

TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Date/Time: Thursday, January 12, 2022 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: Sonora Main Library Meeting Room, 480 Greenley Rd, Sonora, CA 95370

Email &/or U.S. Mail comments to: Michael Roberson at mroberson@co.tuolumne.ca.us or: CAO Office 2 S. Green St. Sonora CA 95370 no later than 8:00 AM on the morning of the meeting.

CHAIRPERSON

Supervisor David Goldemberg

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

#1 Colette Such

#2 Shelley Muniz

#3 Larry Barsetti

#4 Dana Butow

#5 Jeanette Lambert

OTHER MEMBERS

ATCAA

-Joe Bors

City of Sonora

-Andy Merrill

Chicken Ranch Rancheria of

Me-Wuk Indians of California

-LeeAnn Hatton

Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

-Darla Merlin

Tuolumne County Business Council

-Tom Crosby

Tuolumne County Sheriff

-Bill Pooley

Tuolumne County Veterans Services

-Kris Albrecht

Local Service Providers

-Interfaith/Cathy Peacock

Lived Experience

-Jennifer Salazar

STAFF

County Administrator

-Tracie Riggs

Homeless Services Coordinator

-Michael Roberson

Executive Clerk/Committee Secretary

-Jessica Alley

NON-VOTING ADVISORS

Adventist Health Sonora

Central Sierra CoC Youth Advisory Board

District Attorney's Office

Health & Human Services Agency

Law Enforcement

Superintendent of Schools Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

[5 min/Jessica Alley]

- Introductions during roll call
- Confirm quorum requirements are met [Quorum = 9 members]

III. APPROVAL OF 12/8/22 MEETING MINUTES

[5 min/Jessica Alley/Attachment]

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

[15 minutes maximum]

- Members of the public may be heard on any item **not** on the Commission's Agenda. A person addressing the Commission will be limited to three minutes. Comments by members of the public on any item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Commission.

V. UPDATE ON COMMITTEE NAME & RULES

[10 minute Supervisor Goldemberg]

- Presentation & Discussion
- Public Comment

VI. PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION FROM AMADOR TUOLUMNE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

[30 min/Joe Bors, Denise Cloward]

- Presentation & Discussion
- Public Comment

VII. TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES REPORT & DISCUSSION

[20 min/Michael Roberson, Commission Members]

- Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator, will report and lead discussion on Tuolumne County Homeless Services Board-approved priority projects.

Public Comment

VIII. SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS & DISCUSSION

[15 min/Service Provider Representatives, Commission Members]

- Tuolumne County homeless services providers' reports & discussion on the work and needs of their organizations, limited to three minutes per person.

Public Comment

IX. TCCOH MEMBER REPORTS & DISCUSSION

[15 min/Commission Members]

- TCCOH Members reports and discussion in a "Round Table" format limited to three minutes per person.

Public Comment

X. FUTURE MEETING DATES & TIMES REMINDER

[2min / Supervisors Goldemberg]

- Thursday, February 9 @ 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 9 @ 9 a.m.
- Thursday, April 13 @ 9 a.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Late agenda material can be reviewed at the County Administrators Office, 2 S Green Street, Sonora, CA 95370. If you require special assistance (i.e., auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, please call (209) 533-5511 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting to enable staff to make a reasonable accommodation to ensure accessibility to this public meeting.



**Tuolumne County Commission on Homelessness
(Minutes of the Meeting on December 8, 2022)**

DRAFT

<u>2022 TCCoH Membership</u>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Supervisor David Goldemberg - Chair								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Colette Such, District 1 Rep.								✓	✓	E	✓	✓
Shelley Muniz, District 2 Rep.								✓	✓	✓	✓	E
Larry Barsetti, District 3 Rep.								V	V	✓	✓	✓
Dana Butow, District 4 Rep.								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jeanette Lambert, District 5 Rep.								E	✓	A	✓	✓
Joe Bors, ATCAA								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andy Merrill, City of Sonora Rep.								✓	✓	A	✓	✓
LeeAnn Hatton, Rep. Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California								E	E	✓	✓	E
Darla Merlin, Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians								E	E	✓	A	✓*
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council								V	✓	E	✓	E
Bill Pooley, Tuolumne County Sheriff								E	E	✓	✓	✓*
Kris Albrecht, Tuolumne County Veteran Services								✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓
Cathie Peacock, Interfaith								✓	✓	✓	E	✓
Jennifer Salazar, Lived Experience								V	E	✓	✓	✓
NON-VOTING ADVISORS REP.												
Adventist Health Sonora												✓
Central Sierra Continuum of Care (CSCoC) Youth Advisory Board												✓
Law Enforcement												
Superintendent of Schools Office									✓			
Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office								✓				
Tuolumne County Health & Human Services Agency								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E Vacant = V

