



# **Update on County Efforts to Address Homelessness, COVID-19 Homeless Response and Proposal for Future Strategies to End Homelessness**



July 7, 2020

# Agenda

1. November 2020 Ballot Measure
2. Homelessness in California and Sonoma County
3. Homelessness During COVID-19
4. COVID-19 Response
5. COVID-19 Funding to Support Homeless Solutions
6. Status of Homeless Encampment Prevention Efforts
  - Indoor-Outdoor Shelter
  - Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter
  - Shared Housing
  - Heart Encampment Efforts
  - Additional Short- And Medium-Term Strategies To Address Homelessness
  - Project Roomkey: Emergency Housing For Immediate Protection
7. Home Sonoma County Leadership Council And Community Development Committee Redesigns
8. Additional Recommended Action

# November 2020 Sales Tax Measure

- CDC and DHS are proposing a November 2020 Sales Tax Measure for Behavioral Health and Homeless Services in Sonoma County focusing on interventions for our most vulnerable.
- Item will be brought to the Board for consideration at the Board's July 14, 2020 meeting.

# Homelessness in California

- 151,000 Californians experiencing homelessness
- Accounts for almost half of homeless population in the country – 47%

*According to the federal 2019 Annual  
Assessment of Homelessness Report (AHAR)*

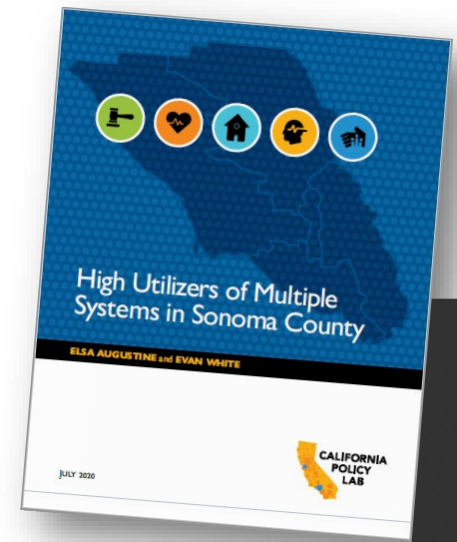
# Homelessness in **Sonoma County**

- In 2020, Sonoma County's homeless count has declined by 7% (from 2,951 to 2,745)
- Result of increased funding from the State of California in 2018-19 and intensive outreach and care coordination with the County's ACCESS IMDT, the HEART Cohort and Community Providers

# Homelessness in **Sonoma County**

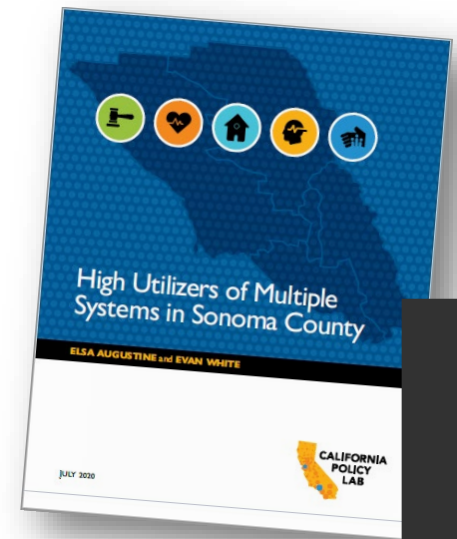
- The Community Development Commission does not provide direct services for individuals experiencing homelessness
- CDC Ending Homelessness Team and Compliance Team collaborate to support contracts for over 15 homeless service providers

# UC Berkley High Utilizer Findings



- We use a powerful new cross-domain dataset to identify Sonoma County's highest utilizers of multiple systems, a group of approximately 6,600 people.
- The average high utilizer spent nearly two months each year in a publicly subsidized inpatient or residential setting, such as a jail, a hospital, or homeless shelter.

# UC Berkley High Utilizer Findings



- Providing services to the top 1% highest utilizers in Sonoma County costs the government at least \$27,000 annually per person during the five-year study window.
- High utilizers account for an average of 26% of jail time, 28% of annual costs for behavioral health services, and 52% of nights in housing or shelters provided to the homeless.



# Homelessness During COVID19

- Efforts to address homelessness have been challenged by the COVID19 pandemic.
- Unsheltered individuals living on the streets and those living in large shelter settings are particularly susceptible.
- On March 18, 2020, Governor Newsom signed an Executive Order to implement emergency aid to local governments and implemented emergency proactive measures to mitigate the spread of COVID19 among the homeless.

# COVID19 Response

In March 2020, the DHS Departmental Operations Center (DOC) activated a **Homeless Task Force (HTF)** to provide strategic support to individuals experiencing homelessness and at high risk of developing serious complications from COVID-19.

