

Acronym or Common Term	Definition
ACS	Alternate Care Sites – used during COVID to shelter the most vulnerable
ADA	Americans With Disabilities Act (Section 504)
AHAR	Annual Homeless Assessment Report
AMI	Area Median Income
APR	Annual Performance Report (for federal HUD homeless programs)
ARD	HUD's annual renewal demand - associated with the annual grant to CoCs, based in part on past performance.
BFZ	Built for Zero – a way to structure a system to achieve Functional Zero
BNL or "By Names List"	A list of names, usually with the most vulnerable at the top. A way to focus on housing the most vulnerable (and often most service-demanding) first
CAPSC	Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County - service provider, operates Sloan House Women's Emergency Shelter
Case Conferencing	Where service providers strategize about individuals' and how to best address their service needs.
Case Management	Working with one client to address their needs.
CC or CCDSR	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa – serves SR, Rohnert Park, and more. Operates Sam Jones Hall, Caritas Center, Family Support Center, Nightingale Center
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant (CPD program – federal)
CDC	Sonoma County Community Development Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act - requires environmental review for many projects and programs
CES/Coordinated Entry System	A housing placement system required to receive Federal and State funding. Not an emergency housing service and not an emergency service solution.
CESH	California Emergency Solutions and Housing - a State funding source
CFH	County Fund for Housing - a Sonoma County fund that assists developers
Chronically Homeless	A federal definition - generally a person who (a) lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, and (b) has been homeless and living as described for at least 12 months* or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living as described. With a qualifying disability.
CoC Program	Continuum of Care - Federal grant program stressing permanent solutions to homelessness
Collaborative Applicant	A HUD term relating to the agency that supports a CoC - in our case, the County of Sonoma CDC
COTS	Committee of the Shelterless - Service provider in Petaluma and South County, operates Mary Isaak Center Emergency Shelter
CSN	Community Support Network - Service provider in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County
Con Plan	Consolidated Plan, a locally developed plan for housing assistance and urban development under CDBG and other CPD programs

Continuum of Care	the system of homeless care in a region. A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals.
Continuum of Care Board	the governing body that determines policy and acts as the CoC's decision-making group. Mandated by HUD's Continuum of Care Program, the board is responsible for oversight of funds designated to the Continuum of Care and regional planning/policy development for addressing homelessness.
CPD	Community Planning and Development (HUD Office)
CSBG	Community Services Block Grant
DHS	Sonoma County Department of Health Services
Diversion	To identify persons at risk of homelessness and divert them from being on the street before they lose housing.
DST	Downtown Streets Team- outreach provider in Petaluma
DV	Domestic Violence
EHVs	Emergency Housing Vouchers for housing units. Stay with the person, not the project.
ES	Emergency Shelter
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grants – a State and Federal Funding Source
ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grants related to Coronavirus
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
Functional Zero	Where homelessness is rare, brief and one-time.
FJC	Family Justice Center
FY	Fiscal Year
HA	Housing Authority
HAP	Homeless Action Plan (required by the State to receive HHAP funds)
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development
HCV	Housing Choice Voucher
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009
HHAP	Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention – a State funding source
HIC	Housing Inventory Count- a point-in-time inventory of provider programs within a CoC that provide beds and units dedicated to serve people experiencing homelessness
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System- system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness
HMIS Lead	The entity that runs the HMIS for the CoC, currently Sonoma County CDC
HOME	Home Investment Partnerships - a Federal program for housing
HomeBase	Working on the Strategic Plan for the Sonoma County region (as well as the HAP) non-profit dedicated to building community capacity to prevent and end homelessness
HomeFirst	The region's CES provider, also staffs Rohnert Park's Homekey project
Homekey	State project inviting localities to purchase hotels and apartments and turn them into interim housing or permanent supportive housing

