REDUCING & PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Consuelo Hernandez: Director, County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing

Topics

- State of Homelessness in Santa Clara County
- How do people experiencing homelessness get housed in Santa Clara County?
- What efforts are being made?
- How have you helped? (Measure A: 2016 Affordable Housing Bond)
- 2020 Community Plan to End Homelessness
- Questions?

State of Homelessness in Santa Clara County

Root Causes of Homelessness

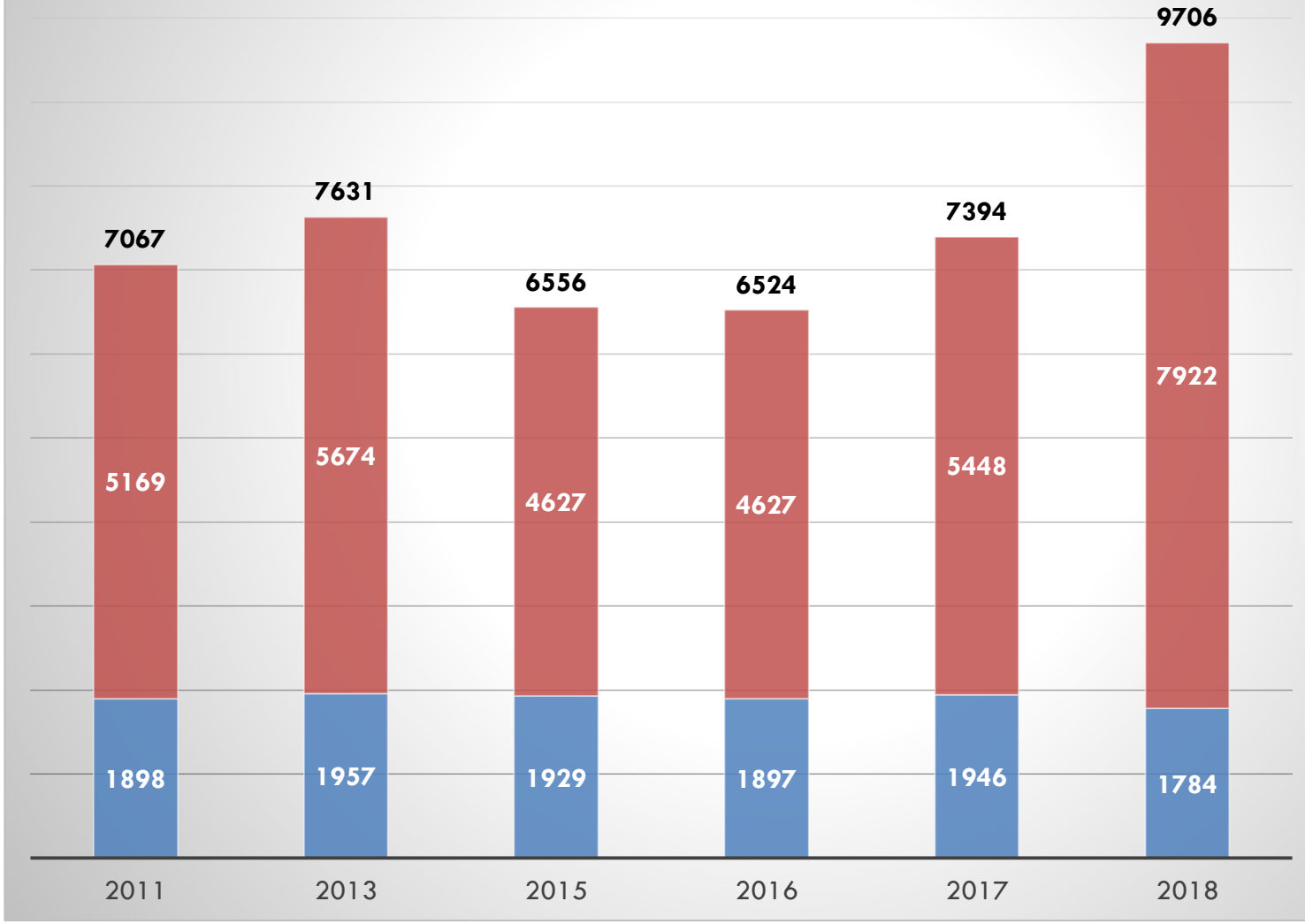
"The increase in homelessness is the result of a convergence of three key factors: the loss of affordable housing and foreclosures; wages and public assistance that have not kept pace with the cost of living, rising housing costs, job loss and underemployment, and resulting debt; and the closing of state psychiatric institutions without the concomitant creation of community based housing and services."

- Page 10, 2010 Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness

By the numbers: California and Santa Clara County

Sources:
HUD's 2019 Annual Homeless Assessment Report
*Santa Clara County Homeless Census & Survey Comprehensive Report

