Homelessness Report

Presented to the City Council

March, 2018
Executive Summary

In November 2016, the City Council of the City of Alameda tasked the City's Social Service Human Relations Board (SSHRB), with reviewing “City policies and procedures for aiding Alameda’s homeless and addressing issues related to homelessness in order to make recommendations to the City Council for policy revisions and additions.” This action was taken in recognition of the difficulty finding affordable housing by Bay Area and Alameda residents that has forced many individuals into homelessness and exacerbated an existing problem. For the first time in many years, homelessness has been increasing in many Bay Area jurisdictions, rather than declining.

Through the policy development process, City and Housing Authority staff have worked to determine what homeless services are available, how accessible and effective they are and what service gaps exist. Staff considered specific services provided, the population going unserved, and best practices from peer communities. Alameda’s resources for addressing homelessness are generally strong relative to its size, though the homeless community does not always know where to access services and housed community members do not know where or how to provide support. The lack of physical facilities within the City of Alameda to provide services to those homeless individuals living on the streets is one of the most significant gaps addressed in the following report. Another gap in current resources for the homeless population is physical access to Countywide services within the City as no current County services are offered in Alameda, apart from the recent addition of very limited office hours for the Housing Resource Center (HRC) for Alameda under the County’s new Coordinated Entry System (CES).

What We Know about Homelessness in Alameda

In 2016, the City Recreation & Parks Department began the redevelopment work for the future Jean Sweeney Park. Through this process, it was necessary to evict persons that were residing in the footprint of the future park. Beginning in early 2017, the City and partner agencies have spent a great deal of time and effort getting to know the population of individuals experiencing homelessness here and elsewhere throughout the City.

Occurring separately but at roughly the same time, Alameda began participating in Point In Time (PIT) Homeless Counts in 2015. These counts have been used for a number of
years by communities nationwide to quantify the number of homeless individuals in their community. January 2017 was the first time the City joined EveryOne Home in using the County's model and organizational assistance to count homeless individuals. During the 2017 Homeless Point-in-time Count on January 30, 2017, 204 individuals were counted as homeless, 94 of those were sheltered with 110 unsheltered. Prior to the 2017 PIT count, the SSHRB coordinated two Alameda-based homeless counts.

Based on the 2017 PIT data, the City of Alameda contains 4.90% of the County's population and 2.85% of the County's homeless population. Because of the relatively small homeless population compared to the larger Alameda County region, Alameda requires extra attention to how services are delivered. The City recognizes that this attention has not always been given, both from the City as well as from Countywide organizations whose resources are more likely to be spent in communities with a larger homeless population.

**Current System of Resources: Strengths, Opportunities, Challenges**

Homeless services in Alameda, and throughout the nation, are led at the County level. Federal funding is distributed through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program. This HUD program is “designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.” ([HUD Exchange](https://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd)) HUD mandates that CoCs are organized at the County level, though the particular details of how a CoC operates are left up to the County.

In addition to participation in the coordinated Countywide effort, the City of Alameda has a network of local service providers working directly in the community. This group of government and non-profit organizations directly interacts with the City's homeless population. The services they provide are varied. For some organizations, service to homeless individuals is their mission, while others provide frequent service to homeless individuals though that is not the organizational focus. Some of the funding for these services comes from the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support homeless prevention and emergency food programs and shelter services within the City.
Continuum of Care in Alameda County

In Alameda County, the CoC operates as EveryOne Home – our County's roadmap for ending homelessness - which began in 2004. EveryOne Home is a non-profit formed by the County and is a "unique collaboration among community stakeholders, cities and Alameda County government agencies representing three separate care systems – homeless services, public health services, and mental health services – that share overlapping populations." EveryOne Home is designed to end homelessness and keep extremely low-income people with HIV/AIDS and/or chronic mental health problems housed. The City of Alameda is one of 13 Alameda County jurisdictions that have accepted or adopted the EveryOne Home Plan. The City is an active member of EveryOne Home, and participates in coordination of research, planning, grant applications, and the use of resources to address homelessness within Alameda County.

