

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

March 14, 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 late February/early March 2022**, with specific dates noted for each update provided.

Re-Housing

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 March 7, 2022, 440 total individuals have exited the COVID-19 Project RoomKey shelters to stable housing** since they opened in April 2020. An additional 457 have exited to temporary housing or shelter destinations such as emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.
- 277 individuals remain in the preventative care quarantine units of the sheltering program as of March 7, 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.

The Sacramento COVID-19 care and sheltering program is scheduled to end on May 31, 2022. To allow for a smoother transition for both program participants and the system as a whole, the program is ramping down gradually. Capacity will be reduced by approximately 160 rooms as of March 15, 2022, with a further reduction in mid-April.

The Rehousing Team, working closely with the sheltering program on-site staff, has focused additional attention and resources on supporting shelter guests who will be impacted by the

upcoming capacity reductions to accelerate and monitor progress toward housing. Ongoing case conferencing, frequent communications about transition plans and available resources, and other coordination efforts with system partners are and will remain in place to ensure as many participants as possible exit to housing, and that alternative temporary housing or shelter with continued rehousing support are available for those without permanent housing lined up at the time of their program exit.

Isolation/Quarantine

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.

- **Medically Supported Isolation.** As the surge in COVID-19 cases caused by Omicron declined, the COVID-19 Response/Rehousing Team, in partnership with Public Health, gradually decreased the medically-supported isolation overflow capacity that increased during the surge. Medically-supported isolation units remain a resource, and will continue to be part of the care centers through the currently scheduled duration. The Team will continue to work with Public Health to adjust capacity as needed.
- **Preventative Quarantine Care.** Per the current ramp down plan for the COVID-19 care and sheltering program, preventative care units will remain available through the end of May. To allow for a smoother transition for both program participants and the system as a whole, capacity will be reduced gradually, with a reduction in capacity of approximately 160 rooms as of March 15, 2022 and a further reduction in mid-April.

Total Individuals and Households Served

The total number of rooms currently and the number of individuals/households served since April 8, 2020 **through March 7, 2022** are as follows:

<p>Medically Supported Isolation Care Center</p>  <p>7 rooms</p> <p>Total of 910 individuals/781 HH served thru 3/7/2022</p>	<p>Preventative Quarantine Care Center</p>  <p>357 rooms</p> <p>Total of 1,802 individuals/1,487 HH served thru 3/7/2022</p>
---	---

**Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20: 2,271 individuals.*

Length of Stay for Individuals Served in the Sheltering Program

The **average length of stay** for individuals currently in the sheltering program is 210 days, or about **7 months**.¹ Of those 277 individuals in the shelters as of March 7, 2022:

- 78% have been there for more than a month
- 63% have been there more than 3 months
- 47% have been there over 6 months
- 16% 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 156 days, or just over 5 months. Among those 1,393 total individuals:

- 75% had/have a length of stay of a month or longer
- 52% had/have a length of stay longer than 3 months
- 33% had/have a length of stay longer than 6 months
- 11% 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 March 7, 2022, broken down by people who have exited and people who remain in the shelters, is as follows:

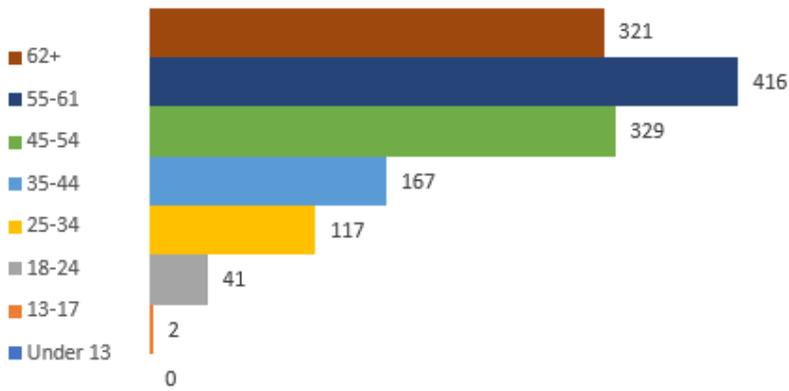
Length of Stay	Total Served	Individuals who:	
		have exited	are in shelters
30 days or less	355	295	60
31 to 60 days (1-2 months)	150	148	2
61 to 90 days (2-3 months)	159	119	40
91 to 180 days (3-6 months)	276	230	46
181 to 365 days (6 months-1 year)	297	213	84
366 to 730 days (1-2 years)	156	111	45
Total	1393	1116	277

