underrepresentation of federal PIT homeless numbers:
 - Lewiston is concerned so many people are staying out of HMIS shelters
 - Gas have not been included
 - Houses not fit for human habitation are uncounted when that is homelessness
 - Huge number of people not seen; I see you I count you method does not work for the rural geography of our state and using a statistical analysis.
- Most states have multiple CoCs that take on the PIT
 - 6 locations of 20 volunteers in groups of 2
 - Encampments that folks purposely do not go to
 - The information gathered from service based nights is more accurate
- MSHA asked HVJ about groups that need homeless advocate representation
 - Leah to Contact Dylan Monahan, HVJ Coordinator
 - Adam to get Leah his contact
- Parking lots as emergency shelters.

Next Meeting: March 19, 2019

PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters per Night:

	February 2018	February 2019
ADOLESCENTS	12 Individuals	18 Individuals
FAMILIES	156 Individuals 52 Average Families	196 Individuals 64 Average Families
ADULTS	306 Individuals	321 Individuals
Total	474 Individuals	536* Individuals

28 Days in the Month of February

*number based on mean of “total bed nights” column on slide 7.

OXFORD STREET SHELTER

February 2019

Intakes by Residency

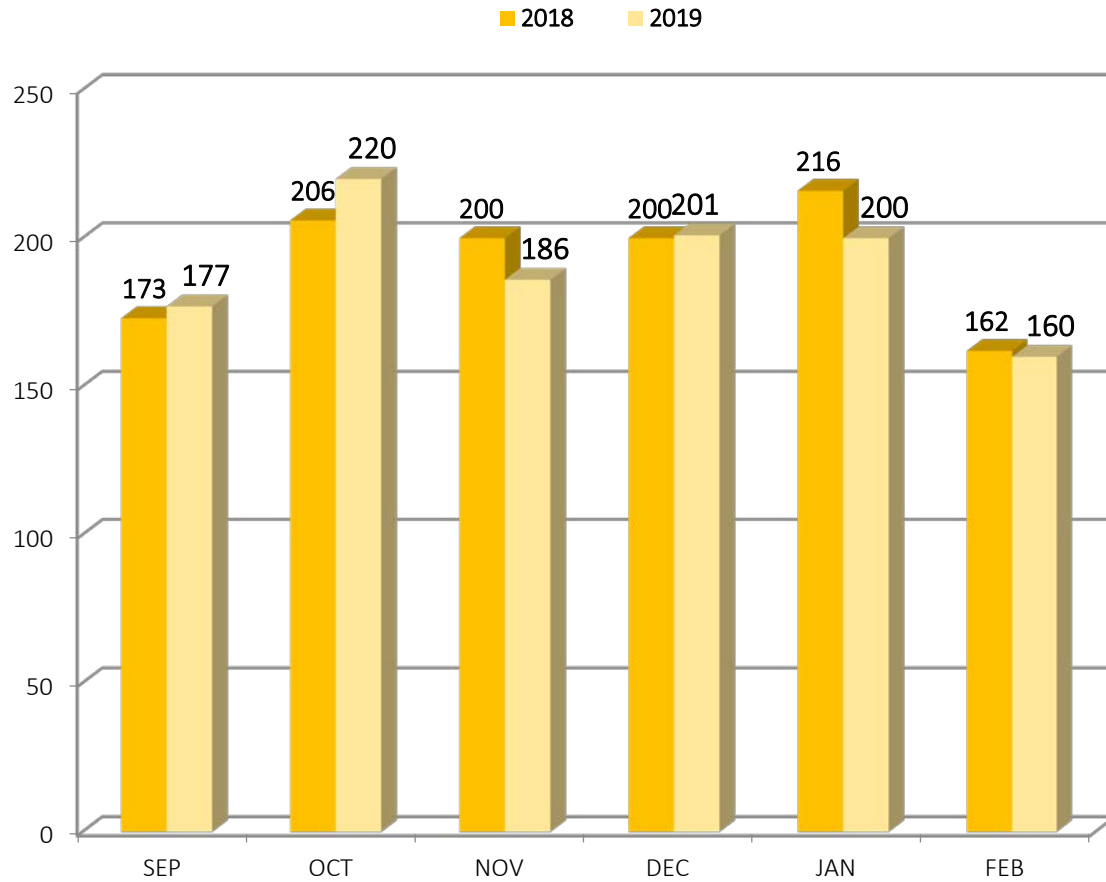
MAINE TOWN						OUT-OF-STATE				OUT-OF-COUNTRY	
Alfred	1	Lisbon	1	Westbrook	6	AZ	1	NH	1	Angola	2
Augusta	4	Perry	1	Windham	1	AL	1	NY	2	Democratic Republic of Congo	6
Bangor	1	Presque Isle	1			CT	1	OH	1	Rwanda	2
Biddeford	4	Raymond	1			FL	2	SC			
Brewer	2	Rockland	1			GA	1	SD			
Brunswick	1	Sanford	1			ID	1	UT			
Buxton	1	Scarborough	1			IL	1	WA			
East Baldwin	1	South Portland	3			KS	1				
Hampden	1	Sullivan	1			KY	1				
Lebanon	1	Waldoboro	1			MA	4				
Lewiston	2	Warren	1			MT	1				
Lincoln	1	West Newfield	1			NC	1				

