



**County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors  
Agenda Item Submittal**

**From:** Human Services Department: Housing for Health Division

**Subject:** Housing for Health Six-Month Update

**Meeting Date:** August 22, 2023

**Recommended Action(s):**

- 1) Conduct a study session to review updates related to addressing homelessness in the County of Santa Cruz and approve recommended priority goals for the next six-month Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz implementation cycle;
- 2) Accept and file a progress report on implementation of the Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz framework between January 1, 2023, and June 30, 2023 (Attachment A); and
- 3) Direct the Human Services Department to return in February 2024, on the final Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz six-month framework implementation cycle and proposed updates to the Framework to, at a minimum, ensure compliance and consistency with federal and state plan requirements and goal alignment with resource availability.

**Executive Summary**

The Board of Supervisors (Board) and the Human Services Department (HSD) Housing for Health (H4H) Division established a schedule for Board study sessions on the implementation of the Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Framework for addressing homelessness at six-month intervals. As part of these regular updates, the Board and H4H agreed to consolidate separately requested updates on this topic into a single study session.

**Background**

On March 9, 2021, the Board approved the Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz strategic framework for addressing homelessness within the County. The Framework was also approved and supported by the local Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Board and the four city jurisdictions within the County.

Prior to the formal adoption of this framework, the Board requested updates on specific programs related to homelessness on separate board dates. This study session is the fifth six-month study session related to the implementation of the framework. The adopted Framework covers a three-year implementation period from January 2021 through December 2023. This update provides information on the period January to June 2023 and recommends key goals for the final July to December 2023 period.

Updates to the Framework are needed to reflect lessons learned and changes over the past three years. Changes are also needed to meet an anticipated California Homeless

Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 funding requirement for updated local regional plans to address homelessness. Updated plans will be required within six months of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (CallCH) releasing guidance on plan requirements. CallCH must release this guidance on or before September 30, 2023.

### **Analysis**

The Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Strategic Framework outlines a range of strategies to reduce point-in-time (PIT) count unsheltered homelessness by 50% and overall homelessness by 25% over the period between January 2019 and January 2024. To reach the above population-level outcomes, the Framework identifies two core goals:

- Core Goal #1: Improve the effectiveness of all programs in helping people secure housing.
- Core Goal #2: Expand capacity within the homelessness response system.

Each of the goals above have specific targets outlined in the Framework for countywide capacity and performance in the areas of shelter and transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing. The Framework calls for jurisdictions within the County to meet or exceed very low-income affordable housing development goals in their Regional Housing Needs Allocations (RHNA). The following four strategic work areas are identified for work plan development every six months: 1) Build a Coalition; 2) Prevent Homelessness; 3) Increase Connections; and 4) Expand Permanent Housing.

Attachment A provides a detailed update on key areas related to framework implementation including: 1) Overall goals and changes in PIT counts of people experiencing homelessness over time in Santa Cruz County; 2) System capacity and performance over time; 3) Housing for Health Division investments and impacts; 4) Community development project updates; 5) Funding updates; and 6) Six-month plan status update.

The 2023 Santa Cruz County PIT count of persons experiencing homelessness showed a 22% reduction in the number of people experiencing homelessness compared with 2022 data. Over the past two years, one-time federal and state funding enabled the creation of new local service programs. It also resulted in significant expansions in affordable housing subsidies made available through the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz. A strong partnership between the Housing for Health Division and the Housing Authority has resulted in over 300 households and more than 640 people moving from homelessness into permanent supported housing over the past two years. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data for the period July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, shows organizations that enter data into HMIS have helped 911 people exit programs into permanent housing. The reduction in the number of people experiencing homelessness in the 2023 PIT count is far less than number of people helped to secure housing as documented in the HMIS system. This data reaffirms that the number of households losing stable, safe, and healthy living situations within Santa Cruz County outpaces our collective ability and resources to help individuals return to

permanent living situations.

The 2023 PIT count report shows decreased levels of homelessness in all jurisdictions within the County except for Watsonville and the County Office of Education. The report shows an increasing percentage of Hispanic/Latinx community members experiencing homelessness, mirroring a statewide trend. The percentage of unsheltered individuals sleeping in vehicles increased from 38% in 2022 to 46% in 2023.

Sustained progress in addressing homelessness will require increased and ongoing federal and state funding coupled with strategic local investments in programs that generate positive outcomes and help leverage additional resources. Homelessness remains primarily a housing and residential living situation challenge. Communities with the largest gaps between the incomes of their residents and the cost of housing and long-term residential programs generally have the highest rates of homelessness. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition 2023 Out of Reach Report, Santa Cruz County is the most expensive rental market in the United States with the greatest gap between the average income of renters and the cost of housing. Addressing this gap will require long-term sustained efforts to increase household incomes and expand housing opportunities, especially affordable housing.

The Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Framework urges all jurisdictions in the County to work aggressively and collaboratively to expand the availability of very low-income affordable housing units. The countywide Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) very low-income housing goal for the current RHNA cycle ending December 2023 is 734 units. According to state data, there are 473 permitted very low-income units developed or under development throughout the County. The County has pursued Project Homekey and No Place Like Home funding to expand affordable and supportive housing throughout the community. Many of these projects will finish construction and be ready for occupancy within the next two years. The pace of affordable housing development will need to increase significantly to meet the RHNA goals established for Santa Cruz County in the next eight-year cycle.

