

San Leandro Homeless And Housing Task Force

PRESENTATION TO SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL



January 20th, 2015

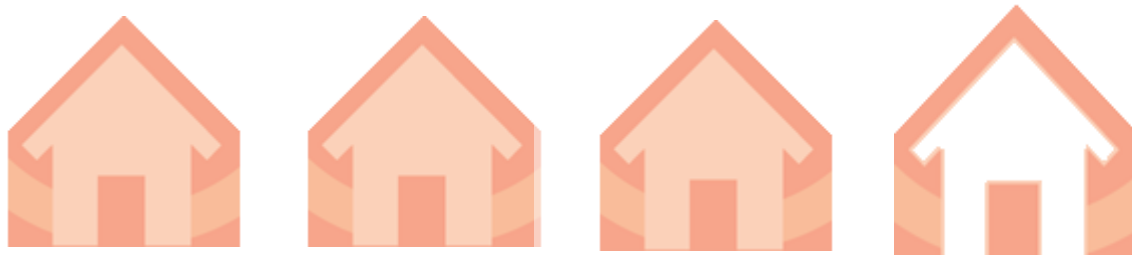
How Did The Task Force Begin?

- Identified gap in homeless services after the death of a homeless man living on the streets of Hayward
- The City of San Leandro and community organizations dedicated to ending homelessness came together to fill this gap
- Funding provided by the City of San Leandro
- At the direction of the City Council, the Task Force was created to develop a plan to respond to immediate homeless issues in the City



Mission of the Task Force

Develop a short term plan, by acting as a catalyst and leadership resource, to bring the community together to promote more affordable housing, end homelessness, and improve the situation of those who are homeless.



Members of the Task Force

- ❖ Moira Fry
 - Interfaith Homelessness Network (IHN)/April Showers
- ❖ Rose Johnson
 - Chief Executive Officer, Davis Street Family Resource Center
- ❖ Ronald Keeney
 - Interfaith Homelessness Network (IHN)/April Showers
- ❖ Dan Martinez
 - Congregations Organizing for Renewal (COR)
- ❖ Liz Varela
 - Executive Director, Building Futures with Women and Children
- ❖ City Staff
 - Cynthia Battenberg, Community Development Director
 - Steve Hernandez, Housing Specialist II

Task Force Members' Services

April Showers/Interfaith Homeless Network

Serves homeless people with a safe place to take a shower, toiletry items underclothing, laundry vouchers, a hot meal, and a bag lunch. Offered 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays.

Building Futures With Women and Children

Provides crisis intervention, emergency shelter, supportive housing, domestic violence outreach and housing assistance services end homelessness and domestic violence in their lives.

Davis Street Family Resource Center

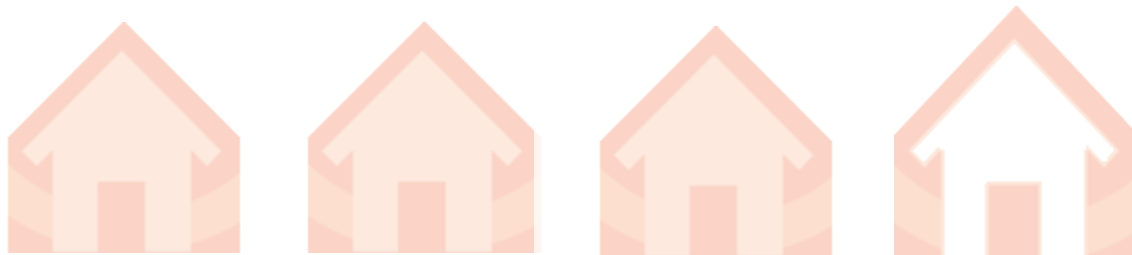
Specialized homeless services include food, clothing, health care, dental care, domestic violence intervention, substance abuse counseling, child care and mental health counseling.

Congregations Organizing for Renewal

Advocates to create structural and tangible change for those most burdened by poverty, inequality, chronic low wages, poor educational opportunities, high costs of housing, violence and more.

