

Springs Village, photo courtesy of Burbank Housing



A Roof Over Every Head: Sonoma County's 10-Year Homeless Action Plan

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Planning Group

January 2007

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Three background documents describe in more detail the strategies contained in this Plan. These reports are available at www.sonoma-county.org/cdc/homlescofc.htm:

- ☀ ***Sonoma County's Homeless Subpopulations*** – A slide show describing the homeless population as reflected by data from the 2005 Homeless Count and other sources.
- ☀ ***Housing Sonoma County's Homeless*** – A detailed report specifying the housing types and numbers of units that would address the need documented in the 2005 Homeless Count, including how the estimates were derived.
- ☀ **Sonoma County Continuum of Care Governance & Organizational Structure Proposal** – The rationale for elected representation to the Continuum of Care Steering Committee.

1. Introduction

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care Planning Group proudly presents a bold new action plan for the next ten years, dedicated to ending homelessness in Sonoma County.

Sonoma County, California is located 40 miles north of the San Francisco Bay. Its economic and social trends closely follow those of the greater San Francisco Bay Region – including high housing costs in relation to wages. As of 2005, the county had a population of 466,477 people, distributed across an area of 1,576 square miles. The county contains nine incorporated cities, substantial unincorporated areas that have been urbanized, and extensive rural areas that carry on the area's agricultural heritage. The vast majority of the population is Caucasian, the largest minority population being Hispanics who have now surpassed 20% of the local population.

Over the past 20 years, nonprofit housing and service agencies, County Departments delivering health care, social services and housing, the cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, and increasingly other cities, have built a homeless assistance network of more than 40 housing and service programs, to address the growing number of people who have become homeless. Great effort has wrought a homeless services system consisting of 614 emergency shelter beds, 598 transitional housing beds, 406 permanent supportive housing units, and services including case management, health, mental health care and treatment, substance abuse treatment, life skills, transportation, child care, street outreach and more. Thousands of homeless people have traveled the difficult path to permanent housing, in partnership with many talented and dedicated people.

Simply retaining the existing homeless-dedicated housing and services is a challenging task. We are committed to maintaining this housing stock as well as the extraordinary resources that have been developed in Sonoma County to assist homeless families. It is our aim to continue that work and to expand upon it, while moving forward to address the remaining gaps in our system.

The vital goals described in this Plan will require significant new resources in addition to the personal efforts of homeless families and individuals. The housing goals contained within will require a capital investment of \$200 million over the next ten years, about \$40 million of this from local sources. At full scale, the goals of the 10-Year Homeless Action Plan will require expenditures over and above current spending: an additional \$20 million annually for crucial supportive services, rental subsidies, and housing operating expenses. We have designed ambitious goals that reflect the hard realities of homeless people, who face serious personal challenges as well on the way to becoming re-housed.

We are encouraged by the extensive body of research demonstrating that housing with supportive services is less expensive than emergency shelter, and far less costly than the nights homeless people spend in jails, emergency rooms, and psychiatric institutions. We are encouraged also by the new housing development resources afforded by Proposition 1C, as well as by the opportunities offered by the Mental Health Services Act. Many more untapped resources will have to be brought to bear.

Working groups and initiatives are forming to carry out this Plan, under the leadership of the Continuum of Care Steering Committee. In the coming months we will solicit additional input from homeless people (in focus groups via the 2007 Homeless Count), and will bring the Plan to the cities, the County, and other funding bodies, with the goal of winning endorsement and commitment to our goals.

We look forward to your partnership in this ambitious effort to address homelessness in Sonoma County.

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2. A Snapshot of Homelessness in Sonoma County

More than 2,200 people came out to be counted as homeless in January 2005, 1,737 of them meeting the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development's narrow definition of homelessness – sleeping in a place not fit for human habitation, or in emergency or transitional housing for homeless people.

- ☀ The homeless population was evenly split between single adults and people in families. Almost 2/3 of the people found during the Count had been **homeless more than a year**.
- ☀ **More people were sheltered than unsheltered.** But 4 out of every 10 families, and nearly half of single adults had nowhere to stay.
- ☀ About 1/3 of respondents reported physical disabilities. A similar number reported mental illness. Four people out of every ten reported substance abuse.
- ☀ Domestic violence is widely reported in emergency shelters and on the street.

Homeless services providers are faced with many challenging special needs, including HIV, developmental disability, traumatic brain injury, and an increasing number of homeless seniors and returning veterans.

Chronic Homelessness

Chronically homeless individuals are severely underserved in Sonoma County shelters and transitional housing.

- More than one-third of the people interviewed were disabled, unaccompanied individuals who have been homeless more than a year – meeting the federal definition of **chronic homelessness**.
- **Chronically homeless made up close to half the unsheltered population.**

Most of the 412 chronically homeless people were found in Santa Rosa, but large concentrations were also found in West County and Petaluma. They constituted

- **Half of the nearly 200 veterans found.**
- **More than half of the people reporting disabilities, mental illness and substance abuse.** One out of every 3 chronically homeless persons struggles with both mental illness and substance abuse.

Spanish speakers

About 100 interviews were conducted in Spanish, mostly in rural North County, Sonoma Valley, and West County, but also in Santa Rosa. About a third of those temporarily staying with family, friends or co-workers were monolingual Spanish speakers.

The changing immigration situation makes it difficult to predict the housing needs of migrant workers and day laborers. Farm worker advocates report at least 5,000 migrant workers are in Sonoma County each year – many camping, living in outbuildings, or in vastly overcrowded conditions.

Unsheltered Homeless

Outside Petaluma and Santa Rosa, nearly 90% of Sonoma County's homeless population is unsheltered.

Despite hundreds of new year-round shelter beds in Santa Rosa, large numbers of unsheltered homeless families and individuals remain both in Santa Rosa and in West Sonoma County. The West County's unsheltered families alone make up close to half of the County's unsheltered families.

3. Remaining Challenges

Sonoma County providers have created effective programs that have assisted hundreds of homeless individuals and families back into housing and stability. Over 20 years, the nonprofit housing and service agencies, the County Departments delivering health care, social services and housing, the cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, and increasingly other cities, have built a homeless assistance network comprised of 40+ housing and service programs. However:

- People continue to fall into homelessness.
- The existing homeless service system cannot meet the full demand for housing and services.
- Chronically homeless people repeatedly cycle through hospitals and jails without obtaining the help they require.