# COVID-19 Accomplishments to date

- Sanitary Stations - Over twenty-five porta potties and handwashing stations are deployed across the County
  - *Within the City of Santa Rosa city limits*
  - *Unincorporated Santa Rosa*
  - *Healdsburg*
  - *Cloverdale*
  - *West County (Guerneville)*
  - *Petaluma*

# COVID-19 Accomplishments to date

- Establish Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS)
  - *Over 65 years of age experiencing homelessness*
  - *Under 65 years of age experiencing homelessness with serious underlying health conditions*
  - *NCS sites include the Astro Hotel, Sonoma State University, and trailers supplied by the State of California at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. The City of Santa Rosa has NCS site at the Sandman Hotel and social distancing site at Finley Center*

# COVID-19 Accomplishments to date

- Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) continued
  - *175 people have been served at our three sites with 154 individuals remaining*
  - *Astro Hotel - 27 individuals in 20 rooms*
  - *State Trailers - 19 individuals in 10 trailers*
  - *Sonoma State University – 128+ individuals*
- Security & Service Provision at each of our NCS sites

# COVID-19 Accomplishments to date

- Medical Services: The DOC Homeless Task Force contracts with vendors to provide a range of medical services for COVID pending, COVID positive and COVID vulnerable persons in our non-congregate settings:
  - *St. Joseph's Medical Center*
  - *Santa Rosa Medical Center*
  - *Petaluma Health Care Center*
  - *DEMA*
  - *St. Vincent de Paul*
  - *Catholic Charities and Veterans Resource Center (through July)*

# **COVID19 Funding to Support Homeless Solutions**

- Additional emergency shelter solutions (including indoor/outdoor shelter)
- Targeted rental assistance
- Rapid rehousing for individuals experiencing homelessness
- Emergency short-term rental assistance
- Housing navigation services for voucher recipients
- Long-term, permanent solutions including capital projects that mitigate or respond to the impacts of COVID-19.

# COVID19 Funding

	Source	Amount
1	Federal ESG-CV Round 1	\$564,000
2	Federal ESG-CV Round 2	\$6,598,916 (estimated)
3	Federal CDBG-CV Round 1	\$1,109,159
4	State ESG Disaster	\$393,754
5	State ESG-CV	\$790,600
6	HUD HOME Investments Partnership Program	\$134,401
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,590,830</b>



# Types of Projects that can be funded with COVID Funding

	Source	Amount
1	Federal ESG-CV Round 1	\$564,000
2	Federal ESG-CV Round 2	\$6,598,916 (estimated)

- The **Federal Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)** Funds (round 1 and 2) are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic COVID-19 among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance.
- Uses include Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, Homelessness Prevention, Street Outreach, HMIS, Major Rehab or Renovation of Emergency Shelter, Leasing costs for hotels/motels for use as Non-congregate shelter
- Direction from HUD is to focus on rapid re-housing and non-congregate emergency shelter for populations most at risk for exposure to or contraction of COVID-19.

# Types of Projects that can be funded with COVID Funding

3	Federal CDBG-CV Round 1	\$1,109,159
4	State ESG Disaster	\$393,754

- Potential uses for the **Community Development Block Grant** (CDBG) funds (#3) include Emergency Short Term rental Assistance for Very Low Income Households (chosen by lottery, prioritized by COVID-19 vulnerability), up to \$1,000 per month for up to 3 months; Legal Assistance for Eviction Defense; Fair Housing Programs; Capital Projects
- The State **Emergency Solutions Grant** (ESG) **DISASTER** funds of \$393,754 (#4) can be used for Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, Homelessness Prevention, Street Outreach, HMIS, Major Rehab or Renovation of Emergency Shelter, Leasing costs for hotels/motels for use as Non-congregate shelter.

# Types of Projects that can be funded with COVID Funding

5	State ESG-CV	\$790,600
6	HUD HOME Investments Partnership Program	\$134,401

- The State's Emergency Solutions Grant (#5), can be used for Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention with centralized Coordinated Entry referral, eligibility screening and housing navigation through the Housing Authority and partnerships with service providers for case management; Supplemental awards to existing Emergency Shelter Operations to assist in COVID-19 Risk mitigation measures, Operations of other Non-congregate shelters TBD that mitigate risk of COVID-19.
- The HOME investment Partnership Program (#6) is a Tenant Based Rental Assistance program provide for up to 2 years security deposits and utility payments for households at or below 50% AMI. It requires an amendment of the 2020 Consolidated Plan and use of these funds for TBRA is allowed as a COVID-19 waiver of the set-aside for Community Housing and Development Organizations

# **Status of Homeless Encampment Prevention Efforts**

- Indoor-Outdoor Shelter
- Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter
- Shared Housing
- HEART Encampment Efforts
- Additional Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to address homelessness
- Home Sonoma County Leadership Council and Community Development Committee Redesigns

