



COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP
SOLANO
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

CAP Solano JPA

Dawn La Bar,
Chair/Executive Director

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CAP Solano JPA 2021 Annual Report

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2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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1. Introduction from the Chair

Dear Community Stakeholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Community Action Partnership Solano, Joint Powers Authority (the JPA), I am pleased to present this report covering the activities of this body to coordinate homeless and safety net services during the 2021 calendar year.

2021 continued to be full of unprecedented challenges with the COVID-19 pandemic that impacted our community in significant ways and required the JPA to work with more expediency, coordination, and flexibility than ever before. Throughout this year, the JPA Board Members volunteered their time to meet frequently to quickly put into action the funds and partnerships needed to protect our residents experiencing homelessness from COVID-19. This work would not have been possible without our partners, including service providers, Solano Cities, Solano County, the faith-based community, medical providers and Kaiser. Due to these incredible partnerships and the dedication of our JPA board members, the JPA was able to continue to support one Project Roomkey hotel projects as it wound down and an additional Project Roomkey hotel project throughout the year. Both provided temporary housing for the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness. The JPA also continued to strengthen relationships with local stakeholders through a series of strategic planning meetings which helped identify priorities for the JPA for the coming years.

With the help of our board members and partners, the JPA obtained significant amounts of new funding in 2021 – including Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP 2), Emergency Services Grant Coronavirus Relief Act (ESG CV 1 and 2), Community Services Block Grant Coronavirus Relief Fund (CSBG CV), and state emergency funds. The JPA administered about \$9 million in federal, state and local funding dedicated to addressing homelessness, of which approximately \$8.7 million was dedicated to Project Roomkey.

The JPA continues to ensure their work aligns with their vision statement: “*CAP Solano JPA – providing a pathway to housing for everyone in Solano County.*” We are grateful for the hard work and community support the JPA has received this year and hope the partnerships and programs we built this year will serve as a springboard for future growth and more collaboration in helping our homeless residents find their way home.

Sincerely,

Dawn La Bar
Chair
CAP Solano JPA

2. Community Action Partnership Solano, Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Overview

The JPA is a combined governmental agency formed by a memorandum of understanding between the Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, and Vallejo and the County of Solano to coordinate efforts to reduce poverty and homelessness in Solano County. Representatives from these governments serve on the JPA Board and meet at least monthly to fulfill their duties as Solano County's Community Action Agency. The JPA is also the Collaborative Applicant for Solano County's Continuum of Care (CoC), the Administrative Entity for other state and federal funds that flow through the CoC, and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead.

JPA Vision

CAP Solano JPA – providing a pathway to housing for everyone in Solano County.

JPA Mission

To strengthen agencies working to end poverty and homelessness. The objective is to provide services and resources in coordination with existing service providers, including but not limited to non-profit organizations and faith-based providers, to promote and encourage self-sufficiency for the most vulnerable members of the community.

3. Community Action Agency Report

Community Action Agencies are non-profit private and public organizations established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's war on poverty. These agencies help people in achieving self-sufficiency. Some of the services that may be provided include: childcare, education, energy assistance, emergency assistance, financial and legal services, food programs, health services, housing services, prevention programs, self-reliance programs, and youth services.

The CAP Solano JPA is the entity responsible for administering Solano County's allocation of annual funding under the Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG), an initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CSBG funds may be used to support activities that assist low-income families and individuals, homeless families and individuals, migrant or seasonal farm workers, and elderly low-income individuals and families in attaining the skills and knowledge necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

In 2021, a Community Needs Assessment was performed to inform the 2022-2023 Community Action Plan (CAP) and set priorities for the use of CSBG funding in Solano. The 2022-2023 CAP identified and assessed poverty-related needs and resources in Solano County and guides how the JPA will allocate CSBG funds to provide direct services to individuals and families most affected by poverty. The CAP is required every two years by the federal Community Services Block Grant Act and California Government Code 12747.

The 2021 needs assessment identified, in order of importance, lack of jobs/well-paying jobs, lack of affordable housing, high cost of living, mental health issues, and alcohol/substance abuse as the primary causes of poverty in Solano County.

