

Workshop 5.06: Addressing Basic Needs for People Sleeping Outside



Mari Castaldi (Moderator)

mcastaldi@cbpp.org

Director of State Housing Policy, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities

Aundrea Braniff

Aundrea.BRANIFF@lanecountyor.gov

Outreach and Coordinated Entry Supervisor, Lane County Human Services

Semone Andu

sandu@kingcounty.gov

Regional Health Administrator, Health Care for the Homeless Network, Public Health – Seattle & King County

Nicole Martinez

nmartinez@mvchlc.org

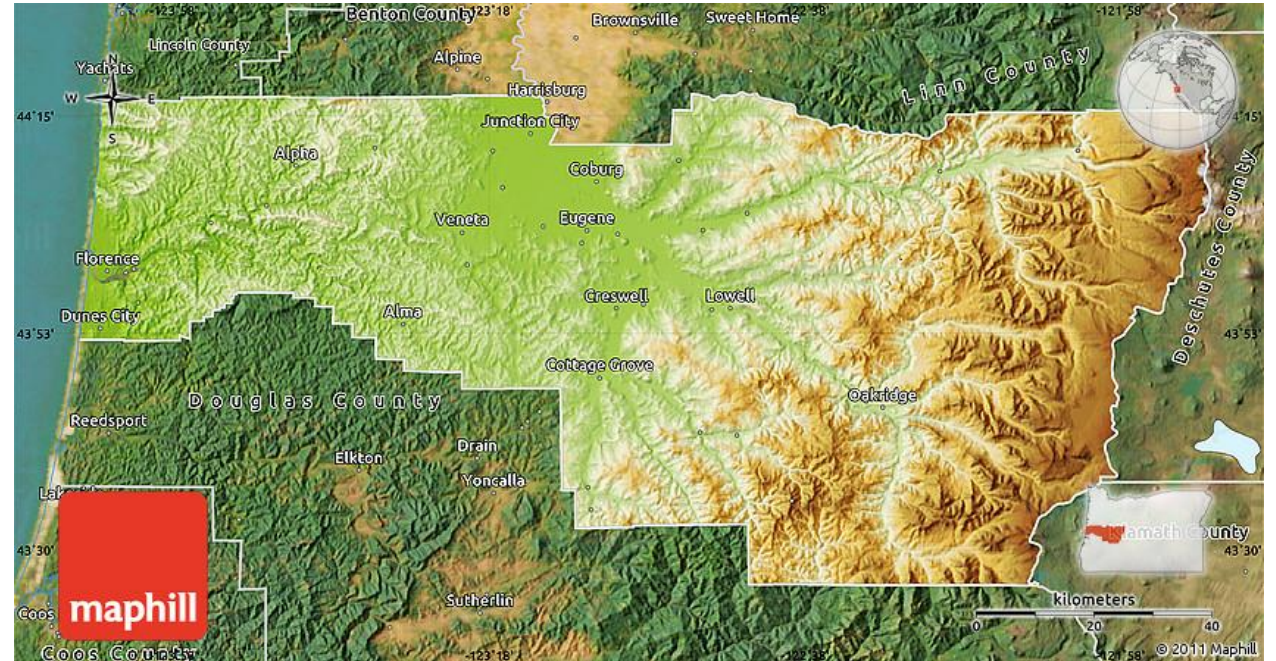
Executive Director, Mesilla Valley Community of Hope

Learn about strategies taken in communities to ensure unhoused neighbors have regular access to basic necessities, including (but not limited to) showers, toilet facilities, clean drinking water, clean water for washing, personal hygiene products, toiletries, and trash collection.



