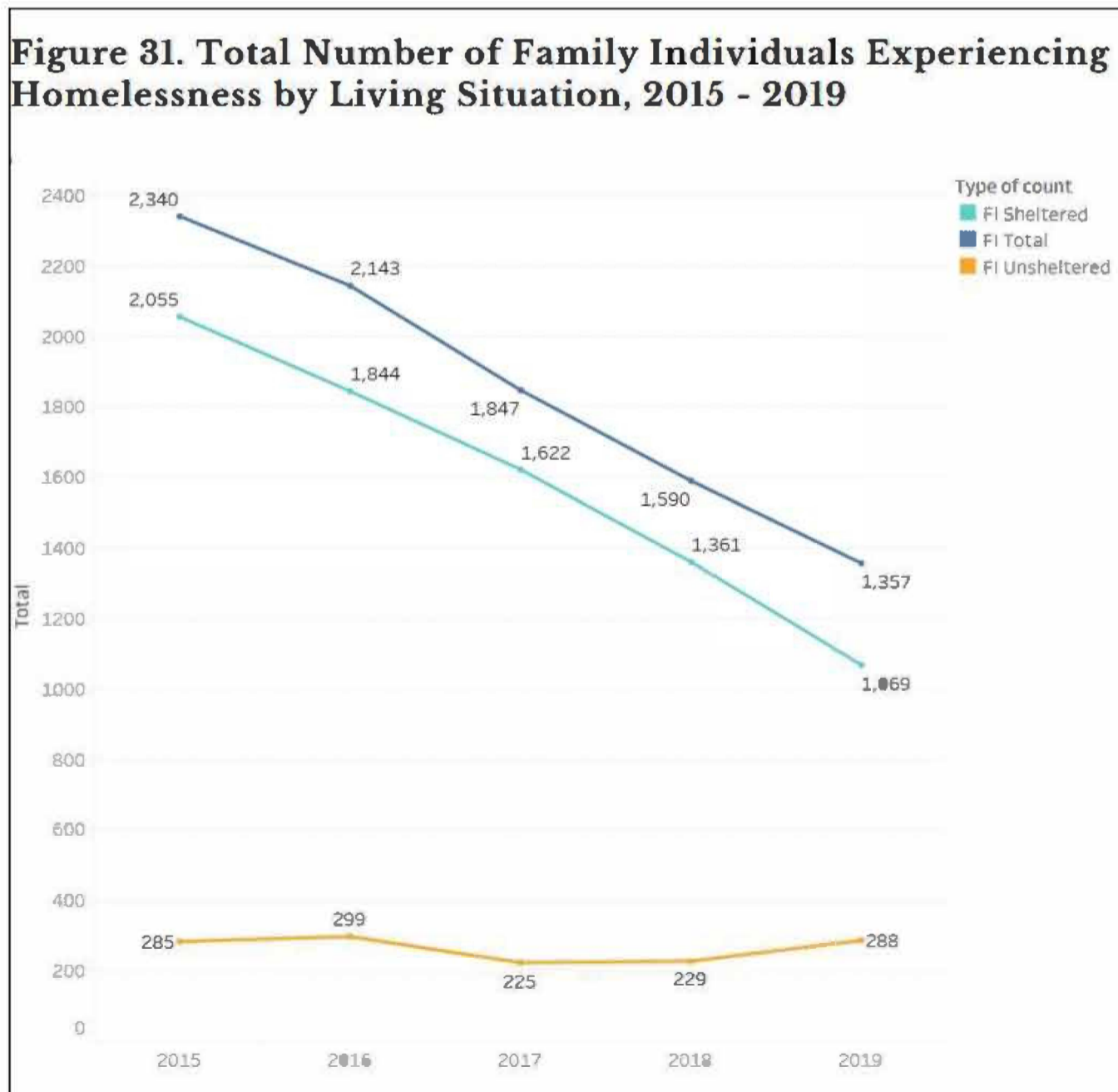




42% Reduction in Family Homelessness

The recently published report on the annual homeless census, [the Point in Time Count](#), revealed significant progress: a 42% decline in family homelessness on Oahu since 2015. The Point in Time Count is a survey of those experiencing homelessness in our community on one night. Of the 1,357 parents and children on Oahu who were experiencing homelessness during the survey, 79% were staying in a shelter and 21% were identified as sleeping in places not meant for human habitation. Despite a rise in homelessness among single individuals, there's been a consistent reduction in family homelessness over the past few years. How? Some of the most effective best practices include homeless prevention and diversion efforts, focusing services in shelter on helping families quickly access permanent housing options, targeted financial assistance to help families move into housing, and continued case management to help ensure families remain housed. These services provide a holistic solution that involves prevention, crisis support, and stabilization.



A figure showing the reduction in family homelessness over time from the 2019 Point in Time Count.

While a reduction in family homelessness is a huge step in the right direction, there are still *keiki* living on the streets, in parks, and in cars. Family Promise of Hawaii still has a waitlist of homeless families in need of services. With 49% of Hawaii's households struggling to afford a basic cost of living budget, we can be certain that more families will fall into crisis. We will continue to help families secure or maintain their housing as quickly as possible, but we need the community's support.

How Can You Help?

Housing is the answer, but we face a severe shortage of affordable housing in our community. Only with access to more housing units can we move families into housing quicker, so that each child's experience with homelessness is as brief as possible. Continued funding is also critical to maintain the programs that are working: housing-focused shelter, homeless prevention and diversion programs, rental assistance and on-going case management. With your support, we can sustain these efforts, and together we can end family homelessness in our community.

Kahauiki Village - A Year Later

In January 2018 a handful of families who had been staying in Family Promise of Hawaii's shelter program were able to move into new homes at Kahauiki Village, a public/private partnership designed to provide affordable housing for formerly homeless families. The Institute for Human Services (IHS) provides on-site management of the facility. A year and four months later, four families affiliated with Family Promise remain in housing there. They continue to receive support services through our [After Care](#) program.



