



# Children, Seniors, and Families Committee Special Joint Meeting with City of San Jose PSFSS

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HOUSING OPTIONS AND  
OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR  
SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED  
VIOLENCE AND CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

## Panelist

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Survivor Testimonial

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Aida Zaldivar, Community Solutions

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Consuelo Hernandez, Director, Office of Supportive Housing

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Jennifer Loving, Executive Director, Destination Home

From Crisis to Long-Term Sustainability

# HOUSING STRATEGIES FOR SURVIVORS OF GBV

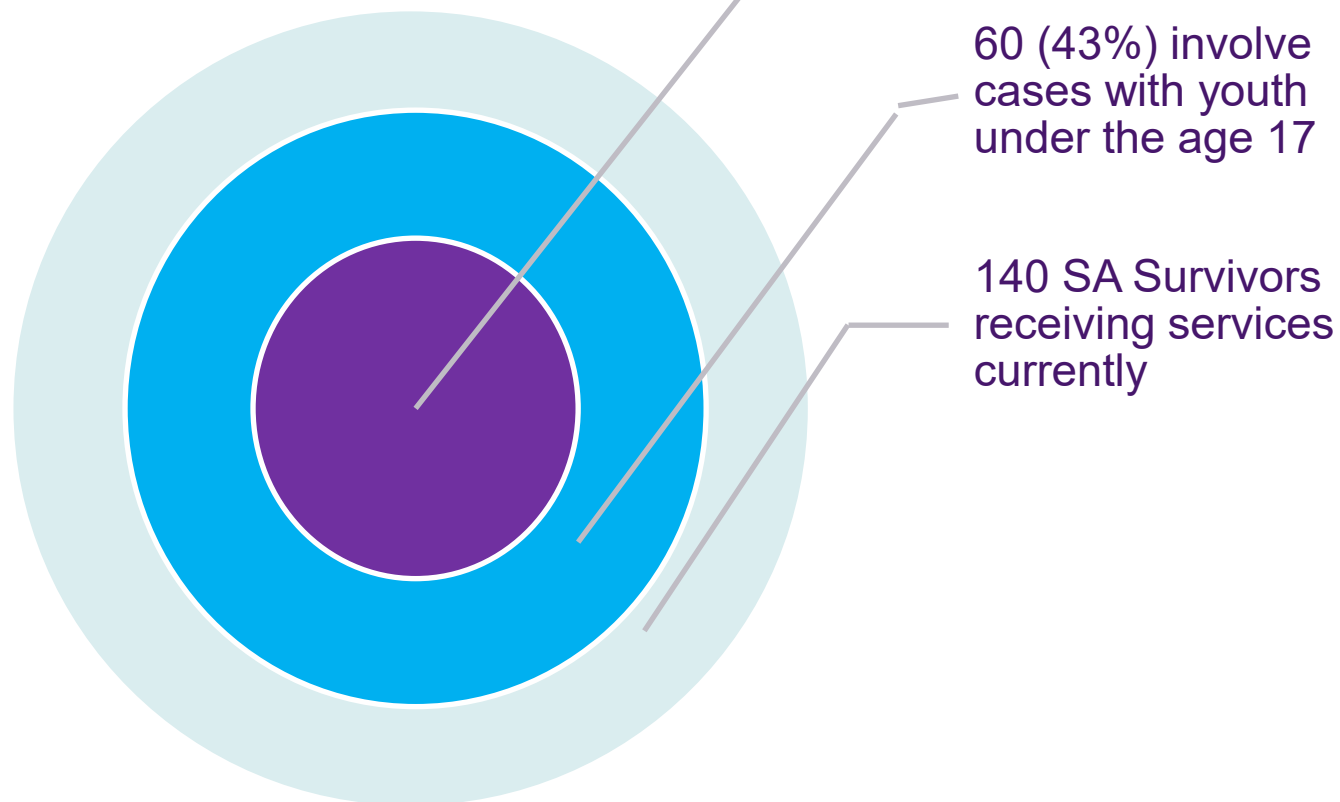


# Challenges Housing and Sexual Assault

- Prior to Covid-19 many SA clients could only access 3-day emergency hoteling after fleeing homes with sexual assault
  - If domestic violence was also present the family could then qualify into our domestic violence shelters
- With more families living in homes with multiple families we are seeing incidents of sexual violence that occurred among roommates and would not qualify for emergency IPV shelter because they did not qualify as *Intimate Partner Violence survivors*