While the community works together to progress on these long-term permanent and affordable housing goals, the Housing for Health Division is working to establish three regionally distributed housing navigation centers, low-barrier shelters with case management services and positive housing exit outcomes. Housing for Health worked with the Behavioral Health Department to secure Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding to develop a new central county, unincorporated area navigation center focused on serving people experiencing homelessness with significant mental health and substance use challenges. The Division partnered with Monterey County to secure Encampment Resolution Funding to establish a navigation center in Watsonville that would initially serve individuals living in encampments along the Pajaro River. The Division continues to work with the City of Santa Cruz and Housing Matters to support shelter and navigation center development at the Coral Street campus. The Division applied for Project Homekey Round 3 funding to establish a transitional housing program for youth in an unincorporated area near Watsonville. Establishing and sustaining these programs will require strong local collaborations and a commitment to using available local, state, and federal resources to support these programs over time when and if the one-time funding currently available ends.

Communities around the United States that have made the most progress in preventing and ending homelessness address structural housing affordability issues and maintain strong, collaborative, working partnerships between city and county governments, Housing Authorities, nonprofits, health care providers, businesses, law enforcement, the faith community, and other key stakeholders. Our local Continuum of Care is called the Housing for Health Partnership to highlight the importance of working together to achieve a shared aim of ensuring all county residents have a stable, safe, and healthy place to live. Updates to the current Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Framework should reaffirm and strengthen current local collaborative efforts.

**Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact associated with this study session and associated materials. Additional progress on Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz overall goals will require additional resource and financial investments from multiple sources.

**Strategic Plan Element(s)**

2.D. Attainable Housing: Homelessness

**Submitted by:**

Randy Morris, Human Services Director

**Recommended by:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

**Attachments:**

a Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Six Month Update Report January to June 2023 - Attachment A

**Background**

On March 9, 2021, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved the Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz three-year strategic framework (January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023) for addressing homelessness within the County. All four city councils subsequently adopted this framework as well, as this plan is an aspirational framework calling for the County to work in partnership with city and all other partners collectively. For the County, the Housing for Health Division of the Human Services Department supports implementation of this Framework and provides BOS updates every six months. This is the fifth six-month report related to framework implementation for the period January 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023.

**Overall Goal and PIT Counts**

The Framework established a three-year goal of a 50% reduction in unsheltered homelessness and a 25% reduction in homelessness overall between the 2019 Point-In-Time Count (PIT) of persons experiencing homelessness and the 2024 count to be conducted in January 2024. PIT Counts are federally required estimated counts of the number of households and individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night. The 2023 PIT report showed an overall decrease in the numbers of people experiencing homelessness of nearly 22% compared to the 2022 PIT Count, from 2,299 in 2022 to 1,804 in 2023. This represents a 17% reduction from the count in 2019. The 2023 Count represents the lowest count since this report methodology was first used in Santa Cruz County in 2011.

Figure 1 shows how the number of homeless persons changed over time in three PIT Counts (2019, 2022, and 2023). The number of sheltered individuals is lowest in 2023 due to the closure of COVID-related shelters in 2022.

**Figure 1. Homeless Persons Over Time.**

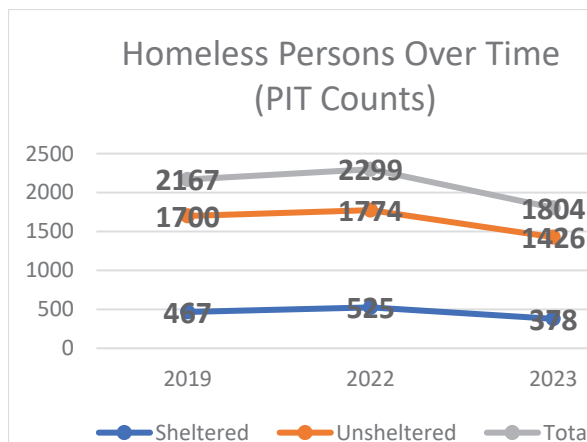
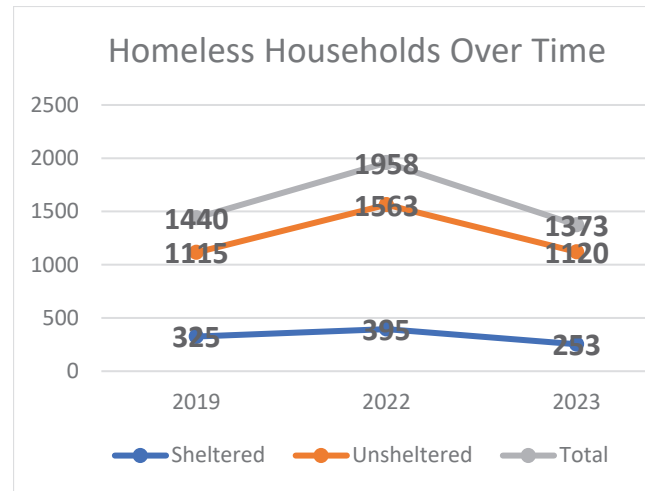


Figure 2 shows how the number of homeless households (groups of people that want to live together) changed over time in three PIT Counts.

**Figure 2. Homeless Households Over Time.**



The number of households experiencing homelessness in 2023 has not declined as much as the number of people experiencing homelessness indicating a more substantive decline in multi-person rather than single person households. Even with the positive reductions seen in the 2023 count, the County is far from reaching the overall goals outlined in the Framework.

