

# Sacramento Homelessness COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

## Weekly Progress Report

Brought to you in partnership by Sacramento County, City of Sacramento, Sacramento Steps Forward and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency

January 21, 2022

Welcome to the report highlighting progress and highlights of the COVID-19 Homeless Response Team's response efforts as part of the **Sacramento COVID-19 Homelessness Response Plan**. This report includes actions and information to date through mid-January 2022, with specific dates noted for each update provided.

### *Re-Housing*

*While currently working hard to ensure the safety of people experiencing homelessness in the face of the current Omicron surge, our overall COVID-19 response remains focused on permanent solutions as we work toward our ambitious goal of rapidly moving most households from the COVID-19 shelters into permanent housing with support for ongoing stability or with interim housing and shelters as an alternative when that is not possible.*

- **As of January 14, 2022, 425 total individuals have exited the COVID-19 Project RoomKey shelters to stable housing** since they opened in April 2020. An additional 361 have exited to temporary housing or shelter destinations such as emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.
- 335 individuals remain in the preventative care quarantine units of the sheltering program as of January 14, 2022. Shelter guests in the preventative care quarantine units continue to work with re-housing programs or onsite navigators to identify and progress along pathways to permanent housing. We will continue to work to exit people to stable locations and eventually, ramp the program down.
- Due to the current surge in COVID-19 cases, all available rooms are being used for isolation purposes and we are currently not taking new referrals for preventative care quarantine units.

Support for re-housing providers working with clients in COVID-19 shelters continues to assist providers to accelerate and monitor progress toward housing, including ongoing, regular case conferencing by program, as well as weekly cross-program case conferences and meetings of Program Leads and providers.

The Rehousing Team has continued to focus additional attention and resources on engaging and supporting shelter guests who have been in the COVID-19 shelters for over a year to exit to housing, maintaining increased communication and engagement opportunities with both guests and their rehousing providers to ensure housing goals are set and pursued and challenges are identified and addressed as quickly as possible.

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### *Isolation/Quarantine*


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*As an emergency response to COVID-19, medically supported isolation care centers and preventative quarantine care centers have been temporarily funded to provide safe places for people experiencing homelessness who are COVID+, symptomatic, or highly vulnerable.*

**As COVID-19 cases have surged across the country due to the prevalence and contagiousness of the Omicron variant, impacting the population of people experiencing homelessness as well as those working with them, the COVID-19 Response/Rehousing Team, in partnership with Public Health, have increased the medically-supported isolation capacity to attempt to meet the higher demand of people experiencing homelessness who are COVID+ while still protecting the vulnerable guests in the preventative quarantine care units.**

### **Total Individuals and Households Served**

The total number of rooms currently and the number of individuals/households served since April 8, 2020 **through January 14, 2022** are as follows:

Medically Supported Isolation Care Center

Approximately 60 rooms*
Total of 773 individuals/656 HH served thru 1/14/2022

Preventative Quarantine Care Center

Approximately 304 rooms*
Total of 1,735 individuals/1,433 HH served thru 1/14/2022

*\* Additional medical isolation rooms have been made available in response to increasing demand, and so the number of medical isolation rooms available fluctuates on a daily basis.  
Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20: 2,051 individuals.*

## Length of Stay for Individuals Served in the Sheltering Program

The **average length of stay** for individuals currently in the sheltering program is 230 days, or about **7.5 months**.<sup>1</sup> Of those 335 individuals in the shelters as of January 14, 2022:

- 88% have been there for more than a month
- 63% have been there more than 3 months
- 27% have been there over 6 months
- 21% have been there over a year

The average length of stay for **all** individuals who have been served by the preventative care quarantine centers (including both people who have exited and people who remain) since they opened in April 2020 is 161 days, or just over 5 months. Among those 1,389 total individuals:

- 77% had/have a length of stay of a month or longer
- 53% had/have a length of stay longer than 3 months
- 35% had/have a length of stay longer than 6 months
- 12% had/have a length of stay of more than a year

Length of stay information for all individuals served by the preventative care quarantine centers as of January 14, 2022, broken down by people who have exited and people who remain in the shelters, is as follows:

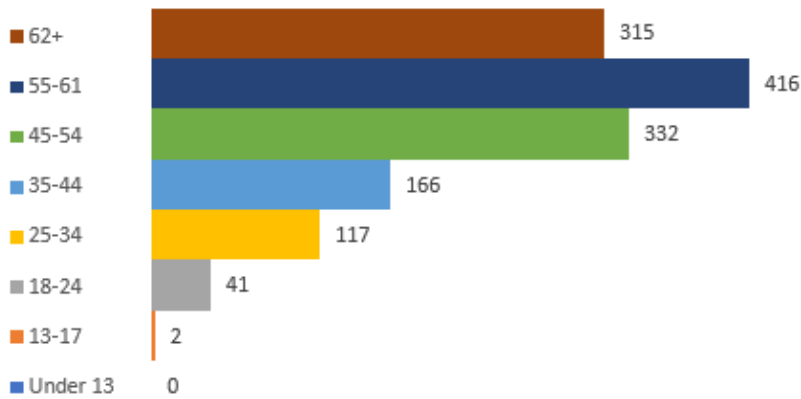
Length of Stay	Total Served	Individuals who:	
		have exited	are in shelters
30 days or less	325	284	41
31 to 60 days (1-2 months)	209	137	72
61 to 90 days (2-3 months)	121	110	11
91 to 180 days (3-6 months)	245	226	19
181 to 365 days (6 months-1 year)	321	199	122
366 to 730 days (1-2 years)	167	97	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>1389</b>	<b>1054</b>	<b>335</b>

<sup>1</sup> The length of stay information in this section covers only individuals served in the preventative care quarantine centers, since the medically supported isolation units are specifically for people who have tested positive for covid-19 and need a safe place to isolate until they are no longer contagious or experiencing symptoms.