History of Santa Clara County Point-in-Time Counts



2019 Homeless Census & Survey

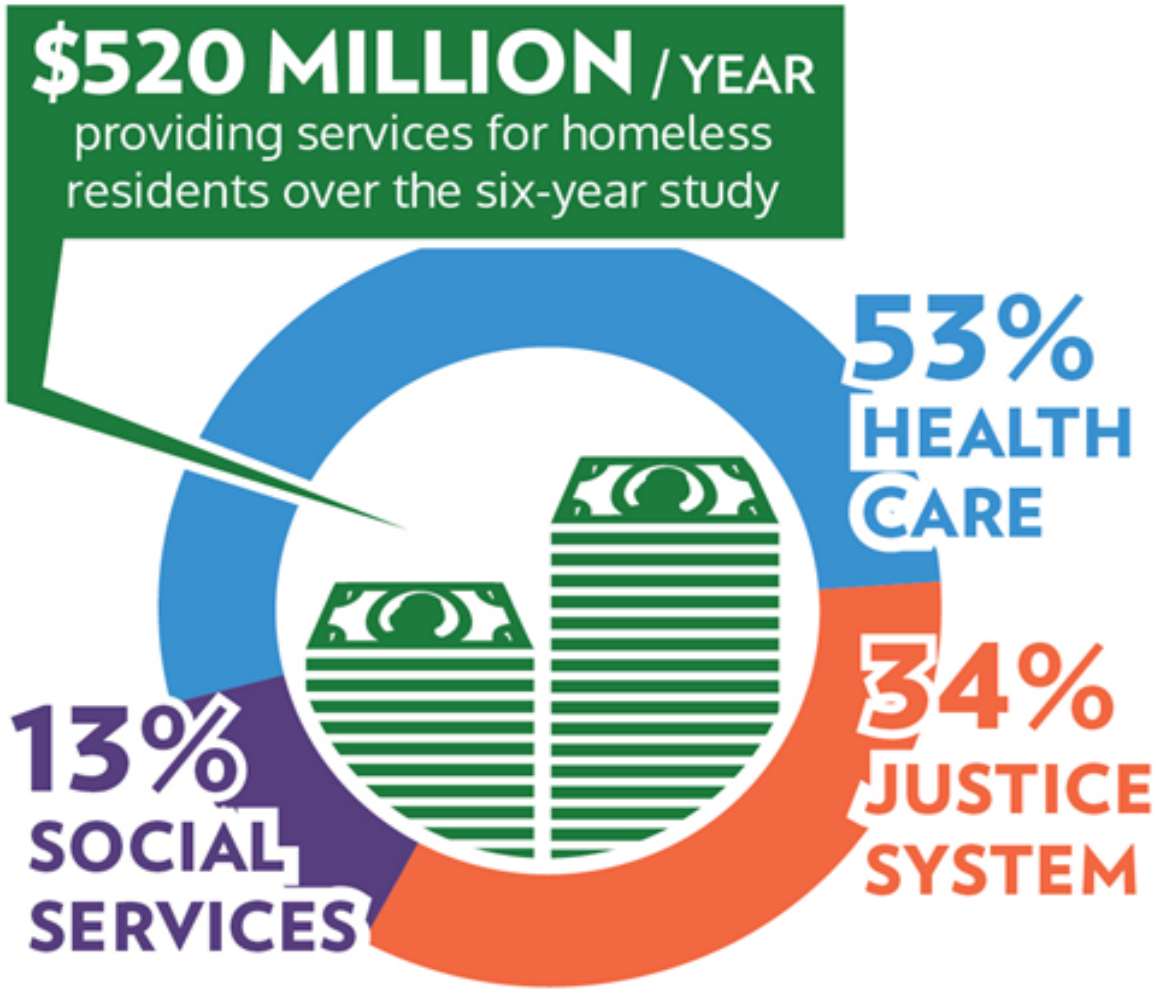
- 81% were SCC residents at time of housing loss
- 19% are Black/African American
- 28% are ages 51 to 60; 12% ages 61+
- 13% LGBTQ
- 27% of survey respondents experienced domestic violence in their lifetime; 6% of survey correspondents reported *currently* experiencing domestic violence
- 42% of unaccompanied minors and transition age youth had been in the foster care system

HOMELESS POPULATION BY JURISDICTION AND SHELTER STATUS

JURISDICTION	UNSHELTERED		SHELTERED		TOTAL		'17-'19 % CHANGE
	2017	2019	2017	2019	2017	2019	
Total Incorporated	5,259	7,652	1,775	1,594	7,034	9,246	31%
City of Campbell	94	74	0	0	94	74	-21%
City of Cupertino	127	159	0	0	127	159	25%
City of Gilroy	295	345	427	359	722	704	-2%
City of Los Altos	6	76	0	0	6	76	*
City of Los Altos Hills	0	2	0	0	0	2	*
Town of Los Gatos	52	16	0	0	52	16	*
City of Milpitas	66	125	0	0	66	125	89%
City of Monte Sereno	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
City of Morgan Hill	388	114	0	0	388	114	-71%
City of Mountain View	411	574	5	32	416	606	46%
City of Palo Alto	256	299	20	14	276	313	13%
City of San José	3,231	5,117	1,119	980	4,350	6,097	41%
City of Santa Clara	199	264	73	62	272	326	20%
City of Saratoga	12	10	0	0	12	10	*
City of Sunnyvale	122	477	131	147	253	624	147%
Total Unincorporated	189	270	113	89	302	359	19%
Confidential Locations	NA	NA	58	101	58	101	74%
Total	**5,448**	**7,922**	**1,946**	**1,784**	**7,394**	**9,706**	**31%**

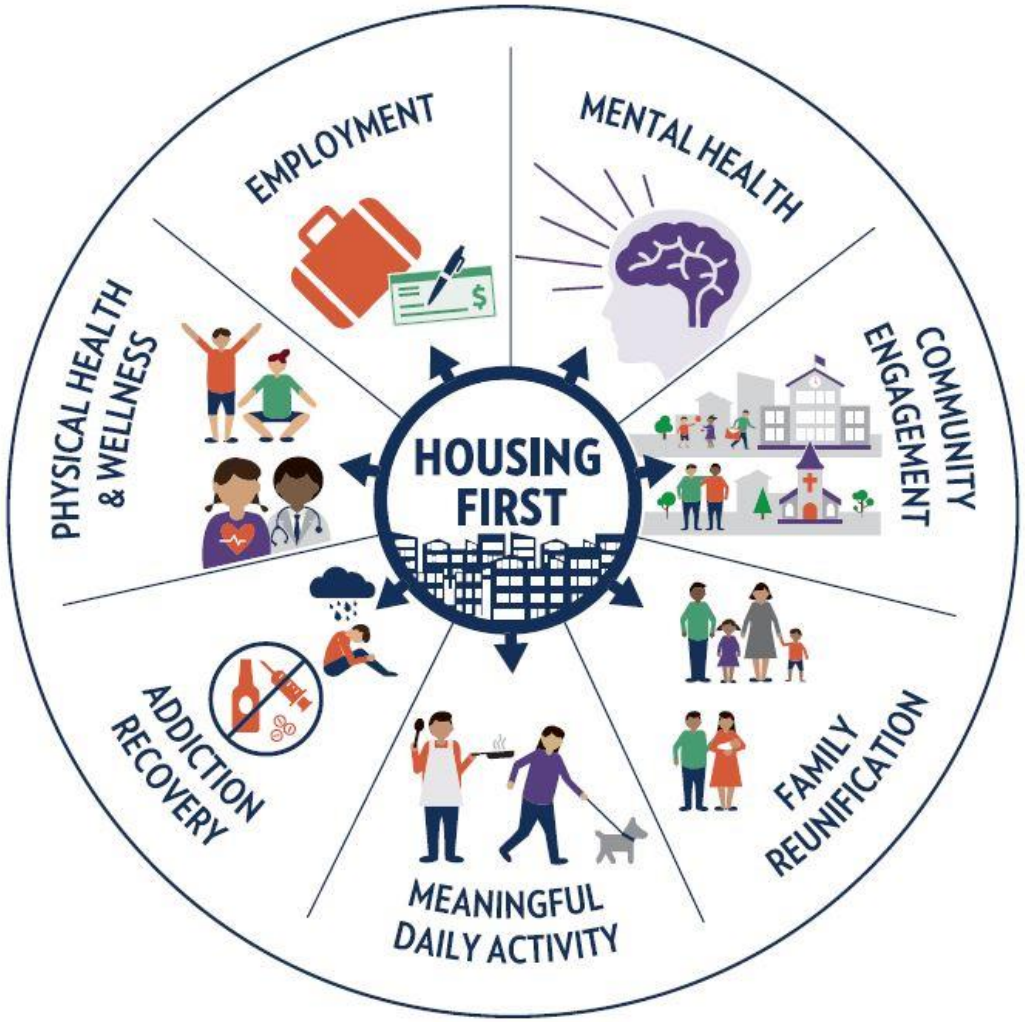
**Note: Percentage change was not calculated for rows with less than 50 individuals.*