The 2023 PIT Count showed reductions in the number of people experiencing homelessness in all geographic areas of the County except for Watsonville and the County Office of Education. Watsonville showed a 15% increase in overall numbers between 2022 and 2023. Most of this increase is attributable to increasing levels of homelessness among Hispanic/Latino(a) households with children. The percentage of people experiencing homelessness in the PIT Counts that identify as Hispanic/Latino(a) also increased from 33% in 2019 to 44% in 2023. The increased percentage of Hispanic/Latino(a)s experiencing homelessness mirrors a trend seen in many jurisdictions in California.

Among unsheltered households in the 2023 Count, 46% were sleeping in a vehicle, an increase of 8% when compared to the 2022 count. Households living in vehicles are more likely to have one or more member with employment and to have more income and assets than those without vehicles.

Twenty-five percent of individuals surveyed in the 2023 PIT count were involved in the criminal justice system in the past 12 months. This represents a reduction from the

34% of survey respondents in 2022. The recently released [California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness](#) (June 2023) found that 30% of survey respondents experienced time in jail or prison during their current episode of homelessness. The report recommends a greater focus on transitions from institutional settings to prevent and reduce homelessness.

### System Capacity and Performance

The Framework established goals for Housing for Health System Capacity and performance. The capacity goals and current state are listed in **Figure 3**. There has been a slight increase in rapid rehousing capacity over the past six months and no increases in temporary or permanent supportive housing. The number of very low-income housing units issued construction permits increased to 473 from 156 since the last six-month update.

**Figure 3. Framework Capacity Targets and Current Capacity.**

	Baseline	Target	Current
Temporary Housing	440	600	461=
Rapid Rehousing	140	490	312↑
Permanent Supportive Housing	500	600	1,274=
Very Low-Income Affordable Housing	Not Established	+734 (RHNA Goals) new units	473↑

**Figure 4** shows Framework goals for length of stay by program type and the value over a 12-month period ending June 1, 2023.

**Figure 4. Length of Stay Goals by Program Type.**

Program Type	Target (Days)	Current Value
Shelter	60	109↓
Transitional Housing	250	230↓
Rapid Rehousing	180	459↑

Average shelter and transitional housing lengths of stay have declined over the past six months while rapid rehousing lengths have increased slightly. The average transitional housing length of stay is below the Framework goal. However, declines in lengths of stay only help with the overall goal of reducing homelessness if declines coincide with increased programs exit to permanent housing.

**Figure 5** shows the percentage of participants in particular program types exiting to permanent housing over the 12-month period ending June 1, 2023.

**Figure 5. Rate of Exit to Housing by Program Type.**

Program Type	Target % Exits to Permanent Housing	Current Value
Shelter	40%	30%=
Transitional Housing	80%	74%↑
Rapid Rehousing	85%	55%=

The rates of exits to permanent housing among these program types have remained stable or improved over the last six months.

The slight increases in capacity coupled with diminished lengths of stay and improved or stable outcomes likely contributed to the reductions in overall homelessness seen in the County. Over the past six months, Housing for Health launched a centralized Housing Assistance Fund program to help agencies and their participants with one-time expenses that support move-ins to permanent housing. The fund helps reduce financial barriers for returns to permanent housing and likely contributed to slight improvements in outcomes.

Most programs serving people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness within the County collect data in the local, federally required Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The system includes an annual performance report that summarizes the collective impact of all the programs in a specific timeframe.

For the period, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, this HMIS report indicates 4,515 people received services, including the following:

- 3,403 adults
- 1,100 children
- 214 veterans
- 909 chronically homeless persons
- 278 youth between 18-25 years old

*Note: Some age data missing so totals may not match.*

Among the 2,449 program exits during this period, 911 exited to permanent housing (37%), 96 exited to temporary housing with friends or family, and 73 exited to an institutional setting (hospital, jail, foster home, behavioral health treatment, skilled nursing). Thirty-seven percent of those that exited left without their exit destination identified

in the system. The most common reason for unknown exit destinations is that participants leave a program before staff find out their destination.

### Housing for Health Division Investments and Impacts

#### (See Attachment 1 for more details)

During the period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, the Housing for Health Division supported more than 44 unique direct services programs and contracts with annual budgets over \$23M. Among the \$23M budgeted, an estimated \$6.5M was focused on southern Santa Cruz County (Soquel and south) and \$16.5M on the northern part of the County. About \$2.1M (11%) of the budgeted programs are funded with local general fund dollars with roughly \$400K in city contributions and \$1.7M of county funds. Federal and state funding cover the remaining budgeted costs.

These figures only include programs directly managed by Housing for Health staff, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) programs, and housing programs funded by Santa Cruz CORE funds (general fund).

**Figure 6** breaks out the budgeted dollars for different program types.

**Figure 6. FY 22-23 Budgets by Program Type.**

<i>Program Type</i>	<i>Budgeted Funds (Approximate)</i>
Rapid Rehousing	\$9M
Permanent Supportive Housing	\$6.3M
Temporary Housing/Safe Sleeping and Parking	\$3.8M
Housing Assistance Fund	\$2.2M
Prevention	\$1M
Outreach/Connection Services	\$750K

Nearly 90% of the funding comes from federal and state sources. Many of these funding sources restrict the use of funds to specific program types. Rapid rehousing programs couple supportive services with short-term rental assistance. Most rapid rehousing budgeted funds cover short-term rental assistance. Most rapid rehousing programs in Santa Cruz County serve households with children (families).