CoCs are funded through McKinney-Vento funding, whose initial guidelines were set forth in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. To receive these competitive funds the CoC must manage countywide coordination and communication between local governments and non-profits around available services and housing options for the homeless. EveryOne Home focuses on the large, overlapping populations of people in different systems of care (homeless services and housing, AIDS services and housing, mental health services and housing) who frequently are on the streets or cycle in and out of housing. The Continuum of Care operates Alameda County’s CES which began its first countywide operations in the Fall of 2017.

Coordinated Entry System in Alameda County

CES is a "standardized method for connecting people experiencing homelessness to the resources available in a given community." The purpose of CES is to commit jurisdictions county-wide to tackle homelessness together. Homeless individuals who interact with any social service provider county-wide are registered with the same assessment and client-management system. The system assesses individuals' housing, healthcare, and other needs, then helps clients navigate the social service network, with the ultimate goal of connecting each client with necessary services and permanent housing. Housing services will be prioritized for those who are most at risk – including those with physical and mental health issues, those fleeing domestic violence, and families with children.

The County is divided into a number of service areas, of which the City of Alameda falls into the Mid-County service area. Each service area has a HRC operated by a housing

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1 EveryOne Home, [http://everyonehome.org/our-work/coordinated-entry-system/](http://everyonehome.org/our-work/coordinated-entry-system/)
and social service non-profit. HRCs are not necessarily physical spaces but represent the intake and case management services for homeless individuals. The Mid-County provider is ABODE Community Services, who has subcontracted with Building Futures (previously, Building Futures with Women and Children) to operate the HRCs for Alameda and San Leandro. Building Futures is currently building out office space for the HRC in Alameda. Its office will be located at Alameda Point, adjacent to Bessie Coleman Court and will be open two to three afternoons a week.

Existing Housing and Service Programs

**Alameda Point Collaborative (APC)** – APC provides permanent supportive housing for the formerly homeless, with 200 units of housing located at the former Alameda Naval Air Station (Alameda Point). APC is the largest provider of housing for formerly homeless families in Alameda County. In addition to housing, APC operates a number of other supportive programs including job training to residents through Ploughshares Nursery and its Farm2Market program.

**Building Futures** – Provides homeless, housing and domestic violence services throughout Mid and North Alameda County. Building Futures has been providing these services in the City of Alameda since 2000:

**Midway Shelter** – The Midway Shelter has operated in Alameda for the last 30 years. It is a 25-bed shelter for women and women with children. The Shelter operates 24 hours a day and provides wrap-around services with an emphasis on attaining housing. Building Futures partners with Alameda Homeless Network to both raise money and community support to ensure Midway Shelter’s ongoing operations. The City funds a portion of the Shelter’s operating expenses through the CDBG program.

**Bessie Coleman Court** – The permanent supportive housing at Bessie Coleman Court provides housing to 52 households that are chronically homeless survivors of domestic violence who have a disability. The apartments are located at Alameda Point and are owned and operated by Building Futures.

**Coordinated Entry Services** – Building Futures is the subcontractor funded by the County that provides the front door to the County’s newly designed homeless coordinated entry system to the homeless living on the street in Alameda. The" front door" consists of homeless outreach, intake by phone or by making an appointment, or dropping into their satellite office. Once approved by the County, residents are eligible for referrals to shelter, housing navigation and housing stabilization services.
**Operation Dignity (OD)** – OD provides shelter, housing, outreach, and supportive services throughout Alameda County, with an emphasis on its original clients – Veterans. At its Dignity Commons site at Alameda Point, it provides transitional housing to single adult veterans, as well as veterans with children, in addition to offering nine units of permanent housing to both veterans and non-veterans. OD was contracted in 2017, by the City of Alameda to provide street outreach to homeless individuals. OD has a group of approximately 60 clients it has engaged through outreach and looks to engage other homeless individuals as they are introduced. The OD contract was recently extended through May 2018.

