



# CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Office of Supportive Housing  
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DAINETTE M. MINTZ - DIRECTOR  
Deputy Managing Director  
Special Needs Housing

May 2, 2014

The Honorable Darrell Clarke  
City Council President  
City Hall, Room 490  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Council President Clarke:

This letter is in response to questions raised at the March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 hearing before the Committee of the Whole on the Fiscal Year 2015 during the Office of Housing and Community Development's Budget Hearing that we thought would best be answered by the Office of Supportive Housing. The questions were recorded as follows:

**From Councilman Jones:**

**1. How many homeless people are in the City of Philadelphia?**

In 2013, Philadelphia reported under the federal Annual Homeless Assessment Report (10/1/2012 – 9/30/2013) a total of 14,878 persons were homeless counting homeless street persons and those living in both public and private emergency and transitional homeless housing programs.

**2. One out of every 20 school district students experience homelessness, how are we going to address that going forward?**

The Office of Supportive Housing, in collaboration with the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) and the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) utilizes local, State and Federal funding sources to reduce the number of Philadelphia School District students experiencing homelessness through the provision/funding of homeless prevention assistance. The City's homeless prevention strategies include the provision of financial assistance to low/moderate income Philadelphia households at risk of homelessness due to delinquent rent, mortgage, utilities and eviction notices. City efforts prevented homelessness for 663 households Philadelphia households in FY 14 (July 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014).

Please note that the basis of this question is a random survey conducted among high school students only who were present on the lone date the survey was administered. The Commonwealth's

Department of Education reported there were 3,011 total homeless students in Philadelphia 2012-2013 (birth to age 2 through 12th grade), which is about one out of every 65 students.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about the information provided in this response.

Sincerely,



Dainette M. Mintz  
Director

cc: Everett Gillison, Chief of Staff  
Rob Dubow, Director of Finance  
Rebecca Rhynhart, Budget Director  
Fiona Greig, Deputy Budget Director  
Joye Presson, OSH Chief of Staff  
Roberta Cancellier, OSH Deputy Director Policy & Planning