Permanent supportive housing budgeted activities cover services and flexible participant funding with long-term rental assistance covered by the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz.

Temporary housing/safe sleeping and parking programs include shelters with supportive services and safe places for people to sleep or park that do not meet state or federal standards for shelter. For a very small amount of County general funds, the Association of Faith Communities helped 50 individuals exit to permanent housing over the past twelve months.

The newly created centralized housing assistance fund helped 189 households keep or obtain housing. The fund provides an average of \$5,000 of one-time assistance to help people at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness with financial barriers to keeping or moving-into housing. The recently released California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness found that many people experiencing homelessness report that such one-time assistance could help people avoid homelessness.

Housing for Health utilized one-time local funding to support two homelessness prevention programs during the last fiscal year focused on serving households that had received COVID emergency rental assistance. Final reports on program outcomes are not yet available.

The Housing for Health Division provides funding for only a fraction of the outreach and connection services programs in the County. Most of this funding is managed by the County Health Services Agency with some contributions from the City of Santa Cruz.

Attachment 1, included at the end of this report, includes more detailed information on budgeted costs and estimated expenses for programs in the prior 12 months. Programs funded directly by HUD maintain different operating start and end dates making it difficult to compare programs during the same operational period.

#### Community Development Project Updates

As indicated in prior six-month updates, the Housing for Health Division helped secure over \$19.3M in Project Homekey funding to support the development of three new permanent supportive housing projects in the County. The three projects include 63 new units and are described briefly below.

Casa Azul (Housing Matters) – Santa Cruz – 7 new units from the conversion of a commercial to a residential building - \$2,240,000 – likely occupancy in the next 1-2 months.

Park Haven Plaza (Novin Development) – Soquel – 36 new, modular construction units for veterans, youth, and families - \$10,660,000 – likely occupancy in early 2024

Veterans Village (Vets Hall Board of Trustees) – Ben Lomond – 20 units via rehab and modular construction - \$6,425,000 – likely occupancy in early 2024

All three projects have faced challenges due to rising interest rates, material supply and labor shortages, and impacts from the winter storms in 2022. All projects continue to work closely with the California Housing and Community Development Department to ensure compliance with state requirements and expectations.

During the prior six months, the Housing for Health Division submitted two new applications with development partners for the Homekey Round 3 funding opportunity. Collaborative applicants were selected via a local Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The two projects submitted for funding include:

Rodeway Inn (Step-Up Watsonville) – Watsonville – 93 supportive housing units via hotel acquisition and rehabilitation - \$28,371,202 requested – funding award determination likely by September 2023.

Freedom House (CFSC, Inc.) – Freedom – 11 transitional housing units for youth via rehab of vacant residential property - \$3,579,400 requested – funding award determination likely by September 2023.

In addition to these Homekey projects, the Housing for Health Division worked with other partners to secure over \$18.2M in funding for additional navigation center (shelter with intensive services) capacity in the County.

In partnership with Monterey County, \$8M of Encampment Resolution Funding was secured to build and operate a new, modular construction, 34-bed navigation center in Watsonville. Once developed the site will initially serve individuals living in encampments along the Pajaro River. After the two-year period of the grant, project partners anticipate beds will focus on serving people experiencing homelessness with significant health issues.

Housing for Health also worked with the County's Behavioral Health Department to secure an award of \$10.2M in Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding. Funds will be used to build and operate a new, modular construction, 34-bed navigation center in Soquel. An additional \$2.6M of Behavioral Health Whole Person Care funding will help support the development. The new site will serve people experiencing homelessness with serious mental health or substance use challenges. Grant funding will support operations for an estimated 2-3 years.

In addition to the above projects, the Housing for Health Division is working closely with the Behavioral Health Department to support the development and operations of

close to 100 new permanent supportive housing projects over the next couple of years. The four projects are supported with California No Place Like Home funding and project-based housing subsidies from the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz. Two of the projects are in the City of Santa Cruz (Harvey West Studios and Jesse Street), one in Live Oak (Bienestar), and one in Watsonville (Tabasa Gardens). The Behavioral Health Department and contracted providers will provide supportive services at the site once completed.

### Funding Updates

Nearly 90% of services and housing programs supported by the Housing for Health Division are funded with one-time federal and state dollars. Staff must find creative ways to sustain core programs by continually applying for grant opportunities, leveraging additional funding whenever possible, and budgeting grant awards over multi-year periods to ensure staff and program continuity.

Over the past year, Housing for Health and partners increased our annual HUD CoC funding to \$6.6M/year. This money primarily funds rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing programs and is generally renewable on an annual basis. Housing for Health staff recently secured a new federal Housing Opportunities for People with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) grant of \$215K/year and state Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funding of \$680K/year.

State funding remains less consistent than the HUD CoC federal funding. In the upcoming FY 23/24, Housing for Health will likely fully utilize state funding grants secured between 2018 and 2022 putting many programs at financial risk in FY 24/25. If additional funding is not secured over the next six to nine months, some programs will need to close or reduce capacity.

In the last state budget cycle, a fifth round of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding was approved with a statewide \$1 billion budget. The billion budget continues the same budgeted amount from HHAP Round 4. This flexible state block grant program helps support ongoing operations of critical programs.

