Statewide Homeless Systems Needs Analysis

July 11, 2018
Goals of a Needs Assessment

Data Gives Planners, Agency Staff, Stakeholders, and Elected Officials Tools They Need to Understand What it Would Take to End Homelessness

- Conversation starter
  - Estimates resources necessary to end homelessness (functionally)
- Provides assessment of types of interventions residents need
  - Helps jump-start planning discussions
  - Identifies gaps, strengths, funding required
  - Provides a look at systems feeding into homelessness
Collect Data

Systems/Populations Needing SH:
- Child Welfare
- Criminal Justice
- Health/Behavioral Health
- Foster Care
- Residential Settings for MH, SUD, DD
- Nursing Homes
- Juvenile Justice

Systems Maps

Housing Inventory Counts (HIC)

Homeless Count Data:
- People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness
- Families
- Youth
- Individual Adults

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Extrapolate Estimates Based on Research

**Systems Feeding Into Homelessness:** National or, to the extent available, state data on the number of people exiting institutional settings into homelessness, which allows staff to estimate the number of people entering homelessness or needing supportive housing over time.

**Numbers:** Estimates of individuals, families, youth needing supportive housing, rapid re-housing and other affordable housing, and diversion interventions.

**Financial Model:** Staff use data on capital, operating, rental assistance, and services costs, based on statewide and local averages, fair market rents, and operating costs modeling.

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How a Needs Assessment Works

Estimates are as good as data received. Data from state agency staff would likely be more accurate than national data.
Approaches to Needs Assessment in California

Options Considered by Interagency Working Group

- Assess homeless systems in 3-4 homeless CoCs with largest homeless populations.
- Assess homeless systems in a cross-section of 2-6 homeless CoCs representing geographic diversity.
- Assess homeless systems in all CoCs in California.
Needs Assessment in California

Statewide Needs Assessment

Assess homeless systems in 3-4 homeless CoCs with largest homeless populations.
- Los Angeles, Santa Clara, San Francisco, and (potentially) San Diego Counties
- Assess homeless systems in areas with greatest impact
- Use existing assessment data

Assess homeless systems in a cross-section of 2-6 CoCs representing geographic diversity.
- Analysis of differences in need, based on diverse cross-section of geographies
- Representatives of other CoCs of similar type
- Data availability

Assessment Identified by Interagency Working Group

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CSH Staff & Interagency Working Group

Process

1. Collect Data: Statewide Data & Research
   - Large Homeless CoCs
   - Reach Out to Other Potential CoCs

2. Work with Council Members to Complete Statewide Assessment

3. Complete Needs Assessment for 3-4 CoCs with Largest Populations (existing data)

4. Identify CoCs for Next Phase, Attempt to Obtain Local Buy-In to Gather Data

5. If Feasible, Complete Needs Assessment for 2-6 Geographically Diverse CoCs (6-12 months)

6. Finalize Statewide Assessment, Complete Report, Present to Council & Stakeholders

Timeline depends on local buy-in & data availability

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Partnership in Process

Phased Process: Feedback with Interagency Working Group & Other State Agency Staff, Staff of Local CoCs

CSH Staff & Interagency Working Group
Role of Council & Members

Accuracy & Quality Depend on Data Availability

Data Sources

Council Members Help to—
Identify Sources of Data,
Share Findings on Exits to Homelessness,
Provide Local Contacts

Needs Assessment

Provide Input on Direction of Assessment, Share Once Complete

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