Sonoma County’s homeless services system is at varying stages of development, depending on where you stand. *This situation requires a pragmatic approach.*

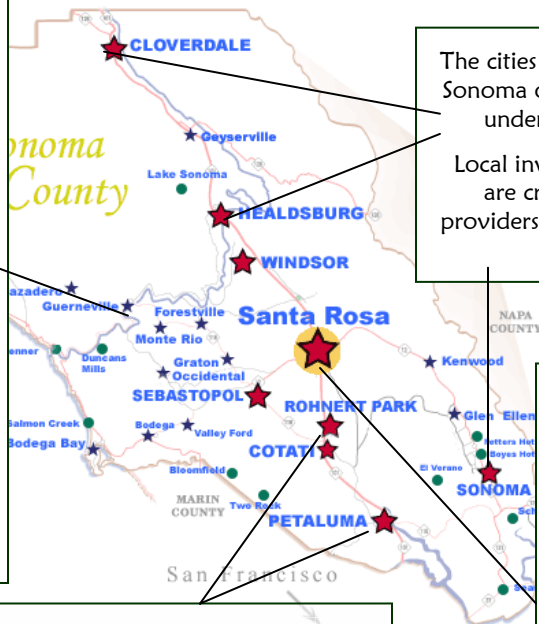
Sonoma County Homeless Services Providers offer:

- Emergency Shelter beds: 380 for individuals and 234 for families
- Transitional Housing beds: 239 for individuals and 359 for families
- Permanent Supportive Housing units: 334 for individuals and 74 for families
- Very Low-income Affordable Housing: 1,054 units and 4,700 rent subsidies
- Services: case management, health, mental health care and treatment, substance abuse treatment, life skills, transportation, child care, employment services, and more.

Rural areas of the unincorporated County – especially along the lower Russian River – have **few services and great need**. Hundreds of homeless families and individuals are hidden in rural communities 20 miles or more from the nearest emergency shelter.

Those who wish to help the homeless in these rural areas must design strategies that will be viable in communities with a culture of tolerance for difference, and without a municipal government to direct and fund efforts to address homelessness.

Many in West County are interested in a “Housing First” approach focused on quickly placing disabled homeless individuals and families into transitional and permanent housing,



The cities of Cloverdale, Healdsburg, and Sonoma offer limited shelter and services under severe funding constraints.

Local investment and capacity building are critical to enable local service providers to own and operate housing at the scale needed.

A well-developed local system exists in Petaluma and nearby Rohnert Park. The City of Petaluma and its homeless services providers have provided a model of what can be done: 90% of Petaluma’s homeless families with children were sheltered the night of the 2005 Count, as were 75% of its homeless individuals (83% of the city’s total homeless population).

More than 200 very low-income housing units beyond those currently planned – about half of them with ongoing intensive services – are needed to resolve homelessness for people counted in South County in 2005.

Significant shelter and transitional housing resources exist in Santa Rosa – addressing about half the local need. The County and the City have made major efforts to provide year-round service-enriched shelter in Santa Rosa: 472 shelter beds offer more than ¾ of Sonoma County’s shelter capacity.

A significant investment is still needed in housing for mentally ill homeless, residential substance abuse treatment, transitional housing, and very low-income permanent housing (including hundreds of units with intensive supportive services) to resolve homelessness in Santa Rosa.

4. 10-Year Plan Guiding Principles

Our goal is to assist homeless people to exit the streets and to become permanently and stably housed. The great variety of local needs requires a pragmatic approach.

- **Preventing** homelessness is the most cost-effective approach to reducing homelessness. All health and social service programs should be involved in preventing homelessness.
- Access to **comprehensive treatment and community support** are essential to achieving long-term housing stability.
- The shortage of affordable housing is a huge contributor to new homelessness and the biggest challenge in resolving it. **Creation of new affordable housing** is crucial to ending homelessness.
- Our goals are **informed by research and local data**. Progress will be assessed by objective measurements related to the overall goal of permanently housing Sonoma County's homeless.

5. Major Concerns Emerging From the 2005 Data

1. Hundreds of new people become homeless every year.

Approximately 600 new people become homeless every year in Sonoma County. Most of them become homeless after losing rental housing – often after staying with family and friends. Nearly as many people become homeless following discharge from institutions such as County jail, State prisons, mental health institutions, hospitals, and foster care.

2. Chronically homeless individuals are severely underserved.

One out of every four homeless people are individuals with disabilities who have been homeless more than a year. Only 6% of the people in shelters are from this subpopulation, as opposed to about half of the unsheltered people. This vulnerable population accounts for untold expense in the criminal justice system and hospital emergency rooms. There is a persistent need for substance abuse treatment, mental health services, integrated health care, and ongoing services in transitional and permanent housing.

In particular, hundreds of homeless veterans, many with multiple disabilities, are in great need of assistance. More than half of the 195 veterans found in the 2005 Count were chronically homeless, and the vast majority were unsheltered. More than half had more than one disability. One-third of those staying at the Orenda Center detoxification facility on the night of the Count were veterans.

3. Sonoma County has a severe shortage of affordable housing.

Sonoma County is the nation's 3rd least affordable housing market (based on the relationship between wages and the cost of housing). The county's agricultural heritage has yielded little high-density housing that could be converted to permanent supportive housing. It is nearly impossible to site new housing: barriers include flood zones, steep slopes, environmental protection and neighborhood concerns – not to mention cost. Whether providers support a "housing first" strategy or a service-enriched shelter/transitional housing approach, **housing itself is the key issue**.

In many areas, 90% or more of the homeless population is unsheltered – including hundreds of unsheltered families and individuals in unincorporated West County. Hundreds of individuals and families remain unsheltered in Santa Rosa.

6. Key Steps To End Homelessness in Sonoma County

1) *Homeless Prevention*

- Reduce the number of people becoming homeless upon discharge from public institutions by 80%, by developing and implementing **protocols to assist people in finding housing when discharged from public institutions** (jails, prisons, mental health institutions, hospitals, and foster care) under the leadership of a **Homeless Prevention Council**.
- Reduce the number of people becoming homeless through loss of tenancy by 5% per year, by providing **Rental Assistance with Financial Education and Case Management**.