15 TCCoH Members = 9 Quorum

*Undersheriff Neil Evans attended for Tuolumne County Sheriff

* Christina Cartier for Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

<u>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</u>	<u>Other Guests in Attendance</u>
Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator	Cathy Parker, Representative of Adventist Health
Jessica Alley, Executive Clerk	Kelly Camp, Representative of the CSCoC Youth Advisory Board
Debora Esque, Veterans Services Officer	
Rebecca Espino, Health & Human Services Agency Director	

I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Goldemberg called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

II. ROLL CALL

All Commissioners and staff introduced themselves. Jessica Alley confirmed a quorum was present. Commissioner Salazar joined the meeting at 9:09 AM.

III. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 10, 2022, MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Barsetti requested a change to his comment regarding the Presentation and Discussion on California Department of Social Services Funding and County Programs related to Housing and Homelessness to note his concerns related to funding limitations and long-term results.

Commissioner Barsetti made a motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2022, with the requested changes. Commissioner Merrill seconded the motion. The minutes of November 10, 2022, with the requested changes were approved with Commissioners Peacock and Albrecht abstaining.

There was no public comment.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (3 minutes per person)

Members of the public may be heard on any item, not on the Board's Agenda. A person addressing the Board will be limited to five minutes. Comments by members of the public on any item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Board.

There was no public comment.

V. PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION ON TUOLUMNE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS

Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator introduced Debora Esque, Veterans Services Officer, and Kris Albrecht, Veterans Services Representative who spoke regarding housing availability for Veterans. A handout regarding "Veteran Homeless Housing Opportunities" was distributed.

Debora spoke about the Veterans Service's connections with the nonprofit, Visionary Home Builders and spoke about the program.

Supervisor Goldemberg provided comment regarding coordination with the County and City with Visionary Home Builders.

Debora Esque provided information regarding HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) specifically regarding the waitlist, application processes and criteria. Supervisor Goldemberg asked clarifying questions. Commissioner Merrill asked a clarifying question.

Debora Esque spoke about surviving spouse's eligibility for assistance, referencing the information in the handout. She noted California is not a Community Common Law State

Commissioner Bors asked where the HUD (VASH) facilities are located within the county. Debora Esque noted the HUD (VASH) facilities locally are all private residences. Commissioner Bors noted ATCAA has apartments available in Jackson and that he would share the details with Commissioner Albrecht for coordination with ATCAA staff.

Debora Esque provided the contact number for Veteran Services, 209-533-6280.

There was a request for a roster of all TCCoH Committee Members. Michael Roberson stated he would work on a roster.

Commission members expressed gratitude to Debora Esque for her presentation on Veterans Services.

There was no public comment.

VI. TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES REPORT & DISCUSSION

Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator informed the Commission he will be reporting to the Board of Supervisors regarding current priority project updates at the Board Meeting on December 13th, 2022. Utilizing the “Tuolumne County Homeless Services System Flow” handout, which he created with the assistance of the ChangeWell organization, he plans to address the priority projects which include: a Community Toolkit on homelessness, a Coordinated Entry System, a Homelessness Management Information System, development of a Navigation Center, transitional shelter, safe parking, landlord education and engagement, distributive housing, and efforts to increase local permanent housing.

Michael Roberson provided a summary of each of the priorities, outlining details he plans to provide in a Board of Supervisors presentation. He provided a handout from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness regarding “Homeless Housing, Assistant and Prevention Grant Funding – Round 4 (HHAP-4) Guidance”. He gave an update on the Safe Stay Shelter, explaining that this project will be put on hold due to funding complications.

Michael Roberson provided information on a plan to incentivize rental owners to rent to low-income individuals which would encourage landlord engagement by assisting tenants and providing additional deposit funding and more. He met with the Tuolumne County Association of Realtors (TCAR) incoming president, Brad Vondrak to propose plans to partner with TCAR, ATCAA, and the County for the Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority to provide Landlord Education.

