Who is Homelessness In Oakland

2017

### Unsheltered Sub Populations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total Homeless Population</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>859</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>2761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Alameda County</td>
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<td>Money Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>58%</td>
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Source: 2017 Point In Time Count, 1/1/2017, Family Front Door data.
Characteristics of Unsheltered Persons in Oakland

Highest-utilizer profile
- General Assistance
- Substance Use
- 45-54 Year Old
- Male
- African American
- Able-bodied
- Sleeping outdoors
- Generational Poverty/Trauma
Challenge: flow into homelessness is greater than flow out

1720 people become homeless each year

Plus 1720 already homeless

738 people exit each year to housing

Based on numbers in HMIS system, 3440 people have contact with homeless services in Oakland annually. Estimate total # of people experiencing homelessness in Oakland is 5049 people/ year.
Community Impact

• An estimated 1902 people are living on the streets in unsafe encampments*
  • Many lack access to basic hygiene services and are difficult to connect to other essential services such as health care, social services, and case management
  • Unregulated encampments cause public health problems including the accumulation of human waste, illegal dumping, fire hazards, and blocked streets and sidewalks.
  • Environmental impact to waterways, parks, and other green spaces.
  • Impact on housed communities; social & environmental conditions.

*Source: 2017 Point in Time Count, 1/1/2017, Family Front Door data.
Three Part Approach to Solutions

- **Prevention:** Expand Prevention Services; estimate 20% of people currently homeless could have kept their housing with prevention assistance, with focus on African American community.

- **Intervention:** Continue to implement an *Encampment Management Model*; this includes health and hygiene interventions / Community Cabins / Safe Parking / adding shelter beds— to address the unsheltered crisis requires an expansion of the current shelter

- **Solution:** Increase Deeply Affordable Housing; estimate 27% of people need permanent subsidies. Units affordable at 20% or below of AMI, affordable on an average social security/ disability payment.
Encampment Management

• Encampment Management Team (EMT): City Administrator, Human Services, Public Works, Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Transportation, County Vector Control

• EMT Policy guides team to implement a series of interventions starting with Outreach to connect people to services:
  • Weekly garbage removal
  • Clean and Clear: a deeper cleaning after which unsheltered are free to return (6-12 weekly depending on size and staffing levels)
  • Installation of Health and Safety interventions (portable toilets, etc.)
  • Closure; when necessary based on a set of factors including 1) safety, 2) health, 3) location, and 4) size
Health, Hygiene and Safety

**Interventions Include:**
- Portable Toilets & Wash-Stations
- Mobile Showers
  - Lava Mae
- Garbage Carts & Service
- K-Rails (barriers) for safety when needed.
Health, Hygiene and Safety

Weekly Garbage Removal

• Currently servicing 17 curb-side encampments
• Garbage Removal program successes are best achieved with:
  • Encampment resident partnership/collaboration.
  • Public Works staff consistency.
  • Human Services support with site leadership development, communication, and engagement.
Intervention

Before...

After...
Health, Hygiene and Safety

Portapotties

- Currently at 18 sites
  - 3 Community Cabins sites
  - 1 Safe Parking
  - 14 curb-side encampments
- Portapottie Interventions successes are best achieved with:
  - Encampment resident partnership/collaboration
  - Human Services support of/and development of site leadership, consistent communication, and engagement.
  - Cleaning Supplies/Stipends
  - Unsheltered Community Meetings about issues as needed
  - Consistency of United Services
**Intervention**

**Portapotties Cont...**

- **City’s Role:**
  - Intention of the service is to provide health and hygiene
  - Communicating issues to United; ensuring United does their job!
  - Fixing the units, replacing, etc.
  - Development of Site Leadership for those that experience ongoing issues
  - Providing Cleaning Supplies
  - Provide a stipend for those sites that have janitorial leaders.

- **Resident’s role:**
  - Maintaining clear access to the units
  - NO foreign objects in the units - ever!
  - Reporting & addressing issues - communicating with City and United.
  - Keeping the units clean – United does not do anything but empty the tank!
  - Staging debris/garbage carts in pre-determined location
Health, Hygiene and Safety

Mobile Showers

• Currently at 4 sites
  • 3 Community Cabins sites
  • 1 Street Based site

Mobile Shower Interventions successes are best achieved with:

• Governmental/NGO Partnership/collaboration
• Site support with providers/community partners.
• Consistency of Services
City of Oakland Community Cabins

**Public-Private Partnership:** General Fund City of Oakland funds, Alameda County, State Funding, Private donations (money and in kind services) Kaiser Foundation, and Caltrans.

**Goal:** Address health and safety issues for housed and unhoused residents, provide a platform to engage participants in intensive services, reduce the impact of encampments on neighborhood

**Target Population:** Serve people directly from streets/encampments in the area. Surrounding encampments closed over time.

**Objectives:**
- Increased health and safety
- Connection to mainstream benefits/healthcare system
- Connection to the homeless services system for additional resources
- End the unsheltered status of participants

Community Cabins Programs are...

Extremely low barrier, interim (6-month) program for 40 individuals at one time.

• Pilot program - began December 2017
  • Four sites have been opened, 3 operating, 3 more slated to open in next three months
  • 20 framed, roofed, and insulated structures (2 people per unit).
• 24-hour on-site management/security
• Housing Navigation (intensive case management)-linkages to homeless services system (interim and permanent housing), health care, employment
• Portable bathrooms, Mobile showers, Garbage pick-up; Storage
• Low Barrier: Allows partners, pets, and possessions.
• Exits tied to Coordinated Entry
• As individuals move out of the site additional people will enter
As of March 2019 (15 months of operations, four sites total):

- 289 individuals served
- 138 positive exits (72%)
- 53 negative exits (abandoned, violation of code of conduct)