Sacramento Homeless Policy Council

August 27, 2021

SHPC Purpose and Objectives

Purpose

- Provide broad-based, collaborative, and strategic leadership on Sacramento's response to the crisis of homelessness.

Objectives

- Shared policy direction on solutions to address the homelessness crisis;
- Champion and promote alignment of coordinated system policies and integrated approaches;
- Accelerated knowledge sharing and actionable best practices for addressing homelessness in Sacramento.

Today's Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions (20 minutes)

- Voices from the Field (30 minutes)

- Key Elements of a Successful Homeless Response System (20 minutes)

- SHPC Member Perspective (30 minutes)

- Paths Forward - Developing a system level response (25 minutes)

- Public comment (15 minutes)

- Final thoughts (10 minutes)

SHPC Roster

Ashley Brand
Sacramento Steps Forward Board Chair & Director of Community and Homeless Health for CommonSpirit Health (Dignity)

Darrell Steinberg
Mayor, City of Sacramento

Donald Terry
Vice Mayor, City of Rancho Cordova

Erin Johansen
Sacramento Continuum of Care Board Chair & CEO, Hope Cooperative/TLCS

Jay Schenirer
Vice Mayor, City of Sacramento

Patrick Kennedy
Board of Supervisors, Sacramento County District 2

Porshe Middleton
Vice Mayor, Citrus Heights

Rich Desmond
Board of Supervisors, Sacramento County District 3

Rick Jennings II (Alternate)
Councilmember, City of Sacramento

Rosario Rodriguez
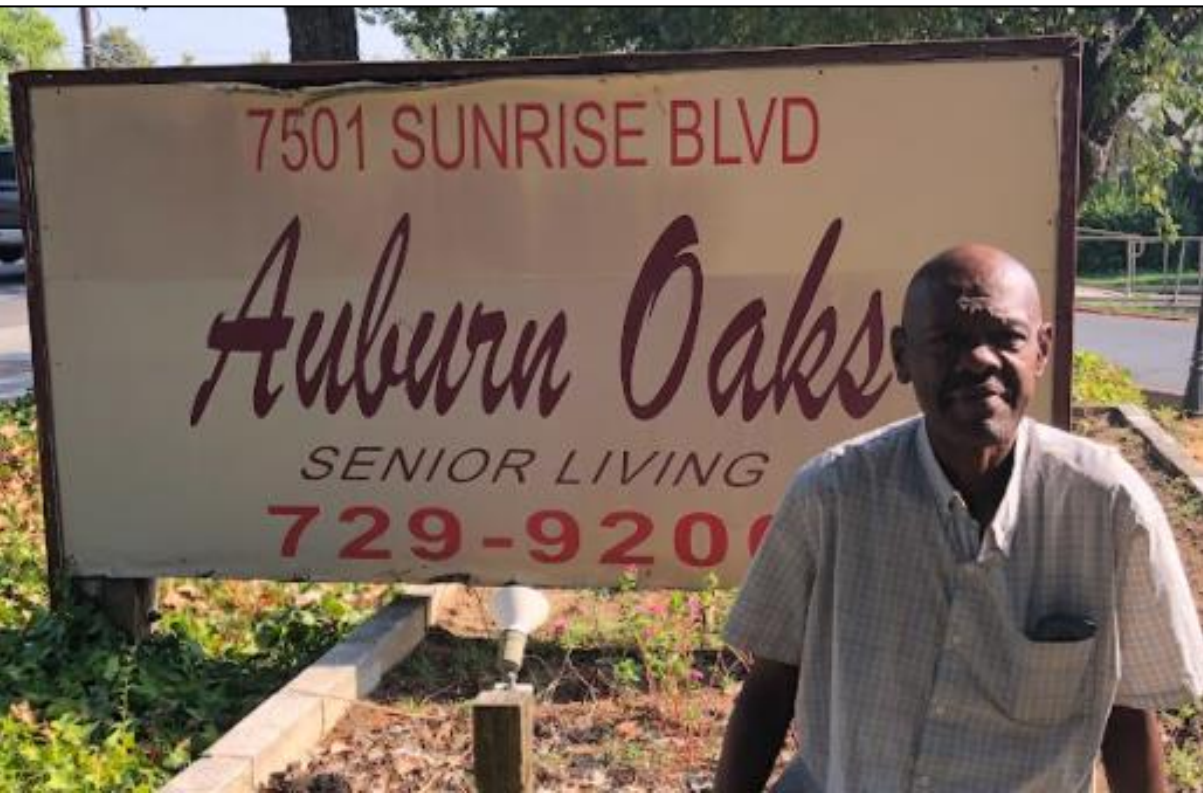*Councilmember, City of Folsom*

Stephanie Nguyen
Vice Mayor & Councilmember, City of Elk Grove

Tim Schaefer (Alternate)
Councilmember, City of Citrus Heights

Curtis Freeman

- House Lead at Auburn Oaks Senior Living

- Project Roomkey participant

- Over 17 years in municipal government, as mayor, city councilmember, and housing authority commissioner for the City of Santa Barbara, California.