# Community Solutions' Snapshot of Sexual Assault

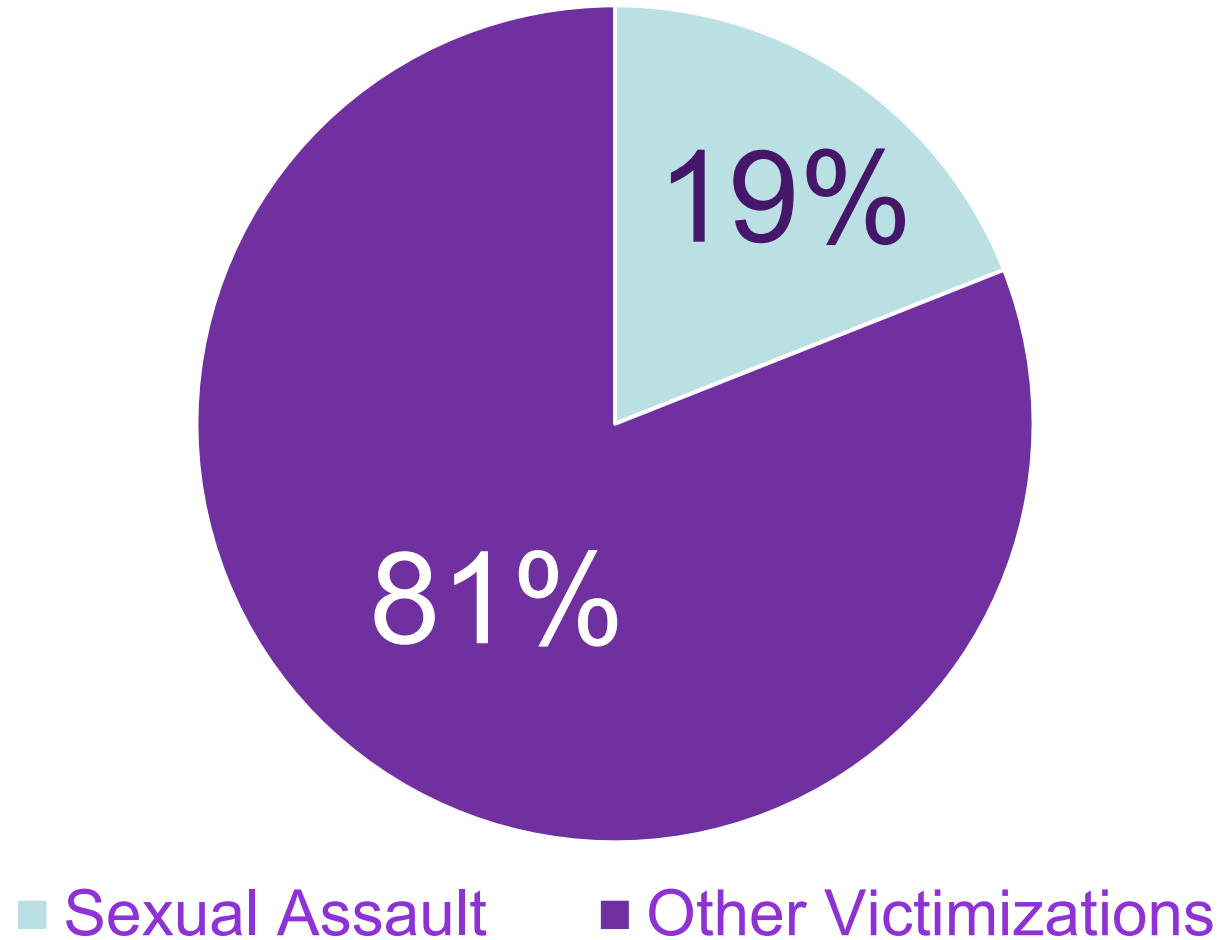


# Housing and Sexual Assault

- Many parents are tasked with trying to stabilize and find income, while not having access to daycare or support systems for their children (maybe due to safety, loss of support systems, distrust of outside providers) which impacts their ability to earn and qualify for rooms/apartments for rent
- Homeless adult clients who experience sexual violence by other homeless individuals now have to use the same homeless shelters and spaces which puts them more at risk.