Definition of Homelessness

- A homeless person is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or in any other unstable or non-permanent situation.
- Homeless individuals who are to be released from a prison or hospital may be considered homeless if they do not have a stable housing situation to which they can return
- Homelessness can also include individuals who are “doubled up,” or “couch surfing,” terms that refer to situations where individuals are unable to maintain their housing situation and are forced to stay with a series of friends and/or extended family members.



In Pursuit of the Mission

1. Determine need, existing service and service gaps for homeless people and those in housing crisis
2. Identify resources to support development of an implementation plan
3. Ensure stakeholder involvement
4. Development timeline and identify next steps to achieve mission



1

Determine need, existing service and service gaps for homeless people and those in housing crisis

To date:

- Lack of men's shelter in Mid-Alameda County
- Lack of services or street outreach/engagement services in San Leandro for unsheltered San Leandrans
- Unsheltered San Leandrans have no place to have shelter from the cold and the rain
- No case management to help unsheltered San Leandrans locate housing to end their homelessness and connect them to medical care and income sources
- No homelessness prevention funding to serve San Leandro individuals and families in crisis

2

Identify resources to support development of an implementation plan

To date:

- Opened Warming Shelter (Building Futures and April Showers)
- Started case management and street outreach for unsheltered San Leandrans (Building Futures)
- Street outreach for unsheltered San Leandrans (Building Futures, April Showers, and Davis Street)
- Applied to HUD (\$500,000 for housing vouchers) and received CalWorks (\$290,000 for rapid rehousing for families) (Building Futures)

3

Ensure stakeholder involvement

To date:

- Community Meeting
- Outreach to Task Force members, San Leandro Police Department, San Leandro Community Business District, churches, clubs, and community members
- Engagement of community donors and volunteers eager to assist the Warming Shelter and the unsheltered San Leandrans it serves

4

Develop timeline and identify next steps to achieve mission

- Continue to conduct outreach to unsheltered San Leandrans at April Showers and St. Vincent DePaul Lunch Program (St. Leander Church)
- Continue to open the warming shelter on nights when the temperature is forecasted for 40 degrees or colder or rain is expected
- Continue to provide unsheltered San Leandrans with medical and mental health services, food and clothing, and income sources
- Continue to provide unsheltered women with emergency shelter, housing assistance, and domestic violence intervention
- Continue to keep the City of San Leandro up to date on activities and findings

Warming Shelter Activities



- On November 22, community meeting held to publicize the plan and opportunities to help.
 - About 50 were in attendance — nearly everyone signed up to help.
- We created and disseminated a press release, outreach flyer, intake forms, informational materials for supporters, signage, and staff t-shirts.
- Outreach so far has been at April Showers & St. Vincent DePaul lunch program.
- The Warming Shelter opened December 11. So far, 25 (unduplicated) served.
- St. Leander Church opens its doors for unsheltered people every Monday night.
 - Shelter opens at 6pm. Clients receive dinner, sleeping bags, clothing and hygiene items. In the morning, they receive coffee and breakfast. When donated, we have provided bagged lunches.

Who has the Warming Shelter Served?

So far...

- ✓ **51** unsheltered San Leandrans have been **registered**
- ✓ **25** have **stayed overnight** at the warming shelter
- ✓ About **12** stay each night
- ✓ **7** are **veterans** of U.S. military
- ✓ **49** are **over 40 (90%)**
- ✓ **11** are **over 60 (21%)**
- ✓ **12** are **women (23%)**
- ✓ **7** of the women have been diverted to BFWC's **San Leandro Shelter**
- ✓ **6** men and **4** women are **receiving housing assistance** so far

Warming Shelter Hosts

These churches have generously agreed to serve as hosts for the Warming Shelter:

First Methodist Church

- ❖ December 2014
- ❖ January 2015

Bethel Presbyterian Church

- ❖ February and March 2015

- Though not needed thus far, in the case of un-hosted nights, the Veterans' Hall can be used at any time, per an agreement with Alameda County

Warming Shelter

Donors and Volunteers

1st United Presbyterian Church

All Saints Episcopal Church

April Showers staff

Aver Information Co.

