

## Office of Supportive Housing

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January 8, 2018

TO: Board of Supervisors  
Housing, Land Use, Environment and Transportation Committee (HLUET)  
Committee

FROM: Ky Le, Office of Supportive Housing (OSH)

SUBJECT: Homelessness Prevention Report

This report describes the Homelessness Prevention efforts managed by the Office of Supportive Housing (OSH).

The OSH is developing a supportive housing system so that every community will have a systematic response to ensure homelessness is prevented whenever possible or is otherwise a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience. Homelessness Prevention services are intended to address one-time financial crises and assist households in preventing homelessness. OSH's goal is to implement a system of care that is centered on outcomes and best practices, evaluate the effectiveness of program, build capacity and infrastructure, and strengthen connections with community partners, including schools.

The County's homelessness prevention services are centered on two programs. The first is the Emergency Assistance Network (EAN) Homelessness Prevention Program (EAN HP). Through agreements with the seven agencies that form EAN, residents throughout the County have access to emergency financial assistance, housing services, and case management services.<sup>1</sup> The agreements have a maximum financial obligation of \$891,000 annually and are projected to prevent homelessness for 400 households annually. The EAN HP made incremental refinements to the network of homelessness prevention services that had existed prior to the County establishing the OSH. For FY 2018 and FY 2019, an additional \$228,750 was provided to support the Emergency Assistance Network.

The second program was established in July 2017, by the County, in partnership with Destination: Home, the City of San José, and private funders. The Homelessness Prevention Pilot program targets families with minor children who have the highest needs and provides longer-term financial assistance, supportive services, employment services, child care, and transportation.

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<sup>1</sup> The seven agencies are: Community Services Agency of Mtn. View and Los Altos (CSA), LifeMoves, Sacred Heart Community Services (SHCS), Salvation Army, St. Joseph's Family Center (St. Joseph's), Sunnyvale Community Services (SCS), West Valley Community Services (WVCS).

Through combined resources of the County, Packard Foundation, Sunlight Giving, Google.org, and the City of San José, the program’s budget is \$3.3 million, with \$750,000 contributed by the County. The 27-month pilot program was launched with the goal of implementing a countywide homelessness prevention system that prevents all instances of family homelessness. The goal is to serve 660 families over the 27-month period. To date this program has served 25 households with an average financial assistance of \$1,978. This Homelessness Prevention pilot program is undergoing an independent evaluation conducted by the University of Notre Dame’s Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO).

The key differences between the EAN HP and the Homelessness Prevention Pilot programs are: 1) the HP Pilot program targets families (with minor children) with the highest needs; 2) supportive services for the HP Pilot program include case management to stabilize the family; and, 3) financial assistance can be provided for more than one month to families in the HP Pilot program.

The goals of the HP Pilot program are to expand the Homelessness Prevention services and enable families to quickly connect with prevention services throughout the community, streamline and standardize service delivery, and measure the collective impact of homelessness prevention. In order to standardize the service delivery a new assessment tool has been implemented. The PR-VI-SPDAT (Prevention- Vulnerability Index- Service Prioritization Tool) is required to screen all families in need of financial assistance. The intention is to implement and scale a homelessness prevention system focused on outcomes and best practices in preventing family homelessness. It has been challenging to measure the long-term effectiveness of homelessness prevention programs to date. The Pilot program will be evaluated over the 27-month term, the results of which will be utilized to determine effectiveness and improve the homeless system of care in the County of Santa Clara.

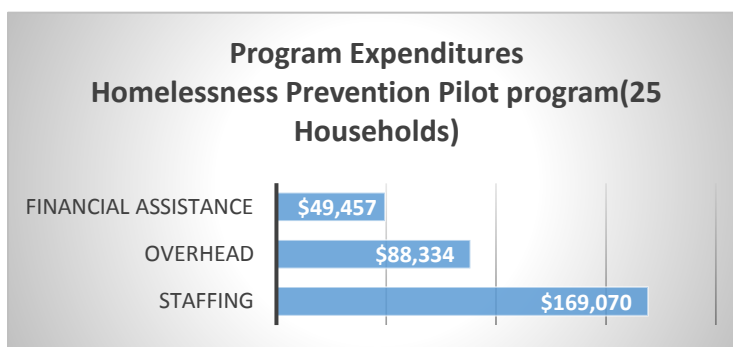
The charts below describe the types of services and expenditures by category for both the HP EAN program as well as the HP Pilot program from July 1, 2017 to November 30, 2017.

