

Southernmost Homeless Assistance League, Inc.

P.O. Box 2990, Key West, FL 33045-2990

Randi Cohen Brown, Executive Director
305-240-5993
randikots13@gmail.com

Alan Teitelbaum, Chair
Tommy Taylor, Vice Chair
Michael Hayes, Secretary
Patrice Sanders, Treasurer

REPORT TO THE CITY OF KEY WEST FEBRUARY 2015

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Employment Specialist, Channing Lamar, started working with shelter clients on February 2, 2015. Ms. Lamar's salary and client supplies are paid for by a Federal Challenge Grant. Ms. Lamar worked with 24 clients in February including 1 Veteran. 22 of the users of the Employment program stayed at KOTS. At the end of February, 11 of the 24 or 46% had jobs and 5 or 21% had moved from the shelter into housing.
- KOTS started the month of February with 26 employed individuals and ended the month with 36 employed individuals. 6 of the 36 employed individuals moved out of the shelter into housing.
- VNA nurses continue to provide first aid and non-critical medical care for clients at KOTS. Nurses from the VNA arrive at KOTS on Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m. and see clients for approximately 2 hours. In February VNA nurses assisted about 28 individuals.
- SHAL purchased 12 prescriptions for 6 individuals, 2 individuals were unsheltered and 4 were sheltered. A portion of the cost of these prescriptions will be invoiced to various grants.

KEYS OVERNIGHT TEMPORARY SHELTER (KOTS)

Shelter Usage

A total of 172 individuals used the shelter in February 2015. The decrease in shelter use is attributed to the work of SHAL case managers and staff as they continue to focus on relocating and moving KOTS users to transitional/permanent housing as well as programs in other areas. Case Managers relocated 17 and the Employment Specialist assisted staff in moving individuals into transitional and private housing.

Breakdown of KOTS Users

By Gender

Males:	149
Females:	23

By Age

Age: 18-24	1
Age: 25 -	141
Greater than 63	30

By Military

Veterans	18
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Other

Victims of Domestic Violence	2
Chronic Substance Abuse	12
Other Disability	25
Severely Mentally Ill	9
Chronic	16

Capacity

KOTS reached capacity, 14 nights out of 28 in February. Capacity is 140 individuals any evening prior to 9 p.m. 1 individual was released from the Monroe County Detention Facility and 4 individuals were brought to the shelter by the Key West Police Department.

Cold Weather and Donations

During the cold spell in February, Shelter staff increased the number of individuals able to stay at the shelter. On the 18th 152 individuals were in by 7:30pm, on the 19th 153 were in by 7:45pm and on the 23rd 150 were signed in by 8pm.

KOTS STAFF was assisted in keeping KOTS users warm and safe by donations such as blankets and warm clothes from the following organizations:

- Monroe County
- Double Tree Grand Resort
- SOS
- US Coast Guard
- US Navy
- Beachside Resort
- Easy Rider Charters
- Caring individuals including a student from FKCC

KOTS & Health Issues

In addition to the VNA nurses assisting KOTS users, County Public Health nurses came to KOTS 1 time in February. They provided 3 Flu shots as well as 1 follow up. KOTS staff called EMS 2 times for clients.

FEBRUARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Case Management Services

A total of 105 individuals received case management services in February 2015.

Breakdown of Case Management Users

Total Services Rendered	306
Sheltered	163
Unsheltered	143

Relocations/Reunifications

A total of 17 individuals received relocation/reunification services in February 2015.

Breakdown of Relocations/Reunifications

By Shelter

Sheltered individuals:	9
Unsheltered individuals:	8

By Gender

Men:	11
Women:	5 and 1 child

Special populations:

- 1 male veteran recently released from jail was relocated to live with his fiancé.
- Two males with physical/medical disabilities were relocated to safe housing
- A woman with mental health issues was relocated to her family

Health Care Services

A total of 17 individuals received health care services during February 2015

Breakdown of Health Care Service

Health Care Referrals/ Appointments	9
Mental Health Referrals / Appointments	2
Prescription Assistance	6

NON-CATEGORICAL ASSISTANCE

Breakdown of Non-categorical Assistance

Crisis Intervention	2
Identification/Residency Services	58
Social Security Issues/Birth Certificate Payment	25
EBT Services	15
Housing Referrals/intakes	5
Local Transportation Assistance*	34

**Local and Lower Keys bus passes are provided only to those individuals with documentable disabilities who have no income or means of transportation, and to KOTS residents requiring transportation for medical appointments.*

FEBRUARY RELOCATION SUMMARIES

- A family of two adults and one child aged 11 had tried to find work and affordable housing in Key West and were unsuccessful. The husband was staying at KOTS and the wife and child were staying at Samuel's House. They were relocated to stay with family.
- Upon his release from jail in upper Florida, IS was staying at KOTS. He had medical issues that required surgery and healthcare was not available for him in Monroe County. After he exhausted his search for medical assistance, he relocated to an assisted living facility in which he was able to get the medical care he needed.
- DP, a sheltered male who had lived in Monroe County for over 19 years, before contracting a serious health condition and lost his job and housing. He stayed at KOTS, but his lack of medical care required his relocation to stable housing with a lifelong friend, in an area where he could receive medical care.
- IP and RM were living in the mangroves on Stock Island. They came from Alaska and had been in Key West for about a month, IP lost her identification thus was unable to cash her checks, and her case manager assisted her in obtaining her ID to cash her checks. During the process it became more difficult for the couple to live in the mangroves thus they reached out to friends in Richmond Virginia who were more than happy to offer them a place to stay.