

Homeless Assistance

Homeless Assistance – How it All Works

State Programs & Resources

- Housing Opportunity Grant Program
- General Assistance Emergency Housing (Motel Vouchers)
- Family Supportive Housing
- Vermont Rental Subsidy
- Other State-funded/AHS housing programs (not homeless specific)

Structure & Process

- Funding
- Vermont Council on Homelessness
 - Vermont Plan to End Homelessness
- Continuums of Care (CoC)
 - Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness
 - Local “CoCs”
 - Chittenden Homeless Alliance
- Coordinated Entry
 - Access, Assessment, Referrals, Prioritization
- HMIS/Point in Time Count

Agency of Human Services

Independent Living

Expanding Community Opportunities for All Ages

Affordable Housing

Targeting Financial Assistance to Support Stability

Transitional Housing

Opening Paths from Institution to Community

Emergency Shelter

Providing a Safe, Emergency response

Supportive Housing

Customizing Services for Tenants at Higher Risk

Homelessness Prevention

...and Rapid Re-housing for people who become Homeless

Continuum of Care – Collaboration:

- Assess capacity & ID gaps
- Develop proactive solutions vs reactive stop-gaps
- ID common goals to advocate
- ID resources needed
- Coordinate & Link

A Homeless “Continuum of Care”?

Housing crisis response system with pathways to permanent housing & links to mainstream resources

- **Outreach**
- **Assessment** to identify service and housing needs and provide a link to the appropriate level of both
- **Prevention & Diversion**
- **Emergency Shelter:** immediate, temporary, safe place to sleep
- **Transitional Housing,** where appropriate
- **Rapid Re-housing and Permanent Supportive Housing**

Emergency Shelter



By design, intended to be temporary, and to help guests move into permanent housing as quickly as possible

Variety of forms: congregate facility, motels, seasonal “warming” shelter, scattered site apartments (*best for families*)

Unaccompanied Youth: Basic Center, Transitional Living Program

Domestic/Sexual Violence Shelters, with some motel overflow, some “transitional”

Homelessness Prevention

Prevent homelessness for people seeking shelter by helping them stabilize and preserve existing housing, or identify immediate alternate housing arrangements and, if necessary, connecting them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing.

“But for this assistance” ...
targeted
prevention and
diversion

Limited public
funding but
range of help:
back rent,
moving help,
security deposit,
rental assistance

Financial
Coaching and
Renter 101
classes

Faith groups
and Case
Conferencing is
helpful

Housing Opportunity Grant Program

Funding for community organizations who help people in crisis to find or keep stable, safe housing

- \$7 million of state and federal funding (current year)
 - Emergency Shelter: Year-round and seasonal emergency shelters; day shelters; domestic violence shelters; apartment stays for families
 - Transitional housing for youth & veterans
 - Homelessness prevention
 - Rapid re-housing programs
- OEO partners with over 40 programs

