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Homelessness 101

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AGENDA

- Data Snapshot
- Homeless Continuum of Care
- Services and How to Connect
- Local Action
- Get More Information

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Contra Costa Homelessness Awareness Month Video 2026

https://youtu.be/708ojMNk-WA

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Data Snapshot

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Local Data Sources

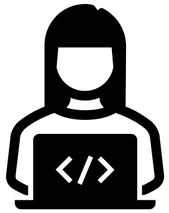
Point in Time Count

- 1 night/year
- Community Snapshot
- Volunteers gather data



HMIS Data

- Data over time
- Person level data
- Providers enter data



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Context



Workers need to earn **$45.50/hour** to afford a 2-bedroom apartment in Contra Costa



Cost of housing is the biggest factor in a community's rate of homelessness



Contra Costa CoC served 14,245 people in 2024, a 40% increase since 2020

Contra-Costa_Housing_Report-2.pdf

Colburn, G., & Aldern, C. P. (2022). *Homelessness is a housing problem: How structural factors explain U.S. patterns.* University of California Press

2024 Contra Costa HMIS Data

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2024 Annual Report Data

Overall Data

- 9,995 households served
- 14, 245 people
- 40% increase since 2020

Increases since 2020

- Minors (+73%)
- TAY (+55%)
- 25-54 (+39%)
- 55-64 (+18%)
- 65+ (+69%)

Racial Inequities

- Multiple Races over-represented 3x
- Black/African American/African over-represented 4x

Disability

- Long-term mental health condition (48%)
- Substance Use Disorder (30%)
- Chronic condition (39%)
- Physical disability (39%)

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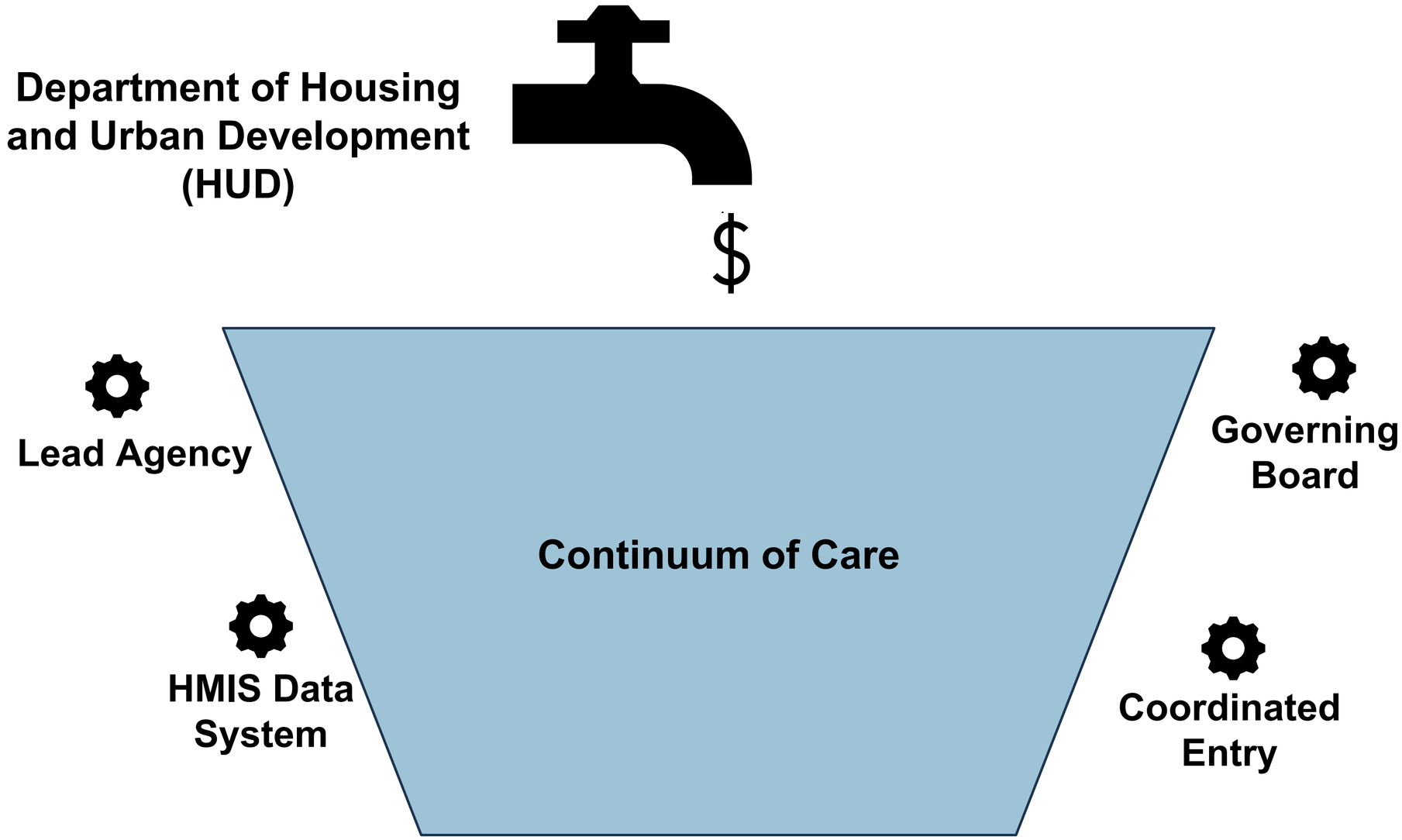
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Homeless Continuum of Care