Michael Roberson gave a brief update on the progress of a safe parking program. He and Eric Erhardt, Assistant County Administrator are looking into alternative properties for safe parking and to establish a plan where users would receive a parking permit, once enrolled, and involved in county services, Michael Roberson requested commission volunteers to start a Safe Parking Workgroup. Commissioners Muniz, Peacock, Such, and Merrill volunteered.

Commissioner Peacock asked if there is a plan to start a cultural education program for the homeless population to gain life skills training. Rebecca Espino, Health & Human Services Agency Director clarified, that they are developing a toolkit for the homeless to address mental health services.

Undersheriff Neil Evans requested Michael keep law enforcement in the loop for the Safe Parking program.

Commissioner Butow thanked Michael for the report. She expressed support for the County's decision to pause the Safe Stay shelter. She requested more information regarding "low barrier" and "no barrier" options for individuals with drug addiction and rehabilitation services. Michael Roberson clarified the plan for housing assistance would keep options as "low barrier" so the majority of homeless are eligible. However, it is important to maintain rules.

Supervisor Goldemberg provided comment regarding the Board of Supervisor priorities.

Commissioner Barsetti requested clarification on restrictions that would be put in place for homeless individuals. Michael Roberson clarified the County is not planning to avoid personal accountability and is working with County Counsel to find legal ways to maintain accountability.

Commissioner Bors spoke about ATCAA's rules and limitations regarding the enforcement of evictions. He noted a new shelter opened in Jackson and ATCAA is planning to open another shelter in Tuolumne County. He expressed disappointment in the direction of the Navigation Center and the need for more beds. Michael clarified they are still planning on creating a "store-front" temporary Navigation Center while they work on funding to establish a permanent facility. Commissioner Bors also noted concerns regarding the reallocation of ATCAA money that was going to be used for the Pallet Shelter.

Commissioner Merrell supported Commission Bor's standpoint and spoke about the city's ordinance structure. He asked about how current vacant county-owned property could be used for homelessness. Supervisor Goldemberg and Michael Roberson provided clarification about the vacant county-owned properties to assess what might be available in the future for homeless services.

During public comment, Pablo Lopez commented on conditions and outcomes and would like to hear more about the community-driven factors leading to homelessness.

VII. SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Commissioner Bors announced Eva Questo has recently been named the Deputy Director of Housing for ATCAA and will be a contact for housing-related support in Tuolumne County. He announced the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention, round 3 (HHAP3) funding has been approved through the Continuum of Care process, with a total of \$475k committed to Tuolumne County, \$53.5k allocated towards Resiliency Village, \$114k towards the City of Sonora for a Homeless Outreach Coordinator position. Commissioner Bors believes Chief Vanderziel may already have an individual identified for the City Homeless Outreach Coordinator position. The remaining \$298k HHAP3 funding will be used for a county request for proposal (RFP). ATCAA is working with Anthem and Kaiser on a Housing Incentive Program approximately \$250k to fill gaps in other projects identified by Amador and Tuolumne County that exceeded the HHAP3 funding. The funding could be used for data entry into the Homeless Management

Information System (HMIS). Commissioner Bors provided an update on ATCAA's efforts to house residents in Section 8 housing. He provided information regarding two ATCAA homes being renovating in Jackson and Tuolumne County which will include supportive service programs.

Kelly Camp with the Central Sierra Continuum of Care (CSCoC) announced the Youth Action Board will be having its first meeting on December 13th and is accepting new youth participants. She provided a handout and explained (CSCoC) will be addressing issues involved with the severely undercounted homeless youth and plans to access funds specific to youth services.

Commissioner Lambert provided updates on the Lambert Center. They will be having a Christmas dinner and party on Dec 21st. They received items from the Stuff the Bus event and noted the facility is having issues with their television network provider.

Commissioner Peacock stated that some Interfaith clients have said they are at risk of pending evictions. Interfaith will be having their Christmas Eve dinner and they will deliver to individuals

Cathy Parker, Well-Being Director with Adventist Health Sonora spoke about Project Hope. She is working with Commissioner Bors and Amy Arndt with HHSA to help with eviction risks. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report is complete.

During public comment, Pablo Lopez, Program Specialist with Public Health has been working with Social Services in handing out hygiene packs to the homeless.

