

## Special Issue

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# County Efforts to Address Homelessness



FY 2019-20 BUDGET WORKSHOP



# Key Challenges – Emerging Issues

## Homelessness persists in our region as a result of:

- Lack of affordable and supportive housing within county and cities.
- Lack of low barrier year round shelter beds.

## What are the trends:

- Increasing rates of homelessness among families and unaccompanied youth
- High instances of violence, trauma, incarceration, and mental illness as well as co –occurring conditions and children with serious emotional disturbances among homeless sub populations.

## Impacts on County Government include:

- Costly crisis services and other community impacts.
- County spends \$16 M annually on services or impacts of homelessness.

*A coordinated, comprehensive county-wide strategic approach to reducing homelessness and addressing its impacts is needed - Staff working with other jurisdictions*



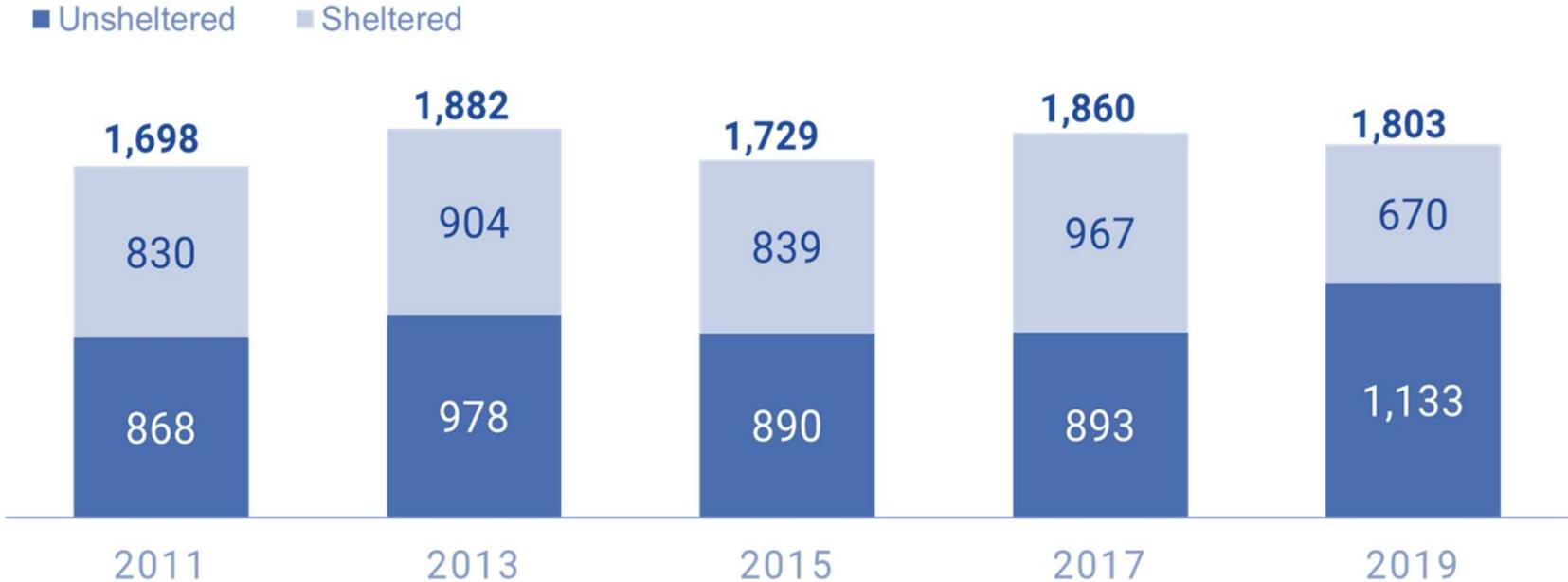
# Context and History of County Efforts

- Board of Supervisors authorized the development Regional 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness in April 2005.
- Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness (C3H) was created in 2014. County, Cities of Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Goleta, Cottage Health, Housing Authorities provided \$300,000 in annual funding.
- Home for Good (NSBC United Way) assumed regional coordination and outreach responsibilities from C3H and became lead agency for the Coordinated Entry System in December 2017
- County's Community Services Department (Housing and Community Development Division) staff serve as the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care and Homeless Management Information System Lead Agency. 20 agencies currently collect client level data in HMIS.
- CSD/HCD funds 17 agencies through 7 federal, state and local funding sources to address homelessness annually.
- Homeless Action Plan Phase 1 was posted for public feedback in March 2019. Over 130 community members, stakeholders and consumers participated in the plan development