Santa Cruz County was one of the first counties in the state to have its HHAP Round 4 spending and action plan approved. Funding from Rounds 1-3 will likely be fully expended prior to the end of FY 23/24. The HHAP Round 5 funding application process will require the development of an updated local plan to address homelessness that involves gathering commitments from multiple stakeholders including the CoC, County, and cities.

Given the current funding landscape, Housing for Health staff recommend focusing on raising funds to sustain and



improve current core programs. For many programs, continued operations will require building the organizational capacity to bill for services through California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM).

Housing for Health staff will work with the Central California Alliance for Health and local stakeholders to support this capacity building effort. This will include working with the Alliance to strategically invest one-time Housing and Homeless Incentive Program (HHIP) funds.

### Six Month Plan Status Update (See Attachment 2 for Details)

The Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Framework calls on staff to develop specific goals to achieve over six-month periods. Between January and June 2023, staff identified 36 goals. Of these goals, staff completed 19, partially completed 16, and made no significant progress on one goal. Attachment 2 provides more details on these fifth cycle goals with green indicating a goal was accomplished, yellow indicating partial completion, and red indicating no significant progress.

Significant accomplishments during this period include: (1) Finalizing new coordinated entry procedures and launching the new approach; (2) Securing nearly \$20M in additional grant funding for the County; (3) Submitting two Homekey Round 3 project applications; (4) Improving HMIS data policies and training; (5) Launching a new Home Safe Adult Protective Services prevention and rehousing program; (6) Launching a new centralized housing assistance fund; (7) Executing contracts for improved SSI advocacy efforts.

Priorities for the next six-month period include: (1) Developing an updated Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Framework to meet state expectations; (2) Securing funding to sustain core programs; (3) Starting construction on two new navigation centers; (4) Supporting lease-up of new supportive housing sites; (5) Supporting construction of awarded Homekey sites; (6) Launching lived experience action groups; (7) Capacity building and securing funding through CalAIM; (8) Expanding and improving data sharing across systems.

To learn more and  
become a member of  
the Housing for Health  
Partnership

Please Visit:

[Housing for Health  
Partnership  
Membership](#)

To review Point in Time  
(PIT) counts since 2011,  
please visit:

[Data and Reports  
\(housingforhealthpartnership.org\)](#)

Attachment 1: Housing for Health Division Investments and Impacts July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 Estimates and Actuals

Agency	Program Name	Program Type	Services Geographic Scope	Total Contract (Most Recent Completed Period)	Known Expenditures (Yellow = Estimate)	# people served (duplicated count across programs)	# people exited	# with PH at end of period
Community Action Board	Housing Assistance and Home Safe Fund	Housing Assistance Fund	Countywide	\$ 2,178,922	\$ 1,890,924	375	210	189
Encompass Community Services	Youth Drop-In Center	Outreach/Connection Services	Countywide	\$ 296,903	\$ 212,993	32	23	3
WINGS Homeless Advocacy	Vital documents program	Outreach/Connection Services	Countywide	\$ 25,000	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Homeless Garden Project	Transitional Employment Program	Outreach/Connection Services	Countywide	\$ 25,000	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Abode Services	Rehousing Wave	Permanent Supportive Housing	Countywide	\$ 1,627,384	\$ 1,452,442	122	46	85
Housing Matters	Rehousing Wave	Permanent Supportive Housing	Countywide	\$ 1,658,182	\$ 898,605	101	31	76
Housing Authority of Santa Cruz County	Shelter Plus Care	Permanent Supportive Housing	Countywide	\$ 1,141,378	\$ 735,758	72	13	63
Encompass Community Services	Housing for Health 3	Permanent Supportive Housing	Countywide	\$ 90,429	\$ 76,853	15	0	15
Health Services Agency	MATCH	Permanent Supportive Housing	Countywide	\$ 1,028,918	\$ 735,024	55	9	47
Abode Services	Real Estate Partnership	Permanent Supportive Housing (Property Agents)	Countywide	\$ 385,000	\$ 297,386	28 households supported with move-ins to PH		
Housing Authority of SC County	Property Agent Incentives	Permanent Supportive Housing (Property Agents)	Countywide	\$ 350,000	\$ 168,154	84 households served, 80 with move-in incentive funds		
Community Bridges	Prevention	Prevention	Countywide	\$ 300,000	\$ 280,507	N/A	N/A	N/A
CRLA	Prevention	Prevention	Countywide	\$ 200,000	\$ 166,428	N/A	N/A	N/A
Senior Citizens Legal Services	Senior homelessness prevention	Prevention	Countywide	\$ 72,000	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community Action Board	Housing Disability Advocacy Project	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 138,000	\$ 37,723	7	7	7
Covenant House	Youth rapid rehousing	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 127,531	\$ 21,908	0	0	0
Families in Transition	CHAMP	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 2,080,274	\$ 1,572,158	105	77	47
Families in Transition	CWES Housing Program	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 414,370	\$ 401,370	167	66	41
Families in Transition	Shallow Rent-Subsidy Program	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 78,000	\$ 77,462	52	14	14
Housing Matters	Bringing Families Home	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 946,862	\$ 937,942	136	63	53
Housing Matters	CHAMP	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 808,727	\$ 539,633	141	51	72
Housing Matters	Housing Disability Advocacy Project	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 1,062,458	\$ 236,182	11	2	5
Walnut Avenue Family & Women's Center	Housing and Employment Program	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 108,871	\$ 108,871	12	3	0
Families in Transition	First-Step Scattered Site Housing	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 547,580	\$ 529,723	183	75	72
Monarch Services	DV Bonus	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 105,567	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Walnut Avenue Family & Women's Center	DV Bonus	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 264,098	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bill Wilson Center	Shared Housing for Youth	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 135,319	\$ 89,956	12	7	7
Families in Transition	Young Adults Achieving Success	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 258,971	\$ 255,156	43	19	28
Covenant House	Youth Rapid Rehousing (two grants)	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 428,036	--	0	0	0
County of Santa Cruz HSD	Rehousing Wave	Rapid Rehousing	Countywide	\$ 968,492	\$ 581,095	66	28	43
Housing Matters	Emergency Shelter - COVID	Shelter/Transitional Housing, Safe Sleeping/Parking	Countywide	\$ 800,494	\$ 799,796	22	22	10
			TTL Countywide	\$ 18,652,766				
Housing Matters	Housing Problem Solving	Outreach/Connection Services	North County	\$ 80,000	\$ 68,291	96	68	11
Association of Faith Communities	Faith Community Shelter and Safe Parking	Shelter/Transitional Housing, Safe Sleeping/Parking	North County	\$ 76,782	\$ 72,032	175	127	50
Front Street	Housing Scholarship	Rapid Rehousing	Santa Cruz	\$ 437,240	\$ 436,648	56	3	10