Demographics

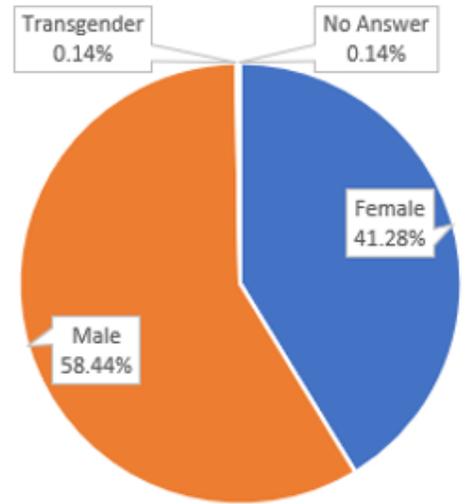
The following is a demographic breakdown of the 1,393 people served by the COVID-19 shelter system preventative quarantine units from April 8, 2020 through March 7, 2022.

¹ 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.

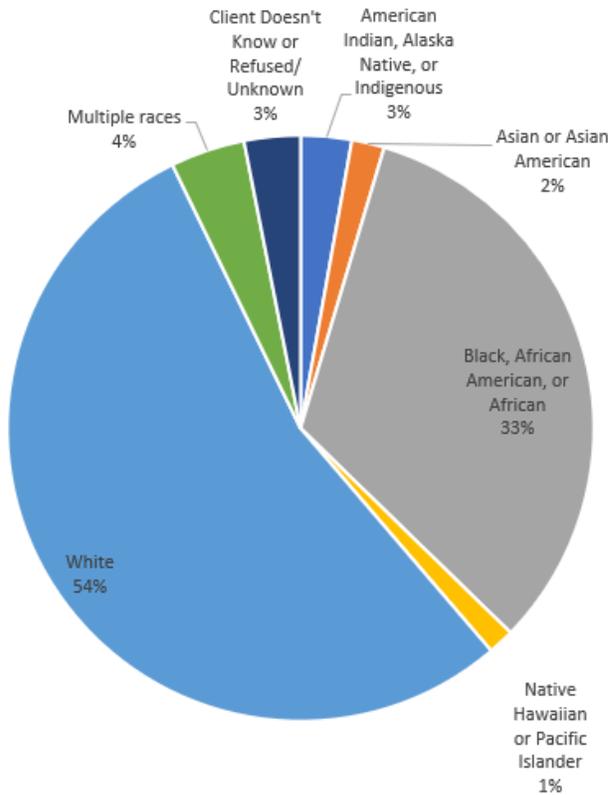
AGE



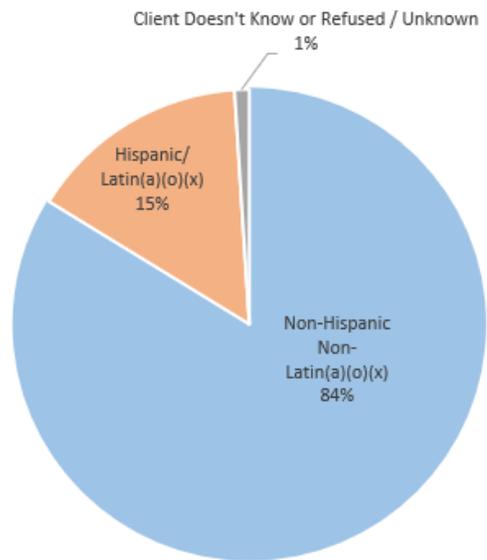
GENDER



RACE



ETHNICITY



COVID Vaccines and Testing

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 February 25, 2022, a total of 2,531 vaccination doses have been administered to people experiencing homelessness by the Public Health Department Vaccination Partnership:

- 1,685 Johnson & Johnson vaccine doses
- 846 Moderna vaccine doses

As of February 28, 2022, the County's COVID-19 vaccine distribution program has transitioned from County Public Health to the Immunization Assistance Program (IAP). The weekly COVID-19 vaccination events 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, will continue. Shelters or encampments interested in pop-up vaccination events can still contact Gabrielle Ortiz at 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.

Sacramento County has been monitoring and responding to the changes within the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to testing. During the Omicron surge, County Public Health added staffing and capacity to existing sites and extended their timelines. In response to decreased case numbers and decreased demand for testing, as well as additional testing access points available in the community, Sacramento County is modifying its approach to its community testing program. **As of March 1st the Community Testing Program sites will reduce from 13 to 7**, and they will be managed through a State contract instead of a County one. The County will continue to monitor community need and engage proactively with community based organizations and health system partners to make adjustments if needed. Additional details about testing sites are available on the County's [web page](#).

Ensuring Safety and Health for Persons Living Outdoors

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.