Lane County, Oregon

- 2024 PIT: 2,069 people unsheltered, 989 people sheltered
- Lane County Human Services Division is the CoC Applicant and Community Action Agency
- Governor Tina Kotek- ALL IN Executive Order: Shelter, Rehousing, Outreach

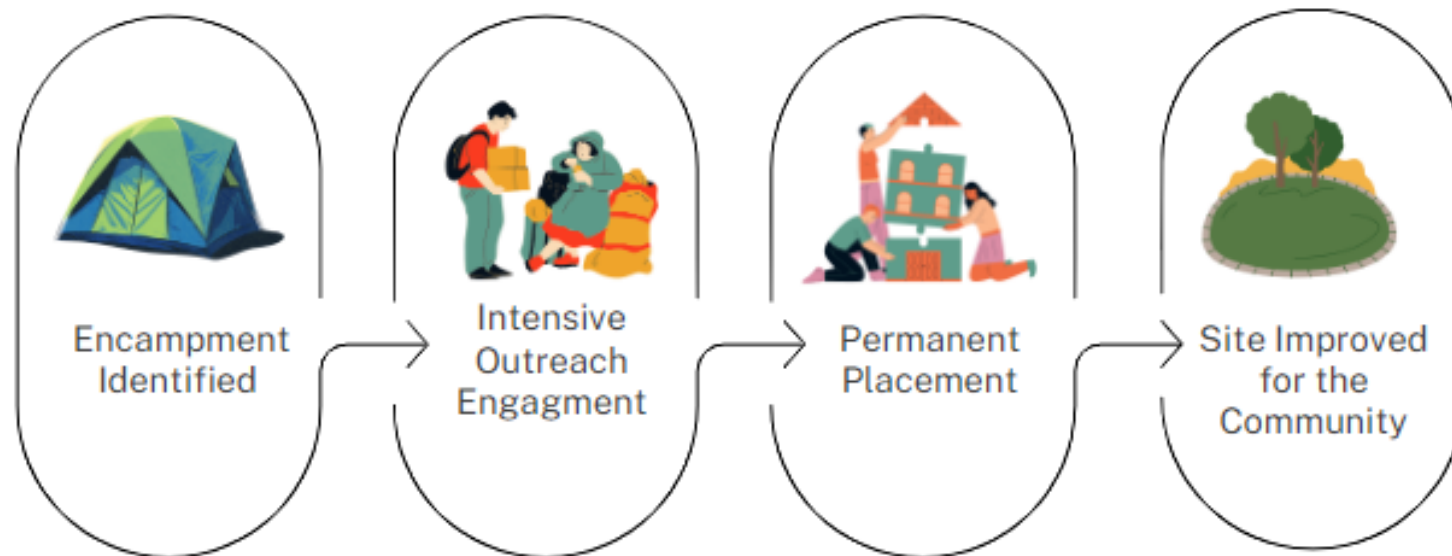


**Size of Connecticut!*

Bringing People Home.

Encampment Focused Street Outreach

- “Encampment”: 5-30 residents & the site has existed for more than 30-days.

