PARTNERING FOR SHORT-TERM HOUSING SOLUTIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Matt Wetstein  
President  
Cabrillo College  
December 4, 2020

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Project Coordinator, Santa Cruz County  
Youth Demonstration Homeless Program
OUTLINE

• **The Youth Homeless Demonstration Program**
• **Addressing Homelessness in Santa Cruz County**
• **COVID-19 Emergency Housing**
• **The Role of the Seventh Day Adventist Church & Cabrillo**
• **Lessons Learned from the College Perspective**
• **Opportunity for Q&A**
Ignore No More: Santa Cruz County Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP)
Youth & Young Adult Homelessness in Santa Cruz County

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

There were 51 unaccompanied children under the age of 18 and 569 transition-age youth enumerated in 2019 for a total of 620 unaccompanied youth representing almost 29% of the entire homeless population.

FIGURE 51. TOTAL NUMBER OF UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS CHILDREN AND TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH

Unaccompanied Children | Transition Age Youth

- 49% Sheltered
- 51% Unsheltered
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Systems to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness

OUR VISION IS THAT ALL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS ARE HOUSED, THRIVING AND EXPERIENCE A HEALTHY TRANSITION INTO ADULTHOOD.
OUR YHDP HUD FUNDED PROJECTS & PARTNERS

1. Smart Path – Youth CES HSD/Encompass
2. YHRT – CAB/COE Youth Homeless Response Team
3. Drop-In Resource Center-Encompass – Also COVID-19
   Shelter-In-Place trailer site
4. YAAS – Young Adult Achieve Success (RR families)
5. Housing Matters – Rapid Rehousing (singles/couples)
6. New Roots – Permanent Supportive Housing
7. Host Homes/Shared Housing
8. Cabrillo College
OUR YHDP HUD FUNDED PROJECTS & PARTNERS

Outcomes across programs

188 – Enrolled in education program
167 – Connected to services
39 – Housed temporary or transitional
48 – Housed permanent housing
55 – Assisted to gain employment
84 – Attended or have attended collect
158 – Assessed through Smart Path Coordinated Entry
YHDP COVID Response & Start of Trailer Program

Local Resources

- **Human Services Department Homeless Services Information**
- Coordinated Entry Assessments by phone [monica.lippi@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:monica.lippi@santacruzcounty.us)
- **Stepping Up Santa Cruz Resource Guide**
- Up to date COVID-19 related [Shelter in Place info](#) for homeless individuals
- **Hygiene Facilities Map** (city of Santa Cruz)
TAY TRAILER PROGRAM
IMPACT ON TRANSITIONAL YOUTH

“Change is inevitable, it’s up to each and every one of us to help change flow in the direction of quality in equality” – Santa Cruz County Youth Advisory Board Member

Thank you!
Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson
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# Seventh Day Adventist Church & Cabrillo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seventh Day Adventist Church Camp, Soquel</th>
<th>Cabrillo College, Aptos</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original host of the trailer camp</td>
<td>Not equipped originally to serve as host</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff accustomed to summer RV park</td>
<td>Staff resistance, security &amp; facility concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evacuation Shelter in August &amp; September</td>
<td>Evacuation Shelter in August &amp; September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need to revamp water supply lines</td>
<td>Good experience with Red Cross &amp; county mutual aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need to vacate by end of December</td>
<td>Approach in October as back-up site</td>
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LESSONS LEARNED

• Ensure lead time for contract review & approval
• Culture change – crisis can reshape values & beliefs
• Think from the student perspective
  • Comfort
  • Electricity
  • Safety & security
  • WiFi coverage
  • Access to services & transportation
• Board & college support
• No nimby
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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Thank You!