



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

CAP Solano JPA
Attention:
Kathy Lawton-Caesar,
Chair/Executive Director
701 Civic Center Blvd.
Suisun City, CA 94585

707.421.7332
www.capsolanojpa.org

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1. Introduction from the Chair	3
2. Community Action Partnership of Solano, Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Overview	5
3. Community Action Agency Report	5
A. Community Services Block Grant Program	5
B. 2018 Community Services Block Grant Program	6
C. Tripartite Advisory Board	7
4. Homeless Management and Information Systems (HMIS) Lead Report	7
A. HMIS Overview	7
B. HMIS Lead Feedback	8
5. Collaborative Applicant Report	9
A. 2018 Continuum of Care Competition	9
B. Grant Writing Workshop	10
C. Collaborative Applicant Feedback	11
6. Coordinated Entry System Report	12
7. Regional Strategic Plan	12
8. Housing First Solano Continuum of Care (CoC) Report	14
A. Collaboration with JPA	14
B. CoC Visibility	14
C. Private Sector Engagement	14
D. Performance Measurement and Outcomes	15
E. Homeless Point in Time Count	16
9. Conclusion	20

1. Introduction from the Chair

Dear Community Stakeholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Community Action Partnership of Solano, Joint Powers Authority (the JPA), I am pleased to present this report covering the activities of this body to coordinate homeless and safety net services during the 2018 calendar year. Through the leadership of the JPA, and the partnership of the jurisdictions, providers and other stakeholders, approximately \$12 million dollars in funding was applied for and obtained for homeless housing and services in Solano County in 2018!

In 2018, the JPA continued to improve the lives of low-income individuals and families living in Solano County. Throughout the year, the JPA oversaw implementation of key priorities for “Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Forward Together,” the five-year Regional Strategic Plan outlining a central regional strategy to respond to homelessness in Solano County. As part of the implementation process, the JPA held the *Mayors, Councilmembers, Board of Supervisors Workshop Regarding the Regional Plan to Address Homelessness* (hereinafter the workshop) in January 2018 to discuss the strategic plan amongst the public and jurisdictional leadership as well as secure buy-in for implementing key components of the plan. The workshop gave the jurisdictions the opportunity to identify areas of shared priority among the Regional Plan implementation goals and activities. Shortly thereafter, the County Administrator and the City Managers agreed to combine jurisdictional support to expand the Coordinated Entry System. The participating jurisdictions created a funding package to hire four additional staff for the Coordinated Entry System, developed a Landlord Engagement Fund and Risk Mitigation Fund, and are providing operational costs to the Coordinated Entry Operator. This expansion will be in place in early 2019. A second shared priority identified was the need to increase a range of deeply affordable housing opportunities. With jurisdictional support, the JPA applied for several new sources of funding aligned with the goals of the strategic plan.

During 2018, the JPA applied for state funding that included the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) in the amount of \$4,917,499.52 and California Emergency Shelter and Housing (CESH) funds in the amount of \$726,212. The HEAP funding required a thorough community process where various stakeholders from Solano County weighed in and voted on the eligible activities, which include funding youth outreach, emergency shelters, and prevention and diversion services. The JPA decided to pursue rental subsidies as an eligible activity for the CESH funding. In January 2019, the JPA received confirmation that they had received the full grant amount eligible for CESH and HEAP. The JPA looks forward to developing a competitive process through which to allocate grant funding to local agencies throughout the county in 2019 and beyond.

In 2018, the JPA proceeded with a local competition process for the Local Housing Innovation Grant award from the Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC) in the amount of \$4,863,964. The Housing Innovation Grant will support implementation of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Forward Together 5-Year Strategic Plan, by providing funding for the development of new Permanent Supportive Housing units, short or medium-term housing assistance, and wrap around supportive services for Solano County's most vulnerable Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Proposals were due at the end of 2018 and awardees were announced in January 2019.

The JPA continued to contribute administrative and fiscal services to support the delivery of direct services to Solano residents experiencing poverty under three main funding streams:

First, as the region's Collaborative Applicant, the JPA submitted Housing First Solano's successful application for funding in the amount of \$1,464,224 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program.

Second, with the guidance of the Tripartite Advisory Board, the JPA administered \$424,138.00 in state Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding, including \$188,087.23 in direct service grants to non-profit organizations providing services to improve the lives of Solano County's low-income residents. Through CSBG funds, 147 households were served in Solano County and received a variety of direct services, including rental assistance, security deposit and utility assistance, housing search assistance, and supportive services for housing.

Third, the JPA oversaw \$983,437.00 in state Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funds to rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families in Solano County. Because funding streams like the CoC, CSBG, and ESG Programs bring such significant resources into the region, the JPA hosted a public grant writing workshop in May to assist organizations in building organizational capacity to compete for such grants and operate successfully as grant-funded institutions.