VIII. TCCOH MEMBER REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Undersheriff Neil Evans expressed support to move individuals into safe and secure environments.

Commissioner Merrell expressed gratitude for the Homeless Awareness Month Workgroup. He noted he would like to see more Saturday Volunteer days available to the public.

Commissioner Butow requested with the Housing Committee being recently disbanded, she would like to see TCCoH take on more communication regarding housing and maybe involve the Community Development Department (CDD) in meetings to give regular updates. She also noted possible apprehensions towards the landlord incentive program due to already limited housing.

Commissioner Salazar shared a story regarding 4 seniors in the Sullivan Creek area and the support she has provided through 1PileataTime. Commissioner Bors advised Commissioner Salazar to contact Joe Toben regarding possible resources available for 1PileataTime from the ATCAA food bank.

Commissioner Such provided support for Commissioner Peacock's suggestion for a toolkit for the homeless to address the cultural issues/ life skills for transitioning individuals into housing.

Commissioner Lambert noted concerns regarding the mentally ill homeless population and the need for more no cost or low-cost alcohol and drug rehab availability.

Commissioner Peacock is doing a community survey of what people think of the homeless. She will have it ready in January and will be giving it to Michael Roberson. She spoke about the success of the volunteer day and of a bicycles for the homeless program.

Michael Roberson thanked the Homeless Awareness Month workgroup for their efforts. In January, he would like to have ATCAA be the guest speaker.

Rebecca Espino, HHSA Director announced funding options to support the homeless during the winter months and is asking for feedback from other service providers on gaps in specific inventory of items.

There was no public comment.

IX. FUTURE MEETING DATES & TIMES REMINDER

Supervisor Goldemberg announced the next meeting will be Thursday, January 12th, 2023, at 9 AM in the Board Chambers. The following meetings will be Thursday, February 9th, 2023, at 5:30 PM. and Thursday, March 9th, 2023, at 9:00 AM. He noted the location of meetings may change but he did not have confirmation at this time.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Goldemberg adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

Veteran Homeless Housing Opportunities

Pensions: This is for any war time veteran (must have served for one day of a declared war; and no requirements for boots on the ground for most of the contingency's).

Dates of Recognized Wars/Conflicts:

WWI: Apr 6, 1917 – Nov 11, 1918

WWII: Sept 1, 1939 – Sept 2, 1945

Korean Conflict: Jun 27, 1950 – Jan 31, 1955

Vietnam: Nov 1, 1955 – May 7, 1975, **Only for boots on the ground vets**

Aug 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975

Gulf War: Aug 2, 1990 – to a proclamation from the president

Veterans may be eligible for this program if they meet these requirements.

Both must be true:

- **Did not** receive a dishonorable discharge, and
- Yearly family income and net worth meet certain limits set by Congress. Net worth does NOT take into account, house, car, or most household furnishings.
- 2023 Net Worth: \$150,538 and there is a limit of what they can earn/received, i.e., SS etc. With this, there's a formulary to merit their qualifications.

For General Purposes, the VET must have a permanent and total disability and/or be 65 years old. NOTE: There are other requirements that we must address as well; however, these would be the "normal" criteria for this process.

Surviving Spouses: The above can apply to surviving spouse for a possible Aid and Attendance application if they require assistance with Activities of Daily Living (ADL's)

Also, if their spouse (the Veteran) was rated at 100% and/or dies of a service-connected presumptive disease, whether rated or not, the surviving spouse can apply for Dependent and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). These are tax free monies. They can also use their spouses VA Home loan program. There are other benefits that go along with receiving DIC, i.e., Medical, Military ID to access bases and have access to military flights.

General Disability Claims: Even today, we get both Korean and Vietnam Veterans coming in the office for the first time due to issues, both physical and mental, seeking help and compensation. Having a disability claim which will provide Tax Free monies and additional support depending on their rating, allows vets to either keep their existing homes or become eligible for local rentals.

HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH): This is through a program that Kay Speckle manages; we refer clients to her to qualify. This is like Section 8 but for Veterans. It's a collaborative program which pairs HUD's Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance with VA Case management and supportive services. However, the issue here is finding available housing. Typically, tenants contribute approx. 30-40% of their gross monthly income toward their rent.

