

Homelessness in Marin

FAIRFAX TOWN COUNCIL

August 3, 2022



Photo Credit: Jeff Wong



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marinhhs.org



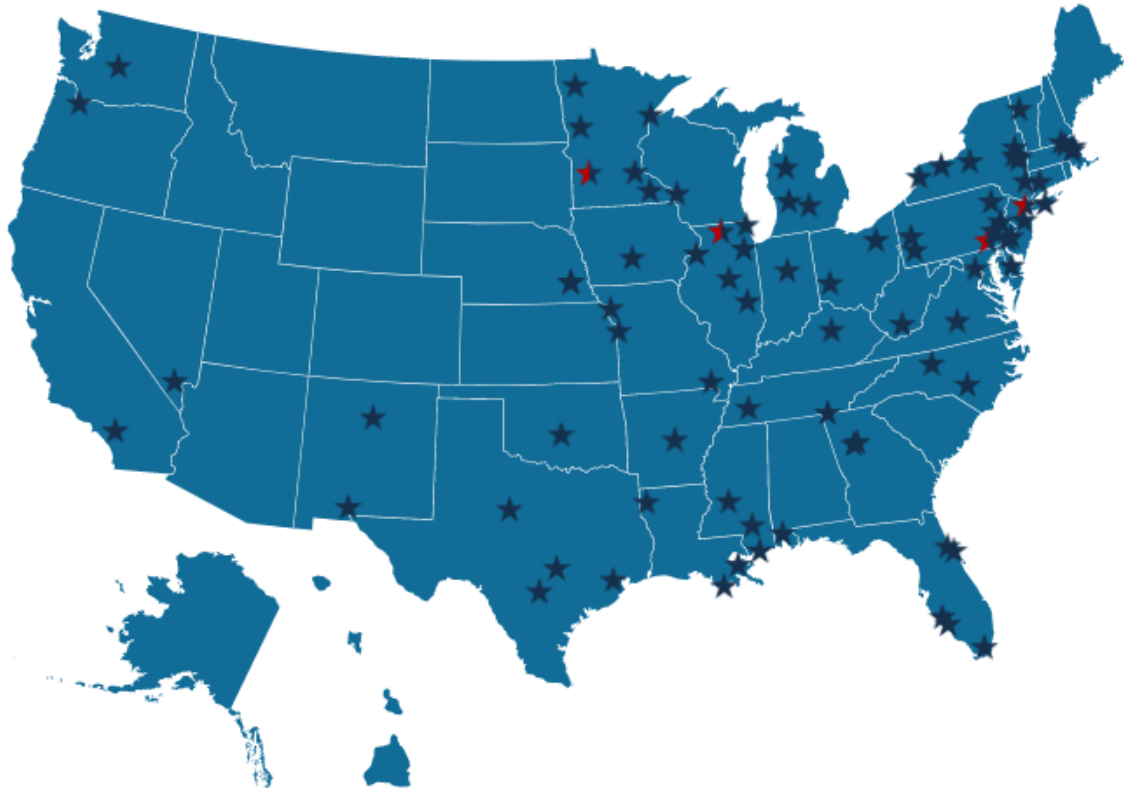
People think
homelessness is an
unsolvable problem.

It's not.



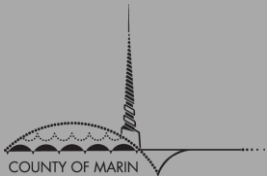
Communities that have ended homelessness

- Connected homeless veterans
- In total veterans



and all
and to

Who is homeless in Marin?

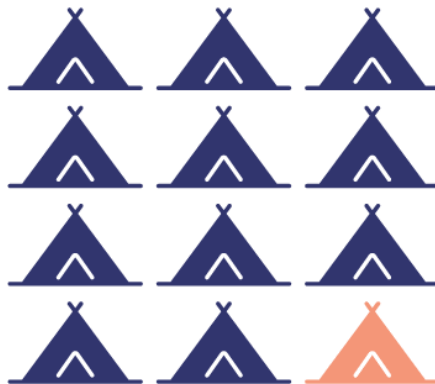


Who is homeless in Marin?

LOCAL DATA

From 1,034 to 1,121

Total Individuals experiencing homelessness increased from 1,034 in 2019 to 1,121 in 2022.

