

The logo features the text "FORWARD YubaSutter" in a teal, sans-serif font. The word "FORWARD" is in all caps, while "YubaSutter" has "Yuba" in title case and "Sutter" in all caps. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic consisting of two parallel, slanted bars: the left bar is orange and the right bar is yellow, both pointing to the right.

FORWARD YubaSutter

Creating Opportunities

REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS, 2019-2024

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, SUTTER YUBA HOMELESS CONSORTIUM

MARCH 11, 2021

Vision Statement

We will have safe and healthy communities where all residents have access to stable housing

Guiding Principles

- ❖ Collaboration
- ❖ Innovation
- ❖ Compassion

Priorities



- ▶ Prevent Homelessness
- ▶ Create Safe and Informed Communities
- ▶ Expand Housing Options
- ▶ Provide Consistent, Accurate Information
- ▶ Finance Homeless Initiatives

Prevent Homelessness

Objectives

- Limit first-time homelessness through decreased evictions
- Prevent returns to homelessness

Core Strategies

- ▶ Integrate Prevention/Diversion into the Coordinated Entry System.
- ▶ Expand outreach efforts to include information about homeless prevention.
- ▶ Coordinate stakeholder engagement and education on existing and newly developed homeless prevention programs.
- ▶ Create connections with landlords and those in the legal field to encourage alternatives to eviction.
- ▶ Provide wrap-around support to every household accessing prevention services.
- ▶ Develop mechanisms to increase income and reduce expenses for households.

Milestones:

1. *A Framework for Homelessness Prevention was created by the committee, and presented to the BCH/SYHC last year.*
 - a) *Work is being done to establish funding and build capacity to implement a local program*
2. *The State is administering an Emergency Rental Assistance Program (SB91) in response to the pandemic.*
 - a) *Local partners are participating in outreach and navigation for community members to access this service*
 - b) *Sutter Co Allocation: \$7,000,235.82*
 - c) *Yuba Co Allocation: \$5,678,961.25*

Data analysis (2017-2020) shows an average of 558 households entering the homeless services system each year

Create Safe and Informed Communities

Objectives

- Expand and improve outreach efforts
- Coordinate stakeholder engagement
- Enforce ordinances compassionately

Core Strategies

- ▶ Increase and improve coordination among outreach, engagement, coordinated entry, law/code enforcement agencies, and other systems.
- ▶ Target outreach to encampments.
- ▶ Increase community awareness of street homelessness and best practices for responding.
- ▶ Pair ordinance enforcement with compassionate supports and services.

Milestones:

1. *A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by all 6 jurisdictions, indicating responsibility and commitment to collaborate on a Homeless Engagement And Resolution Team (HEART)*
 - a) *HEART conducts outreach four days a week in the four major jurisdictions, with support from Law Enforcement*
 - b) *Referrals are made to HEART from Code Enforcement, Law Enforcement, and others*
 - c) *HEART members attempt to resolve unsheltered homelessness when an enforcement action is pending*

2. *AB 2174 was initiated by the committee, and passed through legislation, to establish a Yuba/Sutter Homeless Multi-Disciplinary Team (HEART), formalizing the ability to share information across our two counties*

Milestones:

- 3. A mirrored ordinance was adopted by the four major jurisdictions, promoting consistent enforcement throughout the bi-county region*
- 4. Monthly coordination meetings are occurring with stakeholders, to share best practices and updates on enforcement activities*
- 5. Several training opportunities are being provided to stakeholders, with the goal of improving engagement and outcomes*
- 6. Sutter and Yuba County held a series of recurring community meetings, to inform the community of work being done through outreach, enforcement, and housing. A version of these meetings will resume in virtual format in 2021, and in-person, in 2022.*

Expand Housing Options

Objectives

- Expand permanent housing options for people with extremely low income.
- Expand temporary housing options

Core Strategies

- ▶ Assess affordable housing opportunity sites in each jurisdiction in the region through continuous gathering of housing needs information
- ▶ Increase permanent housing stock for people with serious mental illness
- ▶ Promote innovative housing solutions through incentives for private developers who construct housing for people exiting homelessness
- ▶ Increase capacity of existing shelter operators
- ▶ Create new shelter and bridge housing options

Milestones:

1. *A list of regional opportunity sites for housing development has been drafted*
2. *Since 2019, bed capacity has expanded by 49%*
 - ▶ *36 shelter beds*
 - ▶ *14 permanent housing trailers*
 - ▶ *62 permanent supportive housing units*
 - ▶ *An additional 104 permanent supportive housing units are currently under development*
3. *A Landlord Incentive program was piloted in Yuba County, to support property owners in rehabbing their rental units in exchange for renting to participants for a minimum of five years. COVID impacted the roll-out of this program, but the framework is in place to begin offering this incentive.*

Provide Consistent Accurate Information

Objectives

- Inform community
- Make data-driven decisions
- Monitor outcomes

Core Strategies

- ▶ Develop common definitions of terms for use by staff and stakeholders
- ▶ Develop common set of metrics and methodologies for data collection and analysis
- ▶ Conduct additional trainings for staff entering data into HMIS
- ▶ Develop policy and procedure manual for using HMIS system, including policy for exiting someone from the HMIS system
- ▶ Identify and implement strategies to improve data quality
- ▶ Ensure adequate staffing levels dedicated to data quality, collection and analysis

Milestones:

1. *ForwardYubaSutter.com was created as a landing page for the Strategic Plan, current data, and links to other resources*
2. *SYHomelessConsortium.org was updated to be more user friendly, and provide monthly regional statistical reports*
3. *Policies and procedures for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) have been drafted, and clear expectations for data entry have been established with partner agencies*
 - ▶ *Significant work was done to improve data quality by 83%, cleaning over 3,000 data entry errors*
4. *Gaps analysis has begun and technical assistance has been requested, in order to have accurate information to inform decision making*

Finance Homeless Initiatives

Objectives

- Identify and list current and new funding opportunities
- Determine opportunities for collaboration on grant applications

Core Strategies

- ▶ Determine priority areas to focus funding on
- ▶ Determine regional funding needs for current operations
- ▶ Determine regional funding needs for future projects and expansion
- ▶ Coordinate regionally on securing funding for mirrored projects
- ▶ Determine program compatibility for funding opportunities

Milestones:

1. *Sutter and Yuba Counties collaborated with the Sutter Yuba Homeless Consortium (SYHC) to apply for both rounds of Homeless, Housing, and Prevention funds through the State, bringing in roughly \$2 million*
2. *SYHC continues to submit collaborative applications for homeless services, including all interested providers, where appropriate*
3. *SYHC has applied for new funding through Sutter Health to support the implementation of a local Homelessness Prevention Program*
4. *Both Sutter and Yuba Counties contributed their non-competitive No Place Like Home funds to create the New Haven Project*
5. *SYHC has administered over \$5 million this last year to build capacity in these priority areas*

Questions?

If you'd like additional information, please email
director@syhomelessconsortium.org