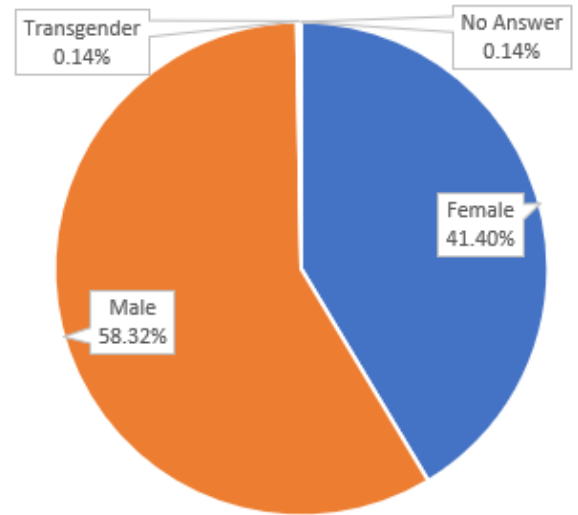
## Demographics

The following is a demographic breakdown of the people served by the COVID-19 shelter system preventative quarantine units from April 8, 2020 through January 14, 2022.

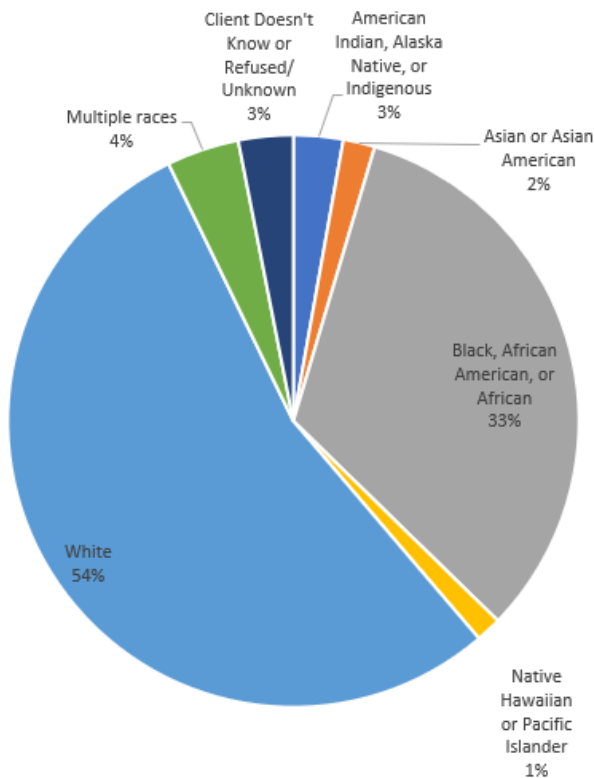
### AGE



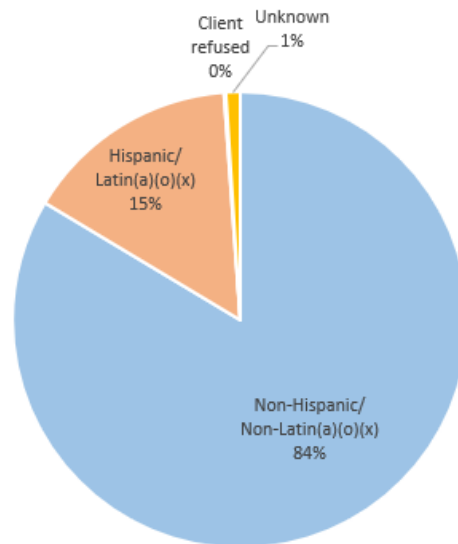
### GENDER



### RACE



### ETHNICITY



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## COVID Vaccines and Testing

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### Vaccine Planning and Distribution

*County Public Health is coordinating vaccine distribution for persons experiencing homelessness and is utilizing Johnson & Johnson single-dose and Moderna 2-dose vaccines for vaccination efforts for persons experiencing homelessness. Public Health offers initial doses, additional doses, and flu shots. Replacement CDC vaccination cards can be issued for individuals who have lost theirs.*

**As of January 20, 2022, a total of 2,354 vaccination doses have been administered to people experiencing homelessness** by the Public Health Department Vaccination Partnership:

- 1,654 Johnson & Johnson vaccine doses
- 700 Moderna vaccine doses

Weekly vaccination events are held at Loaves & Fishes (Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.) and Harm Reduction Services (Thursdays, 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.) for initial and booster Johnson & Johnson and Moderna doses, as well as flu shots. Shelters or encampments interested in pop-up vaccination events should contact Gabrielle Ortiz at [ortizg@saccounty.net](mailto:ortizg@saccounty.net).

### Testing

*County Public Health in partnership with medical partners continues to do robust COVID-19 testing at shelters, encampments, and isolation/quarantine care centers, aiming to be able to do widespread testing to ensure the health and safety of people experiencing homelessness.*

**The department is distributing over 5,000 rapid result test kits to the county's shelters and encampments in order to monitor and mitigate potential outbreaks.**

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## Ensuring Safety and Health for Persons Living Outdoors

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*This strategy is focused around providing coordinated support to people who are unsheltered to remain safely in place per CDC guidance to slow the spread of COVID-19.*

Since April 2020, the Board of Supervisors voted to fund sanitation stations (toilet and sinks) at several dozen locations across the county to serve homeless encampments as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 40 stations, while dynamic in location, have been serving our neighbors experiencing homelessness since then.