

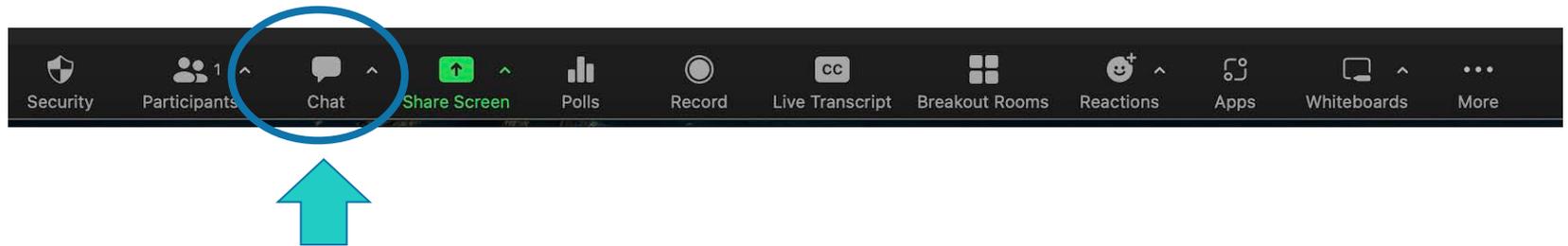
City of Richmond Homelessness Strategic Plan

Community Forum
September 14, 2022

Welcome

Mark Mora, *Homebase*

Zoom Logistics



Click the “Chat” button

As an attendee you may ask questions and receive answers. The hosts may reply to your question live (out loud) or reply in chat box.

Please also use the chat button to share your comments and responses to our questions throughout the presentation.

Zoom Logistics



Click the **“Live Transcript”** button
Closed captioning is available

Calling in Logistics

- Call (669) 900-6833
- Enter the meeting ID when prompted:
862-7312-1771

Suggested Meeting Norms

Keep focused
on the
common goal.

Notice power
dynamics in
the room.

Ask questions
as they come
up.

Take the
breaks you
need.

City of Richmond Team



Jesus Morales,
Housing Manager



Lina Velasco,
Director of
Community
Development

Homebase Team



Bridget Kurtt
DeJong, Director of
Capacity Building



Jessie Hewins,
Directing Attorney



Michele Byrnes,
Directing Analyst



Mark Mora, Senior
Policy Analyst



Carly Devlin, Senior
Policy Analyst



Tania Morales,
Project Coordinator

Meeting Agenda



Welcome



City of Richmond Homelessness Strategic Plan



Homelessness in the City of Richmond



Community questions and input



**Opportunities for
feedback throughout
the presentation!**

Be sure to take breaks, stretch, and take care of your personal needs throughout the meeting.

Community Forum Goals

Inform	Community members about the City's homelessness plan and opportunities for community input
Share	Preliminary focus group & interview findings
Gather	Input and questions about how to address homelessness in the City of Richmond
Identify	Future opportunities for input

Introduction to the **Richmond Homelessness Strategic Plan**



What?

A community-wide roadmap to ending homelessness



Why?

To guide the City, nonprofits, and other community members as they make decisions about funding, programs, priorities, and needs

What will the Plan cover?

In the City of Richmond...

- **Who** is experiencing homelessness, and **why**?
- What **evidence-based strategies** and **innovative approaches** must we pursue to maximize our resources and end homelessness?
- What **targets** must we achieve to reverse the current growth in homelessness and bring us closer to our collective goal?

Center Equity

- Acknowledge differential impacts and access to care for Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC)
- Consider homelessness system of care through an equity lens
- Center equity in all phases of plan development, including community engagement, plan drafting and implementation
- Consider all marginalized and disparately impacted communities in Richmond (BIPOC, women, LGBTQ, disabled, criminal justice involvement, and others)

Who is in the room?

Carly Devlin, *Homebase*

Activity

- Who is in the room?
- What brings you to the community forum?
- What are your most pressing questions?
- What values do you hold around housing?

Community Planning Process & Draft Timeline

Spring 2022

- Launch process

Summer 2022

- Gather community input

Fall 2022

- Draft City Plan

Winter 2022-2023

- City Council adopts Plan

Community Engagement

- **Steering Committee meets monthly**
- **Focus groups:** people with lived experience of homelessness, housing and services providers, City and County staff, criminal legal system agencies, affordable housing developers, education sector, healthcare providers, businesses, community organizations
- **Community Forum**
- **Key stakeholder interviews and survey**
- **Draft public comment period**

Steering Committee Members

1. Amanda Jenkins
2. Andrea Mckelvy
3. Arto Rinteela
4. Beth Miller
5. Christy Saxton
6. Claudia Jimenez
7. Daniel Barth
8. Gail Gilman
9. Gayle McLaughlin
10. Hakim Johnson
11. Julie Luera
12. Kanwarpal Dhaliwal
13. Lea Murray
14. Marino Finley
15. Pat Mims
16. Payton Silket
17. Ralph Payton
18. Steve Bischoff
19. Tom Herriman
20. Wayne Earl

How can community members inform the process?

- ✓ By sharing your ideas **today**
- ✓ By providing your comments on the draft Plan during the **public comment** period
- ✓ Complete **community survey** (forthcoming)
- ✓ Sign up for email updates at <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4253/Homelessness-Strategic-Plan>
- ✓ Email your comments to Richmond@homebaseccc.org

Homelessness in Richmond

Michele Byrnes, Homebase

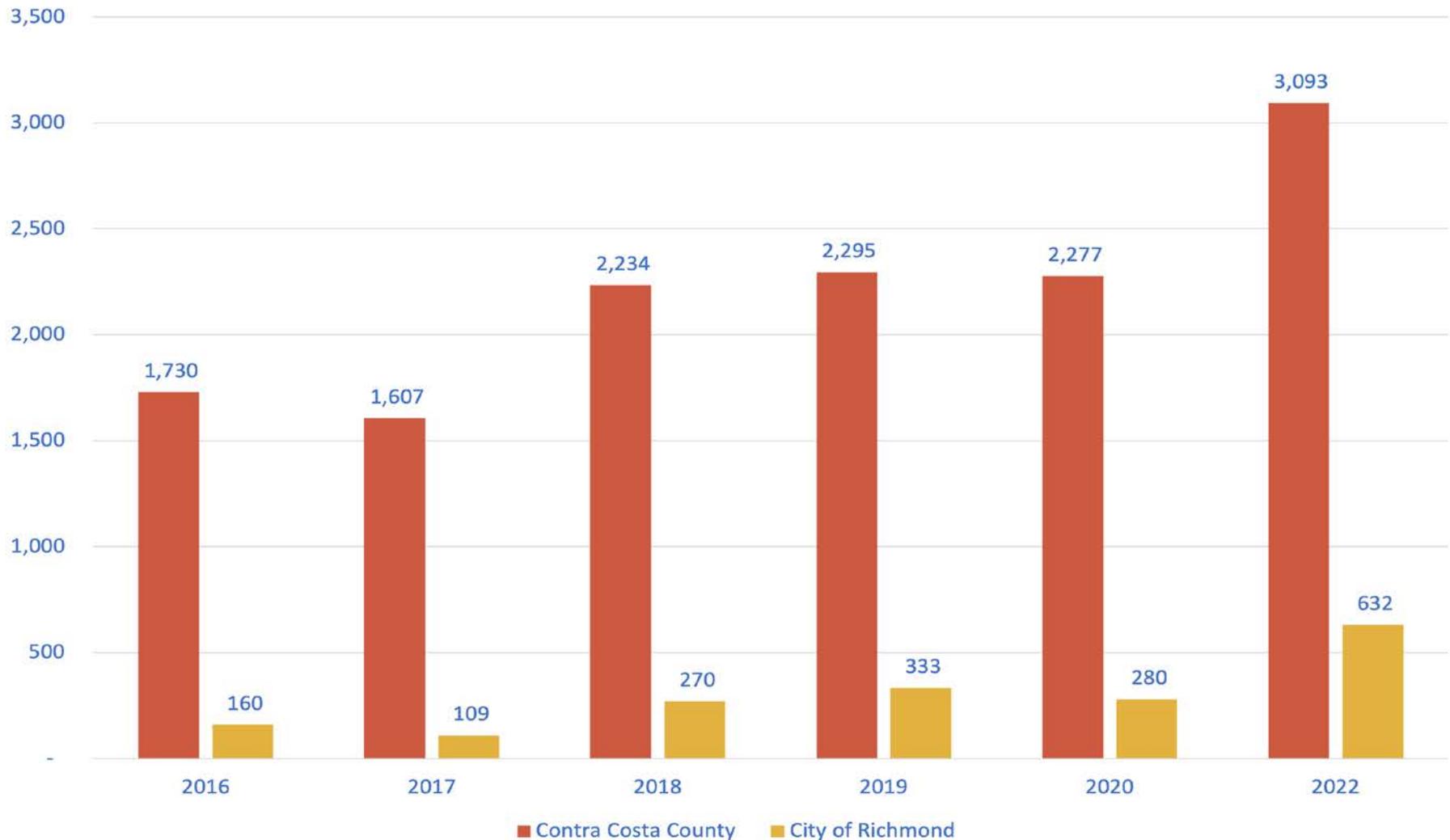
What is HUD's definition of homelessness?

- Staying in emergency shelter or transitional housing (“sheltered”)
- Sleeping outside, in a car, or in another place not meant to be lived in (“unsheltered”)
- Will lose their housing within 14 days
- Fleeing domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, or stalking

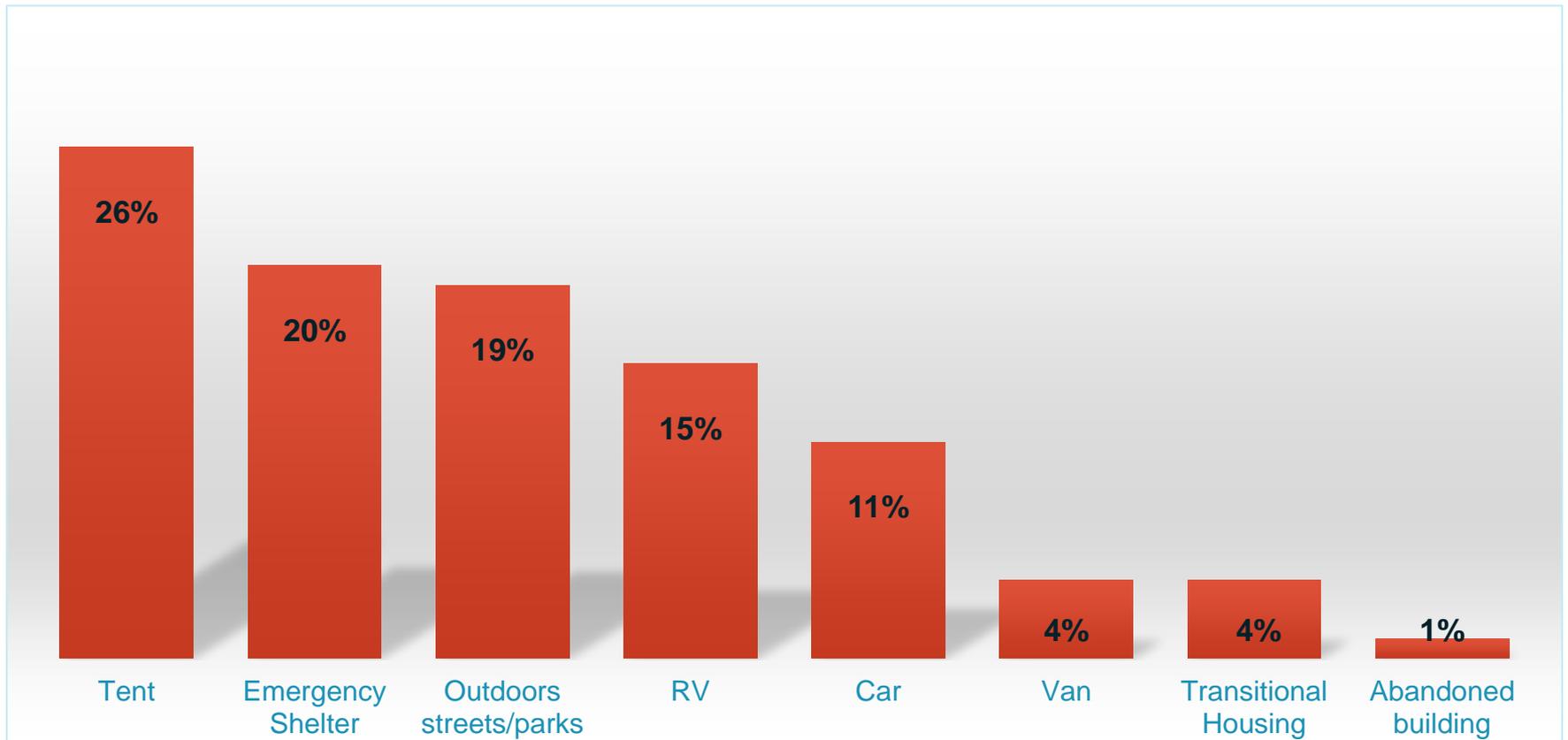
How is Data Collected?

- Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count)
 - One day/night
 - Visual count
 - Shelter residents
 - Survey
- County Service Data
 - Households from Richmond who accessed services in 2021
 - Includes demographic, enrollment, outcome data

People Experiencing Homelessness Over Time in Contra Costa County and City of Richmond

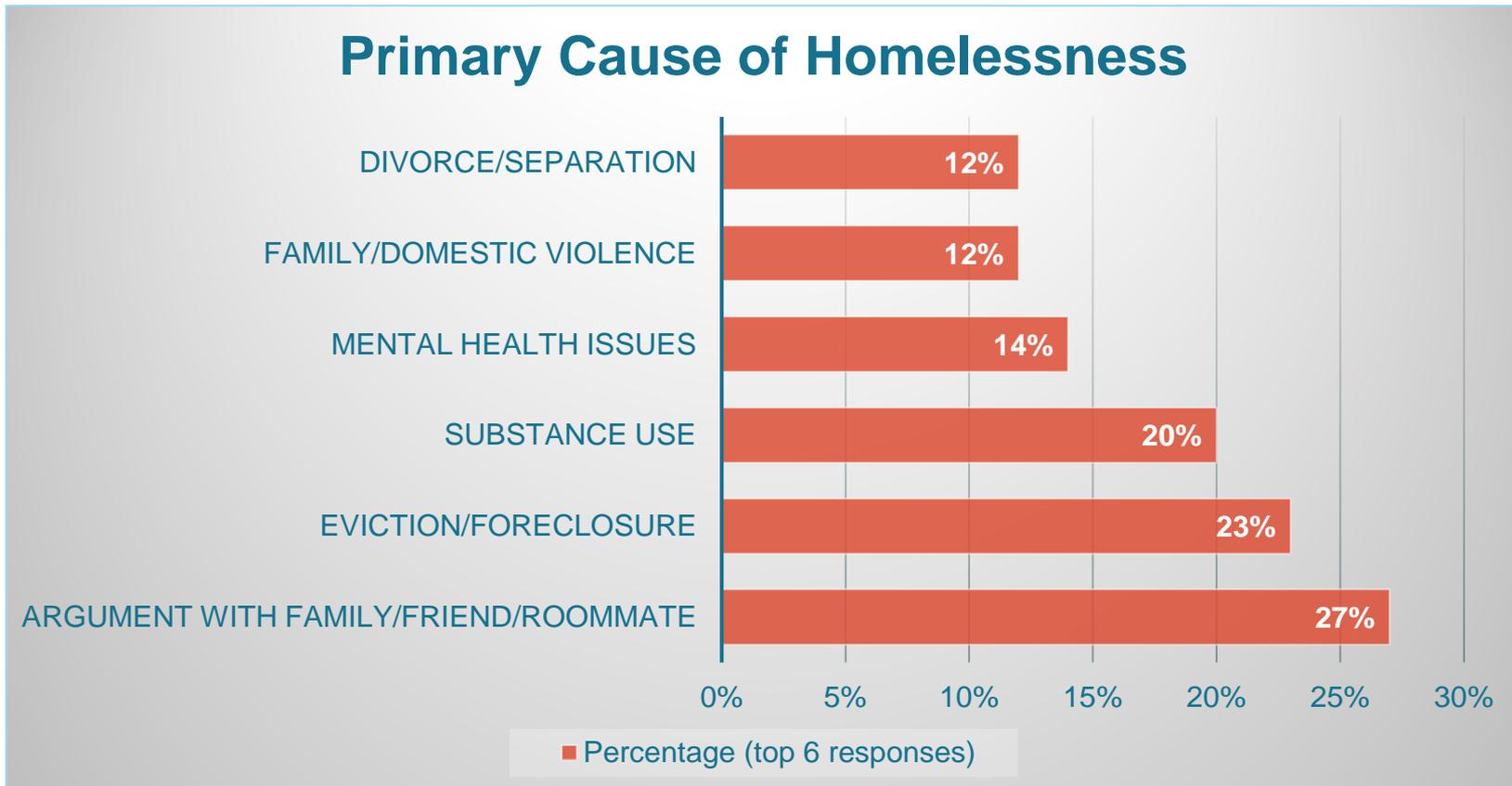


Sleep Setting on the Night of the Count



Causes of Homelessness in Richmond

Causes of Homelessness: Top 6 Responses in Contra Costa County



Housing Affordability Data

- Cost of housing in California is 96% higher than national average
- Average rent in Richmond: \$2,716 (compared to \$1,726 in California)
- 58% of renters are cost-burdened & 67% of home-owners are cost-burdened

Structural Barriers to Housing Security

- Housing is not a basic right in the US
- A shortfall in housing development
- The astronomical costs of development
- The broken labor market
- The impact of COVID-19

People Experiencing Homelessness in Richmond

- 2022 PIT Count identified 90% increase in unsheltered people sleeping within Richmond from 2019-2022
- 85% adults-only households; 15% households with children
- 57% of heads of households are Black/African American/African
- 17% survivors of domestic violence
- 67% reported having at least one disabling condition
- 45% chronically homeless
- 5% veterans

People Experiencing Homelessness in Richmond (con't)

- Households from Richmond made up 30% of households served by the County homeless system of care during 2021 (Richmond population is 10% of County per 2020 Census)
- Most households sleep in the same region of the county where they lost housing
- 60% of Emergency Housing Vouchers issued to county residents since 2021 left unused
 - Housing remained unaffordable, even with a voucher
 - Landlords would not accept a housing voucher

Contra Costa County System of Care

Accessing Homeless Services in Contra Costa County



If you are experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Contra Costa, here are three ways you can access services.

1) CALL

Call 211 or text "HOPE" to 20121

- Callers will be given resources and information
- Free, confidential service is available 24/7
- Find useful resources online at 211cc.org

2) CARE

Walk into a CARE Center

- Coordinated Assessment Resource and Engagement (CARE) Centers are drop-in sites for people experiencing homelessness

RICHMOND — GRIP—165 22nd Street
Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.–3 p.m. | Sat & Sun: 8 a.m.–2 p.m.

Services

- Basic needs (meals, bathrooms, mail, laundry, showers)
- Case management

WALNUT CREEK — Trinity Center—1888 Trinity Ave.
Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Services

- Basic needs (meals, bathrooms, mail, laundry, showers)
- Case management
- Adults only

3) CORE

Connect to CORE outreach by calling 211

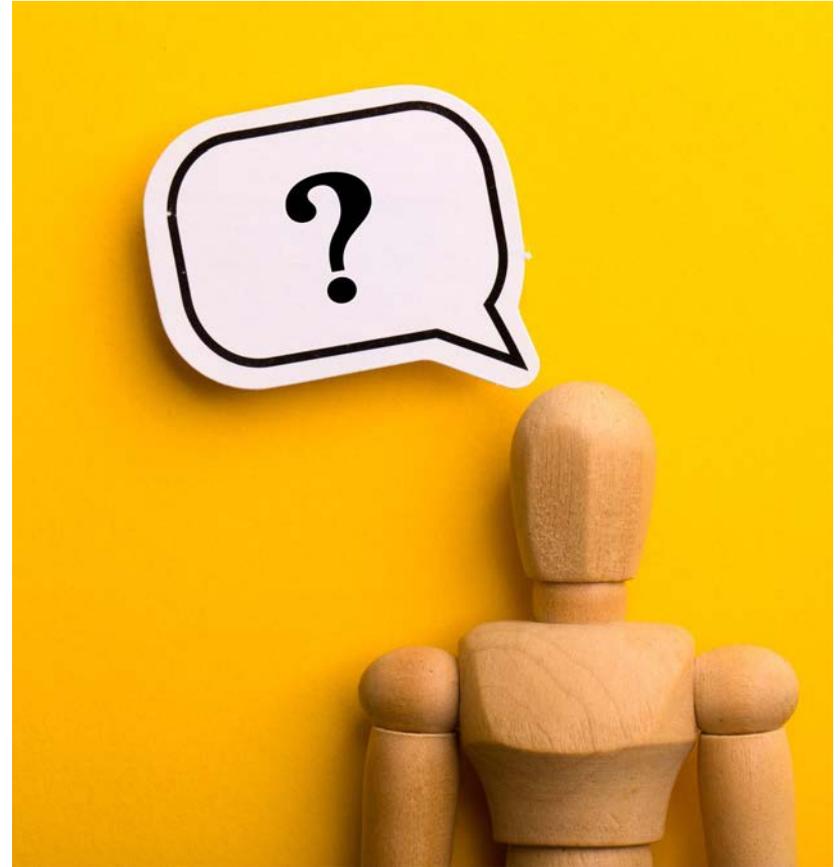
- Coordinated Outreach Referral and Engagement (CORE) Teams assist individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness by connecting them to healthcare, basic needs and referrals to shelter
- CORE is not available 24/7 and is not a crisis response. Call 911 for emergencies

cchealth.org/h3 | (925) 608-6700



Respond via Mentimeter or Chat:

- Is there any information that surprised you?
- How does this inform how you think about homelessness in Richmond?
- Do you have additional questions?



Community Input: Initial results from focus groups & interviews

Mark Mora, *Homebase*

Focus Groups & Interviews

- Adults and youth experiencing homelessness
- Community, faith-based, and neighborhood organizations
- Providers of housing, services, and healthcare
- Public sector (city, county, legal system, law enforcement) and education representatives
- Businesses, workforce development
- Affordable housing developers

Preliminary Feedback: Challenges

- Encampment safety, locations, and services
- Need for holistic, coordinated approach
- Need for clear multi-way communication: how to access services, how to report safety concerns
- Need for urgency; build on successful housing interventions piloted during COVID

Preliminary Feedback: Ideas

- Treat homelessness as a public health emergency
- Build CORE team success: “services are there, but not everybody knows how to access them”
- Reduce local barriers to building affordable housing
- Educate community about needs of unhoused neighbors
- Develop universal basic income program

Responses to focus group findings

Community Input

Carly Devlin, *Homebase*

Community Input

- How has homelessness affected you?
- What are the biggest barriers to ending homelessness in Richmond?
- What do you think is missing in the overall approach to addressing homelessness in Richmond?
- Are you aware of solutions/models being implemented in other cities/counties that you would like to see in Richmond?
- How do you think your community, agency, or neighborhood could be a part of the solution to homelessness?

What do we as community partners need to do to end homelessness in Richmond?

The City should...

Nonprofits should...

Housing developers should...

Healthcare providers should...

Law enforcement should...

The education sector should...

Businesses should...

Community organizations should...

Next Steps

- Community Survey
- Review draft plan
- Visit:
<https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4253/Homelessness-Strategic-Plan>
- Contact Homebase at:
Richmond@homebaseccc.org

Thank you!