

# Creating a Homelessness Plan



Whether a city or county has been addressing homelessness for years or is just starting, having a plan is important. The plan provides direction for elected officials and staff as they make decisions about where to dedicate resources and offers a way to measure progress and success.

Whether the plan is for one year or multiple years, it is likely to involve multiple individual actions or strategies that may or may not be related. This section includes a series of questions a city or county should explore when deciding what strategies to include in its plan and a template to outline individual strategies. Depending on the jurisdiction, the plan might include anywhere from two to over 100 individual strategies.

This information was developed following a review of existing homelessness plans. Although plans vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, a number of themes emerged. A list of plans reviewed is included at the end of this section, and a customizable template is available at [www.ca-ilg.org/homelessness](http://www.ca-ilg.org/homelessness).

## Questions to Consider When Developing a Homelessness Plan

This list of questions is not exhaustive, but it will help any jurisdiction focus during the development of a homelessness plan. In all likelihood, asking these questions will lead to more questions that are specific to a specific jurisdiction or region.

- Will our strategies/plans be set annually or will they span years? How often will our jurisdiction review progress?
- Is our strategy/plan specific to our jurisdiction or are there efforts included that impact the region?
- Does our strategy/plan include government agency actions only or does it include actions of other community partners?
- Do we want to create a new department, agency or community organization to coordinate and oversee efforts?
- Who in our jurisdiction will lead and oversee the effort?
- What resources is our agency already using for this effort? Can additional resources be dedicated?
- Are we trying to address a specific population?
- Is our plan outcome based?
- What is the purpose of the plan? What are we trying to achieve?
- How will we determine if we are successful?
- Who is the audience?
- What is the role/responsibility of law enforcement?
- How will we share/represent our plan with the public?
- What other plans exist?
- How do we measure success?

# Homelessness Plans: Template for Strategies

## CATEGORY

*(For organizational purposes, identify which category best describes the strategy)*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prevention               | <input type="checkbox"/> Management and Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry System | <input type="checkbox"/> Income                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____             |  |

## RECOMMENDATION

*(One or two sentences describing the recommendation or action item)*

## DESCRIPTION

*(More in depth description of recommendation and strategy overall. May include additional information on the challenge the strategy is addressing.)*

## POPULATION(S) TARGETED

*(A description of the jurisdiction's population and specifically the homeless population.)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional Age Youth (TAY) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chronically Homeless Adult | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Families                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Victims of Domestic Abuse    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless Pet Owners        | <input type="checkbox"/> Women                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQ Community            | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Adult               |   |

## POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCE

*(Identification of current funding available or possible funding the agency will pursue.)*

## IMPLEMENTATION TIME-FRAME

*(When is the strategy expected to be accomplished?)*

## LEAD AGENCY

*(Who is the lead responsible agency? This may be a department within the jurisdiction or a community partner.)*

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**COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES**

*(A list of all other departments and agencies within the jurisdiction that will be involved in implementing the recommendation. Should also include departments/agencies that experience downstream impacts, such as public works and libraries.)*

**CONNECTION TO OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS (INCLUDING CITY/COUNTY)**

*(A list of community organizations or agencies outside the city or county government that will be involved in implementing the recommendation. May also include state agencies.)*

**BUDGET**

*(Discussion of the current resources the jurisdiction is putting towards addressing solutions and identification of other options that could be pursued.)*

**DATA**

*(What is the problem being addressed? What is already being done?)*

**IMPACT**

*(What is the impact on the broader community?)*

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## Index of Strategies/Homelessness Plans

**Note:** Many cities and counties are collaborating on their plans. If you do not see a city plan listed individually, please refer to the county in which the city is located.

**Cities of Alameda County:** [www.everyonehome.org](http://www.everyonehome.org)

**Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness:** [www.c3homes.org/sites/centralcoasthomelessness.oneeach.org/files/pictures/CA-603 percent20CoC percent20Governance percent20Charter\\_0.pdf](http://www.c3homes.org/sites/centralcoasthomelessness.oneeach.org/files/pictures/CA-603%20CoC%20Governance%20Charter_0.pdf)

**City of Chula Vista:**

[www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/development-services/housing/resources/homeless-frequently-asked-questions](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/development-services/housing/resources/homeless-frequently-asked-questions)

