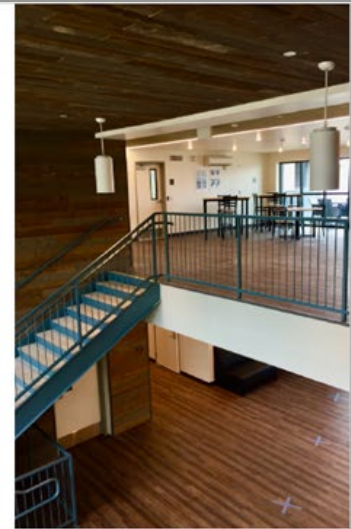


# Current State of Homelessness and Phase II Community Action Plan to Address Homelessness

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May 4, 2021



Santa Barbara County  
Phase II Community Action  
Plan to Address Homelessness



# Input from local jurisdictions as we collectively address key actions:

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Adoption of the Phase II Community Action Plan to Address Homelessness

Community engagement

- Education
- Engagement

Planning coordination

- Inventory and site mapping
- Policies and processes

Funding collaboration

- Dedicated funds
- Contracting best practices
- Regional capacity

# System Level Goals

- Prioritize ending/dramatically reducing homelessness for specific populations.
- Increase housing inventory (units and beds) dedicated to homelessness.
- Create a culture of shelter diversion and prevention across the homeless response system.
- Improve overall homeless system performance.
- Achieve Continuum of Care strategies and benchmarks approved in 2019.



# Strategies and Priority Areas

Strategy 1: Increase Access to Safe, Affordable Housing

Strategy 2: Use Best Practices to Deliver Tailored Supportive Services to Meet Individual Needs

Strategy 3: Build a Collective Action Plan; Improve Data Sharing

Strategy 4: Strengthen Support Systems Available to Help Residents Obtain and Maintain Housing

Strategy 5: Build Provider Capacity to Address the Needs of Specific Populations

## PHASE II GOALS: MOVING FROM PLANNING TO BOLD ACTION

Santa Barbara County Community-Wide Vision for Addressing Homelessness

*Create a regional unified response and an urgent flexible system of care that is driven by data, guided by best practices and seeks to prevent homelessness when possible or otherwise ensures that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring for anyone in Santa Barbara County. It is through commitment, collaboration, and connection, that we will realize this vision.*

### Strategy 1: Increase Access to Safe, Affordable Housing

**Priority 1:** Increase Inventory of Affordable and Permanent Supportive Housing

**Priority 2:** Increase the Pool of Funding Available to Provide Housing and Services

**Priority 3:** Expand and Enhance the Shelter System and Implement Best Practices

**Priority 4:** Develop and Improve Partnerships with Landlords to Secure Housing in the Private Rental Market

### Strategy 2: Use Best Practices to Deliver Tailored Supportive Services to Meet Individual Needs

**Priority 1:** Provide education and ongoing training opportunities to stakeholders on best practices

**Priority 2:** Expand Supportive Services to Meet Client Needs

**Priority 3:** Connect Clients to Mainstream Services

### Strategy 3: Build a Collective Action Plan; Improve Data Sharing

**Priority 1:** Craft a Collective Response to Homelessness

**Priority 2:** Improve Data Collection Countywide and Enhance the Use of HMIS as Person-Centered Tool

**Priority 3:** Create a data-driven culture and use data to drive decision making

**Priority 4:** Implement Cross Sector Data Sharing to improve Care Coordination and Outcomes

### Strategy 4: Strengthen Support Systems Available to Help Residents Obtain and Maintain Housing

**Priority 1:** Ensure a Coordinated Response System to Quickly Access Appropriate Housing and Services

**Priority 2:** Improve Prevention and Diversion Programs

**Priority 3:** Reach Out to Those Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

**Priority 4:** Create Meaningful Opportunities for Employment

### Strategy 5: Build Provider Capacity to Address the Needs of Specific Populations

**Priority 1:** Provider Training

**Priority 2:** Address Implementation Challenges

**Priority 3:** Provider Coordination and Management

**Priority 4:** System Management and Maintenance

# Next Steps

## Implementation Coordination & Leadership

- ❖ Adoption of plan by City Councils.
- ❖ *Elected Leaders Forum to provide policy direction and monitor progress monthly.*
- ❖ Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care continue system improvements and coordination.
- ❖ County Department Directors' Homeless Inter Agency Policy Council to address internal solutions, priorities and actions.
- ❖ Community Services to convene key stakeholders to coordinate and advance action steps.