Notes: "N/A" = Information Not Currently Available; "--" = Financial Information Not Available

"#PH" = People helped that got or kept permanent housing

Attachment 1: Housing for Health Division Investments and Impacts July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 Estimates and Actuals

Agency	Program Name	Program Type	Services Geographic Scope	Total Contract (Most Recent Completed Period)	Known Expenditures (Yellow = Estimate)	# people served (duplicated count across programs)	# people exited	# with PH at end of period
Housing Matters	Emergency Shelter	Shelter/Transitional Housing, Safe Sleeping/Parking	Santa Cruz	\$ 2,074,131	\$ 1,747,522	189	134	30
			<b>TTL North County</b>	<b>\$ 2,668,153</b>				
Community Action Board	Housing Problem Solving	Outreach/Connection Services	South County	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	14	2	0
Community Action Board	Youth Homeless Response Team (VHRT)	Outreach/Connection Services	South County	\$ 233,725	\$ 233,725	126	12	3
Community Action Board	South County Housing Collaborative	Prevention	South County	\$ 314,550	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community Action Board	Rental Assistance Program	Prevention	South County	\$ 112,500	--	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community Action Board	TAY Housing Navigator	Rapid Rehousing	South County	\$ 161,040	\$ 161,040	31	11	3
Central Coast Center for Independent Living	HDAP Rapid Rehousing	Rapid Rehousing	South County	\$ 20,000	\$ 14,025	12	12	9
Encompass Community Services	Freedom Cottages	Permanent Supportive Housing	Freedom	\$ 15,645	\$ 9,002	3	0	3
Salvation Army	Emergency Shelter	Shelter/Transitional Housing, Safe Sleeping/Parking	Watsonville	\$ 830,000	\$ 830,000	68	44	8
Valley Inn	Emergency Hotel Voucher	Shelter/Transitional Housing, Safe Sleeping/Parking	Watsonville	\$ 100,000	\$ 55,925	35	35	0
			<b>TTL South County</b>	<b>\$ 1,877,460</b>				

Notes: "N/A" = Information Not Currently Available; "--" Financial Information Not Available

"#PH" = People helped that got or kept permanent housing

## Attachment 2: Six Month Plan Status Update January – June 2023

Between January and June 2023, the Housing for Health (H4H) Division of the Human Services Department (HDS) in partnership with other key stakeholders implemented the fifth six-month plan associated with the Board adopted Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Framework (Framework) to address homelessness. Thirty-five out of thirty-six goals articulated for this period were accomplished (19) or partially accomplished (16).

Goal and Status Color	Coalition Building	Next Steps
1. Finalize coordinated entry evaluation scope of work and execute contract for evaluation work to begin in FY 23-24.		Board of Supervisors (BOS) upcoming agenda item. If approved, begin implementation of evaluation.
2. Finalize lived experience advisory work group support contracts to launch a youth advisory group and general advisory group to begin FY 23-24		Complete revenue agreement and contracts and bring to BOS for review. Launch effort in next six months.
3. Implement 2023 Point in Time (PIT) count and submit preliminary results to HUD along with required Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) information.		Completed PIT Count and reports to HUD. Public report issued. Planning for 2024 to start in next six months.
4. Execute partnership contract with United Way/2-1-1 related to coordinated entry and housing/homelessness resource networking.		Discussions regarding partnership started. Finalize terms of partnership and obtain approvals for agreements.
5. Support at least one event with Housing Matters building on their "Community Conversations on Homelessness" CORE grant.		Discussions on collaboration on events and planned lived experience groups took place. Goal to have at least one event in next six months.
6. When available apply for HUD HOME ARP funding from California Housing and Community Development; work with County Behavioral Health to apply for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding; partner with Monterey County and the City of Watsonville to apply for Encampment Resolution Funds; submit at least two Homekey Round 3 funding applications.		HOME ARP fund RFP estimated release date in December 2023. Applied for and received award letter for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding (\$10.2M). Supported Monterey County Encampment Resolution Funding application and Monterey received an award (\$8M). Homekey applications for Rodeway Inn (\$28,371,202 on 6/1/23) and Freedom House (\$3,579,400 on 5/26/23) submitted.
7. Execute Housing for Health vendor pool contracts totaling an estimated \$500K in FY 22-23.		BOS approved vendor pool approach on 6/27/23. First planned use of vendor pool for street outreach in unincorporated areas of the County.
8. Seek CoC adoption of Housing for Health Partnership coordinated entry policies and procedures; pending approval, launch implementation of new coordinated entry approach.		New coordinated entry procedures adopted, and implementation phase started.
9. Revise DRAFT CoC emergency shelter standards document for Policy Board review and approval.		DRAFT shelter standards presented to CoC Board. Modifications requested and in process. Next version to present in October 2023 CoC Board meeting.
10. Execute data sharing and HHIP partnership agreements with the Central California Alliance for Health and begin implementation of activities outlined in agreements.		Updated agreement with the Alliance executed. Data shared with Alliance.
11. Conduct Housing for Health Partnership organizational outreach to establish new HMIS and coordinated entry organizational partnership agreements and to identify formal CoC organizational partners to be identified on the CoC public website.		Organizational outreach efforts started and ongoing. Organizational members listed on Housing for Health Partnership website. New HMIS policies adopted and implemented to support increased data sharing and higher data quality over time.