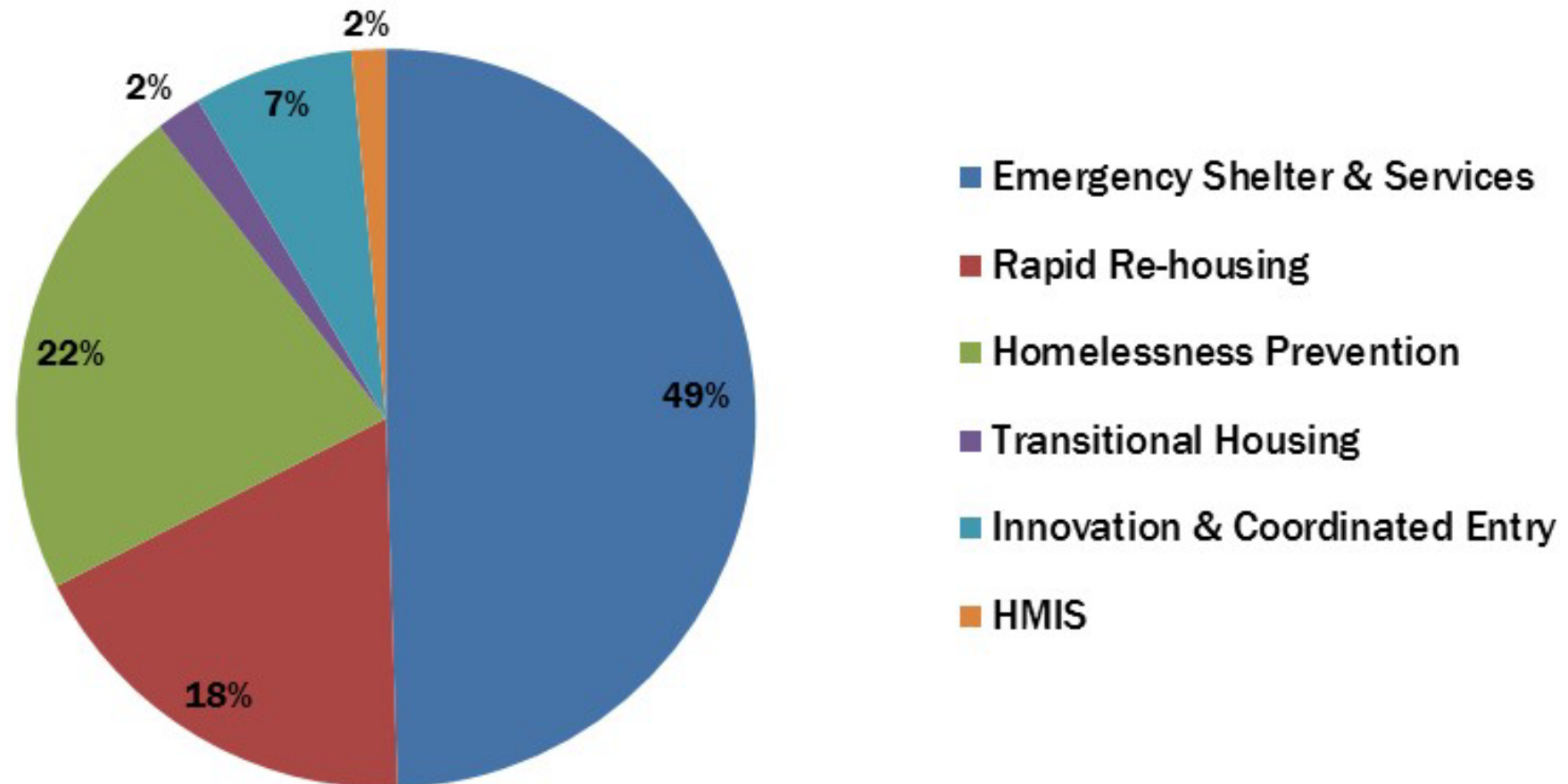


On any given night,
805 people are staying
in a shelter,
including 265 children

Last year 3,952 people
were sheltered:
2,857 adults & 1,095
children

Housing Opportunity Grant Program

Housing Opportunity Grant Program SFY 2018 Awards



GA Community Investments

Decrease motel reliance by increasing community capacity