**Community Paramedics** – The Alameda Community Paramedics is a part of a State of California pilot program to study the impacts of Community Paramedicine in local communities. The Firefighter/Paramedics that staff this program have been trained in accordance with a curriculum through the UCLA School of Medicine and focus on providing healthcare to at-risk populations, those with chronic illnesses recently discharged from the hospital, and other frequent users of emergency services – including homeless individuals. Community Paramedics is unique in that in addition to responding to calls, they engage in outreach and follow-up care with individuals with whom they’ve had previous contact or who they know are at risk. For example, local hospitals are in contact with Alameda Community Paramedics to notify them of individuals being discharged who live on the street or could otherwise benefit from a follow-up inquiry. Through a partnership that includes the City, Community Paramedics funding has been extended for another year.

**Housing Authority** – The Housing Authority of the City of Alameda is the City's largest provider of housing to low-income individuals in Alameda, with a portfolio of 573 housing units. The Housing Authority also funds 77 units for formerly homeless individuals at its own properties and through vouchers utilized at properties operated by other organizations. The Housing Authority will continue to apply for vouchers to fund housing units for homeless individuals, as they are available and provide much needed funding for development of new housing.

**Alameda Police Department** – It is not illegal to be homeless in Alameda and members of the Alameda Police Department (APD) do not use homelessness solely as a basis for detention or law enforcement action. It is the policy of APD to provide law enforcement services to all members of the community, while protecting the rights, dignity, and private property of the homeless. APD recognizes that members of the homeless community are often in need of special protection services. APD addresses these needs in balance with the overall mission of the department.

**Alameda County 2-1-1** – The City funds a pro-rata share, based on population, of the County's 2-1-1 social service hotline. Operated by Eden I&R Inc., this hotline offers 24
hour 7 days/week service in multiple languages to connect callers to the full array of social services available throughout the County. 2-1-1 is the single point that best coordinates all housing and social services throughout the county and also is the main point of entry to CES.

**Alameda Unified School District (AUSD)** – An AUSD McKinney Vento Coordinator helps homeless children have equal access to a free public education as provided to all of the other children in the District. AUSD helps these families by providing bus passes when requested for the children to get to and from school. Also upon request backpacks and school supplies are available.

**Strategic Plan: Goals, Strategies, Desired Outcomes**

Ending homelessness is a tall task, particularly in the Bay Area region where the cost of living, and particularly housing, is so high. The City must commit resources to organizing its homelessness response as well as actual provision of services if it seeks to address the issue. Direction of these resources to assist homeless individuals is, of course, only a stopgap measure as housing units are the long-term solution to homelessness in Alameda.

**A Unified Face of City-Sponsored Homeless Services**

A set of unified outward-facing homelessness information and resources is key to effectively tackling homelessness in Alameda. The City’s Police Department, Community Paramedics, Operation Dignity, BFWC, Housing Authority, and others provide direct interaction with and service to individuals experiencing homelessness in the City. However, these organizations do not have a coordinated approach that represents the City of Alameda’s Homelessness Policy/Programming. Coordinating the City’s homeless programs and policies would show residents and other members of the community that the City is proactively engaging in assisting the City's homeless population. This unified front is a straightforward but important step.

Below are some low-cost/easy-to-implement steps that the City could complete to provide a unified front:

- **City of Alameda Homelessness Webpage** – The City currently does not have an electronic home for homelessness resources. A City webpage that provides both access to resources as well as the City’s affirmation that being homeless is not illegal would make clear the City’s commitment to addressing homelessness.
- **City of Alameda Homelessness Pamphlet** – Similar to the webpage, a City-branded pamphlet unifies the many voices working on homelessness in the City.
Currently, organizations engaging the homeless population in Alameda utilize different materials both with homeless clients and with Alamedans and local businesses expressing concern for the homeless. A pamphlet would outline the City’s efforts to address homelessness in the City, point to the Coordinated Entry System as the main method of homeless assistance County-wide, and provide contact information for local organizations working on homelessness in the City. The pamphlet may also include information and resources to help local businesses, particularly those on Park and Webster streets, in interacting with the homeless.

