



Sonoma County CoC Quarterly Membership Meeting

January 19, 2023

Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator

Araceli Rivera, Homeless Project Specialist

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. SonomaWORKS Overview
3. CalFresh Program, COVID 19 Food Benefit Emergency Allotments.
4. Rising Waters Presentation
5. CoC Program: PSH Rent Calculations
6. Continuum of Care Committee Updates
7. Community Updates

This meeting is being recorded and will be posted online for staff who were unable to attend.



Welcome and Introductions

For Technical Support or to submit questions in writing please contact Araceli Rivera @ Araceli.Rivera@Sonoma-county.org.

Please feel free to raise your virtual hand if you have any questions or comments during the presentation.



SonomaWORKS

WORKING TOWARD A BETTER FUTURE

SonomaWORKS Presenters

Morgan Suazo

Supervising Employment & Training Specialist

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msuazo@schsd.org

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Child Care/Cal-OAR Program Planning and Evaluation Analyst

707-565-5535

csorg@schsd.org

In the beginning

In 1996 federal welfare reform law established the **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)** program and the creation of **CalWORKs** in 1998.

SonomaWORKS was implemented in February 1998 replacing AFDC.



Government should minimize “welfare dependency” and most adults on welfare should work and be responsible for supporting their families.

States and counties should have greater flexibility in the design and implementation of the programs.

In keeping with the Human Services Department goal to lift clients out of poverty and assist families in achieving self-sufficiency, SonomaWORKS provides benefits and services to eligible clients.

SonomaWORKS



The SonomaWORKS program provides cash grants and employment services for families whose incomes are not adequate to meet their most basic needs.

SonomaWORKS Facts

Sonoma County has approximately **1,331** families receiving cash assistance with a total of **3,128** individuals on cash assistance.

Approximately **629** adults are receiving Welfare to Work Services.

Average monthly benefit is **\$760.00** per month

Approximately **87** families are receiving Child Care Services through SonomaWORKS.

Benefits of SonomaWORKS

- ✓ Cash Grant
- ✓ Homeless Assistance
- ✓ HSP: Housing Support Program
- ✓ CalFresh
- ✓ Medical
- ✓ Diversion

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for SonomaWORKS a child in the family must be deprived of parental support and care due to that parent's:

- Death**-one or more parent is deceased
- Absence**-if one or more parent is absent.
- Incapacity**-illness/injury of one or more parent which prevents employment or caring for a child for more than 30 days.
- Unemployment/ Underemployment** -the principal wage earner is unemployed, based on a definition of unemployed per federal guidelines.



Eligibility Requirements

Pregnant Person Only Cases:

A pregnant person can receive TANF as long as the unborn child is deprived and the client meets all other eligibility factors.

In addition to the basic grant, the client will receive a pregnancy special need payment of **\$100** per month to supplement CalFresh.

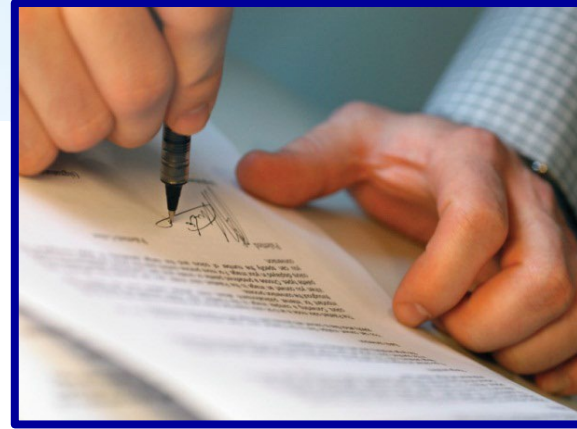


Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, families must meet income and property guidelines.

When applying for and/or receiving cash aid, clients must provide proof to substantiate eligibility factors, such as:

- ✓ Citizenship, ID and SSN
- ✓ Income and Property verifications
- ✓ Proof of county residency
- ✓ Apply for all other potentially available income (i.e. UIB, SDI, RSDI)
- ✓ Comply with DCSS in opening a child support case
- ✓ Complete an Semi-Annual Report (SAR 7) and an annual redetermination of eligibility



SonomaWORKS

Income Limits and Grant Amounts

MBSAC:

Minimum Basic
Standard of
Adequate Care

HH Size	MBSAC
1	\$807
2	\$1,324
3	\$1,641
4	\$1,947
5	\$2,221
6	\$2,499
7	\$2,746
8	\$2,988
9	\$3,242
10	\$3,519

MAP

Maximum Aid Payment (eff 10/22)

HH Size	Exempt MAP	Standard MAP
1	\$779	\$707
2	\$1,000	\$895
3	\$1,264	\$1,130
4	\$1,519	\$1,363
5	\$1,780	\$1,597
6	\$2,043	\$1,830
7	\$2,305	\$2,065
8	\$2,569	\$2,299
9	\$2,828	\$2,532
10	\$3,094	\$2,767

Services Offered by SonomaWORKS

- ✓ Family Stabilization Services: Helps families in crisis with intensive case management.

- ✓ Welfare to Work Services
 - Job Search
 - Subsidized Employment
 - Vocational Education Classes
 - Mental Health Services
 - Substance Use Disorder Services
 - Domestic Violence Services
 - Child Care
 - Transportation reimbursement
 - Other work related expenses
 - Job Retention Services
 - Home Visiting Program (HVP)

Time Limits



Adults who are work eligible can receive up to 60 months (five years) of **cash aid**. Only certain situations will stop this time limit:

- Medical exemptions
- Child support collected in excess of the grant amount
- Certain sanctions/penalties

Safety Net-There are no time limits for needy children receiving aid, so even if an adult in the family reaches their time limit, the child could still receive assistance.

60 Month-Time Clock

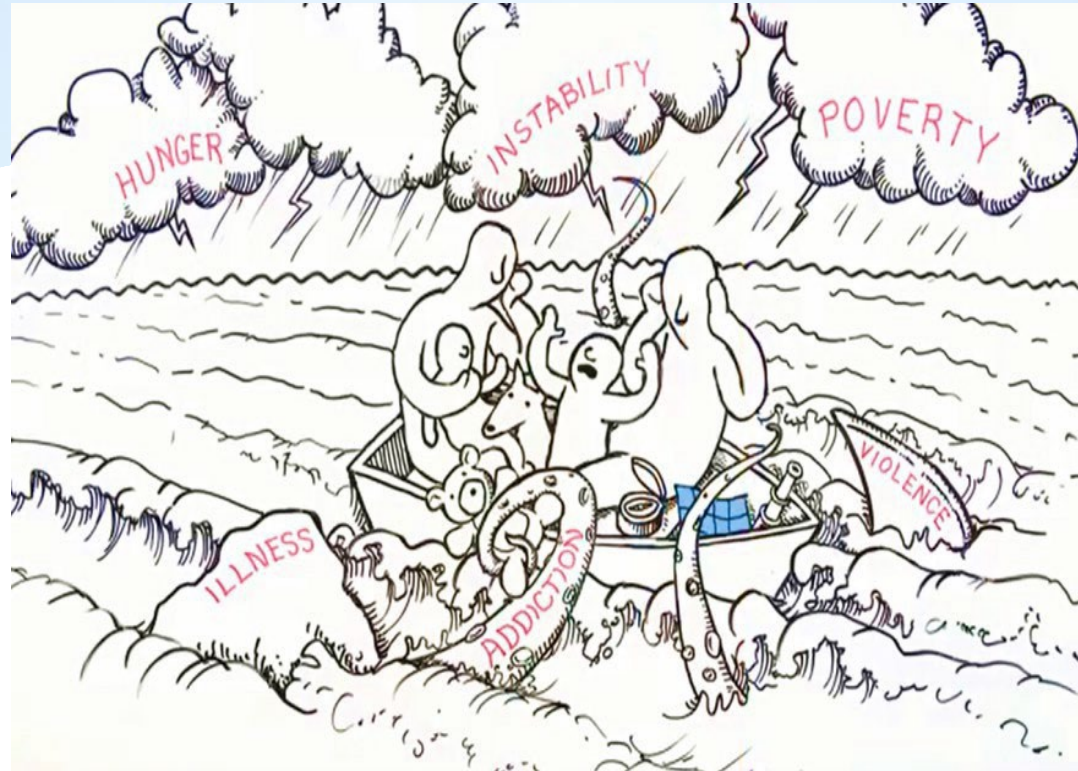
Clients have more flexibility in the activities they can choose from to meet their needs.