- 14 new projects in 8 AHS Districts

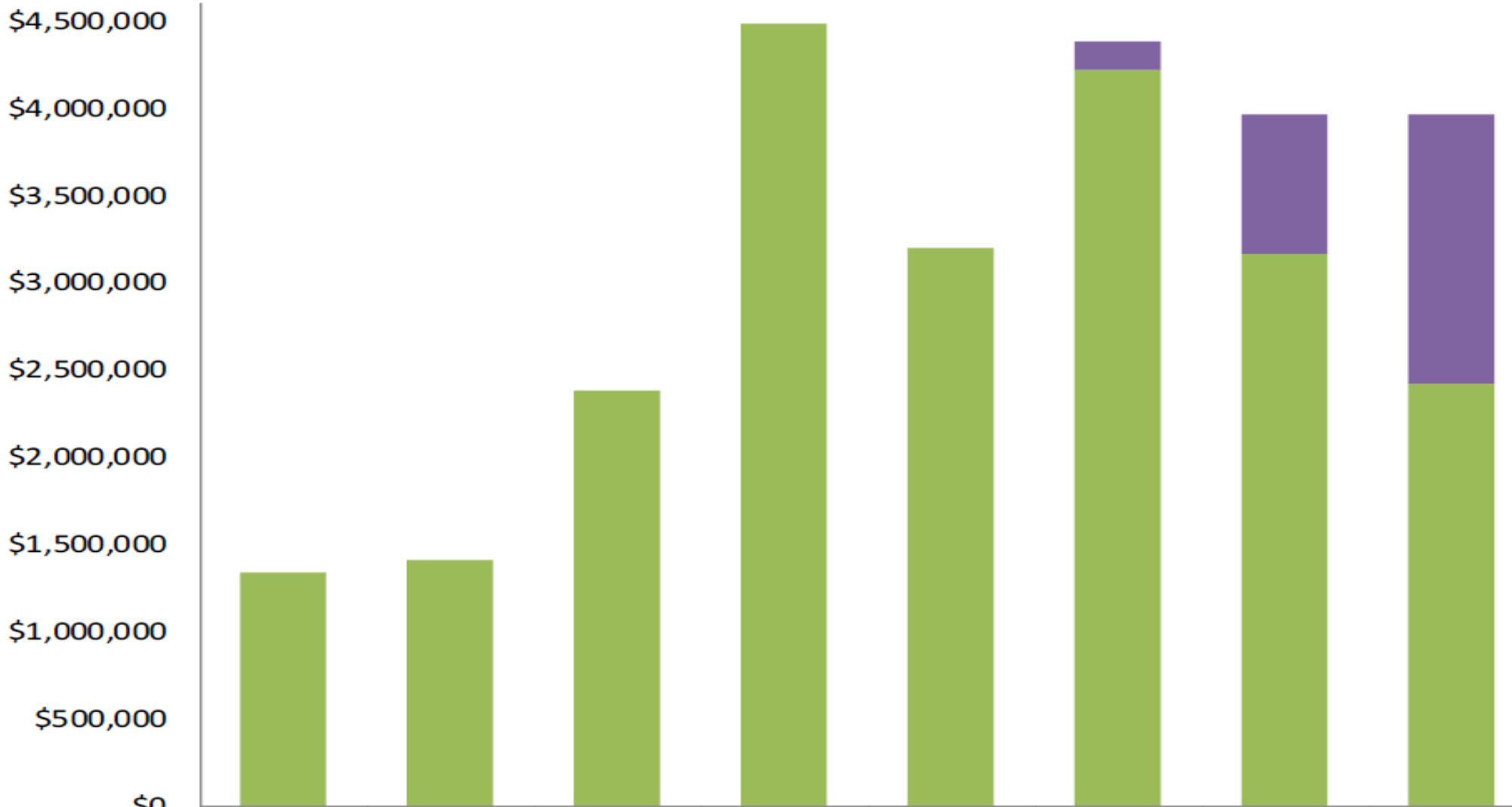
Improve service delivery

- Services help connect people to housing help and address housing barriers

Range of projects, including:

- Seasonal warming shelters
- Emergency apartments for families
- Expansion of shelter overflow and services at domestic violence shelters

