City of Alameda
Five – Year Homelessness Strategic Plan
Community Meeting
Zoom Tips and Housekeeping

If you have any technology challenges, please use chat or email cityofalameda@homebaseccc.org

Chat messages will only go to the hosts.

We will be using chat and poll features to engage.

Please note that polls will appear as a pop up for you to click on to answer. Chat can be found in the menu bar.

Closed Captions available today
Introductions

City of Alameda Community Development Department
&
Homebase, The Center for Common Concerns
Looking ahead, what’s one word you hope will describe the community’s response to homelessness in five years?
Agenda (6:30 – 8:00 PM)

- Key Terms & Best Practices
- Who is homeless in Alameda and how do we know?
- Update on the Planning Process
- The 3 Emerging Goals of the Strategic Plan
ENTER IN CHAT BOX

What brings you to today's meeting?

What do you hope to learn?
Key Terms & Best Practices
Defining Homelessness

- At risk of homelessness
- Homeless and Chronically Homeless
- Fleeing violence
The Front Door

- Prevention
- Diversion
- Coordinated Entry System (CES)
# Temporary & Permanent Housing

**Temporary**
- Emergency Shelter
- Navigation Center
- Transitional Housing
- Community Cabins/Tiny Homes
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Sober Living Environment
- Safe Parking
- Sanctioned Encampments

**Permanent**
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Public Housing Authority/Section 8
- Rapid Rehousing Programs
- Rental Assistance Programs
- Leasing Programs
- Affordable/Low-income Housing
- Market Rate Rentals (private)
- Home Ownership
### From Housing Readiness to... Housing First

#### You have no place to live...you need to get ready!
- **Get shelter** (don’t lose your bed)
- **Get sober** (don’t fall off the wagon)
- **Get therapy** (don’t miss a session)
- **Get a job** (make enough to pay \( \frac{1}{2} \) rent)
- **Learn how to live independently** (when most live with others)

**OK, now you’re ready to try housing!**

#### You have no place to live...you are ready!
- **You are ready** for housing (or shelter if housing not available)
- **Your goals are to remove barriers** to accessing or maintaining housing
- **You will get support if you want** to get sober or address mental health issues
- **You will only be asked to leave as a last resort**, where behavior puts safety at risk

**OK, now you’re ready to stay housed!**
Who benefits from Housing First?

- People with **complex** service needs
- Those **turned away** from other housing options
- Those **least likely to be able** to proactively seek and obtain housing/services on their own
Why Housing First?

- Ends homelessness & creates housing stability.
- Improves health and mental health outcomes. (without increasing drug/alcohol use & while decreasing emergency care)
- Reduces contact with the criminal justice system.
- Saves money.
What educational topics would be helpful for future community webinars about homelessness?
Who is homeless in Alameda and how do we know?

A quick look at data
Sources of Data

- Point-in-Time (PIT)
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
- Surveys
- Alameda County System Modeling
- Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)
- Other publicly available information
Homelessness in the City increased by 13% between 2017 and 2019. Unsheltered homelessness increased by 20%.

Homeless Population in City of Alameda

Source: PIT Counts for Alameda County 2017 & 2019
Alameda has the lowest ratio of unsheltered to sheltered in the County.

Sheltered & Unsheltered Populations by City
Source: PIT Count for Alameda County in 2019
Black/African American and American Indian populations are overrepresented in homeless system.

Racial Demographics of Homeless Population

Source: ACS and County System Modeling based on 2019 PIT Count for City of Alameda
Veterans, with ties to the City of Alameda, are overrepresented in the homeless population.

Veteran Population (Ties to the City includes last residence, birth city, or location of high school)
Source: ACS and HMIS data between 2015-2019
The median age of Alamedans enrolled in homeless projects is rising.

Median Age of Homeless Population
Source: HMIS data between 2008-2020
While 66% of Alamedans report having a disabling condition at intake; Only 24% report having a substance abuse issue.
Renters have a much higher housing cost burden than homeowners.

Housing Cost Burden in City of Alameda
Source: Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy

- **Owner**
  - Less than 30% income on rent: 17%
  - 30-50% income on rent: 11%
  - More than 50% income on rent: 28%

- **Renter**
  - Less than 30% income on rent: 22%
  - 30-50% income on rent: 19%
  - More than 50% income on rent: 41%
Renters are much more likely to face significant housing problems.

Source: Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy

- Homeowners
  - Household has at least 1 of 4 Housing Problems: 72%
  - Household has none of 4 Housing Problems: 28%

- Renters
  - Household has at least 1 of 4 Housing Problems: 46%
  - Household has none of 4 Housing Problems: 54%
What surprised you from the data we shared?

What other data questions would you like to see answered in the plan?
Update on the Planning Process
Guiding Principles

- Develop measurable goals and strategies
- Address equity as an integral part of the plan
- Engage and empower the community to be part of the solution
- Develop a shared vision interdepartmentally and citywide
- Engage cross-system partners
- Integrate the perspective of those with lived experience
Activities to Date (Jan. - Jun. 2021)

- 4 Meetings with Community Residents and Business Leaders
- 2 Focus Groups with City Staff and Nonprofit Providers
- 2 Focus Groups with individuals with lived experience of homelessness
- 4 Steering Committee Meetings
- 10+ Stakeholder Interviews
- Over 1,000 surveys collected
- Presentations to City Council and SSHRB on Emerging Goals & Strategies
The 3 Emerging Goals of the Strategic Plan
The 3 Goals

✓ Goal 1: Mobilize the Citywide Response to Homelessness

✓ Goal 2: Increase Access to Homeless Emergency Response Services

✓ Goal 3: Secure a Housing Future for All Alamedans

Each goal has 3 supporting strategies. Each strategy has multiple supporting action steps.
Goal 3
Secure a Housing Future for All Alamedans

Strategy 3.1
✓ Assess and utilize available public and private land for housing

Strategy 3.2
✓ Protect and expand affordable housing through local policy

Strategy 3.3
✓ Coordinate short- and long-term housing solutions with the County and neighboring cities

Best Practices
❖ Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)
❖ Shared Housing
❖ Housing First
Goal 2
Increase Access to Homeless Emergency Response Services

Strategy 2.1
✓ Develop flexible resources for diversion, prevention, and housing retention

Strategy 2.2
✓ Provide low-barrier, housing-focused temporary housing

Strategy 2.3
✓ Expand outreach and supportive services to unsheltered households

Best Practices
❖ Diversion & Prevention
❖ Accommodations for Hoarding
❖ Navigation Centers
   (aka low-barrier shelters)
What do you want to learn more about in terms of homelessness and services in Alameda?
Goal 1
Mobilize the Citywide Response to Homelessness

Strategy 1.1
- Educate and engage the community on the regional crisis of homelessness

Strategy 1.2
- Strengthen the Homeless Response System infrastructure

Strategy 1.3
- Ensure ongoing supportive services funding

Best Practices
- Regional approach
- Emphasis on data collection and analysis
- Trauma-informed Care
Answer our poll

Look for the pop-up window

How could you personally be part of the solution to prevent and end homelessness in Alameda?

In what settings would it be best for you to learn, volunteer, contribute?
Thank you for participating!

Please provide feedback on tonight’s meeting by answering two final poll questions in the pop-up window.

Contact Info

Alameda HSP Project Manager, Amanda Gehrke
AGehrke@alamedaca.gov

Homebase
cityofalameda@homebaseccc.org