

## Media Release

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### State of Homelessness in Fargo-Moorhead Released

The Fargo-Moorhead Coalition to End Homelessness, in collaboration with United Way of Cass-Clay, released its “State of Homelessness in Fargo-Moorhead Metro” report to the community today at its Summit on Ending Homelessness. The purpose of the report is to provide the community with a comprehensive report of available data related to homelessness in the FM Metro. The report includes statistical and demographic information, identified needs of people experiencing homelessness, and information about local efforts to address the issue of homelessness in the area.

“Understanding and using data is a key strategy driving our efforts to end homelessness,” said Cody Schuler, Executive Director of the Coalition. “Through data we can evaluate programs, identify barriers, and direct funding towards successful solutions.”

The report is being released symbolically on the eve of the summer solstice. “National Homeless Persons Memorial Day takes place on the winter solstice, the longest night of the year,” said Schuler. “We thought it would be fitting to celebrate successes and take a hard look at the work we still have to do as we approach the longest day of the year. This report and our Summit are focused on a future where homelessness is rare, brief and one-time for people in our community.”

The first report of its kind, the Coalition plans for the State of Homelessness to be produced annually, with a focus on measuring trends, progress and updating the community on local and regional ending homelessness efforts.

The full report is available to view and download at <https://fmhomeless.org/state-homelessness>.

#### About the FM Coalition

Founded in 1989 by the four existing shelters at that time to address a local increase in homelessness, the Coalition has grown to include approximately 70 partners working collaboratively to create permanent solutions in ending homelessness. This includes shared advocacy, providing quality training for partners, and creating person centered low barrier services in the community. The Coalition is a key partner in creating the Coordinated Access, Referral, Entry, and Stabilization (CARES) System, an innovative regional cross-border homeless response system. In 2017 the Coalition won the Bush Prize for Community Innovation.

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