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Continuum of Care



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Contra Costa CoC Structure

LEADERSHIP	CoC Governing Board (appointed by Board of Supervisors)	Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (CoH)
	CoC Lead Agency HMIS Lead Agency Administrative Entity	Contra Costa Health: Health, Housing & Homeless Services (H3)

PROVIDERS	Prevention	Rapid Exit	Outreach	Interim Housing/ Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Rapid Rehousing	Permanent Supportive Housing	Permanent Housing

PARTNERS	Health Care (Physical and Mental)	Veterans Affairs	Criminal Justice & Legal Services	Domestic Violence	School Districts	Workforce	Public Safety	People With Lived Experience

STAKEHOLDERS	Cities	County	Community Members	Community Orgs	Funders	And more!

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Continuum of Care



“The Orchestra”

Partners and service providers offering services to people experiencing homelessness



“The Song”

Provide housing and services to help households retain housing or move into permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability



“The Conductor”

One agency provides administrative and coordination support of whole system

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Services and How to Connect

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How to Connect



CALL

- Call 211
- Available 24/7
- Anyone

- Referrals and linkages
- Homelessness prevention



CARE

- Daytime drop in centers
- 5-6 days/week
- Richmond and Walnut Creek

- Basic needs (mail, shower, laundry)
- Housing focused case management

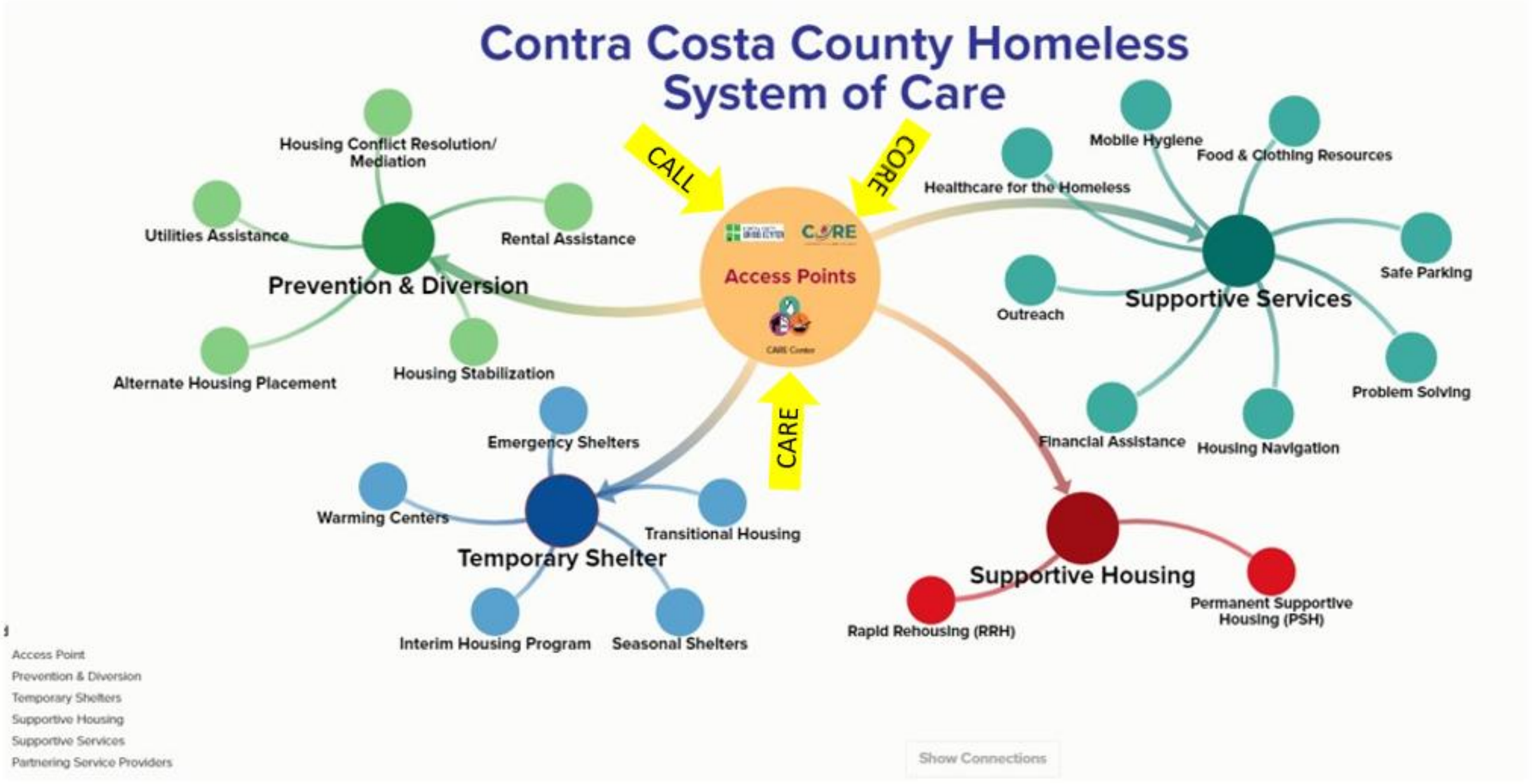


CORE

- Mobile Outreach Teams
- 7 days a week
- Call 211

- Survival supplies
- Housing Navigation
- Emergency Shelter placements

Contra Costa County Homeless System of Care



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Shelter/Interim Housing

Emergency Shelters

- Some County funded, some privately operated
- Lower barriers as much as possible
  - Non-congregate
  - No set-length of stays
  - Pet friendly

Warming Centers

- Night-by-night placements

Safe Parking

- Monitored locations where people can sleep in their vehicles

Get Help

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Coordinated Entry

A system to ensure all people experiencing a housing crisis have easy access to homeless services

Individuals and families experiencing homelessness are quickly identified, assessed and connected to the most appropriate available resource

Prioritizes the most vulnerable for limited resources

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Housing Needs Assessment

1



History of Housing and Homelessness

2



Income and Employment

3



Disabilities and Health

4



Experiences with Services and Other Systems of Care

5



Experiences Impacting Wellbeing

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Elements of Coordinated Entry