Give clients the opportunity to participate in educational programs with no limitation on how many months you can attend education activities.

Provide more time for the upfront removal of barriers, which will help clients move toward self-sufficiency.

Family Stabilization Program that offers intensive case management.

CalWORKS Trending...



CalWORKS is redesigning systems so that *the sources of stress* in people's lives is *reduced*.

- ☞ Simplify how services are provided
- ☞ Help them respond to basic needs
- ☞ Build on strengths

CalWORKS Trending...

Helping Clients Build Core Capabilities



Additional Employment & Training Programs

General Assistance (GA)

Housing Assistance Response Team
(HART)

Job Link

General Assistance

- ✓ Cash grant for adults 18 and over
 - ✓ 90 days per year for employable adults
 - ✓ Ongoing for individuals with incapacities or disabilities
- ✓ Work Services through Job Link
 - ✓ Clients can partner with Job Link for employment services and our work program (for employable individuals) will be administered through Job Link
- ✓ Supportive Services
 - ✓ Bus tickets, special needs payments, etc.
- ✓ Eligibility Requirements
 - ✓ Similar to CalWORKS, stricter income/property limits

HART

This program is comprised of:

SonomaWORKS Housing Support Program (HSP)

- Must be a SonomaWORKS recipient
- Provides services to SonomaWORKS families that are homeless or in danger of losing their home in 14 days
- Financial assistance for deposits, rent, utilities, moving expenses, temporary housing, transportation, etc.
- HSP@schsd.org

Housing Disability and Advocacy Program (HDAP)

- Referrals are completed by an external case manager/online
- 2-HDAP Transitional Homes- 8 per home
- Connection to Safety-Net Services
- HDAP@schsd.org

HART Continued

HSD-Interdepartmental Multi-Disciplinary Team (IMDT)

- Encampment Deployment and Outreach (HEART + IMDT Expansion)
- Non Congregate Site placement and visits
- Connection to services

SSI Advocacy for HSD Clients

- Moved to Employment and Training 07/2022
- Applications and interviews are taken in person in the office
- Referrals to SSI Advocacy Program are primarily sent through HDAP, VETS, or GA programs

What is Job Link?

Job Link is part of a nationwide network of career centers “One-Stops” a single location with many different partner agencies that serve the public.

- Job Link offers a variety of free services to Sonoma County job seekers and businesses.
- Career Assistance to all residents including residents who:
 - Have a criminal record
 - Have a disability
 - Receive unemployment benefits
 - Speak English as a second language
 - U.S. military veterans
 - Undocumented

Job Link Continued

Basic Services Include:

- Register for CalJOBS-(How you become a Job Link member)
- Computer Lab
- Workshops
- Mock Interviews

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

- To be eligible you need to be an adult and/or dislocated worker.
- This opens up more Job Search Assistance
- Money available to advance your career
 - Certificates/Books and Supplies/ Child Care/ Equipment

Job Link Continued

Business Services

- Job Development and Placement
- Labor Market Information
- Marketing & Outreach
- Customized Trainings
- Rapid Response/Layoff Aversion

Youth Program- Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps

- For youth from age 16-24
- Paid work experience
- Develop work-readiness skills
- Since 2009

Questions?



www.sonomaworks.org



CalFresh Emergency Allotment Updates

CalFresh Emergency Allotments Update



Presentation Agenda

- What are CalFresh Emergency Allotments
- Emergency Allotments are Ending
- Mass Informing and Communication Efforts
- Additional Resources

What are CalFresh Emergency Allotments?

- In March 2020, Congress authorized Emergency allotments during the COVID - 19 pandemic to help meet food needs.
- Emergency Allotments are a temporary increase to regular CalFresh Benefits amounts. Each month CalFresh households have received a minimum of \$95 in additional CalFresh benefits.
- Emergency allotments are issued in the following month between the 2nd and 4th week of the month, while regular CalFresh is issued in the current month between the 1st and the 10th.

Emergency Allotments are Ending

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 that was passed into law in December 2022 ends funding for the issuance of Emergency Allotments to households in response to the COVID - 19 pandemic.
- Effective February 2023 Emergency Allotments will end. The final emergency allotment benefit will be issued in March 2023. Because this is a required change there are no hearing rights related to the loss of Emergency Allotment benefits.
- Starting in April households will only receive their regular monthly CalFresh benefit issued between the 1st and the 10th of each month. Which is determined based on the household size, countable income and applicable expenses.

Mass Informing and Communication Efforts

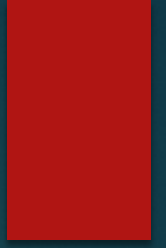
- In late January active CalFresh households will receive a CalFresh notice in the mail informing them that the Emergency Allotments are ending
- CDSS will be conducting Voice/Text Messaging Campaigns January 17th - February 6th
- HSD will be launching a social media campaign, updated call center messaging, updated the county's CalFresh website, adding signage at our public lobbies and working with community partners to share information.
- Households may also visit CalFreshfood.org for more information on the Emergency Allotments ending

Additional Resources

- Call 2-1-1 to find other food resources
- Visit www.cafoodbanks.org/find-food

Questions ?

The Waters Collaborative



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INQUIRY

Dr. Claudia Luke, Director

Dr. Chris Halle, Project Development

Kerry Winger, Outreach & Communications

**SONOMA
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The WATERS Collaborative

A collaboration of Sonoma Water and the SSU Center for Environmental Inquiry

www.sonoma.edu/waters

The WATERS Collaborative.

- 10-Year partnership between Sonoma Water and SSU
- Goals
 - Trained workforce
 - Solutions to water challenges
 - Public awareness



The WATERS Collaborative

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WATERS Collaborative

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Projects and Data

Rising Waters

Water Experts

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The Virtual Field

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The WATERS Collaborative

Watershed Academics To Enhance Regional Sustainability (WATERS) engages people from all backgrounds and disciplines in finding solutions to water challenges facing the North Bay. Our goals are to:

- create a trained and local workforce of SSU graduates with knowledge and expertise in water management issues.
- increase and broaden SSU contributions to the development of water solutions
- enhance public awareness and understanding of water management issues and the value of academic-management collaborations

Explore Water Projects

by entering "water" at [Search Projects](#)

Unexpected Outcomes

- Re-imagining a university degree: *turning education into action*
- Keeping water in curriculum at Sonoma State
- SSU Climate Action Plan
- Awards
 - 2022 Connie Coddling Humanist
 - 2018 North Bay Leadership



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**Transformative change is
needed across all sectors of
society in the next 10 years**



WATERS: Transforming Higher Education

Vision: All graduates have experience finding solutions to water challenges

- Knowledge of human-environment interactions
- Skilled workers
- Excellent observers, communicators and problem-solvers



How WATERS Works



Academic Engagement

- 233 projects
- 2,749 students (121 courses)
- 20+ partners/yr
- 30 faculty/yr; 15+ depts/yr
- Internships & jobs