Home Not Found: Cost of Homelessness in Silicon Valley



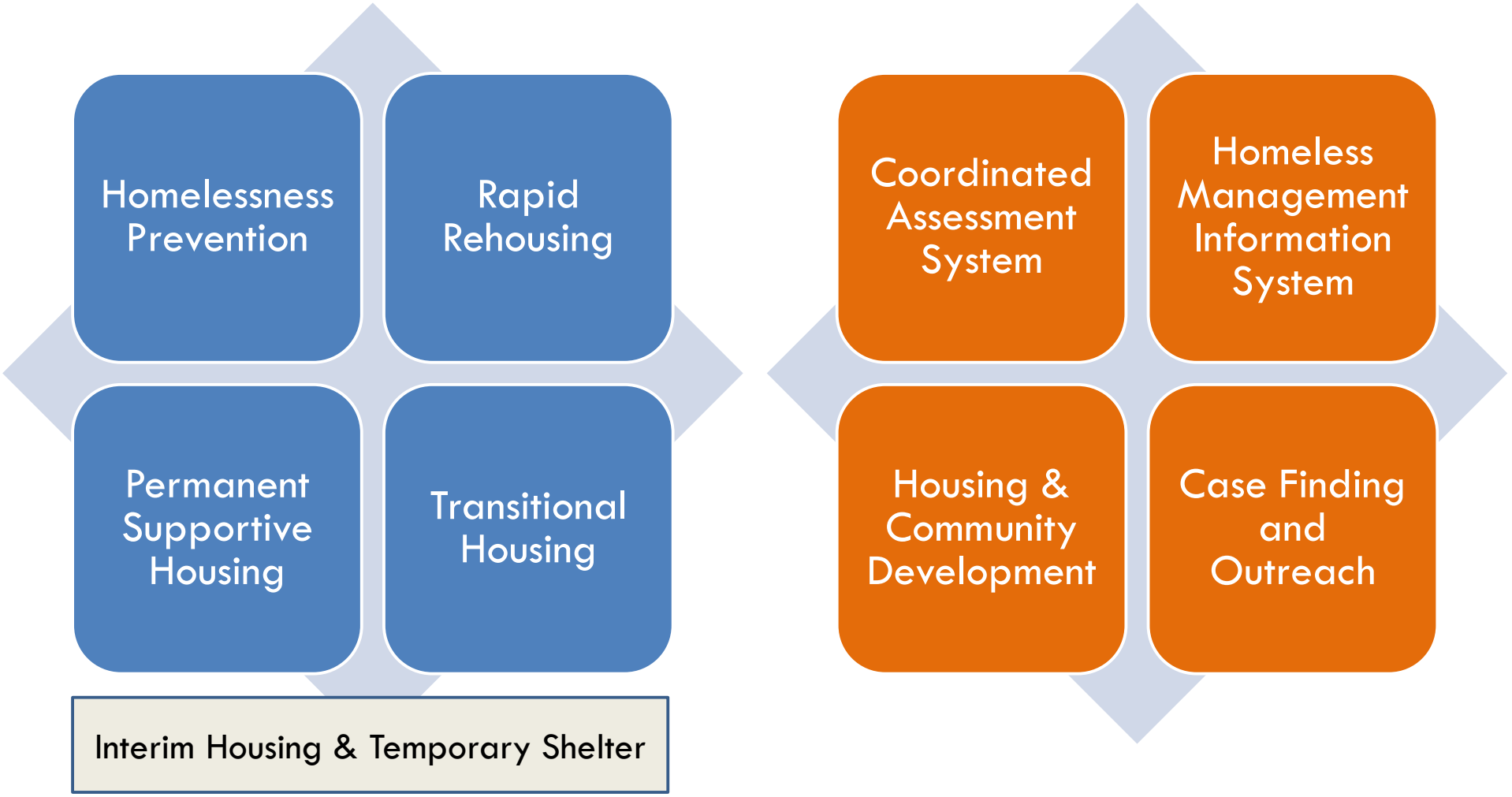
How is the community helping people get housed?

Housing First - The solution to homelessness is housing!

