

# 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

**October 16, 2020**

Welcome to the bi-weekly report highlighting progress and highlights of the COVID-19 Homeless Response Team's work to implement the **Sacramento COVID-19 Homelessness Response Plan**. This report includes **actions to date through Thursday, October 15.**

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### Access to Housing

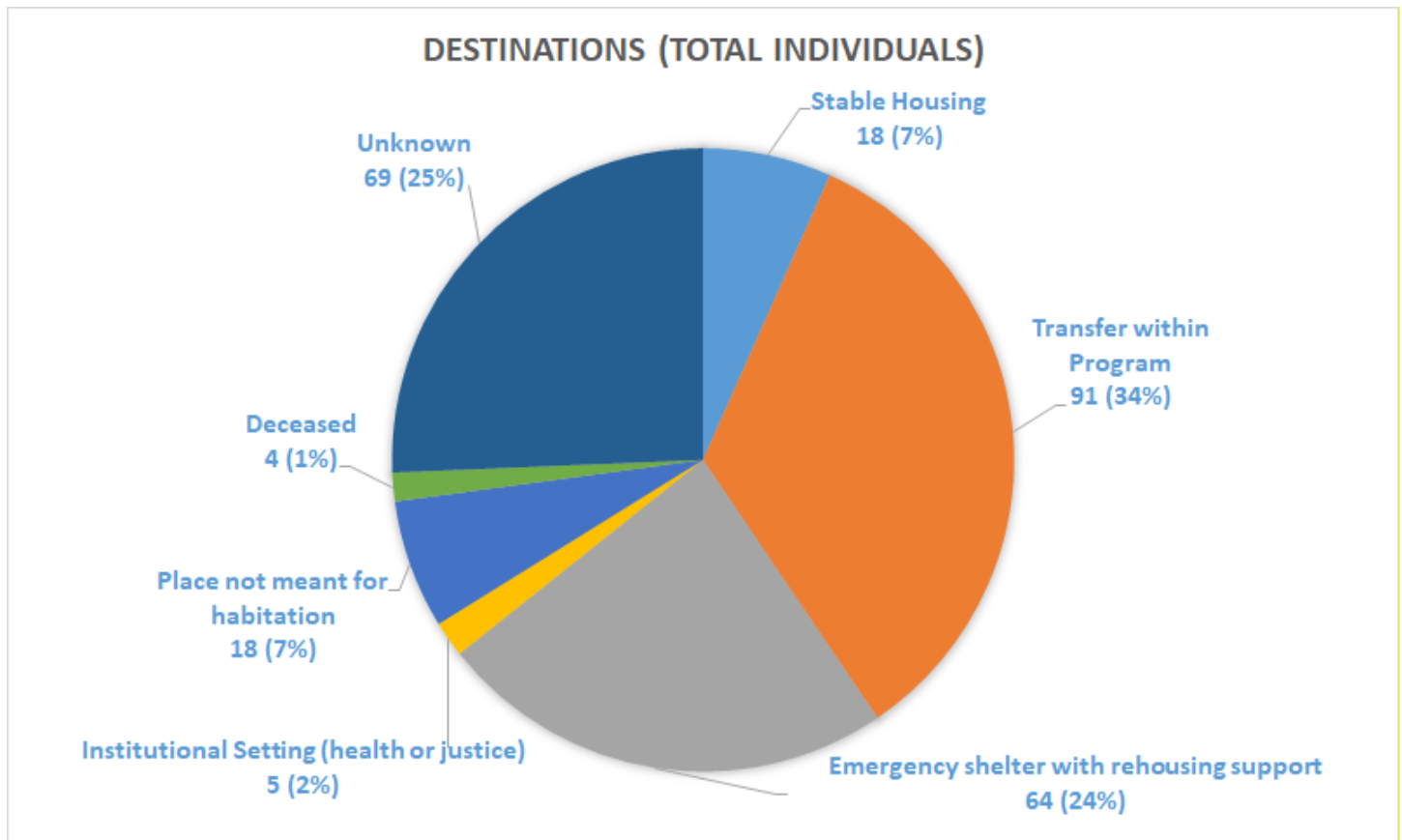
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Our COVID-19 response has shifted focus from temporary to permanent solutions, ending homelessness one person at a time. We've set the ambitious goal of rapidly moving most households from the COVID-19 shelters into permanent housing with support for ongoing stability, or interim housing and shelters when that is not possible. This effort presents both an unprecedented challenge and a welcome opportunity to significantly impact lives and health over the long term. The general approach is to facilitate program placement and connection to re-housing providers as quickly as possible and to provide additional support to programs and clients on their pathway to permanent housing.