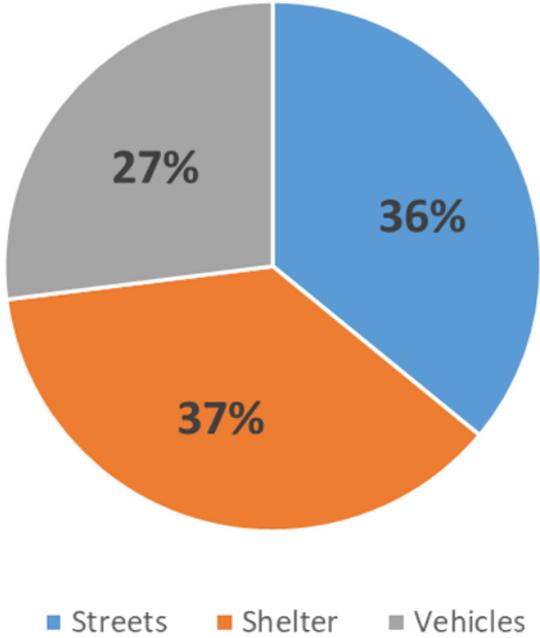
# Current Status – Point in Time Count

## Trend Analysis

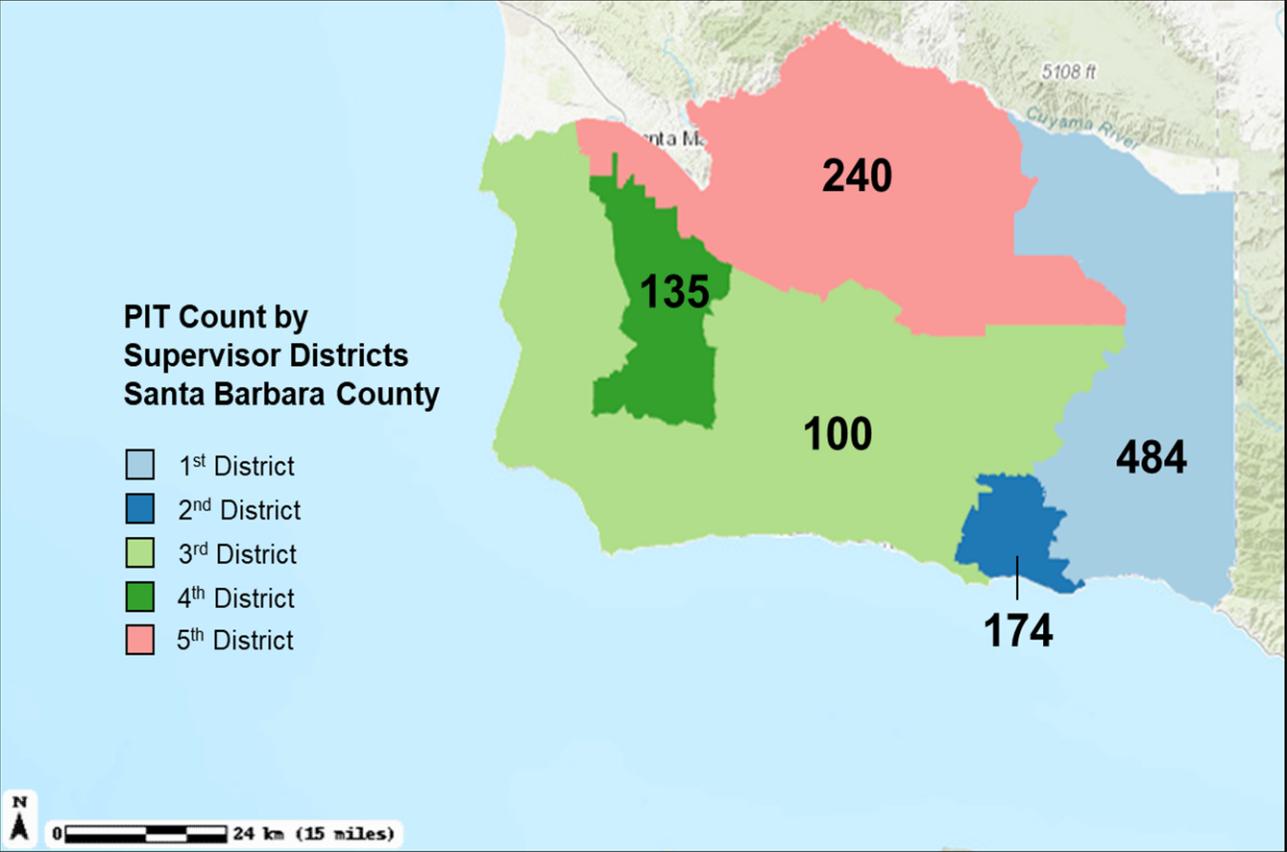


# Current Status – Point in Time Count

## Sleeping Location



# Current Status – Unsheltered Point in Time Count



## Current Status – Subpopulations Detail

- 118 veterans were experiencing homelessness.
- 423 persons were experiencing chronic homelessness.
- 93 unaccompanied youth and young adults were experiencing homelessness.
- 115 families were experiencing homelessness (115 families; 368 individuals).
- 576 were experiencing mental illness.