# Indoor-Outdoor Shelter

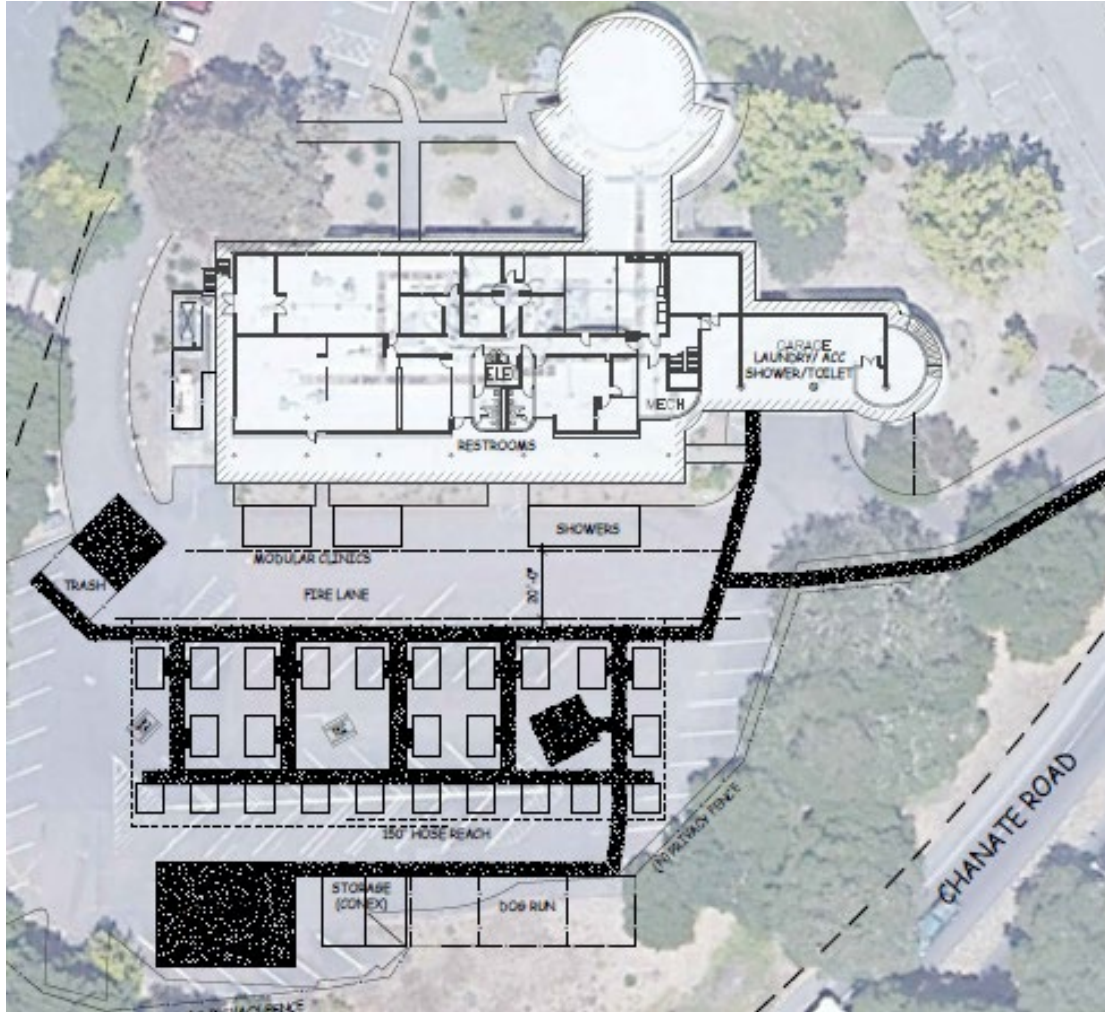
- Six sites were brought to the Board on March 10<sup>th</sup>
- Board directed analysis for four sites
- There may be opportunities to also consider how various county-owned sheltering programs could be placed in each supervisorial district.

# Indoor-Outdoor Shelter Sites

BOS directed	Sites	Site Type	Estimated Dev. Costs	Baseline # Served	Area Size
BOS	DHS Parking Lot, 3313 Chanate Road, Santa Rosa	County owned parking lot	\$1,540,392	min. 40 ppl	28,750 sq. ft (0.66 acres)
BOS	County of Sonoma Fairgrounds, Aston Barns, Santa Rosa	County owned parking lot	\$2,170,905	min. 40 ppl	69,696 sq. ft (recommended site: 1.6 acres)
BOS	Chanate Hall, 3333 Chanate Road, Santa Rosa	County owned unoccupied building	\$7,709,600	min. 40 ppl up to 82 with use of existing bldgs.	16,407 sq. ft (0.38 acres)

The 4040 Santa Rosa Avenue, site is no longer a viable option.

