



# **COVID-19 Homelessness Response Plan Update**

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Office of the County Executive  
Department of Human Assistance

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# Original COVID-19 Response Plan April 7, 2020

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- Over \$15M allocated in County, City and Continuum of Care funding (9 sources)
- Strategies and Actions aimed at
  - Slowing the spread of COVID-19
  - Mitigating impacts for persons experiencing homelessness
- Collaborative Plan Implementation
  - County, City of Sacramento, Sacramento Steps Forward, Sacramento Housing & Redevelopment

## Support Existing Shelters

Nearly 400  
Beds in  
Congregate  
Settings

Keep safe and  
operational:  
Education  
Supplies  
Advice  
Testing

## Create Isolation Quarantine Shelters

COVID-Positive  
and Vulnerable  
Populations

Up to:  
850 motel  
rooms  
60 trailers  
80 beds in  
congregate

## Support Encampments

Outreach:  
Bring inside

Support to  
Stay:  
Medical  
Food/Water  
Sanitation

# Capacity and Services to Date

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Preventative Quarantine Units	Medical Isolation Units	Encampment Services	COVID-19 Testing
563 Motel Rooms/Trailers	18 Trailers	56 Handwashing Stations & 51 toilets in 38 locations	790 Tests Administered
793 Households 936 People	29 Households 33 People	Nearly 45k Meals Delivered	3 Positive Results

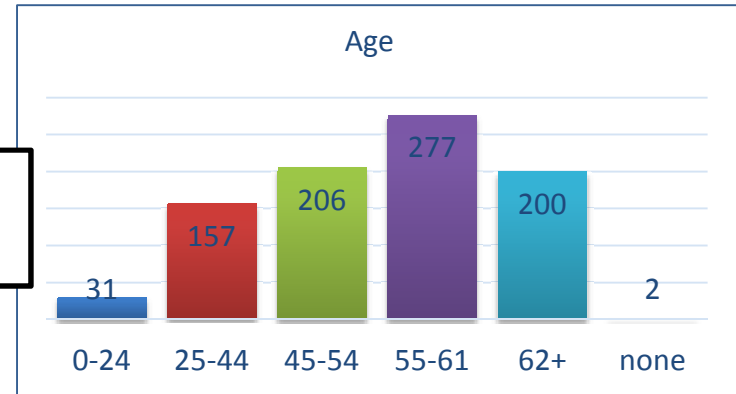
As of July 6, 2020

# Who Are We Serving in Isolation/Quarantine Units?

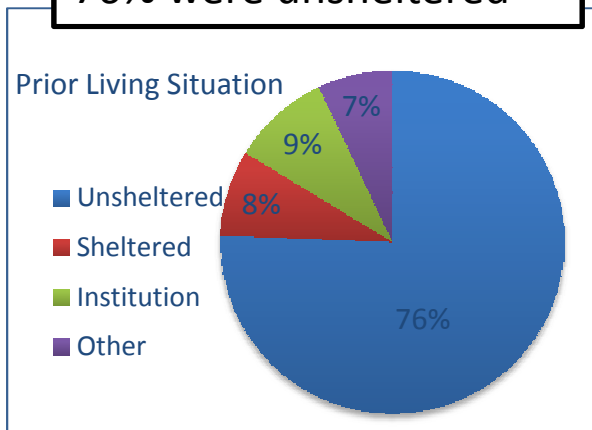


63% > than 1 year

55%: age 55 years or older



76% were unsheltered



Participants report:

- 47% disability
- 41% chronic homelessness
- 34% chronic health condition
- 32% mental health problems
- 28% substance abuse

27%: No record of engagement in services

# Amended Plan Elements

<p>Extend Isolation/ Quarantine Units through September</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 563 Units at five sites</li> <li>■ Hold 18 trailers for medical isolation</li> <li>■ New referrals in turnover units</li> </ul>
<p>Continue Encampment Support through September</p>	<p>Operate within exiting budgets</p>
<p>Pivot efforts to re-house up to 500 households served in Isolation/Quarantine Units</p> <p>Pursue new Permanent Supportive Housing Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Re-allocate \$1.1 million in current Plan funding</li> <li>■ \$4.3M in new County and City funding</li> </ul> <p>Total Plan Costs: \$19.4M</p>

# Strategy 1: Re-housing Assistance into Existing Permanent Housing

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- Engage, assess, problem solve, and connect to services
- Match 250 participants to existing re-housing assistance programs
  - Housing location, deposits, rental assistance, services
  - Includes Veteran programs, Pathways, Vouchers, Behavioral Health, others
- Expand County Flexible Housing Pool (FHP) to facilitate 225 housing placements
- Fund Room and Board placements for 25 households.

## Strategy 2: Develop New Permanent Supportive Housing

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- Acquire motels or other real estate for persons experiencing homelessness, including persons currently residing in isolation/quarantine units.
- Pursue new funding, including State Project HomeKey
- SHRA and/or an affordable housing developer would purchase and operate with occupancy in 5-6 months
- County Department of Health Services and contracted partners will provide stabilizing services



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## Opportunities

## Challenges

Takes advantage of increased client stability after living unsheltered

Guests may need ongoing housing and services support

Uses strengths of existing housing partners

Stretches capacity of system very quickly

Aligns with best practices and federal direction, utilizing HUD technical assistance

Relies on volatile real estate market and access to affordable housing

New State and federal funding, including CARES ESG II, State Project HomeKey, HHAP II

Limited term and complex funding (uses, deadlines, etc.)

Unprecedented local collaboration and focus on re-housing

Unprecedented scale in accelerated timeframe

# Recommendations

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- Approve amended COVID-19 Response Plan
- Utilize \$2.15M in County CRF funding for Flexible Housing Pool
- Accept \$2.15M in City funding (pending Council approval)
- Amend existing contracts in FHP to implement expanded activities
- Direct SHRA and DHS to pursue development of new permanent supportive housing