

COMMUNITY HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CHAP) REVIEW

City Council
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Housing and Community Services 1

Overview

- Guiding Principles
- Homelessness in Santa Rosa
- SR Homelessness Solutions/Strategy
- Program & Initiatives
- CHAP Review
- Prior Council Feedback
- Potential CHAP Expansion

Guiding Principles

- Current capacity is not scaled to need
- Identify new funding sources v. General Fund
- Establish consistent regional partnership through Home Sonoma County
- Focus on best practices
- Focus on the goal of resolving the person's homelessness

Current Situation – Santa Rosa

- 1,600 persons experiencing homelessness
- Programs based on evidence-based practices
- Homeless Action Plan
- Current Budget \$3.4 Million
- Partnerships & Regional Strategy



HOME SONOMA COUNTY

- To achieve Functional Zero by following the Housing First model in alignment with Federal, State, and the Continuum of Care (Home Sonoma County) by moving the person as quickly as possible into permanent supportive housing where services are provided.

Programs & Initiatives

Day Services

Homeless Services Center (HSC), 600 Morgan St, a multi-service day center providing showers, laundry, telephone, mail service, referrals and shelter intake.

Low Barrier, Housing Focused Shelter/Navigation Centers

Family Support Center (FSC), 465 A St, a 138-bed emergency shelter for families.

Samuel L. Jones Hall (SJH), 4020 Finley Ave, a 213-bed emergency shelter for single adults.

Programs & Initiatives

Outreach & Engagement

Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST), a street outreach team working to engage persons experiencing homelessness into services and housing.

Homeless Encampment Assistance Program (HEAP), a multi-disciplinary team focused on a compassionate approach to address the health, safety, and shelter needs of persons living in encampments and to ease the impacts to surrounding communities.

Programs & Initiatives

Housing Support

Rental Assistance, HCA Family and Housing First funds.
Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV), rental assistance targeted for Coordinated Entry referrals; project-basing HUD-VASH and other vouchers to create PSH.
Santa Rosa Housing Trust (SRHT), sponsors the development of PSH and affordable housing.

Community-based Solutions

Community Homeless Assistance Program (CHAP)



Homelessness Solutions

Homelessness is a major and growing concern for Santa Rosa, and has been identified as one of the City Council's top priorities. However, unlike a street repair or starting a business, homelessness is a complex social issue with many contributing factors that cannot be easily or quickly solved by a single agency or organization. Solutions require both immediate and long-term strategies, and partnerships with County agencies, community organizations, and you. We at the City of Santa Rosa want you to know what we are doing to address homelessness and to invite you to work with us to reduce homelessness in Santa Rosa. The links below provide resources and information about solutions that the City is currently implementing.

[PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES](#)

[HOUSING FIRST STRATEGY](#)

[RESOURCES](#)

[ENCAMPMENTS](#)

[DATA](#)

Pilot Program & CHAP

- Oct. 2015 – Council approves initial pilot
- Oct. 2016 – Council approves expanded CHAP
- “Meeting Facility” & Commercially Zoned
- Safe parking, safe camping, the placement and maintenance of portable toilets and access to existing bathroom facilities, provision of temporary overnight shelter, and storage for personal belongings
- 3 participating property owners

Summary

- Engage Property Owners
- Expand Definition
- Public Property
- Community Outreach
- Emergency Building Standards
- Housing First Alignment

Engage Property Owners

- CHAP Participants
- Faith-based Leaders
- Feedback
 - Insurance and other costs
 - Liability
 - Interest/capacity
 - Neighborhood objections
 - CHAP Grant Application
 - Other program models
 - City participation

Expand Definition

- Safe parking on private residential and public properties (vehicles, trailers, and/or RVs)
- Existing declarations of shelter crisis and local homeless emergency provides for greater flexibility
- Urgency and Resilient City Ordinances
- 1 vehicle, trailer, RV per private residential property

Public Property

- City-sponsored sites
 - Finley Community Center, UFO, Sam Jones Hall, City Hall, former Bennett Valley Senior Center, Parking District
- Housing Focused Program
 - Public/private property
 - Overnight, Scattered Site – Approx. \$530,000
 - 24/7, Single Site – Approx. \$600,000 to \$1 million
 - Scope of Services – Intake/placement, Coordinated Entry, lot monitor/hotline, portable toilets/handwashing stations, housing staff

Community Outreach

- Presentations/Meetings
- Fact Sheet
- Feedback
 - Safe Parking/Camping, Citywide
 - City Participation
 - Neighborhood Engagement, Residential Property
 - Attract persons experiencing homelessness to Santa Rosa
 - Insurance and other costs
 - CHAP Grants – increase funding/uses
 - Fundraising/Match Grant
 - Incentivize Participation – General Plan consideration

Emergency Building Standards

- January 1, 2020 for all California cities and counties
- Emergency Housing
 - Sleeping cabins, manufactured homes, recreational vehicles/trailers and tent
 - Constructed and/or assembled in accordance with the new State codes. The regulations stipulate that emergency housing shall only be occupied during declaration of state of emergency, local emergency, or shelter crisis.

Housing First Alignment

- City's Housing First Strategy
 - Align with Federal and State Housing First model
 - “Promising Practices” – CHAP
- Home Sonoma County
 - “Functional Zero” homelessness



Next Steps

- Council direction on components of proposed CHAP expansion
 - Private residential & public property
 - Safe Parking program
 - Alignment with Housing First Strategy & regional efforts
 - Other

Recommendation

- It is recommended by the Housing and Community Services Department that the Council, by motion, provide direction on components of the potential expansion of the Community Homeless Assistance Program (CHAP).