GA Housing Expenditures & Investments



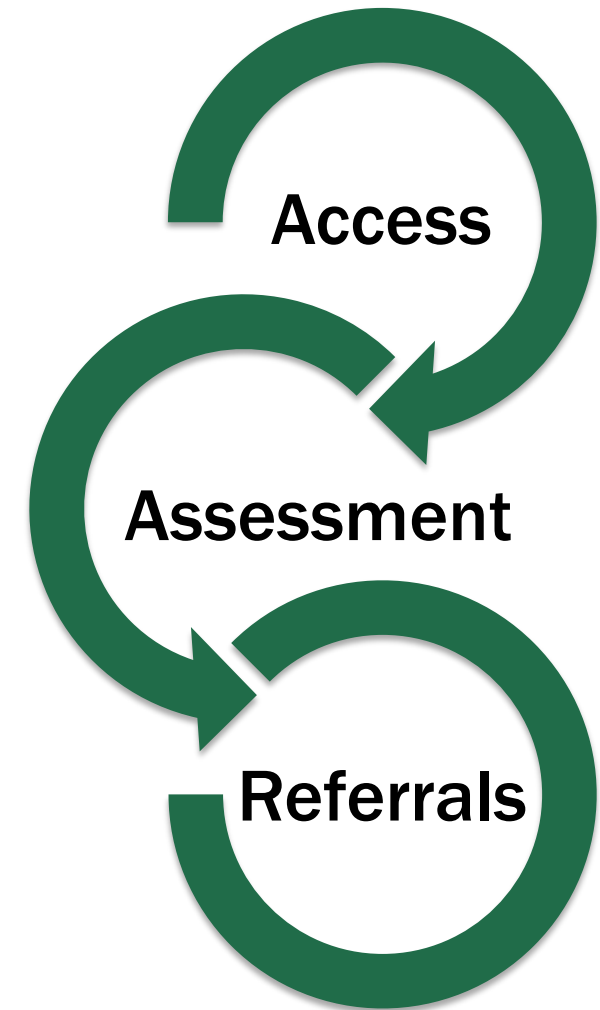
	SFY2010	SFY2011	SFY2012	SFY2013	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016	SFY2017
Community Investments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$158,568	\$788,544	\$1,548,581
Hotel/Motel Stays	\$1,341,805	\$1,415,749	\$2,383,398	\$4,487,722	\$3,195,116	\$4,222,150	\$3,172,578	\$2,419,951

Family Supportive Housing

- Supportive housing for families experiencing homelessness
- 7 community providers, ~147 families currently
- Blend of general fund and Medicaid
- Program components;
 - ✓ Permanent housing (MOU with housing providers)
 - ✓ Intensive, home-based services (small caseloads)
 - ✓ Financial empowerment support (banking, credit, savings)
- ~90% of participating families are stably housed
- ~30% of families with Family Services; ~60% with Reach Up

Coordinated Entry – Overarching Goals

- Reorient system to focus on those being served
- Minimize time and frustration accessing help
- Maximize use of system resources
- Identify service gaps for planning



2017 Point-In-Time Count

A one-night, unduplicated count of people experiencing homelessness
852 Households – 1,225 People

134 persons were Unsheltered (11% of total persons)

