# Not just a place to sleep: Homeless perspectives on libraries in Central Michigan

Angie Kelleher, Alma College Library August 10, 2012

#### Goals

- Scope
- How often? What services?
- Add to understanding for library workers
- Data useful for advocacy?



## Facts about homelessness







#### Literature Review

- Field research in American library literature
- Institutional reports/ recommendations



### Literature review

Observation/editorial articles



# Methodology

- Target area vs. reality
- Survey format & testing
- Identifying agencies & events
- Final sample numbers
- Incentive
- Why not in libraries?



#### Results

- Demographics
- Frequency of library usage
- Preferred library services
- Non-library users



#### Results

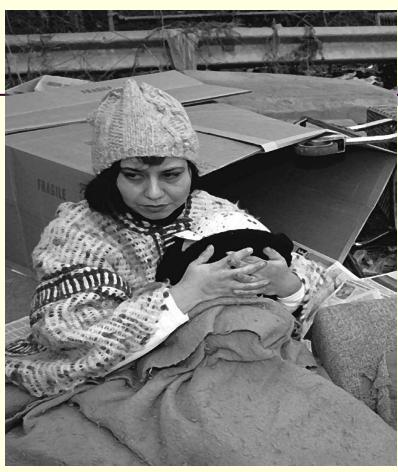
- Wish list for libraries
- Information needs



#### Conclusions

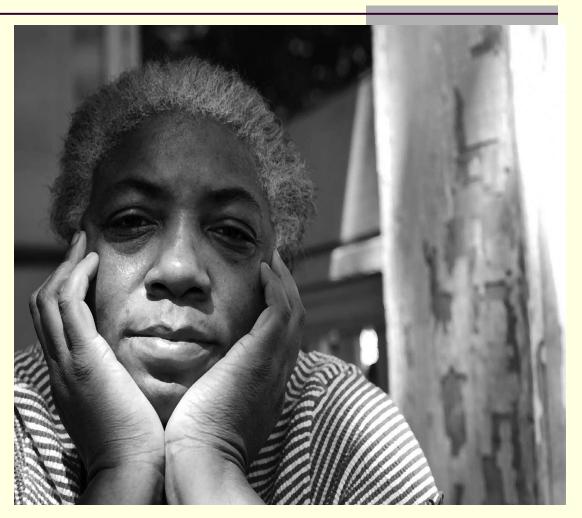
- Frequency and attitude toward libraries
- Internet access





# Limitations, further research & discussion

- Sample size
- Lack of 'problem areas'
- Larger sample or different subgroup?
- Library policies



# Questions or comments?



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