

Homelessness and Homeless Services in Contra Costa County



Contra Costa County Homeless Services Department
CCICH
September 12, 2014

Landscape of Homelessness

Fiscal year 2012-2013



8,252 individual consumers

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7,791 households



- 30% were newly homeless
- 37% were children or transition age youth
- 10% are veterans

27% of homeless households are families

Important Characteristics:

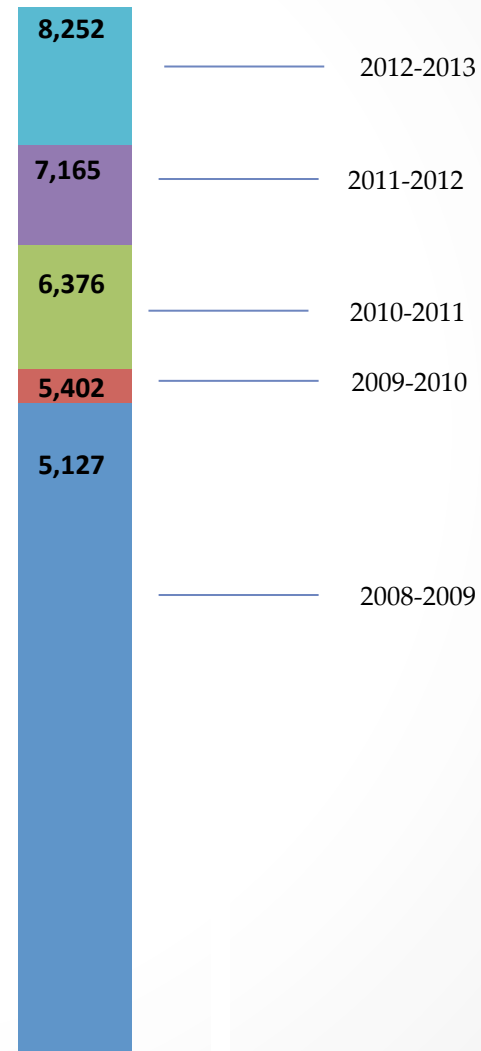
- 37% are chronically homeless
- 32% have a medical/health condition
- 18% have alcohol abuse issues
- 20% have drug abuse issues

**1/4 of the homeless population
has a mental health disability**

Total Served Over Time

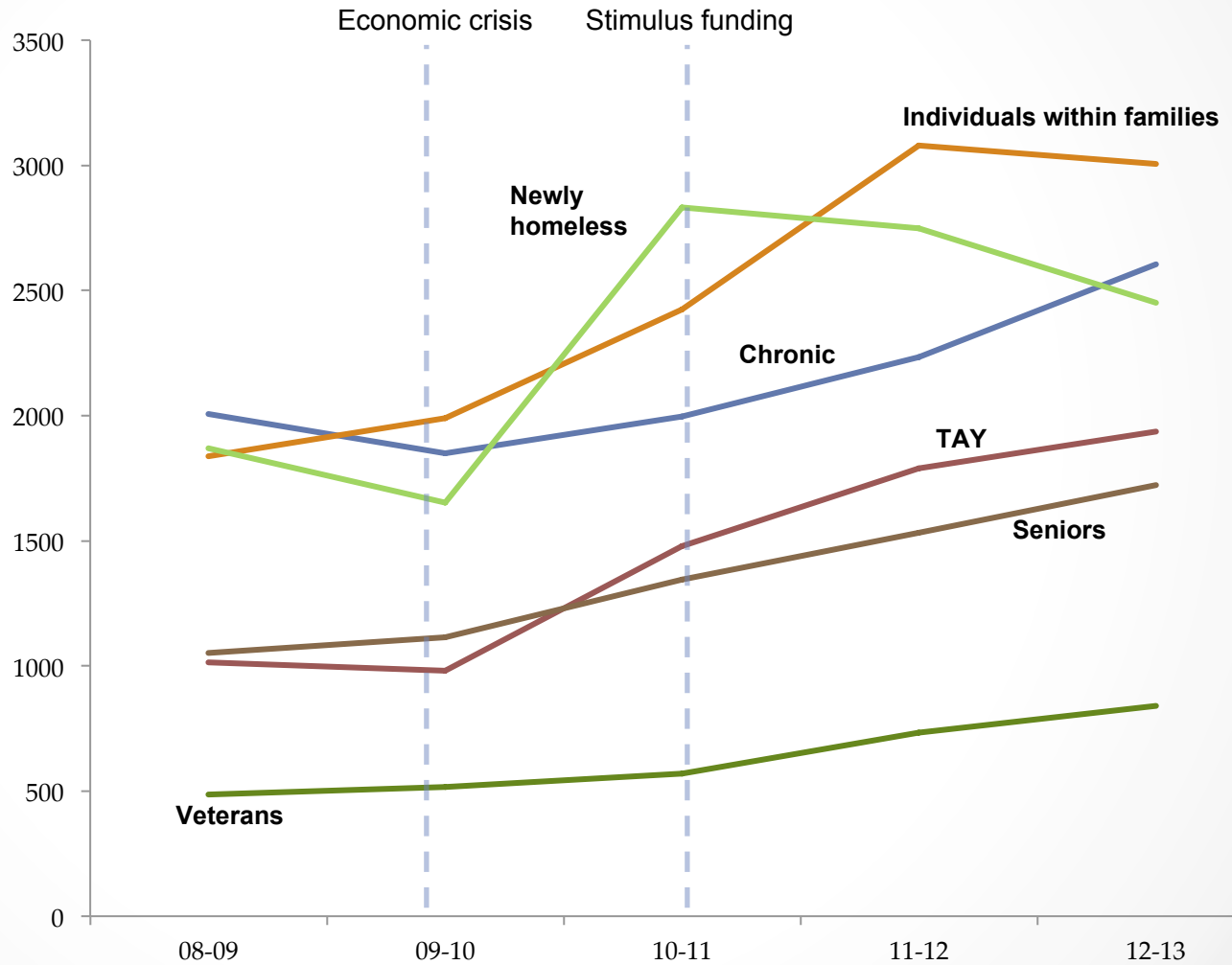
The number of individuals and families served by the Continuum of Care increases each year.

