Our Year of
WORKING TOGETHER TO END HOMELESSNESS

San Mateo County residents know there are many wonderful reasons to live and work here, opportunity and quality of life being two of them. Since the pandemic, it has become even harder to call San Mateo County home, with many residents and workers struggling to find safe and secure housing.

As home prices and rents have risen but wages have stayed the same, more people are now living in cars and RVs, in shelters and on the street to stay close to jobs and family.

And it's not just housing prices that have gone up, the rising cost of living has made it more difficult for seniors on fixed incomes and households living paycheck to paycheck to make ends meet. One extra expense for these households can lead to homelessness.

And we can all agree that everyone – veterans, families, seniors and people with physical and mental health issues – deserves a safe place to call home.
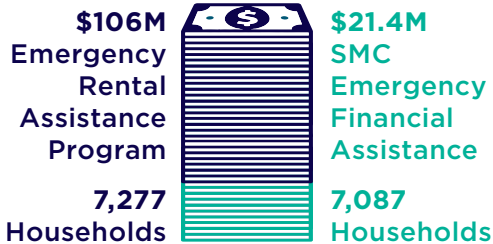
2022 has been Our Year of Ending Homelessness Together in San Mateo County

We have prevented homelessness by helping people stay housed, expanded services to our 1,092 unsheltered residents, and provided more interim and permanent housing by purchasing five hotels, constructing a new navigation center, and contributing millions of dollars to the development of affordable housing.

Homelessness Prevention

$123.4M
Total

$106M
Emergency Rental Assistance Program

$21.4M
SMC Emergency Financial Assistance

7,277
Households

7,087
Households

Street Services

1,239
Served by homeless outreach teams

1,753
Experiencing homelessness and active in the homeless system

Safe Parking

102
People at Safe Parking Sites

3
Cities with Safe Parking Programs

Interim Housing

Goal by March 2023

281
Adult beds pre-pandemic

335
Adult beds today

539
Total adult units by March 2023

432
Studio-type units

Permanent Housing

Extremely low annual income for a family of four is $55,900

800+
Homes for formerly homeless

1,100+
Units for households with extremely low incomes

4,000
Total affordable housing units

$300M
Total County dollars invested in housing 2012 to 2022

We have laid the foundation, but more needs to be done to successfully prevent and end homelessness. Let's work together to address the causes of homelessness so that all San Mateo County residents have a place to call home.

$ Economic Insecurity

» $15 minimum wage is equivalent to $30,600 annual salary

» Hourly wage of $50.60 needed to afford average monthly asking rent

» Estimated annual cost of living for a 4-person household is $150,000

» There are more jobs in San Mateo County than housing

» 37.7% of households face barriers in securing housing that meets their needs

» Inflation rate from August 2021-August 2022 was 8.3%

Housing Insecurity

» 1,092 unsheltered residents

» $3,293 is average cost of a two-bedroom apartment

» 15,500 residents on Section 8 waitlist

» Average cost of a house is $1.6 Million

» 50% of households spend 30-50% of their income on housing

» 16.8% of households are severely cost-burdened and use a majority of their income for housing

Physical Health, Mental Health, and Addiction Challenges

» San Mateo Medical Center saw 4,660 individual patients experiencing homelessness, many had multiple visits to the ER

» 30% of all patients experiencing homelessness in 2021 were diagnosed with high blood pressure, also referred to as hypertension

» The average life span of a homeless person was shorter by about 17.5 years than that recorded for the general population

» One Day Count
  · 1,092 unsheltered residents
  · 32% self-reported having serious mental illness
  · 21% self-reported having a substance abuse disorder

» Homeless persons experience high rates of health problems such as HIV infection, alcohol and drug abuse, mental illness, tuberculosis, and other conditions

HOME FOR ALL
SAN MATEO COUNTY

About Home for All San Mateo County

Home for All SMC is a countywide collaborative that educates residents about the need for more housing, promotes innovative housing solutions and inspires residents to support preservation and production of all types of housing. Cities, the County, school districts, community based organizations, advocacy groups and businesses all participate in Home for All which is administratively supported and funded by the County of San Mateo.

Working Together to End Homelessness is a focus area of the Home for All Initiative.

To Do

» Follow up on my commitment to working together to end homelessness.

» Support proposals for the development of housing for formerly homeless residents and low-income households at commission, council and board meetings.

» Volunteer

» Stay connected via the resources below

» And....

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Resources

1 Center on Homelessness
www.smcgov.org/hsa/center-homelessness

2 Core Service Agencies
www.smcgov.org/hsa/core-service-agencies-emergency-safety-net-assistance

3 Department of Housing
www.smcgov.org/housing

4 Home for All
www.homeforallsmc.org

5 Homelessness Dashboard
www.smcgov.org/homelessdata

www.smcendinghomelessness.org