2) *Create effective resources to help chronically homeless individuals become housed, while safeguarding assistance to homeless families.*

- Help hundreds of chronically homeless mentally ill people and chronically homeless people with addictions to access treatment by creating 110 “gateway” beds linked to mental health or substance abuse treatment.
- Divert 40 chronically homeless repetitive misdemeanor offenders each year from jail into housing and treatment through the Court Homeless Protocol.
- House hundreds of homeless veterans by linking them with treatment, and creating 116 new transitional beds and 137 permanent supportive housing units for veterans with disabilities.

3) *Develop homeless housing to address the demonstrated need among homeless families and individuals.*

- Temporarily house and assess the needs of hundreds of unsheltered homeless families and individuals in Cloverdale, Healdsburg, the Russian River area, and the Sonoma Valley area, by creating or expanding emergency shelter where gaps remain.
- Stabilize homeless families and individuals with intensive services that will enable them to become permanently housed, by creating 345 new transitional housing beds.
- Permanently house homeless families and individuals with disabilities by developing 756 Permanent Supportive Housing units in addition to those in development.
- Permanently house homeless families and individuals who can live independently, with 599 units of independent, very low income affordable housing.
- Facilitate placement of homeless families and individuals into housing by designing a Basic Housing Assistance Program, which would make housing placement and education resources readily available for use by people at risk of homelessness, public institutions for their discharge planning, and to house people who are already homeless.

4) *Strengthen the political will and organizational structure that will help us achieve the Plan’s goals:*

- Invite jurisdictions and funders to endorse and participate in the Plan.
- Implement system-wide data-gathering and performance evaluation.
- Establish working groups to accomplish Plan goals.
- Ensure homeless service providers are prepared for change and growth.

7. Goals and Action Steps to Address Homelessness

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
<i>1) Homeless Prevention Goals and Action Steps</i>				
Reduce the number of people becoming homeless following discharge from public institutions by 80%.	Establish a Homeless Prevention Council to lead discharge planning efforts	Continuum of Care Steering Committee	April 2007	
	Query the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Homeless Count data for number of individuals reporting discharge from public institutions, as a baseline and on an annual basis.	Continuum of Care (CofC) Coordinator	June 2007 and ongoing annually	HMIS (CofC with provider match); Counts funded by cities, Sonoma County, and private donations.
	Prevent mentally ill people from becoming homeless through participation in Sonoma County Department of Health Services Mental Health Division's housing needs assessment and other discharge planning activities.	CofC Committees to be established: Mental Health/ Alcohol & Other Drug (MH/AOD) Services Comm., Homeless Prevention Council	2007 and ongoing	Possible HUD-funded technical assistance from HomeBase (public policy law firm specializing in homelessness)
	Implement the Court Homeless Protocol to divert repetitive misdemeanor offenders from jail to housing and treatment	Sonoma County Legal Services Foundation, Superior Courts, and Task Force for the Homeless	Pilot with existing resources, 2007. Locate funding to bring program to scale in 2008.	Second Chance Act (pending in Congress at this time); State Reentry funding; foundations
	Develop discharge protocols to avoid discharges to homelessness from area hospitals.	Homeless Prevention Council	2007	
	Determine needs and design program to support the recovery of homeless people exiting area hospitals by expanding Respite Care services within shelters with nursing care.	Homeless Prevention Council; Catholic Charities; COTS with Petaluma Health Care District	Pilot new program at COTS 2007; determine need and design program, 2007. Implementation 2008	To be determined.
	Offer "Rent Right"-type tenant education program in institutional settings – mental health, substance abuse, foster care, jail, group homes.	COTS with So. Co. Human Services Dept., So. Co. Dept. of Health Services Mental Health & AODS Divisions, & Sheriff's Dept.	Plan and pilot, 2008 Broad implementation, 2009.	To be determined.

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
1) Homeless Prevention Goals and Action Steps				
Reduce the number of people becoming homeless following discharge from public institutions by 80%, <i>cont'd.</i>	Participate with County Child Welfare Staff in the Permanency Planning and Independent Living Skills programs to develop housing plans for foster youth as they leave the dependency system.	Sonoma County Human Services Department Family, Youth and Children Division	2007	
	Develop discharge protocols and plans with the County Family, Youth and Children Division to identify and develop resources for foster youth.	Homeless Prevention Council, service providers	2008	
	Develop discharge protocols with State Parole, regarding discharge planning to prevent new homelessness among inmates released to Sonoma County from State prisons.	Homeless Prevention Council	2009	
	Review progress to date and establish new goals	Homeless Prevention Council	2011	
Reduce the number of people becoming homeless through loss of tenancy by 5% per year.	Add case management and financial education to HCA Fund homeless prevention activities.	Community Action Partnership (CAP) and partners	2007	Possible supplemental funding: prosper.com, suredeposit.com
	Ensure eligible families have access to Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) Homeless Assistance Program's one-time benefits to prevent homelessness among TANF families.	Sonoma County Human Services Department	Publicize with CofC partners, 2007	TANF
	Query HMIS and Homeless Count data for number of individuals reporting their own housing or living doubled up as their prior living situation, as a baseline and on an annual basis.	CofC Coordinator	June 2007 and ongoing annually	HMIS (funded through CofC and provider match); Count funded by cities, Sonoma County, and private donations.
	Develop a strategy to ensure that the HCA Fund remains viable.	CAP and partners	2014	Possible supplemental funding: prosper.com, suredeposit.com

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
1) Homeless Prevention Goals and Action Steps				
<i>Primary Prevention Strategies:</i> Reduce the risk of future homelessness among Sonoma County's low-income population.	Expand Sonoma County Fair Housing's offerings to provide rental assistance and tenant education.	CAP	2007	HCA Fund for rental assistance; other funds to be determined
	Develop Earned Income Tax Credit VITA Sites to recapture an average of \$5,000 per household for 500-600 low income house-holds each year, accompanied by financial education.	Sonoma County Human Services Commission, Jewish Family & Children's Services and other partners	2007	Internal Revenue Service
	Expand "strengthening families" programs to break the generational cycle of homelessness. Examine COTS' model and other models for adaptation to other homeless facilities in an educational forum for providers.	Outcomes Assessment Task Group, Coordinated Training Initiative, service providers	Determine system-wide outcome for homeless children, 2007. Forum, 2008. Implementation, 2009.	Private foundations
	Extend tenancy education best practices to local agencies working outside Fair Housing's service area	Coordinated Training Initiative with Petaluma People's Services Center & others	2008	Private foundations and others to be determined.
	Develop financial education in Sonoma County public high schools to provide financial education to all graduating seniors.	CAP, SCOE, Chop's Teen Club, Redwood Credit Union	Plan in 2008 for implementation in 2009	Numerous curricula available gratis

