Elected Leaders Forum to Address Homelessness

Wednesday October 30, 1pm-3:30

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Public Comment
- Purpose of Meeting and Importance of Regional Solutions
- Review of Phase 1 Plan and Current Activities
- Phase 2 Regional Planning
- Current Challenges for Addressing Homelessness in County
- Background and Context on Homeless Response System
- Review of State Legislation and Funding
- Discussion of Priorities, Opportunities, and Strategies
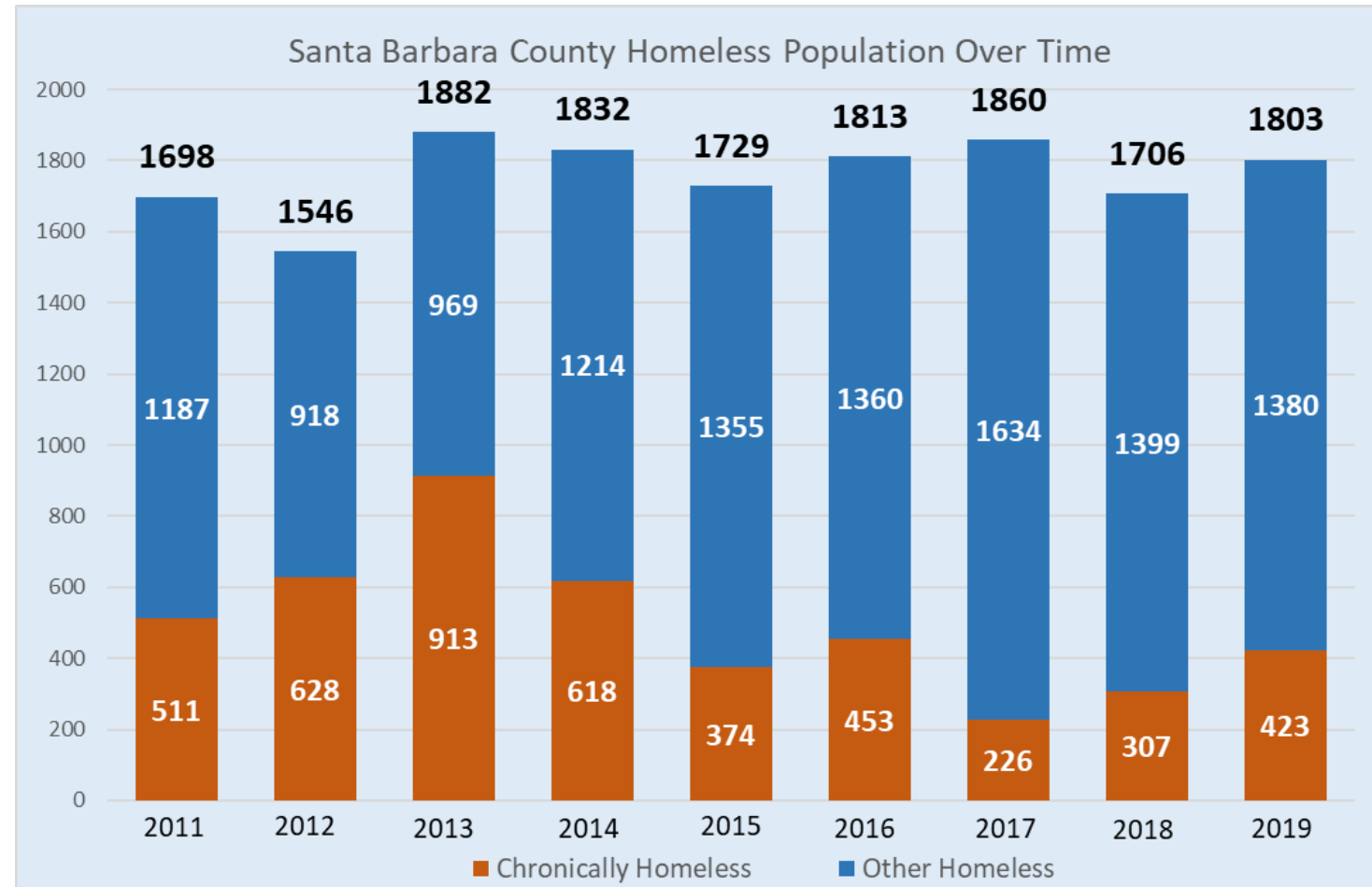- Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Public Comment

Purpose of Meeting and Importance of Regional Solutions

- Review Phase 1 Plan and update

- Purpose of Phase 2 Plan and process

- Gather feedback and input on Phase 2 priorities, strategies, and goals

Extent of Homelessness in County

Santa Barbara County Homeless Population Over Time

Year	Chronically Homeless	Other Homeless	Total
2011	511	1187	1698
2012	628	918	1546
2013	913	969	1882
2014	618	1214	1832
2015	374	1355	1729
2016	453	1360	1813
2017	226	1634	1860
2018	307	1399	1706
2019	423	1380	1803

20% Mental Health

35% Physical Disability

42% Chronic Health Conditions

24% Substance Abuse

12% Developmental Disability

1% HIV Related Illness

Extent of Homelessness in County
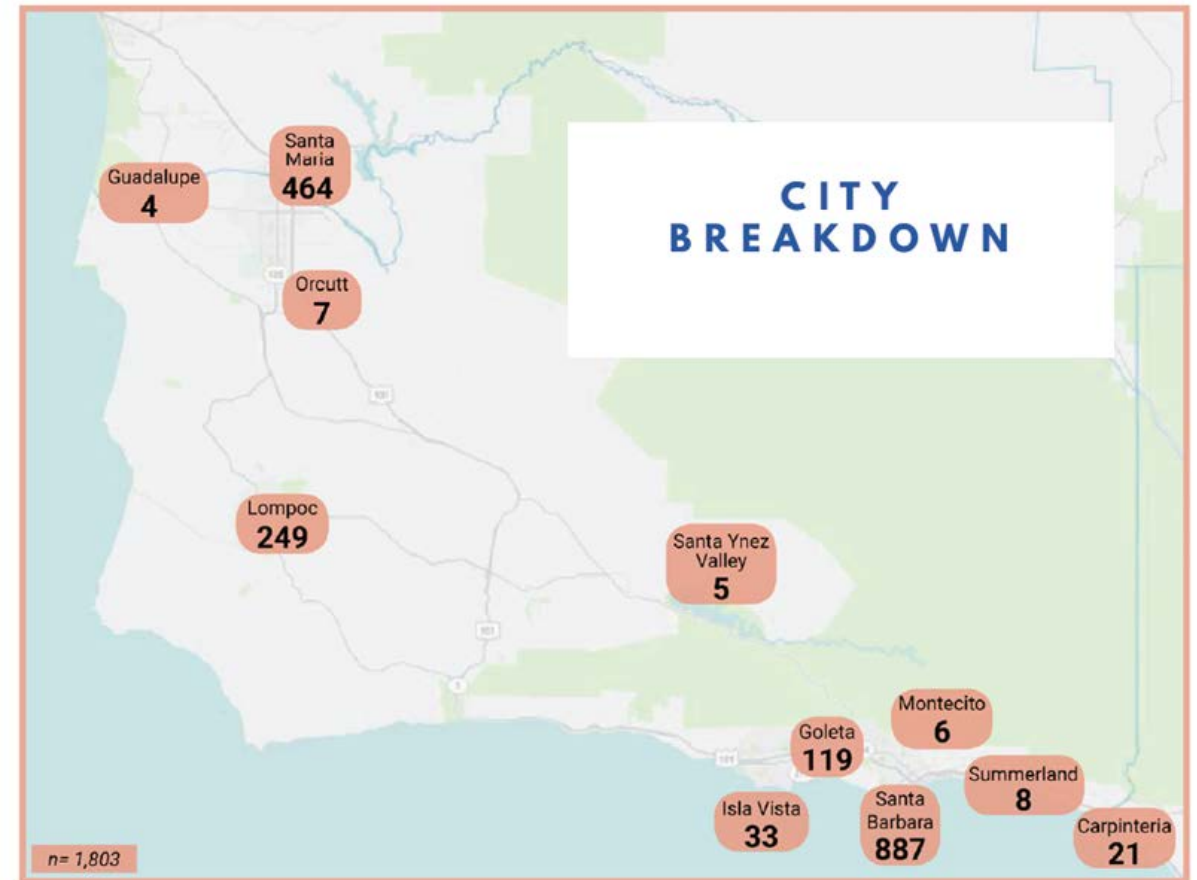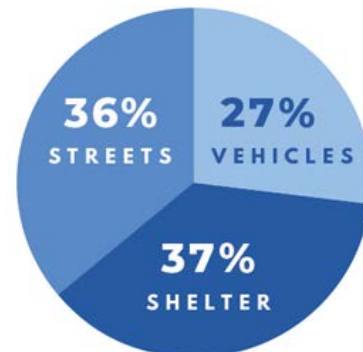
FIRST TIME HOMELESS