Coalition Building (cont.)	
Goal and Status Color	Next Steps
12. Participate in a county, cross-department data sharing governance workgroup to prepare for California Data Sharing Framework implementation at the county level.	Participated in universal Authorization to Share Medi-Cal Information (ASCM) pilot with the California Department of Health Care Services. Part of County data sharing working planning conversations.
13. Complete hiring process for vacant Housing for Health Division positions.	Filled four positions – senior human services analyst, housing for health manager (community development), 2 FTE program coordinators. Current openings departmental communications officer, social worker II, admin aide in process of filling.
14. Meet with Health Improvement Partnership and Workforce Development Board leadership to discuss ways to enhance employee recruitment and retention efforts.	Participated in meetings with key workgroups to explore approaches to enhancing recruitment and retention efforts. Plan to offer internship opportunities in Housing for Health over next six months. Supporting expansion of internship and training opportunities for youth at-risk of our currently experiencing homelessness.
15. Expand strength-based care management practices with at least two additional teams and increase practice fidelity over time.	Strength-based training and coaching started with three additional programs and continued with prior three programs.
16. Explore viability and tradeoffs of a HUD urban county consolidation effort with local jurisdictional leadership.	Discussed possibility of HUD urban county consolidation with consultant and local jurisdictions. Local city jurisdictions not currently expressing strong interest in opportunity. Follow-up with consultant for further analysis over next six months to determine viability.

**Attachment 2: Six Month Plan Status Update**  
January – June 2023

Prevention	
Goal and Status Color	Next Steps
1. Continue homelessness prevention work with contractors through end of fiscal year and document outcomes associated with effort.	Continued support of contracted programs. Final program report submissions pending.
2. Launch new Home Safe collaborative effort to support Adult Protective Services (APS) clients with housing issues.	New social worker hired, and Home Safe housing fund started.
3. Provide H4H support to CORE funded South County Housing Collaborative.	Support for this effort not provided in prior six months. Follow-up needed in next six months.
4. Formally launch centralized one-time housing financial assistance effort.	Program launched. Information available on Housing for Health Partnership website.
Increase Connections	
Goal and Status Color	Next Steps
1. Continue Encampment Resolution Housing Pathways program and document impacts.	Continued program implementation and worked to ensure state expenditure requirements met.
2. Establish contract for new unincorporated county street outreach program that utilizes HMIS street outreach module and partners with the Sheriff's community policing unit.	Housing for Health vendor pool approved June 27, 2023. New contract to be established in next six months.
3. Launch Housing for Health Connector learning collaborative with goal of at least 15 regular participants.	Learning collaborative launched with more than 15 participants.
4. Launch use of SSI advocacy database.	Database procured. Setup in process. Begin use in next six months.
5. Launch SSI advocacy legal assistance contracted program.	Vendor selected (Senior Legal Services) and contract executed. Services to begin in next six months.
6. Develop plans for expanding recuperative care and short-term post hospitalization housing capacity in the County in partnership with the Alliance.	Participated in planning with Housing Matters, Homeless Persons Health Project, and Central California Alliance for Health. Temporary expanded program started at hotel site with some Housing for Health financial support.
7. Support City of Santa Cruz with finalizing recommendations for Coral Street campus neighborhood development recommendations.	Participated in Coral Street design process and offered recommendations to City staff.
8. Support development of a new, low-barrier shelter program in Watsonville and support Encampment Resolution Grant funding proposal to support launch of new program.	Supported application submission for new program in Watsonville. Monterey County received \$8M award. Development of site to begin in next six months.
9. Support submission of a Homekey Round 3 application for a transitional housing program for youth experiencing homelessness.	Homekey application for Freedom House (\$3,579,400 on 5/26/23) submitted. Anticipate funding award decision by September 2023.