HAS	Homeless Action Sonoma - service provider, includes large countywide group and Sonoma Valley group.
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (CPD program)
H.O.S.T.	Street outreach in Santa Rosa w/Catholic Charities as the service provider
Housing Continuum	Generally the types of housing, from emergency shelter to market rate housing
Housing First	Put a person under a roof first. Without that, they won't be able to address other issues. State of CA is declared "housing first" state as of 2016 for state housing/homeless services agencies
HPRP	Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing
HSD	Sonoma County Human Services Department
HUD	US Department of Housing and Urban Development
IDIS	Integrated Disbursement and Information System
IFSN	Interfaith Shelter Network - a service provider.
IMDT, IMDT/HEART	The County's Interdepartmental Multi-disciplinary Team, including its Homeless Encampment Access and Resource Team
In-RESPONSE	Santa Rosa's city-directed street outreach team
Interim Housing	Housing placement for 1-6 months, generally.
LEAP	Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board
Lead Agency	The entity that provides staffing assistance to the CoC
Lived Experience	Persons who have been or are homeless, and serve as representatives of and voices for the unhoused.
Low-Barrier Shelter	A shelter that operates under the Housing First model.
LSAs	Longitudinal Systems Analysis - part of HMIS data
Mainstream Vouchers	Section 8 vouchers that go with the person, not the project.
Measure O	Local 1/4-cent sales tax to address homelessness and behavioral health. Passed in Spring 2021
MHSA	Mental Health Services Act
Monitoring	Done by HUD, HCD, and CoC Staff to ensure that funds are used in the manner intended.
Navigation Center	A place where unhoused persons can shelter as well as receive services
NCS	Non-congregate shelter. Clients have separate spaces and privacy
NEPA	Federal National Environmental Policy Act - a bit like CEQA
NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
NPLH	No Place Like Home Program (State funding)
OPH	Other Permanent Housing
PBRA	Project Based Rental Assistance
PBVs	Project – Based Vouchers for housing units. Stay with the project, not the person
PHA	Public Housing Authority
PH	Permanent Housing
PII	Personally identifiable information - usually kept confidential
PIT Count	Point-in-Time Count - usually required annually or bi-annually
PPSC	Petaluma People Services
PRA	Public Records Act request

PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing – housing units with services on-site, serving the chronically homeless
RRH	Rapid Re-Housing - Placing people in housing units quickly, before conditions worsen leading to chronic homelessness
RFH	Reach for Home - Provides services in Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Windsor (and unincorporated)
RGM	Redwood Gospel Mission – Faith Based Service provider in Sonoma County – operates a men’s and women’s shelter. While not “housing first,” still part of the Continuum of Care.
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposals
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
Roomkey	State project inviting localities to purchase hotels and apartments and turn them into non-congregate shelter for homeless persons at risk of COVID-19.
SAFE Team	Petaluma’s city-directed street outreach team, with COTS
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SAY	Social Advocates for Youth - service provider for TAY and others
SBRA	Sponsor Based Rental Assistance
Shared Housing	Roommate housing
SNAPS	Office of Special Needs Assistance Program (HUD office overseeing CoC)
SOAR	SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SSI/SSDI Application program)
SAVS	Sonoma Applied Village Services- Service provider in Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, more
SOS	Sonoma Overnight Support - service provider in the Sonoma Valley
SPMs	A CoC’s System Performance Measures
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSA	Social Security Administration
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
Stella	A HUD-produced data visualization tool
SVDP	St Vincent de Paul - a service provider
TA	Technical Assistance
TANF	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 16-24)
TBRA	Tenant Based Rental Assistance
TLC Child and Family Services	Service Provider for TAY and other youth
Transitional Housing (TH)	Housing placement for 6-24 months in duration
UFO	Unsheltered Friends Outreach- provider serving in Rohnert Park
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH Vouchers	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers
VAWA	Violence Against Women Act
VI-SPADT	Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (CES assessment tool)
VSP	Victims Service Provider
Verity	Provider serving survivors of sexual assault

WCCS	West County Community Services - Service provider in West County (Sebastopol and Russian River area)
YAB	Youth Advisory Board
YWCA	Sonoma County Domestic Violence Services provider