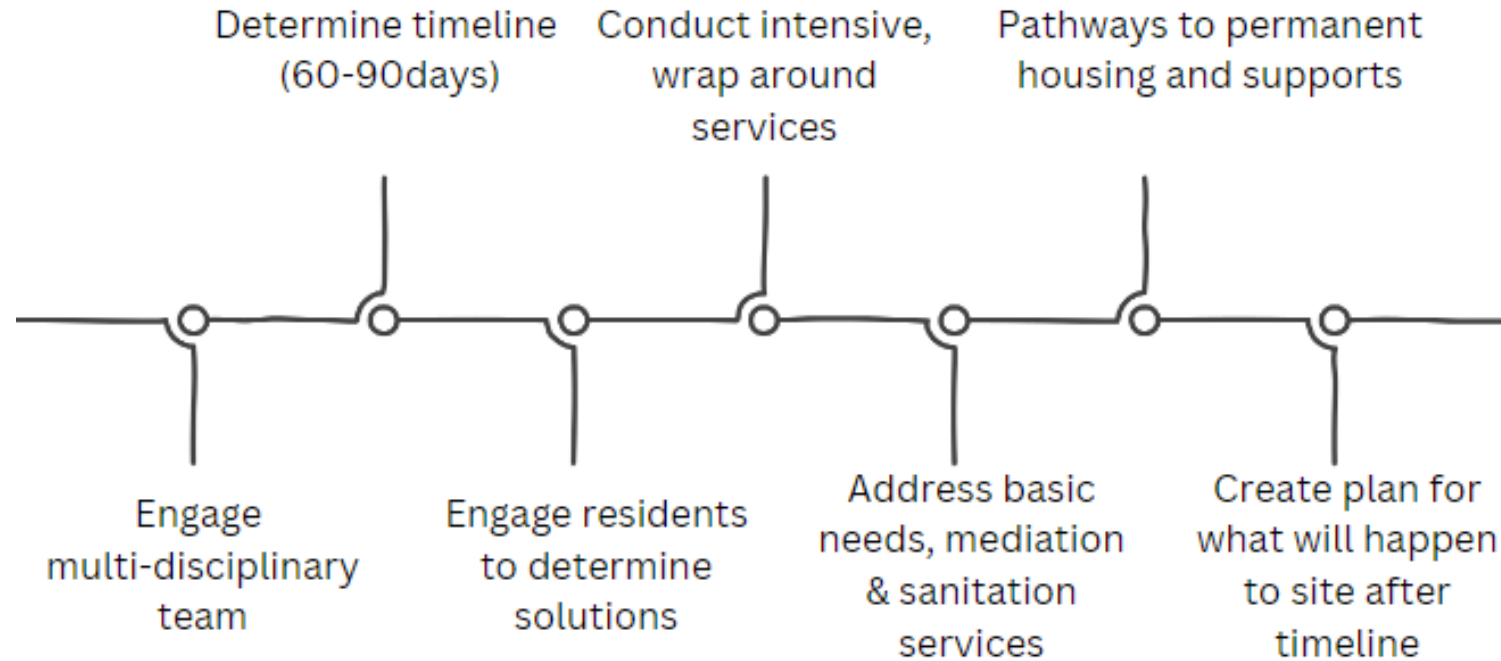


Multi-disciplinary Approach

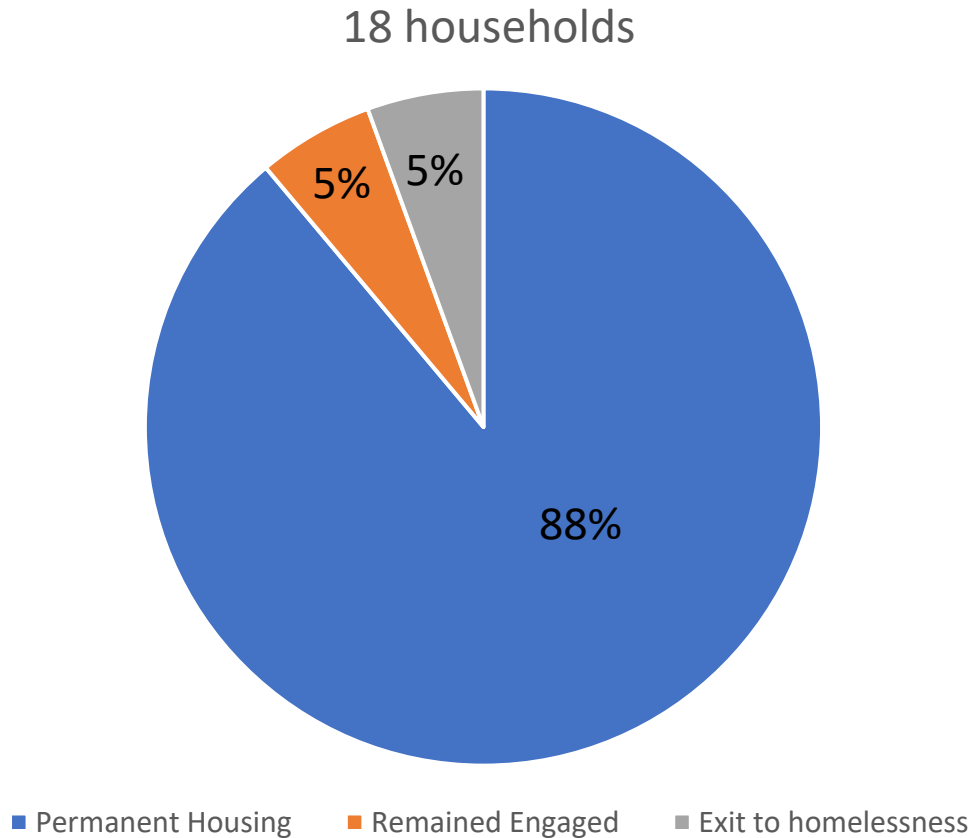


Bringing People Home.