**Attachment 2: Six Month Plan Status Update**  
January – June 2023

<b>Expand Permanent Housing</b>	
<b>Goal and Status Color</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
1. Conduct a property agent appreciation event in collaboration with the Housing Authority.	Still planning for event to take place in next six months. Donations from Santa Cruz Warriors obtained for event.
2. Release local RFP to select Homekey application partners and commit local HHAP funding to applicant projects.	Completed. Two co-applicants selected and Homekey applications submitted.
3. Continue tracking and reporting on RHNA goals and pro-housing designation status of local jurisdictions.	Information shared via newsletter and on Housing for Health partnership website. Supported info sharing on local planning efforts for next RHNA cycle.
4. Continue to support three Project Homekey sites with meeting development milestones and opening sites for tenants as soon as possible.	Support for three awarded projects continued. Casa Azul to be occupied in next six-month period. Continue support for Vets Village and Park Haven Plaza.
5. Assist Covenant House with launching a youth rapid rehousing program in the County.	HUD contracts transferred to Covenant House. Start-up funding contract provided. Next steps to enroll first participants.
6. Prepare and submit Homekey Round 3 funding applications.	Homekey applications for Rodeway Inn (\$28,371,202 on 6/1/23) and Freedom House (\$3,579,400 on 5/26/23) submitted.
7. Work with community-based service providers to help clients experiencing homelessness increase their overall incomes to increase housing affordability and track progress within HMIS.	Made improvements to HMIS data reports to track income changes over time. Continued support for providers needed.

Housing for Health Division staff have identified the following key elements for inclusion in the final six-month implementation plan.

<b>Six-Month Plan Goals (July – December 2023)</b>	
<b>Coalition Building</b>	
<b>Goals</b>	
1.	Prepare an updated local plan to address homelessness that meets California Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 funding requirements.
2.	Start coordinated entry evaluation process with Applied Survey Research.
3.	Finalize contracts to support the creation and launch of lived experience action groups, with one group for youth.
4.	Complete preparations for the January 2024 PIT Count of persons experiencing homelessness.
5.	Create housing and homelessness data dashboards for posting on the Housing for Health Partnership website.
6.	Execute Housing for Health Connector/Coordinated Entry contract with United Way/2-1-1.
7.	Attend and support at least one Housing Matters lived experience speakers' event.
8.	Prepare and submit application for HUD HOME ARP funding in December 2023.
9.	Finalize and obtain CoC Policy Board approval of shelter and navigation center standards.
10.	Expand the number of executed Housing for Health Connector MOUs to greater than six to expand coordinated entry capacity throughout the County.
11.	Support the Human Services Department transition to a HIPAA hybrid-covered entity to improve data sharing and communication across systems and programs.
12.	Fill three Housing for Health Division vacant positions.
13.	Prepare a final written recommendation regarding the opportunity to pursue a HUD urban county designation for CDBG and other HUD funds.
14.	Expand the number of organizational sponsors of the Housing for Health Partnership to 15 or more.
15.	Update the CoC governance charter to reflect expanded participation of people with lived experience of homelessness.
16.	Finalize revenue contract with the Central California Alliance for Health.
17.	Recruit, select, and elect new members to the Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board (CoC).
<b>Prevention</b>	
<b>Goals</b>	
1.	Execute a homelessness/eviction prevention legal assistance contract with Tenant Sanctuary and document the impact of access to counsel for those facing eviction.
2.	Develop a proposed approach in HMIS to track prevention programs and outcomes.
3.	Participate in at least one South County Housing Collaborative meeting to identify ways to support this CORE-funded collaborative.
4.	Help at least 10 Home Safe Adult Protective Services clients retain or return to housing.
5.	Develop a method for tracking homelessness prevention housing assistance funding and services to Hispanic/Latino(a), Black, and Native American households and work to improve outcomes for these groups over time.



**Attachment 2: Six Month Plan Status Update**  
**January – June 2023**

<b>Increase Connections</b>
<b>Goals</b>
1. Execute Housing for Health vendor pool contract for outreach in unincorporated areas of the County.
2. Expand the number of Housing for Health connectors to more than 15 people.
3. Launch the SSI advocacy database with Senior Legal Services.
4. Enroll at least 10 individuals in Senior Legal Services for SSI advocacy services.
5. Finalize coordinated entry threshold values for referrals to specific program types.
6. Develop a draft plan to incorporate health risk factor data into the coordinated entry process.
7. Begin site construction work for the Watsonville navigation center in partnership with Monterey County.
8. Begin site construction work for the Soquel navigation center in partnership with County Behavioral Health.
9. Develop a proposed inclement weather shelter standards document in partnership with the City of Santa Cruz, and other interested jurisdictions.
10. Setup at least one meeting with Monterey Bay Economic Partnership (MBEP) to explore the possibility of a regional affordable housing web-based information and application portal.
<b>Expand Permanent Housing</b>
<b>Goals</b>
1. Execute MOU with the Housing Authority for 41 Stability Vouchers for people experiencing homelessness.
2. Conduct a property agent (owner/manager) appreciation event in partnership with the Housing Authority.
3. Support Covenant House to enroll at least 10 youth in their new rapid rehousing program.
4. Conduct at least one Housing for Health Connector workshop in partnership with the Workforce Development Board to introduce Connectors to employment and educational opportunities for participants.
5. Support lease-up of Bienestar's 15 supportive housing units.
6. Support lease-up of Casa Azul's 7 supportive housing units.
7. Support Veterans Village with securing construction financing and starting construction at their site.
8. Develop and finalize a supportive housing MOU to meet funder and Housing Authority agreement requirements.
9. Support contract execution and implementation of new Homekey Round 3 awards if obtained.