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
2) Creating Resources for Chronically Homeless People - Goals and Action Steps				
Create 110 "gateway" beds linked to mental health or substance abuse treatment.				
Stabilize 386 homeless people living with mental illness.	Provide mental health services in shelters through the Community Intervention Team.	Sonoma County Dept. of Health Services Mental Health Division	2007	Mental Health Services Act funds
	Expand homeless-dedicated mental health treatment capacity in conjunction with housing, to serve more chronically homeless mentally ill. Address these housing needs:	CofC Steering Committee to establish MH/AOD Services Committee with So. Co. Dept. of Health Services	Planning discussions, 2007 Program design and pilot, 2008 Bring new resources to scale, 2009	Mental Health Services Act capital development; MediCal for people with SSI

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
2) Creating Resources for Chronically Homeless People - Goals and Action Steps				
Stabilize 386 homeless people living with mental illness. <i>cont'd.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Gateway” housing (under 6 months) for mentally ill homeless in Santa Rosa for 19 families and 37 individuals. 	MH/AOD Services Comm., So. Co. Dept. of Health Services Mental Health Division, service providers, housing developers	Planning, 2007 Housing available, 2009.	Mental Health Services Act; State Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Gateway” housing options (under 6 months) for mentally ill homeless in West County for 13 individuals, 6 families – possibly in association with substance abuse treatment and/or emergency shelter. 	Sonoma County Dept. of Health Services Mental Health Division, West County Housing/Services Planning Group (to be established), service providers and housing developers	Plan in place by early 2008. [Note this goal links to a substance abuse treatment goal below, and a shelter goal on p. 11.]	
Stabilize 584 homeless with chronic substance abuse - Treatment Options for Underserved Chronically Homeless (TOUCH)	Resubmit proposal to the federal Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for outreach, assessment, substance abuse counseling, and 9-10 residential treatment beds	So. Co. Dept. of Health Services Alcohol and Other Drug Services Division, CofC MH/AOD Services Comm.	2007	SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
	Create outpatient Drug Medi-Cal extension substance abuse clinics in transitional housing	Drug Abuse Alternatives Center (DAAC), CofC MH/AOD Services Comm.	Plan and raise pilot funding, 2008 Full scale 2009	Private foundations; Medi-Cal entitlement funds
	Expand TOUCH program to create substance abuse treatment slots with housing in Santa Rosa for a total of 25 individuals and 2 families	So. Co. Dept. of Health Services Alcohol and Other Drug Services Division, CofC MH/AOD Services Comm.	2009	Private foundations, possibly Medi-Cal entitlement funds
	Develop residential substance abuse treatment slots for 8 homeless individuals in West County – possibly in association with mental health housing and/or emergency shelter.	CofC Committees to be established: MH/AOD Services Comm., West County Housing/Services Planning Group, Community Housing Development Corp. of Santa Rosa (CHDC-SR), Burbank Housing, local service providers	Plan in place by early 2008. [Note this goal links to a mental health housing goal above, and a shelter goal on p. 11.]	Private foundations, possibly Medi-Cal entitlement funds

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
2) Creating Resources for Chronically Homeless People - Goals and Action Steps				
Divert 40 chronically homeless from jail to housing and treatment annually.	Implement the Court Homeless Protocol, to divert 40-50 chronically homeless misdemeanor offenders (generally chronic inebriates) from County jail each year.	Sonoma County Legal Services Foundation, Superior Courts, and Task Force for the Homeless	Pilot with existing resources in 2007; Fund to full scale, 2008 [Note this goal links to a prevention goal on p. 6.]	Second Chance Act (pending in Congress at this time); State Reentry funding; private foundations
Stabilize and house 195 homeless veterans	Connect homeless veterans with mental health and substance abuse treatment.	CofC Steering Committee to establish Homeless Veterans Committee, with No. Bay Veterans Resource Center, VA Medical Clinic, So. Co. Veterans Services Office, Veterans Employment Committee & other partners	Convene planning discussion, 2007 Pilot program, 2008 Full scale treatment program 2009; Full scale housing 2011	Homeless Veterans Per Diem Special Needs funding; Mental Health Services Act funds
	Place homeless veterans into permanent housing (174 units needed), sometimes preceded by transitional housing (116 beds needed).			
	Ensure stability of homeless veterans in permanent housing			
Stabilize the health of 1,200 homeless people (both chronic and other homeless) annually	Implement collaborative health services program in Santa Rosa, Petaluma and West County	Task Force for the Homeless, St. Joseph Health System, Southwest Health Center, West County Health Centers, & Catholic Charities	Pilot projects & funding search, 2007 Full implementation, 2008	Bureau of Primary Health Care, private foundations

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Advocate for public policy that will encourage and support creation of needed housing.	Consult with planning and housing staff of the County and its nine incorporated jurisdictions to ensure consistency between 10-Year Homeless Action Plan goals, local Housing Elements and other plans.	Continuum of Care Steering Committee	2007	