JJ1

ACCESS

- CALL
- CARE
- CORE

ASSESSMENT

- Housing needs
- Preferences
- Vulnerability

PRIORITIZATION

- Most vulnerable prioritized for limited resources first

REFERRAL

- Housing programs fill spots through Coordinated Entry referrals

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CoC Housing Options

Coordinated Entry



Market Rate

- Pay own rent
- No support services

Vouchers (multiple types)

- Some are just for low-income (Housing Choice Vouchers/Section 8) and some are for people experiencing homelessness (EHV/Mainstream)
- No supportive services
- Only “SOMETIMES” part of homeless system



Rapid Rehousing

- Time limited (6-18 months)
- Must be homeless
- Rental support & Supportive services



Permanent Supportive Housing

- NOT time limited
- Rental support & Supportive services
- Must be disabled and homeless

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Impact of Catastrophic Cuts to Federal Funding

JS1

- At least 400 Contra Costa residents in permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing could lose their homes next year

- Contra Costa Health is acting quickly to protect residents – coordinating with non-profits, County agencies, and stakeholders to identify non-CoC housing programs, services, and funding gaps to support residents at-risk of losing their housing

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Local Action

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County Investment



Delta Landing



El Portal Place

Delta Landing

- 172 units of interim housing in East County

El Portal Place

- 54 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in West County

Brookside Shelter Expansion – Coming soon

- Modular units added to campus + 45 bed MH Rehabilitation Center

Measure X Housing Trust Fund

- $12M year – 25% dedicated to homeless services

Homelessness prevention

- 173% increase in households served since 2019

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City Investment (Central County)





Concord

- Strategic Plan and dedicated funding
- CORE Team
- Concord Shelter and Service Site
- RRH Program

Martinez

- CORE Team

Pleasant Hill

- CORE Team

Walnut Creek

- CORE
- Hope Village
- Trinity Center Shelter

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City Investment (East County)





Antioch

- CORE Team
- Opportunity Village
- Encampment Resolution Grant

Brentwood

- Host site for PIT count

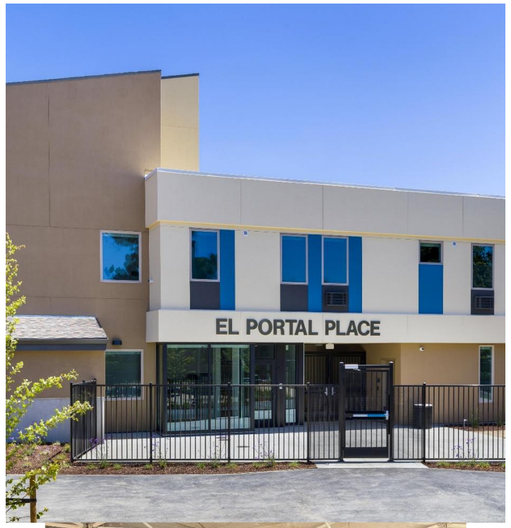
Pittsburg

- CORE Team
- Delta Landing
- Pittsburg Housing Authority

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City Investment (West County)





El Cerrito

- CORE Team

Richmond

- CORE Team
- Homeless Task Force
- Homekey Grant
- Encampment Resolution Grant (3 applications funded)

San Pablo

- CORE Team
- El Portal Place

Pinole

- Valor Village

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How to Make a Difference



Learn

- Mailing List
- CoC website
- Attend CoC meetings
- Attend Trainings



Share Information

- Social media
- Friends/family
- Public meetings



Take Action

- Volunteer
- Donate
- Host Speaker

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Council on Homelessness

Meetings

- 1st Thursday of the Month from 1 pm – 3 pm, HYBRID
- 19 seats
- 2-year terms

Role

- Advisory Board to Board of Supervisors
- CoC Governing Board
- Forum to communicate about homelessness
- Policy, strategies, and activities to end homelessness
- Approving some funding
- monitoring performance and compliance