Public Outreach

WATERS Support

- SSU Research Symposium
- Website: cei.sonoma.edu/waters
- Media

Match

- Dig into Nature Series
- Public student research events

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Rising Waters

Rising Waters Initiative

- Complex high-priority issues surrounding water
- Neutral meeting ground for diverse partners
- Cross-disciplinary engagement to address cultural, economic and environmental issues
- Facilitated process targeting innovative and practical solutions



Education Into Action

- Rising Waters Working Group identifies issue(s)
- Multi-disciplinary faculty-student teams collect and summarize data
- Collaborative brainstorm for solutions and cost-benefit analysis by teams
- Presentations and reports



Rising Waters supported by:



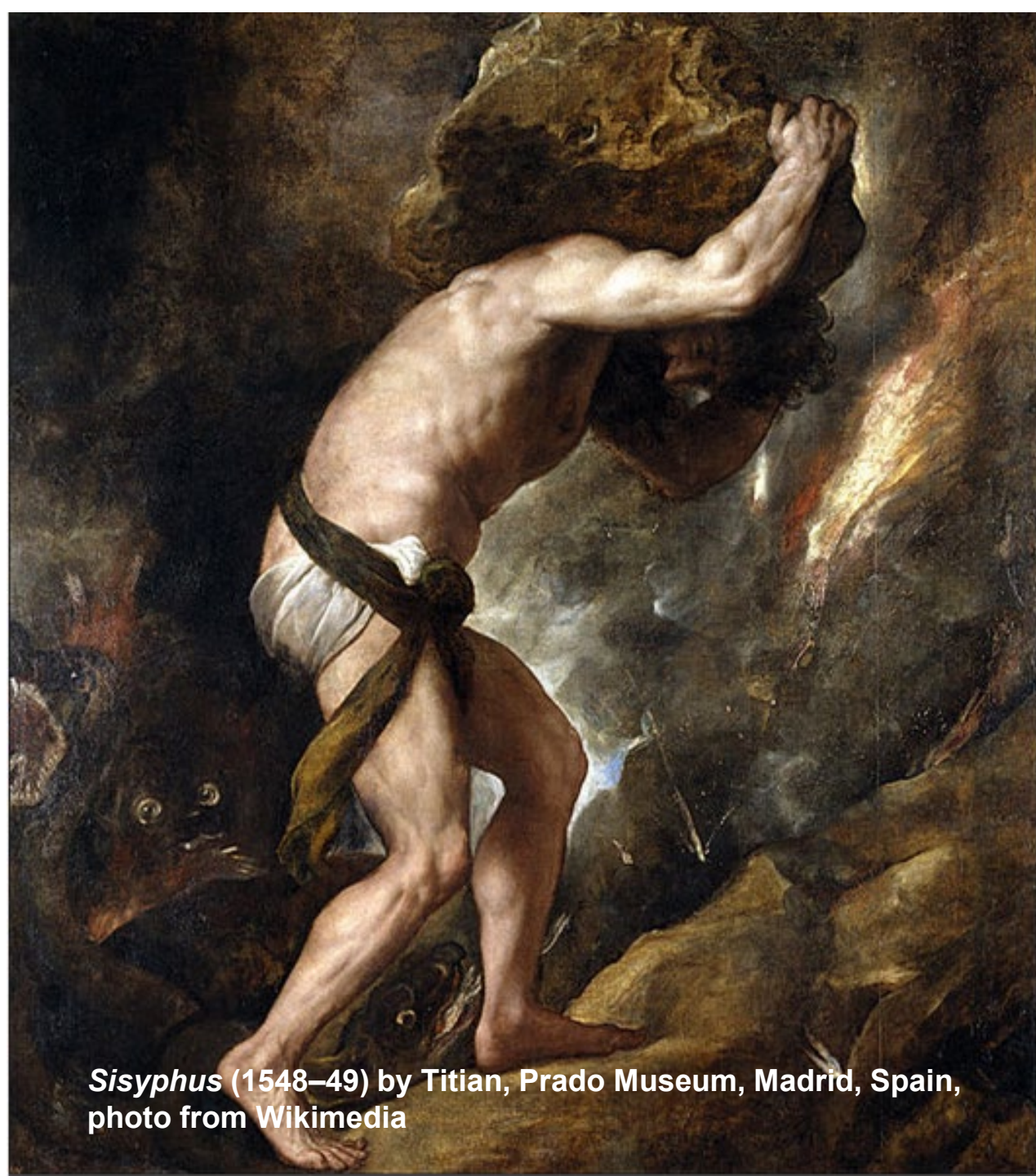
Alexander Leff

Year 2 Steering Committee:

- Michael Thompson, Assistant General Manager, Sonoma Water
- Andy Rogers, Executive Director, Russian River Watershed Association
- Emily Quig, Housing Administrator, City of Rohnert Park
- Lynea Seiberlich-Wheeler, Associate Director of Behavioral Health, West County Health Centers
- Sean McNeil, Deputy Director of Environmental Services, City of Santa Rosa
- Matt St. John, Executive Officer, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Don McEnhill, Executive Director, Russian Riverkeeper

Rising Waters Timeline

- Fall 2018, Spring 2019 - Discussions Begin
- Fall / Spring 2020 - Funding Allocated
- Spring / Summer 2020 - Public Workshops To Hone Questions
- Fall 2020 - Identification of Steering Committee, Further Meetings to Hone Questions
- Fall 2020, - Faculty / Student Research Grants Awarded (including help with “bite sized pieces”)
- May 2021 - Initial Public Workshop Led by Students
- Sept 2021 - Formal Public Workshop (Year 1 Results)



Sisyphus (1548–49) by Titian, Prado Museum, Madrid, Spain, photo from Wikimedia

Year 1-2: Homelessness and Watersheds

- flood protection
- water quality
- sanitation/health
- habitat conservation
- community engagement
- mythbusting