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Advocate for public policy that will encourage and support creation of needed housing. <i>cont'd.</i>	Advocate on the State and federal levels for dependable, steady sources of housing funding for both new development and housing subsidies.	CofC Housing Development Committee, with Housing Advocacy Group, So. Co. Housing Coalition, Task Force for the Homeless	2007 and ongoing	
Complete development of shelter and treatment system where gaps remain.	Establish centralized shelter referrals to maximize use of existing shelters.	CofC Steering Committee to establish Shelter Referral Task Group	2007	
	Open Sonoma Shelter	City of Sonoma	2007	State EHAP; City of Sonoma
	Expand Cloverdale's Wallace House shelter and add case management	Cloverdale Comm. Outreach Committee	2008	State EHAP; City of Cloverdale
	Expand Healdsburg's emergency shelter by at least 6 beds	North County Housing Group	2009	State EHAP
	Develop 9 emergency shelter beds for individuals, possibly in association with "gateway" housing options for mentally ill homeless, and housing for chronically addicted in West County (21 individuals, 6 families).	CofC Steering Committee to establish West County Housing/ Services Planning Group; CHDC-SR, Burbank Housing, local service providers	Plan in place by early 2008.	Russian River Redevelopment; MHSA, State EHAP, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), County Fund for Housing (CFH)
	Develop seasonal housing for at least 50 migrant workers.	California Human Development Corporation, Farm Worker Housing Group	Needs Assessment 2008, Housing in development, 2009	Sonoma Valley Redevelopment, State Joe Serna Farm Worker Housing Fund, CFH
Complete creation of needed transitional housing: 345 beds or family units.	Develop new transitional housing in Santa Rosa to provide 168 beds for individuals, and shared housing for 43 families.	CofC Housing Dev. Committee, So. Co. Dept. of Health Services Mental Health Division, service providers, housing developers	Planning, 2007; all facilities open 2010.	MHSA funds, CDBG, HOME Investment Trust Fund (HOME), State EHAP

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Complete creation of needed transitional housing, cont'd.	Develop transitional housing in West County to house 42 individuals and 22 families.	West County Housing/Services Planning Group; CHDC-SR, Burbank Housing, local service providers	Identify and train service provider, 2007	Russian River Redevelopment, CDBG, HOME, State EHAP, possible MHSA, CFH
	Develop transitional housing in the Sonoma Valley to house 18 individuals and shared housing for 12 families.	CofC Housing Development Committee, local service providers, housing developers	Identify service providers, 2007 In development, 2008; occupied 2009.	Sonoma Valley Redevelopment, CDBG, HOME, State EHAP, possible MHSA, CFH
	Complete new transitional housing at Victory Studios and Eden Housing project	City of Healdsburg; North County Housing Group; housing developers	Victory Studios, 2008 Eden set-asides, 2009	CDBG, HOME, City of Healdsburg, Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)
	Expand transitional housing at Wallace House and elsewhere in Cloverdale	Cloverdale Comm. Outreach Committee	2008	State EHAP; City of Cloverdale, CDBG
	Develop additional transitional housing in North County to house 34 individuals and shared housing for 6 families.	North County Housing Group; service providers, housing developers	Identify and train service providers, 2008 Open facilities, 2010	State EHAP; HOME, CDBG
Develop 756 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units in addition to those in development.	Maintain and expand rental assistance for disabled homeless individuals	Sonoma County and Santa Rosa Housing Authorities, service providers	2007 and ongoing	Shelter Plus Care, CofC Supportive Housing Program, HOME Tenant-based Assistance
	Design standard PSH supportive services packages for each subpopulation. Obtain written funder and service provider commitments to provide services in supportive housing.	CofC Housing Dev. Committee with Buckelew Programs, advocates for seniors and people with disabilities.	Standard PSH services packages, designed 2007. Written commitments as funding is identified, 2007-2011.	
	Complete construction of Olive Grove, The Arbors, and Monte Vista developments to provide 48 permanent supportive housing set-aside units.	Burbank Housing Development Corp.	2007	LIHTC, HOME, Multi-family Housing Program (MHP), CDBG

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Develop 756 Permanent Supportive Housing units in addition to those in development, <i>cont'd.</i>	Provide 19 PSH units for individual homeless seniors within senior housing now in development.	CofC Housing Dev. Committee, senior advocates, housing developers	Commitments of set-aside units: 2007	HUD 202 or 811, LIHTC, HOME, CDBG, CFH
	Create PSH set-asides equivalent to 25% of new affordable housing under development.	CofC Housing Dev. Committee, housing developers	Commitments of set-aside units: 2007	
	Create 360 additional units of permanent supportive housing in Santa Rosa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 111 for mentally ill. • 31 units for homeless seniors (11 for individuals, 22 for families with seniors). • 218 for people with physical disabilities. 	CofC Housing Development Committee, Mental Health/AOD Services Committee, service agencies, housing developers	20 set-asides for mentally ill per year, 2007 - 2012. Set-aside commitments for seniors, 2007; 11 senior units by 2010. Set-aside commitments for family & disabled housing, 2008. All units by 2015.	HUD 202 or 811, MHSA, LIHTC, Governor's Homeless Initiative (GHI), MHP, HOME, CDBG, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, Shelter Plus Care, Supportive Housing Program
	Develop 143 units of permanent supportive housing in West County: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 for homeless mentally ill. • 19 for homeless seniors (2 of these for individuals, 17 for families with seniors) • 87 for homeless people with physical disabilities. 	West County Housing/Services Planning Group; CHDC-SR, Burbank Housing, service providers & other housing developers	Planning 2007; 17 units for mentally ill and plan for 20 more units, 2008; Senior & disabled housing set-asides within multi-family project in development, 2007. 10 units, 2010. Balance planned by 2011.	Russian River Redevelopment, HUD 202 or 811, MHSA, LIHTC, GHI, MHP, HOME, CDBG, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, Shelter Plus Care, Supportive Housing Program, CFH
	Complete development of Vida Nueva to provide 24 units of permanent supportive housing for families.	COTS with BHDC, CDHC-SR, and the City of Rohnert Park	2008	City of Rohnert Park, LIHTC, MHP, HOME, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund
	Develop 105 additional units of permanent supportive housing in South County: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 for homeless seniors (3 individuals and 3 seniors in families). • 37 for mentally ill. • 62 for people with physical disabilities. 	CofC MH/AOD Services Comm., COTS, CHDC-SR, housing developers	Commitments for senior set-asides, 2007. Family housing plan, 2008. Plan for mentally ill, 2009; occupied, 2012. Plan for physically disabled, 2010; occupied, 2015	HUD 202, MHSA, LIHTC, GHI, MHP, HOME, CDBG, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Develop 756 Permanent Supportive Housing units in addition to those in development, <i>cont'd.</i>	Develop 76 units of permanent supportive housing in Sonoma Valley: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 for homeless seniors (7 seniors in families and 1 individual). • 22 for mentally ill. • 46 for homeless people with physical disabilities. 	CofC Housing Development Comm., CofC MH/AOD Services Comm., service providers, housing developers	Planning 2008, for occupancy 2012-2014.	Sonoma Valley Redevelopment, GHI, SCMH, HUD 202 or 811, MHSA, LIHTC, MHP, HOME, CDBG, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, CFH
	Develop 72 units of permanent supportive housing in North County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 for homeless seniors (2 individuals and 2 seniors in families). • 28 for mentally ill. • 40 for homeless people with physical disabilities. 	CofC Housing Dev. Comm., CofC MH/AOD Services Comm., North County Housing Group, service agencies, housing developers	Commitments of senior housing in development, 2007. Plan for PSH for mentally ill and physically disabled, 2007; occupancy 2011.	HUD 202, MHSA, LIHTC, GHI, MHP, HOME, CDBG, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, CFH
Provide 599 units of independent, very low income housing to homeless individuals and families.	Maintain and expand resources to provide rental assistance to extremely low income households.	Sonoma County and Santa Rosa Housing Authorities	2007 and ongoing	Section 8, HOME Tenant-based Rental Assistance
	Preserve existing very low income targeted units at risk of conversion to market rates or loss through lack of needed maintenance and repair.	Housing developers	2007 and ongoing	CDBG, HOME, CFH, LIHTC, MHP, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, Redevelopment funds
	Build relationships with housing developers and property managers to ensure that homeless people have the opportunity to apply for housing in multi-family affordable housing developments.	CofC Housing Development Committee, service providers, housing developers	2007 and ongoing; link this activity to the Basic Housing Assistance Program on p. 15.	
	Provide 412 independent, very low income-targeted units in Santa Rosa to homeless people who are capable of living independently without intensive services (315 individuals and 97 families).	CofC Housing Development Committee, housing developers	40-50 unit SRO under development 2007; occupancy 2012. Negotiate set-asides in all new housing developments, 2007 and ongoing.	Section 8, LIHTC, MHP, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, HOME, CDBG