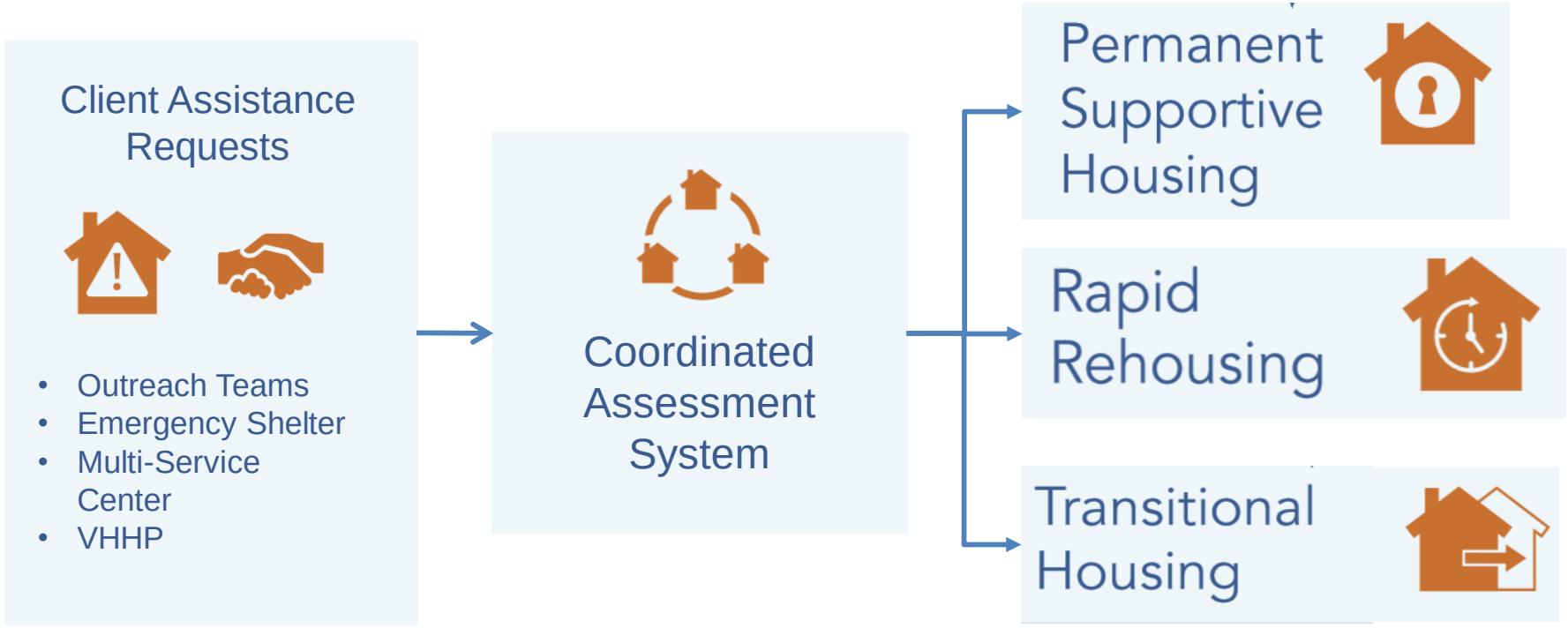


- The County follows a Housing First approach (not housing only)
- The goal? To quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry
- Examples of preconditions: Sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements
- Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry

Supportive Housing System



Supportive Housing System



Rapid Rehousing

Target Population

- Episodically homeless
- Able to generate sufficient income to afford housing in the long-term

Supportive Services

- Shallow and/or declining rent subsidy
- Other temporary financial assistance
- Time-limited case management
- Housing support

Permanent Supportive Housing

Target Population

- Chronically homeless
- High acuity, high cost
- Disabling conditions

Supportive Services

- Rental Subsidy
- Intensive Case Management
- Health care, including behavioral health
- Streamlined benefits access

Transitional Housing

Target Population

- Transition Aged Youth (16-24)
- Domestic Violence survivors
- Those in recovery from substance use disorders who desire more intensive support to achieve recovery goals

Supportive Services

- Temporary rent subsidy
- Case management and/or counseling for the duration of program participation
- Various other employment, life skills supports

Homelessness Prevention

HOMELESSNESS
PREVENTION
JULY 1, 2017 – DEC. 31, 2019

DESTINATION: HOME

GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY:

CISCO
the David & Lucile Packard FOUNDATION
Google.org
Jody and Curtis Chang
KAISER PERMANENTE
LinkedIn
CITY OF MORGAN HILL
CITY OF SAN JOSE CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY
Stanford HEALTH CARE STANFORD MEDICINE
SILVERLAKE
sunlight giving
techCU TECHNOLOGY CREDIT UNION
Thomas & Liz Laffont

Homelessness Prevention

95% of families have remained stably housed while receiving prevention services

$4,106
Average amount of assistance per family

One year after leaving the program, only **8%** of households became homeless.