In 2018, the JPA helped launch Resource Connect Solano, the region's Coordinated Entry System. Coordinated Entry creates a central network through which all individuals and families experiencing homelessness can connect with housing and supportive services. Nationally recognized as the best practice by which high performing communities address barriers to self-sufficiency such as discrimination, alienation, prolonged exposure to trauma, and incompatible program placements, Coordinated Entry prioritizes the most vulnerable consumers experiencing homelessness and refers them to right-sized programs throughout the region. By focusing first on serving households with the most vulnerability and coordinating the program enrollment process among multiple agencies, Resource Connect Solano channels the region's limited inventory of housing and supportive service programs to those who otherwise would draw upon the most emergency services over the long term without such prioritized stabilization efforts. Resource Connect Solano served 927 individuals from throughout the county in 2018.

Every individual and family in our region deserves a fair and equal chance to an affordable, safe, and stable home. The JPA remains committed to serving all the people of Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo, and Solano County in achieving that vision. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Sincerely,
Kathy Lawton-Caesar
Chair/Executive Director

2. Community Action Partnership of Solano, Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Overview

The JPA is a combined governmental agency formed by a memorandum of understanding between the Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, and Vallejo and the County of Solano to coordinate efforts to reduce poverty and homelessness in Solano County. Representatives from these governments serve on the JPA Board and meet at least monthly to fulfill their duties as Solano County's Community Action Agency. The JPA is also the Collaborative Applicant for Solano County's Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead.

3. Community Action Agency Report

Community Action Agencies are non-profit private and public organizations established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's war on poverty. These agencies help people in achieving self-sufficiency. Some of the services that may be provided include: child care, education, energy assistance, emergency assistance, financial and legal services, food programs, health services, housing services, prevention programs, self-reliance programs, and youth services.

As the Community Action Agency for Solano County, the JPA administers funds through the Community Services Block Grant Program.

A. Community Services Block Grant Program

The CAP Solano, JPA is the entity responsible for administering Solano County's allocation of annual funding under the Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG), an initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CSBG funds may be used to support activities that assist low-income families and individuals, homeless families and individuals, migrant or seasonal farm workers, and elderly low-income individuals and families in attaining the skills, and knowledge necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

The 2018-2019 Community Action Plan (CAP) identifies and assesses poverty-related needs and resources in Solano County and guides how the JPA delivers CSBG-funded services to individuals and families most affected by poverty in 2017. The CAP is required by the federal Community Services Block Grant Act and California Government Code 12747.

JPA Vision

All families and individuals in Solano County have equal access to community resources that lead to and support self-sufficiency.

JPA Mission

To strengthen agencies working to end poverty and homelessness. The objective is to provide services and resources in coordination with existing service providers, including but not limited to non-profit organizations and faith-based providers, to promote and encourage self-sufficiency for the most vulnerable members of the community.

The 2017 needs assessment identified the high cost of housing, lack of employment opportunities, lack of education and training for jobs, and mental and other health issues as the primary causes of poverty in Solano County. In response, the JPA chose to prioritize the 2018 CSBG funding for increasing access to permanent housing, including financial assistance, housing search assistance, and supportive services for housing. As a second funding priority area, the JPA chose to prioritize increasing access to employment, including both employment search assistance and job training and education.

B. 2018 Community Services Block Grant Program

In 2018, the JPA distributed \$188,087.23 in direct services funding as follows:

Organization	Number Served	Award	Program Description
Caminar	Expected Households Served: 16 Actual Households Served: 36	Amount Awarded: \$59,841.87	Provide rent and deposit costs, as well as move-in furnishings and essentials for adults with severe mental health conditions in order to obtain and maintain housing. Case Managers provided support for housing services, including mental health case management and coaching in independent living skills.
Community Action North Bay	Expected Households Served: 10 Actual Households Served: 12	Award amount: \$31,363.04	Temporary financial assistance and case management for permanent supportive housing, which included: rental assistance, deposit assistance, utility assistance, other emergency financial assistance, and light touch case management.
House of Purpose	Expected Households Served: 8-10 Actual Households Served: 23	Amount Awarded: \$54,842.00	Individualized permanent supportive housing. The program provided permanent supportive housing for dual diagnosis and chronically homeless individuals. Case management included individualized services plans, living skills trainings, and assistance with obtaining and utilizing other supportive services.
Vacaville Family Resource Center	Expected Households Served: 33-53 Actual	Award Amount: \$42,040.32	Provided direct rental assistance, security deposit assistance, assistance with utilities and transportation assistance to low-income individuals and families at risk of homelessness. There was follow-up case management service provided to ensure the

	Households Served: 76		clients housing stability.
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C. Tripartite Advisory Board

The Tripartite Advisory Board (TAB) was created in 2015 to guide the JPA Board in its capacity as the Community Action Agency. The TAB is responsible for assisting the JPA Board in conducting a community needs assessment, clarifying the JPA’s mission, supporting long-range strategic planning and annual planning, assisting the JPA in implementing its programs, and evaluating the performance of JPA initiatives under CSBG funding. The TAB meets on a quarterly basis.