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Provide 599 units of independent, very low income housing to homeless individuals and families. <i>cont'd.</i>	Provide 101 independent, very low income-targeted units in South County to homeless people who are capable of living independently without intensive services (93 individuals and 8 families).	CofC Housing Development Committee, with Petaluma, Cotati and Rohnert Park city staff, housing developers	Planning, 2008	Section 8, LIHTC, MHP, HOME, CDBG, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund,
	Provide 39 independent, very low income-targeted units in West County to homeless people who are capable of living independently without intensive services (25 individuals and 14 families).	CHDC-SR, Burbank Housing, Russian River Interfaith Coalition	Planning for 40-50 unit multi-family housing development, 2007. Housing to be available, 2010.	Russian River Redevelopment funds, Section 8, LIHTC, HOME, CDBG, MHP, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, CFH
	Provide 26 independent, very low income-targeted units in North County to homeless people who are capable of living independently without intensive services (25 individuals and 1 family).	North County Housing Group, CofC Housing Development Committee, housing developers	Build linkages with Eden Housing for 15 units, 2007. Balance of units identified, 2009.	Section 8, LIHTC, HOME, CDBG, MHP, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund
	Provide 21 independent, very low income-targeted units in the Sonoma Valley to homeless people who are capable of living independently without intensive services (15 individuals and 6 families).	CofC Housing Development Committee, local services agencies, housing developers	Planned by 2011.	Sonoma Valley Redevelopment funds, Section 8, LIHTC, HOME, CDBG, MHP, So. Co. Housing Coalition Trust Fund, CFH
Facilitate placement of homeless individuals and families into 1,355 PSH and independent housing units.	Develop a Basic Housing Assistance Program , making housing placement and education resources readily available to homeless people and to at-risk individuals and public institutions.	CofC Steering Committee to establish Basic Housing Assistance Program Task Group	Program design 2007 Implementation 2008	Include shared housing resources (craigslist.com, roommate finders.com); affordable housing property managers
Ensure long-term stability of formerly homeless people	Set up contracts with the Sonoma County Department of Health Services for Targeted Case Management MediCal option, and other MediCal options, for supportive services in permanent supportive housing	CofC Steering Committee to establish working group, to include CAP, Catholic Charities, COTS, Interfaith Shelter Network	Initiate discussion, 2008	MediCal entitlement funds

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
3) Develop Homeless-Dedicated Housing to Address the Demonstrated Need – Goals and Action Steps				
Ensure long-term stability of formerly homeless people, cont'd.	Create/expand programs that provide ongoing mentoring by volunteers (similar to the Family Connection), to extend the reach of professional case management.	Service providers, Coordinated Training Initiative	Some expansion, 2007. Showcase best practices & volunteer jobs fair, 2008	Private foundations
	Establish goals to increase income of homeless people through employment, including MOUs with Sonoma County Job Link.	CofC Steering Committee to establish working group to include So. Co. Job Link & other partners	Planning discussion, 2008	
	Establish goals to increase income of homeless people through benefits.	CofC Steering Committee to establish working group	Planning discussion, 2009	

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
4) Manage for Results				
Obtain Community Support for the 10-year Homeless Action Plan	Circulate 10-Year Homeless Action Plan and its housing goals among jurisdictional planning and housing staff to ensure consistency with local plans.	CofC Steering Committee	Early 2007	
	Circulate 10-Year Homeless Action Plan for jurisdictional endorsement, inviting them to assign ex officio members to CofC work groups.	CofC Steering Committee	Late 2007	
	Circulate 10-Year Homeless Action Plan for endorsement by other funding bodies.	CofC Steering Committee	2007	
	Clarify CofC priorities to other funders and work to streamline funding for system-wide success	CofC Steering Committee with Funders Roundtable	2007	
	Design and implement a media plan to build public support for addressing homelessness	CofC Steering Committee	2007	