# 3313 Chanate PH Lab Parking Lot



Cost: \$1,540,392

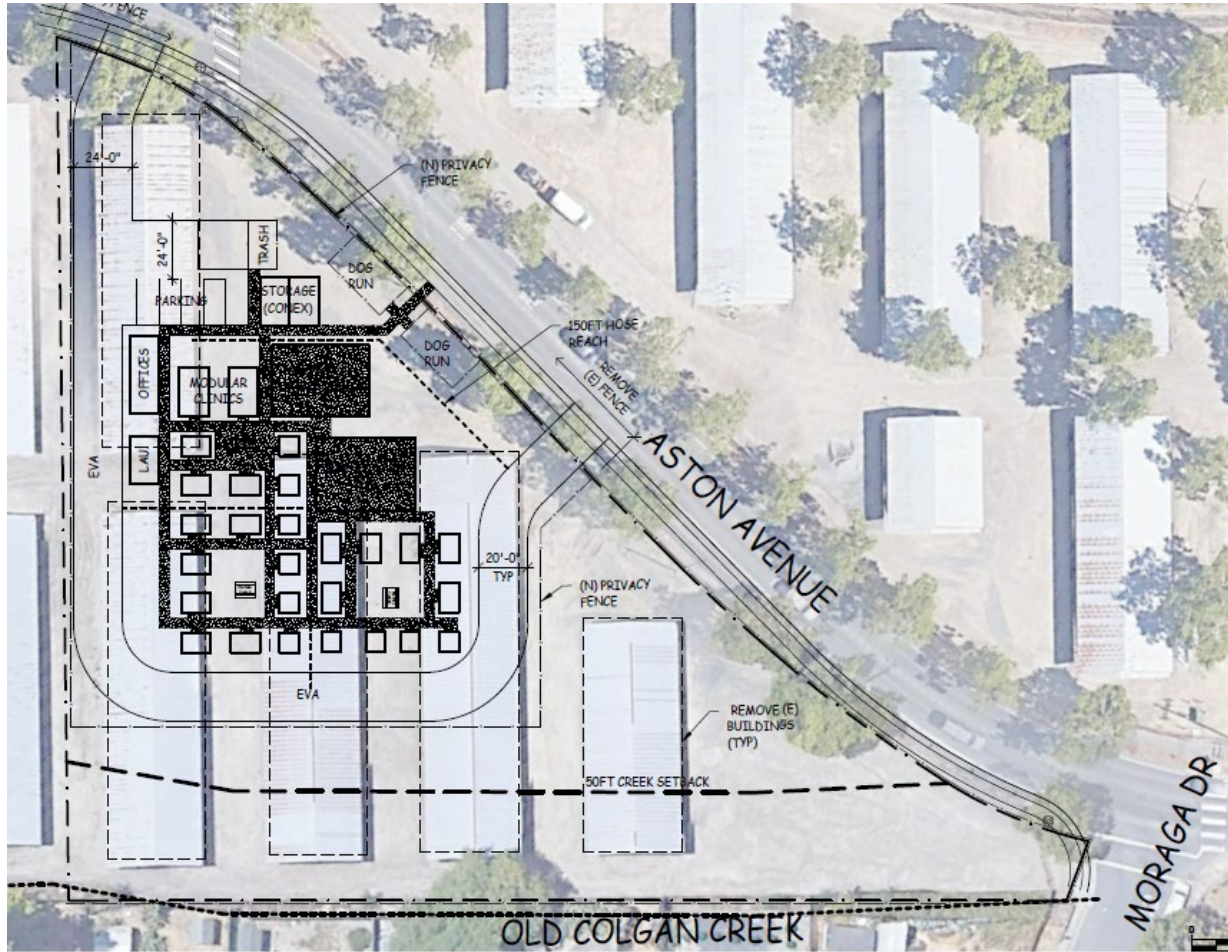
Size: 0.66 acres located on the west side of the DHS building.