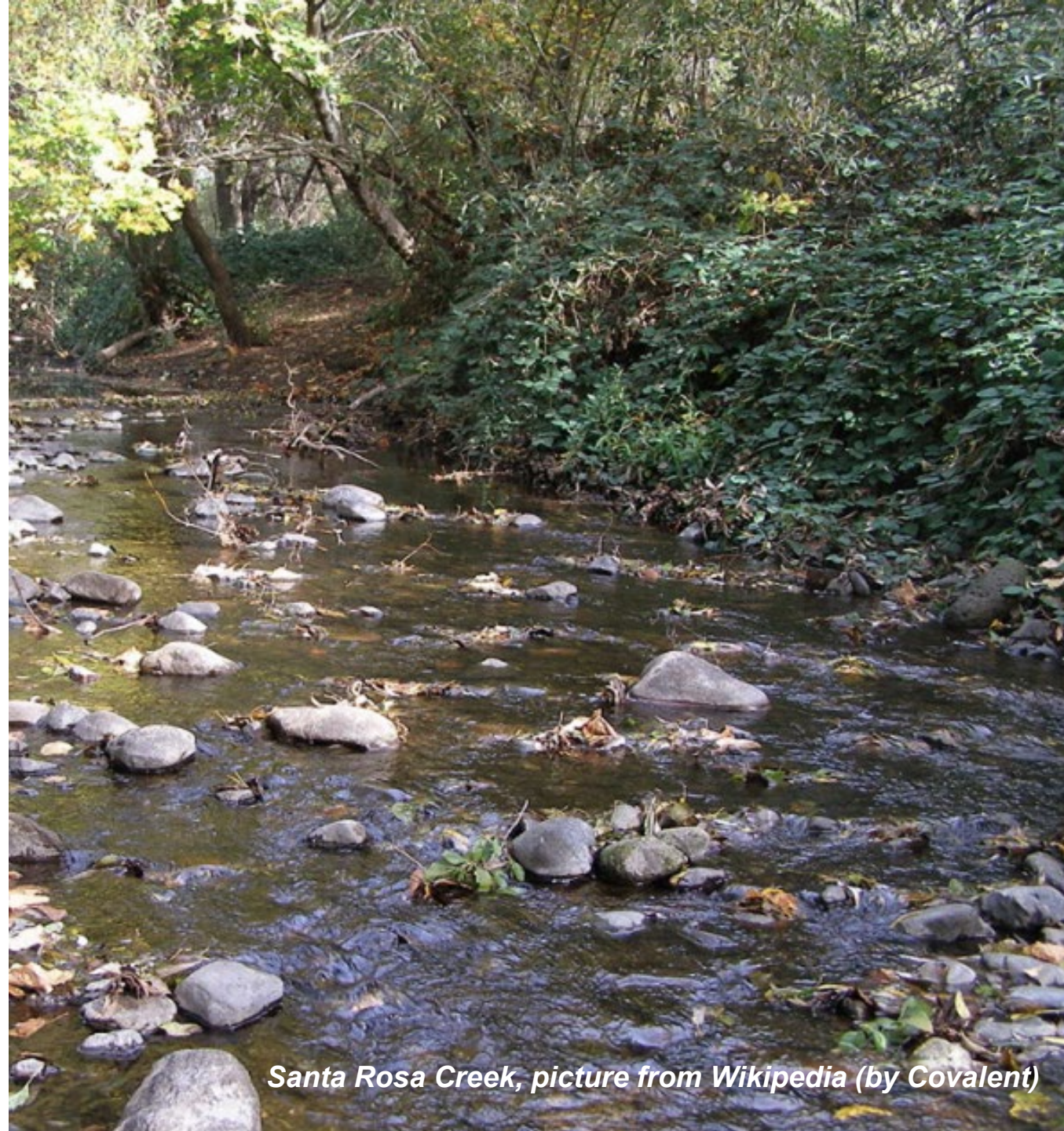


Question 1: Where Are Services Needed to Reduce Water Quality Impacts?

Refined Goal: Resource Mapping, instead of Impact / Location mapping.

Year 1: Dr. David Sul
MPA Candidate Nadine Magallanes
MPA Candidate Matt Roehm
MPA Candidate Jamie Thompson
Graduate Samantha Stevens

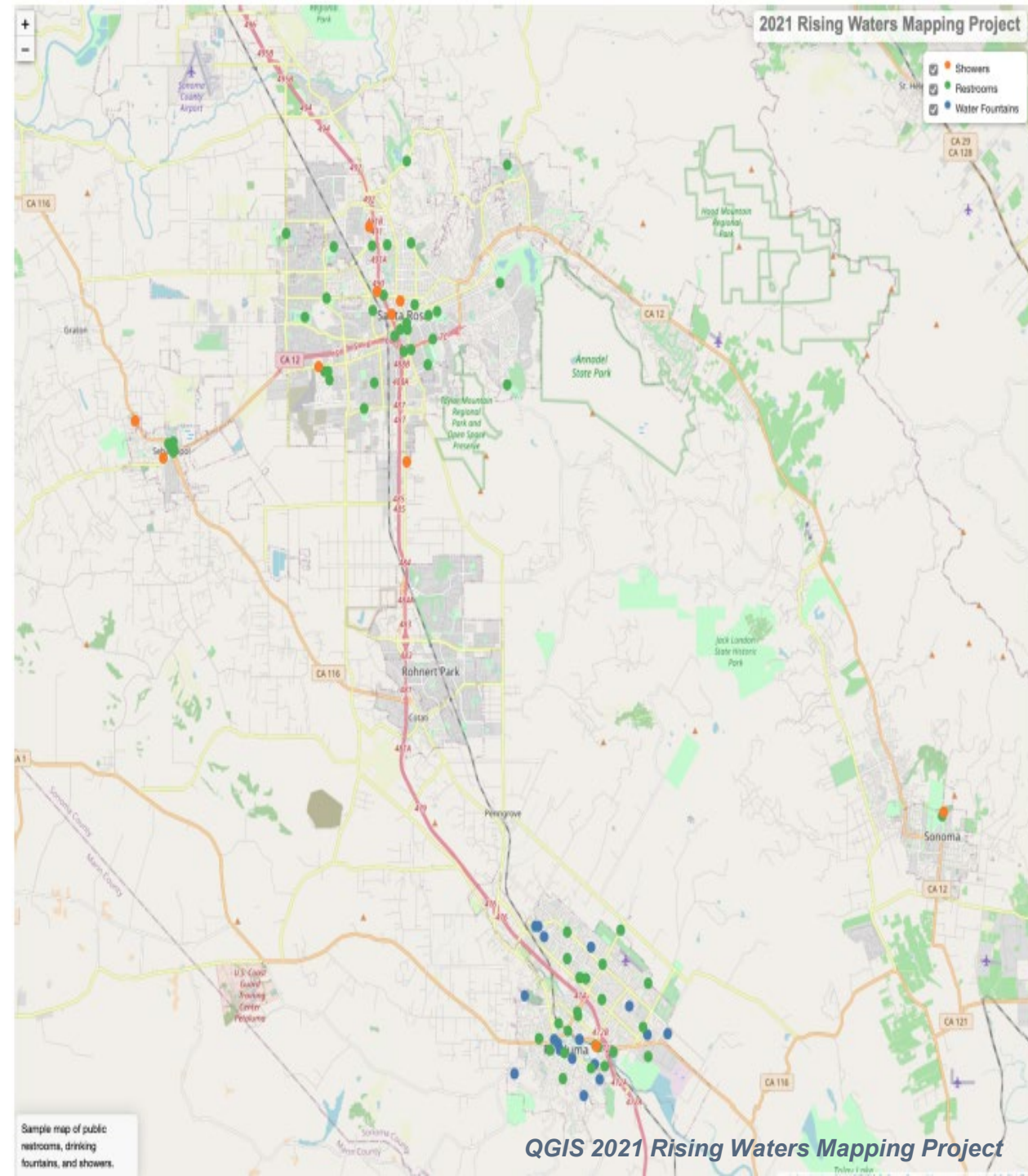
Year 2: Dr. Mark Gondree
Student Kyle Drewes
Student Field Team



Santa Rosa Creek, picture from Wikipedia (by Covalent)

Question 1 - Resource Mapping: Methods / Results

- Two methods developed (open source versus cloud based service)
- Database of restrooms, water fountains, etc. developed
- Cloud based service is easier for sharing, maintainability, and expansion of restroom mapping to general public
- Annual cost for cloud-based service approximately \$600 - \$5,000.



Question 1: Resource Mapping Next Steps?

- Identify funding source for ongoing maintenance of the application.
- Implement security protocols to address privacy and safety issues .
- Compare mapping tool results with water-quality sampling for fecal contamination.
- Add historical observations of trash from previous encampments to better understand distribution through time.
- Add locations of agencies engaged in homeless issues (from Question 3).



Question 2: What are the economic, social and political barriers to providing services to people experiencing homelessness?

Refined Goal Year 1: Investigate the barriers and cost of providing sanitation services. (Team: Dr. Armand Gillinsky, MBA Candidate Lauren Hart, MBA Candidate Itze Pena-Andrade)

Refined Goal Year 2: How can we engage the business community in implementing solutions? (Team: Dr. Nadiya Parekh, Social Entrepreneurship Class Students)



ADA compliant toilet / handwashing station placed next to the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building during COVID. Phot by Lauren Hart.