- As an elected official, focused on affordable housing policies and best practices in ending homelessness.

- Served as policy council chair on the countywide homelessness collaborative board, chaired the U.S. Conference of Mayors Hunger & Homelessness Task Force, and served on the League of CA Cities Board of Directors.

- Certification in human resources management from UCLA Extension and a BA from Skidmore College.

Ali Sutton, Deputy Secretary for Homelessness
California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency

- Leads team that administers over $3 billion in state homelessness funding to counties, cities and homelessness continuum of care organizations.

- Led the development and implementation of California's first ever statewide homelessness data integration system.

- Oversees the state's Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council as well as the development and implementation of the state's first-ever action plan to prevent and end homelessness.

- Prior to appointment in 2019, served as chief of the Housing, Homelessness and Civil Rights Branch at the California Department of Social Services.

- Master of Public Policy degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley.

HHAP-3 Regional Funding Allocations

$800 million statewide for HHAP-3

Entity	Amount
Sacramento Continuum of Care	$8.32 million
City of Sacramento	$16.68 million
County of Sacramento	$7.76 million
TOTAL	$32.76 million

HHAP-3 allocations are based on 2019 PIT count. HHAP-4 will be based on most recent PIT count available when allocations are determined.

Key Elements of a Successful Homeless Response System

There are major efforts to address the urgent need

City of Sacramento
2021 MASTER SITING PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Sacramento County Encampment Team Overview

Continuum of Care Board Meeting
January 13, 2021

Photos: Hector Amezcua

A complex system

No access point connects to all the shelter and housing resources.

60 access points

112 Shelter & Housing Programs
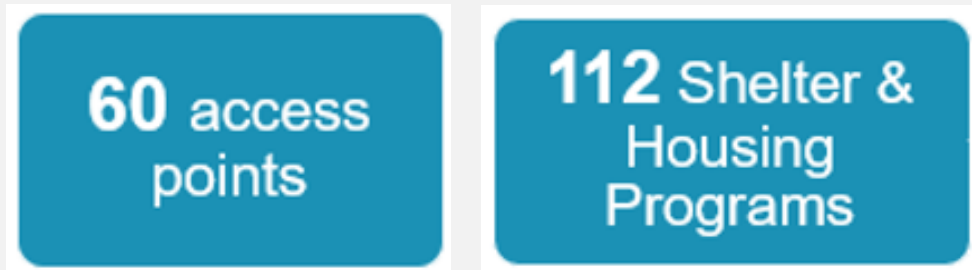
The majority of housing resources are split between **4** different entities with distinct leadership and processes.

Access to housing and shelter programs typically requires a referral from another organization.

87% Permanent Supportive Housing

62% Rapid Rehousing

require a referral from a specific access point or set of access points
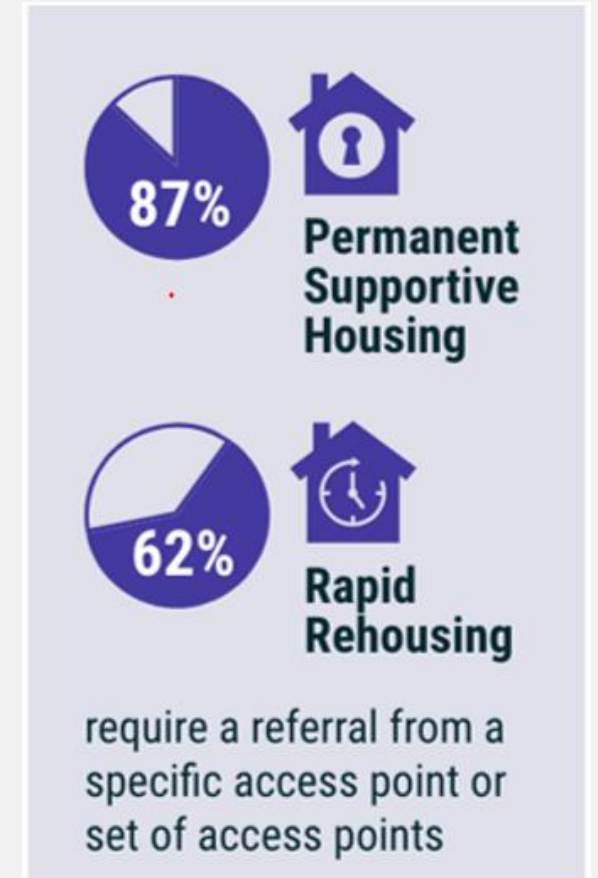
We must build on the urgent response