N=818

49%
YES

50%
NO

1%
DON'T KNOW/
REFUSED

SLEEPING LOCATION ON NIGHT OF COUNT

36% STREETS

27% VEHICLES

37% SHELTER

CITY BREAKDOWN

Guadalupe 4

Santa Maria 464

Orcutt 7

Lompoc 249

Santa Ynez Valley 5

Montecito 6

Goleta 119

Summerland 8

Isla Vista 33

Santa Barbara 887

Carpinteria 21

n= 1,803

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA
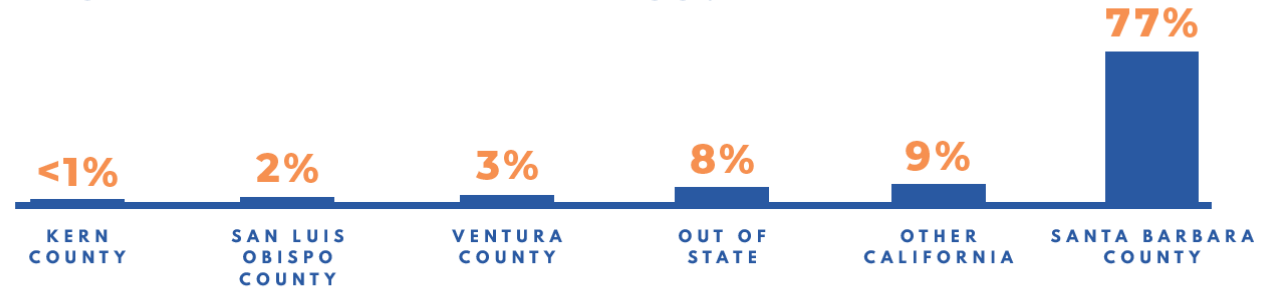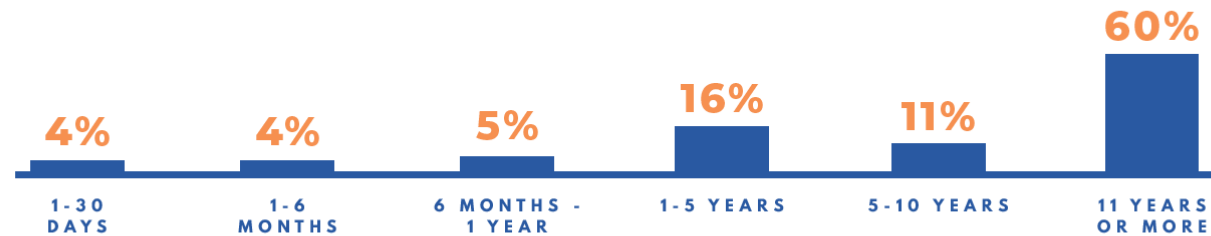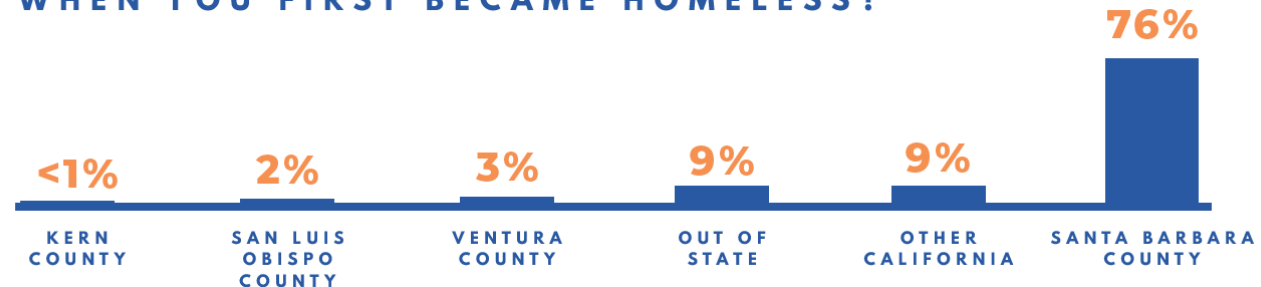
Review of Phase 1 Plan

- Provided data on individuals and families experiencing homelessness

- Provided overview of the current services system

- Provided description of barriers and challenges

- Proposed strategies and actions to address unmet needs

- Provided next steps including creation of Phase 2 plan

PHASE I
COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

SPONSORED BY SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION AND DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL WELLNESS

Review of Phase 1 Plan Goals

1. Increase Access to Safe, Affordable Housing

2. Use Best Practices to Deliver Tailored Supportive Services to Meet Individual Needs

3. Build a Collective Action Plan; Improve Data Sharing

4. Strengthen Support System Available to Help Residents Obtain and Maintain Housing

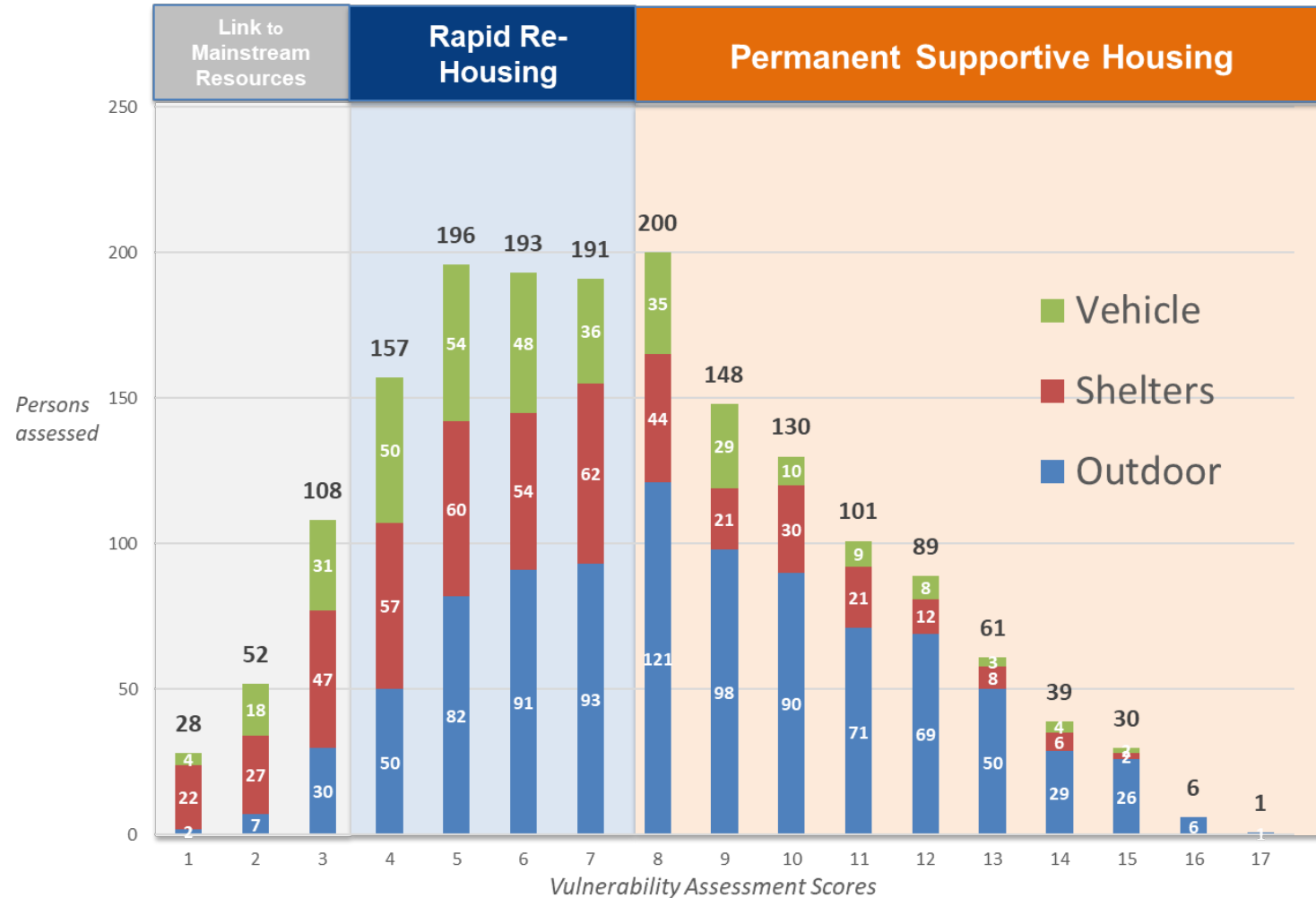5. Build Provider Capacity to Address the Needs to Specific Populations

Demand

Assessment data through the Coordinated Entry System highlights how many people currently need assistance by intensity. Data is not reflective of all people experiencing homelessness.
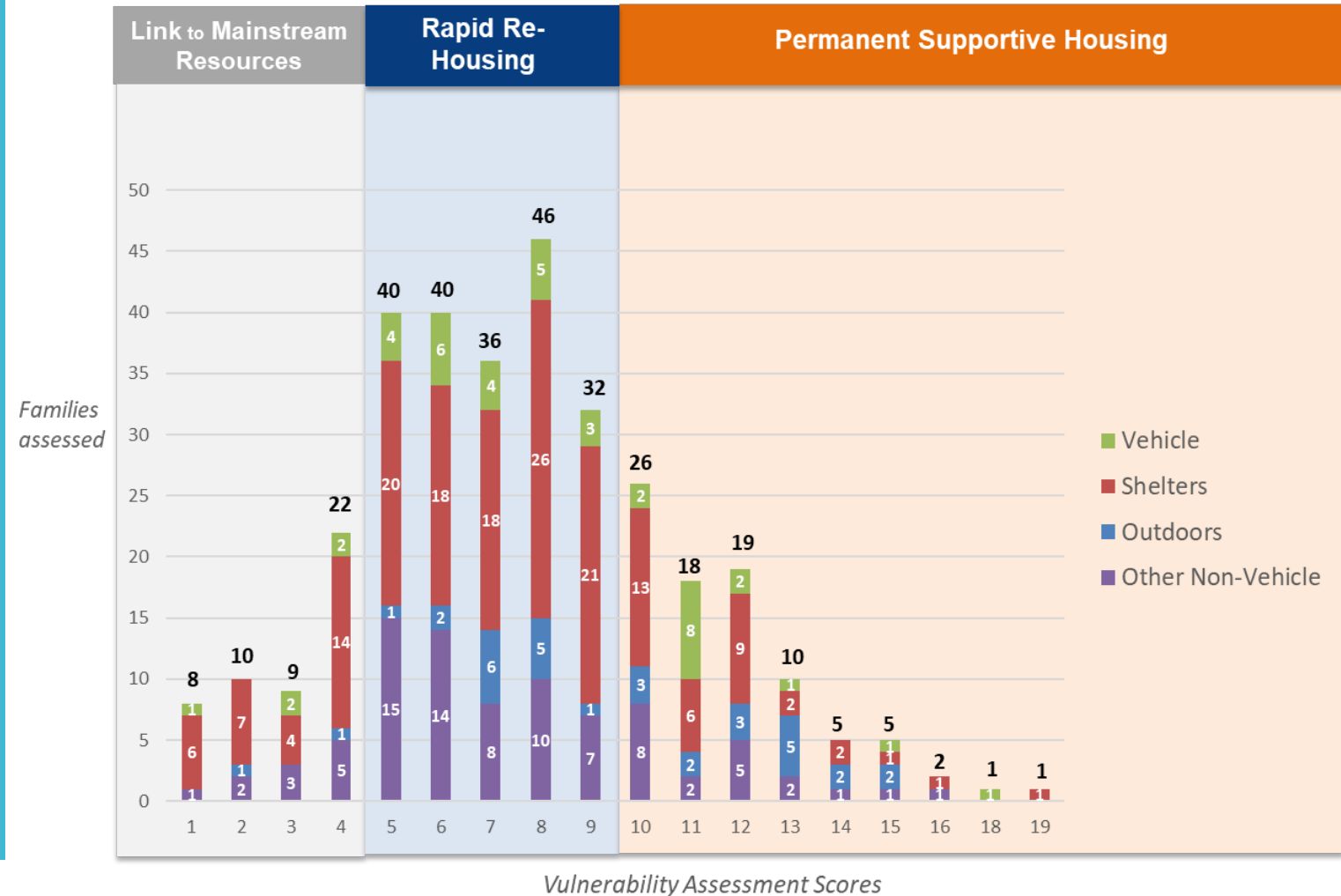
Data, Gaps, and Needs

Demand

Families with minor children assessment data through the Coordinated Entry System highlights how many families currently need assistance by intensity.

Coordinated Entry System Assessments Inform Housing Needs

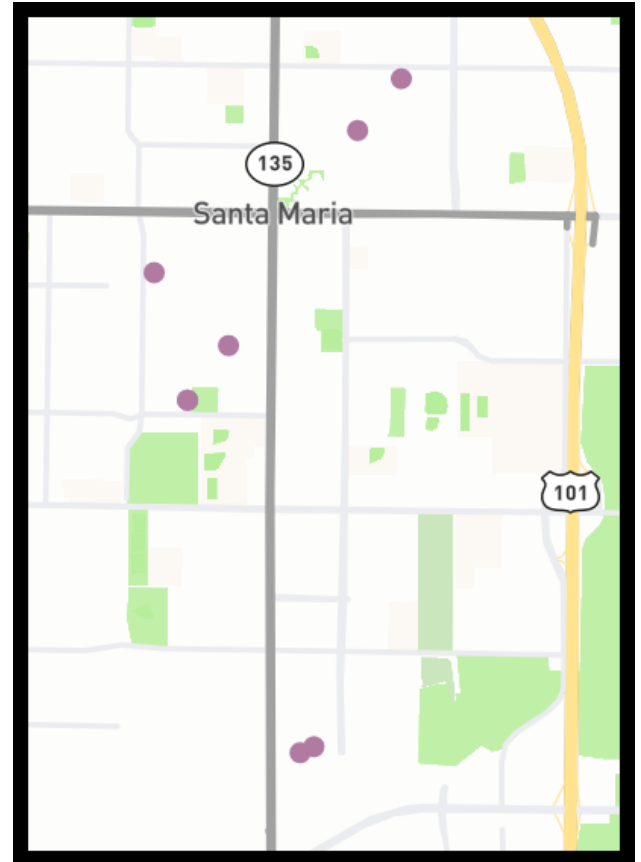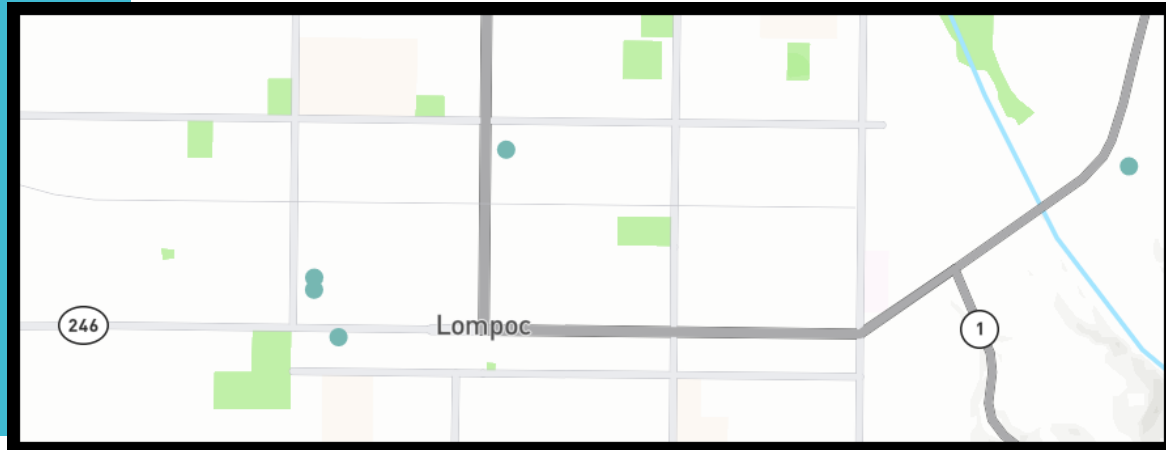*Data is not reflective of all families experiencing homelessness.*

Data, Gaps, and Needs

Resources

Important to note that most of the resources are at capacity, interventions such as RRH and PSH voucher need a physical unit in the community, regional differences in resources, and resources may be population specific.
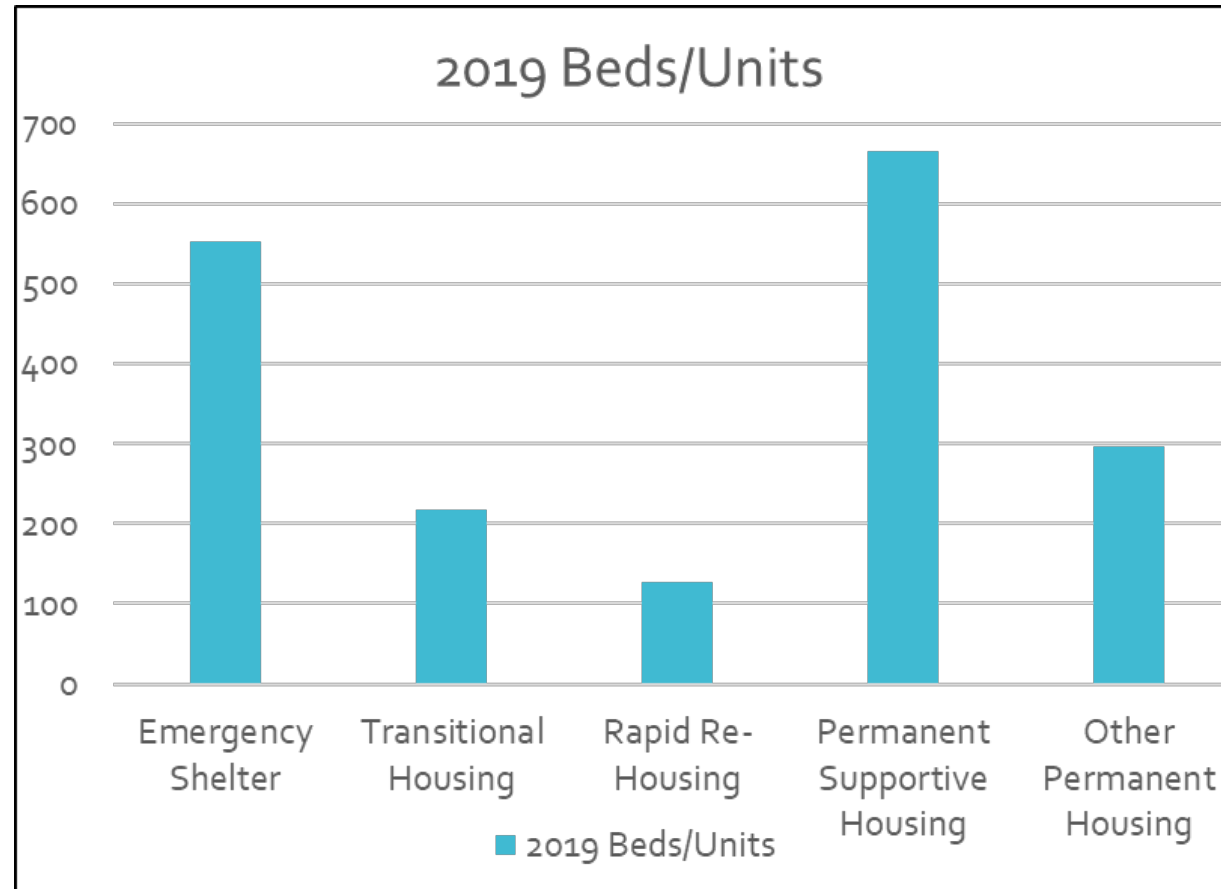
Maps of Housing Projects
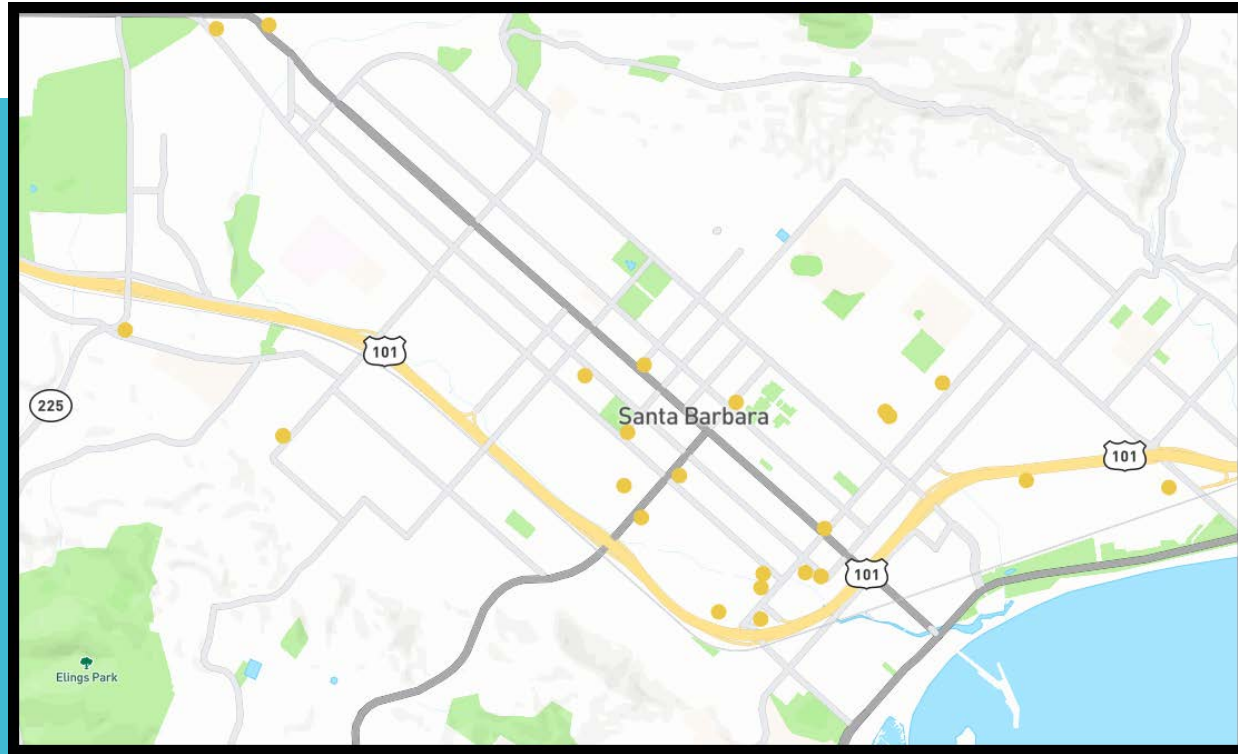
Rapid Re-Housing and Domestic Violence Projects are not included.

Phase 2 Regional Planning

1. Moving from planning to action

2. County has contracted with LeSar Development Consultants to assist in creating Phase 2 Plan

3. 3 day site visit to gather input from key groups and stakeholders

4. Develop an operational work plan with specific steps, responsible parties, and funding needed

Current Challenges

What are current challenges with addressing homelessness?

Homeless Systems
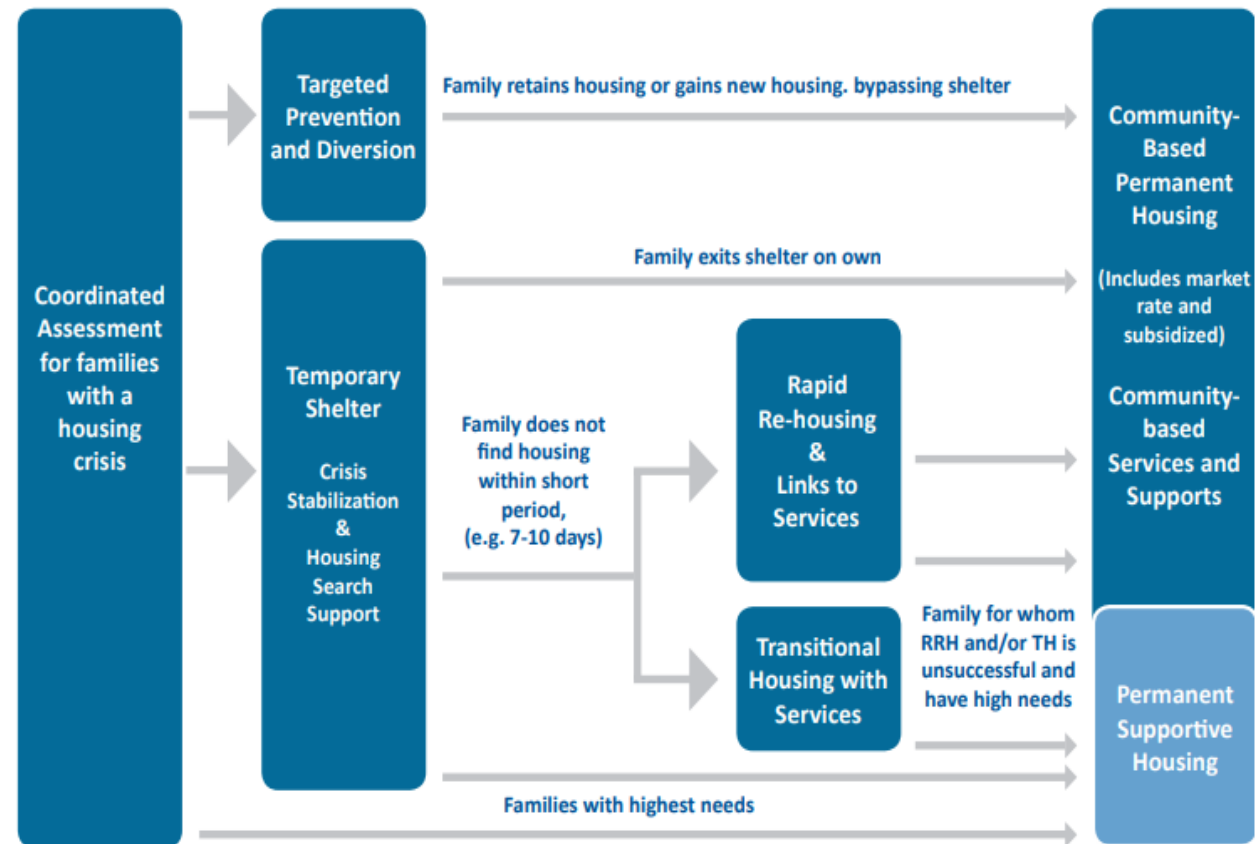
- Homelessness is a crisis and we must respond as such
- Need to have a Housing Focused oriented response system
- Goal is to ensure homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring

Review of Statewide Legislation and Funding

Building Off Historic Investment & Action to Help Cities and Counties Tackle Homelessness, Governor Newsom Signs Series of Bills Addressing Homelessness

Published: Sep 26, 2019

Governor signs package of homelessness bills to address local needs in removing regulatory barriers to solve homelessness, including CEQA exemptions for supportive housing and shelter construction

Announcement builds on historic $1 billion investment in the 2019-2020 budget to address homelessness crisis

Governor also directs his Council on Homelessness, asking them to focus on providing recommendations to local communities to use the unprecedented state funding to help localities better address the problem of street homelessness

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom signed a package of bills today to confront the national crisis of homelessness and assist city and county governments by removing regulatory barriers to fight homelessness. The bills build on the historic $1 billion investment made budget, and new legal authority that make it easier for cities and counties to build emergency shelters.

The Governor signed legislation that provides a CEQA exemption for supportive housing and shelters in the City of Los Angeles. The announced today will also give Alameda County, Orange County, the cities within those counties, and San Jose, the ability to expedi construction of emergency shelters upon declaring a shelter crisis.

"Homelessness is a national emergency that demands more than just words, it demands action," said Governor Newsom. "State gov is now doing more than ever before to help local governments fight homelessness, expand proven programs and speed up rehousin just this month, the Legislature passed the strongest package of statewide renter and anti-eviction protections in the country — a to for this Administration that will protect Californians from unfair evictions and rent gouging that have contributed to this crisis."

"I am pleased to sign these bills that give local governments even more tools to confront this crisis," added Governor Newsom.

Ahead of the meeting tomorrow of the Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, the Governor sent a letter to the council urging them to focus their attention on chronic street homelessness, and to identify action steps for how local governments can mo distribute the historic funding provided through the budget.

"The Council must identify public policy changes and best practices for local communities to spend the major infusion of state dolla address the problem of street homelessness by providing immediate emergency shelter and services," Governor Newsom wrote in h "This should be the focus of the task force over the next three months."

Governor Gavin Newsom Signs 18 Bills to Boost Housing Production

Published: Oct 09, 2019

Signs SB 330, major legislation to remove local barriers to building more housing

Signs AB 1763 to incentivize affordable housing density

Signs package of bills to ease construction of accessory dwelling units

Legislation builds on urgent action undertaken by the Administration to tackle California's housing affordability crisis

SACRAMENTO – Building on the state's historic actions and investments this year to tackle the housing affordability crisis, Governor Gavin Newsom today signed 18 bills designed to help jumpstart housing production. Included was SB 330, major legislation aimed at removing local barriers to housing construction and speeding up new development.

"Since taking office in January, my Administration has been urgently focused on California's housing affordability crisis," said Governor Newsom. "The high cost of housing and rent is putting the squeeze on family budgets, and our housing shortage threatens our economic growth and long-term prosperity."

"In 2019, California has taken urgent action to address this challenge. We've invested more in new housing than at any point in our history, and we have created powerful new tools to incentivize housing production. Now, we are removing some key local barriers to housing production. This crisis has been more than a half century in the making, and this Administration is just getting started on solutions," added Governor Newsom.

Today, at the Legal Aid Society of San Diego, the Governor signed SB 113 by the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, which will enable the transfer of $331 million in state funds to the National Mortgage Special Deposit Fund, and establishes the Legislature's intent to create a trust to manage these funds to provide an ongoing source of funding for borrower relief and legal aid to vulnerable homeowners and renters. This follows the Governor's proposal in August to provide a new, sustainable, ongoing source of funding for legal aid for renters and homeowners through local nonprofits, and builds on the state budget's additional $20 million in legal assistance to help California renters fight unjust evictions.

The Governor today signed the following bills to remove barriers and boost housing production:

- SB 330 by Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) establishes the Housing Crisis Act of 2019, which will accelerate housing production in California by streamlining permitting and approval processes, ensuring no net loss in zoning capacity and limiting fees after projects are approved.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ELECTED LEADERS FORUM

OCTOBER 30, 2019

LAHELA MATTOX
DIRECTOR OF LOCAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA

-1.2%
change from 2017

+5.3%
change from 2010

Total Homeless, 2018
129,972

33 in every **10,000** people were experiencing homelessness

31.1%

68.9%

■ Unsheltered (89,543)
■ Sheltered (40,429)
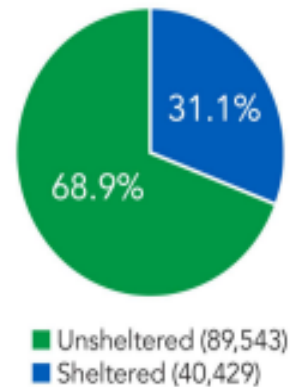
Estimates of Homelessness

109,008 individuals

20,964 people in families with children

12,396 unaccompanied homeless youth

10,836 veterans

32,668 chronically homeless individuals

sheltered is emergency shelter or transitional housing

HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

- Despite increased state and local investments, federal data have shown an increase in California's homeless population in recent years.

Homelessness Rises, Driven By Unsheltered Population

https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/

HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

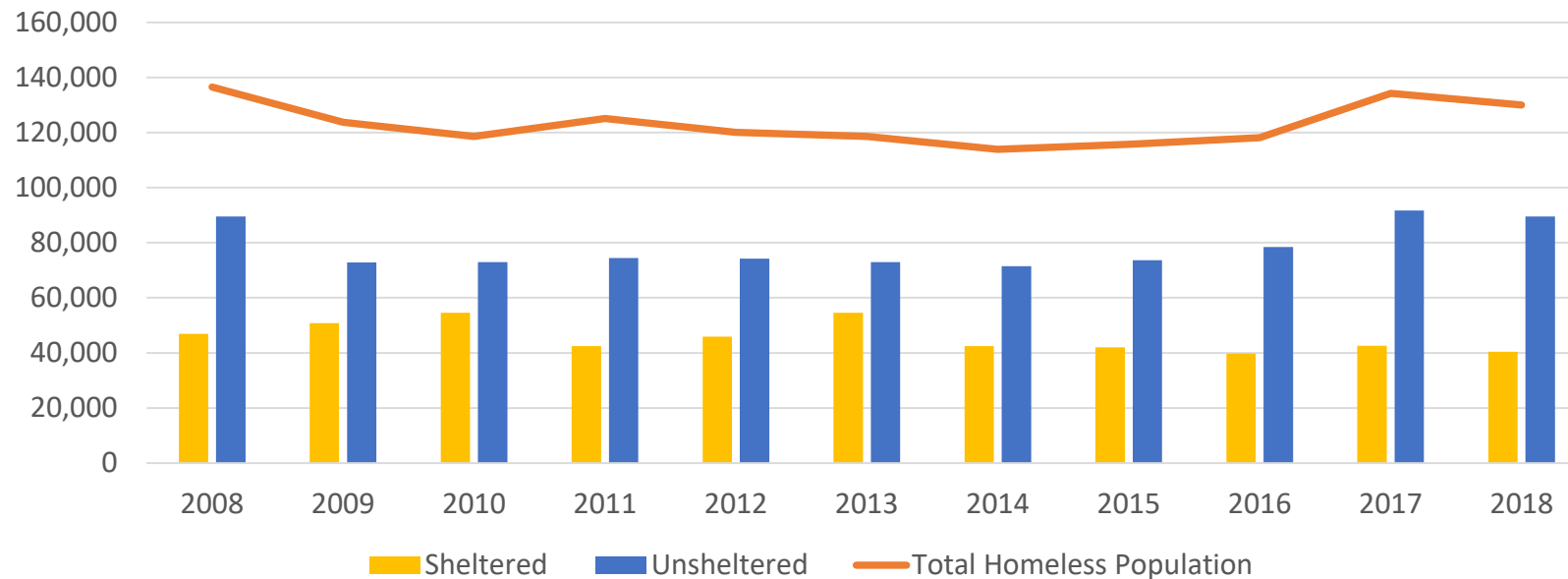- California continues to be first in the nation when it comes to the number of people experiencing homelessness.

- California - 25% of the Nation's homeless population, despite only making up 12% of the nation's population.

- California has the highest number of unaccompanied youth, veterans, and chronically homeless in the United States.
  - 54% of all unsheltered homeless unaccompanied youth
  - 50% of all unsheltered veterans
  - 49% of all unsheltered chronically homeless

- This landscape has not changed when we look at the 2019 point-in-time count preliminary data.

2019 Point In Time Count Preliminary Data

California Continuums of Care: Comparison of 2017 and 2019 Homeless Counts

- CoCs with % of decrease in total persons between 2017 and 2019
- CoCs with % of increase in total persons between 2017 and 2019

Note: CoCs are only required by HUD to conduct unsheltered and sheltered counts in January of odd-number years, which is why 2019 count is compared to 2017. Many CoCs conduct counts during even-number years, but not all California CoCs.

MYTHS OF HOMELESSNESS

MYTH	TRUTH
Most homeless people are from out of state and if we sent them back to where they came from, we wouldn't have as many homeless people.	-Most people experience homelessness close to where they lost their housing. - Many have been residents for 10+ years
They choose to be homeless and most of them are homeless because they have drug problems and/or mental health issues.	**Primary causes** of homelessness are stagnant wages, surging housing cost, and shortage of housing. **Other factors** include chronic health conditions, domestic violence, and systemic inequality.
If we provide sanitation and hygiene options, it will encourage unsheltered individuals to continue living on the streets and discourages housing solutions.	Access to water and sanitation is a basic need. Providing for basic needs and access to housing are not mutually exclusive
Housing the homeless is too expensive.	-Average cost for a person to live on the streets is $40,000/year -Average cost to house someone is $12,000/year -Average savings of 30%

System Impacts

- Homelessness is a state-wide crisis impacting multiple systems.

- Homelessness is human suffering

- Homelessness is an environmental issue

- Homelessness is a public health and sanitation issue

- Homelessness is more expensive than solutions to end homelessness

FEDERAL FUNDING

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Community Planning and Development (CPD)

| FEDERAL FUNDING	
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	ESG is awarded to communities through direct entitlement or through the state
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	CDBG is awarded to cities and counties through a direct entitlement. Smaller cities can apply to the state for funding.
Continuum of Care (CoC)	CoC is awarded to non-profit and government agencies.

STATE FUNDING 2018-19

- Budget included more than $600 million in state homelessness funding focused on planning, prevention, and emergency aid.

STATE FUNDING	
Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)	Administered by Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC)
California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH)	Administered by Housing and Community Development (HCD)
No Place Like Home (NPLH)	Administered by Housing and Community Development (HCD)

STATEWIDE HEAP EXPENDITURES

Statewide

- Services
- Capital Improvements
- Rental Assistance/Subsidies
- Homeless Youth Set-Aside
- Administrative
- Other (mobile hygiene, etc.)
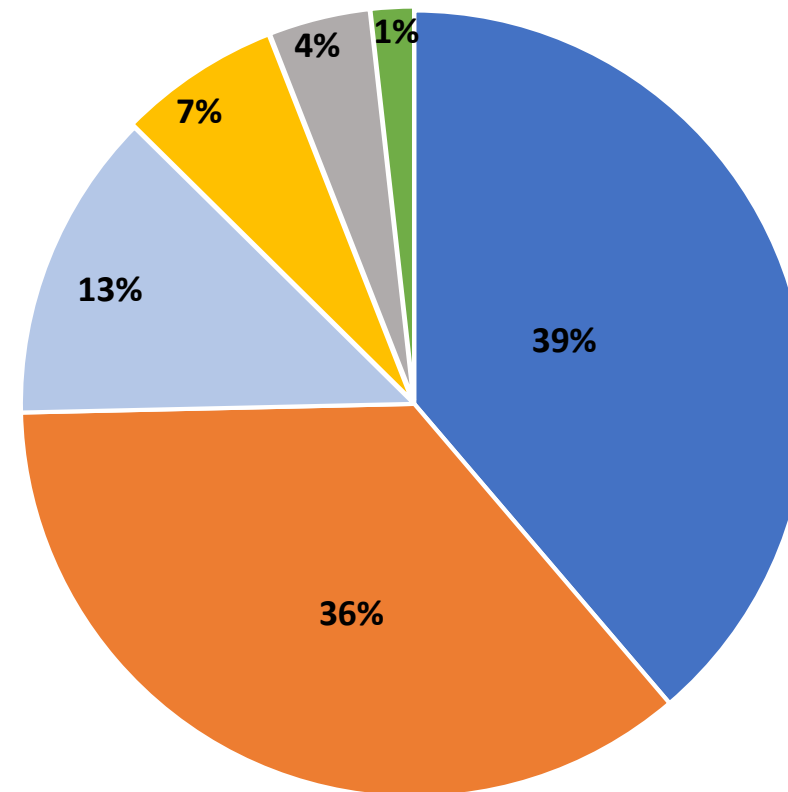
STATE FUNDING-2019-20 BUDGET

- $1.75 billion for housing and $1 billion for homelessness to support local governments in developing an integrated approach to tackle their homelessness issues.

  - **Homeless Emergency Aid**

  - **Health and Human Services**

  - **Student Rapid Rehousing**

- CA Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

  - Statutory amendments to help mitigate California's homelessness crisis by exempting low barrier navigation centers built on public land from CEQA review.

HHAP

Program Overview	• One-time block grant established in 2019-20 Budget • Provides local jurisdictions with funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges
Eligible Applicants	• 44 Continuums of Care • 13 Largest Cities, with populations of 300,000 or more (as of January 2019) • 58 Counties
Funding Allocations	• 190 million – Continuums of Care • 275 million – Large Cities • 175 million – Counties • Allocations are based on each CoCs proportionate share of the state's total homeless population based on the homeless point-in time count (PIT). • Eligible uses to be further defined in the HHAP program guidance
Key Elements	• Requires a demonstration how they have coordinated with other jurisdictions to identify their share of the regional need to address homelessness, and how the requested funds will help meet the jurisdiction's share of that need • Mandate that at least 8% of the allocation MUST be used to establish or expand programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness • Does not require a crisis shelter declaration to be a direct recipient of HHAP funds

HHAP Important Dates

HHAP TIMELINE	
October 2019	Program Guidance published
October 2019	Application Map and Instructions published
November-December 2019	Release of NOFA and Application (dependent upon the release of 2019 point-in-time count by US Housing and Urban Development)
February 15, 2020	HHAP Applications Due
April 1, 2020	All HHAP awards to be made
May 31, 2023	HHAP program funds must be contractually obligated **varies for counties, CoCs, and large cities
June 30, 2025	HHAP program funds must be fully expended

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

- HEAP funding allowed for jurisdictions to have flexibility to use funds to meet their emergency needs.

- HHAP funding expands the HEAP funding and focuses on evidence-based practices, regional coordination, and services specific to the needs of youth.

- Evidence-Based Practices include but are not limited to:

  - Housing First

  - Permanent Supportive Housing

  - Trauma Informed Care

  - Harm Reduction

  - No-wrong Door Approach

HOUSING FIRST POLICY

- Housing First is an approach to serving people experiencing homelessness that recognizes a homeless person must first be able to access a decent, safe place to live, that does not limit length of stay (permanent housing), before stabilizing, improving health, reducing harmful behaviors, or increasing income.

- Under Housing First, anyone experiencing homelessness should be connected to a permanent home as quickly as possible, and programs should remove barriers to accessing the housing, like requirements of sobriety or absence of criminal history.

- Lastly, Housing First values choice not only in where to live, but whether to participate in services. In other words, tenants are not required to participate in services to access or retain housing.

- SB 1380 defines Housing First core components.

HHAP Eligible Uses

Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing	**Operating Subsidies and Reserves**	**Landlord Incentives**
Outreach and Coordination (including employment)	**Systems Support to create regional partnerships**	**Delivery of Permanent Housing**
Innovative solutions like motel/hotel conversion	**Prevention and shelter diversion to permanent housing**	**New navigation centers and emergency shelters** (based on demonstrated need)

funds shall be expended on evidence-based solutions

COLLABORATION, COORDINATION, AND COMMITMENT

- **Collaboration**-Local, state, and federal government, stakeholders, non-traditional entities, people with lived experience.

- **Coordination** to maximize funding and resources to achieve solutions

- **Commitment** to doing our part.

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- **RARE: Prevention and diversion**

    - It is an approach, a culture in your system

- **BRIEF: Alignment of resources**

    - to address the upstream of Behavioral health, substance use disorders, chronic homelessness, low-barrier shelters, etc.

- **ONE-TIME: Access and exit strategies**

    - Ensuring people have opportunities to succeed

THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS

RESOURCES

California State Homelessness Funding Programs

https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/heap_funding_matrix.pdf

State Resources to Address California's Homeless Crisis

https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/heap_funding_resources.pdf

TYPES OF HOMELESSNESS

1. Non-chronic
2. Chronic

   A homeless individual or head of household who has:

   a disability

   been homeless in past 3 years:
   - at least 12 months OR
   - on at least 4 separate occasions

HOUSING OPTIONS

	Emergency shelter	Bridge housing (transitional)	Rapid re-housing*	Permanent supportive housing*
Population	Non-chronic, Chronic	Non-chronic	Non-chronic	Chronic
Timeframe	Overnight (first-come, first-served)	Temporary (6-24 mos)	Immediate and long-term	Immediate and long-term
Services	Minimal services	Temporary supportive services	Moving assistance, tapered supportive services & rent assistance	Permanent supportive services
Goals/Focus	Safety	Stability/reintegration	Stability/independence	Stability

Housing First

HOUSING APPROACHES: THEN AND NOW

THEN: TREATMENT FIRST

Belief: A behavioral issue > Homelessness is a result of poor lifestyle choices.

Approach: Requires the person to address issues (health, addictions, unemployment, etc.) *before* receiving permanent housing. Housing is a reward for changed behavior – almost impossible to achieve on the streets.

NOW: HOUSING FIRST

Belief: A housing issue > Homelessness is a result of not having housing.

Approach: Removes barriers to acquiring housing so the person is housed with supportive services first – and as quickly as possible. The resulting stability provides a foundation to address life issues. It accelerates success AND lowers costs.
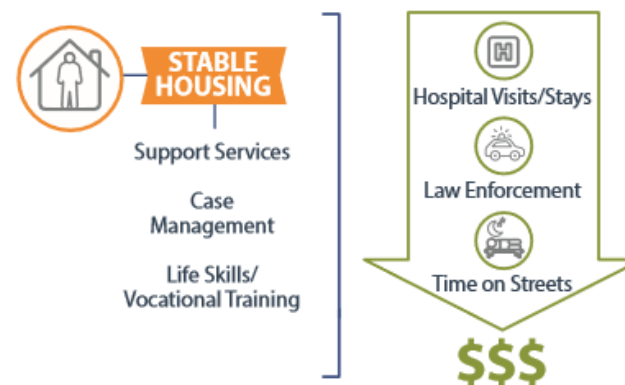
Continuum of Care (CoC)

- 44 in the State of California.

- CoCs are mandated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

- CoCs are a geographically based entity that carries out the planning and local funding priority responsibilities.

- A CoC is made up of local stakeholders committed to ending homelessness, such as local non-profits, those who are or have experienced homelessness, law enforcement, local business leaders, local government leaders, etc.

- A CoC can be a county, a city, a non-profit organization.

- For additional information and resources:
  https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/

COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM (CES)

- CES is a process developed to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access.

- Goals of CES:
  - To ensure accessibility to services no matter where or how people present.
  - To ensure people are quickly identified, assessed for and referred to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs.
  - To reduce long waiting times to receive assistance
  - To prevent people from being screened out of needed assistance.
  - To help communities identify gaps and needed resources

- The system varies for each CoC.

Contact Information

- HCFC website https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/

- Questions: HCFC@BCSH.ca.gov

- To request HCFC staff presentations: https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/webapps/request.php

- To receive information releases regarding the HEAP program, please register for the program listserv

- Social media
  - https://twitter.com/CA_HCFC
  - https://www.facebook.com/CalHCFC/

- Lahela Mattox, Local Government Liaison and Acting HEAP Grant Manager
  - 916-651-2770
  - Lahela.mattox@bcsh.ca.gov

Discussion of Priorities, Opportunities, and Strategies

Open discussion of priorities, opportunities, and strategies

Closing Remarks

1. Thank You

2. Next Steps