



Sheriff Scott Israel

HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM INITIATIVE

The Broward Sheriff's Office Homeless Outreach Team began shortly after Sheriff Scott Israel was elected as Sheriff in January, 2013. Sheriff Israel authorized the purchase of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) using Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) money of \$300,000 to help the County get started. Since then, the Broward Sheriff's Office has partnered with numerous homeless outreach stakeholders including the Taskforce Fore Ending Homeless Inc. (a Florida non-profit civilian outreach component that is grant funded by the County) to conduct a co-responder outreach effort.

Our Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) deputies receive 40-hours of Crisis Intervention Team training for mental health awareness and response, as well as 40-hours of Homeless Outreach Team Specialist training by the Multi-Agency Homeless Taskforce (a Florida non-profit for law enforcement officers) to conduct homeless outreach assessments. The Broward Sheriff's Office has 82 HOT specialists throughout our 16 contacted municipalities and unincorporated areas. These specialists serve as the front line in helping homeless individuals end their cycle of homelessness to recapture and regain their lives.

Part of the Broward Sheriff's Office's success in Homeless Outreach has been through educating our deputies on best practices, providing new tools through connections with social services and reducing recidivism in our criminal justice system – providing alternatives to arrest whenever possible.

Below is a snapshot of the Broward Sheriff's Office contact, referrals/placements, as compared to the countywide Point in Time Count and jail data from all police agencies in the County.

BSO Contacts - Referrals/Placements

Year	Contacts Made	Placements/Referrals
2014	789	152
2015	2669	418
2016	2593	352

Point in Time Count - Countywide

Year	Total Population	Trend From Previous Year
2014	2766	1.5% Decrease
2015	2615	5.5% Decrease
2016	2302	12% Decrease

Individuals Claiming "At Large" Incarcerated - All Police Agencies

Year	Booked At Large	Trend From Previous Year
2014	2415	2.7% Decrease
2015	2267	6.1% Decrease
2016	1954	13.8% Decrease

LOGIC MODEL: Broward Sheriff's Office Homeless Outreach

Inputs	Outputs		Outcomes -- Impact		
	Activities	Participation	Short	Medium	Long
First Responders Homeless Outreach Workers Training Funding Vehicles / Equipment Homeless Management Information System Database (HMIS) Prevention Diversion Counseling / Medical / Financial / Life Skills / Housing	Development of Standard Operating Procedures Select/Train Homeless Outreach Team Specialists Partner with local, state, federal, and non-governmental organizations	At a minimum, one Homeless Outreach Specialist per district/division Between 1250 – 5000 contacts per year overall contacts for the agency.	Assisting the homeless community to regain and recapture their lives. Reallocation of Public Safety resources to other critical areas. Reduce public complaints for quality of life issues related to homelessness. Educate deputies on the homelessness social issues and how to better apply direction to them in ending their cycle of homelessness.	Increasing the number of contacts with the homeless community to assess social service needs. Increasing the use of public safety resources throughout the County through a reduction in outreach needs. Increase the quality of life for individuals who are homeless. Increase training and awareness for deputies to apply effective means of improving the quality of life for the homeless and increase public knowledge of their actions to bring about new and/or renewed stakeholder relationships.	Long term reduction in the county's homeless population. The community will realize a costs savings due to the efficiency of long term solutions to the homelessness social issues. Improved perception of "quality of life" concerns expressed by the community and measured by the problems solved. Relations between, and perceptions of, the homeless community in regards to local Public Safety agencies will be improved and strengthened in partnership.

Assumptions
 First responders can serve to reduce the homeless population through social service initiatives with social service stakeholders.

External Factors
 Dynamics of law enforcement needs balancing public safety with homeless outreach and receiving support from social service stakeholders.