Question 2: Sanitation Case Studies Methods / Results (Year 1)

- Evaluated 5 Options
- Choice of Option Depends Upon Situation
- **“Do Nothing” Option Can Have Significant Costs**
- SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities) of Rising Waters
- PESTEL Analysis of Homelessness in Sonoma County



Portable Toilets

Mobile Shower / Restroom
Trailer

Portland Loo

Expanded Hours at Existing
Facilities

Doing Nothing

Question 2: Sanitation Case Studies Methods / Results (Year 2)

- Root causes of the “wicked problem” of water & homelessness evaluated
- Identify what has already been tried and *is* working, and what has already been tried and *is not* working
- *Suggest social enterprise solutions based on each root cause and what has already been tried*



LavaMae Bus. *Courtesy of photographer Henrik Kam, San Francisco USA.*

Question 2: Sanitation Case Studies: “Doing Nothing”

- Hazardous Waste: up to \$60,000 per clean up event.
- Law Suits (e.g. violation of the Clean Water Act): up to \$100M
- Public Health Risks: The 2016-2018 California Hepatitis A outbreak was attributed to lack of handwashing and restroom facilities for persons experiencing homelessness.
- Costs that were not quantified in the study: social, environmental, recreation, tourism.



Question 2: Sanitation Case Studies Next Steps? (I)

- Identify if additional economic cost evaluations (e.g., social, environmental, recreation, health) are needed by organizations and agencies to justify the need for sanitation services.
- Work through the entire installation process with government officials at selected sites to identify the legal and logistic process of installing and funding a new station. Include social barriers as part of the study.



Portland Loo, Santa Rosa City Hall Annex, March 2021. Photo by Itze Peña-Andrade.

Question 2: Sanitation Case Studies Next Steps? (II)

- Expand study to characterize social and political barriers.
- Explore whether cities or the county can receive credits from water quality regulators for providing restrooms and sanitation. Is there an appropriate set of guidelines or a framework to receive credits?
- Gauge interest with city officials in implementing some of the proposals to engage the business community.



Portland Loo, Santa Rosa City Hall Annex, March 2021. Photo by Itze Peña-Andrade.

Question 3: How Can we better align investments across all sectors?

Refined Goal: Develop an inventory of organizations and individuals that work on homeless issues in Sonoma County. Interview advocates and summarize pressing issues. Begin exploring presenting this inventory in a “knowledge map”.

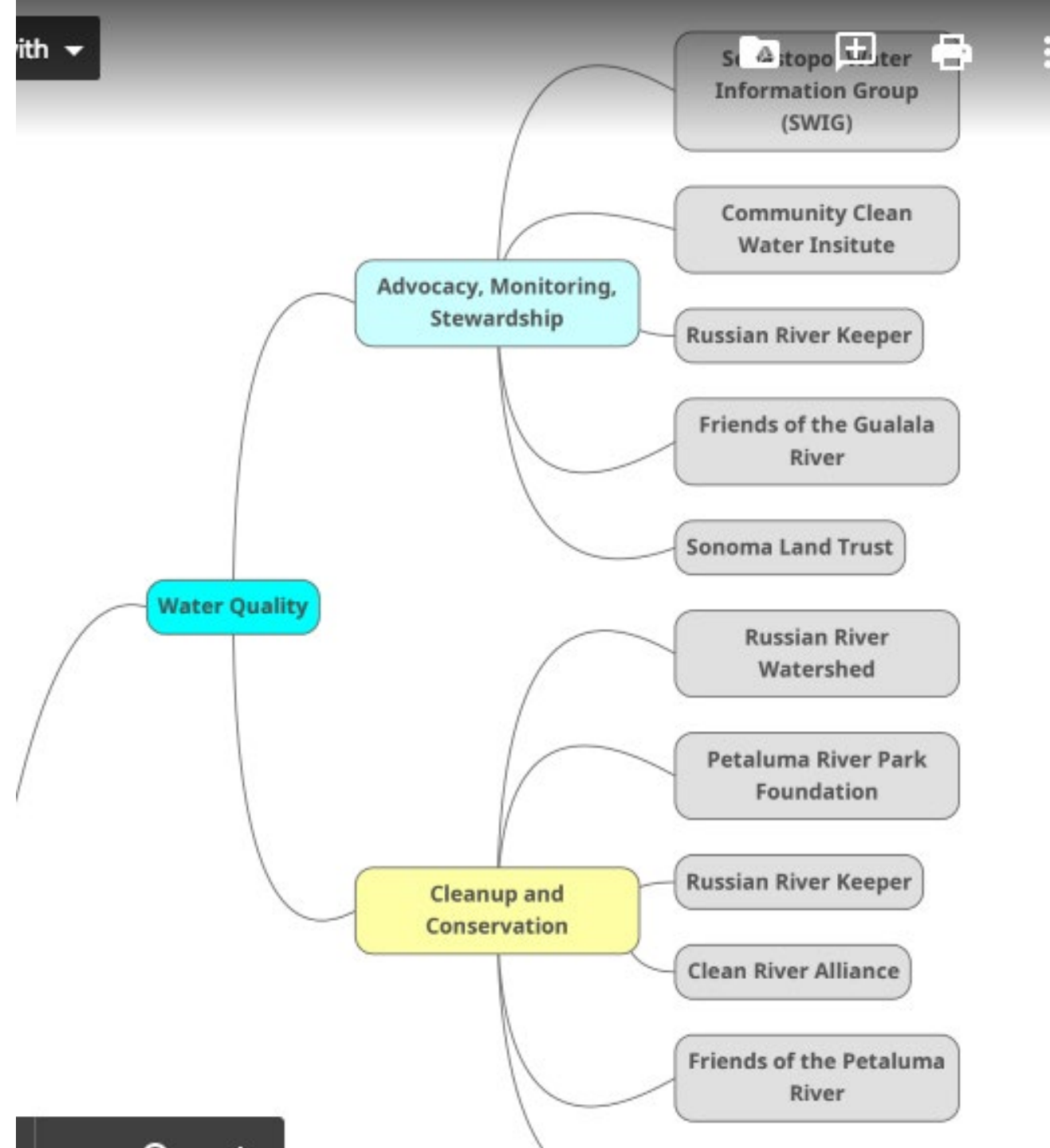
Year 1: Dr. Megan Burke, Deborah Barrera, Lauren Williams, Camille Babida

Year 2: Emily Dewing, Darryl Maney, Teo Minkoff, Anna Ristaino

B	C	D
Mobile Shower Trailer (Catholic Charities)		
Redwood Gospel Mission		
Community Church of Sebastopol	Hot showers available in Memorial Hall, complete with soap, shampoo & towels. Warm socks, underwear, sweat pants & jackets as available.	S
The Haven (Sonoma Overnight Support)	Showers, laundry, food, bus passes, computers & case management for Sonoma & Sonoma Valley residents in need. Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 9am-1:30pm. Fri 1:30-4:30pm	CS
St. Paul's Episcopal Church	Daytime showers Tues 2-5pm. Wed 2-4pm. Thu & Fri 10am-4pm. Se habla español.	H
Buckelew Programs	Family Service Coordination, housing, independent living skills, and employment services for adults with mental illness. Family Service Coordinator (FSC): free education, support & assistance with accessing community resources & navigating mental health system for anyone with an adult family member or loved one with a mental illness.	SR
	For very low income families &	

