



# Federal Homelessness Funding in Alameda County

*A Critical Investment in Health, Housing, and Stability*

**Alameda County relies on federal homelessness funding to provide housing, health care, and supportive services to individuals and families in need.** Cuts or structural changes to HUD, HHS and Medicaid funding could directly undermine Alameda County’s ability to address homelessness and the effectiveness of county-level homelessness services. These changes would exacerbate the challenges faced by people experiencing homelessness.

- Federal sources account for 28% of total funding for the homelessness response system in Alameda County
  - Over \$56M annually awarded to the Oakland/Berkeley/Alameda County Continuum of Care (CoC)
  - Over \$15M annually in state and federal Medicaid reimbursements for Housing Community Support services
  - Over \$6M in ongoing and one-time grant funding for comprehensive health care services for people experiencing homelessness
- Local jurisdictions and programs leverage federal funding for emergency and interim housing, rental assistance, essential supportive services, and administering the homelessness response system

**In Alameda County, nearly 9,500 individuals experiencing homelessness on any given night and more than 24,000 served across the homelessness system each year.** System-wide data underscore the need for targeted homelessness prevention and permanent housing supports countywide.

More people are homeless, for longer periods



Chronic homelessness has increased by 40% since 2022

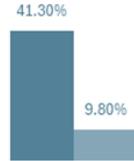
Economic factors drive entries and returns to homelessness



Homelessness caused by:

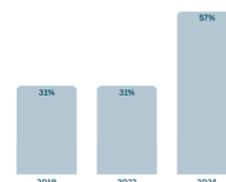
Housing Loss	34.5%
Job Loss	22.0%
Health Issue	18.1%

People of Color disproportionately impacted



Black/African American people constitute 9.8% of the general population but 41.3% of the homeless population

More people becoming homeless for the first time



57% were homeless for the first time in 2024 vs. 31% in 2019 and 2022

Increase in physical and mental health, and other disabling conditions



Respondents who identified at least one disabling condition up 20% from 2022<sup>1</sup>

**Despite challenges and significant unmet funding needs,** the 2024 Point in Time County identified a **3% decrease in people experiencing homelessness — the first decline in nearly a decade.** The programs and services provided by Alameda County Health are essential to continuing this progress.



24,547 served throughout the homelessness response system annually



4,084 individuals gained housing



Unsheltered homelessness decreased by 11% from 2022-2024



Family homelessness decreased by 63% since 2007



Unaccompanied youth homelessness decreased by 52.6% in from 2022-2024

<sup>1</sup> Any disabling condition 60% (SUD 28.5%, SMI 34.8%, Chronic Health Issue 30.4%, Physical disability 32.5%, Developmental disability 17.4%, HIV/AIDS 2.7%)

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a proven solution that breaks the cycle of homelessness.** The majority of Federal CoC funding in Alameda County supports formerly homeless residents who are now in permanent housing and at the greatest risk of returning to homelessness if their rent payments were to stop.



100% of PSH client heads of household have disabilities, and approximately 70% have fixed incomes



98% of people retain PSH or successfully transition to another permanent housing destination

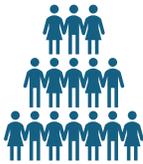


Over 4,800 PSH units are available countywide, up from 3,215 units in 2021



An estimated 80-90% of households would be unable to independently sustain rental obligations, highly increasing the risk to return to homelessness

**Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless provides comprehensive health care for people experiencing homelessness.** Federal, state, and local funding sources support the provision of mobile and clinical health care services such as Street Health Teams, Shelter Health, clinical care, substance use/opioid use disorder (SUD/OD) treatment, including medication assisted treatment (MAT).



In 2025, HCH will provide primary care, behavioral health, specialty care, dental, and optometry care to 10,500 people, through over 80,000 visits in shelters, street-based settings, and clinics



Through federal grants, HCH will:

- Serve 250 people with SUD/Mental Health disorders
- Provide 180 people SUD/MAT services
- Provide Harm Reduction services and SUD/MAT coordination for 200 people in shelters



A federal grant supports development of a mobile pharmacy team to reduce barriers to medication access due to county pharmacy closure crisis and reduces barriers to MAT for people with OUD

## Human Impact Story

### Integrated Housing and Medical Care

David, 37, experienced 21 hospitalizations in a year. Fortunately, he could benefit from OakDays, a program that leverages multiple federal funding sources to provide supportive housing and enhanced clinical services for medically frail individuals and families in Alameda County. Federal funding includes Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements, and HUD Continuum of Care funding. OakDays helped David enter a safe home environment and supported him with crucial services such as on-site methadone treatment and home hemodialysis. Since entering OakDays, David has not had a single hospitalization and improved his health. A recent study found that OakDays residents experienced a 78% reduction in hospitalizations, translating to an estimated \$3.5 million in health care cost savings. The implementing partner, Cardea Health, estimates that approximately 300 individuals in Alameda County could benefit from similar integrated care models.



**Alameda County Health** is the local government agency that promotes and protects the health and well-being of all who live, work, learn, and play in Alameda County. Our departments and major programs include **Behavioral Health, Public Health, Environmental Health, Housing & Homelessness Services, Emergency Medical Services, and indigent care programs.** AC Health has a total annual budget of \$1.3B. **Approximately 28% of the total agency revenue is from federal sources** (65% Medicaid/Medicare reimbursements, 35% other federal aid).