MAINE TOWN:	41	OUT-OF-STATE:	20	OUT-OF-COUNTRY:	10	PORTLAND:	36	Unknown:	4	TOTAL:	<u>111</u>
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PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

February 2019

SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH

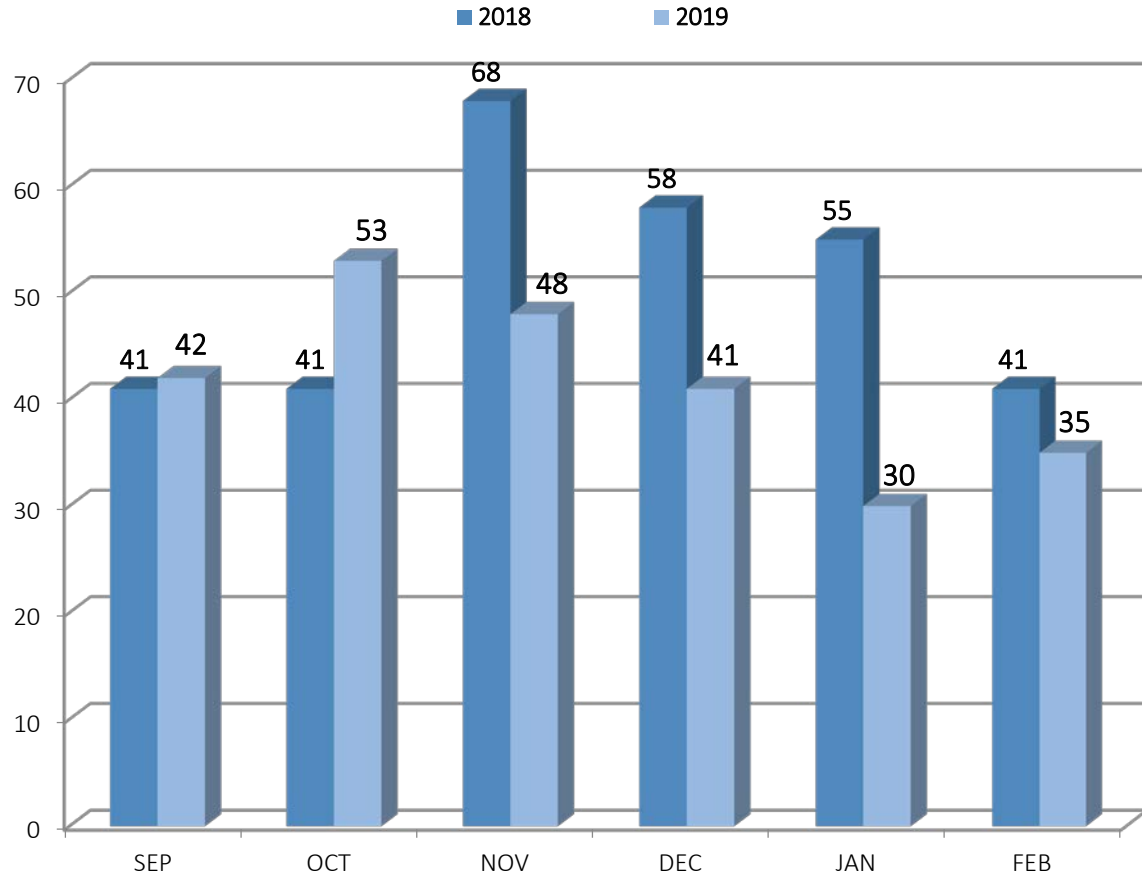


	INTAKES
Through These Doors	2/3
Family Shelter	15/50
Joe Kreisler	11