**City of Fairfield:** [www.fairfield.ca.gov/gov/depts/manager/quality\\_of\\_life/default.asp](http://www.fairfield.ca.gov/gov/depts/manager/quality_of_life/default.asp)

**City and County of Fresno:** [www.fresno.gov/citymanager/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2016/10/10yrPlanWhitepaper\\_v3b.pdf](http://www.fresno.gov/citymanager/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2016/10/10yrPlanWhitepaper_v3b.pdf)

**Humboldt County and City of Eureka:** [www.humboldthousing.org](http://www.humboldthousing.org)

**City of Los Angeles – Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy:**

<https://www.lamayor.org/comprehensive-homelessness-strategy>

**Los Angeles County – Approved Strategies to Address Homelessness:**

<http://priorities.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/HI-Report-Approved2.pdf>

**City of Long Beach:** <http://www.lbds.info/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=5847>

<http://longbeach.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=188833&GUID=7EDFEF7F-2A87-4D44-9AFD-3D7C4C44E2F8>

**Marin County:** [www.marinhhs.org/10-year-plan](http://www.marinhhs.org/10-year-plan)

**Monterey and San Benito Counties:** [http://mcdss.co.monterey.ca.us/reports/downloads/lead\\_me\\_home\\_01\\_13.pdf](http://mcdss.co.monterey.ca.us/reports/downloads/lead_me_home_01_13.pdf)

**Nevada and Placer Counties:** <http://www.hrcscc.org/resource-links.html>

**City of Sacramento:** [http://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=22&clip\\_id=3820&meta\\_id=470422](http://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=3820&meta_id=470422)

**Sacramento Steps Forward:** <http://sacramentostepsforward.org/strategic-action-plan/strategic-action-plan>

**San Bernardino County:** [www.sbcounty.gov/dbh/sbchp/Tenyearstrategy.aspx](http://www.sbcounty.gov/dbh/sbchp/Tenyearstrategy.aspx)

**City and County of San Francisco:** <http://dhsh.sfgov.org/>

**San Joaquin County:**

[www.sjgov.org/commdev/cgi-bin/cdyn.exe/handouts-planning/SJCoCP\\_PRD\\_FULL\\_CONPLAN\\_2015-04-02.pdf](http://www.sjgov.org/commdev/cgi-bin/cdyn.exe/handouts-planning/SJCoCP_PRD_FULL_CONPLAN_2015-04-02.pdf)

**San Luis Obispo County:** [www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/Housing\\_and\\_Economic\\_Development/10yearplan.htm](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/Housing_and_Economic_Development/10yearplan.htm)

**San Mateo County:** [http://hsa.smcgov.org/sites/hsa.smcgov.org/files/HomelessReport\\_Final.pdf](http://hsa.smcgov.org/sites/hsa.smcgov.org/files/HomelessReport_Final.pdf)

**Santa Clara County:** [http://destinationhomesc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Community\\_Plan\\_to\\_End\\_Homelessness\\_in\\_Santa\\_Clara\\_County\\_web.pdf](http://destinationhomesc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Community_Plan_to_End_Homelessness_in_Santa_Clara_County_web.pdf)

**Santa Cruz County and Cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola, Scotts Valley and Watsonville:**

[www.sccoplanning.com/Portals/2/HSP-FullReport-FINAL-Small.pdf](http://www.sccoplanning.com/Portals/2/HSP-FullReport-FINAL-Small.pdf)

**Sonoma County:**

[http://sonoma-county-continuum-of-care.wikispaces.com/Sonoma+County percentE2 percent80 percent99s+10-Year+Homeless+Action+Plan](http://sonoma-county-continuum-of-care.wikispaces.com/Sonoma+County%20E2%20percent80%20percent99s+10-Year+Homeless+Action+Plan)

**Stanislaus County:** [www.preventionfocus.net/homelessness-initiative/](http://www.preventionfocus.net/homelessness-initiative/)

**City of Woodland:**

<https://cityofwoodland.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2692353&GUID=A9221D94-9FFD-46E6-9C70-3C5798E2ECA1>

**Homeless and Poverty Action Coalition (Yolo County, and Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland):**

[www.yolocounty.org/health-human-services/adult-aging/homeless-services/homeless-and-poverty-action-coalition-hpac](http://www.yolocounty.org/health-human-services/adult-aging/homeless-services/homeless-and-poverty-action-coalition-hpac)