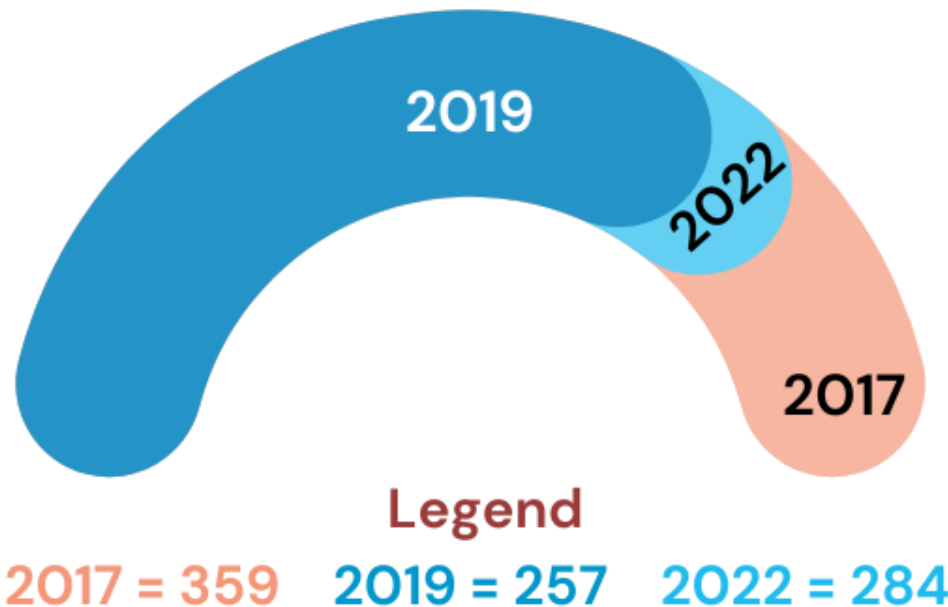


8.4% Increase

Homelessness in Marin county increased by 8.4% since the 2019 PIT count.

Who is homeless in Marin?

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



People experiencing chronic homelessness increased from 257 to 284 between 2019 and 2022, but is still down 20 percent from 2017 levels.

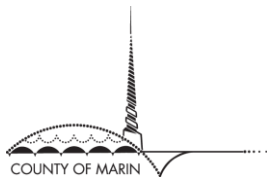
Family Homelessness

- 116 homeless families have been housed.
- 40 unsheltered and 36 sheltered homeless families that we know of remain in Marin.
- Marin County Office of Education reports 1,274 students who were homeless, couchsurfing, or in overcrowded housing in the past year.

Veteran homelessness



- 74 veterans experiencing homelessness have been housed.
- 31 homeless veterans that we know of remain in Marin.