697 Single Adults (57% of total persons)

306 Children (25% of total persons)

180 Families with Children (43% of total persons)

144 Youth (ages 12-24) (11.8% of persons)

2 Minors & 142 Ages 18-24

29 Parenting Youth HH (16% of all families)

10% Chronically Homeless

7.6% Veterans

22% Victims of Domestic Violence

11% People of Color

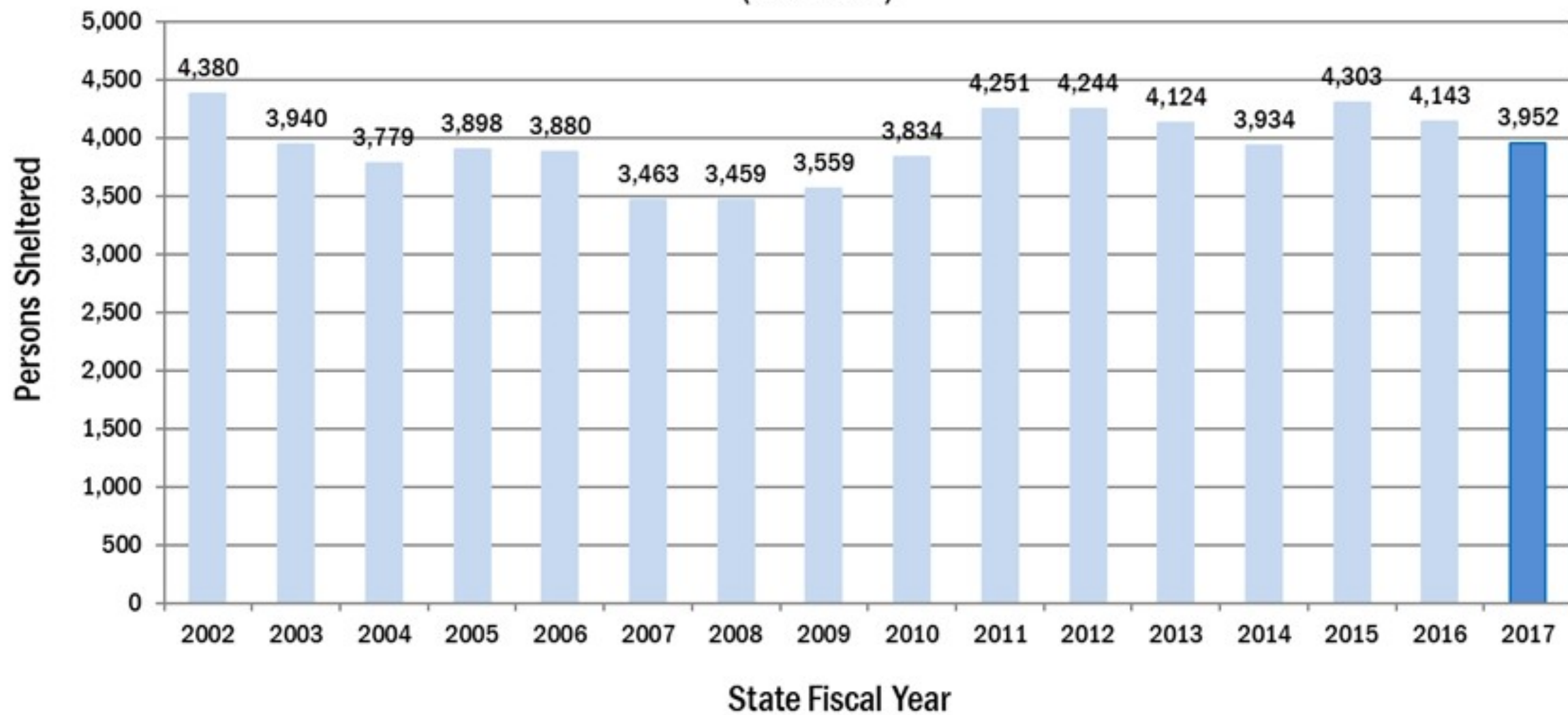
45.8% Female

53.6% Male

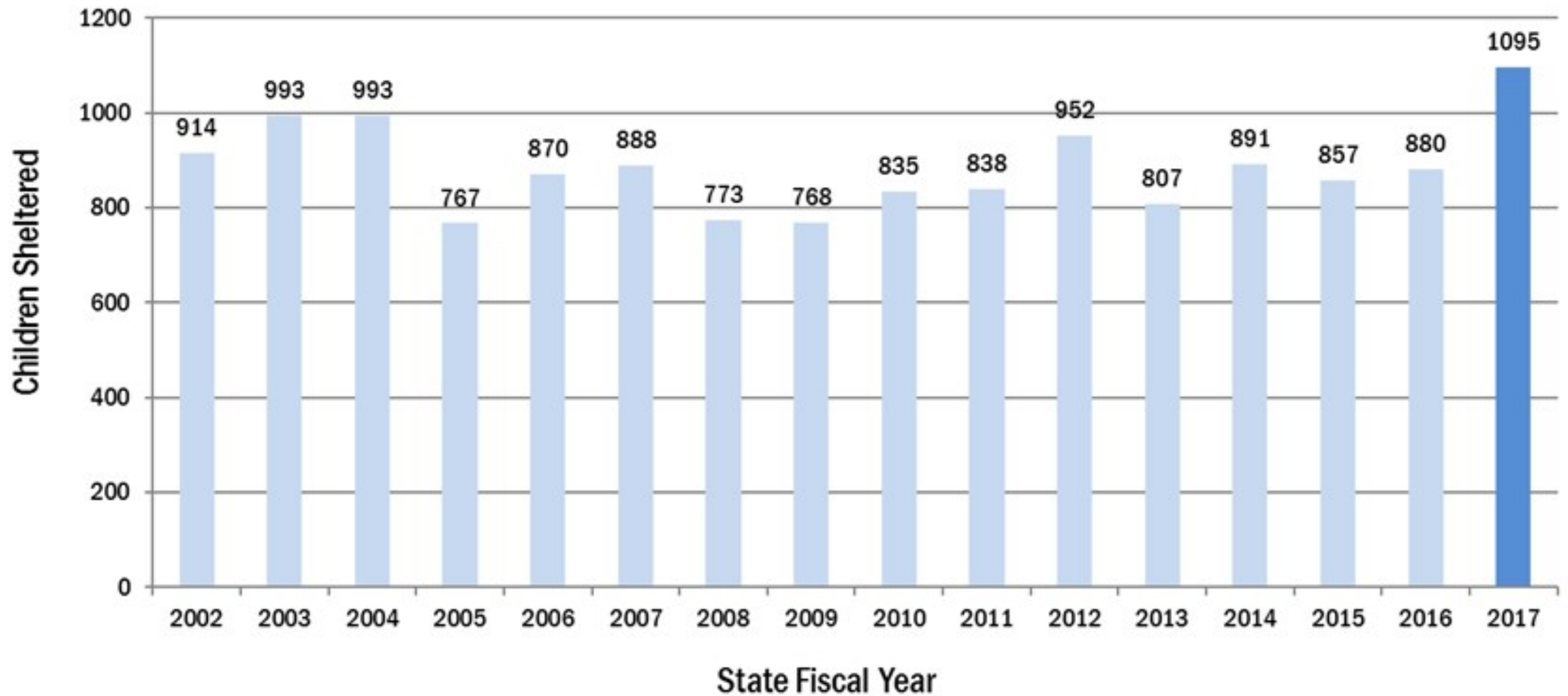
.6% Transgender

Persons in Vermont's Publicly Funded Homeless Shelters

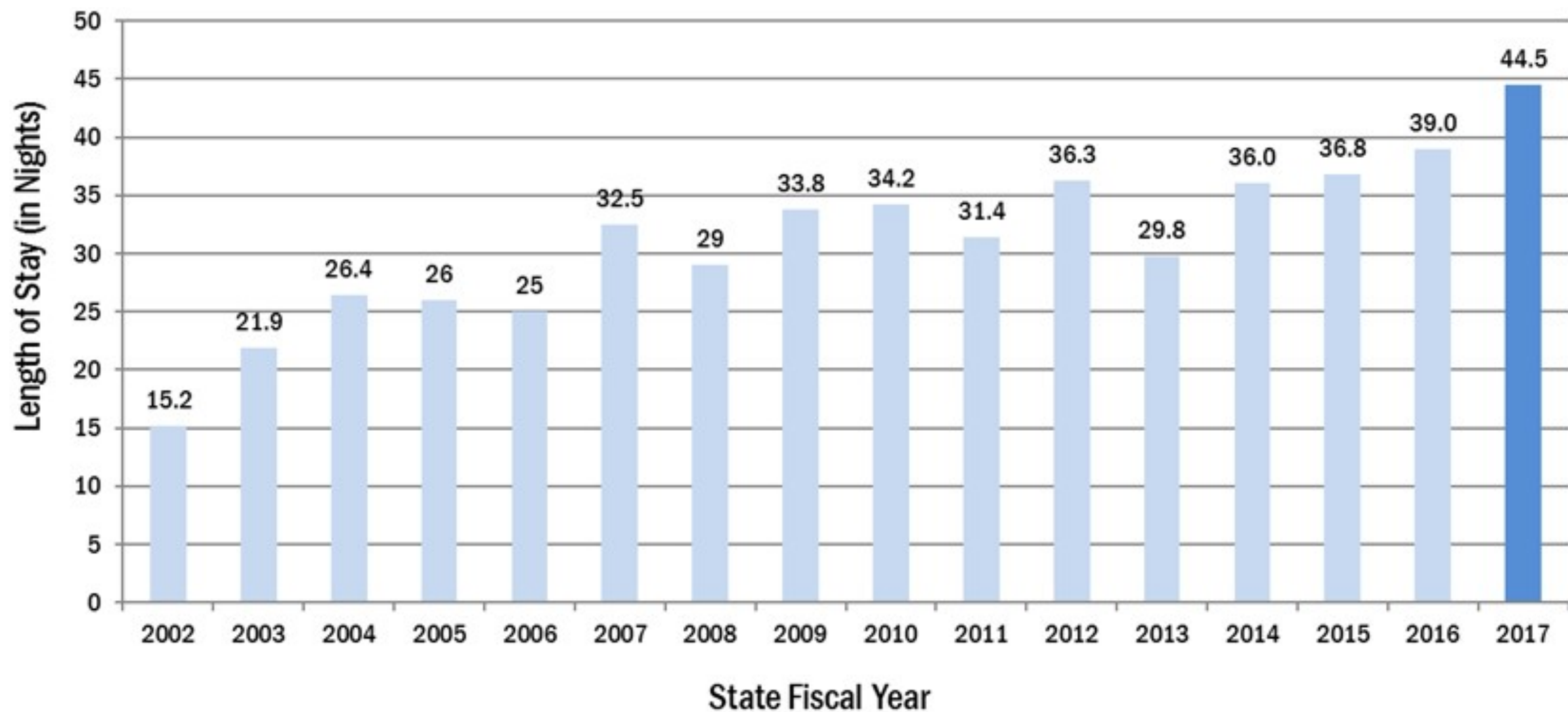
(2002-2017)