Treating all Alamedans with Humanity

APD and other City staff and contractors all assert the right of homeless individuals to live in Alameda. To ensure the City remains a welcoming place to all, the City must make sure “Everyone Belongs Here” applies both to those with a roof over their heads in Alameda and those who are not so fortunate. Treating homeless individuals with a basic level of dignity and respect is an important mindset to have, which can lead to further understanding and investment in services to homeless individuals.

Housing the Homeless

The City’s ultimate homelessness strategy should be to eliminate homelessness. To do this, homes must be secured for each homeless individual. Some of this may be done through case management, which will allow individuals experiencing homelessness to get re-housed in market-rate housing, some will find permanent housing through family members, but many will need permanent supportive housing units.

Policy Areas and Programming Options

With CES launched in Alameda County during Fall 2017, there are changes to funding options and social service program opportunities throughout the County. In the section below, specific programs have been organized into Policy Areas that meet different needs and goals of addressing homelessness in Alameda. Homelessness is a significant issue in the region and while no one strategy or policy will tackle homelessness fully, the following programs aim to provide service above and beyond what exists today as well as fill gaps anticipated with the rollout of CES.

Services to Homeless Individuals

The options below describe additional efforts the City of Alameda could take to enhance services available to Alamedans experiencing homelessness:
**Homeless Outreach Team or Care Team**

The Homeless Outreach Team (HOT Team) would coordinate programs and organizations that either purposefully or effectively serve homeless individuals. Existing programs know of each other but do not have a regular, organized method of coordination. Bringing together social service providers, first-responders, and organizations with a high level of contact with the homeless will have the goal of both providing a better level of service to those experiencing homelessness as well as provide a unified City-lead face to homeless services in Alameda. BFWC operates a similarly coordinated team working on homelessness in San Leandro. Local funding to support increased staff time from BFWC would be an efficient way to pair these additional services with the existing work BFWC is doing through CES. This team would also look at the future of street outreach in Alameda. Currently, Operation Dignity is contracted for street outreach through May 2018 and this team would develop recommendations to ensure street outreach continues in coordination with CES and other programs. This outreach team will coordinate the big picture strategy for both outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness as well as interface with the general public who may be interested in volunteering for homeless-serving organizations or otherwise provide support to this population.

**Estimated Cost:** $50,000 annually (the City has applied for a County Immediate Impact Grant to pay for the first year of operations)

**Supplemental Case Management**

Under the current CES contract, BFWC is the HRC provider for Alameda and San Leandro. CES will provide funding for 1 full-time equivalent (FTE) Case Manager serving Alameda and San Leandro. With an expected case load of 25 clients total for both cities, this Case Manager will help as many Alamedans as they can, but with over 200 homeless individuals in the City of Alameda, there will still be room to develop a higher level of service. Local funding for case management specifically for individuals within the City of Alameda can potentially both serve a greater number of homeless individuals as well as provide a higher level of service to those going through CES.

**Estimated Cost:** $25,000 annually (to service 12 additional clients)

**Community Paramedics**

Operating with funding through a state pilot program, Alameda’s Community Paramedics is one of a small number of community paramedicine programs around the state that merge on-site intensive healthcare services with social service provision and referral. Homeless individuals are high users of 911 and Alameda’s Community Paramedics provides healthcare service and other case-management-like services to
homeless individuals. After two years in operation, the pilot funding for the Community Paramedics is winding down and continuation of the program is contingent upon securing local funding or additional grant sources. Through a partnership that includes the City, this program has just been funded for an additional year.

**Estimated Cost:** The City currently shares the cost of this program with Alameda County. The City covers $172,000 of the costs or approximately one-third of the total. The total cost of the program is approximately $430,000.

**Temporary Shelter for the Homeless**

While temporary shelter options do not end homelessness, they can help to treat individuals experiencing homelessness with humanity and put a roof over their head – particularly vulnerable residents during inclement weather.