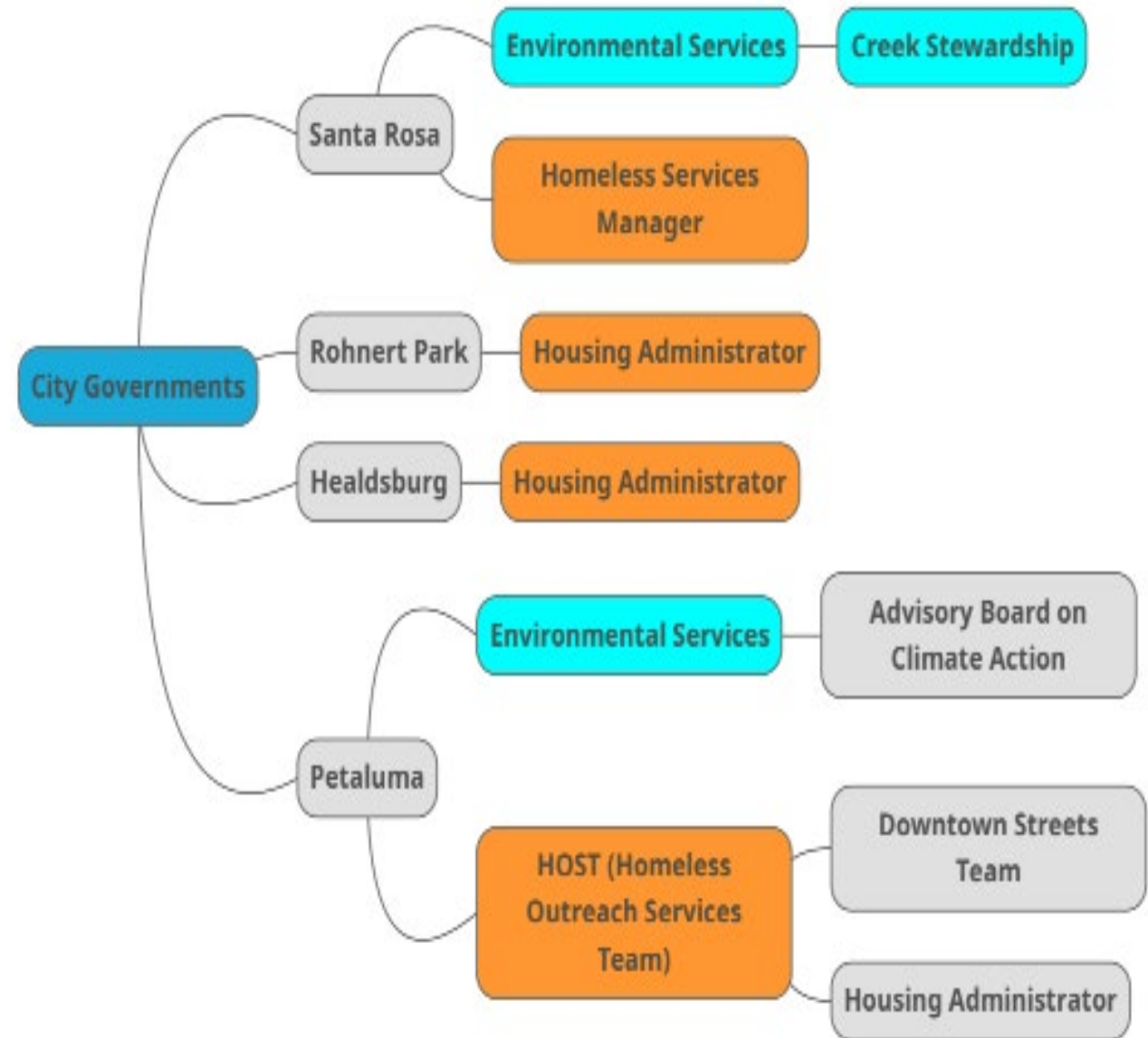
Question 3: Knowledge Mapping Methods / Results

- Initial database of 150 stakeholder organizations developed, with 33 interviewed, and more than double that contacted. Interviewees often preferred to remain anonymous.
- Education is key, even among advocates / stakeholders.
- Flexible steady funding approach identified as major stumbling block.



Question 3: Knowledge Mapping Next Steps? (I)

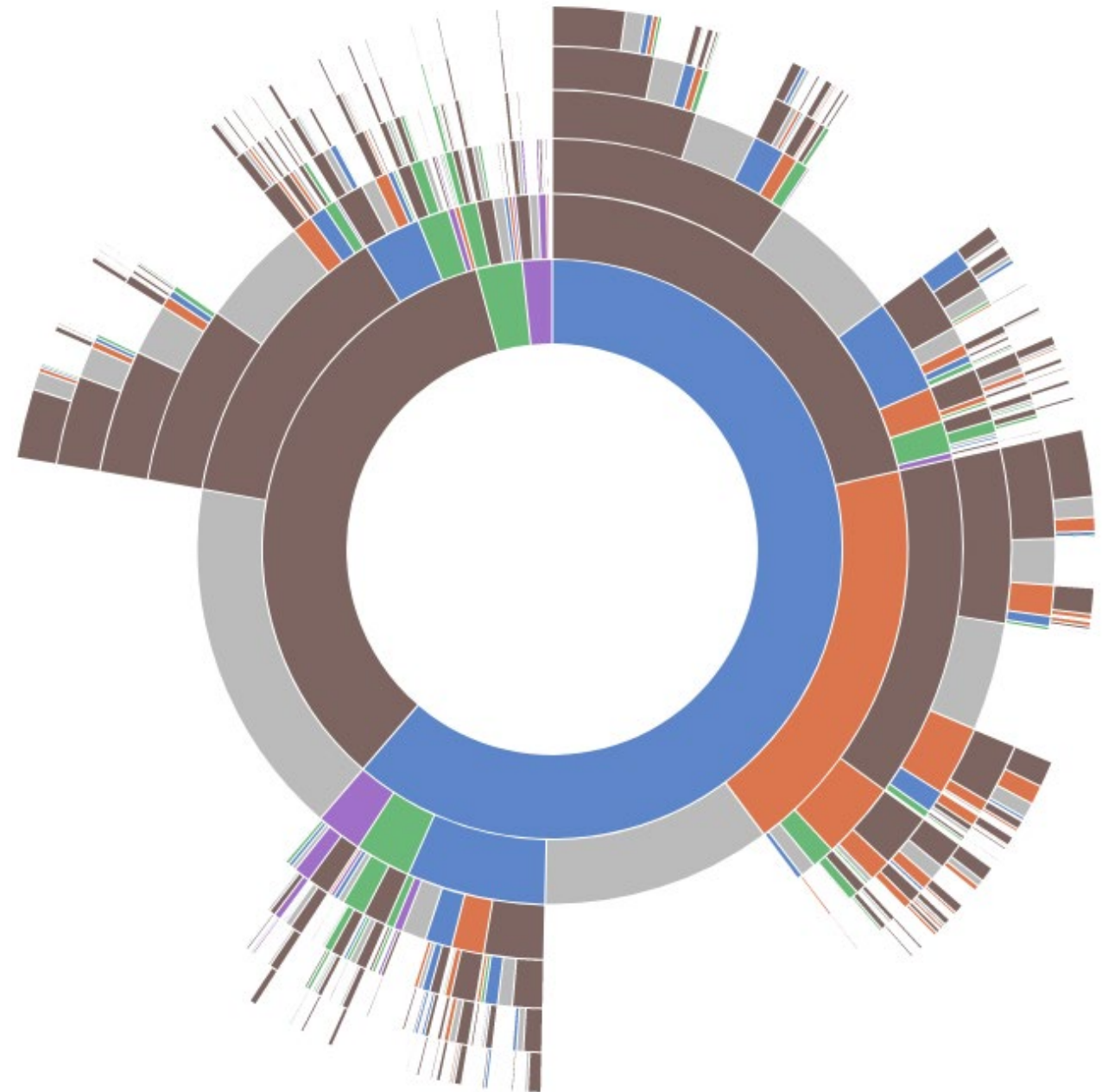
- Email and phone contact was difficult with many of these organizations. With the relaxation of COVID restrictions, perform in person interviews?
- Use the mapping tool app (Question 1) to create a map of locations where organizations provide services to people experiencing homelessness.
- Quantify the value (reduction in human and social cost) of using the knowledge map to better coordinate efforts.