Children in Vermont's Publicly Funded Homeless Shelters (2002-2017)



Average Length of Vermont's Publicly Funded Shelter Stay (2002-2017)



General/Emergency Assistance (GA/EA)

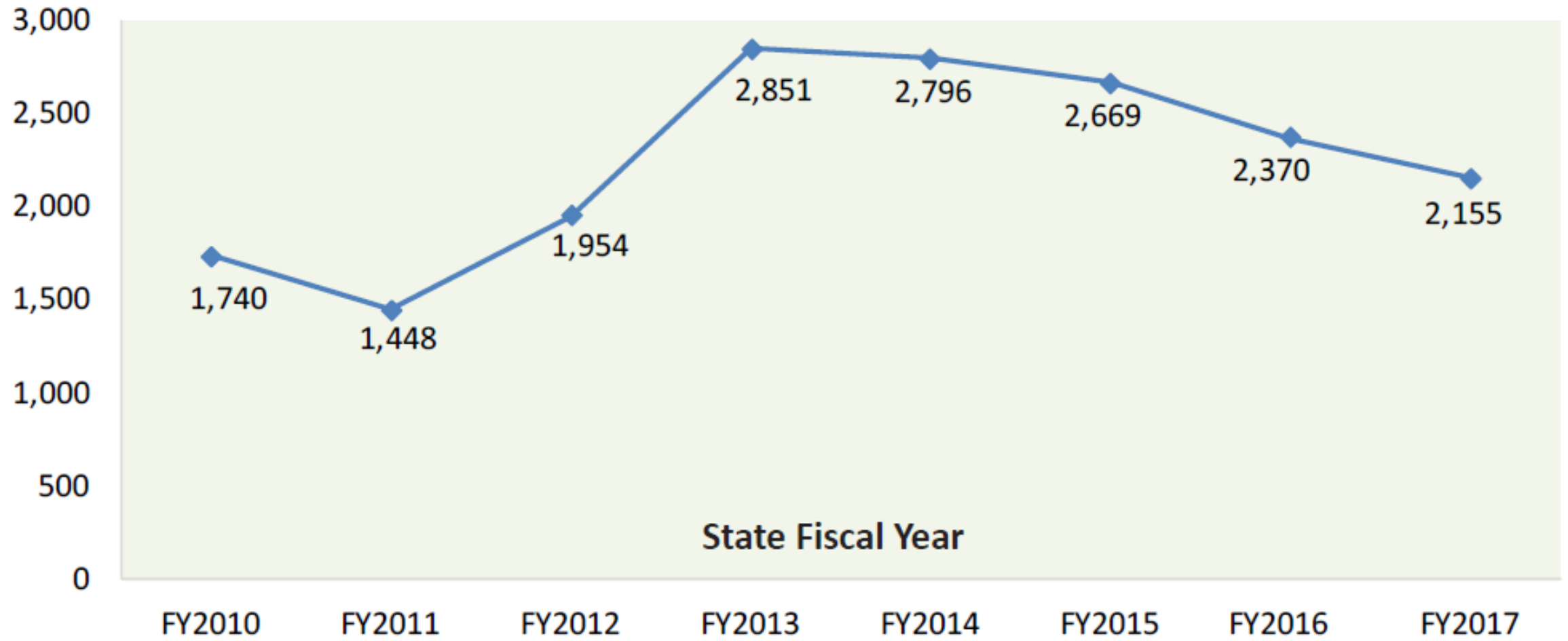
Provides emergency housing in a hotel/motel when no alternative shelter is available.

