

PROGRESS TO DATE

In 2019, as the 5-year period covered by Santa Clara County's first community plan came to an end, a broad range of community partners came together to develop a roadmap for future work to end homelessness in 2020 and beyond. Over the course of the first community plan, despite significant progress in creating a supportive housing system that moves thousands of homeless individuals and families into housing each year, the crisis continued to grow. The systemic factors driving homelessness are stronger than ever and are forcing more of our community members onto the streets and into shelters every day.

The new community plan – launched in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic – focuses on these systemic factors to address the root causes of homelessness, in addition to continuing to expand the supportive housing system and the many programs and services for people who are currently homeless.

The three key strategies in the plan include:



STRATEGY 1

Address the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change



STRATEGY 2

Expand homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the need




STRATEGY 3

Improve quality of life for unsheltered individuals and create healthy neighborhoods for all

In addition to laying out a roadmap of strategies to prevent and end homelessness, the Community Plan set aggressive targets to achieve by 2025. After the first year of the plan, the following progress has been made:

 House **20,000 people** through the supportive housing system

Status: **3,209** total housed in 2020 Goal: **20,000**

 Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve **2,500 people per year**

Status: **1,500** Baseline from 2019: **1,000** Goal: **2,500**



Double temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside

Status: **2,639** Baseline from 2019: **1,882** Temporary increase* Goal: **3,764**

* Temporary increase is the result of a temporary capacity increase of 1,123 for COVID-19 and a temporary decrease of 516 for social distancing.

 Achieve a **30% reduction** in annual inflow of people becoming homeless

Baseline: 2019 inflow: **4,778** Goal: **3,345** Status: 2020 inflow: **3,432**

While there is still much work to be done and the economic impacts of COVID-19 are still not yet entirely clear, we know the need for bold action to prevent and end homelessness in our community has never been greater. As we have seen over the past year, it will require tremendous effort, new partnerships, and innovative strategies—and it will require the entire community to be a part of the solution.