Question 3: Knowledge Mapping Next Steps?

(II)

- Decide on a graphical presentation (example map from: <https://observablehq.com/@kerryrodden/sequences-sunburst>)
- Work with legislators to reduce the “silo effect” of distributing funds.
- Provide list of organizations to County Board of Supervisors to include with the KPMG report.



Additional Question: Addressing NIMBY (Social Media Campaign)

Misconceptions and frustration were encountered by all Year 1 student teams. Some of these occurred even among public and homeless advocates.

Project: Begin to develop an Education / Public Media / Story Campaign about homelessness and water issues.

Team: Dr. Emily Acosta-Lewis, Catherine Eisenhauer, Priscilla Navas, Paige Wear, and SSU's Intro to Public Relations course students



Homeless Shelters at Finley Community Center.
Picture courtesy of Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

Additional Year 2 Question: Social Media Campaign (NIMBY)

Items Developed:

- Public Relations plan
- Media product library
 - Social media posts
 - Poster presentation
 - Flyers
 - News Release

Work Planned to Continue, Seeking Input

In Development: Water Quality Sampling

- Field Work May Be Possible This Coming Season
- Clearly document / establish link between homeless encampments and water quality issues?
- What kind of water are individuals experiencing homelessness exposed to?
- Can cities receive credits for cleaning areas impacted by camps?



Academic Year 2022 - 2023

- **Resource Mapping:** Identify funding and ownership?
Student-run event for feedback then update features?
- **Sanitation:** Continue Study? Mock-facility installation?
Shift to Engagement of Business Community?
- **Knowledge Mapping:** Engage with Board of Supervisors? Move to in-person outreach? Create a graphical map? Fit results into KPMG report? Work on power & water stations with Lehigh University?
- **Public Relations:** Implement the PR plan? Create new content (e.g., interviews)? Present to city councils?
- **Water Quality Sampling:** Begin Sampling?



Feedback?

- Would you like to be involved?
- Do you have suggestions for the coming year?
- Is the information useful?
- Do you agree with the next steps we outlined? Are there next steps we missed?



Transformative Impact

“ I am walking away with valuable skills: teamwork, leadership, communication, and creativity. ”

Nicole Manzares

Get Involved

- **Three Year Renewal May 2023**
- Students to work on your projects?
- Public outreach?
- Topics for Rising Waters Teams?
- Education collaborations? (Water Education Center)
- See more projects:
cei.sonoma.edu/waters

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A G E N C Y

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<http://cei.sonoma.edu/waters/about>

Chris Halle: halle@sonoma.edu

Claudia Luke: lukec@sonoma.edu

Kerry Winger:
winingek@sonoma.edu



PERMANENT
SUPPORTIVE
HOUSING (PSH) RENT
CALCULATION

Thai Hilton

November 22, 2022

BACKGROUND

- PSH programs are required to calculate a program participant's rent unless their rent is subsidized by another agency, like the housing authority.
- Regulations/guidance that cover rent calculation
 - 24 CFR 578.77(b) Programs using leasing funds
 - 24 CFR 578.66(c) Programs using rental assistance funds
 - Sonoma County CoC PSH standards.

WHEN TO CALCULATE RENT

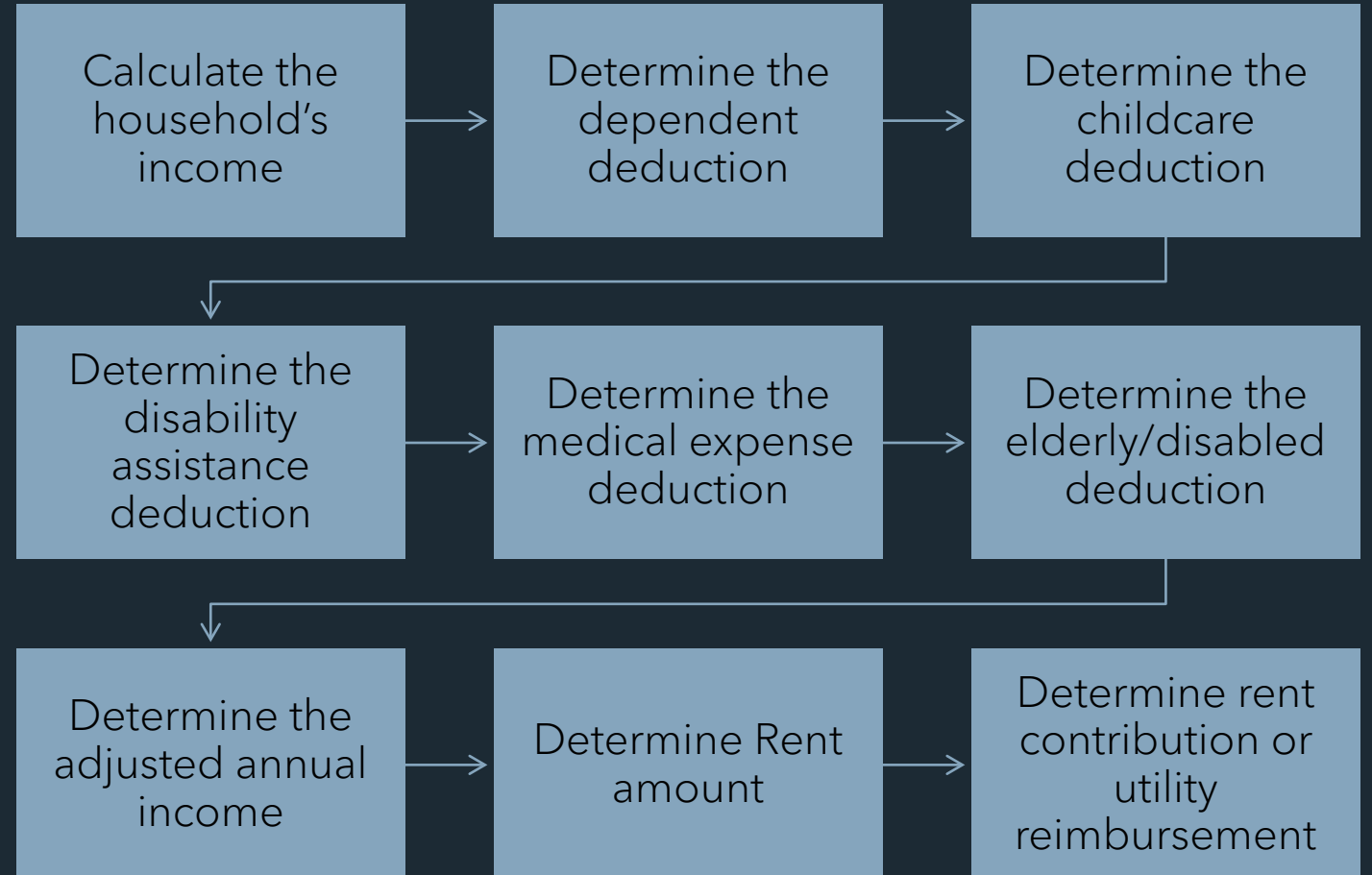
- Program participant's rent must be calculated
 - Initially
 - Annually
 - When there is a change in household composition (birth of a child, someone leaves the house)
 - When a program participant's income decreases
 - If the program participant requests and interim reexamination



WHAT DO PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS PAY FOR RENT?