The TAB has twelve members: four from the public sector (elected officials or their representatives), four from the private sector, and four from the low-income sector (elected by the CoC). In 2018, County Supervisor Erin Hannigan served as Chair, and Vallejo City Councilmember Katy Miessner served as Vice-Chair.

The following were the TAB members as of December 31, 2018:

Representative Type	Name	Organization
Elected Official Sector	Tom Bartee	Office of Senator Bill Dodd
Elected Official Sector	Supervisor Erin Hannigan	Solano County Board of Supervisors
Elected Official Sector	Daniel Huerta	City of Vacaville
Elected Official Sector	Councilmember Katy Miessner	City of Vallejo
Low-Income Sector	Patrick Stasio	Solano County
Low-Income Sector	Jenalee Dawson	Social Services Coordinator
Low-Income Sector	Lisa Martin	California Tribal TANF Partnership
Low-Income Sector	Lauren Carden	Legal Services of Northern California
Private Sector	Joanie Erickson	Solano Coalition for Better Health
Private Sector	Laura Escobar	United Way
Private Sector	Lauren Crutsinger	Seneca Family of Agencies
Private Sector	Eric Ceballos	Private Citizen

4. Homeless Management and Information Systems (HMIS) Lead Report

A. HMIS Overview

The HEARTH Act, enacted into law on May 20, 2009, requires that all communities have an HMIS with the capacity to collect unduplicated counts of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other planners and policymakers use aggregate HMIS data to better inform homeless policy and decision making at the federal, state, and local levels.

Specific HMIS benchmarks from 2018 include:

Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). The HUD required AHAR report provides national, state, and CoC-level PIT and HIC estimates of homelessness, as well as estimates of chronically homeless persons, homeless veterans, and homeless children and youth. Through an on-going effort to improve data quality, Housing First Solano was able to have two more tables accepted in the 2018 AHAR for a total of 10 (out of 12). Housing First Solano will strive to submit 12 of the AHAR tables in 2019.

HMIS usage. By the end of 2018, the CoC was using 71 HMIS licenses to collect client-level data as well as data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. HMIS is the universal data system for the homeless system of care. It prioritizes the most vulnerable in the community and allows for the system to more accurately serve those in need of homeless services and housing. Every agency selected through the most recent funding competitions is required to utilize HMIS. The more agencies that participate in HMIS the fuller picture the Solano CoC will have in addressing the needs of the community. The HMIS lead continues to train new users and provide technical support to providers. In January 2019, the JPA also applied for the HUD HMIS Notice of Funding Award (NOFA) to expand services and create further customized reports in order for providers to more effectively use the system.

Coordinated Entry. The JPA is pleased to have led Housing First Solano in meeting the HUD deadline of January 23, 2018 for implementation of Coordinated Entry (CE). A major part of that compliance was HMIS. The region's Coordinated Entry System, Resource Connect Solano, is using HMIS to support intakes, assessments, matching, and referral to move people into the CE system.

B. HMIS Lead Feedback

In 2018, Housing First Solano conducted a survey to collect feedback on the performance of the JPA as HMIS Lead. Fifteen responses were collected:

1. Email Help Requests:
 - a. 73% of respondents had submitted a question to SolanoHMIS@homebaseccc.org.
 - b. 90% of respondents felt the response time was acceptable.
 - c. 82% of respondents felt HMIS staff were helpful or very helpful in resolving their issues.
 - d. 93% of respondents felt the combination of staff support and trainings allowed them to comply with HUD data entry and reporting requirements.
2. Individualized Trainings:
 - a. 80% of respondents had taken advantage of individualized HMIS trainings.
 - b. 92% of respondents felt the trainings were helpful or very helpful.
 - c. Respondents wanted the following trainings at future meetings:
 - Reporting (75%)
 - Monitoring Data Quality (75%)
 - Sharing information in HMIS (27%)
 - Using HMIS Data for Grant Writing (45%)

- Creating Custom Assessments (33%)
3. User Group Meetings
 - a. 73% of respondents had attended an HMIS user group meeting
 - b. 73% of persons who had attended an HMIS user meeting felt it was helpful or very helpful.
 4. Experience with ServicePoint System:
 - a. 80% of respondents rated their experience with ServicePoint as “good” or “excellent.”
 - b. 93% of respondents felt that HMIS staff were able to help them overcome challenges with ServicePoint.
 5. Additional Feedback about HMIS:
 - a. One respondent stated that HMIS Administrator staff had been very helpful.
 - b. One respondent stated they liked the assessment portion of HMIS, finding it more efficient than what they were previously using.