Who does he trust?

What does he need & want?

What services is he receiving?

Which programs are the best match?

Are programs coordinating?

What happens after shelter?

Photo: Hector Amezcua

The **System** builds on the urgent response

Who does he trust?

Coordinated Outreach

What does he need & want?

Quality Data

What services is he receiving?

Navigation

Case Conferencing

Which programs are the best match?

Housing Retention

Are programs coordinating?

Permanent Housing Placement

What happens after shelter?
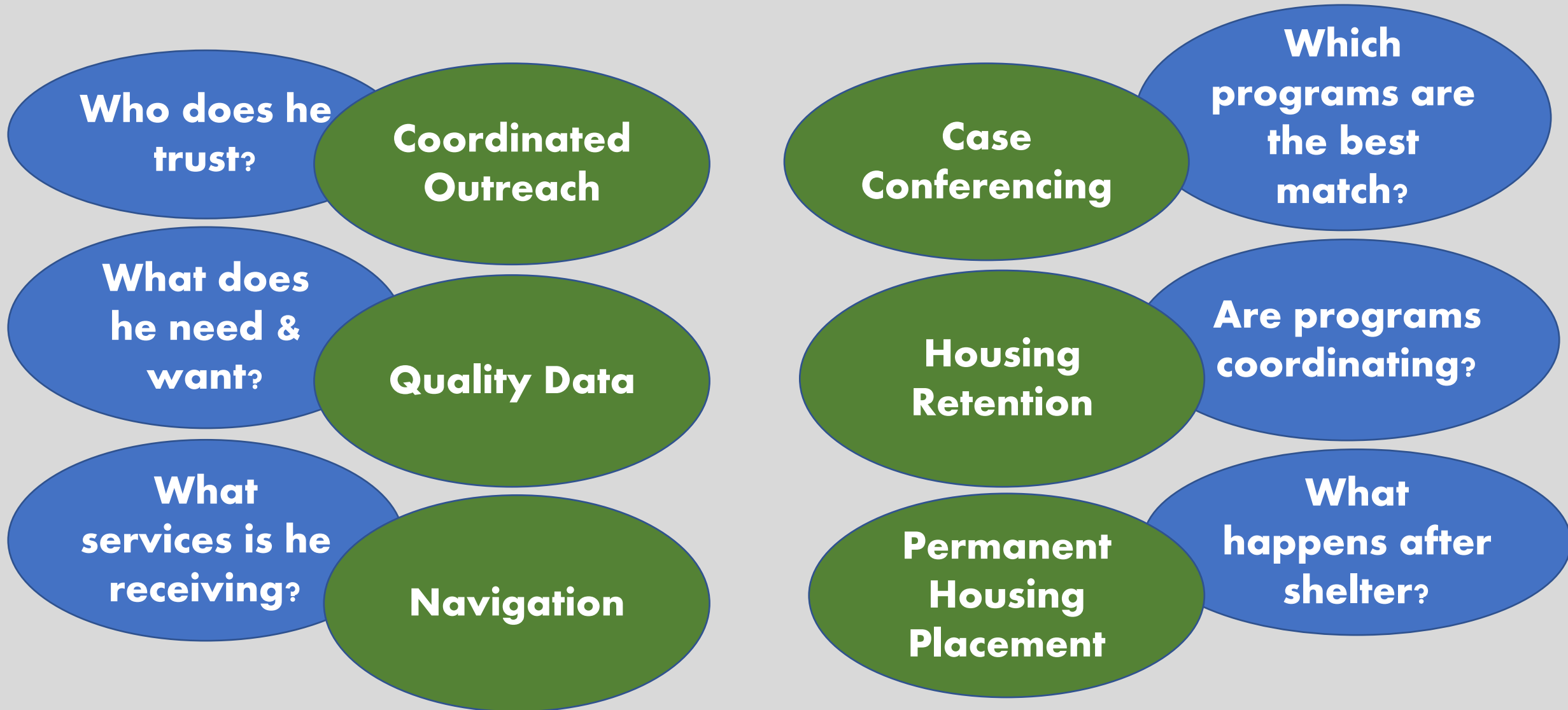
A **System** needs a strong **Foundation**