Occupants: 40

County owned parking lot



# S. Aston Barns, Fairgrounds



Cost: \$2,170,905

Size: 1.6 acres

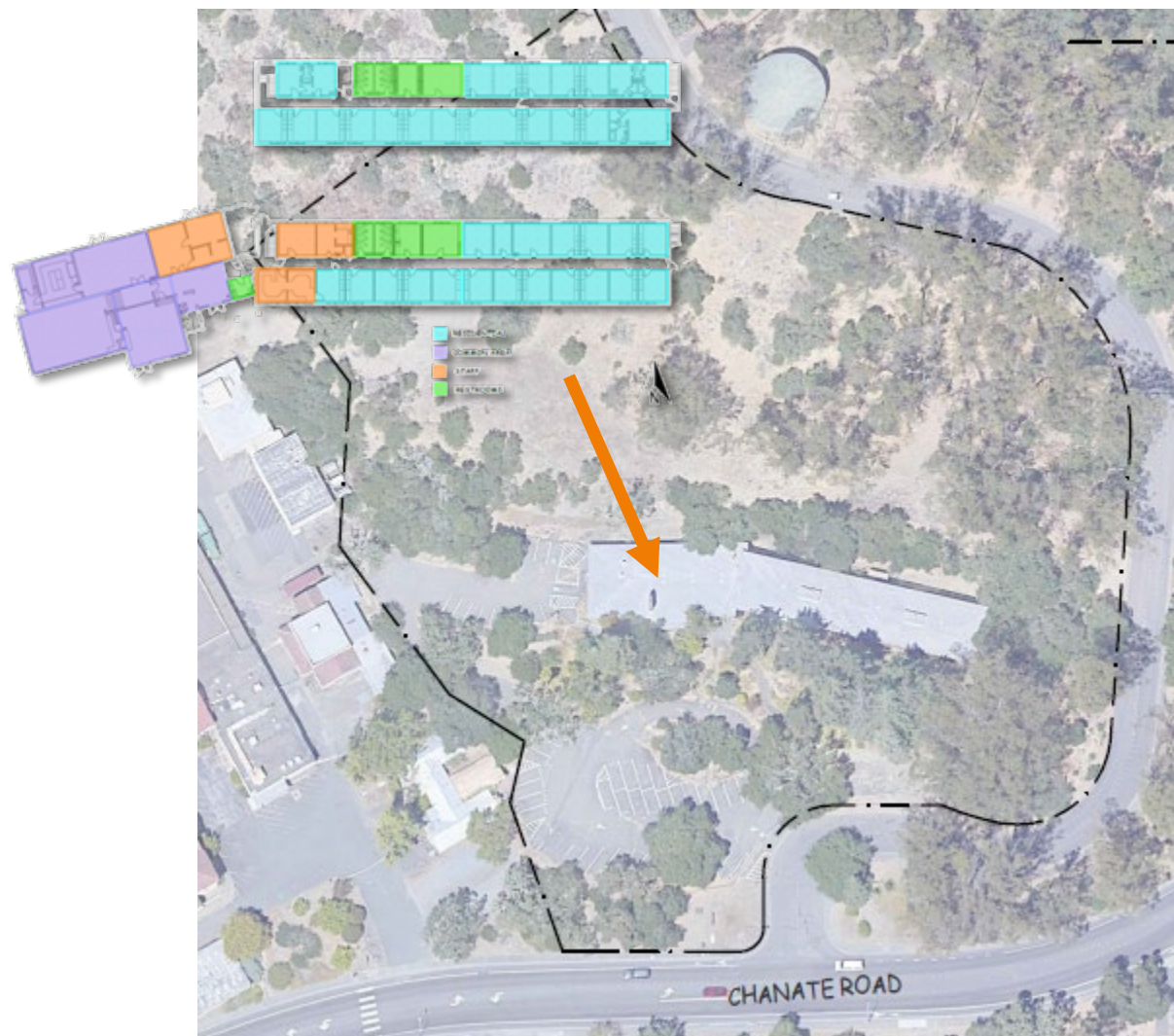
Occupants: 40

County owned lot

The easterly parcel is triangular-shaped and is a part of the larger Sonoma County Fairgrounds, with a PI zoning designation (public land.)



# Chanate Hall, 3333 Chanate Rd, SR



Cost: \$7,709,600

Due to Chanate Hall's age and condition, extensive and expensive renovation will be necessary to bring the building into current code compliance for housing.

# Fiscal Impacts

- Funding for the Indoor-Outdoor shelter will require funding from the County (\$1.54M to \$7.7M)
- 1.35M HHAP funding is available for annual operator costs.
- Emergency Solutions Grant Funding can be used to pay for the six-month operator extension costs on LGV (est. \$800,000 for six months).

# Los Guilicos Village (LGV)

*It has served as key entry point into the sheltering and housing system of care for some of the most vulnerable and chronically homeless members of our communities.*

Operational since January 2020,  
Board approved extension of the  
LG Village until August 30, 2020.



# Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter

- 90 Individuals have been provided services at LGV since January, with 55 remaining on site
- 17 have been connected with permanent supportive housing
- 19 individuals chose to leave voluntarily
- 14 involuntarily exited for compounded rule infractions
- 3 were placed in residential/psychiatric facilities
- Residents receive medication support, mental health and detox support, economic/food assistance, clothing, and employment training and job assistance

# **Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter**

**Services provided at the LG Village are vital determinants in the success of homeless individuals receiving and maintaining shelter and eventually permanent supportive housing.**

# Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter

## Social Services

- Medi-Cal
- Cal-Fresh
- General Assistance
- SSI/SDI
- Workforce Assistance

## Health Services

## Mental Health Services

- Crisis Services

## Substance Use Services

- Detox
- Residential Treatment

## Disease Testing

## Medical Services

- Primary Care
- Dental

## Housing

- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Sheltering Services
- Transitional Housing

## Legal Services and Support

- Probation
- Public Defender

# Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter

## Budget and Actual Operating Costs February – April 2020

Los Guilicos Village	Budget		Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals
Item/Service	Per Month		Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	Total
Shuttle Driver Salaries	6,712		5,666	6,065	2,916	14,647
Shelter Coordinator Salary	27,360		6,138	5,495	4,283	15,916
Workers Comp/Taxes/Benefits	10,944		7,781	8,148	9,723	25,652
Shelter Workers Salary	-		23,227	26,158	27,860	77,245
Management & Oversight	-		6,709	6,708	20,062	33,479
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>45,016</b>		<b>49,521</b>	<b>52,574</b>	<b>64,844</b>	<b>166,939</b>



# Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter

## Budget and Actual Operating Costs February – April 2020

Los Guilicos Village Item/Service	Budget Per Month		Actuals Feb-20	Actuals Mar-20	Actuals Apr-20	Actuals Total
Security - Contract	38,000		44,506	40,176	50,400	135,082
Food Service - Contract (SAVS)	15,000		6,000	6,000	6,000	18,000
Transportation Fuel + Service (Shuttle)	5,000		2,672	1,346	905	4,923
Recology Trash Bin	5,022		-	-	-	-
Toilet Servicing	1,720		-	-	-	-
Shower Servicing	6,000		-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous - Medicine Art Wall	5,500		-	-	4,000	4,000
Building & Equip Repairs	-		759	5,110	655	6,524
Construction & Site Operations - Contract	-		6,500	6,500	3,750	16,750



# Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter

## Budget and Actual Operating Costs February – April 2020

Los Guilicos Village	Budget	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals
Item/Service	Per Month	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	Total
Food Service - Contract (SVdP Kitchen)	-	-	-	40,500	40,500
Food Supplies (Breakfast, Snacks)		5,599	7,284	6,373	19,256
Insurance - Liability, Auto	-	837	-	-	837
Office & Operating Supplies	-	1,469	2,008	1,753	5,230
Mobile Office Rent (2)	-	-	-	5,810	5,810
Propane Servicing (Utilities)	-	-	4,940	1,737	6,677
Recruitment/Hiring Expense	-	468	77	-	545
Shelter Coordinator - Contract	-	4,752	5,664	4,032	14,448
Shelter Supplies	-	5,574	71	98	5,743
Telecommunications (office cell phone)	-	299	167	-	466
Vehicle Rent (shuttle van)	-	2,124	1,642	-	3,766
Volunteer & Staff Expense	-	121	-	-	121
<b>TOTAL SERVICES</b>	<b>76,242</b>	<b>81,680</b>	<b>80,985</b>	<b>126,013</b>	<b>288,678</b>

# Los Guilicos Village (LGV) Shelter

## Budget and Actual Operating Costs February – April 2020

Los Guilicos Village	Budget		Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals
Item/Service	Per Month		Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	Total
Administrative Overhead (15%)	18,189		6,939	9,919	8,477	25,335
Contingency (10%)	12,126		-	-	-	-
SUM TOTAL	151,573		138,140	143,478	199,334	480,952
Capital Expense						
Sleeping mats & bedding	3,480		684	949	116	1,749
ADA-accessible Shuttle	13,000		2,679	8,500	50	11,229
Equipment (Propane grill)	-		-	757	-	757
SUM TOTAL	16,480		3,363	10,206	166	13,735
OVERALL TOTAL	168,053		141,503	153,684	199,500	494,687

# Cost Considerations to Maintain LGV

- To continue at LGV we will need to install fire sprinklers into each unit (estimated at \$155,000)
- Ongoing operating costs needed to continue the shelter

# LG Village Success Story

***Client Success Story: It took a “Village”, but Martina is giving back and keeping our community safe***

- Received services on the Joe Rodota Trail (JRT)
- Moved to Los Guilicos Villages
- Transitioned into Buckelew Housing

After being homeless for 10+ years Martina has overcome many barriers. Currently, she's holding a full time job working in the security industry. She is currently sober and doing individual recovery work with a sponsor. She has expressed her gratitude for all the opportunities she has received.



# Shared Housing

- December 23, 2019, the Board directed staff to purchase six shared homes to house up to 60 individuals.
- To date, two homes have been purchased, sheltering 12 individuals.

# Shared Housing

- The Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Community Development Commission (CDC) have secured the purchase of 2 properties, the lease of 3 properties, and are contracting with Buckelew Programs to provide supportive services to individuals in these properties.
- DHS, CDC and Buckelew have completed the program development, which includes the manner in which vouchers and other revenue will support the program, strategies to allow DHS and CDC to serve individuals moved from the Joe Rodota Trail Encampment and processes for providing ongoing supportive and behavioral health services.

# **HEART Encampment Efforts**

**The Homeless  
Encampment Assistance  
Resource Team (HEART)**

- Focuses on sheltering Sonoma County's homeless population
- Originally established to respond to the Joe Rodota Trail encampment and was expanded in March of 2020 to outreach and provide coordinated care to individuals living in encampments in the unincorporated parts of the county and the cities of Sebastopol, Cotati, Rohnert Park, Sonoma, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Windsor, and the Town of Windsor.

# **The Process: Outreach to Housed**

**Contact is made at NCS site, encampment, or in community by a cohort outreach worker**

- Screen and assess individuals for program eligibility, service, and housing needs
- Immediate referrals and connections to medical needs, benefits, and housing resources
- Individuals finding housing at this stage are assisted by outreach worker with storage, transportation, and moving related needs.



# The Process: Outreach to Housed

## **Individuals agree to participate in integrated care management**

- Cohort manager approves and assigns individuals to case workers
- Individuals are presented in weekly IMDT meetings for integrated care coordination
- Hands on support with navigating coordinated entry, completing voucher applications, using vouchers, LGV referrals, and exploring housing & shelter options
- Individuals finding housing are assisted by integrated care management case worker with storage, transportation, and moving related needs.
- Ongoing case management support for medical, mental health, substance use, employment, benefits, and personalized individual goals provided by integrated care management case worker.

# **HEART Encampment Efforts**

## **The Homeless Encampment Assistance Resource Team (HEART)**

- On March 10, 2020, the Board approved additional funding to expand the homeless team of the ACCESS Initiative.
- HEART allows for greater capacity and reach to bring homeless individuals into sheltering and permanent supportive housing.
- The HEART cohort integrated into the existing Joe Rodota Trail team that was established by the Board on December 23, 2019. The JRT team was created to support outreach and care coordination to homeless individuals living on the Joe Rodota Trail (JRT).
- HEART has been deployed to engage large encampments since the closing of the JRT. Four of the outreach efforts were to Sonoma, two in Healdsburg, and one in Cloverdale.

