



Homeless numbers down, but homeless families increase

Christopher Loh / Reporter / Published on January 7, 2008

While the Boston's adult and street homeless population decreased this year, the number of homeless families increased for the third year in a row, the city announced.

According to a homeless census taken last month, the number of homeless families has increased from approximately 2,640 last year to 3,080 and homeless children from about 1,520 to 1,850.

The number of homeless adults decreased from about 4,000 last year to 3,800 this year and the number of homeless living on the street also decreased this year from about 300 to 180.

Mayor Thomas Menino said the census provided a "mixed picture."

While calling the decrease in the number of adult and street homeless "terrific news," Menino called on the federal government to help with homeless families.

"The availability of federal and state funding for family housing has not kept pace with the increased demand," said Menino. "The federal government is leaving families behind."