Encampment-Focused Outreach, Process



Encampment-Focused Outreach, Outcomes



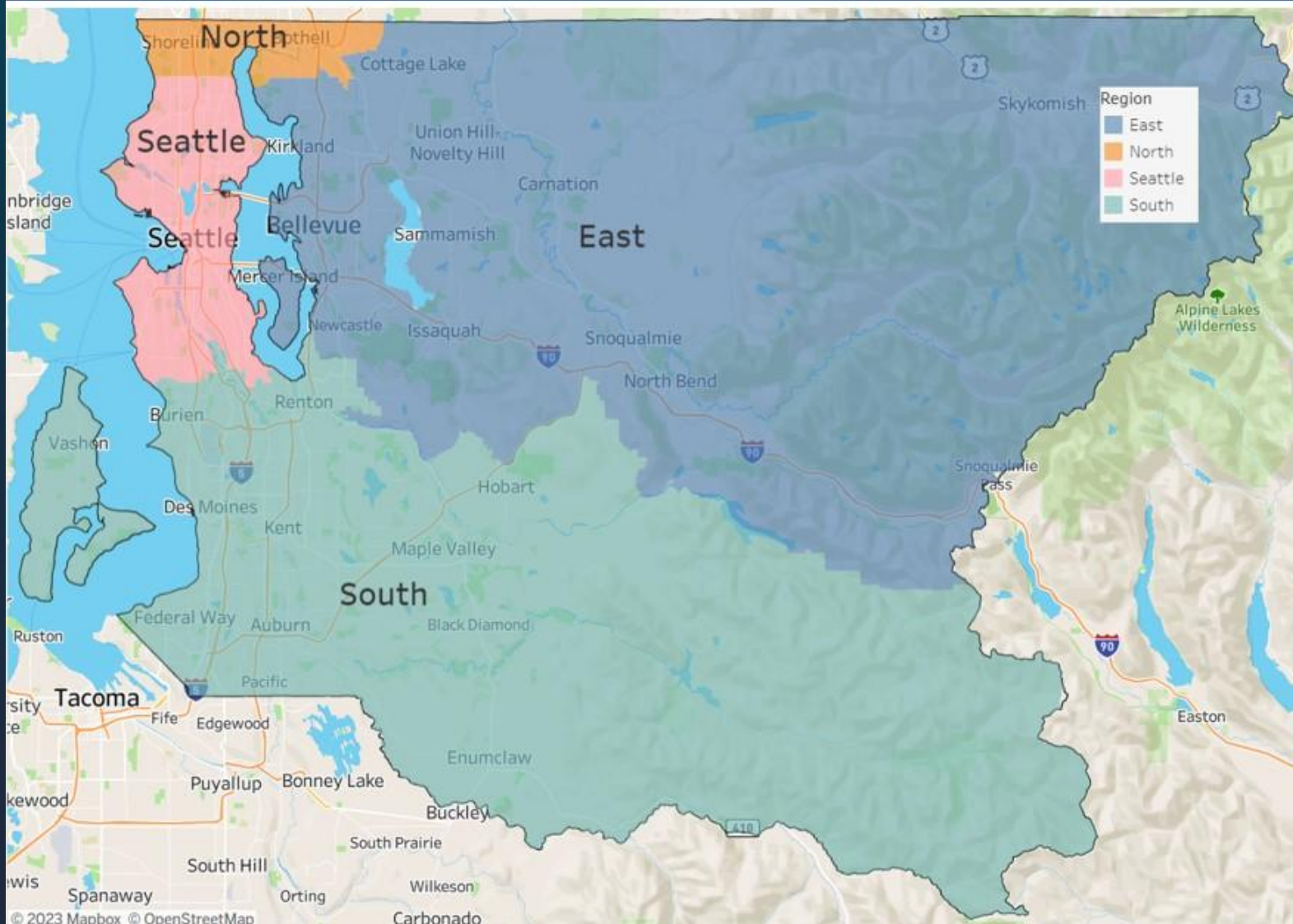
Strengths

- Partnerships with Public Works
- By-name list
- Timeline
- Relationship building between housed neighbors and camp
- Site maintenance and hygiene
- Celebrating participating businesses
- Flexible Funds
- Unit Access

Encampment-Focused Outreach, Challenges

- Identifying encampments.
- Buy-in from other municipalities
- Available connections housing and shelter

Our Service Area: King County, Washington



2,115 sq. miles of land

13th most populous county in U.S.