Jahmir (pictured above) was born during the time his family was enrolled in Family Promise of Hawaii's shelter program. Thanks to Kahauiki Village, he is now growing up in stable housing. Jahmir's mom expressed her gratitude for her housing during a recent visit with our After Care Case Manager.

Kahauiki has helped a lot of people that are in need of housing. Rent is affordable and it helps that utilities are included, even cable! IHS takes care of our needs and are always providing us gifts for the holidays. They keep the area clean and drug free and whenever something is not working, they fix it right away. Without the help of IHS and Family Promise we would have not been able to make it.

At the end of this summer, Kahauiki Village plans to open its next phase of affordable housing units for families.

New Partners Needed in Central Oahu/North Shore

On July 1st we will be opening a new site in Wahiawa to support families in Central Oahu/North Shore who are experiencing housing instability. We will begin operating homeless prevention and diversion services this summer from our new Family Center, which will be based out of Wahiawa Christian Church. We are currently recruiting congregations in the



Central Oahu/North Shore area who can partner with us to host families overnight within their facilities. A group of thirteen congregations is needed to form a network that can shelter up to four families experiencing homelessness. Each host site opens up their facility overnight once a quarter for a week to provide a safe sleeping space and meal for families enrolled in the shelter program. During the day, families have access to the Wahiawa Family Center to wash clothes, rest, meet with their case manager, search for housing, and shower. Once we are able to recruit thirteen congregations, we will open up our shelter program. Are you part of a congregation or community group in the Central Oahu/North Shore area? [Click here to learn more about how to become a host site.](#)

Save the Date

We're planning ahead of a variety of festivities happening at the end of the year! Be sure and save the date for the following Family Promise of Hawaii events!

September 7th: Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Temple Emanu-El

October 26th: 7th Annual 5K Fun Run/Walk at Kailua Intermediate School

November 9th: 17th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza at Emmanuel Episcopal Church