Community Investments & Integrated Team

- Coordinated Outreach
- Case Conferencing
- Quality Data
- Housing Retention
- Navigation
- Permanent Housing Placement

System Needs

- Integrated/Operational Command Center Team combined with Regional Plan with shared goals

- Coordinated Entry investment

- Quality Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data

Measuring the Effectiveness of the Homeless Response System

How HUD measures (and California will measure) effectiveness

Does the community's homeless response system:

1. Eliminate homelessness
   - *Number of persons experiencing homelessness*

2. Reduce the number of people becoming homeless
   - *First time homelessness*
   - *Returns to homelessness*

3. Help people become quickly and stably housed
   - *Length of stay in temporary housing*
   - *Successful placement and retention of housing*

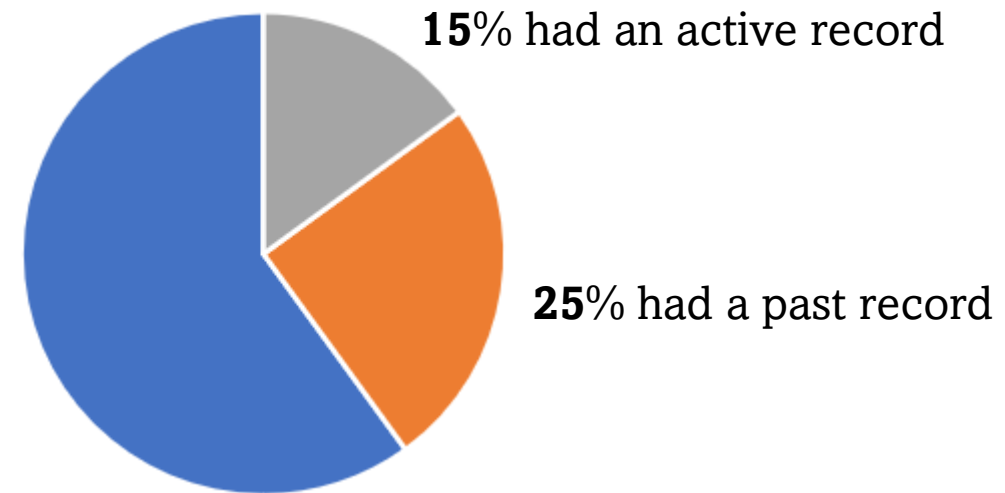# How HUD measures (and California will measure) effectiveness