**Local Funding of Homeless Shelter**

The 25-bed Midway Shelter is the only shelter in the City of Alameda and the facility is reaching the end of its useful life. With a number of maintenance issues and necessary capital projects needed at the shelter, and a City homeless population more than 4x greater than the number of shelter beds, the City could benefit from a new shelter facility with a larger number of beds for these individuals. The Midway Shelter also provides shelter only to women and children, there is no shelter space for adult males, families, or other populations who are experiencing homelessness in the City of Alameda. The City could provide funding for rehabilitation and expansion of the Midway Shelter and/or creation of a new shelter to serve an expanded population.

**Estimated Cost:** Through the CDBG program, the City currently contributes $74,400 annually towards shelter operations which provides service to 200 clients/year.

**Winter Shelter Program Support and Coordination**

Winter Shelter programs are commonly organized through the most cold and rainy months of the year. Especially common in regions with harsh winters, these programs frequently utilize the space and volunteers from local faith-based organizations to provide shelter for individuals during these times. City staff and Supervisor Wilma Chan's office, in conjunction with the community's faith-based organizations, is working on developing a winter shelter program. Local preferences and consideration of ease of use for the City's homeless population should be considered when designing a program for Alameda. The City can invest in the coordination of a winter shelter program through purchase of cots, blankets, and other required sleeping materials as well as staff coordination of program start-up.
**Estimated Cost:** $35-40,000/annually (operating from November – April). Funding is available from the County for winter shelter programs.

**McKay Avenue Property**

In December 2017, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) conditionally approved the no-fee conveyance of a 3.65-acre surplus federal property in Alameda to APC. APC will receive title to the surplus federal property on McKay Avenue to develop a Medical Respite and Wellness Center (Center) as a homeless accommodation project. APC proposes to rehabilitate the existing facilities to provide a multi-modal wellness center that will primarily serve adults experiencing homelessness, with a priority of serving seniors, persons with complex medical and persistent mental health conditions, high users of the health care system, and other vulnerable populations. A resources center planned for the facility will serve Alamedans who are on the brink of homelessness and those who recently became homeless with the goal of helping them quickly navigate back into a stable living situation.

**Estimated Cost:** $35,000,000 – 40,000,000 (total costs from date of transfer from HHS to full operations by APC over a predicted 3-5 year timeline)

**Permanent Housing**

Ending homelessness in Alameda can ultimately only be accomplished through the construction of additional housing units.

**Local Funding of Homeless Housing**

While shelter beds provide a roof over the head of homeless individuals temporarily, permanent housing is a different issue. The Housing Authority utilizes vouchers for homeless individuals whenever available and able to help finance and complete a housing development. When it comes to federal funds, the Housing Authority – and other developers utilizing the same funds – housing units must be available to all, not just Alamedans. City Council could set priorities to build and fund housing units for homeless Alamedans.

**Estimated Cost:** $600,000/housing unit

**Construction of Additional Housing Units of all Types/Prices**

The housing economy in the Bay Area is heavily stressed due to insufficient construction throughout the region. Between 2010 and 2015, the San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward census area – where Alameda is located – created one home for every 6.8 jobs created. Housing construction has not kept up with the number of people requiring housing, driving up the price of housing units as well as construction and other related costs of producing housing. With such strong demands placed on the housing
market, and a housing economy whose borders do not stop at the City limits, prices have skyrocketed with the most devastating impacts on low-income and other vulnerable populations. To increase the supply of housing, the City must continue to build housing units of all types and price points and to allow housing development to get through the entitlement process expeditiously and without unreasonable costs to housing developers.

**Estimated Cost:** Revenue generating – new housing developments will add to the City tax base, contribute to Transportation Demand Management programs, and provide Alameda businesses with additional customers.

**Local Code and Action Strategy**

There are legal and organizational steps that the City can take to both bring awareness to homelessness as well as to make City law more friendly to current best practices programs, including those listed above.