5. Collaborative Applicant Report

The JPA serves as the Collaborative Applicant (the official contracting, management, and oversight entity) for Solano County’s Continuum of Care, which is known as the Housing First Solano Continuum of Care. Collaborative Applicant duties include: CoC administration; creating and operating a coordinated entry system; engaging the private sector on behalf of the CoC; promoting the visibility of the CoC; coordinating the CoC Annual HUD NOFA Competition; making recommendations regarding performance measurement and improving outcomes; and coordinating the Homeless Point-in-Time Count.

A. 2018 Continuum of Care Competition

On February 6, 2019, HUD announced the awards for the FY 2018 CoC funding competition. The Housing First Solano CoC was awarded \$1,464,224, which is an increase of \$179,289 from the FY 2017 CoC Awards. All 11 renewal projects, including those in the lower Tier 2 (which were at risk of not being funded), and three out of the four new projects submitted, including the Domestic Violence Coordinated Entry Project, were funded. The planning grant was also fully funded. In total, 12 permanent housing projects and two Coordinated Entry projects were funded. The allocations for projects were as follows:

Tier 1					
Rank	Agency and Project	Type	New or Renewal	Amount Requested	Award
1	Anka Behavioral Health – STOP Plus	PH	Renewal	\$165,959	\$169,973
2	Caminar – Sereno Village Expansion	PH	Renewal	\$33,014	Consolidated
3	Caminar – Laurel Gardens	PH	Renewal	\$48,824	\$48,824
4	Caminar – Bonus Grant	PH	Renewal	\$32,361	\$33,321

5	Caminar – Sereno Village	SSO	Renewal	\$80,667	Consolidated
5	Caminar – Consolidation Project	PH	Renewal	Consolidated	\$117,185
6	CANB – Housing Express	PH	Renewal	\$113,055	\$116,295
7	CANB – Housing Express Expansion	PH	Renewal	\$110,436	\$114,360
8	Solano Dream Center – Dream Center	PH	New	\$79,986	\$81,798
9	Restoration Project 2018 New Applicant – Edge Community Church	PH	New	\$99,270	\$102,210
10	CANB – Living Self Reliantly	PH	Renewal	\$106,686	\$109,826
11	CANB – Fairfield VETS Program	PH	Renewal	\$37,202	\$38,195
12	City of Fairfield, CA – Restoration Project	PH	Renewal	\$61,187	\$62,999
13	CAP Solano JPA – Coordinated Entry System Expansion	SSO	Renewal	\$219,614	\$219,614
14	CAP Solano JPA - DV Bonus Coordinated Entry System 2018	SSO	New	\$84,718	\$84,718
15	CANB – Healthy Living Your Way (Tier 1)	PH	Renewal	\$122,966	\$126,238

Tier 2					
Rank	Agency and Project	Type	New or Renewal	Amount Requested	Award
15	CANB – Healthy Living Your Way (Tier 2)	PH	Renewal	(see above)	(see Tier 1 for total award)
16	Damascus House	PH	New	\$55,029	Not Funded
Planning Grant (Funded by HUD)					
Rank	Agency and Project	Type	New or Renewal	Amount Requested	Award
N/A	CAP Solano JPA – Planning Grant	Planning	N/A	\$38,668	\$38,668

B. Grant Writing Workshop

At the request of multiple providers, the JPA once again hosted a grant writing workshop on May 11, 2018, open to all Solano County community members. The two-hour workshop included a primer on the Continuum of Care Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program, tips on how to assemble a competitive application and financial management guidance. Participant handouts included worksheets to assist with budget planning and narrative crafting. The JPA will continue to provide this popular event annually.

C. Collaborative Applicant Feedback

As with the HMIS Lead feedback survey, Housing First Solano circulated a survey to the CoC General Membership seeking stakeholder input on the JPA's performance as Collaborative Applicant. Thirteen respondents submitted input:

1. Responsiveness of CoC staff:
 - a. 85% of respondents felt the CoC staff were responsive or very responsive in answering questions.
 - b. 92% of respondents felt the CoC staff had excellent or good expertise in homelessness subject matter.
 - c. 92% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall level of service provided by CoC staff.
 - d. 83% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall direction and staff energy for the CoC.
2. NOFA Services provided by CoC staff:
 - a. 90% of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with the level of preparation, facilitation, training, and technical assistance provided for the CoC Program Competition (NOFA) process by CoC staff.
 - Note: three survey respondents did not answer this question
3. CoC meetings, including General Membership and Board meetings:
 - a. 100% of respondents had attended at least one Housing First Solano meeting last year.
 - b. 92% of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with CoC staff in organizing and facilitating the meetings.
 - c. 92% of respondents felt the general membership meeting frequency of bi-monthly met their needs.
 - d. 82% of respondents felt the trainings on HUD rules and regulations were the most useful part of the CoC meetings.
4. Committee Meetings:
 - a. 69% of respondents attended one of the committee meetings.
 - b. 91% of respondents felt the committees brought useful change to the CoC.
5. Data from the Homeless Point-In-Time (PIT)/Housing Inventory Count (HIC):
 - a. 100% of respondents felt the PIT/HIC data information was useful.
6. CoC progress:
 - a. 100% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the progress the CoC is making regarding HMIS, capacity building, and the Continuum of Care Competition.
 - b. Respondents indicated the types of trainings they want to see in the future include:
 - HUD Regulations;
 - Provision of services;
 - Community engagement and networking; and
 - Community speakers.

