



EveryOne Counts! 2017

Alameda County's Homeless Persons Point-In-Time Count

State of Homelessness in Alameda County

New, More Comprehensive Count Methodology Gives Us a New Baseline

- The 2017 Point-In-Time Count recorded 5,629 people experiencing homelessness the night of January 30, 2017.
- 3,863 (69%) are unsheltered—living in tents, parks, vehicles, vacant buildings, underpasses, etc.
- 345 volunteers and 99 Guides covered every census tract in the county at dawn to enumerate those who were unsheltered.

People Experiencing Homelessness Are Our Neighbors and Want Housing

- 82% of respondents said they lived in Alameda County before becoming homeless.
- 50% had lived here for 10 years or more.
- Only 2% of respondents were not interested in housing. Homelessness is not a choice.

Lack of Affordable Housing Causes Homelessness

- More than half of respondents said that economic hardship was the primary cause of their homelessness.
- [Median rents have increased 25%](#) since 2015 while median household income increased only 5%.
- Alameda County lost [74% of state and federal funding](#) for affordable housing production, creating a dire shortage of units.

Current Homeless and Housing Service System Is Deploying Best Practices, Functioning at Capacity, and Is Under Resourced to Meet the Growing Need

- Our Homeless Services System serves 11-12,000 people per year with 3,000 being sustained in permanent supportive housing.
- Shelters and transitional housing were full on January 30, 2017, with 1,766 people staying in them. That's 1 bed for every 3 people experiencing homelessness.
- Each year providers exit at least 1,500 to permanent housing, while over 2,500 people become homeless.

All people deserve the dignity of a home.

We can get there with the commitment and resources of our entire community.

1. Developers and funders, exceed the commitment of 20% of new rental units for those at 20% of Area Median Income and below in local bond measures ([Measure A1](#) and [Measure KK](#)).
2. Voters, pressure State of California lawmakers to create new sources of long-term revenue dedicated to producing and preserving affordable housing ([SB 2](#)).
3. Property owners and landlords, commit to renting to our homeless neighbors.
4. Local elected officials, jointly develop and implement equitable, compassionate actions for addressing unsheltered homelessness at a Summer 2017 Leadership Summit
5. Providers, continue best practices such as Housing First and Coordinated Entry
6. Citizens, businesses and faith communities, help formerly homeless people make their place a home. Contribute at www.everyonehome.org or [click here](#).

Visit www.EveryOneHome.org for more information about EveryOne Counts! and Alameda County's efforts to end homelessness.



Donate to the “Make It a Home Fund”

Local Non-profit providers help over 1,500 people a year move back into permanent housing, often with very little of what it takes to make a rental a home. Every \$500 donated will help an individual or family settle it and make a fresh start. Selected households will get dishes, bedding, toiletries, cleaning supplies, and other essential home items. Any size contribution helps. Thank you to BBI Construction and Home of Christ 6 Church for their inaugural gifts to launch the fund.

Additional Information

New Methodology:

The “street-blitz” methodology covered every census tract in Alameda County between the hours of 6-9 a.m. using 345 volunteers and paid 99 currently or recently homeless guides to help identify those who were unsheltered. In 2017 our data was collected from a four step process: one day observation based street count (100% canvas), a dedicated transition aged youth count (targeted outreach), sheltered count (HMIS and administrative data from shelters and transitional housing programs), and survey (1,228 individuals residing in unsheltered locations, shelters, and transitional housing in the days following the count) to gather demographic information; health, housing, and veteran history; and services utilization.

From 2003-2015 we used a service-site methodology where individuals utilizing meal service sites, food pantries, drop-in centers, and mobile street outreach programs in Alameda County were surveyed for their housing status, demographic information; health, housing, and veteran history; and services utilization. Surveys were weighted and extrapolated to estimate totals.

Demand for Affordable Units Outstrips Supply:

Alameda County has 3rd largest population of Extremely Low Income rent burdened in California, behind San Francisco and Los Angeles. [The majority \(70%\) of extremely low income households are spending more than 50% of their income on rent. Alameda County needs 60,173 more affordable rental homes to meet the needs of the lowest income renters.](#)

In Alameda County, the [median asking rent is \\$2,593](#). This is 3x higher than the maximum CalWorks grant for a family of three, 7x higher than the max General Assistance (GA) grant, and almost 3x higher than the maximum Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment (disability) monthly income.

Coordinated Entry:

The goal of coordinated entry is to divert people from entering homelessness and/or match and connect people quickly with services and long-term supportive housing. Coordinated entry assesses people’s housing-related needs, prioritizes them for resources, and links those in need to a range of types of assistance, including immediate shelter and longer-term housing focused programs. Establishing coordinated entry has been done already in Berkeley and Oakland (families only), and new entry points are planned to expand this fall such that the entire county is covered. Coordinated Entry’s impact is constrained without access to permanent housing and sufficiently scaled housing-focused programs.

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