In response, the JPA chose to prioritize the 2022 and 2023 CSBG funding to support programs that provide rent/security deposit/utility assistance, supportive and mental health

services in housing, employment search and job placement opportunities, financial literacy and life skills trainings for young adults and single female-headed households.

A. 2021 Community Services Block Grant

In 2021, \$116,889 in CSBG funding was distributed to direct services. An independent panel comprised of JPA and Tripartite Advisory Board (TAB) members reviewed funding applications and selected the following agency for the CSBG award:

Organization	Award Amount	Program Description
Caminar	\$116,889	Assist adults with severe mental health conditions to find and maintain housing and build stable homes, including rent, deposit, and utility costs, move-in furnishings and essentials to make a home.

B. Tripartite Advisory Board

The Tripartite Advisory Board (TAB) was created in 2015 to guide the JPA Board in its capacity as the Community Action Agency. The TAB is responsible for advising the JPA Board in conducting a community needs assessment, clarifying the JPA’s mission, supporting long-range strategic planning and annual planning, assisting the JPA in implementing its programs, and evaluating the performance of JPA initiatives under CSBG funding. The TAB meets on a quarterly basis.

The TAB has twelve members: four from the public sector (elected officials or their representatives), four from the private sector, and four from the low-income sector (elected by the CoC). In 2021, Katy Miessner served as Chair, Jenalee Dawson served as Vice-Chair, and Ryan Loofbourrow served as secretary.

The following were the TAB members as of December 31, 2021:

Representative Type	Name	Organization
Elected Official Sector	Tom Bartee	Office of Senator Bill Dodd
Elected Official Sector	Supervisor Erin Hannigan	Solano County Board of Supervisors
Elected Official Sector	Mary Decker	City of Vacaville
Elected Official Sector	Councilmember Katy Miessner	City of Vallejo
Low-Income Sector	Patrick Stasio	Solano County
Low-Income Sector	Jenalee Dawson	California Human Development
Low-Income Sector	Lisa Martin	California Tribal TANF Partnership
Low-Income Sector	Amber Twitchell	On the Move
Private Sector	Constance Harris	Solano Community Foundation
Private Sector	Laura Escobar	United Way
Private Sector	Lauren Crutsinger	Seneca Family of Agencies
Private Sector	Ryan Loofbourrow	Sutter Health Government Relations

4. COVID-19 Response

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020, CAP Solano JPA immediately sprang into action to ensure the safety of the public and the homeless community. The JPA seamlessly transitioned to holding virtual public meetings on an on-demand basis to decide on emergency funding and make quick decisions that impacted public health and safety. This work continued throughout 2021. The JPA, the Solano Cities, service providers, and Solano County continued to work tirelessly to secure funding and motel space to protect those who were most at risk for severe complications from COVID-19 amongst the homeless population, those who were 65 and older, and/or those with medical conditions. One Project Roomkey hotel project wound down during 2021 and an additional Project Roomkey hotel project continued throughout the year. Both provided a respite for homeless individuals and families who tested positive for COVID-19 and/or those who were the most at-risk.

To support successful transitions to permanent housing for PRK residents, Solano County Health and Social Services (HSS) Behavioral Health Division assisted with assessing the PRK participants for mental health and other service needs through coordinated outreach to other County partners, city departments, and stakeholders to increase collaboration between programs and increase access to benefits and services for PRK participants. Behavioral health remains an important issue for many PRK participants.

As of December 31, 2021, Project Roomkey served 316 clients, providing them with a place to quarantine or isolate during the pandemic as well as three meals a day and case management services. 116 clients exited to permanent destinations, 142 to temporary destinations, 12 clients to institutional settings, and 46 clients to “other destinations.” In total, approximately \$8.7 million has been allocated to the Project Roomkey homeless COVID-19 response in Solano since March 2020.

The Project Roomkey hotel run by the City of Vallejo ended January 5, 2022. The project has served some of the most acute homeless individuals with significant mental health and physical needs.

5. Homeless Management and Information Systems (HMIS) Lead Report

A. HMIS Overview

The HEARTH Act, enacted into law on May 20, 2009, requires that all communities have an HMIS with the capacity to collect unduplicated counts of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other planners and policymakers use aggregate HMIS data to better inform homeless policy and decision making at the federal, state, and local levels.

Specific HMIS benchmarks from 2021 include:

Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA). The HUD required LSA report provides CoC-level Point-In-Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) estimates of homelessness, as well as estimates of chronically homeless persons, homeless veterans, and homeless children and youth. Through an ongoing effort to improve data quality, Housing First Solano completed its third submission of LSA data, including data for HUD FY 2019 and FY 2020. These submissions will be used to write the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) and will serve as an important resource for communities to track how different households navigate the homeless system.

HMIS usage. By the end of 2021, the CoC was using 151 HMIS licenses to collect client-level data as well as data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. HMIS is the universal data system for the homeless system of care. It prioritizes the most vulnerable in the community and allows for the system to more accurately serve those in need of homeless services and housing. Every agency selected through the most recent funding competitions is required to utilize HMIS. The more agencies that participate in HMIS, the fuller the picture the Solano CoC will have in addressing the needs of the community. The HMIS Administrator continues to train new users and provide technical support to service providers. Thirty new licenses were added in 2021, while two new homeless services providers became HMIS Partner Agencies.

Coordinated Entry. The region’s Coordinated Entry (CE) System, Resource Connect Solano (RCS), is using HMIS to support intakes, assessments, matching, and referral to move people into the CE System. By the end of 2021, **4,450 persons** had received assessments through Resource Connect Solano in HMIS.

B. HMIS Lead Feedback

In 2021, Housing First Solano conducted a survey to collect feedback on the performance of the JPA as HMIS Lead. Fifteen responses were collected:

2021 Housing First Solano HMIS Lead Survey Results

- 10 of 15 respondents (67%) reported submitting a question to solanoHMIS@homebaseccc.org and 11 of 11 respondents (100%) reported being very satisfied or satisfied with the response time for questions sent to solanoHMIS@homebaseccc.org.
- 10 of 11 respondents (91%) described the assistance they received in resolving technical issues as very helpful or helpful. One respondent (9%) described the assistance they received as somewhat helpful.
- 13 of 15 respondents (87%) reported taking advantage of individualized trainings. 13 of 14 respondents (93%) described the quality of the training as very helpful or helpful. One respondent (7%) described the quality of the training as somewhat helpful.
- Nine of 15 respondents (60%) reported attending an HMIS user group meeting. Six of nine respondents (67%) described the HMIS user group meetings as helpful. Three respondents (33%) described the HMIS user group meetings as somewhat helpful.
- 12 of 15 respondents (80%) reported that the combination of on-call support, individualized trainings, specialized materials, and user group meetings this year helped their agency be better prepared to comply with the necessary HUD data entry and reporting requirements.
- Seven of 14 respondents (50%) reported a preference for the CoC to adopt a different HMIS provider. Seven respondents (50%) reported a preference to retain Wellsky.
- Nine of 10 respondents (90%) reported that their agency has the time, resources, and staff capacity to adapt to a different HMIS provider. One respondent (10%) reported that their agency does not have the time, resources, and staff capacity to adapt to a different HMIS provider.
 - The JPA investigated the cost and time required to switch to a different HMIS provider and found it financially not feasible with current resources. The JPA as well as the HMIS Committee will continue to consider and explore the possibility for a new HMIS provider. In the meantime, the HMIS Committee is dedicated to improving data quality and inputs.

6. Collaborative Applicant and Administrative Entity Report

The JPA serves as the Collaborative Applicant and Administrative Entity (the official contracting, management, and oversight entity) for Solano County's Continuum of Care, which is known as the Housing First Solano Continuum of Care. Collaborative Applicant and Administrative Entity duties include: CoC administration; creating and operating a coordinated entry system; engaging the private sector on behalf of the CoC; promoting the visibility of the CoC; coordinating the annual CoC Program Competition; serving as the lead for state funding opportunities; making recommendations regarding performance measurement and improving outcomes; and coordinating the HUD required homeless Point-in-Time Count.

A. 2021 Continuum of Care Competition

The preparation for this competition took place as normal, including: holding public meetings to review and revise the competition policies and procedures, design the scoring tools, and presenting those documents to the CoC Board for approval; and preparing the PRESTO database system for facilitating the competition and review of the annual performance reports (APRs) for each funded provider and necessary data clean up in HMIS. HUD announced the 2021 CoC Competition on August 18, 2021 with a final due date of November 16, 2021. The Housing First CoC's Annual Renewal Demand was \$1,449,082 and comprised all of Tier 1, the CoC Bonus was \$72,454 and comprised Tier 2. The CoC was allocated up to \$157,593 for a domestic violence (DV) bonus project; however, no community agency applied for the DV bonus funding. The CoC planning grant amount was \$43,472. Through a rigorous review and ranking of the projects based on the local scoring tools, 13 projects representing five different community agencies were recommended to HUD for funding with only part of one project being ranked in Tier 2. The CoC is confident they will secure all of their Tier 1 funds and will hopefully receive part of their Tier 2 funds as well. As of the time of this report, the final awards had not been announced by HUD.

B. Administrative Entity Report

In 2021, the JPA oversaw the distribution of about \$9 million in services and housing in Solano County, including Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention 2 (HHAP 2), Continuum of Care (CoC), annual and Coronavirus Community Services Block Grant (CSBG, CSBG CV), annual and Coronavirus Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG, ESG CV 1 & 2), and private and jurisdictional funds.

Funding Source	2021
CSBG (including CV)	\$427,533
CoC*	\$2,417,241
ESG (including CV)	\$3,708,421

CA HHAP	\$641,555
Solano County	\$86,975
Solano County/Cities CES	\$312,435
Project Roomkey (PRK)	\$1,307,457

* The 2021 CoC awards have yet to be announced as of the timing of this report.

7. Coordinated Entry System Report

As of the end of 2021, RCS reported a total of 3,150 active clients in the Coordinated Entry System awaiting placement. 1,040 clients exited the Coordinated Entry System in 2021 with the following outcomes:

- Rental by client, no ongoing subsidy: 80 (8%)
- Rapid Re-Housing (RRH): 42 (4%)
- Permanent housing with family/friend: 30 (3%)
- Rental by client with other ongoing subsidy: 21 (2%)
- Deceased: 18 (2%)
- Permanent Supportive Housing: 9 (1%)
- Rental by client with Housing Choice Voucher (HCV): 8 (1%)
- Rental by client with Grant & Per Diem Program, Transition In Place subsidy: 6 (1%)
- Hotel or motel w/o emergency shelter voucher: 2 (<1%)
- Substance abuse facility: 2 (<1%)
- Transitional Housing: 2 (<1%)
- Emergency shelter: 1 (<1%)
- Jail or prison: 1 (<1%)
- Rental by client with Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Voucher subsidy: 1 (<1%)
- Place not meant for habitation: 1 (<1%)
- Temporary housing with family/friend: 1 (<1%)
- Other/unknown: 815 (78%)

During 2021, RCS made a total of 857 referrals for housing and services; most common referrals were as follows:

- RRH/Rental Assistance: 74%
- Prevention/Diversion: 47%
- Shelter Programs: 12%

In 2021, RCS facilitated virtual case conferences for Project Roomkey participants but did not facilitate their normal in-person case conferences. The Project Roomkey case conferencing was focused on moving those who were in the hotel programs into permanent housing. As COVID regulations and protocols continue to decrease, RCS will strategize on

how to facilitate their regular case conferencing in the upcoming months virtually and/or in-person. RCS continued to assess their most vulnerable clients during weekly internal meetings. RCS discussed referral options and team members strategized ways to assist clients in overcoming obstacles to obtain housing.

RCS also participated in a total of 40 community engagements, trainings, and system promotion presentations.

In 2021, the JPA, RCS, CES workgroup and the CoC continued to work together on implementing the recommendations from the 2019 Coordinated Entry Evaluation. The CES workgroup became a standing committee and met quarterly in 2021 to update policies and procedures and discuss the current operation of the CES and how to improve referrals and the process.

In 2021, Family Justice Center (FJC) continued to operate as the domestic violence (DV) coordinated entry operator providing services throughout the entire Solano County region. They were able to hire 1 FTE to function as the DV-CE Coordinator and .25 FTE to assist with administrative work. Their primary goals are: to ensure the safety of their clients, provide case management, offer housing services, conduct outreach, and provide immediate access to emergency services. In their first year (January 1, 2021- December 31, 2021), as the domestic violence coordinated entry operator, they served 72 individuals and made 158 service referrals to housing and victim service agencies. They recorded 38 exits with 10 going to a rental with a subsidy, 5 moving out of Solano County, 9 moving in with friends/family, and 10 moving to a rental with no subsidy.

In addition, FJC participated in Project Roomkey Case Conferencing, weekly internal case conferencing at the County, and the Elder Justice League Multidisciplinary Team once a month. FJC's DV-CE Coordinator attended all JPA meetings, toured two transitional homes, and participated in the Vallejo Homeless Roundtable. The FJC DV-CE Coordinator also presented the entry point to The Fairfield Kaiser Domestic Violence prevention taskforce and to the Solano County Employment and Eligibility Department.

8. Regional Strategic Plan

In 2016, the JPA commissioned the creation of a five-year regional strategic action plan to respond to homelessness in Solano County. The JPA continues to rely on the Strategic Plan as the foundational document to guide the priorities for all funding sources.

In 2021, the JPA created the Solano Strategic Leadership Group and convened a series of meetings with them to develop an action plan for the coming year that addressed the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Solano homeless community. The Solano Strategic Leadership Group identified specific action items, priorities, and essential partners who can help implement the strategies identified by the Group. The goal of the Group was to identify new priorities or prioritize old priorities for implementation and for these priorities to be added as an addendum to the current Strategic Plan. The following stakeholders participated in Solano Strategic Leadership Group meetings:

Colleen Berumen, Vacaville Solano Services Corporation, Continuum of Care Chair
Yolanda Bonomo, NorthBay Healthcare
Emily Cantu, City of Vacaville, CAP Solano JPA Treasurer

Joey Carrizales, Continuum of Care
Daniel Del Monte, Solano County, CAP Solano JPA Secretary
Gloria Diaz, City of Vacaville Family Resource Center
Connie Harris, Solano Community Foundation
Masaki Hirayama, Veterans Affairs
Ryan Loofbourrow, Sutter Health Medical Center
Kandy Piresburt, Resource Connect Solano
Jamie Summerall-Alton, Family Justice Center
Debi Tavey, Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce
Amber Twitchell, On the Move
Erik Upson, Benicia Police Department, CAP Solano JPA, Benicia City Manager
Brandon Wirth, SHELTER, Inc.

The Strategic Action Plan can be accessed [here](#).

The JPA approved a contract with Homebase to work on the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan in 2022.

9. Housing First Solano Continuum of Care (CoC) Report

A. Collaboration with JPA

Housing First Solano Continuum of Care (CoC) is the coordinating body for efforts to address homelessness in Solano County. The JPA provides funding for Housing First Solano CoC staff to ensure that it has the necessary capacity to discharge its attendant duties. Each jurisdiction has a seat on the CoC Board and most actively participate in the planning activities and governance of the CoC. There are JPA Board members actively involved in CoC committees, including the Performance and Evaluation Committee, the Coordinated Entry Workgroup, and Point-In-Time Committee.

B. CoC Initiatives

The Housing First Solano (HFS) CoC expanded its work to distribute funding to providers in the community through the JPA, continuing to focus on addressing the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring the health and safety of those experiencing homelessness in Solano County. The CoC strengthened the community response to homelessness during the past year through developing processes, policies and procedures that increase the voices of those with lived experience of homelessness and support improved racial equity within the homeless response system.

A joint committee of the HFS CoC and CAP Solano JPA developed and approved an extensive Participant Grievance Policy which provides participants in CoC and JPA-funded programs the right to grieve any situation where they are denied services/discharged due to rule violations, non-compliance with program requirements, or not meeting eligibility requirements. This policy creates a Grievance Advisory Committee consisting of CoC Board members, JPA Board members, Tripartite Advisory Board members, service providers and people with lived experience of homelessness charged with ensuring that both program participants and service providers have a fair and equitable process through which any grievance may be considered.

In addition, a standing Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) of the CoC was convened in 2021, with a membership of 13 individuals who are currently or have previously experienced homelessness in Solano County. The LEAC has two elected co-chairs and meets on a regular bi-monthly basis. Since its inception, LEAC members have served on the HUD NOFO Review and Rank panel and have identified many ways in which they can have input into CoC and JPA planning and decision-making processes in the coming year.

CoC members also participated in the BARHII/Homebase Racial Equity Action Lab (REAL) initiative throughout the past year, focusing on addressing equitable vaccine access and supporting the development of the LEAC. The REAL Team held multiple pop-up vaccination clinics at locations that were accessible for people experiencing homelessness, recruited a diverse membership for the LEAC, and presented data on race and homelessness to the CoC, JPA, TAB and homeless roundtables in the County.

Throughout the year, the CoC conducted many member trainings, including:

- A. CoC Case Management
- B. Harm Reduction with the National Harm Reduction Coalition (NHRC)
- C. Fair Housing and Preventing Discrimination from Legal Services of Northern California
- D. Grant Writing
- E. CoC Programs and the Violence Against Women Act
- F. Working with Victims of Domestic Violence from the Solano Family Justice Center, and
- G. Gender Identity and the Equal Access Rule

The CoC also continues to have CoC-funded agencies give presentations regarding their projects and services, including local emergency shelters, health clinics, the public health department, permanent supportive housing, and providers serving survivors of domestic violence. CoC members with lived experiences of homelessness and representing Veteran's services in the community also presented.

C. Performance Measurement and Outcomes

In July of 2014, HUD released a document entitled *System Performance Measures: An Introductory Guide to Understanding System-Level Performance Measures*, which provides guidance on how to implement system-level performance measures to evaluate CoC performance as a coordinated system and to track community-level progress. In 2021, Housing First Solano (HFS) continued to track all HUD performance measures.

Performance Measure	Housing First Solano Adoption	System Performance Measure Outcome for Solano
HUD Measure 1: Length of time persons remain homeless.	HFS uses this measure to determine whether the length of time people remain homeless is decreasing.	Average length of time homeless: 136 bed nights, an increase from 98 bed nights in FY2020.
HUD Measure 2a: The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness within 6 to 12 months.	HFS uses this measure to determine the effectiveness of CoC permanent housing placements.	Total returns to homelessness in 6–12 months: 5% (30), unchanged from 5% (22) in FY2020.
HUD Measure 2b: The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness within 2 years.	HFS uses this measure to determine the effectiveness of CoC permanent housing placements.	Returns to homelessness in 2 years: 13% (79), a decrease from 15% (71) in FY2020.
HUD Measure 3: Number of homeless persons.	HFS uses this measure to determine whether the number of people experiencing homelessness in the CoC is decreasing.	Total persons: 957, an increase from 804 in FY2020.
HUD Measure 4a: Employment and income growth for homeless persons in CoC program-funded projects.	HFS uses this measure to determine whether there is an increase in the percent of adults who gain or increase cash income over time.	Change in total income for adult leavers: 9% (6) of stayers increased their income, unchanged from 9% (5) in FY2020.
HUD Measure 5a: Number of persons who become homeless for the first time.	HFS uses this measure to determine whether there is a reduction in the number of persons who become homeless for the first time.	Number of first-time homeless: 1,329, an increase from 1,304 in FY2020.
HUD Measure 7a: Successful placement from street outreach.	HFS uses this measure to assess street outreach efforts and will encourage additional street outreach projects to use HMIS.	Successful placements: 4 (32%). This measure was not tracked in FY2020.

HUD Measure 7b: Successful placement in or retention of permanent housing.	HFS uses this measure to assess street outreach efforts and will encourage additional street outreach projects to use HMIS.	Successful placements: 96% (51), an increase from 92% (46) in FY2020.
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Housing First Solano observed progress in homeless system performance in several key areas. Housing First Solano observed a slight decrease in returns to homelessness after two years from 15% in FY2020 to 13% in FY2021 (Metric 2b). System performance measures also revealed an increase in successful placement in or retention of permanent housing from 92% in FY2020 to 96% in FY2021 (Metric 7b).

In some respects, System Performance Measures suggest little change in system performance since FY2020. For example, the rate of returns to homelessness within 6–12 months remained constant at 5% (Metric 2a). The rate of employment and income growth for persons in CoC program-funded projects also remained unchanged at 9% (Metric 4a). In addition, one measure (Metric 7a) was not reported in FY2020.

System Performance Measures also point to areas for growth in several notable areas. For example, the average length of time homeless increased from 98 bed nights in FY2020 to 136 bed nights in FY2021 (Metric 1). In addition, the total number of persons experiencing homelessness increased from 804 in FY2020 to 957 in FY2021 (Metric 3). The number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first-time also increased slightly from 1,304 in FY2020 to 1,329 in FY2021 (Metric 5a.)

Regarding Metric 1, the reporting period coincided with Project Roomkey and the Vallejo Hwy 37 relocation program, which together accounted for 55% of Emergency Shelter beds at the time of the 2021 HIC. Participants in these programs were also enrolled for a longer period than is typical for an emergency shelter (especially in the case of Project Roomkey), which likely contributed to the increase in the average length of time homeless. Metric 3 increased for the same reason; more emergency shelter beds in Solano County meant more people in emergency shelter, which meant more people experiencing homelessness being entered into HMIS. The CoC identified strategies for how to improve these metrics through the 2021 CoC competition.

D. Sheltered Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

The Sheltered Homeless PIT Count is conducted annually in Solano County and is a requirement to receive homeless assistance funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Solano County conducted its sheltered count on January 25, 2021. The JPA conducted the Sheltered PIT count by sending demographic questionnaires to all emergency shelter and transitional housing providers prior to the night of the count. The PIT results presented below reflect all the sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness counted on this night. The total number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness for 2021 was 397, a significant increase from 230 sheltered people in 2020.



	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Total
Total Number of Persons Counted	304	93	397

Households and Individuals



	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Total
Total Number of Households	261	70	331

Youth Households



	Parenting Youth Households	Unaccompanied Youth Households	Total
Total Persons (including parented children)	15	26	41
Youth Parents	8	—	8
Youth 18 to 24	7	26	33

Subpopulation data from PIT provider surveys and from HMIS and Provider Surveys

Number of Persons Who Are:	
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	72
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	139
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	97
Chronically Homeless	154
Veterans	21

E. Housing Inventory Count

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires each Continuum of Care (CoC) to conduct an annual inventory of housing dedicated for homeless people in each community, called the Housing Inventory Count (HIC), during the last ten days of January. The HIC report tallies the number of beds and units available on the designated night by project type, and includes beds dedicated to persons who are homeless in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Housing. The category of Permanent Housing includes Permanent Supportive Housing (including HUD-VASH vouchers) and Rapid Re-housing.

In 2021, the HIC was conducted by sending surveys to homeless shelter and housing providers in Solano County. The providers completed the surveys based on the information gathered on the night of the homeless count, January 25, 2021.

	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing			Permanent Housing		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Total Number of Year-Round Beds	240	222	375	99	109	121	470	405	431

The 2021 HIC saw a dramatic increase in the number of emergency shelter beds, including the addition of 161 new shelter beds offered through Project Roomkey motel sites. Additional emergency shelter beds tied to seasonal warming shelters, relocation programs, and shelter programs developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic brought the total number of emergency shelter beds to 375, a significant increase from 222 shelter beds in 2020. In addition, there were moderate increases in the stock of transitional housing and permanent housing beds (from 109 to 121 beds and from 405 to 431 beds, respectively).

10. JPA Staffing

A committee of JPA board volunteers met throughout 2021 to discuss the structure of the JPA and possible staffing solutions. The JPA agreed that a full-time staff member was needed to support the work of the JPA moving forward. The JPA voted to allocate CSBG funds towards the effort of hiring a JPA staff member and the City of Fairfield agreed to host the position in their jurisdiction. The staff position job announcement is set to be released in early 2022.

11. Conclusion

The JPA continues to pursue all available funding; build relationships with local stakeholders and service providers; and allocate funding strategically to address homelessness in our community. Major rehousing efforts are going on in the community and the JPA will be dedicating its resources to help house our most vulnerable residents with rapid rehousing and supportive services. In the coming year, the JPA will also be looking at elevating its image and increasing efforts in informing the community about the issues of homelessness and the need for a coordinated multi-disciplinary approach to solving homelessness.