**Zoning Amendments to Support Homeless Programs**

Providing temporary and/or permanent facilities to address homelessness in Alameda will require changes to the City's zoning and regulatory structure, which has not been updated to best address the needs of the homeless. For example, the zoning code only allows emergency homeless shelters on about nine properties citywide, the zoning code has no provisions to permit temporary "warming centers", and the zoning code does not have a definition or provisions for assisted living.

**Estimated Cost:** $5-10,000 to cover City staff time and noticing costs to process comprehensive zoning ordinance amendments to support homelessness programs and policies.

**Parking Meters for Homelessness**

In Cities throughout the western part of the country a new method of raising additional funds for homelessness services has been initiated. Cities like Salt Lake City and Los Angeles have installed unique parking meters on their streets that allow community members to donate spare change to funding of services to homeless individuals. Presented both as an alternative to giving money to panhandlers as well as a way to draw attention to the need in the community, these meters are bright colored and located such that they stand out from actual parking meters.

Alameda's current parking meter vendor (IPS Group, Inc.) offers a donation meter program which would provide the City with up to 20 meter mechanisms at no cost. IPS's donation meter program would also cover ongoing data and credit card gateway fees.
The City would be responsible for the meter pole and meter housing equipment and installation, the merchant account fees, and ongoing collections of coin donations received at the meters.

**Estimated Cost:** For 20 meters, one-time cost of $13,400 to cover meter pole and housing installation or $670/meter ($250/pole and $420/housing installed), ongoing merchant fees at 2% of total credit card donations received.

**Homeless State of Emergency**

With the high cost of living (and particularly housing), a mild climate, and systemic inequality, all Bay Area communities are experiencing high numbers of individuals experiencing homelessness. The County Board of Supervisors or the Governor could declare a State of Emergency around homelessness in Alameda County – or the larger Bay Area – that could allow for additional state funds to be spent in an expedited way to tackle the issue of homelessness. The City of Alameda makes up 4.9% of the population of Alameda County and contains 2.85% of the County’s homeless population. If the City of Alameda were to pursue a Homeless State of Emergency, it would be important to attain the support of cities in Alameda County with both a larger absolute population of homeless individuals as well as those with a portion of the County’s homeless population outsize to their local population.

**Estimated Cost:** $2,500-5,000 to cover City staff time and noticing costs to adopt a State of Emergency at a public hearing.
Conclusion

Alameda's homeless population is an important part of the City's population. As the City looks to tackle the issue of homelessness and how it wants to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness, there are many decisions to be made. The City's budget of course is not unlimited and will drive the decisions made. Below, the programs listed above have been organized, by Policy Area, into a chart for quick summary reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Area</th>
<th>Program Options</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services to Homeless Individuals</td>
<td>• Homeless Outreach Team</td>
<td>Short-term</td>
<td>Low to medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Supplemental Case Management</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Community Paramedics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporary Shelter for the Homeless</td>
<td>• Homeless Shelter</td>
<td>Medium-term; Ongoing</td>
<td>Medium to High</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Winter Warming Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• McKay Ave. Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanent Housing</td>
<td>• Local Funding of Homeless Housing</td>
<td>Long-term</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Construction of Additional Units of All Types/Prices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Code and Action Strategy</td>
<td>• Zoning Amendments to Support Homeless Programs</td>
<td>Short-term; Ongoing</td>
<td>Low</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Parking Meters for Homelessness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Homeless State of Emergency</td>
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A consistent theme throughout this report is that most policy options listed are merely providing differing types of services and stopgap measures to individuals who remain homeless. Treating homeless individuals humanely, providing case management, and getting them sheltered during inclement weather are all noble goals. The more challenging, and surely more impactful, goal though is to house all of those who are homeless. Building additional market-rate, affordable, and homeless housing units will make the largest impact on households of all abilities and incomes in Alameda to become housed.
Appendices