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data

Point in Time Count

2021 Encampments Survey
(sample size = 152)

60% of those surveyed had no current or past record in HMIS

15% had an active record

25% had a past record

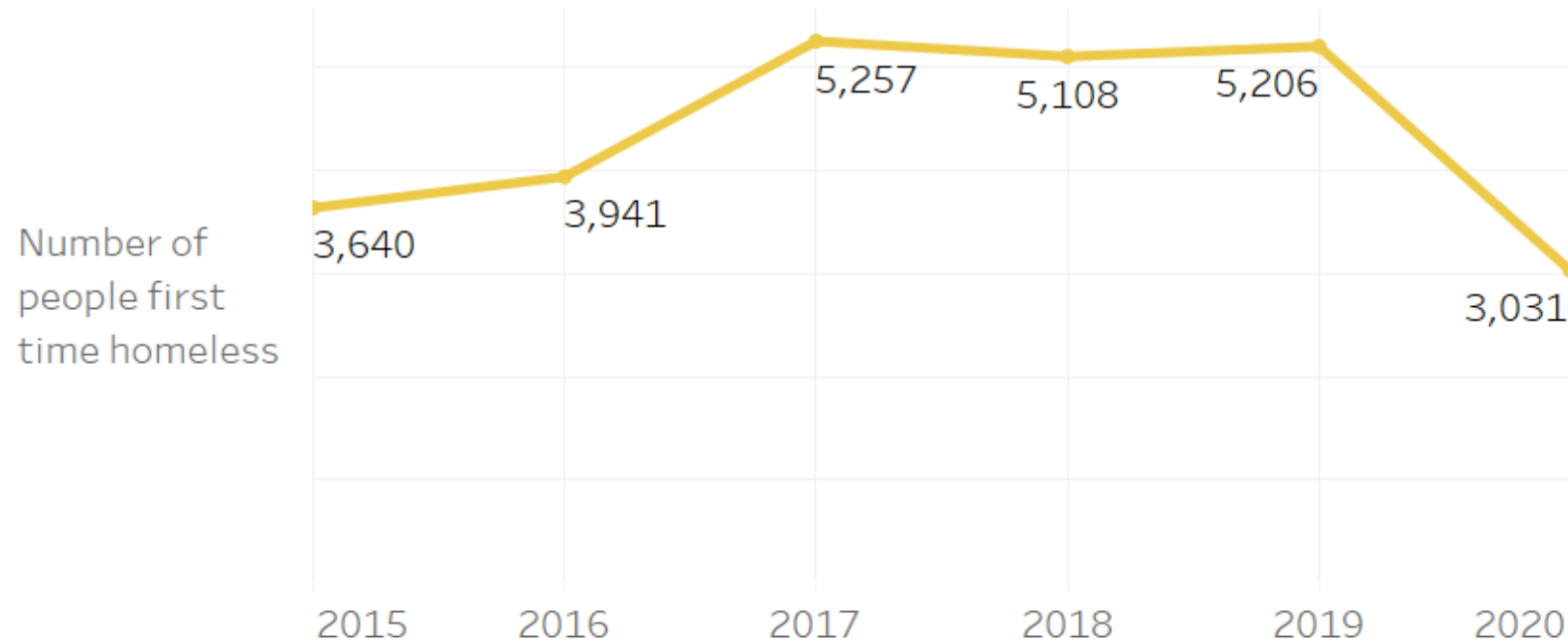*Source: Institute for Social Research*

How is Sacramento's System doing?

Reduce the number of people becoming homeless

- First time homelessness

In Sacramento, many people are new to homelessness each year, but in 2020 the number of first time homeless dropped to the lowest level in six years, consistent with national trends.
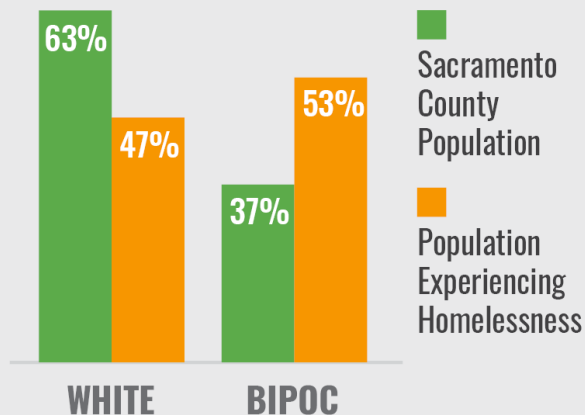
Because HMIS data only represents engaged persons, this drop could reflect reduced engagement and services due to COVID, the impact of eviction moratoriums, and/or an overall lack of comprehensive outreach data.

Number of people first time homeless

3,640   3,941   5,257   5,108   5,206   3,031

2015   2016   2017   2018   2019   2020

How is Sacramento's System doing?

Equity in who experiences homelessness

Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Are Overrepresented Among People Experiencing Homelessness[4]