64% of families received financial aid within 72 hours of application

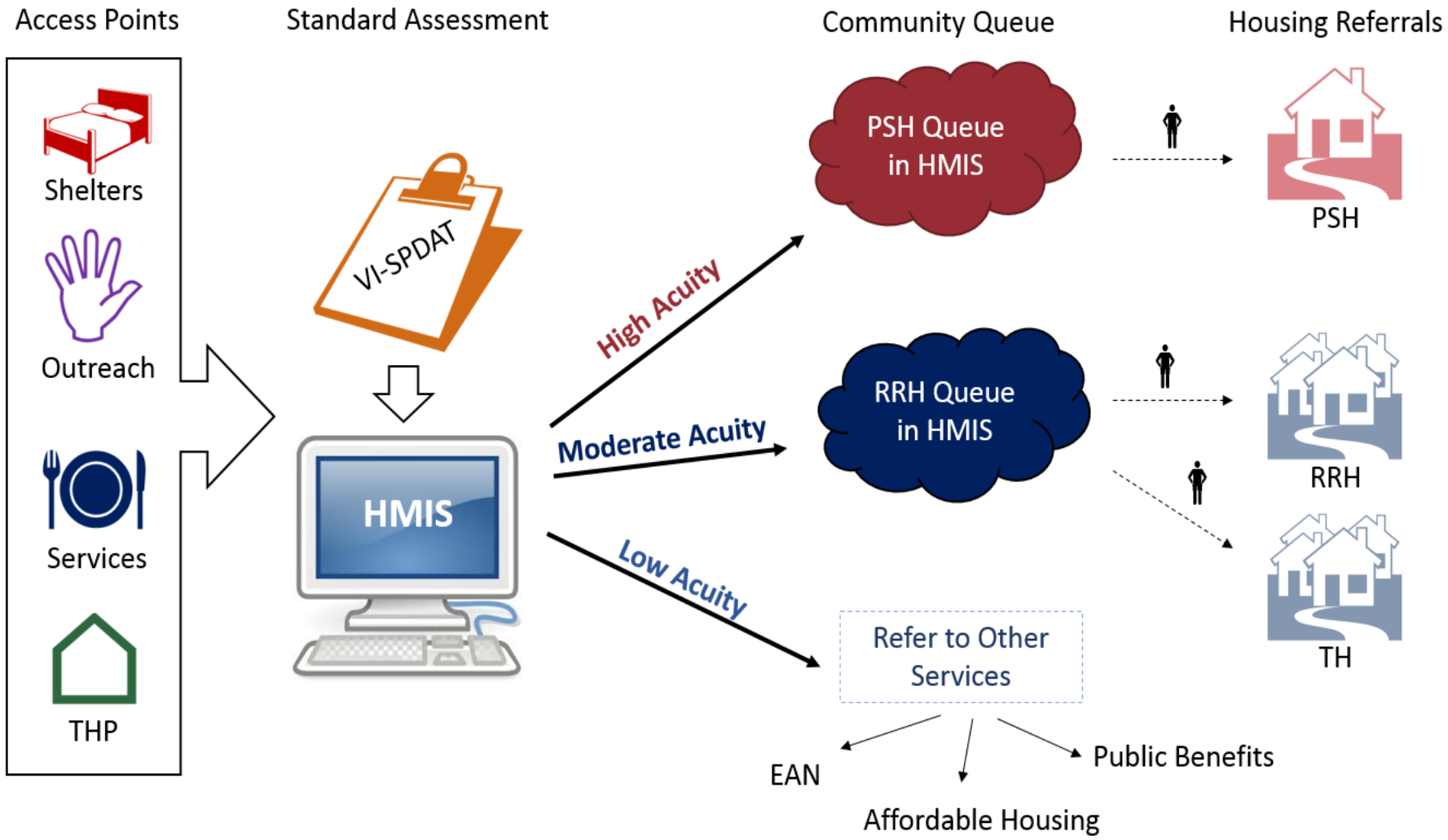
We have helped 3,957 individuals from 1,338 households at imminent risk of homelessness

Homelessness Prevention and COVID-19 Response

	Homelessness Prevention System (Mar. 1 - Dec. 31)	COVID-19 Financial Assistance Program: Phase 1 (Mar. 23 - June 30)	COVID-19 Financial Assistance Program: Phase 2 (May 22 - Sep. 30)	COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Prevention Program (Oct 1 - Dec. 30)
Assistance Disbursed	$3.5 Million	$11.1 Million	$9.2 Million	Appx $7.7 Million
Households Served	1,156 Households	4,043 Households	7,847 Households	1,018 Households
Eligibility	Low-Income residents (<80% AMI) at a high risk of becoming homeless (>8 score on Prevention VI-SPDAT)	Low-Income residents (<80% AMI) who lost income as the result of a COVID-19 impact	Extremely Low-Income residents (<30% AMI) with a COVID-19 impact & who are ineligible to receive unemployment benefits or stimulus checks.	Extremely Low Income residents (<30% AMI) with a COVID-19 impact; priority for those who have not received unemployment benefits
Payment Amount	Amount varies by need. Average of ~$3,000 per household *Amount of assistance based on individual household's need*	$2600 flat payment per household. Additional gift cards provided to families with children	$1000/$2000 flat payment per household *Amount based on # of eligible adults in the household*	Amount varies by need. Average of ~$7500 per household *Rental Assistance: based on back rent through Aug. 30 and ability to pay Sep-Jan rent. Direct Assistance: Base amount of $1000/household + $500 for every add'l HH member*

How do people get into the system?

Coordinated Assessment System



Permanent Supportive Housing

Score of 9+ for Families w/Children

Score of 8+ for Individuals

Rapid Rehousing

Score of 4-8 for Families w/Children

Score of 4-7 for Individuals

Minimal Intervention

Score of 0-3

The "Perfect" System

- Everyone is assessed for necessary housing services
- Completely reliable assessment tool to determine the appropriate housing interventions that are needed for each household
- All agree on how scarce housing resources are prioritized
- All programs only take referrals from the countywide system
- All programs adhere to common performance measures and record all information in a common data system
- We have consistent access to administrative data to support the assessment tools and to report on the impact of housing programs on safety-net systems

How you have helped people get housed

YES ON A

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS IS MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Veranda, Cupertino

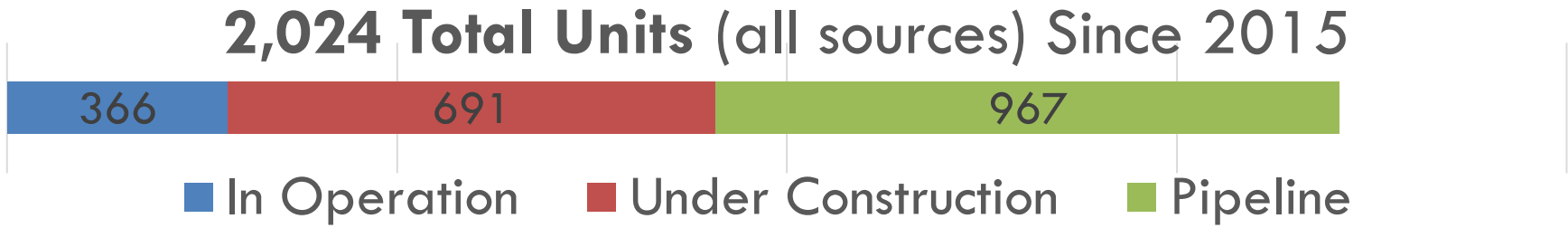
- First Housing Bond funded development
- Opened May 2019
- 19 units for seniors
  - 6 as Permanent Supportive Housing
  - 6 for Extremely-Low Income Households

19160
FIRE LANE - NO PARKING

Housing Bond Goals and Progress

Unit / Affordability Type	Total Units	Unit Goals	% of Goal Met
Permanent Supportive Housing	1,352	1,800	75%
Rapid Rehousing	81	1,600	5%
Affordable to ELI Households	330	800	41%
Affordable to VLI Households	419	600	70%
Totals	2,182	4,800	45%