2017 Point-in-time Count Summary Sheet
Alameda PD Brochure
Community Paramedics Brochure
Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2017 Alameda County Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 30, 2017. The entire county was canvassed by teams of volunteers and guides with lived experience. In the weeks following the street count, a survey was administered to 1,228 unsheltered and sheltered homeless individuals, in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

### 2017 Homeless Census Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>4,341</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>4,178</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4,264</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>4,040</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>5,629</td>
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### 2017 Sheltered/Unsheltered Population

- **31%** Sheltered (n=1,766)
- **69%** Unsheltered (n=3,863)

### Race/Ethnicity (Top Responses)

- **17%** Latino
- **49%** Black or African American
- **30%** White
- **15%** Multi-ethnic
- **3%** American Indian or Alaska Native

### Age

- **63%** 25-39
- **18%** 18-24
- **9%** Under 18
- **11%** 40+

### Gender

- **58%** Men
- **41%** Women
- **1%** Transgender

### Residence Prior to Homelessness

- **82%** Alameda County

### Length of Time in Alameda County

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1 year</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4 years</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5-9 years</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 years or more</td>
<td>57%</td>
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### Subpopulations

- **Chronically Homeless** | 1,652 Individuals
  - **15%** Sheltered
  - **85%** Unsheltered
- **Veterans** | 531 Individuals
  - **29%** Sheltered
  - **71%** Unsheltered
- **Unaccompanied Transitional Age Youth** | 919 Individuals
  - **26%** Sheltered
  - **74%** Unsheltered
- **Unaccompanied Children** | 72 Individuals
  - **14%** Sheltered
  - **86%** Unsheltered

### Foster Care

- **15%** of survey respondents have been in the foster system.

### Justice System Involvement

- **14%** of respondents spent one or more nights in jail/prison/juvenile hall in the past year.

### Post K-12 Education

- **5%** of respondents were currently enrolled in a vocational program or college.
Alameda County will release a comprehensive report of The EveryOne Home 2017 Homeless Count and Survey in Summer 2017. For more information about EveryOne Home and effort to address homelessness in Alameda County please visit www.EveryOneHome.org


**Subpopulation Definitions**

**Chronically Homeless**
An individual with a disabling condition or a family with a head of household with a disabling condition who:
- Has been continuously homeless for one year or more and/or;
- Has experienced 4 or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.

**Veterans**
Persons who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

**Families**
A household with at least one adult member (persons 18 or older) and at least one child member (persons under 18).

**Unaccompanied Children**
Children under the age of 18 who are homeless and living without a parent or legal guardian.

**Transition-Age Youth**
Young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years old.

### Disabling Conditions
Respondents reported the number of conditions that limited their ability to maintain work or housing. Many reported multiple conditions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Number of Respondents Reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric or emotional conditions</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic health problems</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical disability</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol abuse</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traumatic brain injury</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS/HIV related</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Services and Assistance
73% of survey respondents reported receiving benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free Meals</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Shelter</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop-in Center</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Services</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Training/Employment Services</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Services Currently Accessing
(Top 6 Responses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Duration of Current Episode of Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 days or less</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-11 months</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year or more</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### First Homelessness Episode
40% of those experiencing homelessness for the first time were homeless for one year or more

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-17</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-39</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Primary Cause of Homelessness
(Top 6 Responses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money Issues</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Relationships</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Issues</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Use Issues</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Health Issues</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incarceration</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What Might Have Prevented Homelessness
(Top 4 Responses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent Assistance</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Assistance</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits/Income</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Services</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reasons for Not Accessing Shelter Services
(Top 6 Responses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>They are full</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bugs and germs</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They are too crowded</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerns for personal safety</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are too many rules</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They are too far away</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Not Interested in Housing
2% of survey respondents said they were not interested in Independent, Affordable Rental Housing or Housing with Supportive Services.

Only 2% of survey respondents reported having one disabling condition.

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</table>

### Self Reported Health
Current health conditions affecting housing stability or employment of the respondent.

(No: Multiple response question, numbers will not total to 100%)
Legal

Alameda County Sheriff's Office Civil Unit
1225 Fallon St, Oakland
(510) 272-6910
https://www.alamedacountysheriff.org/cws_civil.php

Bay Area Legal Aid
1735 Telegraph Ave, Oakland
(510) 663-4755
http://baylegal.org/

East Bay Community Law Center
2921 Adeline St, Berkeley
(510) 548-4040
http://www.ebclc.org/

East Bay Community Mediation
1968 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley
(510) 548-2377
http://www.ebcm.org/

Family Violence Law Center
470 27th St, Oakland
(800) 947-8301
http://fvlc.org/

Veterans

Alameda County Social Services Agency
Veterans services
6955 Foothill Blvd, Suite 300, Oakland
(510) 577-1926
https://alamedasocialservices.org/public/services/veterans_services/index.cfm

East Bay Stand Down/ Diablo Valley Veterans Foundation
PO Box 2133, Danville
(925) 362-0142
http://www.eastbaystanddown.org/

Havens for Heroes/ East Bay Community Recovery Project
2730 Adeline St, Oakland
(510) 903-1200
http://www.ebcrp.org/

Operation Dignity
160 Franklin St #103, Oakland
(510) 287-8465/ (800) 686-9036
http://operationdignity.org/

Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation
PO Box 1316, San Ramon
(925) 380-6342
http://www.sentinelsoffreedom.org

Swords to Plowshares
1060 Howard St, San Francisco
(415) 252-4787
http://Swords-to-plowshares.org

Veterans Affairs Oakland Behavioral Health Clinic
525 21st St, Oakland
(510) 587-3400
http://www.northern california.va.gov/visitors/oakmhc.asp

ALAMEDA POLICE DEPARTMENT
1555 Oak Street
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 337-8340

Social Services Resource Card

This is being given to you by the Alameda Police Department in an effort to connect you to resources available in Alameda County and includes the most common resources we are asked about.

For additional resources, visit our website:
www.AlamedaPolice.org
Click on “Community Resources”
Our Program:
The City of Alameda Fire Department was selected to participate in a pilot study to develop one of the very first Community Paramedic Programs in the State of California. Our Firefighter/Paramedics have been educated in accordance with a national curriculum provided through the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Medicine. They are nationally recognized Community Paramedics.

Our Focus:
To provide follow-up care for selected individuals with chronic illnesses who have been recently discharged from the hospital.

Additionally, Community Paramedics will connect at-risk populations to appropriate resources, including those who frequently use emergency services.

Experienced Firefighter/Paramedics within the City of Alameda

Stephen Lucero
Michael DeWindt
David Wills
Armando Baldizan
Patrick Corder

Historically, the Alameda Fire Department has been at the forefront of fire and emergency services. Our Firefighters are invested in this community and recognize the diverse needs of the inhabitants of Alameda.

COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

ALAMEDA FIRE DEPARTMENT
EMS DIVISION
950 W. Mall Square Suite 151 Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 337-2163 Office
www.alamedaca.gov/fire

The goal of the Alameda Fire Department’s Community Paramedic Program is to guide clients towards health and well-being, connect clients with appropriate services, and intervene when clients are unable to take an active role in the management of their healthcare.
WHAT ARE COMMUNITY PARAMEDICS?

Traditionally, emergency service providers have been, by necessity, reactionary in their response to calls for assistance. Community Paramedics expand on this role by being proactive in promoting health and well-being among at-risk populations.

Our Services Include:

- MEDICAL ASSESSMENTS
- CHRONIC DISEASE SUPPORT
- MEDICATION RECONCILIATION
- COLLABORATION WITH PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN
- HOME SAFETY ASSESSMENT
- PHYSICAL THERAPY REFERRAL
- NUTRITION AND DIETARY SUPPORT
- TRANSPORTATION REFERRALS
- CONNECTION TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
- PSYCHOSOCIAL ASSESSMENT
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SUPPORT
- SMOKING CESSATION ASSISTANCE
- SOCIAL NETWORK ASSESSMENT
- AND MUCH MORE