Focus on Priority Population: Chronic Homelessness



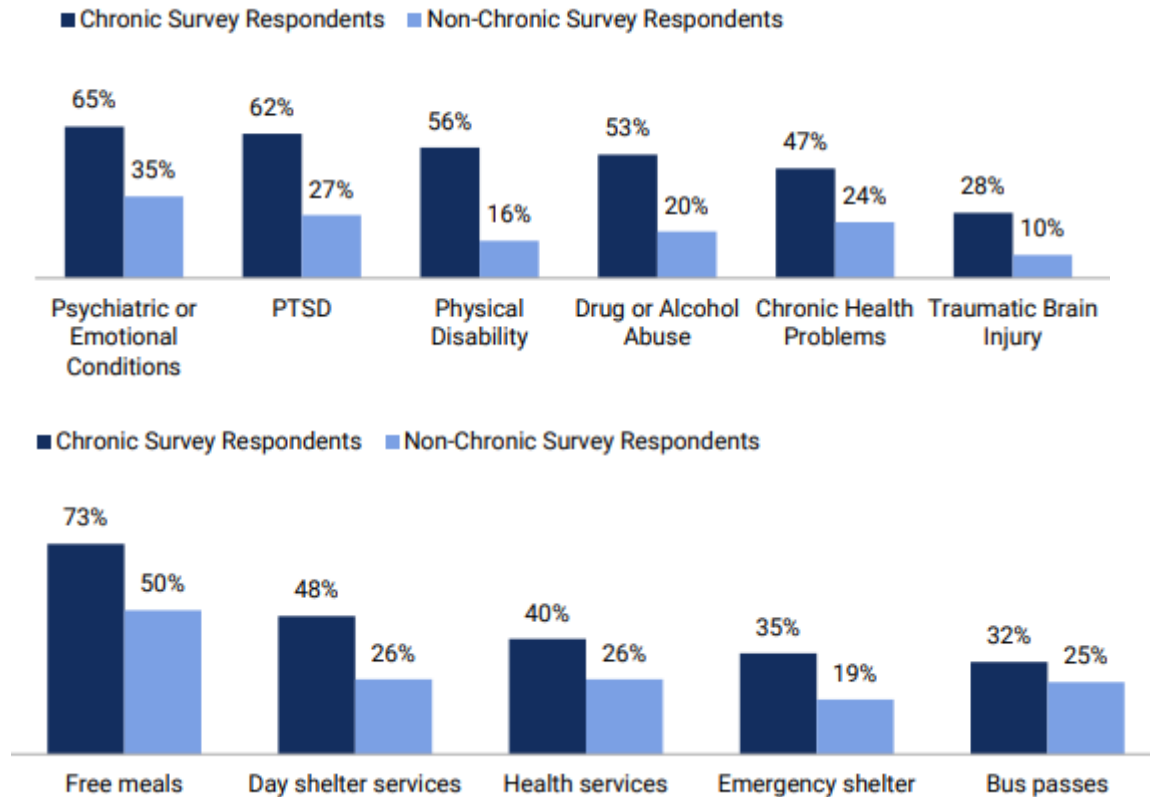
Focusing on Chronic Homelessness

WHY FOCUS ON CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS?

- 70-80% of people who become homeless self-resolve within two weeks
- Serve the most vulnerable
 - People who are homeless have a life expectancy 25 years less than their housed peers
- Cost effective

Focusing on Chronic Homelessness

WHO IS CHRONICALLY HOMELESS IN MARIN?

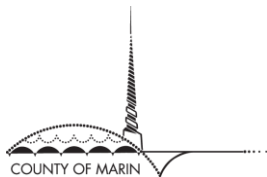


Focusing on Chronic Homelessness



WHO IS CHRONICALLY HOMELESS IN MARIN?

- Majority white, but disproportionately BIPOC
- 60% male, 40% female
- 4% youth 18-24; 28% 25-40; 32% 41-55; 30% 56-70; 5% over 70
- 73% were living in Marin when they became homeless



Marin County Health and Human Services
Division of Homelessness and Whole Person
Care
August 3, 2022
[Housingfirst.marinhhs.org](https://housingfirst.marinhhs.org)

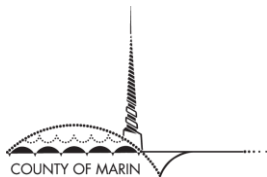
Focusing on Chronic Homelessness



WHO IS CHRONICALLY HOMELESS IN MARIN?

Consistently, across the US, 65-80% of people experiencing homelessness were housed in that community before becoming homeless

- Marin County: 73%
- San Francisco County: 70%
- Alameda County: 78%
- Santa Clara County: 81%
- Los Angeles County: 65%
- Clark County, NV (Las Vegas): 68.9%
- King County, WA (Seattle): 84%
- Essex County, NJ (Newark): 80%



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But what about
people who don't
want housing?



“People just want to be homeless!”

WHY WOULD SOMEONE REJECT HOUSING OR SHELTER?