6. Coordinated Entry System Report

In 2018, the JPA oversaw the launch and rollout of Resource Connect Solano, the region's Coordinated Entry System (CES). Coordinated Entry is an approach to coordination and management of a crisis response system's resources that allows users to make consistent decisions from available information to efficiently and effectively connect people to interventions that will rapidly end their homelessness. It provides a consistent, streamlined process for accessing the resources available in the homeless crisis response system. Through coordinated entry, the CoC ensures that the highest need, most vulnerable households in the community are prioritized for services and that the housing and supportive services in the system are used as efficiently and effectively as possible. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires that Continuums of Care establish and operate a coordinated entry process.

The Coordinated Entry system was awarded \$219,614 through the FY 2017 HUD CoC, which was a \$139,614 increase from the previous year. The award was disbursed in 2018 and funded three and a half case managers as well as \$6,922 in public transportation bus passes for consumers experiencing homelessness. In May 2018, the JPA ran a local competition to select a nonprofit or government agency to serve as the region's Coordinated Entry Systems Operator. Caminar was selected through that process. By the end of 2018, Resource Connect Solano was providing Coordinated Entry services that covered the entire geographic scope of the CoC. More information about Resource Connect Solano can be found online at the JPA's website, among other portals: <http://www.capsolanojpa.org/get-help--resource-connect-solano.html>

In early 2018, the JPA applied for and was awarded the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) grant in the amount of \$50,000. The JPA designated half of the funds towards the creation and implementation of a marketing plan for Resource Connect Solano. The goal of the marketing plan is to target underrepresented populations in the Coordinated Entry System in Solano County. The JPA staff identified Latinos and youth as underserved populations. The marketing plan includes the creation and roll-out of the Resource Connect Solano website, social media accounts, and an official logo.

7. Regional Strategic Plan

In 2016, the JPA commissioned the creation of a five-year regional strategic action plan to respond to homelessness in Solano County. A Working Group, composed of representatives from the County, each of the seven Cities, and various service sectors (including law enforcement, Veterans Affairs, children and youth, affordable housing development) was convened to inform the design and content of the community engagement efforts and strategic plan draft. The final plan with community goals and benchmarks to define success and ensure accountability was approved by the JPA and the CoC Board in March 2017, with a supplement released in November 2017.

An Implementation Planning Committee, which reported to the JPA, was convened shortly after the plan was approved to develop an initial annual implementation plan to advance the core strategies in service of the plan goals. The committee met multiple times beginning in May 2017, forming separate working groups to draft distinct portions of the implementation guide. The JPA approved the Initial Year Implementation Guide in July 2017.

In January 2018, as part of the implementation process, the JPA held the *Mayors, Councilmembers, Board of Supervisors Workshop Regarding Regional Plan to Address Homelessness* (hereinafter the workshop) in January 2018 to discuss the strategic plan amongst the public and jurisdictional leadership as well as secure buy-in for implementing key components of the plan. The workshop addressed various aspects of the strategic plan – outreach, coordinated entry, and housing – highlighting opportunities for jurisdictions and other stakeholders to contribute to the plan’s implementation. The workshop included a panel discussion of the existing outreach efforts around Solano County and additional resources needed; a presentation by a neighboring county’s Coordinated Entry Manager to provide a picture of how additional resources could strengthen and expand Solano’s system; and a slate of speakers from various Bay Area communities sharing their experiences with providing additional housing opportunities for people exiting homelessness.

Subsequently, the County Administrator and City Managers convened to discuss how best to support the implementation of the strategic plan. The JPA provided the County Administrator and City Managers with a menu of options to consider and they identified housing and Coordinated Entry as two key shared priorities. They decided initially to collectively support the expansion of the Coordinated Entry System. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed that included funding for a Coordinated Entry Manager, Housing Navigator, Coordinated Entry Administrator, Case Manager, Landlord Incentive Fund, Risk Mitigation Fund, and Coordinated Entry Operational Costs. The goal is to execute the County Administrator/City Manager Coordinated Entry Expansion MOU in early 2019 with a Request for Proposal for a Coordinated Entry Operator to follow in order to identify an operator who will manage the entire Coordinated Entry System with the expanded funding.

