

# City of San Diego Community Action Plan on Homelessness

## Year 1 Accomplishments Update

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# Goals Within Reach

(3 years)

1

Decrease unsheltered homelessness by 50%

2

Finish the job of ending Veteran homelessness

3

Prevent and end youth homelessness

# Progress Toward Goals Within Reach

## Decrease Unsheltered Homelessness by 50%



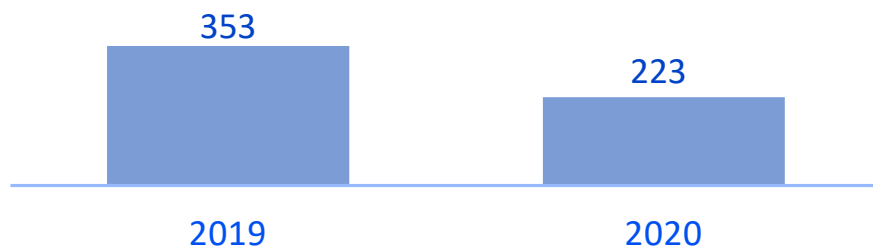
12% decrease  
in unsheltered homelessness

## End Veteran Homelessness



44% decrease  
in unsheltered veteran  
homelessness

## Prevent and End Youth Homelessness



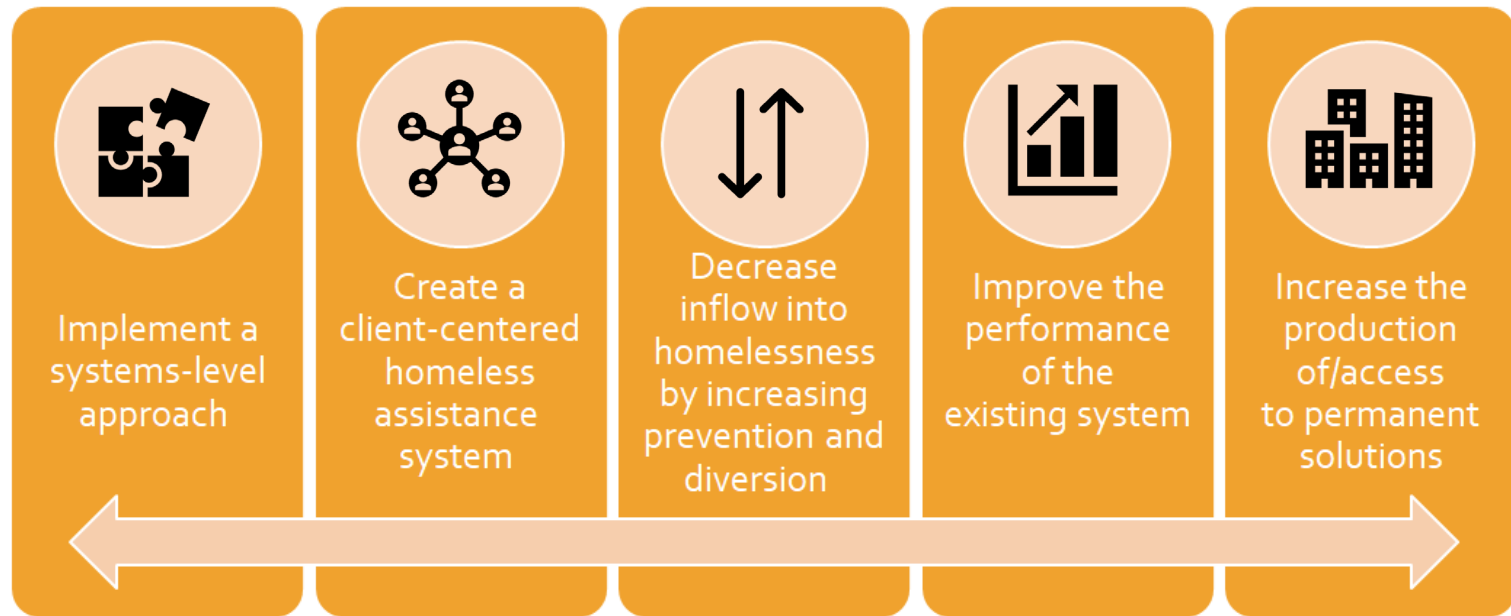
37% decrease  
in unsheltered youth  
homelessness

# Actioning the Community Action Plan During COVID-19

- March, 2020 – City of San Diego declared a state of emergency related to COVID-19
- April 1, 2020 – Operation Shelter to Home launched
- The validity and value of the Community Action Plan showed its worth in the midst of experiencing a global pandemic and homeless crisis concurrently. The plan allowed this team to make informed and aligned decisions that still support the goals of the Community Action Plan.