Milestone	16
Oxford Street (Men)	82
Oxford Street (Women)	29
Florence House	5
TOTAL	160

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

February 2019

HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH



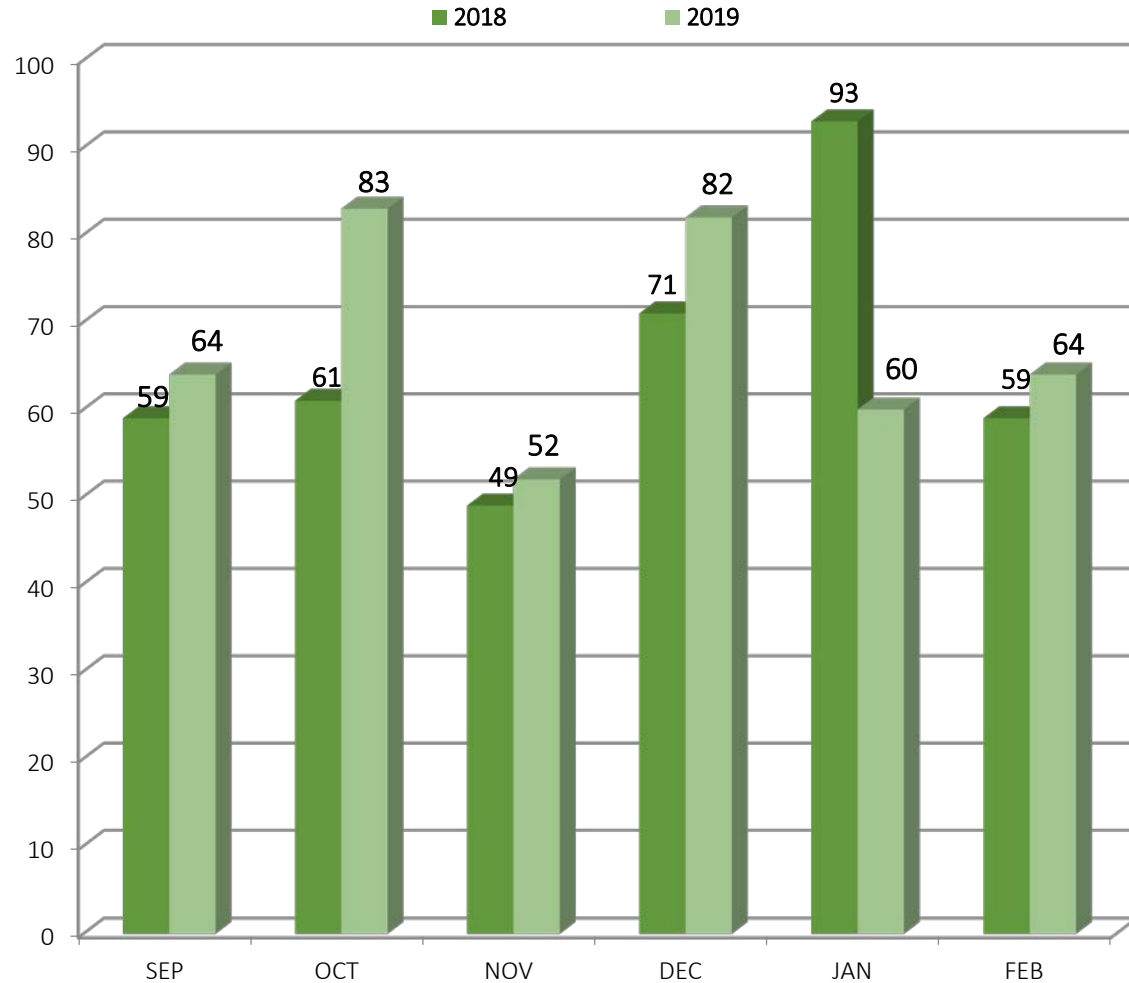
*Starting November, 2013, Oxford Street Shelter shifted prioritization of housing placements to their 30 longest-term stayers.