63% — WHITE — Sacramento County Population
47% — WHITE — Population Experiencing Homelessness
37% — BIPOC — Sacramento County Population
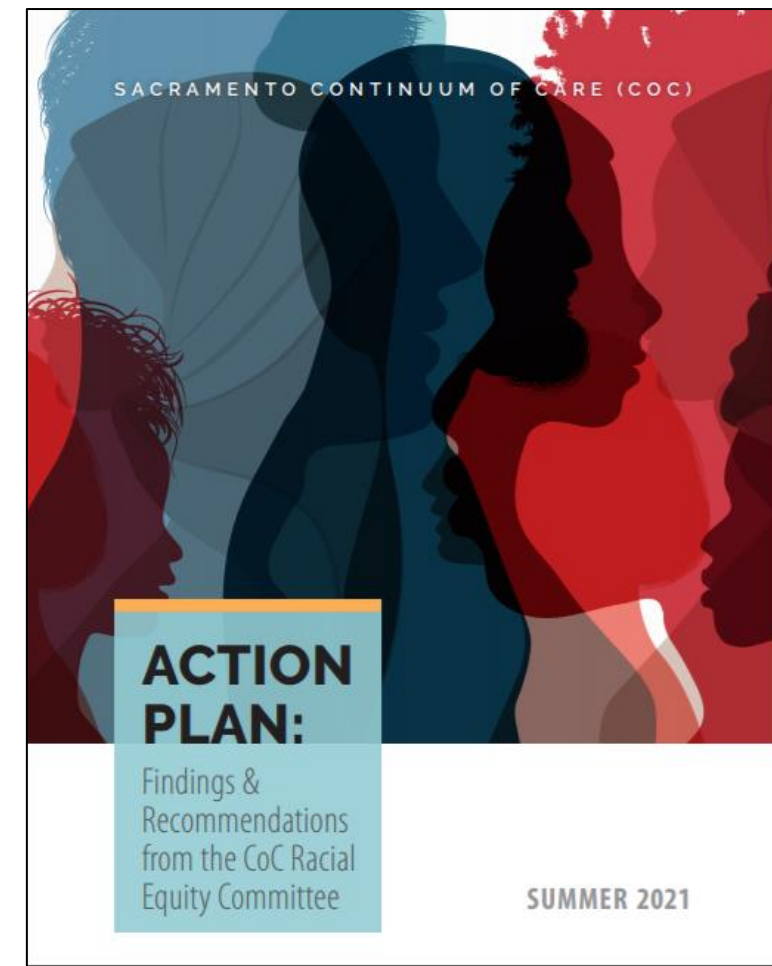53% — BIPOC — Population Experiencing Homelessness

3x more likely to experience homelessness if **Black/African American**

4x more likely to experience homelessness if **American Indian/Alaskan Native**

SACRAMENTO CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC)

ACTION PLAN:
Findings & Recommendations from the CoC Racial Equity Committee
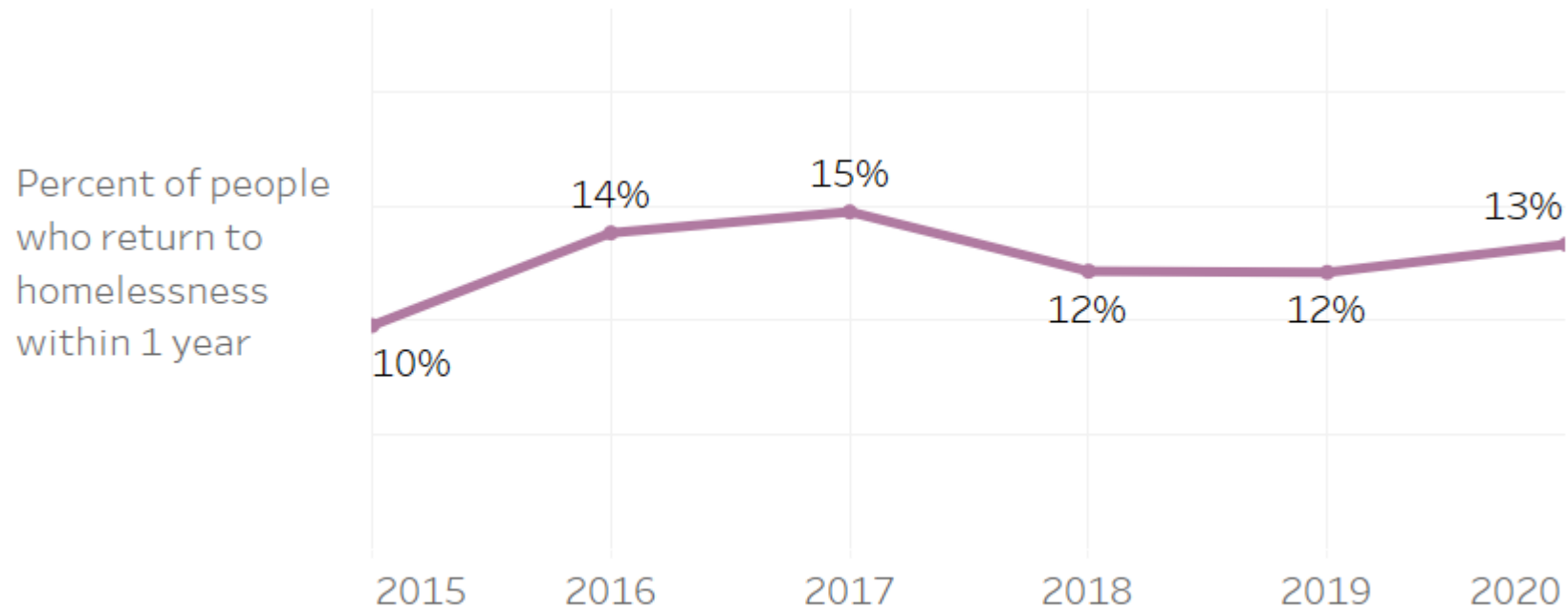
SUMMER 2021

How is Sacramento's System doing?