# HEART Encampment Efforts

## The Homeless Encampment Assistance Resource Team (HEART)

- 360 services provided
- 185+ forms submitted

45 medical applications

5 CSU related services

38 voucher related services

4 miscellaneous benefit related services

33 doctor appointment service connections

4 DMV services

16 Cal Fresh applications

1 SSI service (Supplemental Security Income)

13 Pharmacy related services

1 Court related service

8 GA applications (General Assistance)

185 “other” services

7 Coordinated entry referrals or assessments

# **Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness**

- **Proposed Homeless Strategies** will focus on the continuum of sheltering, housing and care coordination across safety net services and systems.
- **Goal: achieving long-lasting outcomes in the County's efforts to achieve functional zero homelessness**

# **#1 Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness**

## **#1 Administrative and Operational Improvements:**

Strengthen the administrative infrastructure to improve our ability to support the delivery of homeless programs and services to achieve successful outcomes. Specifically, restructuring advisory bodies and other operational structures within the Community Development Commission to improve administrative operations.

# #1 Administrative and Operational Improvements

## *Short-Term Strategy (3-6 Months)*

- Redesign Leadership Council
- Redesign Community Development Committee
- Participate in Governor's 100-day Challenge
- Transition Responsibility for Coordinated Entry to the County

## *Medium-Term Strategy (6-12 Months)*

- Leadership Council - Implement LC strategic plan.

# **#2 Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness**

**#2 Expanding Sheltering Services:** Establishing indoor-outdoor shelters designed to meet those experiencing homelessness where they are and providing necessary services to successfully maintain the sheltering in order to move them to bridge housing. With Board direction, develop plans for additional county-owned or county-sponsored sheltering options in each supervisorial districts.

# #2 Expanding Sheltering Services

## *Short-Term Strategy (3-6 Months)*

- Receive Board approval for the creation of indoor-outdoor shelters to serve 80 or more individuals. Execute operating agreement with indoor-outdoor shelter operators. Move some of the 100+ COVID-19 vulnerable individuals from the Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) sites at Sonoma State University, the Astro Hotel, and the Fairgrounds trailers to the indoor-outdoor shelter site.

## *Medium-Term Strategy (6-12 Months):*

- Explore the establishment of shelters in West and North County.
- **Participate in Governor's 100-day Challenge** focusing on housing COVID-19 vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness and TAY.



# #3 Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness

- **#3 Bridge Housing:** Increase lease-to-own or outright purchases of shared homes/duplex housing to serve as the transition point from the streets, to sheltering, into permanent supportive housing or affordable housing.

# #3 Bridge Housing

## ***Short-Term Strategy (3-6 Months)***

- Purchase/lease-to-buy up to four shared housing as directed by the Board on December 23, 2019 for bridge housing. Two homes have already been purchased; four remaining homes will house up to 60 individuals depending on placements.

## ***Medium-Term Strategy (6-12 Months)***

- Continued efforts to purchase four of the remaining six homes approved by the Board in December 23, 2019.

# #4 Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness

- **#4 Permanent Supportive Housing:** advance additional solutions to contribute to the creation of 1,000 units of permanent supportive housing. These units would house our most vulnerable community members experiencing chronic homelessness of at least one year or more with disabilities who are most in need of safety net services to support successful housing and recovery.

# #4 Permanent Supportive Housing

## ***Short-Term Strategy (3-6 Months)***

- Explore investments in long-term, permanent housing and sheltering solutions. These solutions would focus on adding an additional 1,000 units over the course of the next 24 months.

## ***Medium-Term Strategy (6-12 Months)***

- Expand Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) for populations to move them into additional permanent supportive housing that will be coming online.

# #5 Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness

- **#5 Homeless Prevention Assistance:** Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing Support to prevent individuals at-risk of losing their housing, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic that has tremendous financial impacts on low-income individuals and families.

# #5 Homeless Prevention Assistance

## ***Short-Term Strategy (3-6 Months)***

- Provide rental assistance and enhance rapid rehousing efforts. With Board directed investments, we would reduce the risk of more individuals and families falling into homelessness. This proposal would investment \$1.5 Million dollars and serve approximately 300 individuals with short and long-term rental assistance.

## ***Medium-Term Strategy (6-12 Months)***

- Direct investments in rapid rehousing for homeless veterans and families experiencing homelessness. Such investments can support efforts to achieve functional zero homelessness among veterans and families that have seen over a fifty percent reduction since 2011 in Sonoma County.

# #6 Short- and Medium-Term Strategies to Address Homelessness

- **#6 ACCESS Integrated Care Management:** Fully operationalize the ACCESS Initiative care coordination teams to coordinate care for key health and social services (e.g., mental health substance use, Medi-Cal, Social Security, primary health, and general assistance enrollments, etc.) which are critical determinants of successful entering and maintaining sheltering and housing placements.