	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	TEMPORARY	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	4/6	0	4/6
Family Shelter	13/52	/	13/52
Joe Kreisler	8	2	6
Milestone	3	0	3
Oxford Street (Men)	8	0	8
Oxford Street (Women)	3	0	3
Florence House	4	0	4
TOTAL	35/84	2	33/82

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

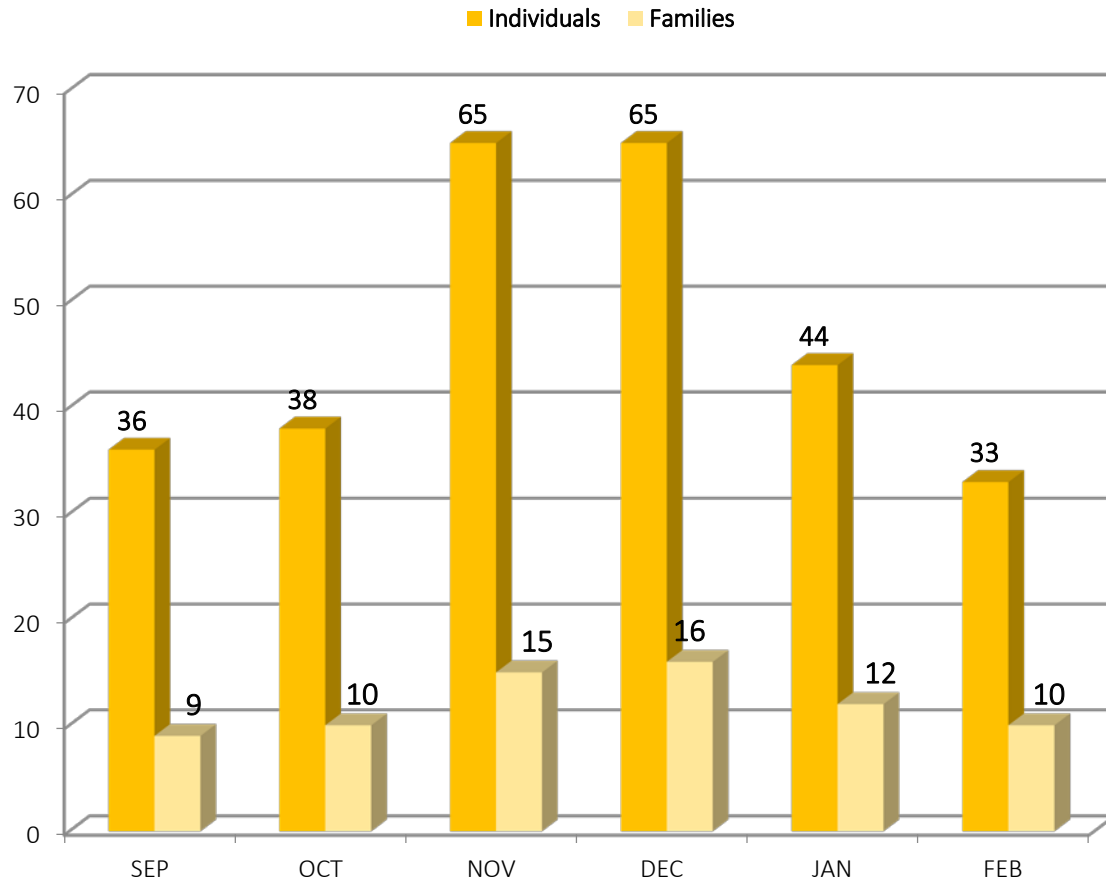
February 2019

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



1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS % OF ALL INTAKES (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of Total First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	0/0	0%
Family Shelter	15/50	23% (51%)
Joe Kreisler	8	13% (8%)
Milestone	11	17% (11%)
Oxford Street (Men)	21	33% (21%)
Oxford Street (Women)	9	14% (9%)
Florence House	0	0%
TOTAL	64	100%