- Program participants pay the *highest* of the following
 - 30 percent of the family's monthly adjusted income (as outlined at Part 5.609 and 5.611(a));
 - 10 percent of the family's monthly gross income; or
 - If the family is receiving payments for welfare assistance from a public agency and a part of the payments (adjusted in accordance with the family's actual housing costs) is specifically designated by the agency to meet the family's housing costs, the portion of the payments that is designated for housing costs.

9-STEP PROCESS FOR CALCULATING RENT



CALCULATE HOUSEHOLD INCOME

01

Identify household members

02

Count the annual income of the head of household, spouse or co-head and other family members 18 and older.

03

Determine if the income is included or excluded.

DETERMINE THE DEPENDENT DEDUCTION

Identify the number of dependents in the household. A dependent is a person who relied on another, especially a family member, for financial support. Examples of dependents are: persons under the age of 18, a household member who is disabled or handicapped, or a full-time student.

Subtract a Dependent Allowance of \$480 per dependent from the annual income.

DETERMINE THE CHILDCARE DEDUCTION

01

Identify the anticipated, reasonable childcare costs for children under age 13 (including foster children) that will allow a household member to work or pursue an education.

02

Subtract any portion of that amount that will be a reimbursement.

03

Deduct the anticipated, reasonable, unreimbursed costs from the annual income.

DETERMINE THE DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DEDUCTION

Identify the anticipated reasonable costs of either:

Attendant care for a disabled household member provided by a non-household member or

An "auxiliary apparatus" (e.g. Wheelchair, ramps) that enables a disabled household member or another household member to work.

Subtract any portion of that amount that will be reimbursed.

Subtract from the annual income anticipated, reasonable, unreimbursed costs that exceed 3 percent of the gross income up to the amount of earned income by the adult household member(s) as a result of disabled assistance.

DETERMINE THE MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION

- Identify the anticipated, reasonable costs of medical expenses incurred if the head of household, their spouse, or the sole household member is:
 - At least 62 years of age; or,
 - Handicapped or disabled
- *Subtract any portion of that amount that will be reimbursed.*
- *Subtract from the annual income anticipated, reasonable, unreimbursed costs that exceed 3 percent of the gross income.*

DETERMINE THE ELDERLY/DISABLED HOUSEHOLD DEDUCTION

Determine whether the head of household, their spouse, or co-head (or the sole member of the household) is:

- At least 62 years old
- Handicapped or disabled

If yes, then the household is entitled to a \$400 elderly/disabled Household Deduction (each family is limited to only one deduction even if multiple members of the household qualify for this deduction)

DETERMINE THE ADJUSTED ANNUAL INCOME

- Calculate the total income adjustment (the sum of):
 - Dependent Deduction
 - Childcare deduction
 - Disabled assistance deduction
 - Medical expenses deduction
 - Elderly/disabled household deduction
- Subtract the total income adjustments from the total annual income

DETERMINE THE RENT AMOUNT

- Calculate the following values:
 - *30 percent of the monthly adjusted income (divide the adjusted annual income by 12 and multiply by 0.3)*
 - *10 percent of Monthly Gross income (divide the Total Annual Income by 12 and multiply by 0.1)*
 - *The portion of the family's welfare assistance, if any, that is designated for housing costs.*
- In PSH with rental assistance, the rental amount is the highest of these figures.
- In projects supporting housing with leasing, the occupancy charge or rent cannot exceed the highest of these figures.

DETERMINING THE RENT CONTRIBUTION OR UTILITY REIMBURSEMENT


The amount of rent must be adjusted by the pre-determined reasonable utility consumption amount when the program participant is required to pay for utilities.

For example, if the program participant's rent contribution is \$300, as determined above, and the reasonable monthly utility consumption amount is \$40 then the program participant is only required to contribute \$260 in rent. The recipient must pay the difference between \$260 and the rent specified on the program participant's lease.

Utility Reimbursement: If/when the recipient or subrecipient deducts the reasonable monthly utility consumption amount from the program participant's rent contribution or maximum occupancy charge amount (as determined by 24 CFR 578.77(c) or 24 CFR 578.77(b) respectively), the calculation equals a number less than \$0, then the recipient or subrecipient **must provide a utility reimbursement to the program participant.**



QUESTIONS



Continuum of Care and Committee Updates




Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee

THAI HILTON, COORDINATED ENTRY COORDINATOR

Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee (CEA) Updates

- CEA continues to update policies and procedures based on feedback to further refine the system
- HomeFirst completed their first quarterly CE performance evaluation. They hosted an input session on December 16th.
- In the next 6 months, the community will begin the process of redesigning the CES system, including developing a new assessment tool.



Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAP) Updates

Chessy Etheridge

Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP) Updates

- ▶ Currently composed of 12 board members; representing Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Healdsburg, Petaluma, Sonoma, Windsor and Guerneville
- ▶ Currently accepting applications to fill vacant seats on LEAP Board (2 remaining)
- ▶ Participated in constructing both City of Santa Rosa and County of Sonoma's Strategic Plans
- ▶ Recently provided feedback for Coordinated Entry case conferencing and policy design
- ▶ Re-elected Chessy Etheridge to the Lived Experience seat on the CoC Board
- ▶ Re-vamping long-term and short-term priorities
- ▶ Have members serving on all active standing committees of CoC Board, including Strategic Planning, Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Funding and Evaluation committees
- ▶ Meets privately every 2 weeks on Fridays at noon
- ▶ Operates under Rosenberg's Rules of Order
- ▶ All community members with lived experience of homelessness interested in becoming involved are welcome to contact Andrew Akufo, Andrew.Akufo@Sonoma-County.org or 405-213-9957

Funding and Evaluation Committee

- ▶ Teddie Pierce, Funding & Evaluation Committee Chair

F&E – ESG-CV Project Evaluation

- ESG-CV Bonus Funding approx \$300,000
- Final expenditure date Sept 30, 2023
- Earmarked for Rapid ReHousing HUD project types
- Two providers opted out of funding consideration
- Funding amount recommendations will be sent to the CoC Board on January 25, 2023
- Keep in mind:
 - Evaluation tool lists selected data elements relevant to the RRH project type and overall homeless system areas
 - Tool combines compliance, cost analysis, equity and exit impact
 - Today's tool and process serve as a prototypes for future & deeper evaluations
 - Time constraints on the item necessitate staying on track for first hour of the meeting
 - Compile thoughts for improvements - email by Jan 31st



CoC Strategic Planning Committee

KARISSA WHITE, COC COORDINATOR

Strategic Planning Committee Update

- The Strategic Plan was unanimously approved by the CoC Board on December 14, 2022, and can be found on the CoC website
- The Plan will go before the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors for approval. Tentative date is January 31st
- Staff are working on activating the implementation plan starting with year 1 priorities and the Strategic Plan rollout/communications
- The next CoC Strategic Planning Committee mtg is set for February 17th from 9-10:30am and is open to the public

HMIS Data Committee Updates

- ▶ Araceli Rivera, Homeless Project Specialist

HMIS/Data Committee Updates

- ▶ Committee has been meeting regularly since June 2021
- ▶ Worked on and approved a new CES/HMIS Release of Information form with CEA Committee that is now pending CoC Board approval.
- ▶ Continues to evaluate public facing data and information to improve the way it is communicated. The Homeless Data page on the Community Development Commission's website can be found here –
<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/Homeless-Services/Continuum-of-Care/Homeless-Data/>
- ▶ The group meets on the second Monday of each month. More info and access to meetings and materials can be found here -
<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/Homeless-Services/Continuum-of-Care/HMIS-Data-Committee/>.



Questions ?

PLEASE RAISE YOUR VIRTUAL HAND.



Community Updates

Opportunity for open discussion with attendees to provide program updates, ask questions, and converse over issues related to homelessness.

Thank You!