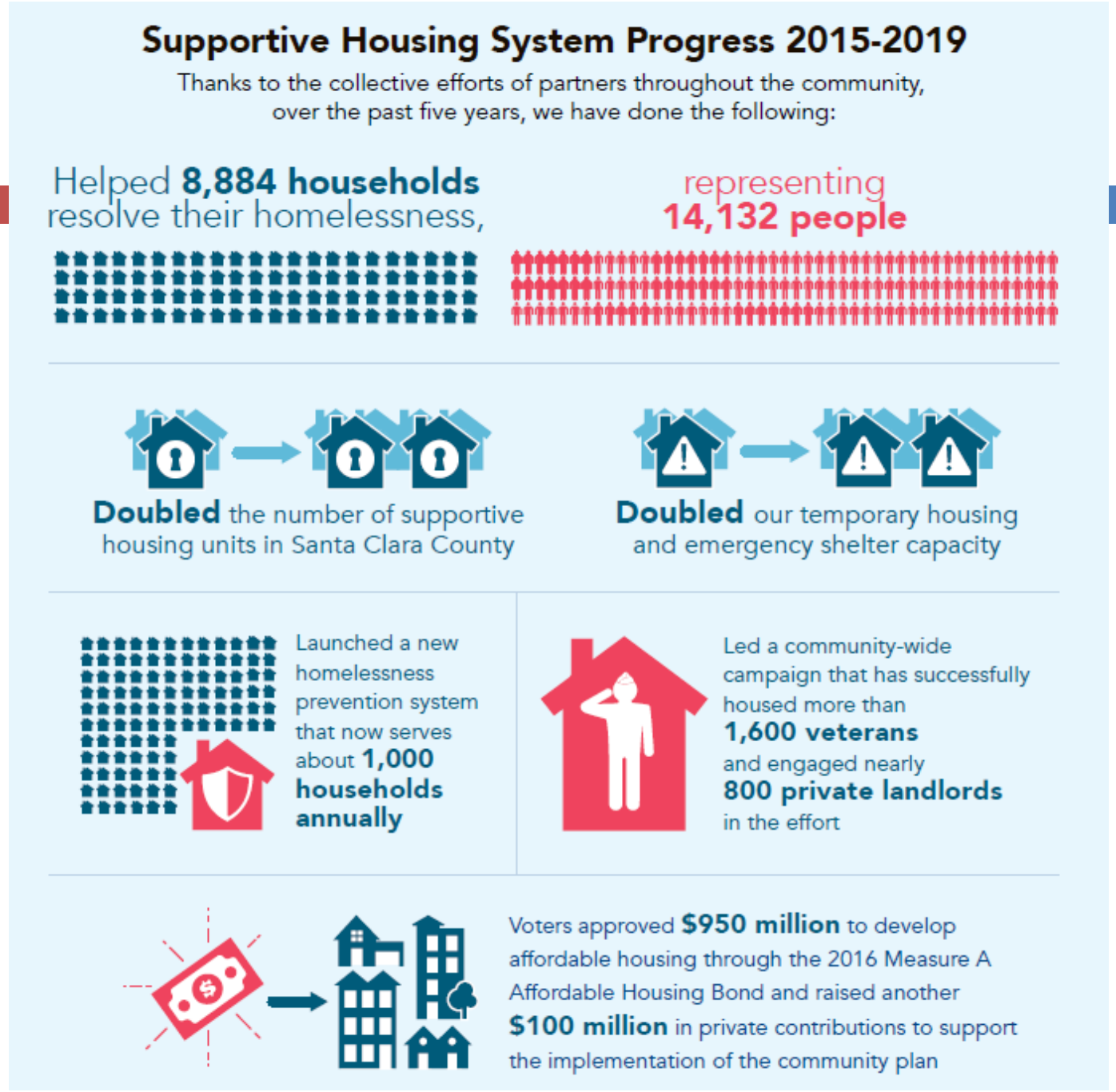
Total Supportive Housing Production



- Includes 1,433 units through the housing bond
- Pre-2016 Measure A & Non-Measure A, examples
  - Eagle Park (Mtn. View), Edwina Benner (Sunnyvale)
  - Orchard Ranch (Morgan Hill), Laurel Grove (San Jose)
  - Second Street Studios & Renascent Place (San Jose)

VILLAS ON THE PARK
290

Five-Year Community Plan to End Homelessness

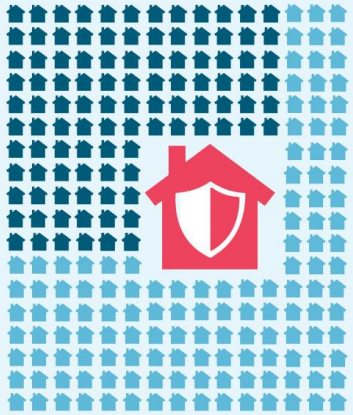


PREVIOUS PLAN PROGRESS TO DATE

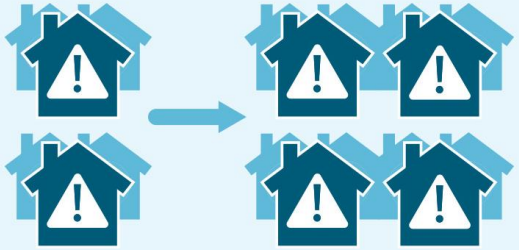
By 2025, we will:

Achieve a **30% reduction** in annual inflow of people becoming homeless*

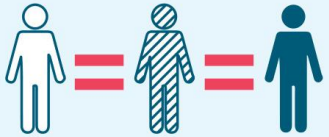
House **20,000 people** through the supportive housing system



Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve **2,500 people per year**