82 ZIP codes in King Co.

- 20,359/21,648 (94%) patients reported from all 82 of King Co. ZIP codes in CY 2022
- 1,289 (6%) patients reported in a ZIP outside King Co.

Region	# UDS Visits	%
Seattle	96,980	83%
South	17,130	15%
East	2,427	2%
North	152	<1%
Total	116,689	

Cities with the largest homeless populations in 2024

Among 271 city, suburban, or urban continuums of care

	Area	State	Homeless population 2024
1	New York City	NY	140,134
2	Los Angeles City & County	CA	71,201
3	Chicago	IL	18,836
4	Seattle/King County	WA	16,868
5	Metropolitan Denver	CO	14,281
6	San Diego City and County	CA	10,605
7	San Jose/Santa Clara City & County	CA	10,394

Growing Political Pressure

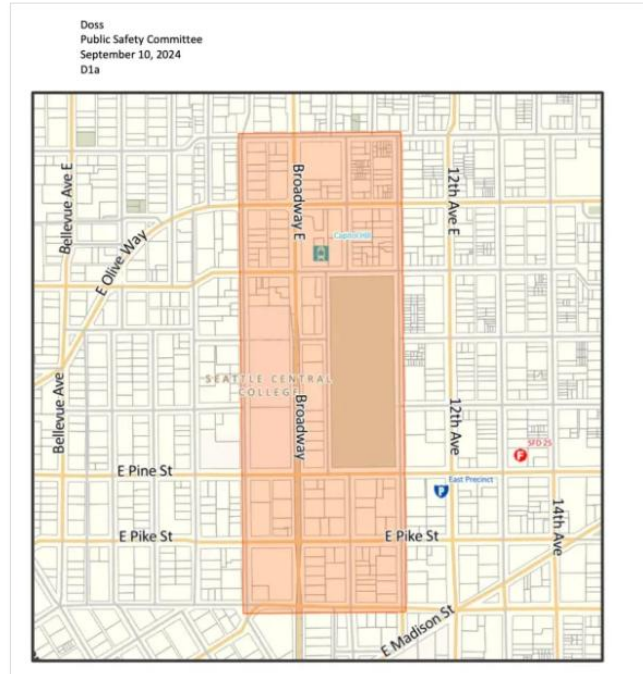
SODA and SOAP — Seattle City Council approves return of exclusion zones including new Capitol Hill 'Stay out of Drug Area'

Posted on [Wednesday, September 18, 2024](#) - 8:24 am by [jseattle](#)



Residents rally in support of tenant rights and housing for all in Seattle, December 2017. Photo by Alex Garland/Backbone Campaign

Seattle conducted more than 900 sweeps of homeless people in 2022



Over half of Seattle voters cite homelessness as top safety concern, poll says

By Spencer Pauley | The Center Square | Mar 9, 2023



Current Projects and Investments in King County

Health Through Housing Initiative



The Health Through Housing (HTH) Initiative is an innovative approach that accelerates our region's response to chronic homelessness.

King County is partnering with host cities to create up to 1,600 units of emergency housing and permanent supportive housing for people experiencing or at risk of chronic homelessness.

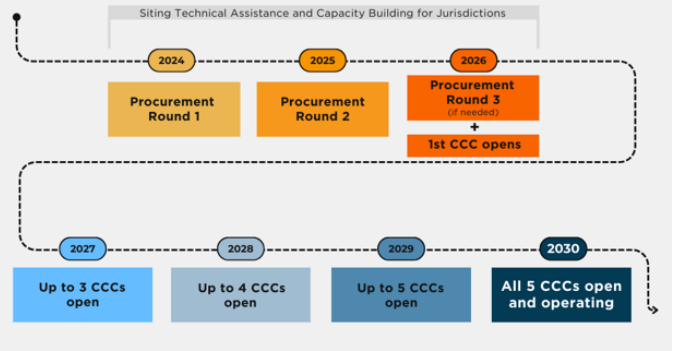
Washington plans half a million affordable homes in 20 years

At the beginning of this week, the state released a plan to tackle the housing crisis. The plan outlines how the state is preparing to add more than a million new homes in Washington in the next 20 years, with half of those being affordable housing. It also provides a roadmap of the housing crisis, along with recommendations.