Bethel Food Pantry

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Rev. Myrna Bernadal-Huey

Patricia Bidar

Tom Breckenridge

Judy Bulman

Jim Cortner

Beth Crawford

Pauline Cutter

Kenny Evans

First United Methodist Church

Al & Kathe Frates

Moira Fry

Pamela Jensen

Catherine Kavasch

Ron Keeney

Mary Kincaid

Jack Kincaid

Donna Knight

Mary Jo Knueven

Lien Le

Jean MacArthur

Marilyn Madsen

Chloe McGill

Darren Moore

Noel Moritz

Novartis Employees

Peets Coffee

Nancy Pretto

Pastor Sarah Reyes

Joanne & Jim Serna

Maxine Sitts

Nancy Skinner

St. Leander Catholic Church

The St. Leanders Girls CYO

Volleyball Team

Margaret Strem

Strizzi's/Rigatoni's

Carol Taylor

Roger Taylor

Lilly Torres

Kathleen Waters

Davis Street's Enhanced Services

Enhanced services include:

- Transportation assistance (bus passes)
- Outreach efforts by a specially-trained *Community promotora* who provides services **in place**, meaning visits to homeless encampments, parking lots where families are sleeping in cars, and other locations most frequented by our clients. We are bringing services to where people are located.
- Mail service. Clients can now receive mail at Davis Street in order to maintain benefits. Without a stable mailing address, our homeless clients are prone to losing needed benefits.

Davis Street By-the-Number (since December 15, 2014)

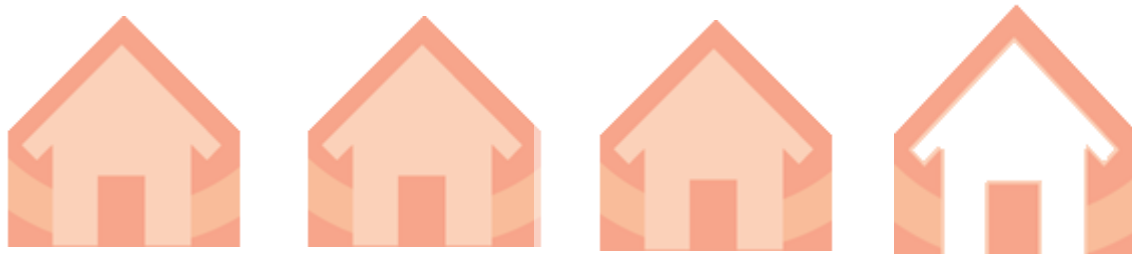
- 45 new intakes for Basic Need Services
- 12 new clients enrolled in health insurance and Cal-fresh benefits
- Over 75 food bags have been provided to April Showers for their clients
- New clients are coming in 3 -4 times per month for services (food, clothing, medical).

Davis Street's Enhanced Services Cont.

- Enhanced funding from the City of San Leandro allowed the Basic Needs Food Pantry to service an additional 918 individuals during the last two weeks of December!!!
- Will be opening a specialized homeless clinic in our Primary Care Center to address critical multi-phasic health and social support needs in this population. Services will include enrolling unsheltered families and individuals in to the State's Cal Fresh food program; registering for health insurance and connecting with other state and county-offered programs.

Preliminary Findings

- We estimate that 100-150 unsheltered homeless people live on the streets of San Leandro
- As of October 30, 2014 the San Leandro School District identified 145 homeless students are registered for 2014-15 school year
- Between 200 and 300 homeless San Leandrans come to Davis Street and Building Futures for services each year



Recommendations of the Task Force

- Continue to support the Task Force
- Fund portion of ongoing street outreach worker and fund Warming Shelter next year.
- Continue second phase of needs assessment
- Increase connection to Homeless Support services at the county level
- Building Futures continues participation in development of ALCO's centralized intake process for homeless individuals and families, and continues leveraging of housing funds to house unsheltered San Leandrans



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Thank You!