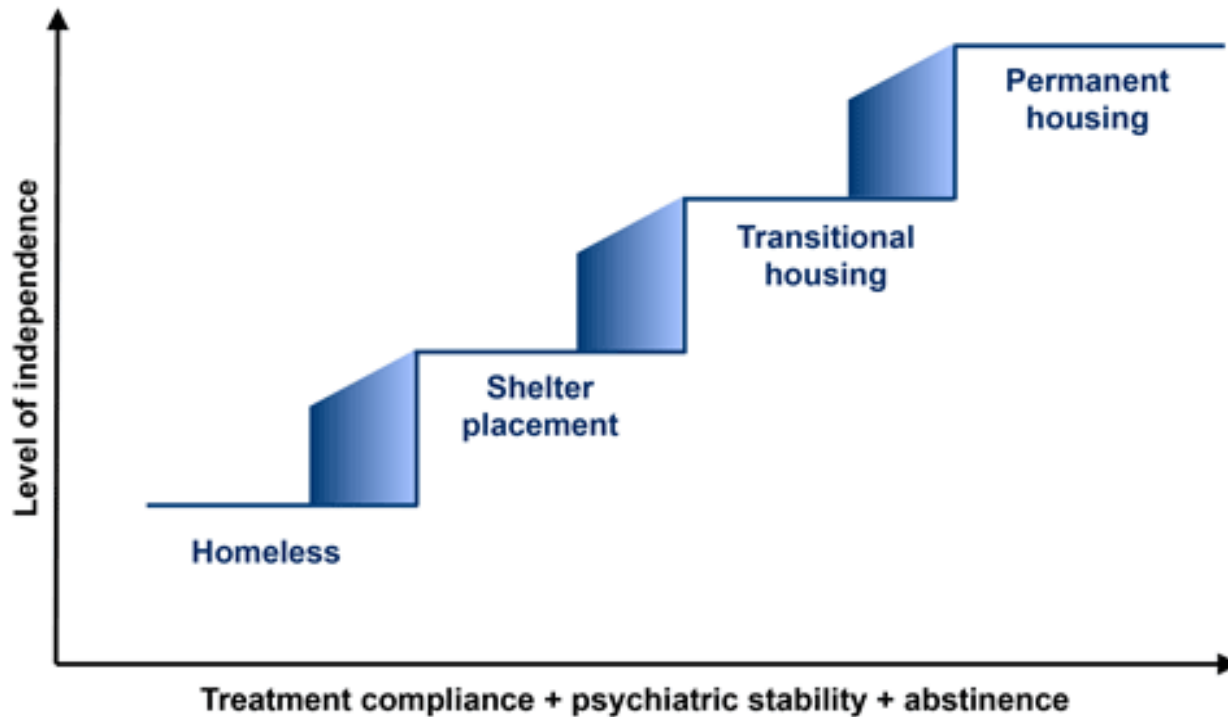


You can't just put
chronically homeless
people in a house and
expect them to
succeed!



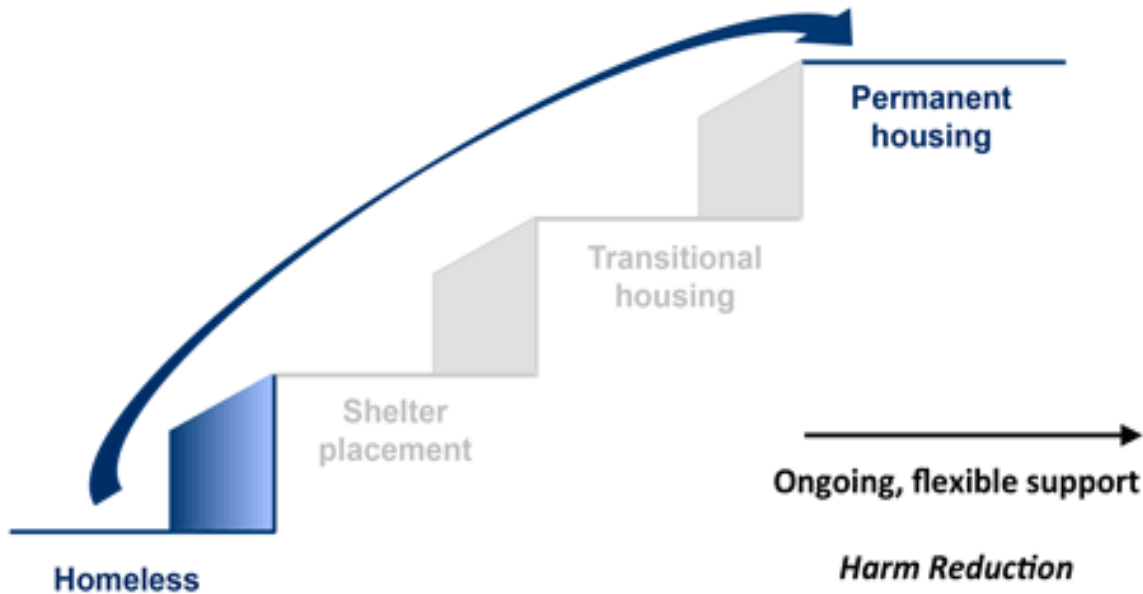
Housing First

Traditional system approach



Housing First

Housing First approach



Housing First

EVIDENCE THAT HOUSING FIRST IS EFFECTIVE

- Specific housing models
 - Permanent supportive housing
 - Rapid rehousing
 - Diversion
 - Housing-focused shelter

Impact of COVID



COVID

EFFECTS

- Increase in Visibility
 - Change in federal law limiting authority to clear encampments
 - Meeting weekly for by-name list case conferencing about biggest encampments
 - Have found that 90% of the people living in encampments were homeless in Marin before COVID; encampments do not represent an increase in homelessness
- Changes to services
 - Fewer beds in congregate shelters
 - Community spaces (Vinnie's Dining Hall, Ritter campus, libraries) closed for congregating
 - They have recently reopened, but people continue to fear gathering indoors

So what are the County
and our partners doing
about homelessness?



What are we doing?

SERVICES

- County-wide outreach
 - Outreach in Fairfax 3-4 times monthly; likely will increase in coming months
- Coordinating with law enforcement, including Fairfax PD, biweekly
- 190 emergency shelter beds
- 659 units of permanent supportive housing, nearly double since 2016
 - 119 new beds expected within the next year
- Coordinated Entry system
- Highly coordinated system of care allowing us to create personalized housing plans

What are we doing?

HOUSING STATS

- 504 people placed in Permanent Supportive Housing since October 2017
- 95% of people are still housed
- 28% decrease in chronic homelessness between 2017 and 2019

How to help



How to Help

-
- Give
 - Get involved
 - Volunteer
 - Share Your Skills
 - Hire
 - House

Questions?