- Need continues to grow
- Additional providers contributing data



Sub-populations Served Over Time

While total numbers rose, there were varying shifts in the sub-populations served



What We Know About our Population

Many youth in the system

- More Transitional Age Youth served over time
- Families unable to support TAY

Mental health and substance use affects a significant portion of the population

Number of newly homeless and families decreasing over time

- Reflects efforts in prevention and rapid re-housing with stimulus funds
- Signs of economic recovery

Migration of encampments from west to east county

- Strategies to support homeless population vary from city to city

AND...

Still a shortage of shelter beds and permanent housing

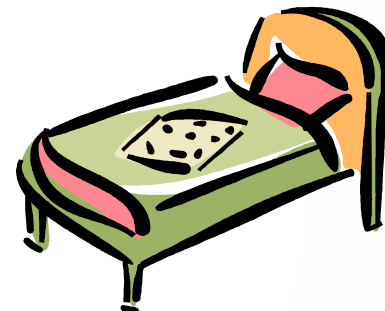
- Housing remains unaffordable for low and extremely low income households

What we know about our capacity

On any given night, there are nearly 4,000 individuals homeless in Contra Costa.

Current Housing Inventory

- 410 Emergency Shelter Beds
- 648 Transitional Housing beds
- 867 Permanent Supportive Housing Units



The important thing is that when you come to understand something you act on it, no matter how small the act is. Eventually it will take you where you need to go.

-Sister Helen Prejean

Solutions to Homelessness



Definitions

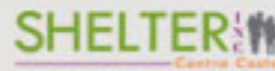
Prevention:

- Focuses on keeping people in their homes
- Appropriate for those who need just a “little” help for a short period of time
- Help through rental assistance, case management support, employment resources, etc.

Permanent Housing:

- Rapid Re-housing – for individuals and families that have just entered homelessness
- Permanent housing –affordable housing that may come with rental subsidies and long-term support services

CONTRA COSTA CONTINUUM OF CARE



CoC Services and Housing

- Outreach and Engagement Services – outreach teams, multi-service centers
- Employment Programs
- Short-term Housing (shelters)
- Intermediate Housing – Transitional Housing Programs (especially targeting victims of domestic violence, transition-age youth, and persons re-entering the community from drug treatment programs or jail/prison)
- Permanent Supportive Housing

Framework

Housing First

- Reduce barriers to housing
- Ensuring the appropriate supports are there to maintain housing

Expanded network of partners and resources

Coordinated Assessment

- Provide the right service, to the right people, at the right time
- Common assessment tool

Data-driven and evidence-based strategies



Aligning with the Framework

- Strategic Plan update
- Coordinated Assessment Model pilot
- Coordinated Assessment Housing Placement Boot Camp (100k Homes)
- Establishing performance targets and capturing cost-savings

What We Need

Broader community engagement and sustained action:

- Faith-based community
- Local, state, fed government
 - Elected officials
 - Law enforcement
- Affordable housing developers/housing providers
- Hospitals

Unmet Shelter/Housing Needs:

- 187 Emergency Shelter beds/units
- 21 Transitional Shelter beds/units
- 678 Permanent Supportive Housing units (538 single adult beds and 148 units for families)

What Will it Cost?

678 Permanent Supportive Housing Units

Total \$12,800,504/yr

- \$21,472/yr x 250 units for chronically homeless individuals/families
- \$17,368/yr x 428 remaining units

It can be done.

Need to Contact Us?

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