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
4) Manage for Results				
<i>Implement system-wide data-gathering and performance evaluation</i>				
Measure outcomes for homeless people	Complete design of a system-wide outcomes assessment program, with a key performance benchmark each for each component of the homeless services system – if possible from data already gathered.	CofC Outcomes Assessment Task Group	Complete program design, June 2007	Possible HUD technical assistance via HomeBase
	Establish a key outcome and performance benchmark for homeless children.	CofC Outcomes Assessment Task Group	June 2007	
	Communicate CofC outcomes assessment program to other funders and work to streamline data gathering for system-wide success.	CofC Outcomes Assessment Task Group	July 2007	
	Train providers in the outcomes assessment program	CofC Outcomes Assessment Task Group	July 2007	
	Implement outcomes measurements in all programs	CofC Outcomes Assessment Task Group	September 2007	
Refine Plan goals and action steps based on continual data-gathering	Conduct the 2007 Homeless Count and produce report.	Sonoma County Task Force for the Homeless	January 2007, report by March 2007	Cities, Sonoma County, and donations.
	Refine housing need and other goals based on 2007 Count data, HMIS data, and mental health needs data from the Community Intervention Team and Dept. of Health Services Mental Health Division's housing needs assessment.	Continuum of Care Coordinator	July 2007; report revisions October 2007.	HMIS (funded through CofC and provider match); Count funded by cities, Sonoma County, and private donations; MHSA
	Evaluate needs, design goals, and build partnerships to address homelessness for significant homeless subpopulations unintentionally left out of the 10-year planning process, in particular, farm workers, youth, and families experiencing domestic violence.	CofC Housing Development Committee (for farm worker needs); CofC Steering Committee to establish ad hoc planning groups as needed.	2007 and ongoing; build new goals into annual and midpoint plan updates.	

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
4) Manage for Results				
Refine Plan goals and action steps based on continual data-gathering, <i>cont'd.</i>	Convene ongoing HMIS user group and HMIS Policy group to ensure HMIS data quality.	Sonoma County Community Development Commission	Ongoing	HMIS funded through CofC and provider match
	Plan for biennial counts in 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2015; continually refine goals based on homeless counts, HMIS, and other planning processes; report revisions of goals.	So. Co. Community Development Commission & CofC Coordinator	Ongoing; revised goals reported by October following each Count.	HMIS (funded through CofC and provider match); Count funded by cities, Sonoma County, and donations
Manage Continuum of Care to support 10-Year Plan goals.	Create a scoring system for Continuum of Care renewal performance evaluations to reflect 10-Year Plan priorities and system-wide outcomes, with a minimum performance threshold and policy for projects scoring below threshold.	Continuum of Care Coordinator with CofC Evaluation Committee	February 2007	
	Establish priorities for new CofC projects based on 10-Year Plan goals	CofC Steering Committee	February 2007	
Establish working groups to accomplish Plan goals.	Establish a 10-member governing board with 4 dedicated seats and 6 elected seats.	CofC Steering Committee	April 2007	
	Establish working groups to accomplish Plan goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless Advisory Group • CofC Evaluation Committee • Homeless Prevention Council • Mental Health/AOD Services Committee • Homeless Veterans Committee • Centralized Shelter Referral Task Group • West County Housing & Services Planning Group • Basic Housing Assistance Program Task Group 	CofC Steering Committee	Initiate via 2007 Count February 2007 April 2007 January 2007 January 2007 January 2007 April 2007 July 2007	

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Target Dates	Potential Resources
4) Manage for Results				
Establish working groups to accomplish Plan goals, <i>cont'd.</i>	Endorse and assign representation to existing working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Development Committee & individual development efforts • HMIS user group and policy group • Outcomes Assessment Task Group • Court Homeless Protocol Planning group • Health Care for the Homeless Collaborative 	CofC Steering Committee	May 2007	
Ensure homeless service providers are prepared for change and growth.	Establish a Coordinated Training Initiative to include subjects such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Permanent Supportive Housing Technical Assistance Initiative ○ Regular, ongoing staff training/networking ○ Conferences to showcase best practices including volunteer mentorship, tenancy education, working with traumatic brain injury, and other service innovations ○ County-wide volunteer jobs fair 	CofC Steering Committee, in conjunction with Task Force for the Homeless, United Way, Volunteer Center of Sonoma County, Community Foundation Sonoma County. PSH capacity-building activities in partnership with CHDC-SR & CofC Housing Development Committee	Initiate summer 2007 By 2011, prepare all service providers planning to own and operate supportive housing.	Corporation for Supportive Housing; Community Foundation Sonoma County; California Community Economic Development Association

8. Participants

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Plan Oversight Team

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Individual</u>
Sonoma County Community Development Commission	Mark Krug
City of Santa Rosa	Nancy Gornowicz
City of Petaluma	Bonne Gaebler
Sonoma County Task Force for the Homeless	Georgia Berland
Chair, Outcomes Assessment Team/Community Foundation Sonoma County	Robert Judd
Chair, Homeless Prevention Planning Team	Mary Varley
Chair, Intervention Planning Team/SC Task Force for the Homeless & SC Housing Coalition	Gale Brownell
Chair, Housing Infrastructure Planning Team/Sonoma County Mental Health	Gary Pierce
Chair, HMIS Committee/Catholic Charities	Ann McGee
<i>At large members:</i>	
Committee on the Shelterless (COTS)	John Records
Drug Abuse Alternatives Center (DAAC)	Michael Spielman

Agencies and individuals that assisted in plan development and/or reviewed and found Sonoma County's 10-year Homeless Action Plan to be consistent with their organization's role.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Individual</u>
Area Agency on Aging	Susan Alesi
Bucklew Programs	Katrin Ciaffa, Stuart Mitchell, Dee Schweitzer, Anita Storms
Burbank Housing	Alexandra Jacobs, Nick Stewart
Catholic Charities	Arlene Irizary, Ricardo Uribe
California Human Development Corporation	Nathan Acuña, Lianna Marmor
City of Cloverdale	Bruce Kibby
City of Petaluma	Sue Castellucci
City of Rohnert Park	Cas Elena
City of Santa Rosa	Megan Basinger
City of Sebastopol	Kenyon Webster
City of Sonoma Shelter	David Brigode
Cloverdale Community Outreach Committee	Jerry and Eleanor Webster, Georgiann and Steve Morrissey
Committee on the Shelterless (COTS)	Elizabeth Hale, Mike Johnson, Roger Kirkpatrick, Alicia Sims
Community Action Partnership (CAP)	Molly Ackley, Johnetta Dedrick, Joanne Hopkins, Casey McChesney, Kai Nissley
Community Housing Development Corporation of Santa Rosa	Margo Merck, Robin Stephani
Community Resources for Independence	Melva Freeman, Nancy Hall, Margarita Ortiz
Community Support Network	Cathy Carr, David Evans, Jennifer Kohfield, Philip Tapia
Dede's Rentals	Keith Becker
Drug Abuse Alternatives Center (DAAC)	Marlus Stewart
Farm Worker Housing Group	Susan Lentz
HomeBase – the Center for Common Concerns	Gina Allendorf, Piper Ehlen
InterFaith Shelter Network (IFSN)	Rob Durborough, Alex Kennett, Terry Marshall, Charmaine Rable, Pamela Wallace
Interlink	Helen Lara
Job Link	Galya Balreuther
Living Room	Linda Swan