Part of the strategic plan implementation also required securing additional funding in order to expand housing opportunities. In 2018, the JPA applied for and was awarded state funding that included the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) in the amount of \$4,917,499.52 and California Emergency Shelter and Housing (CESH) in the amount of \$726,212. All eligible activities for the funding came from the strategic plan implementation guide. The HEAP funding required a thorough community process where various stakeholders from Solano County weighed in and voted on the eligible activities, which include the following activities from the strategic plan: funding youth outreach/drop-in center, emergency shelters, and prevention and diversion services. The JPA decided to pursue rental subsidies as an eligible activity for the CESH funding, therefore increasing access to permanent housing.

The JPA proceeded with a local competition process for the Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC) grant in the amount of \$4,913,964. The Housing Innovation Grant supports the implementation of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Forward Together 5-Year Strategic Plan, as well as the development of new Permanent Supportive Housing units, short or medium-term housing assistance, and wrap around supportive services for

Solano County's most vulnerable Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The JPA continues to rely on the Strategic Plan as the foundational document to guide the priorities for all funding sources.

Add something about how the JPA's work to create the Plan was used to streamline access to \$3,026,167 NPLH funds by the County.

Information about the Strategic Planning process overall, as well as the Strategic Plan and Initial Year Implementation Guide, are available on the CAP Solano JPA website here: https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/845f26_29c7bc9e69604d058ffcb34f126ecdbf.pdf

8. Housing First Solano Continuum of Care (CoC) Report

A. Collaboration with JPA

Housing First Solano Continuum of Care (CoC) is the coordinating body for efforts to address homelessness in Solano County. The JPA provides funding for Housing First Solano CoC staff to ensure that it has the necessary capacity to discharge its attendant duties. Each jurisdiction has a seat on the CoC Board and actively participates in the planning activities and governance of the CoC. There are JPA Board members actively involved in CoC Committees, including the Performance and Evaluation Committee, the Coordinated Entry Workgroup, and Point-In-Time Committee.

B. CoC Visibility

The JPA's visibility in 2018 increased specifically through its work to implement the Regional Strategic Plan and by working with the County Administrator's Office and the City Managers' Offices on the key priorities in the Plan. The JPA's visibility continued to grow through the announcement of numerous new sources of funding (i.e.: PHC, HEAP, and CESH) and regular JPA meetings saw a significant increase in attendance from the public and a variety of stakeholders in the homeless system of care. In September 2018, the JPA staff prepared a report for the Solano County Board of Supervisors that covered the key sources of funding secured and accomplishments of the JPA since its inception. In November 2018, the JPA hosted a community process workshop where over 40 people from Solano County attended to discuss the funding priorities for the HEAP grant. The JPA staff continues to attend community meetings within the homeless system of care in Solano County (i.e. Vacaville Homeless Round Table, Workforce Development Board, etc.).

C. Private Sector Engagement

The JPA continued to work closely with the private sector in 2018. Business leaders were engaged in the drafting and implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan and attended multiple stakeholder meetings. The region's commitment to connecting clients with employment also drove private sector partnerships. JPA staff participated in the Solano County Workforce Development Board meetings throughout the year, employment remained a key focus of 2018 CSBG grant allocations. All providers funded as part of the 2018 Continuum of Care competition reported that they either offered job training and employment search services themselves or had directly connected their clients with external workforce development providers. The President/CEO of the Fairfield/Suisun

Chamber of Commerce served on the Housing First Solano CoC Board in 2018 bringing an important perspective to the CoC and was recently elected as the Vice-Chair of that Board.

D. Performance Measurement and Outcomes

In July of 2014, HUD released a document entitled *System Performance Measures: An Introductory Guide to Understanding System-Level Performance Measures*, which provides guidance on how to implement system-level performance measures to evaluate CoC performance as a coordinated system and to track community-level progress. In 2018, Housing First Solano continued to track all HUD performance measures and Local Performance Measures 8A and 8B:

Performance Measure	Housing First Solano Adoption
HUD Measure 1: Length of time persons remain homeless.	HFS runs this measure quarterly to determine whether the length of time people remain homeless is decreasing.
HUD Measure 2a: The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness within 6 to 12 months.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine the effectiveness of CoC permanent housing placements.
HUD Measure 2b: The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness within 2 years.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine the effectiveness of CoC permanent housing placements.
HUD Measure 3: Number of homeless persons.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine whether the number of people experiencing homelessness in the CoC is decreasing.
HUD Measure 4a: Employment and Income Growth For Homeless Persons in CoC Program-Funded Projects.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine whether there is an increase in the percent of adults who gain or increase cash income over time.
Local Measure 4b: Employment And Income Growth For Homeless Persons In Other Federally-Funded Projects.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine whether there is an increase in the percent of adults who gain or increase cash income over time.
HUD Measure 5a: Number of Persons Who Become Homeless for the First Time.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine whether there is a reduction in the number of persons who become homeless for the first time

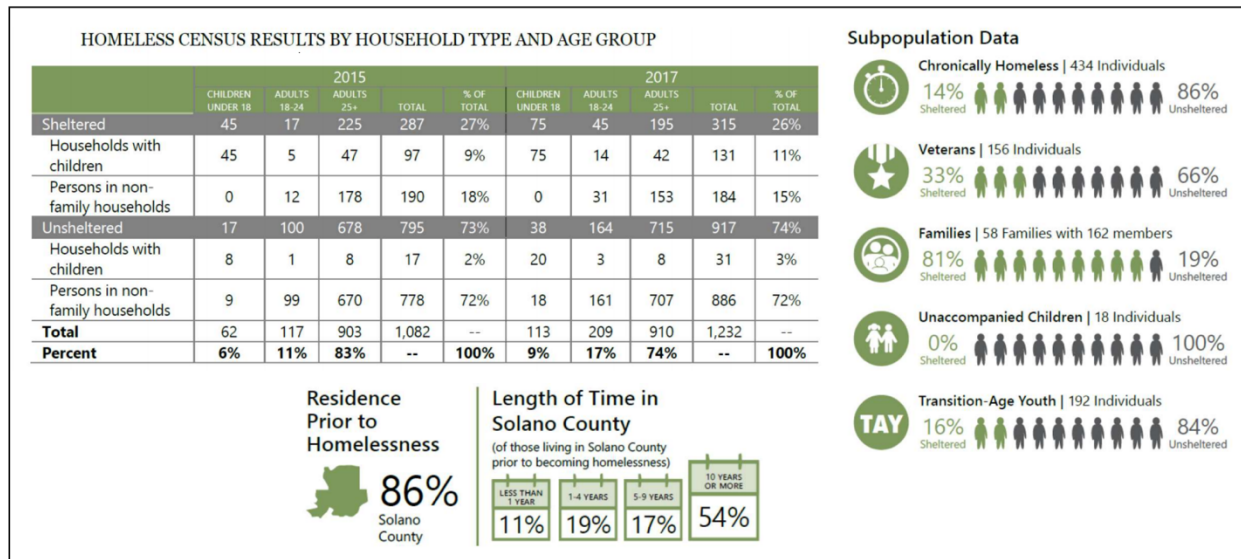
Local Measure 5b: Number of Persons Who Touch the System of Care for the First Time.	HFS runs this measure twice a year to determine the need and change in need for prevention/diversion and other non-homeless-specific services.
HUD Measure 7a: Successful placement from Street Outreach	HFS uses this measure to assess street outreach efforts and will encourage additional street outreach projects to use HMIS
HUD Measure 7b: Successful placement in or retention of permanent housing	HFS uses this measure to assess street outreach efforts and will encourage additional street outreach projects to use HMIS
Local Measure 8a: How long Coordinated Entry participants stay on the by-name list, including subpopulations	HFS monitors the average length of time all coordinated entry participants stay on the by-name list, as well as youth, people with substance abuse issues, and other subpopulations as needed to determine the level of unmet need.
Local Measure 8b: Failed housing placements	HFS tracks the number of clients who receive a housing placement through Coordinated Entry but cannot be found, do not show up at the sponsoring agency, or refuse the placement to determine what resources are needed for more successful housing placements.

E. Homeless Point in Time (PIT) Count

The Homeless PIT Count is conducted at least biennially in Solano and is a requirement to receive homeless assistance funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The PIT Count uses HUD’s definition of homelessness, which includes persons living in shelters and places not meant for human habitation. However, it excludes persons who are living doubled up with others due to economic hardship or those living in RV or trailer parks. Annual school data on family homelessness and other counts use broader definitions of homelessness. The PIT Count provides a snapshot of the number and demographics of those experiencing homelessness in the region on a given night. Yet it is not designed to be a complete analysis of the issues surrounding homelessness nor a comprehensive count of all homeless persons served over the course of a year. This snapshot allows Solano to track trends concerning subpopulations, identify potential gaps in services and inform future planning, which is important for the implementation of the current regional strategic plan in Solano County.

A PIT Count was just conducted in January 2019; however, surveys are still being collected and the results of that Count will not be available for several months.

The last unsheltered and sheltered PIT Count was conducted in 2017. On July 14, 2017, the JPA released the results of its Point-In-Time (PIT) Count and Survey for 2017. The key findings from the 2017 PIT count were as follows:



Overall, the data from 2017 suggested that a large percentage of that population was chronically homeless or had significant service needs:

- The reported chronically homeless population had grown from 223 in 2015 to 434 in 2017 (35% of the homeless population)
- Nearly half of all respondents (48%) reported psychiatric or emotional conditions, 24% reported having Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and 41% reported substance abuse
- 62% reported having a disabling condition that impeded their ability to live independently
- Over half (59%) reported that their current episode of homelessness had lasted for a year or more; 62% reported experiencing multiple episodes of homelessness. 38% were experiencing homelessness for the first time indicating an opportunity for additional prevention services.
- 91% reported an interest in moving into safe, affordable, permanent housing if it were available.

The full PIT report from 2017, an Executive Summary, and an FAQ document with additional information can be obtained on the JPA website at: <http://www.capsolanojpa.org/>

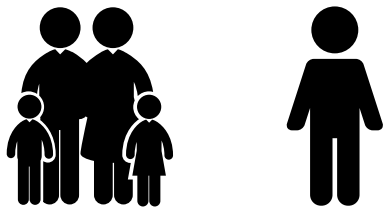
For 2018 in Solano County, the sheltered-only count was conducted on January 24, 2018. Solano County conducted the Sheltered Point-in-Time count by sending Provider Surveys before the date of the count to all emergency shelter and transitional housing providers asking the providers to complete them based on the information from the night of the count, January 24, 2018. The PIT results presented below reflect all the sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness counted on this night.

The total number of sheltered people experiencing homelessness for 2018 was 212, a decrease of 103 sheltered people since 2017. This is most likely due to the reduction of available transitional housing and the restructuring of Mission Solano.



	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Total
Total Number of Individuals Counted	144	68	212

Households and Individuals



	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Total
Total Number of Households	129	56	185
Total Number of Individuals	144	68	212

Youth Households



	Parenting Youth Households	Unaccompanied Youth Households	Total
Total Individuals (including parented children)	16	39	55
Youth Parents	8	0	2
Youth 18 to 24	0	39	7

Subpopulation data from PIT provider surveys and from HMIS and Provider Surveys

Number of People Who Are:	
Chronically Homeless	87
Chronically Homeless Veterans	7
Adults with Serious Mental Illness	107

Adults with Substance Use Disorder	101
Veterans	19

During 2018, the JPA also prepared for the 2019 sheltered and unsheltered PIT count by contracting with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to lead the count and hosting numerous PIT Work Group Meetings. ASR and the JPA heavily recruited volunteers and partnered with various agencies, including the public school district, to ensure the most accurate count. The PIT count took place on January 23, 2019 and had outstanding community participation. There were three deployment centers, one in the City of Vallejo, one in City of Vacaville, and one in the City of Fairfield, with over 110 volunteers. There was also an afternoon youth PIT count carried out with the assistance of JPA staff, youth with lived experience, and Solano County staff. The results for the PIT count will not be available for several months

F. Housing Inventory Count

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires each Continuum of Care (CoC) to conduct an annual inventory of housing dedicated for homeless people in each community, called the Housing Inventory Count (HIC), during the last ten days of January. The HIC report tallies the number of beds and units available on the designated night by project type, and includes beds dedicated to serve persons who are homeless in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Housing. The category of Permanent Housing includes Permanent Supportive Housing (including HUD-VASH vouchers) and Rapid Re-housing.

In 2018, the HIC was conducted by sending surveys to homeless housing providers in the County. The providers completed the surveys based on the information gathered on the night of the homeless count, January 24, 2018.

	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing			Permanent Housing		
	2017	2018	Chng	2017	2018	Chng	2017	2018	Chng
Total Number of Year-Round Beds	162	240	+78	214	99	-115	319	462	+143
Total Number of Seasonal Beds	30	0	-30	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

In 2018, Solano County saw changes in the numbers of Emergency Shelter beds due to the consolidation of Mission Solano beds from some Transitional Housing and Emergency Shelter to all Emergency Shelter. Solano County also lost some Transitional Housing beds with the closure of two Transitional Housing programs. However, Solano County increased Permanent Housing beds.

9. Conclusion

In 2018, the JPA oversaw progress in efforts throughout Solano County to strengthen its responses to poverty and homelessness. The JPA guided the investment of resources toward coordinated, productive, capacity-building. These efforts include expansive outreach, Coordinated Entry implementation, and community-wide technical assistance and training. There has been tangible progress, such as the development of system performance measures and the improvement of data quality for the Continuum of Care; the addition of 143 permanent housing beds in the community; and the allocation of approximately \$12 million in funding – i.e. ESG, PHC, HEAP, CESH, CHIP. While this progress is encouraging, there is much work left to be done. The JPA’s commitment to implementing the five-year Regional Strategic Plan, in partnership with the jurisdictions and other stakeholders, will give the community strategies for leveraging shared resources to improve the quality of life in Solano County.