# #6 ACCESS Integrated Care Management

## ***Short-Term Strategy (3-6 Months)***

- The Homeless Encampment and Resource Team (HEART) would continue to enroll COVID-19 vulnerable homeless into the Accessing Coordinated Care & Empowering Self-Sufficiency (ACCESS) Initiative. Prioritize the 104 individuals who have enrolled into the ACCESS Initiative for shared/bridge housing or permanent supportive housing. These individuals come from the Non-Congregate Site (NCS) at the Alternate Care Site (ACS) at Sonoma State University.

## ***Medium-Term Strategy (6-12 Months)***

- HEART homeless encampment team to continue to enroll homeless into bridge and permanent housing options as they come online. Interdepartmental Multi-disciplinary Team (IMDT) to implement a strategic plan to work in all non-entitlement jurisdictions throughout the County.



# Project Roomkey: Emergency Housing for Immediate Protection


- On June 26, 2020, the California Legislature passed the 2020-21 Budget Act including several key investments and provisions related to reducing homelessness in California.
- The Budget appropriates \$550 million Coronavirus Relief Fund to support housing for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Project Roomkey Opportunities

- Opportunity for long-term acquisitions rehabilitations of hotel, motel and other sheltering sites.
- The sites would be converted into housing for Sonoma County's COVID vulnerable citizens.



# Permanent Solutions

- Hotels
  - Motels
  - RV Park Conversions
  - Shared Housing
- 

# Home Sonoma County Leadership Council and Community Development Committee Redesigns

- All jurisdictions have representation on the Leadership Council
- Builds upon work done from 2017-2019 in redesigning governance of the homeless system of care.

# Home Sonoma County Leadership Council and Community Development Committee Redesigns

- Recommend the Community Development Committee focus its efforts on affordable housing and housing authority functions with the Board of Supervisors
- Home Sonoma County Leadership Council focus on homeless matters.
  - *Improve the effectiveness of the Council by: (1) positioning it to focus on the development of homeless policies to guide county-wide efforts to end homelessness; (2) restructuring to ensure that the Community Development Commission is effectively providing the operational and administrative support necessary to provide a successful backbone to the LC; and (3) clearly delineating roles and responsibilities between the LC and the Community Development Committee.*

# Membership

- We recommend that the Leadership Council consist of elected officials and members with lived experience as reflected in the following membership:
  - (2) *Board of Supervisors*
  - (2) *SR City*
  - (2) *Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sonoma, Windsor, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Sebastopol*
  - (2) *Members with lived experience*

# Purpose

- Set the vision and principles of HOME Sonoma County and for achieving functional zero homelessness in Sonoma County;
- Own the issue of homelessness within the county and be widely recognized as the owner of the issue; communicate with the public on issues related to homelessness;
- Serve as Sonoma County's HUD-required Continuum of Care Board;
- Focus on high-level decisions related to homelessness;
- Represent rural and urban communities to develop a regional system with geographic equity and;
- Provide leadership to realign and unify homelessness-related funding and policies throughout the county: establish Sonoma County's homelessness funding priorities and make decisions on funding awards in unified consolidated homeless services funding processes; align and unify all homeless services funding and contracting processes with the goal of eliminating duplication.

# Responsibilities

- Establish a Housing First strategy; establish policy related to achieving functional zero homelessness in Sonoma County;
- Authorize policy and procedure for the Coordinated Entry System and Housing First policy;
- Approve and monitor standard performance outcomes;
- Approve best practices and monitor their adherence; ensure that organizations serving Sonoma County's homeless population receive the technical assistance and training they need to be able to ultimately implement Housing First strategies;
- Authorize any ad hoc Task Groups needed from time to time to supplement the work of the standing Task Groups of the Technical Advisory Committee, so long as there is sufficient staff capacity from the Lead Agency to staff such Task Groups;
- Identify individuals to serve on Task Groups, and develop and implement a plan to achieve the ad hoc Task Group goals identified by the Leadership Council and; • Approve the submission of applications to Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) published by HUD and other funders (State of California, etc.) requiring such approvals by the CoC Board



# Recommended Actions

- Accept staff's report on the Community Development Commission and Department of Health Services efforts to implement homeless strategies approved by the Board on December 23, 2019 and March 10, 2020.
- Provide direction to staff on the establishment of an indoor-outdoor shelter(s).
- Provide direction to staff on the future of the Los Guilicos Village Shelter.
- Provide direction to staff regarding proposed short- and medium-range homeless strategies including the direction for the use and appropriation of federal and state homeless funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provide direction to staff on County's homeless funding allocation to the Home Sonoma County Leadership Council.

# Recommended Actions

- Provide an update on upcoming efforts to lease and/or purchase remaining homes for shared housing.
- Provide direction to staff to explore opportunities to expand permanent solutions under the Project Roomkey program and appropriations under the governor's budget.
- Approve recommendation to have the Community Development Committee focus affordable housing and housing authority functions with the Board of Supervisors and have the Home Sonoma County Leadership Council focus on homeless matters.
  - *CDC will focus on administration and operations and backbone support for both committees.*



**Sonoma County Community Development Commission**  
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# Questions