Organization

Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital
North Bay Veterans Resource Center
(formerly Vietnam Veterans of California)
River Child Care Services

Russian River Counselors
Russian River Interfaith Coalition

Russian River Interfaith Coalition-sponsored
West County input meeting participants
(people who signed in, not mentioned
elsewhere – not a complete listing of
attendees)

Russian River Redevelopment Oversight
Committee, Housing subcommittee
Salvation Army Petaluma
San Francisco Health Services Agency
Santa Rosa Police Department
Social Advocates for Youth

Sonoma County Adult & Youth
Development
Sonoma County Dept. of Health Services,
Mental Health Division
Sonoma County Human Services
Commission
Sonoma County Human Services Department

Sonoma County Community Development
Commission
Sonoma County District Attorney’s Office
Sonoma County Housing Authority
Sonoma County Legal Services Foundation
Sonoma County Sheriff’s Department
St. Joseph Health System
United Way of Sonoma Mendocino Lake
Veterans Medical Center
Volunteer Center of Sonoma County
West County Community Services (WCCS)
West County Health Centers
Women’s Recovery Services
YWCA of Sonoma County
Other individuals

Individual

Irenne Magoulas
Lauralyn Castle, Marcy Orosco

Danielle Duvall, Sally Ingram, Tess MacNeil, Donna
Roper
Jan de Wald
Susan Lowry, Rev. Elisabeth Middleberg, Rev. Pam
Tinnin, Nancy Lisk
Micah Androtich, Gail Atkins, Helen Baum, Lew
Brown, Sharon Carter, Jennifer Coffield, Zanzara
Dancer, Ila Donovan, Star Dower, Susan Falbo, Jack
Fithian, Dale Forbis, Jim & Nancy Fullman, Charlotte
Goodman-Smith, Caroline Houck, Arline Jones,
Marilyn Kreal, Rebecca Lichaer, Michael McRae,
Damien Olsen, Ethel O’Regan, Betty Pedersen, Kathy
Smith, Shawna Smith, Don & Betty Thoemke, Zack
Tinnin, V. Walsh, Dennis Warvnek, Lenny Weinstein,
Vicki White, Eva Williams.
Julie Zak

Capt. Bobbi Solts
Scott Walton
Lt. Ernesto Olivares, Lt. Andy Romero
Celeste Austin, Gina Bell, Angela Follenvaider, Mearra
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Cecelia Belle

Susan Castillo, Art Ewart, Denise Hunt, Michael
Kennedy, Gary Pierce, Karin Sellite
Bill Ruppert, Linda Stewart, Paula Young

Joelle Werner, Kathleen Alves, Nick Honey, Gerry
LaLonde-Berg, Lloydell Roesch
Kathleen Kane, Cristin Tuidar

Amy Ariyoshi
Carol Turner
Toni Novack
Joe Raya
Melinda Rivera
Alexander Carpenter, Ann Levine
Kym Valadez
Phyllis Onstad
Bruce Alfano, Vicki Halstead
Mary Szecsey
Cheryle Stanley
Denise Frey, Jennifer Lake
Elizabeth McCarthy, Craig Meltzner

9. Glossary and Acronyms

AOD – Alcohol and Other Drug

CAP – Community Action Partnership, a non-profit service provider based in Santa Rosa.

CCPG – Continuum of Care Planning Group

CDBG – Community Development Block Grant, a federal funding stream administered by local counties and cities.

CHDC-SR – Community Housing Development Corporation of Santa Rosa, a local special needs housing developer.

CFH – County Fund for Housing, Sonoma County’s housing trust fund for the unincorporated areas.

Chronic Homelessness - According to the federal definition, a person is considered chronically homeless if he/she is an unaccompanied individual with a disability who has been homeless more than one year, or four or more times in the past three years.

CofC – Continuum of Care; refers both to the local homeless services planning group as well as to HUD’s funding stream dedicated to homeless housing and services.

COTS – Committee on the Shelterless (homeless services provider based in Petaluma)

DAAC – Drug Abuse Alternatives Center, a local provider of substance abuse services.

EHAP – Emergency Housing Assistance Program, a State capital development program.

GHI – Governor’s Homeless Initiative, a State housing development program to address homelessness.

HCA Fund – Local eviction prevention program, named after the donor’s initials.

HMIS – Homeless Management Information System, a federally-mandated client data management system.

HOME – HOME Investment Trust Fund, a federal affordable housing funding stream administered by local government.

Homeless – According to HUD’s definition, a person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the places in a) a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, or on the street (*unsheltered*); or b) an emergency shelter or transitional housing for homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelters (*sheltered*).

HUD – United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD 202 – a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding stream for senior housing.

HUD 811 - a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding stream for housing for mentally ill persons.

LIHTC – Low Income Housing Tax Credits, a State-administered tax credit program supporting affordable housing development.

MH – Mental Health

MHP – Multi-Family Housing Program, a State affordable housing development program.

MHSA – Mental Health Services Act, otherwise known as Proposition 63 funding, which has brought funding for new mental health services to local communities.

PSH – permanent supportive housing.

SAMHSA – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a federal agency within the US Department of Health and Human Services.

SCOE – Sonoma County Office of Education

Section 8 - a federal rental assistance program administered by local cities and counties.

Shelter Plus Care – a HUD Continuum of Care funding stream that provides rental assistance to formerly homeless persons with disabilities, matched by local services.

Supportive Housing Program - a HUD Continuum of Care funding stream that can support a wide range of expenses in permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, or can provide supportive services to homeless people.

TANF – Temporary Aid to Needy Families

TOUCH – Treatment Options for Underserved Chronically Homeless, a local substance abuse treatment initiative for homeless people.

VA – United States Veterans Administration

VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance