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## Alameda County Releases Full Report for 2024 Point in Time Homelessness Count

Report highlights gains made by County investments to address homelessness

**Alameda County, CA**—Alameda County Health's Housing and Homelessness Services (AC Health H&H) today released the <u>full report</u> of its 2024 Point in Time (PIT) homelessness count. The PIT Count is a biennial endeavor that is federally mandated by the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) to count individuals and families sleeping outside, in vehicles, in emergency shelters, and transitional housing.

Consistent with initial numbers released earlier in the year, overall homelessness dropped by three percent in Alameda County, with the number of unsheltered residents decreasing by 11 percent from 2022, according to the PIT Count report, which was developed by AC Health H&H and the Alameda County Continuum of Care (CoC). The decrease in homelessness is the first recorded drop in Alameda County since 2013.

Alongside the significant drops in the number of unsheltered residents, there was a 19 percent increase countywide in those accessing shelter, affirming that investments in interim and supportive housing have been effective in supporting people to move off the streets and into safer, more secure living conditions.

"As we look at the overall picture in Alameda County, we can see that our investments addressing systemic homelessness are starting to have noticeably positive effects," said Jonathan Russell, director of AC Heath H&H. "We are strategic in our efforts, focusing on areas most in need of support and persistent racial inequities. The drop in homelessness reflects the success of that approach. Having the full PIT Count report allows us to look at more detailed data and trends with an analytical eye to the future—this can show us the blueprint for where our next phase of investments should be applied."

That analytical approach has helped the County adjust to shifting policies governing homelessness, including a US Supreme Court ruling and executive order from Gov. Gavin Newsom earlier this year on encampments. The full report provides more insight into the reasons contributing to homelessness, who is experiencing homelessness, and the status of their health—insights that are key to maintaining an equity lens while advancing County strategies.



"We will continue to pursue best practices rooted in dignity and equity, including the creation of housing and supportive services for those experiencing homelessness," added Alameda County Board of Supervisors President Nate Miley. "We know that coordinated approaches with our city partners lead to positive results. If we work together, we can continue to achieve successful outcomes."

Results from the PIT Count are used to inform funding and policy decisions across the homelessness system of care. Prior to this year, the last count conducted in the County took place in 2022.

The methodology was updated slightly for this year's PIT count. A record number of volunteers—nearly 1,300—were sent to known locations where people were experiencing homelessness. Volunteers completed survey questionnaires with hundreds of unhoused persons, which will provide deeper insight to community and individual needs compared to previous counts. Additionally, each city or jurisdiction set up its own PIT Count deployment, coordinating much of the preparation and volunteer recruitment.

"We are incredibly grateful for the significant community participation in this year's PIT count," said C'Mone Falls, Alameda County Continuum of Care co-chair. "Their dedication and hard work have provided us with a comprehensive understanding of homelessness in our county. This invaluable data will inform our strategic efforts to address the homelessness crisis and allocate resources effectively."

The full 2024 PIT Count report can be found here.

Learn more about Alameda County Health at Health.AlamedaCountyCA.gov.

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