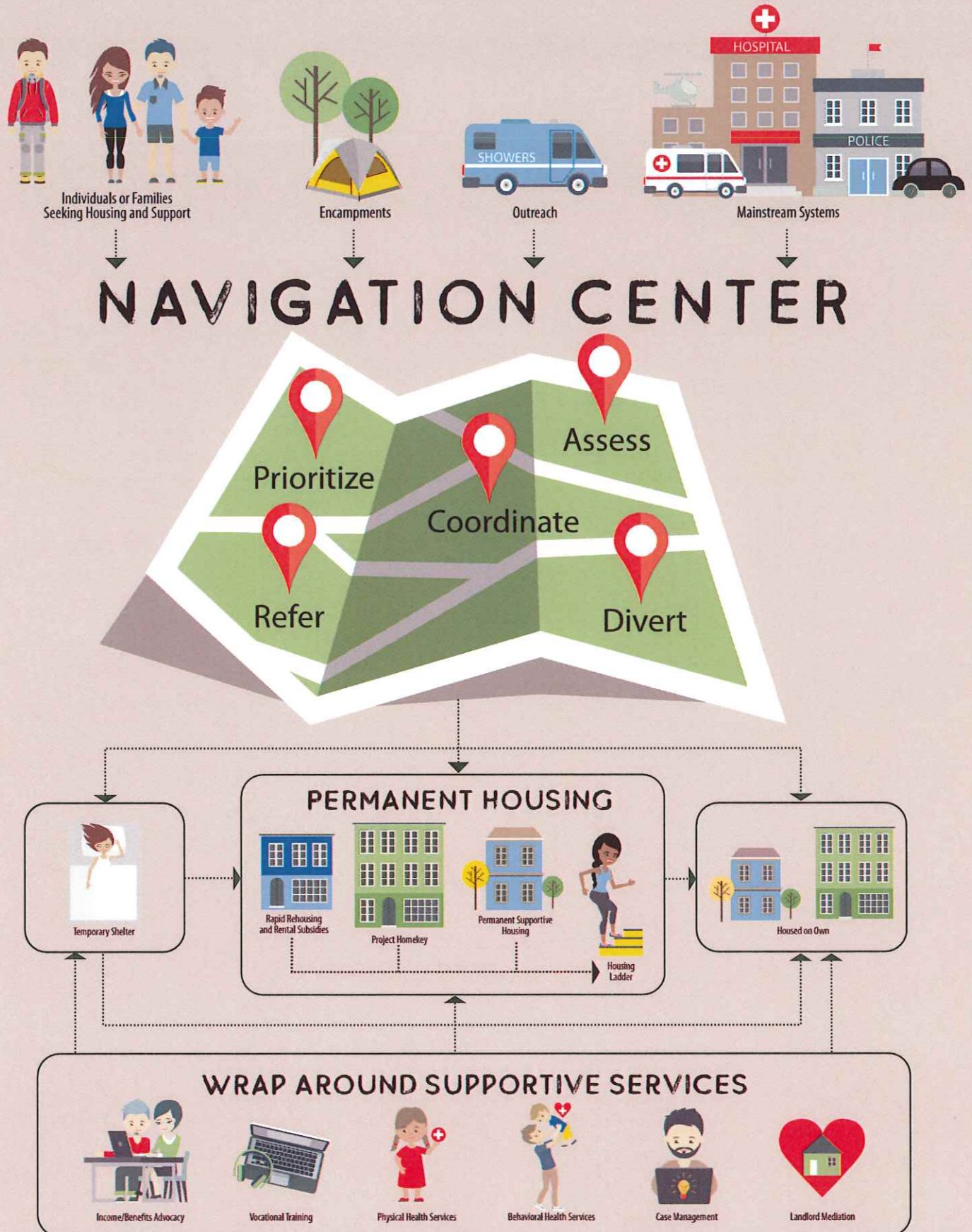
California Veterans Homes: There are 8 homes within California: Barstow, Fresno, Redding, West LA, Chula Vista, Lancaster, Ventura, and Yountville. They provide housing from Independent Living to Memory Care. Each facility is different; however, homeless vets have priority to get into these facilities. There is an application process which the client must keep updated every 6 months while on a waiting list. Both the spouse and the veteran can reside together in several of these facilities. Cost is a flat rate depending on their level of care – 47%-70% of their income.... this is all inclusive, room and board, electrical, etc. If the veteran dies, the spouse can live there through their entire life as well.