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE FEBRUARY 2019 WARMING CENTER STATISTICS BY MONTH



Warming Center Location	Nights Used
Family Shelter only	6
Salvation Army only	22
FS & SA	
FS & Yarmouth	
FS & Preble	
FS & GA	

Date	Families	Individuals
1	10	34
2	9	29
3	10	31
4	10	35
5	12	42
6	12	40
7	12	40
8	8	27
9	8	27
10	9	31
11	10	32
12	10	34
13	10	34
14	10	34
15	8	28
16	7	26
17	8	28
18	9	31
19	11	38
20	11	38
21	8	28
22	8	27
23	8	27
24	10	36
25	10	36
26	11	38
27	9	31
28	12	41

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE February 2019 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

On February 24th:

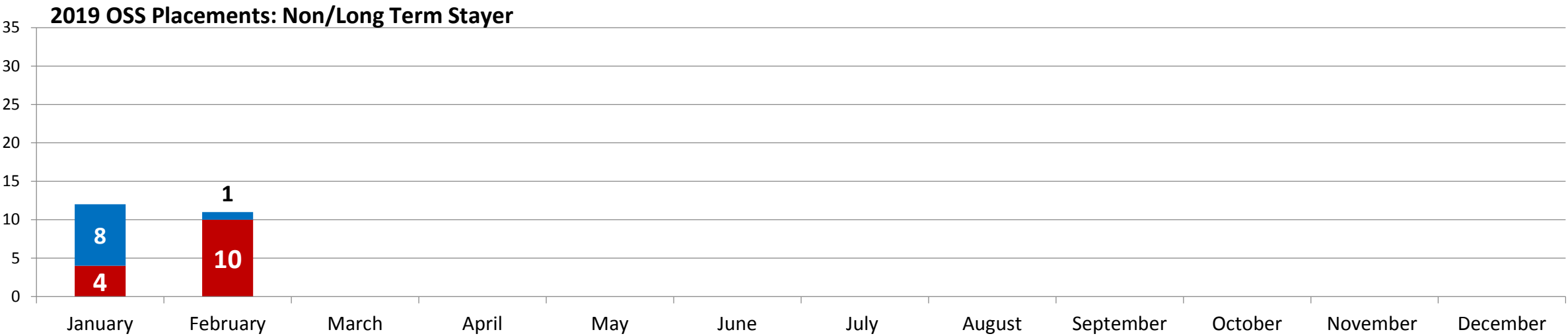
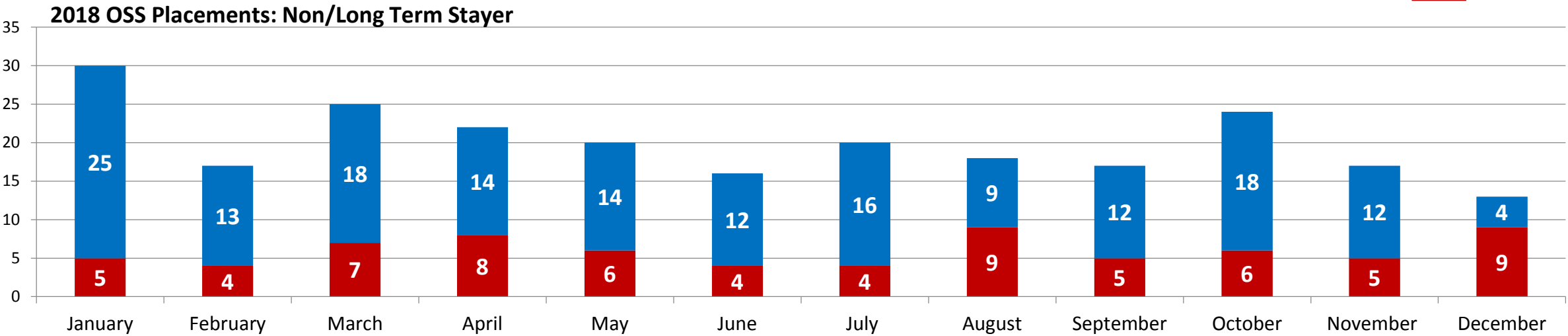
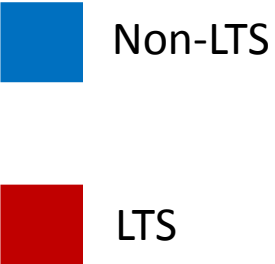
572 individuals