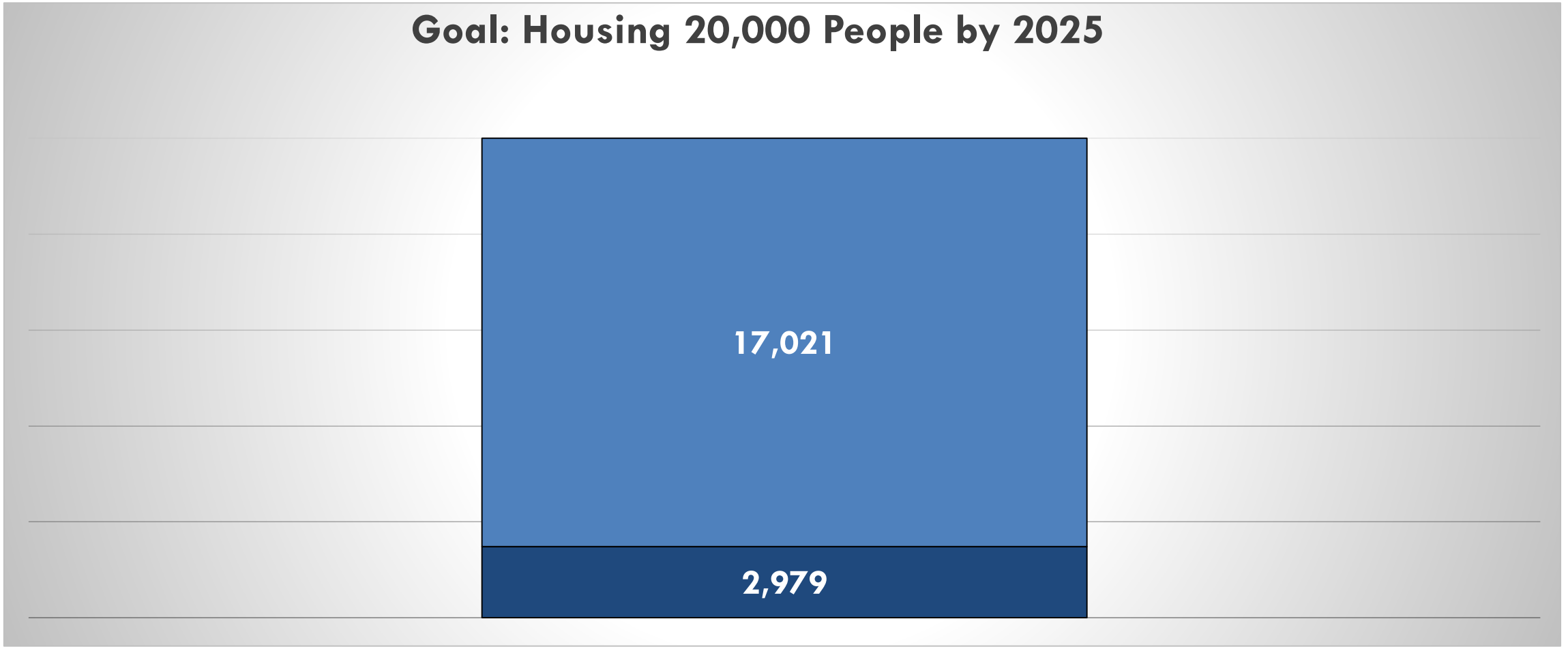
Double temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside



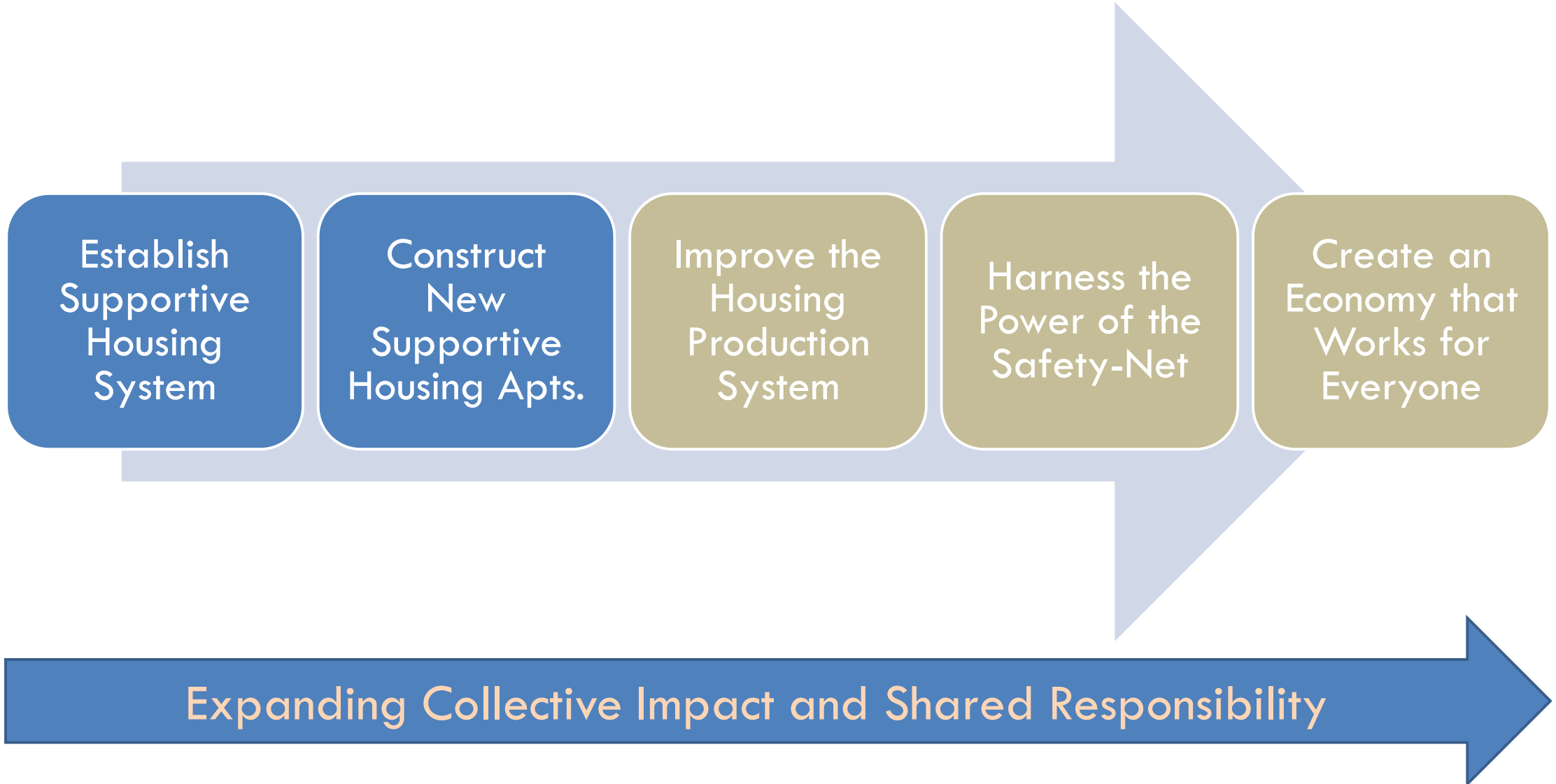
Address the **racial inequities present** among unhoused people and families and track progress toward reducing disparities