Victory Gardens in French Camp: ONLY for qualified Veterans. This is located on 2.5 acres near San Joaquín General Hospital and has 41 single rooms and 7 two-bedroom units. Unit sizes are from 500-700 fully furnished apartments. Accepting applications now. They will be expanding soon to the adjacent 5 acres in the back of the current building site. <https://hacsj.org/victory-gardens>.

Liberty Square – Located in Stockton - Studio 1,2&3 Bedrooms – 74 affordable at 807 N. San Joaquin St. Catholic Charities headquarters are located at this building. They also have a day care, community center and a computer lab. Plus, secure parking. Built by Visionary Home Builders. Currently has waiting list.

Oak Leaf Meadows – Located in Oakdale, 1135 E. J Street also a Visionary Home Builders offering 2 and 3 bedrooms. They too have a community center, with a computer lab, onsite head start program, playground, and basketball court. Close to schools and shopping. Low-income affordable housing. Currently has waiting list.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SYSTEM FLOW





HHAP-4 GUIDANCE

Thank you for your partnership in the development of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 4 (HHAP-4) applications. Supporting robust goals that propose to reduce the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and increase the number of people placed in permanent housing is a top priority for the state. We must also ensure that HHAP resources and solutions are advancing equity by reaching organizations, neighborhoods, and communities that have been marginalized and under-resourced.

Commitment

In the spirit of partnership, your HHAP-4 plan will be objectively conditioned upon committing to further your HHAP-3 outcome goals by pursuing the following:

1. Establish more ambitious outcomes for Goal 1B during the HHAP-4 consultation and review process.
2. Implement as many of the best practices listed below as possible.

Best Practices

- 1) Enter into regional Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with detailed commitments that focus on coordinating and integrating interim and permanent housing resources (both capital and rental subsidies), supportive services, and outreach and engagement strategies.
- 2) Streamline Coordinated Entry System processes to ensure that housing resources are being effectively matched to people based on need so that the right housing interventions are being targeted to the right people at the right time.
- 3) Utilize available land slated for supportive housing development for interim housing solutions during the entitlement process, where feasible.
- 4) Streamline multifamily affordable housing development, specifically housing Extremely Low and Very Low-Income housing, and further efforts to remove local barriers to development and accelerate the implementation of state laws that provide for streamlined approval of affordable housing.
- 5) Develop and strengthen relationships with local Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to increase voucher utilization and success rates, implement strategies to maximize emergency vouchers for households experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness; explore prioritization for special populations; work with landlords to increase participation; and pair PHA



resources, including vouchers, with services and housing units to create permanent supportive housing opportunities.

- 6) Leverage funding sources, including, but not limited to, CalAIM, Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program, Behavioral Health Bridge Housing, Homekey, Mental Health Services Act, Emergency Solutions Grants or other locally funded rental assistance opportunities.
- 7) Establish cross-system partnerships to enhance person-centered and effective homelessness response system outcomes. Examples include partnerships with local jails and/or sheriff departments, child welfare agencies, and/or institutions of higher education.

During the HHAP-4 consultation process, you will be asked to provide a written narrative that describes which of the best practices above will be implemented or are already being implemented. If a specified best practice is not within your authority, or you are otherwise limited in implementing a specific best practice, you will be asked to specify that limitation during the HHAP-4 consultation process.

Cal ICH requests that a program designee attest to the foregoing commitment and transmit a signed copy to Cal ICH at HHAP@bcsh.ca.gov as soon as possible, but no later than November 29, 2022.

Tuolumne County

Authorized Signatory: _____

Amador
&
Calaveras
Text (209) 273-9009

Use Your Voice!

Mariposa
&
Tuolumne
Text (209) 347-6933

Youth Action Board

Are you 14-24?

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expertise!***

4 LOCATIONS

AMADOR: 1 Prosperity Court, Sutter Creek, CA
(Off Ridge Road, across from the Bowling Alley)

CALAVERAS: 7 Main Street, San Andreas, CA
(Corner of Highway 49 and Main Street at the
blinking light, across the street from Goonies)

TUOLUMNE: 197 Mono Way, Suite B, Sonora, CA
(Red brick building on Mono Way above Grocery Outlet)

MARIPOSA: 5362 Lemee Lane, Mariposa, CA
(In the county Health and Human Services building, off
Highway 49)

DECEMBER

13

2:30pm-4:00pm