# Collaborative Problem Solving



# Santa Barbara County

## FY 18/19 Homelessness Investment

Preventing Homelessness:	\$ 100,000
Outreach to Unsheltered Individuals and Families:	\$ 2,100,000
Provide Health and Supportive Services:	\$ 2,300,000
Provide Shelter and Housing: (\$4.4 Million Depot Street)	\$ 10,800,000
Create Coordinated System:	\$ 708,000
<b><u>Total Effort FY 18/19:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 16,008,000</u></b>



# New 18/19 funds to be utilized in future years or agreements underway

California Emergency Housing and Solutions Grant:	\$ 914,000
Continuum of Care increase:	\$ 262,000
Homeless Emergency Aid Program:	\$ 9,385,200
No Place Like Home	\$ 2,700,000
<u>Total Estimated Funds:</u>	<u>\$13,261,200</u>

*Staff currently evaluating FY 19/20 State and Federal Homeless funding opportunities.*



## Key Efforts Underway

- Expansion of Be Well Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Teams
- Housing Development Funding Opportunities through No Place Like Home
- Increased State Investment to Address Homelessness (CESH, HEAP)
- 80 Permanent Supportive Housing Units Under Development dedicated to formerly homeless persons in Santa Maria
- Functioning Coordinated Entry System for persons seeking assistance
- Housing Element Program Changes (Accessory Dwelling Units, Bonus Density, Mixed Use Zoning, Transitional & Supportive Housing, etc.)
- Creation of Homelessness Interagency Policy Council



# Lompoc Riverbed – What we learned...

## Overview

- 70 clients served
- 34 placed in housing, detox, sheltered or reunified
- 30 exited from triage center
- 6 received services but chose not to stay
- Many are continuing to engage with county departments and continue to receive services
- City of Lompoc - 19 Community Based Organizations - 8 County departments

## Lessons Learned

- Low barrier shelter and detox beds needed to address most vulnerable
- Intensive wrap around services and coordinated multidisciplinary teams with case managers needed to engage individuals over time
- Coordinated approach to services delivery across county departments needed to best serve individuals
- Coordinated data sharing systems needed across departments



# Homeless Inter Agency Policy Council Role:

**The HIAPC is a collaborative of County departments involved in homeless issues...**

- Provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and County Executive Officer regarding strategies to impact homelessness in Santa Barbara County.
- Build coordinated and collaborative partnerships across all departments to maximize resources and collectively solve issues.
- Build collaboration with community partners (cities, CBO's, healthcare) to coordinate resources and impact homelessness.



## Homeless Inter Agency Policy Council Role, cont.:

- Provide forum to strategically secure and leverage funding from state and federal government and align funding with countywide initiatives and needs.
- Ensure effective responses to address the magnitude of needs for those experiencing homelessness and respond to the homeless action plan.
- Report on progress toward work plan goals and progress on countywide homeless initiatives.



# Proposed Homeless Inter Agency Policy Council FY 19/20 Work Plan

- Initiatives under County departments' control and within existing budgets or grant funding being pursued
- Coordination with CBOs, cities and other partners will be ongoing
- Homeless Action Plan – Phase 1 – to be presented to Board on June 4, 2019



# Proposed Homeless Inter Agency Policy Council FY 19/20 Work Plan

## 1. Increase access to safe and affordable housing:

- Expand beds available to homeless individuals by 15%.
- Expand Safe Parking Program by 80 spots to address PIT identified demand.
- Evaluate the feasibility of public properties for housing.

## 2. Use best practices to deliver supportive services and meet individuals needs:

- Collaboratively identify the top 25 most vulnerable homeless individuals and devise comprehensive case plans to serve and house.
- Develop training and implementation of trauma informed, housing-focused approaches and connect clients to mainstream services.
- Establish pilot to collect data on homeless persons who become criminally justice involved

## 3. Fiscal Enhancements:

- Evaluate feasibility of dedicated revenue source for homelessness.
- Review County contracts for homeless services and align funding for maximum impact.
- Apply for new funding opportunities that meet county goals.



# Proposed Homeless Inter Agency Policy Council FY 19/20 Work Plan, continued

## 4. Legislation:

- Review state and federal legislation to determine impact and opportunities for affordable/specialty housing development and enhanced housing placements and services.
  - Senior housing
  - Permanent supportive housing

## 5. Improve Data Sharing:

- Fully implement coordinated entry system
- Increased use of Homeless Management Information System for data collection by CBOs and County departments
- Develop system to share information among agencies to streamline access to and move all to individuals to document ready status

## 6. Build a Collaborative Action Plan:

- Complete Phase 2 Regional Action Plan
- Engage elected officials and senior policy executives in the development of regional homeless strategy development.
- Funding coordination
- Needs identification & service delivery



# Questions?