**EAN HP programs**

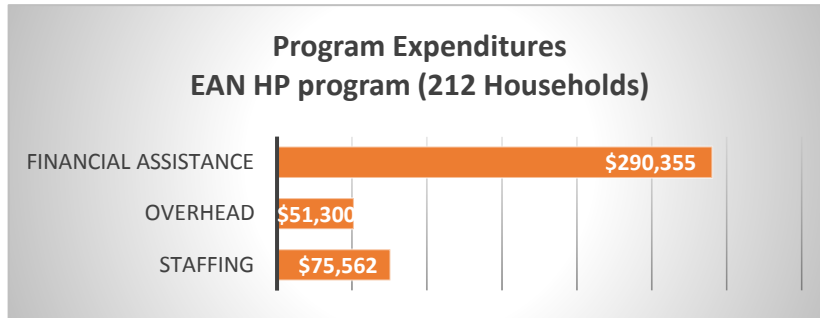
Fiscal Year	Goal	Households Served	Average Financial Assistance per HH
2016 (half year)	200	294	\$1,808
2017	400	443	\$1,186
2018 *	400	212	\$1,370

\* July 1, 2017 to Nov 30, 2017

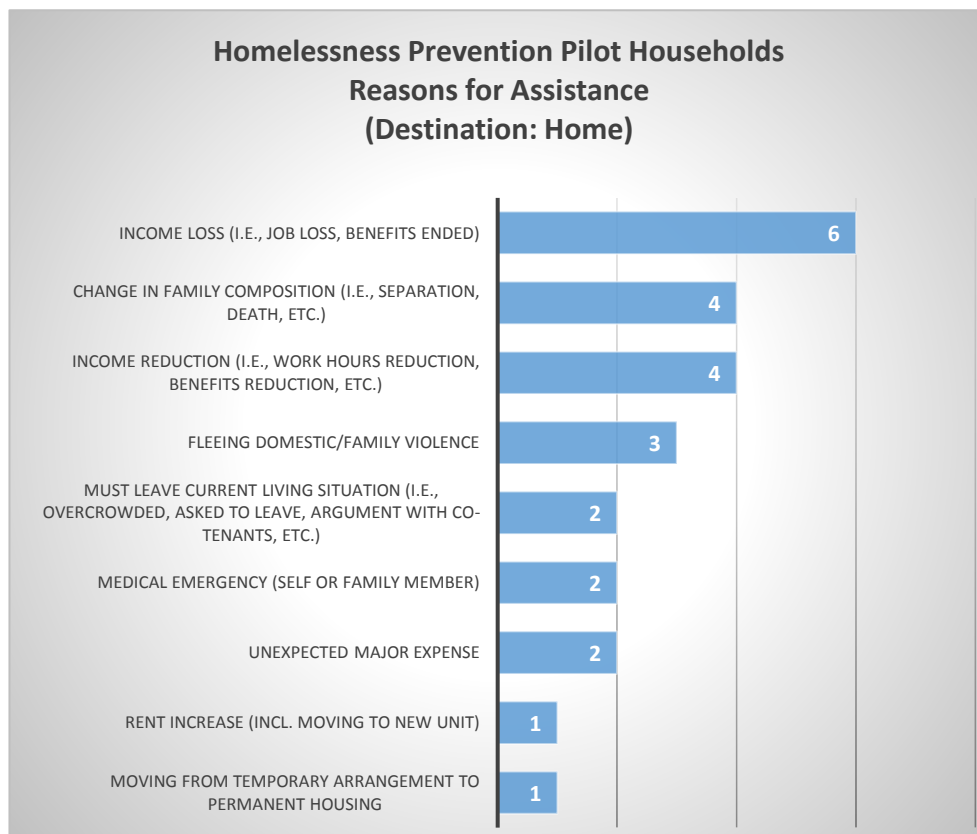
**Exhibit 1**



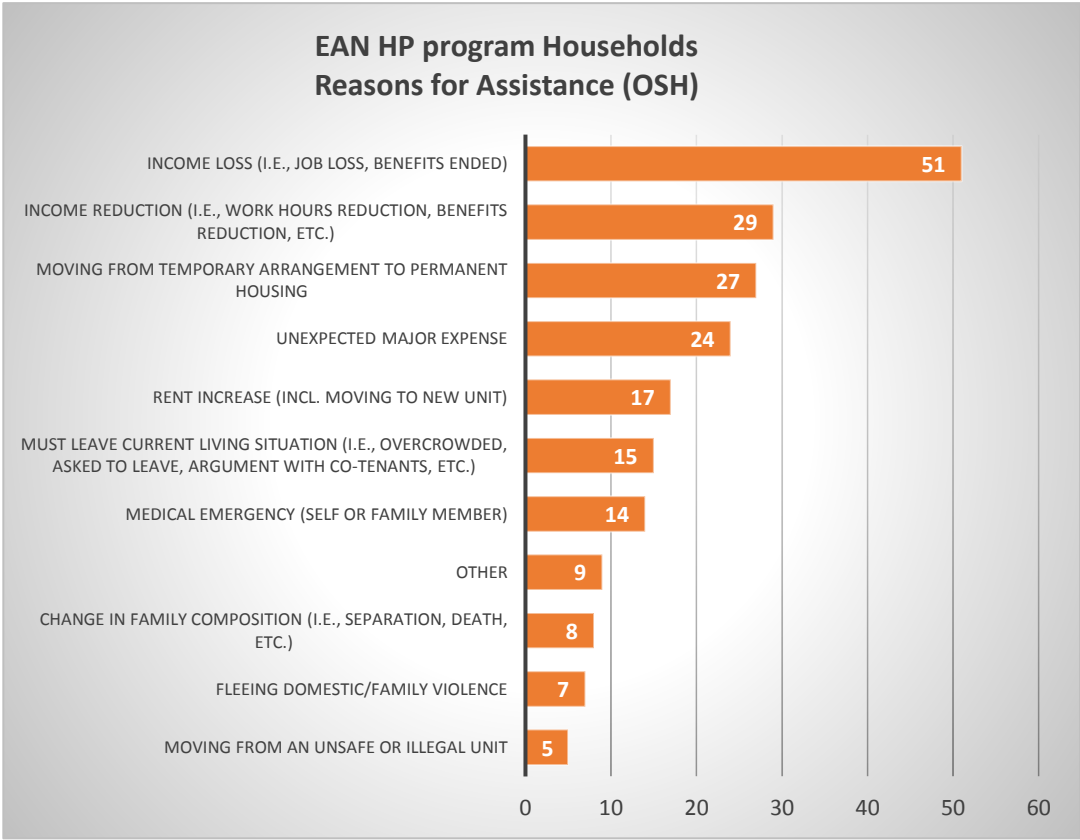
### Exhibit 1a



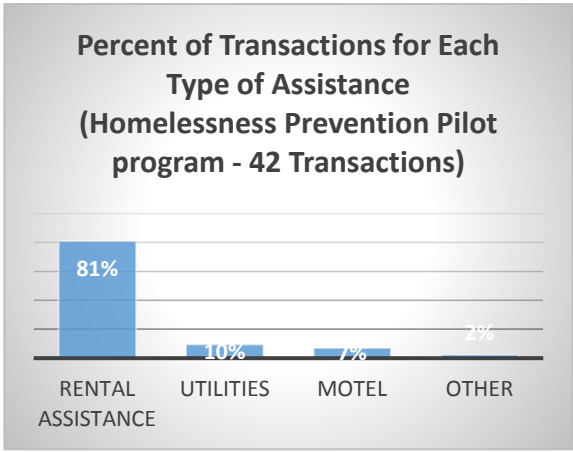
### Exhibit 2



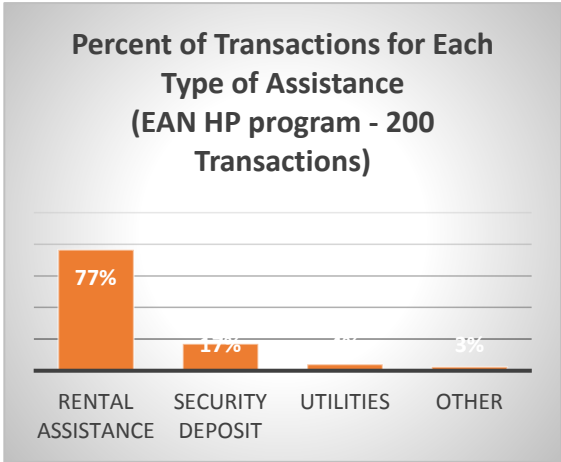
**Exhibit 2a**



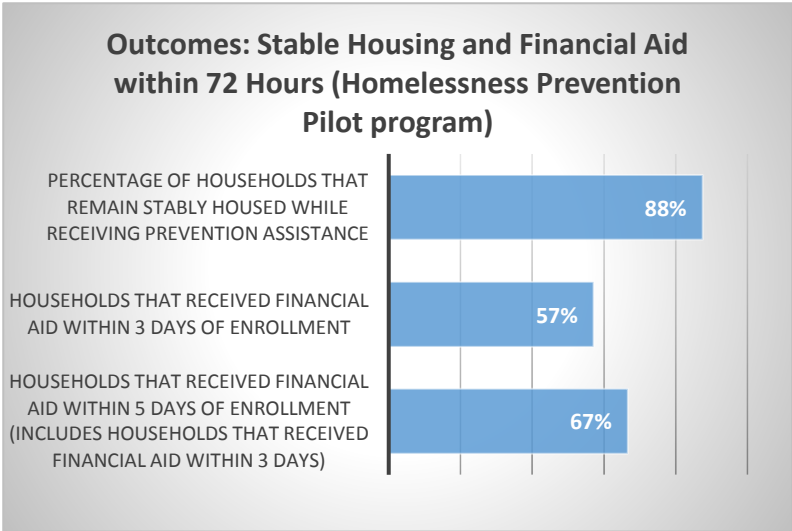