Eligibility/access through Economic Services District Office or 2-1-1 (After hours)

- Catastrophic
- Vulnerable
- Adverse Weather Conditions

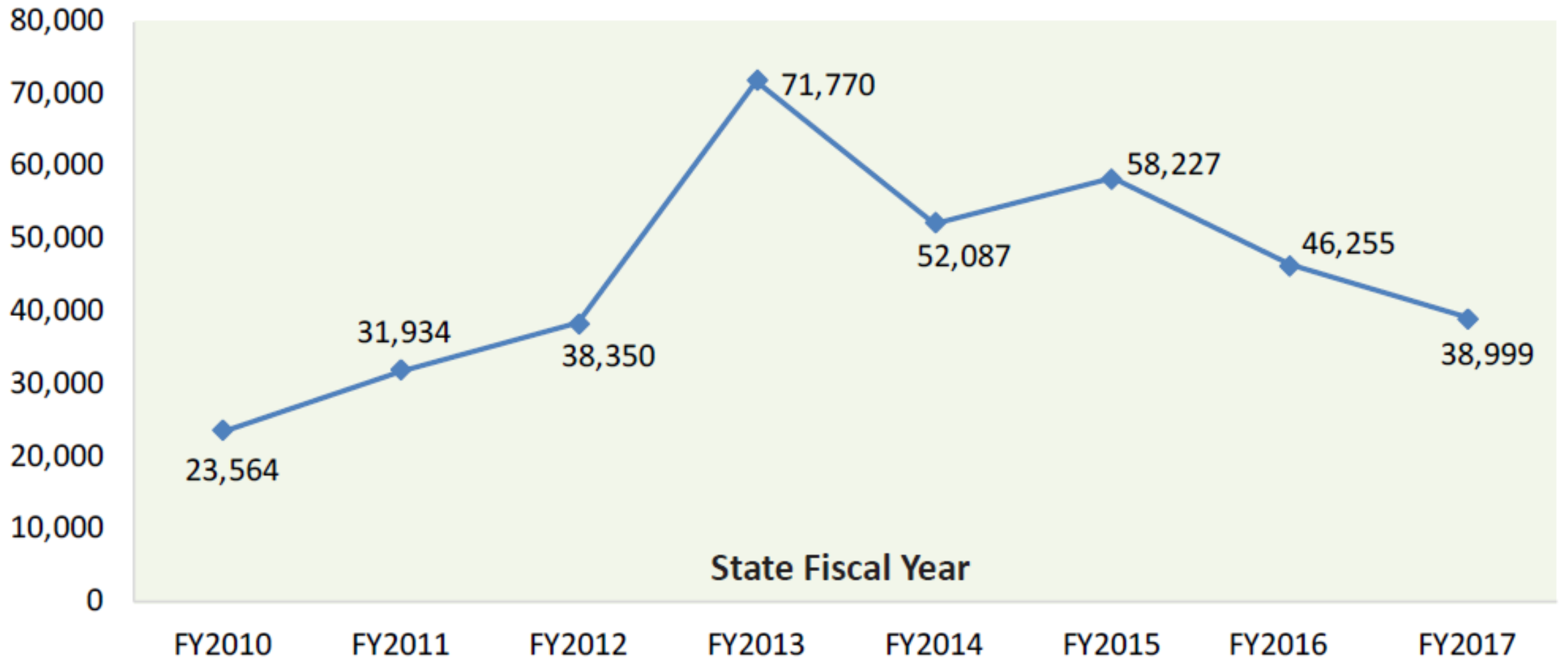
EA/GA Hotel& Motel Stays

unduplicated count of households served



EA/GA Hotel& Motel Stays

number of days of hotel/motel stays



Looking to the Future

- Fully implement coordinated entry and HMIS to streamline access and improve data
- Strengthen support services needed to find and keep housing
- Continue to expand community capacity through GA investments (decrease reliance on motels)
- Improve access to affordable housing