Reduce the number of people becoming homeless

- Returns to homelessness

The percent of people who exit to permanent destinations but later return to homelessness has remained relatively consistent. Then national 1-year return rate was 14% in 2020.
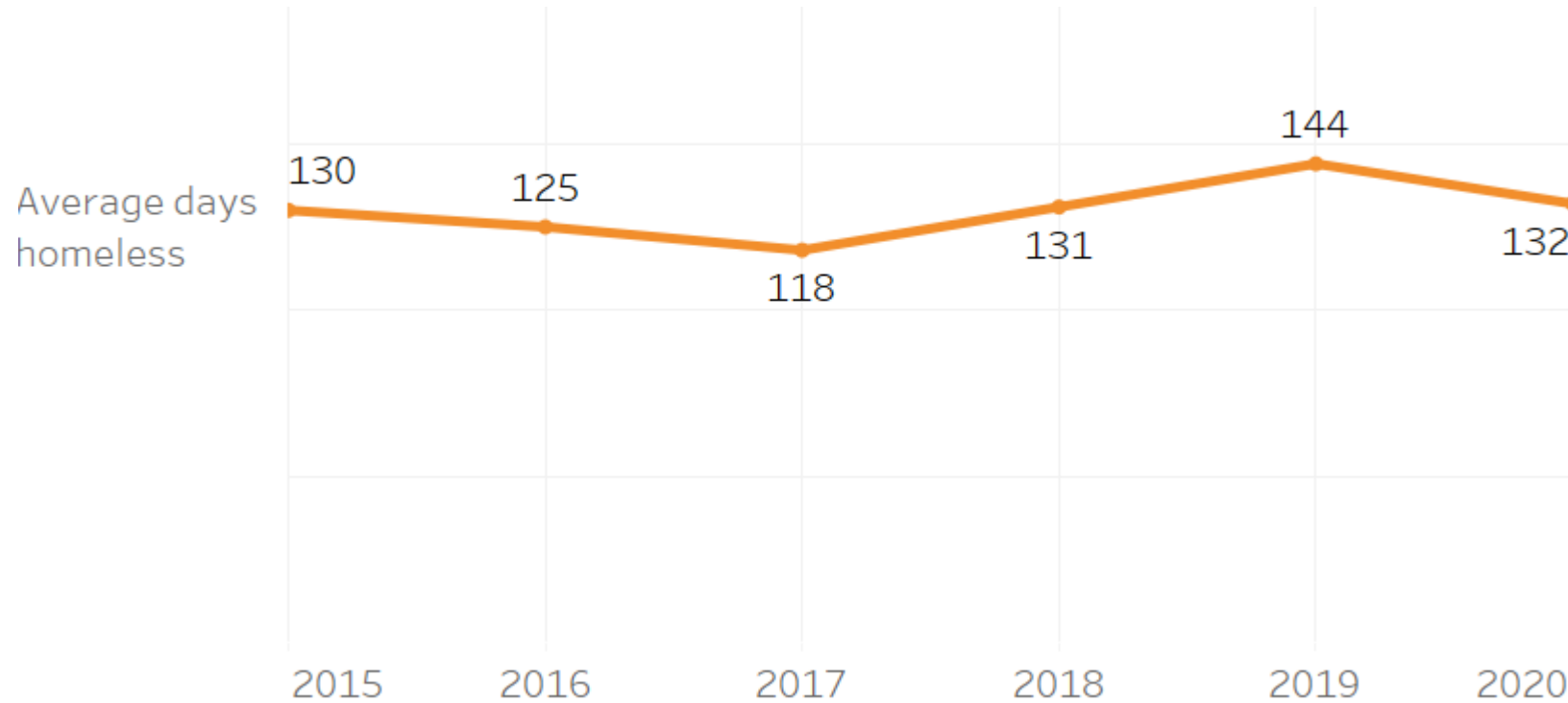
Percent of people who return to homelessness within 1 year

	14%	15%			13%
10%			12%	12%	
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020

Source: HUD System Performance Measures

How is Sacramento's System doing?