# Snapshot of 105 Homeless GBV Survivors Served



**ENSURE A CONTINUUM OF CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE POLICIES,  
SERVICES AND SUPPORT THAT PRIORITIZES SURVIVORS'  
WELLBEING FROM CRISIS TO LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY.**



**Crisis/Urgent**

Establishing Basic Needs



**Stabilization**

Transitioning Towards  
Self Sufficiency &  
Economic Empowerment



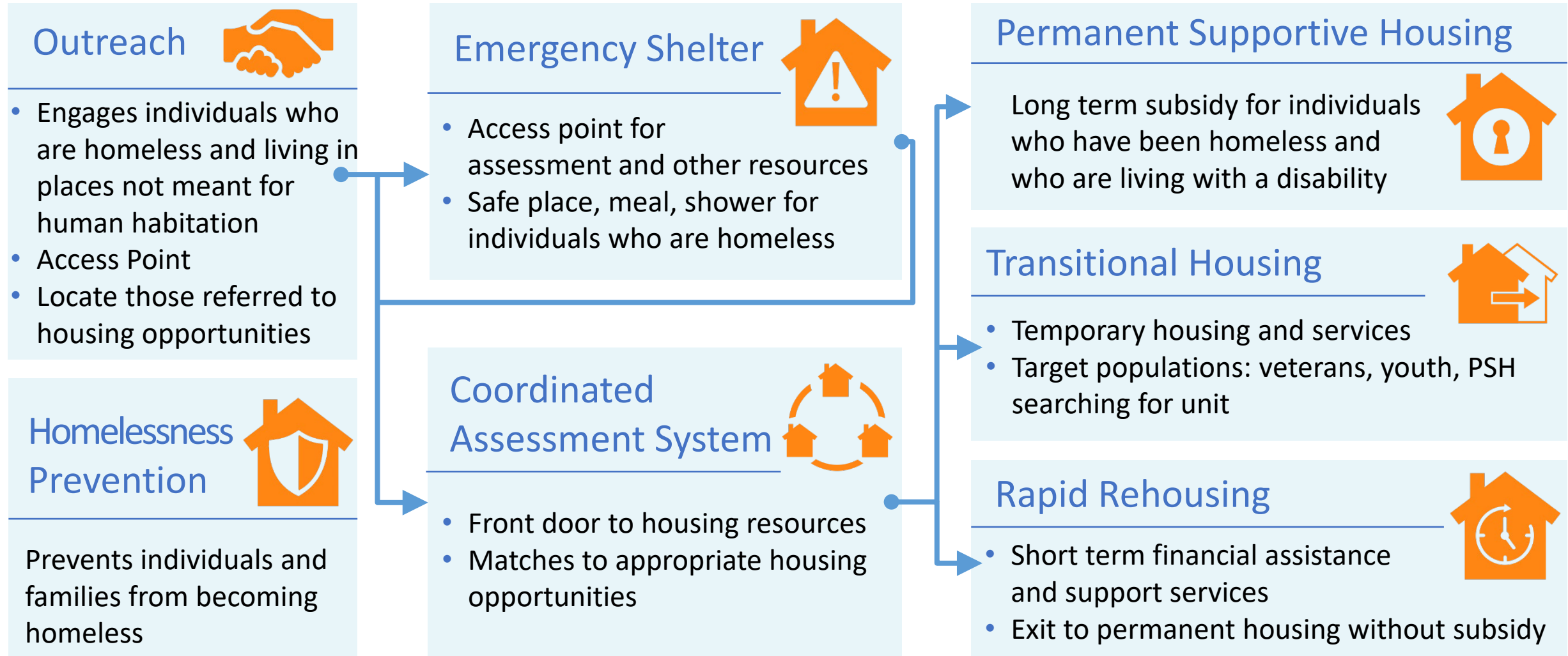
**Sustainability**

Maintaining Permanent  
Housing

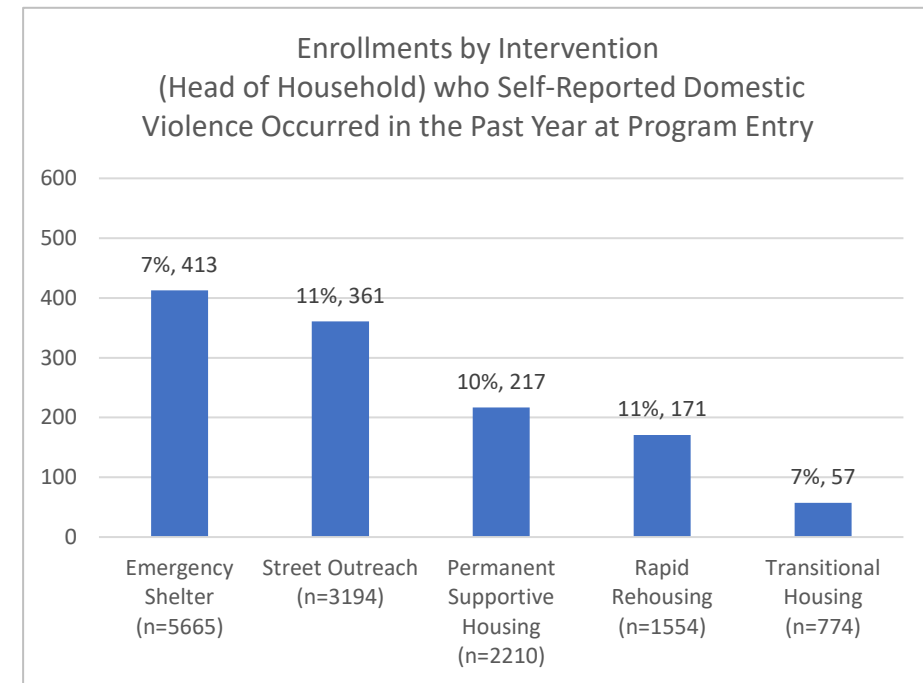
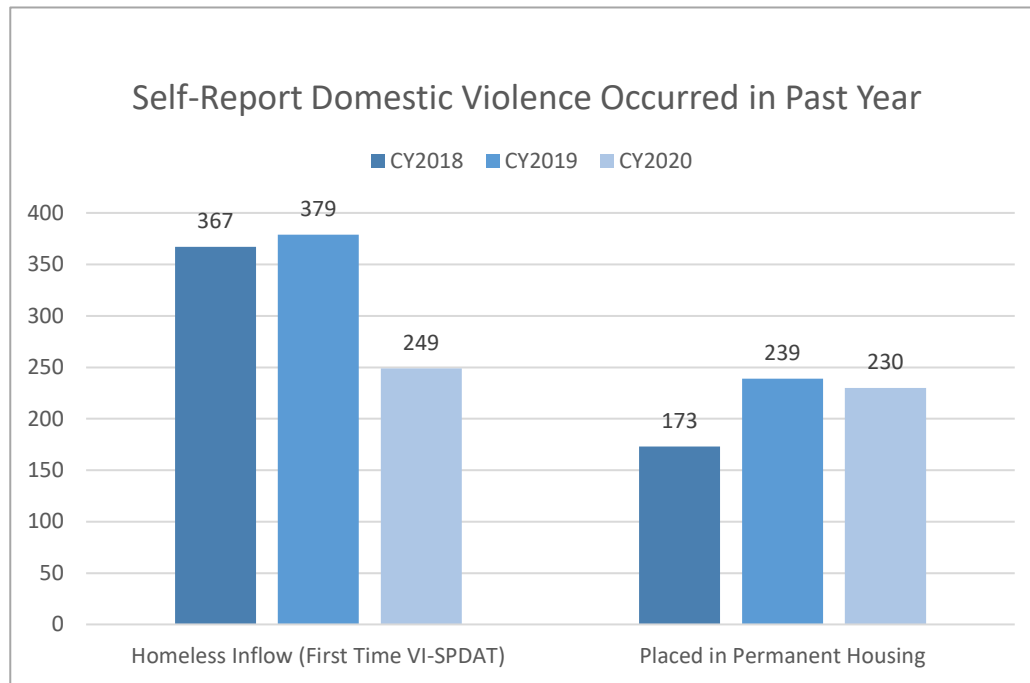