Seats

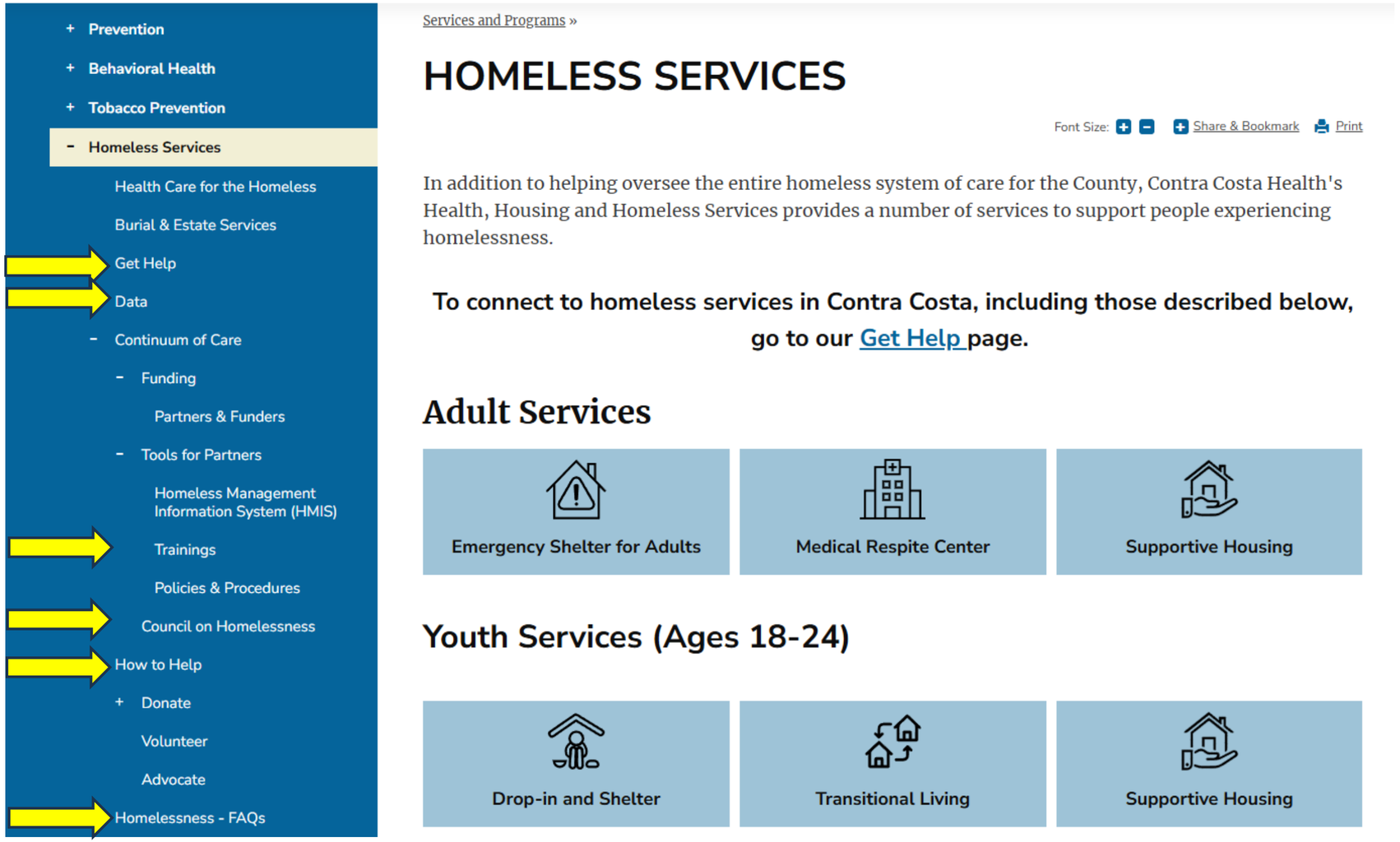
- Housing Providers
- Behavioral/Physical Health
- City, County and Public Safety
- Community and Lived Experience
- Education and Workforce
- Faith
- Funders
- Reentry
- Veterans
- Youth

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Where To Get More Information



Mailing List Sign up

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Get Help