One of the five preventative quarantine locations opened in April ended sheltering services at the end of September. Additional funding from the County and City of Sacramento is being allocated to continue all four remaining sites (one site also includes medical isolation units) through December, with one site potentially continuing into 2021.

The collaborative COVID-19 team worked hard to facilitate connection to resources to ensure stable exits to the greatest extent possible. From the site's opening in April to closure on September 30th, 271 individuals were served, 64 percent of whom were assisted to stable destinations, primarily to alternative shelters where the team will continue to work with them on identifying housing options, but some exited directly to permanent housing. (Note: re-housing services only began in August.) While 25 percent of the destinations were "unknown"

overall (meaning either no information captured or the client did not know), the majority of these occurred in the first months of operations, with only 5 or 6 unknown destinations per month in July through August.



**Strategy 1. Re-housing assistance into existing permanent housing:** The COVID-19 Team is working with participants across all preventative quarantine sites who are connected to existing re-housing assistance programs. The following are updates since the last report:

- A fourth cohort of 25 clients have been referred to the expanded County Flexible Housing Pool program prioritized based on age for a total of 100 clients referred to date. Participants will be connected to community providers offering intensive case management and property related services.
- Onsite navigation has begun across all locations to engage and support participants in their transition to permanent housing, when possible, or temporary shelter.

**Strategy 2. Development of new permanent supportive housing through motel acquisition and conversion:** There are no new updates to Project Homekey from the last report. This strategy would take advantage of the opportunity to purchase motels or other real estate for

use as permanent supportive housing for persons experiencing homelessness. Four applications from SHRA and the City were submitted to the State under Project Homekey.

## Isolation/Quarantine Units for Persons Experiencing Homelessness

*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 otherwise highly vulnerable.*

Total Care Centers	Total
# Preventative Quarantine Care Center (PQCC) Motels Open # motel rooms Open	3 motels 372 rooms
# Medically Supported Isolation Care Center (MICC) Trailers Open # Preventative Quarantine Care Center (PQCC) Trailers Open	18 trailers 41 trailers
<i># Preventative Quarantine Care Center (PQCC) Motels Closed # motel rooms closed</i>	<i>1 motel 150 rooms</i>
<b>TOTAL MICC Currently Open TOTAL PQCC Currently Open</b>	<b>18 trailers 413 rooms/trailers</b>

Served in Trailers and Motels	Week between 8/27–9/3	Total since 4/8
# Served in MICC Trailers # Served in PQCC Trailers	6 HH/6 individuals 0 HH/0 individuals	123 HH/139 individuals 78 HH/84 individuals
# Served in PQCC Motels	0 HH/0 individuals	851 HH/1,063 individuals
<b>TOTAL Served*</b>	<b>6 HH/6 individuals</b>	<b>1,052 HH/1,286 individuals</b>

*\*Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20 are: 839 HH/1,073 individuals.*

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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.*

### **Sanitation equipment:**

Since efforts began April 8, teams have installed 58 handwashing stations and 52 toilets in 40 locations. The placement of these stations is dynamic, and equipment may be moved.

### **Encampments and outreach:**

Number of encampments with more than 20 individuals identified: 46

Number of encampments with less than 20 individuals identified: 48

Total number of encampments identified: 94

Encampment Activities	Week between 8/28 - 9/3	Total since 4/8
# Meals served through Loaves and Fishes	n/a	19,400
# Meals served by Sacramento Covered	n/a	14,800
# Meals served by volunteer groups*	n/a	16,251
# Meals served by Solomons/YMCA/Feed Sacramento Homeless	5,000	22,000

- Additional funding through the County Department of Health Services has been identified to continue encampment services through the end of December. Meal delivery, water distribution, sanitation stations, trash clean-up and distribution of consumables will continue at the same level.
- During this reporting period, 24 pallets (288 gallons/pallet) of water were distributed to encampments throughout the county. The three pathways of delivery are the volunteer network, SANE and Loaves & Fishes.

## COVID Testing

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

Testing Locations	Lead Testing Partner*	# Tests Administered	Positive Results	Negative Results	Pending Tests
Shelters	Elica Health	389	4	385	0
Encampments	Joan Viteri Memorial Clinic	117	0	117	0
Isolation/Quarantine Care Centers	DHS Medical Staff	561	4	558	0
Loaves and Fishes	DHS Medical Staff	248	1	247	0
<b>TOTAL TESTS**</b>		<b>1,315</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>0</b>

**\*Tests for specific testing locations may administered by lead testing partner or by another partner**

**\* There are no new COVID test results to report on this week. Testing updates when results are available.**