# Overview of Activities Accomplished in 2020

**Actioned** and **Accelerated** Activities accomplished under guidance of the five foundational strategies.



# Actioned and Accelerated Activities Overview

## Implement a Systems Level Approach to Homelessness Planning

*Build capacity and infrastructure around city-level governance, strategic thinking and systems change to support the articulated goals.*

### Actioned Activities

- Created and implemented an interagency steering structure to guide Community Action Plan implementation
- Work with the County and other funders to anticipate shifts in funding and ensure partner agencies are prepared for those changes
- Provide regular trainings to build capacity within the provider community to ensure the highest quality of service delivery
- Designed the Neighborhood-Based Coordinated Street Outreach program

### Accelerated Activities

- Proposal for the City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

# Actioned and Accelerated Activities Overview

## Create a Client-Centered Homeless Assistance System

*Create a homeless assistance system that centers around clients and values client feedback in system design and resource allocation*

### Actioned Activities

- Increase bridge shelter beds
- PEER program with San Diego City College
- Engage with Advisory Groups
- RTFH Ad Hoc Committee on Addressing Homelessness Among Black San Diegans established

### Accelerated Activities

- Enhanced opportunities in Coordinated Entry
- Coordination of resources provided in Operation Shelter to Home and enhanced housing-focused services through the Housing Navigation Team
- Future state of bridge shelters
- Work with the County to identify and address gaps in service options for permanent housing programs

# Actioned and Accelerated Activities Overview

## Decrease Inflow Through Increase of Prevention and Diversion

*Work with other regional systems to prevent homelessness when possible and divert people from the system altogether*

### Actioned Activities

- Expand Family Reunification Program
- “Preserving Affordable Housing in the City of San Diego” report
- City of San Diego Single-Room Occupancy Ordinance Enhancements
- Diversion Learning Collaborative by RTFH
- Universal Diversion Screening Tool
- Utilize flexible funding pool to meet client needs

### Accelerated Activities

- City of San Diego COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program



# Actioned and Accelerated Activities Overview

## Improve the Performance of the Existing System

*Review current practices, performance and metrics to move from project-level thinking to system-level thinking*

### Actioned Activities

- Adopt Unsheltered and Encampment Policy Guidelines
- SDHC HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO Programs enhancements
- RTFH Outreach Standards and Practices
- RTFH standards and practices around Rapid Rehousing
- Streamline regulations for affordable housing development
- Changes in enforcement of ordinances and creation of diversion opportunities for persons experiencing homelessness
- Ongoing coordination with the County to improve system performance

### Accelerated Activities

- VASH Voucher utilization improvements
- POFA Voucher utilization improvements

# Actioned and Accelerated Activities Overview

## Increase the Production of/Access to Permanent Solutions

*Identify low-income and affordable housing options to increase opportunities to provide greater access to permanent housing*

### Actioned Activities

- Establish City housing goals to complement RHNA allocation
- Enhancements to SDHC Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program
- NOFA released for more PSH and affordable housing

### Accelerated Activities

- Additional Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers allocated for Transitional-Aged Youth population
- Streamline Coordinated Entry process
- Hotel/Motel Acquisition Project
- Mayor's Call to Action to Landlords

# Areas of Focus for Next Year

## Implement a Systems-Level Approach to Homelessness Planning

- Implement City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center and system performance reporting
- Implement Coordinated Outreach Program
- Develop [Dashboard](#) and provide quarterly reports to community stakeholders on progress against plan
- Create a communications workgroup and plan

# Areas of Focus for Next Year

## Create a Client-Centered Homeless Assistance System

- Increase participation in system and program planning and feedback by People with Lived Experience
- Analyze data, identify and determine any potential opportunities to impact the contributing factors related to disproportionate representation of certain populations regarding entry into homelessness
- Reduce negative impacts of enforcement and criminal history on people experiencing homelessness, and any barriers that may come up toward obtaining housing
- Implement automated client-feedback program to improve system performance

# Areas of Focus for Next Year

## Increase the Production of/Access to Permanent Solutions

- Identify currently funded projects in pipeline and occupancy timeline
- Identify funding opportunities for additional projects
  - State advocacy
  - Federal advocacy
- Work with County, State, and local partners to identify service funding for Permanent Supportive Housing units to be developed

# Areas of Focus for Next Year

## Increase the Production of/Access to Permanent Solutions

- Identify annual development targets beginning in 2021
- Coordinate timing of funding competitions across partners to support pipeline expansion in alignment with this plan
- Work with community partners to identify potential land/property for development
- Identify SRO properties for preservation
- Work with City Planning Office to create a “diamond lane” process to expedite low-income housing development executed as part of this plan

# Questions and Comments