(including families)

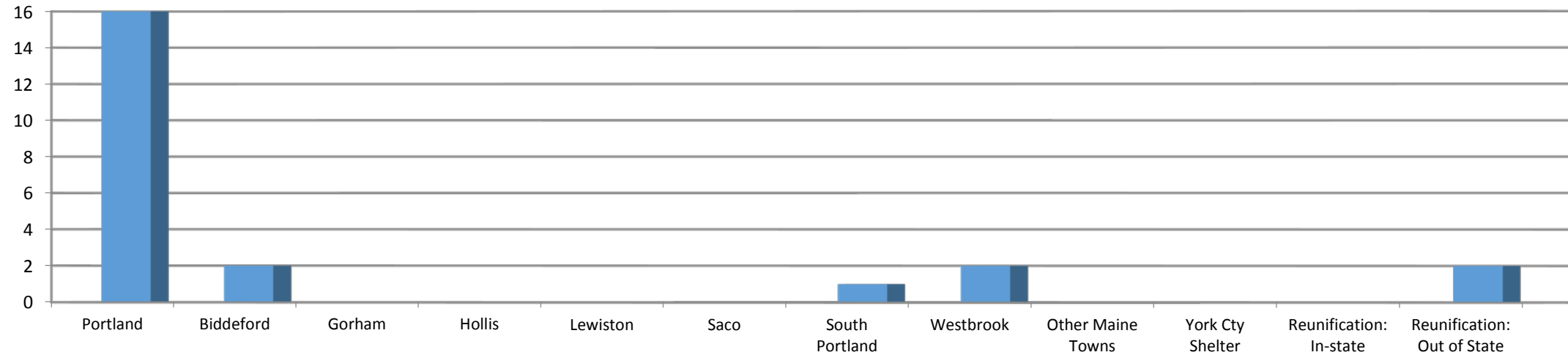
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	OSS Beds	OSS Chairs	Total Bed Nights
1	16	185	39	20	39	221	0	520
2	13	190	38	16	34	221	0	512
3	13	190	41	22	36	223	0	525
4	13	193	43	20	39	220	0	528
5	13	188	39	23	32	212	0	507
6	14	193	40	20	39	236	0	542
7	14	193	40	17	37	248	0	549
8	16	197	39	17	38	244	0	551
9	16	186	40	20	44	236	0	542
10	16	183	39	16	42	245	0	541
11	16	174	40	15	36	238	0	519
12	16	174	40	13	34	236	0	513
13	16	175	40	16	36	240	0	523
14	16	175	40	19	40	241	0	531
15	16	175	37	17	37	226	0	508
16	15	183	39	18	39	241	0	535
17	15	187	40	15	36	241	0	534
18	15	181	40	15	40	240	0	531
19	15	181	38	16	35	225	0	510
20	15	175	39	17	41	232	0	519
21	15	180	40	15	38	257	18	563
22	15	181	37	21	37	266	0	557
23	14	181	38	18	40	261	0	552
24	14	177	39	22	42	252	26	572
25	14	167	42	22	43	250	21	559
26	14	167	40	23	41	252	0	537
27	13	174	39	21	43	254	0	544
28	13	174	39	22	40	271	11	570
Total*	411	5,079	1,105	516	1,078	6,729	76	14,994
Avg/night*	15	181	39	18	39	240	3	536
Highest*	16	197	43	23	44	271	26	572
Lowest*	13	167	37	13	32	212	0	507

OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

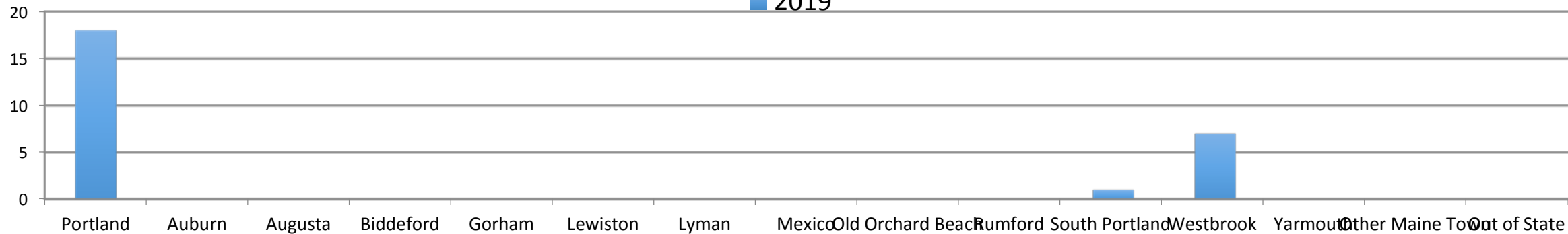


OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2019 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	100%
Portland	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	70%
Biddeford	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9%
Gorham	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Hollis	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Lewiston	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Saco	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
South Portland	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4%
Westbrook	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9%
Other Maine Towns	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
York County Shelter	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9%

■ 2019

[illegible]

Policy/Advocacy Update – 2/6/2019

Federal Legislation Update:

Continuing Resolution – Update – On Friday 1/25 Congress passed and the President signed a “clean” short-term CR, funding the government until 2/15, ending the longest government shutdown in history. Congress still needs to enact full FY 19 funding for offices and Departments not yet fully funded, including HUD.

FY19 THUD Appropriations bill – No new update – The House and Senate have come to agreement on the FY 19 T-HUD bill, which would provide approximately \$1.3 billion more funding for HUD programs vs. the FY 18 enacted funding. However, it still must be passed in Congress and signed by the President – the hold up for which has been around border security/wall funding.

Ending Homelessness Act of 2019 – New – Reintroduced by House Financial Services Committee Chair Maxine Waters (D-CA). This bill would provide a path to end homelessness in the United States, and for other purposes. This bill would, among other things:

- Authorize \$1 billion in funding between 2020 and 2024, for emergency relief grants to address the unmet needs of homeless populations in jurisdictions with the highest need;
- Authorize \$500 million in funding between 2020 and 2024, in addition to existing renewal funding, for special purpose rental assistance for persons and households who are homeless;
- Authorize \$100 million in funding between 2020 and 2024 to provide outreach and coordination services for persons and households who are homeless or formerly homeless; authorize \$1 billion in funding in 2019, and every year after that, for the National Housing Trust Fund, \$50 million dedicated for incremental project-based voucher assistance or project-based rental assistance – both of which prioritizing persons and households who are homeless;
- Authorize \$20 million in McKinney-Vento funding for McKinney Vento technical assistance funds to assist states and local organizations align health and housing systems;
- Permanently authorize appropriations for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants Act; and
- Permanently reauthorize USICH.

H.R. 508: Trafficking Victims Housing Act of 2019 – New – Sponsored by Rep. Joyce Beatty. This bill would require a study and report on the housing and service needs of victims of trafficking and individuals at risk for trafficking.

H.R. 232: Landlord Accountability Act of 2019 – New – Sponsored by Rep. Nydia Velazquez. This bill would amend the Fair Housing Act, to prohibit discrimination based on use of section 8 vouchers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 715: To amend section 428 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to provide incentives to grantees under the Continuum of Care program to re-house all former members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes – New – Sponsored by Rep. Steve Stivers. Content of bill and bill summary not available.

S. 8: Preserving Our Commitment to Homeless Veterans Act – New – Sponsored by Sen. Marco Rubio. This bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that the supported housing program of the Department of Veterans Affairs has not fewer than one program manager for every 35 rental assistance cases under such program, and for other purposes.

State Legislation Update: Governor Mills was sworn into office on 1/2/19, the official start of the new Legislature. This is the first year of the biennium, where legislators can introduce any number of bills, and the Legislature will be considering the Biennial Budget.

Medicaid Waiver & Work Requirements – Update – Governor Mills pulled Maine out of its approved Section 1115 Medicaid waiver that would have imposed work requirements on Medicaid recipients, as well as impose monthly premiums.