The state determined those who make less than 50% of the median family income (MFI) qualify for affordable housing. The [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD) created a map showing different levels of income throughout Washington in 2022.



Crisis Care Centers Estimated Implementation Timeline



Our Traditional Mobile Medical Structure



Needs Assessment



Nursing



Behavioral Health



Medical Exams



Transition to Three Street Medicine Teams

- Health checks and assessments
- Sexual Health Screenings
- Wound & Foot care
- Birth control and pregnancy tests
- Narcan overdose training and kits
- Suboxone
- Immunizations
- Coordination of behavioral health services
- Referrals to medical, behavioral health and housing

Strategies to Address Current Challenges

- **Center and Engage the Community Consistently** – Prioritize inclusivity by ensuring that those affected are part of the decision-making process (“Nothing About Us Without Us”).
- **Center Equity and Address the Needs of the Invisible Homeless Population** – Recognize and support those experiencing hidden homelessness, including **doubled-up households**, Asylum Seekers/ the Immigrant population and individuals impacted by **gun violence /the prison industrial complex**.
- **Expand Mobile Medical Outreach** – Transition mobile medical teams into dedicated street teams for direct, on-the-ground support.
- **Increase Respite Spaces** – Expand access to safe, supportive spaces for individuals in need of recovery and care. This includes finding creative ways to meet the need of our ageing population.
- **Integrate Healthcare into Housing Investments** – Proactively embed healthcare services into all new housing initiatives to improve long-term stability.
- **Break Down Silos for Greater Efficiency** – Foster collaboration across divisions, departments, cities, and partner agencies to enhance coordination and impact.
- **Develop Strategies to Address Climate Change Impact on PEH (People Experiencing Homelessness)** – Implement proactive measures to mitigate the effects of extreme weather, such as heatwaves, floods, and cold exposure, on vulnerable populations.

Mesilla Valley Community of Hope

- MVCH is a nonprofit agency(est. 1998) located on City of Las Cruces property, one mile from Downtown.
- MVCH has an Alliance of agencies (5) located on the same property, bound by a lease agreement



Bringing People Home.

Housing Ends Homelessness

- Last year, MVCH housed 1,541 people, including 475 children
- MVCH has several different types of housing programs; owns 3 homes; partners with over 100 landlords annually
- Vouchers—permanent supportive housing; rapid rehousing; one-time assistance, Vet assistance, eviction prevention, opioid use disorder and exiting incarceration housing; court-mandated treatment housing (about 450 ongoing housing vouchers)



Bringing People Home.

Camp Hope



- Camp Hope began in November 2011
- Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning
- Hosts up to 50 people, 18 YOA+
- Residents are encouraged to contribute 6 hours of service per week and
- Create a housing plan (use Coordinated Entry)
- Keeps people in a safe place as they transition into housing
- Total Served in 2023-24: 256
Average length of stay 2023-24 was 73 days.

Camp Hope Operations

- There is an elected Camp Manager and a Safety Team
- Residents must register for the camp
- Tent pad sites are labeled and there is a shared roster among staff
- Low barrier entry, Harm Reduction, Trauma-informed Care models
- Project Dignity—we built bathrooms with showers and an outdoor kitchen.



Bringing People Home.

MVCH Outreach Team



- PIT Count this year was 317
- Daily they respond to the needs of those living outside of a shelter
- Make housing and shelter connections
- Deliver hygiene items, water, blankets, soup
- Use strategies for addressing unsanctioned encampments with Codes officers, law enforcement, business partners and civic groups

Bringing People Home.

Mano y Mano Day Labor Program

- The Mano y Mano day labor program—28 people are taken to work daily;
- Funded by the City of Las Cruces
- 2 vans and 2 Hot Spot trucks
- Hot Spot trucks address encampments and work with Outreach and Camp Hope staff;



Bringing People Home.

Approach

- Approaches must be multi-faceted and flexible
- Find your starting point
- Include the people affected most
- Find your champions (elected officials, City/County staff)
- Keep your goals in sight



Bringing People Home.