Help people become quickly & stably housed

- Length of stay in temporary housing

The length of time spent in emergency shelter and transitional housing has remained relatively constant and is close to the average for similar sized CoCs* (128 days in 2020).

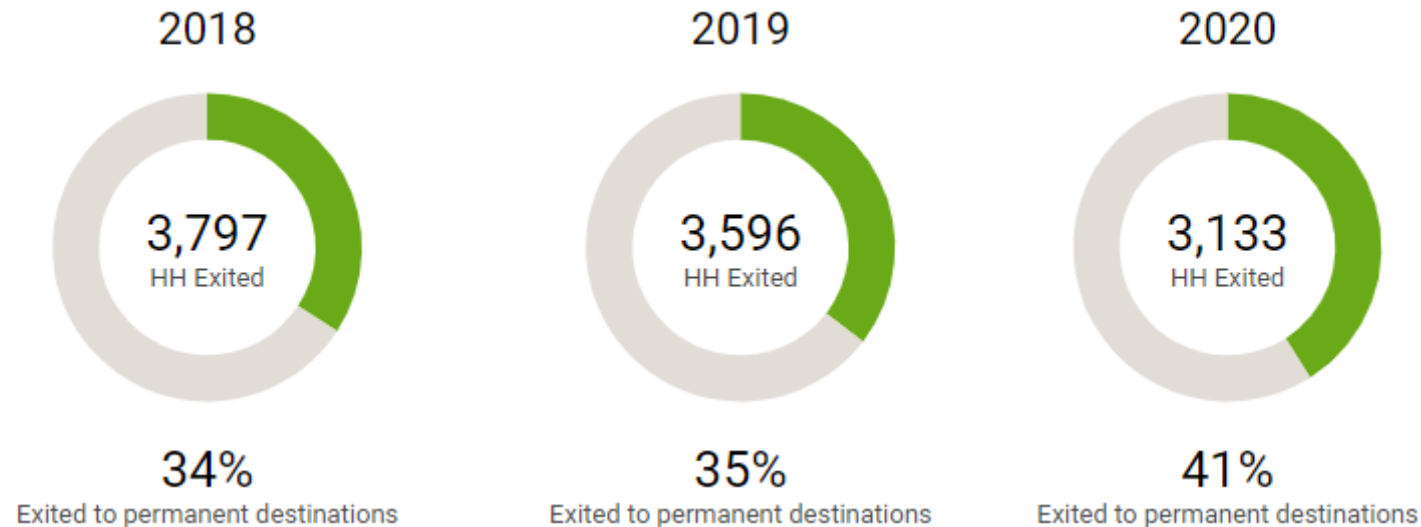*Major City CoC category, not including Los Angeles or New York City*

Average days homeless

130	125	118	131	144	132
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020

Source: HUD System Performance Measures

How is Sacramento's System doing?

Help people become quickly & stably housed

- Successful placement and retention of housing

The percent of households who left homelessness for a permanent destination increased in 2020 and is similar to the national rate of 40%.

2018	2019	2020
3,797 HH Exited	3,596 HH Exited	3,133 HH Exited
34% Exited to permanent destinations	35% Exited to permanent destinations	41% Exited to permanent destinations

98% of those who exited to a Permanent Housing program stayed in Permanent Housing, similar to the national rate of 97%.

Source: HUD System Performance Measures

How is Sacramento's System doing?

Maintaining connection with those experiencing homelessness

- Exits to known locations

Percent of exits from Street Outreach to a known destination was one of the lowest in the country in 2020

Street Outreach % Exits to Known Destinations

Sacramento — 23.5%

Each bubble ⭕ is a CoC

Median is 88.7%

Next Step System Needs

- Integrated/Operational Command Center Team combined with Regional Plan with shared goals

  - *Dedicated staff to system level review and actions*

- Coordinated Entry investment

  - *Provide resources to support easier and quicker system access, and willingness to have programs participate*

- Quality HMIS data

  - *Augmented front door resources include street outreach, all access points using HMIS to input information*

SHPC Member Perspective

Beth Sandor, Principal
Community Solutions

- Co-directs Built for Zero and the organization's systems change work to help communities end homelessness throughout the US and around the world.

- More than 20 years of experience working in the field of supportive housing and community development in the United States and the United Kingdom.

- From 2010-2014, she led quality improvement for the 100,000 Homes Campaign, highlighted in *The New York Times* and *The Harvard Business Review*.

- B.A. from Boston College.

Final Thoughts

How can Sacramento Steps Forward support your work to continue to improve the system?