AGGRESSIVE TARGETS

Progress To Date



It's Not a Program It's a Movement

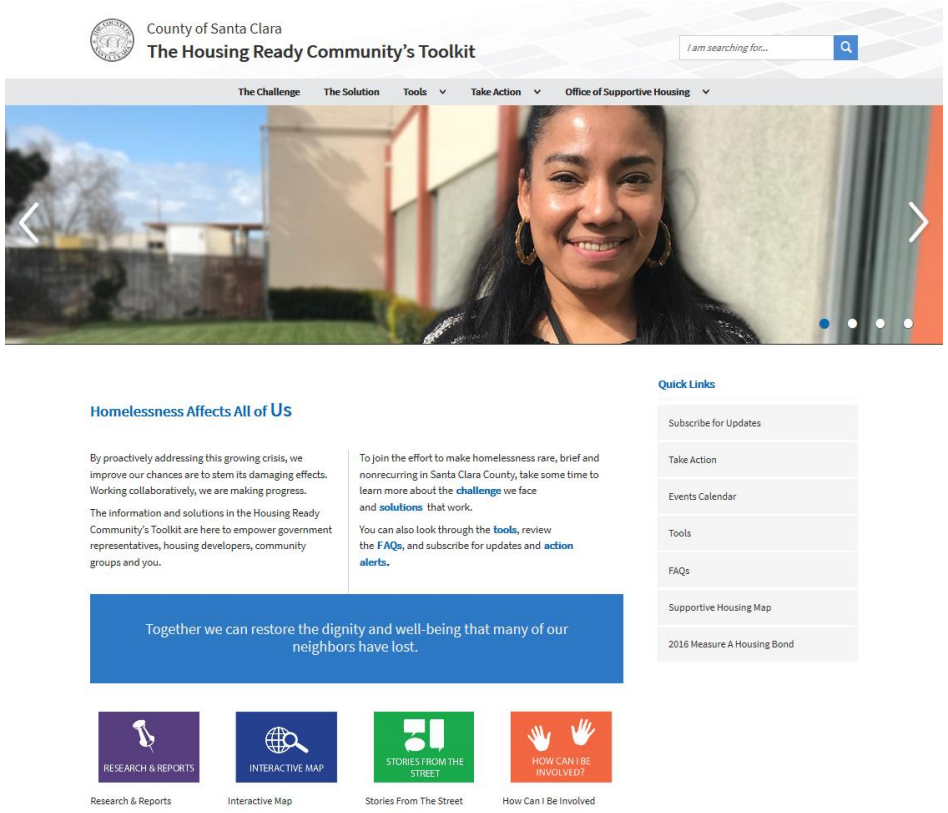


County of Santa Clara

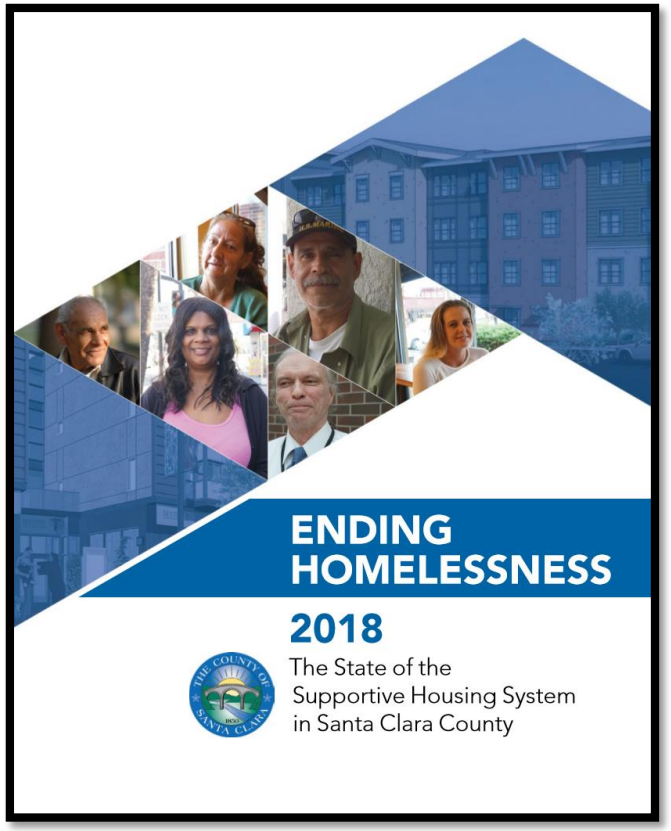
- Integrate specialty mental health services and funding as part of PSH
- Integrate safety-net programs into the supportive housing system
- Provide integrated medical services to enhance supportive housing programs
- Advocate for supportive / ELI housing

Photos courtesy of the Mercury News

Additional Resources



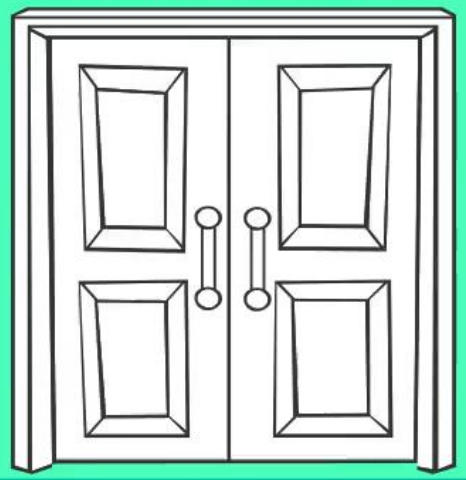
- https://www.sccgov.org/sites/yes/Pages/home.aspx



- https://www.sccgov.org/sites/osh/ContinuumofCare/ReportsandPublications/Pages/EndingHomelessness.aspx

ENDING HOMELESSNESS

IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY



VYONE

QUESTIONS?