**Exhibit 3**



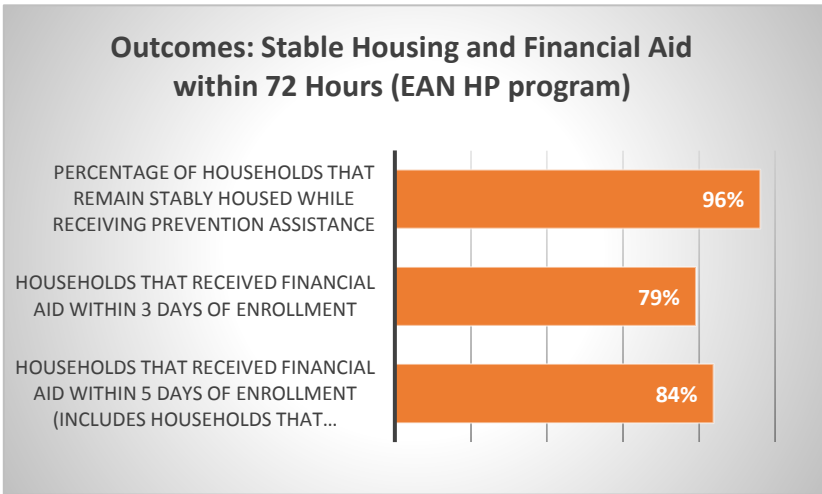
**Exhibit 3a**



**Exhibit 4**



**Exhibit 4a**



Board of Supervisors: Mike Wasserman, Cindy Chavez, Dave Cortese, Ken Yeager, S. Joseph Simitian  
County Executive: Jeffrey V. Smith