




To: City of Milpitas Housing Subcommittee via Steve McHarris, City Manager, City of Milpitas

From: Kari Mercer, Project Manager 

cc: Liz Brown, Director of Human Resources

Date: February 7, 2020

Re: Homeless and Unsheltered Programs

During the January 14th meeting of the Milpitas Housing Subcommittee, the Committee requested that a list be compiled of homeless and unsheltered programs that have been implemented in each of the jurisdictions within the City's labor market. Below is the information requested. The agencies surveyed were: Cities of Campbell, Fremont, Gilroy, Los Altos, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Redwood City, San Jose, Santa Clara, and the Town of Los Gatos.

City of Campbell

- Emergency housing and case management provided through partnerships with the County of Santa Clara and non-profit organizations.
- Inclusionary housing ordinance for low-income households.
- Density Bonus Program for developers who build additional low-income housing.

City of Fremont

- The City's Human Services Department provides professional counseling and crisis intervention services directly and through partner organizations to at-risk populations including homeless and those at-risk of being homeless across subpopulations such as youth and their families, seniors, those with mental health needs, and those suffering from substance abuse and addiction. Additionally, the department provides case management and linkage services for assistance with securing emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other social services through partnerships with non-profit organizations, the County, and volunteer community task forces.
 - The City-funded homeless warming center model was expanded to a winter shelter model offering homeless individuals and families a place to sleep, showers, a warm dinner meal, and breakfast to go from November to March.
 - City funded mobile hygiene centers providing laundry and shower services for the unsheltered; mobile food pantry; and diaper distribution centers.
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City of Gilroy

- Homeless placement at a City-owned apartment complex.
- Funding provided to a non-profit organizations for offering emergency homeless shelter, day centers, and case management services.
- Partnership with a non-profit to provide job training for homeless residents through the Gilroy Street Team which also provides hot meals, lunches, and case management.
- Partnership with the County and the City of Morgan Hill to fund a Housing Navigator to assist homeless and unsheltered in finding transitional and permanent housing.

City of Los Altos

- Partners with the County via grant funding for a variety of services for homeless, unhoused, and populations at-risk for homelessness including participation in the Santa Clara County Emergency Housing Consortium which operates a Transitional Housing Program.
- Partnerships with community organizations for services such as meals, groceries, rental assistance, employment assistance, transportation, access to eyeglasses, aid in applying for public assistance, and referrals for emergency shelter.

City of Morgan Hill

- Partnership with the County and the City of Gilroy to fund a Housing Navigator to assist homeless and unsheltered in finding transitional and permanent housing.
- Homeless Prevention Program: Funds a 3-day emergency hotel stay in the event of a household receiving a violation notice resulting in homelessness.
- Partnerships with non-profit organizations to provide overnight respite for homeless families who are living in their cars.
- Funding for House Sharing Program which offers free roommate matching services for residents who have underutilized homes to match with residents who are in need of an affordable housing option.
- Inclusionary housing ordinance.
- Funding for an EAH-operated apartment complex for transitional housing for families transitioning out of temporary housing.
- Funding for development of an affordable housing complex for transitional age youth who are aging out of the foster care system and are at-risk for homelessness.
- Safe Parking Program: A collaboration between the city's Police Department and faith-based community organizations for residents who are living in their cars.
- Rapid rehousing project in collaboration with the County for students of Morgan Hill Unified School District who are living in temporary housing.
- In collaboration with the County, funding for a program designed to help families who are at-risk for homelessness to stay in their current living situation through financial aid and counseling services.
- In partnership with Rebuilding Together, provides assistance for low income seniors for home rehabilitation and repairs in order to maintain properties in inhabitable conditions.

- Development of the Santa Clara County Agricultural Farm Worker Housing Focus Group to begin discussions and negotiations on addressing the housing needs of migrant farmworkers.

City of Mountain View

- Safe Parking Program: City-funded safe parking spaces for citizens living in their cars. Services also include case management and linkage to social and human services programs.
- Funding for mobile shower, laundry, and toilet facilities.
- Funding for community organizations offering cold weather shelter.
- In collaboration with the County, funds a Mobile Outreach Worker and a Caseworker for outreach to the unsheltered and homeless populations.
- City is reviewing RV parking areas and ordinances to expand the availability of parking spaces for homeless who are living in RVs.
- Funding for a pilot RV waste disposal program offering the homeless a place to empty gray and black water holding tanks of RVs which are being used for housing.

City of Palo Alto

- The Human Services Division of the Community Services Department provides linkage services for homeless to social and human services programs and organizations.
- Human Services Resource Allocation Process: A City-funded grant program providing money to organizations that offer services to the homeless and unsheltered.

City of Redwood City

- City multi-disciplinary homeless outreach team provides case management and outreach services.
- Housing and Homeless Innovation Team with a pilot initiative to utilize a Housing Locator Assister to assist homeless and at-risk households in finding affordable housing.
- Zoning code amendments to the City's Mix Use Live/Work Zoning Code and Accessory Dwelling Units Code to allow more flexibility for residential housing.
- Partnership with the Fair Oaks Community Center which provides a host of services to the homeless and unsheltered.
- Funding for the Downtown Streets Team which offers street cleaning job opportunities to the homeless.
- Mobile shower services.
- Funding for emergency shelters and a daybreak shelter for homeless youth.
- Housing Division was moved out of the Community Development Department and into the City Manager's Office and the CDBG/HOME Administrator was upgraded to Housing Leadership Manager to facilitate a holistic approach to affordable housing and homelessness initiatives.
- Human Services Manager now serves as the Homeless Services Manager, and a Human Services Coordinator was added on a contract basis to facilitate continuity in the broader human services programmatic areas.

- Juvenile and Family Services Specialist provides case management and direct counseling services to delinquent youth (including runaway youth) and their families.

City of San Jose

- Overnight warming locations every night November through April.
- Safe Parking operated by the City at two locations; ordinance allowing businesses and non-profits to operate safe parking programs in addition to those that are City-operated.
- Dignity on Wheels offering mobile showers and laundry service.
- City funded lunch program serves lunch indoors and offers access to basic needs and safety net resources.
- Financing for affordable housing rehabilitation, development, and construction to assist low-income families in securing and maintaining inhabitable residential space.
- Development of interim housing solutions through Bridge Housing Communities, a partnership with Habitat for Humanity and HomeFirst.
- City funded rehabilitation for the Plaza Hotel, a transitional housing solution for homeless residents operated by Adobe Services.
- Rental subsidies and supportive services funded by the City for individuals, families, and transitional age youth who are homeless or at-risk for homelessness.
- Transitional jobs pilot program in partnership with Downtown Streets Team and Goodwill to offer employment and job training to homeless.
- City funded rapid rehousing program.
- Trash for Cash pilot program provides compensation to homeless who clean their vicinity of trash and garbage.

City of Santa Clara

- Tenant Based Rental Assistance program: Housing assistance for up to twelve months along with case management services for families with children experiencing homelessness or at-risk for homelessness and those fleeing domestic violence.
- Homeless outreach services and Homeless Prevention Program through partnerships with community non-profit organizations.
- City provides funding to the County for the County Supportive Housing Partnership and to the County and NextDoor solutions for the provision of case management services.

Town of Los Gatos

- Partners with West Valley Community Services for emergency assistance to prevent homelessness (deposit and rental assistance, etc.)
- Town contributes to the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care program for emergency shelters, transitional housing, and other homeless prevention services.