

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Annual Presentation to the Family and
Human Services Committee of the
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors

11/13/19



Today's Presentation



Overview of Local
Homeless Population



Outcomes and
Accomplishments



Right-sizing the
System of Care



Opportunities
Ahead

2,295

Individuals experienced
homelessness on
January 29, 2019



CONTRA COSTA
HEALTH SERVICES

2019 Point in Time

Annual snapshot of Homelessness
in Contra Costa County



3%

61 more persons
counted in 2019 than
in 2018.

Total Persons Served in 2018



- PREVENTION
- 1,091 PERSONS



CRISIS RESPONSE SERVICES

- 6,924 PERSONS
- =
- 5,846 HH
- (10% are families)



- SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
- 899 PERSONS

Comparing PIT and Service Data

Point in Time Count

- Reflects one-third of population served annually
- 3% increase between 2018 and 2019
- Geographic distribution reflects service locations and unsheltered populations

Annual Service Data

- Higher percentage of families and youth
- 7% increase in persons accessing services between 2017 and 2018
- City where lost housing remains consistent
- Can better capture persons at-risk of homelessness

Sub- Population Trends



Increase in adults with disabling conditions



Increase in single adults



Increase in older adults 62+



Decrease in transition-age youth 18-24



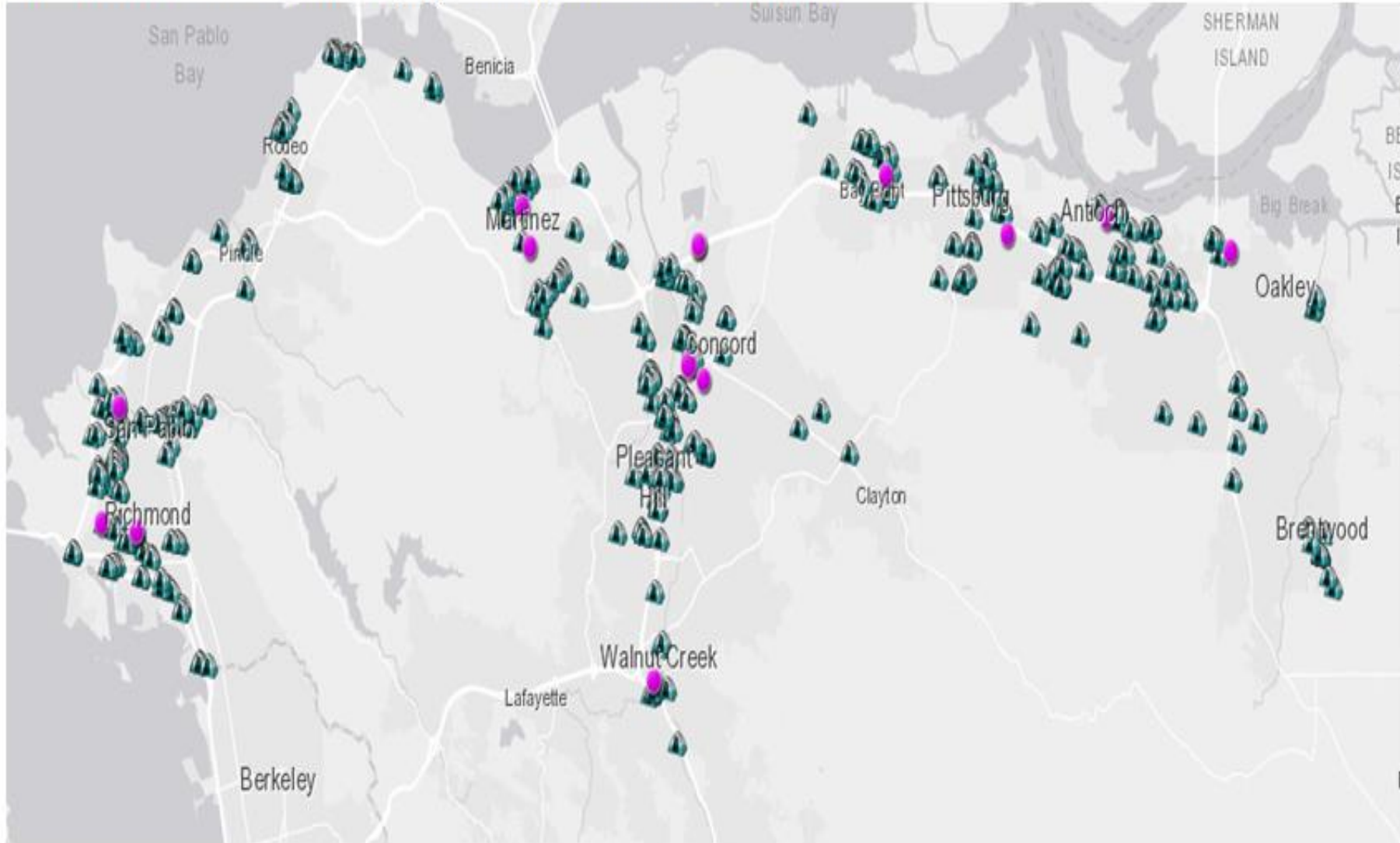
Decrease in families



Decrease in veterans

Geographic Distribution

2019 Point In Time Count Map of Encampments and Service Sites



* Green symbols are encampment areas; pink symbols are service sites

Where Lost Housing:

East County

Central

West

Where Unsheltered Slept
Night of PIT:

Central County

West

East

Outcomes and Accomplishments

- 1,450 Households Exited to PH in CY 2018
- 97% retention rate in PSH
- 32% increase in HUD funding over last three years
- 60 additional beds/cots added to crisis response system FY 18/19
- 40+Mainstream Housing Choice

Vouchers
+36

Based on 2018 average monthly in-flow and out-flow, the system of care would gain an additional 36 individuals per year



I will never give up.
~Kellie

Accomplishments



2019 Challenge Award Recipient
CORE Creek Team



tons of trash from
encampments
diverted from
Contra Costa
waterways

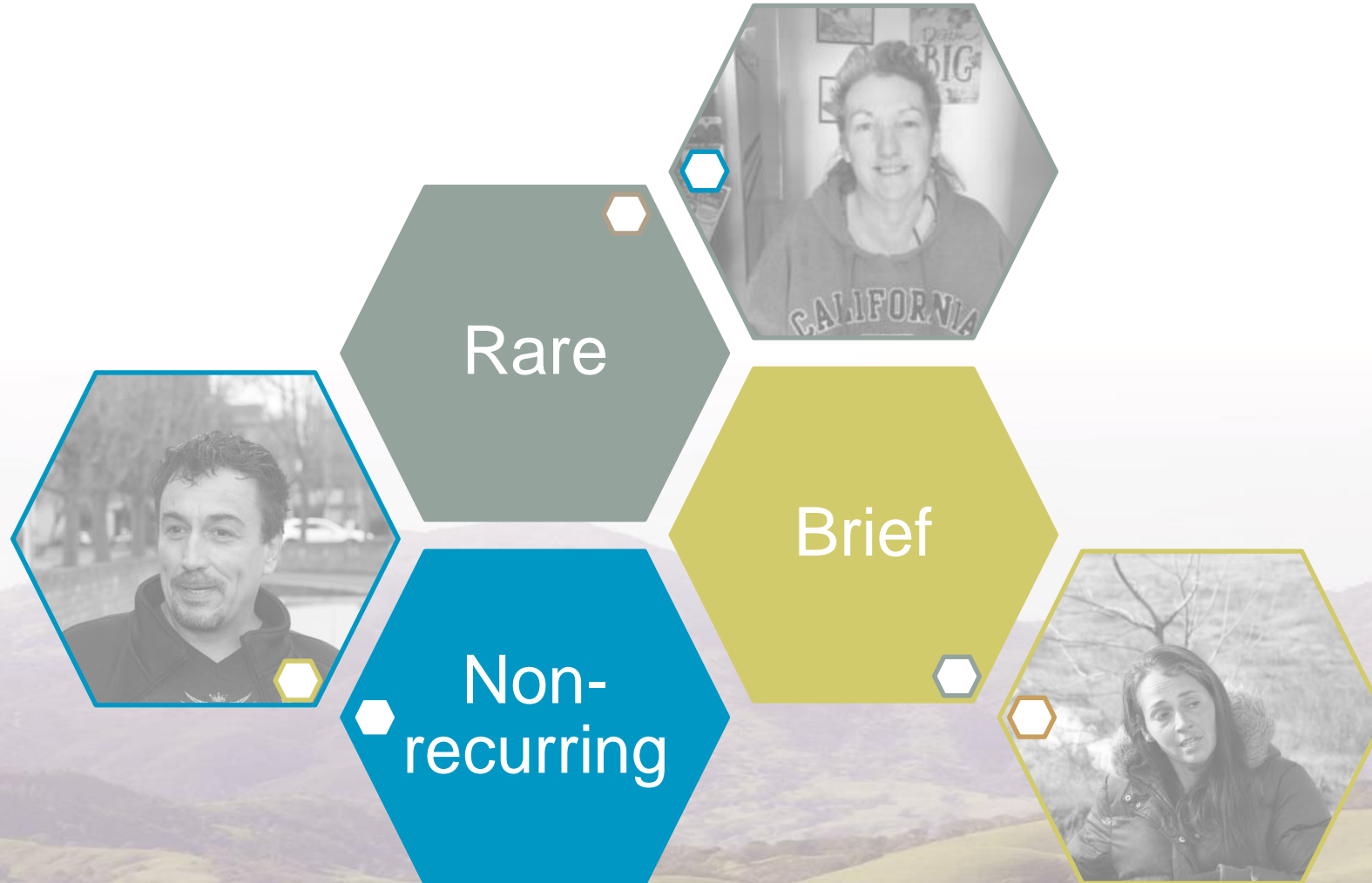
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CONTRA COSTA
HEALTH HOUSING & HOMELESS
A Division of Contra Costa Health Services



Right-sizing the System of Care

Committed to making homelessness an uncommon occurrence in Contra Costa County.



CONTRA COSTA HOMELESS SERVICE SYSTEM

EMERGENCY SHELTER

573 BEDS - 94% UTILIZATION RATE
Individual, Family, Youth and Veteran Beds
Serve 1700 people/year
Average LOS - 4 months
58% of exits --> Permanent Housing

ES



AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

The top reasons for homelessness for people homeless for the first time include:

1. Low income
2. Job loss
3. Asked to leave

START HERE



211 - Basic needs information & referral



UNSHELTERED/LITERALLY HOMELESS

About 5,800 households experience literal homelessness in Contra Costa in a year.

51% (2,978 HH) experience unsheltered homelessness

The top reasons for homelessness among people who have previous homeless episodes include:

1. Low income
2. Job loss
3. Substance Use

OUTREACH



CORE Team

DENIED SHELTER ENTRY OR EXITED
Under the influence of drugs/alcohol
Other non-compliance

ALTERNATIVE TO SHELTER OPTIONS

Warming Centers
Capacity: 70 cots/night

PREVENTION & RAPID RESOLUTION

In 2018: 90% of HH who exited prevention went to a permanent housing destination (455 HH).

COORDINATED ENTRY (CE) FRONT DOOR

ACCESS POINTS 211 OR PROVIDER STAFF FROM:
211 Phone; CARE Centers; CORE Team

CE

Meeting the Need

5,800 HH experience literal homelessness annually

26% leave to permanent housing (1450 HH)

There are PH resources to meet about 50% of the need/year*

The average length of time homeless increased from 15 to 17 months in one year (2017-2018).

28% are chronically homeless.

*Assumes common rate of 25% self-resolve

CE WAIT TIME

1,400 people assessed for CE; avg wait-time: 11+ mos.
Of those assessed on the current queue:
40%: High Vulnerability
48%: Medium Vulnerability
12%: Low/No Vulnerability

RRH CAPACITY

Meets 47% of the need of people waiting in CE (1,400 HH)

RAPID RE-HOUSING

Family Units, Individual Units
DV Units, Vets
Projected to serve 656 HH annually
Avg Financial Assistance: \$6,000/HH

PH

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING 136 BEDS

84% utilization rate
Family Units, Youth, DV, Individual Units, Veteran
97 people exited/yr; 70% went to permanent housing destinations

TH

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING - 494 BEDS

Family Units, Youth, Individual Units, Veterans, Chronic

PH

PSH CAPACITY

About 36 PSH units open/year, which houses about 5% of the chronic population on the current chronic by name list (800 HH).
Average wait time for those referred is 10 months.

17% WHO EXIT PH return to homelessness within 2 years

MARKET RATE HOUSING

About 1/3 of people served in all programs, including HP and RRH, transitioned to market rate or other affordable housing as a permanent destination

REGULATED AFFORDABLE HOUSING & NATURALLY OCCURRING AFFORDABLE HOUSING
3.7% rental vacancy rate

BRIDGE HOUSING

New bridge and transitional housing-rapid re-housing (TH/RRH) beds coming on-line in the next year

LEGEND

Populations:

Family Veteran
Individual DV
Youth Domestic Violence Provider

Housing Types:

PH Permanent Housing
TH Transitional Housing
ES Emergency Shelter
CE Coordinated Entry

Acronyms:

HH: Households
LOS: Length of Stay
LOT: Length of Time
PH: Permanent housing destination

Data Sources: 2019 System Performance Measure Report, 2018 Point in Time Count, and HMIS reports run between 10/17-9/18.
Coordinated Entry data reflected is in real-time and reflects the current state between 1/2018-8/2019.

Note on vulnerability of score scale: High vulnerability = 10-20 scores; medium vulnerability = 5-9 scores; low-no vulnerability = 0-4 scores

Key Findings

There are PH resources to meet only 50% of the need/ year.

2900 more PH interventions are needed to meet the need in a year

5800 HH experience literal homelessness annually.
58% are living unsheltered.

Avg length of time homeless increased from 15 months to 17 months in one year.
28% are chronically homeless

17% who exit PH return within 2 years

Building and Maximizing Resources



Add Shelter Beds

Providing temporary shelter for every unsheltered person requires 400 more shelter beds.



Scale Rapid Resolution Services

Increase efforts to route the 400+ individuals/mo that enter the system of care to alternate safe housing destinations.



Increase Permanent Supportive Housing

In order to offer every chronically homeless person housing, we would need approximately 1700 more PSH units.



Reduce Inflow

Whenever possible, re-direct individuals to other stable housing resources outside the homeless system of care



Reduce Length of time Homeless

Reduce wait times for persons in the community queue for resources and increase bed turnover rates at shelters.



Enhance Prioritization Strategies

Maximize use of all housing resources based on highest vulnerability and length of time homeless.

What's Ahead – FY 2019 and 2020

Funding Opportunities

- Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP)
- Housing for a Healthy CA
- No Place Like Home
- CESH Rounds 1&2 Request for Proposal

Building Capacity

Technical Assistance

- Rapid Rehousing Integration into Coordinated Entry
- Dynamic Prioritization
- Housing First for Affordable Housing Developers
- Racial and Health Equity Assessment
- Updated System Performance Measures

Staffing

- Research, Data, Evaluation Manager
- Systems Strategy and Planning
- Coordinated Entry Specialist

Programs and Services

- Expanded Homelessness Diversion Services (Rapid Resolution Services)
- Cap. Improvement & Expansion Central County CARE Center
- Added \$650K in Housing Security Funds



Programs and Services



- CORE teams for youth
- Rapid Rehousing for TAY
- New site for Trinity CARE Center
- Safe Park Walnut Creek

Questions?

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