Bills of note: There is a list of submitted bill titles pertaining to homelessness and housing (see attachment) which have not been given LD numbers or referred to a committee. The following list are bills which have been given LD numbers and will be considered as of the date of this update:

- LD 48, An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless" (Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland). This bill would authorize a \$15million bond, to go to referendum, to invest in the creation of housing for people experiencing homelessness, to be administered by MaineHousing. A Public Hearing in front of the Appropriations Committee was held on 1/22, 1:00 PM, State House, Room 228.
- LD 184 – An Act To Amend the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Coordination Program – Rep. John DeVeau. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. A Public hearing in front of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee has been scheduled for Monday, 2/4, at 10am, State House, Room 437.
- LD 459, An Act To Include Homelessness in the Laws Governing Emergency General Assistance – Sen. Ben Chipman. Bill summary: This bill defines "homelessness" for the purposes of the laws governing general assistance and specifies that a person experiencing or facing homelessness who meets the conditions for receiving emergency assistance in current law is eligible for emergency general assistance.
- LD 447, An Act Regarding the Substance Abuse Disorder Continuum of Care – Sen. Geoff Gratwick. Bill Summary: This bill proposes to provide support for persons with substance use disorder along a continuum of care that includes prevention, law enforcement diversion, treatment, harm reduction and recovery. The bill proposes to provide: 1. Funding for programs that reduce the use of marijuana and so-called "vaping" by youth in Maine in order to reduce the likelihood of neural pathway changes that can lead to addiction later in life; 2. Ongoing support for detoxification as a path to recovery; 3. Reimbursement

under the MaineCare program for substance use disorder peer recovery coaches; 4. Funding to the Bangor Area Recovery Network for addiction recovery support; 5. Support for regional 2-1-1 hotlines to offer referrals to persons with substance use disorder for local services; and 6. Access to evidence-based approaches to prevent substance use and treat substance use disorder in rural areas.

- LD 80, An Act To Create the Department of Substance Use Disorder Services – Rep. Perry. Bill summary: This bill establishes the Department of Substance Use Disorder Services as a separate cabinet-level department. It removes from the Department of Health and Human Services, and transfers to the Department of Substance Use Disorder Services, functions and services for individuals with substance use disorders, prevention programs and administrative assistance for the Substance Use Disorder Services Commission.
- LD 195, An Act To Continue MaineCare Coverage for Parents During the Rehabilitation and Reunification Process – Rep. Patty Hymanson. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to continue to provide MaineCare coverage to parents who are MaineCare members while they are participating in reunification efforts with child welfare. Public Hearing: Thursday, 2/7, 1:00 PM, Cross Building, Room 209
- LD 510, An Act To Authorize Funding for Transitional Housing for Women Veterans and Their Families – Rep. Bettyann Sheats. This bill would provide a one-time \$150,000 General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 2019-20 to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management for the Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope to provide suitable housing for women veterans in transition and their families.
- LD 613, Resolve, Concerning the Adoption of Rules To Carry Out the Purpose of the Bridging Rental Assistance Program – Rep. Dick Farnsworth. This resolve directs DHHS to adopt rules for BRAP in order to ensure fairness, equity and access to the program for those persons with mental illness who qualify for the program. The department would be required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services if the department anticipates a delay in the adoption of the rules.
- LD 578, Resolve, To Create a Pilot Program To Assist the Transition to Recovery of Persons Suffering from Opioid Use Disorder – Rep. Patty Hymanson.
- LD 501, An Act To Provide Funding for the Homeless Veterans Center in Caribou – Sen. Pres. Troy Jackson. This bill would provide \$200,000 in a one-time appropriation of funds to the homeless veterans center in Caribou.
- LD 578, Resolve, To Create a Pilot Program to Assist the Transition to Recovery of Persons Suffering from Opioid Use Disorder – Rep. Patty Hymanson.
- LD 46, An Act to Establish a Substance Use Disorder Clinic at the Cumberland County Jail – Rep. Michael Brennan. This bill would provide funding (\$250,000 in each year of the biennium) to create a substance use disorder clinic at the Cumberland County jail.