# Supportive Housing System Map



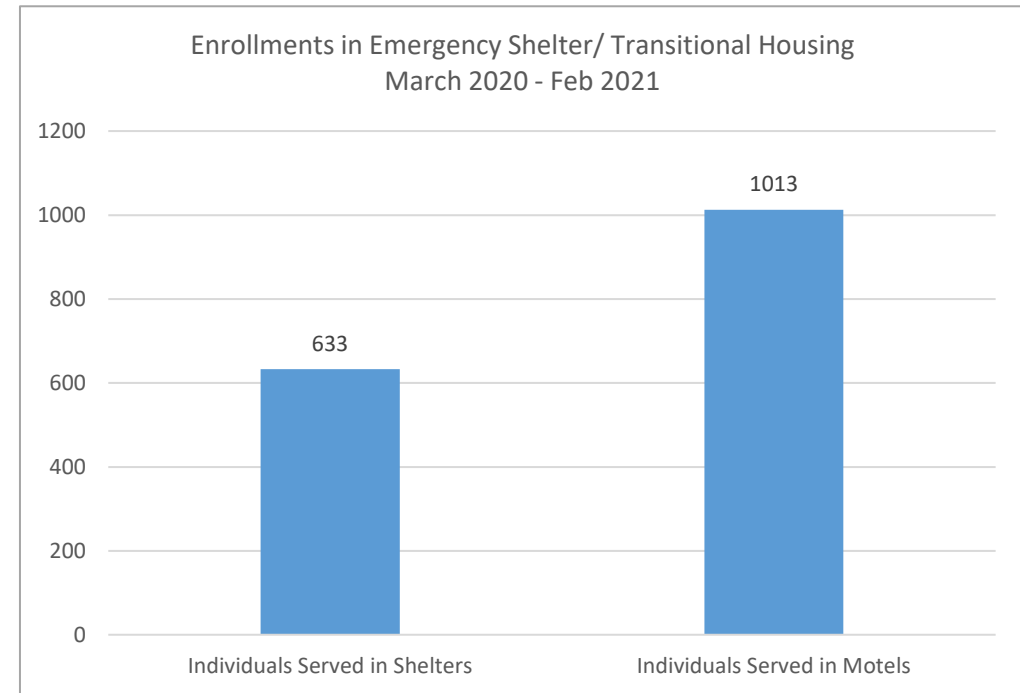
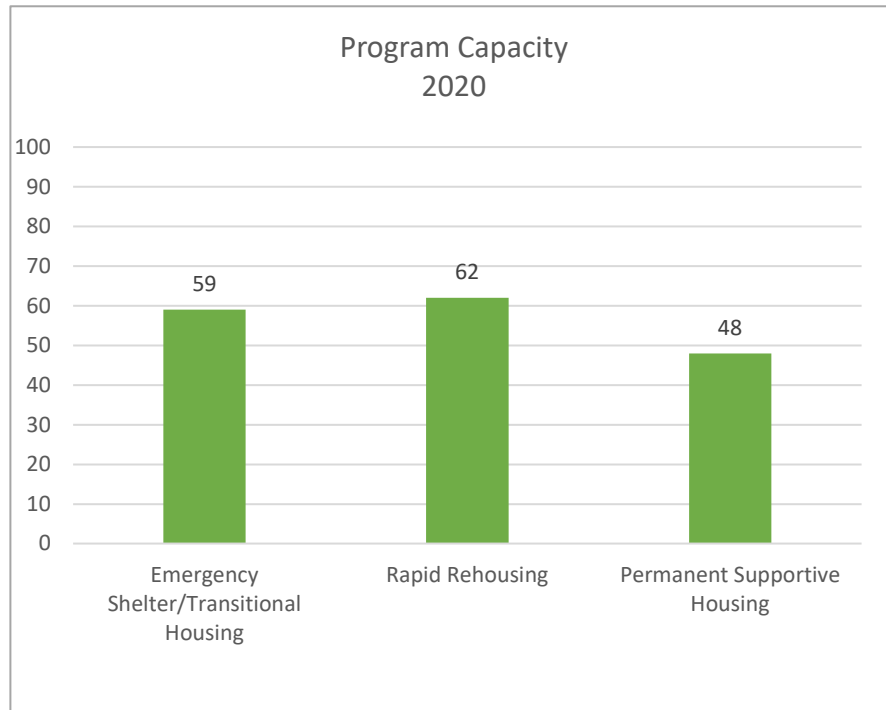
# Analysis of Survivors: Served through the Supportive Housing System



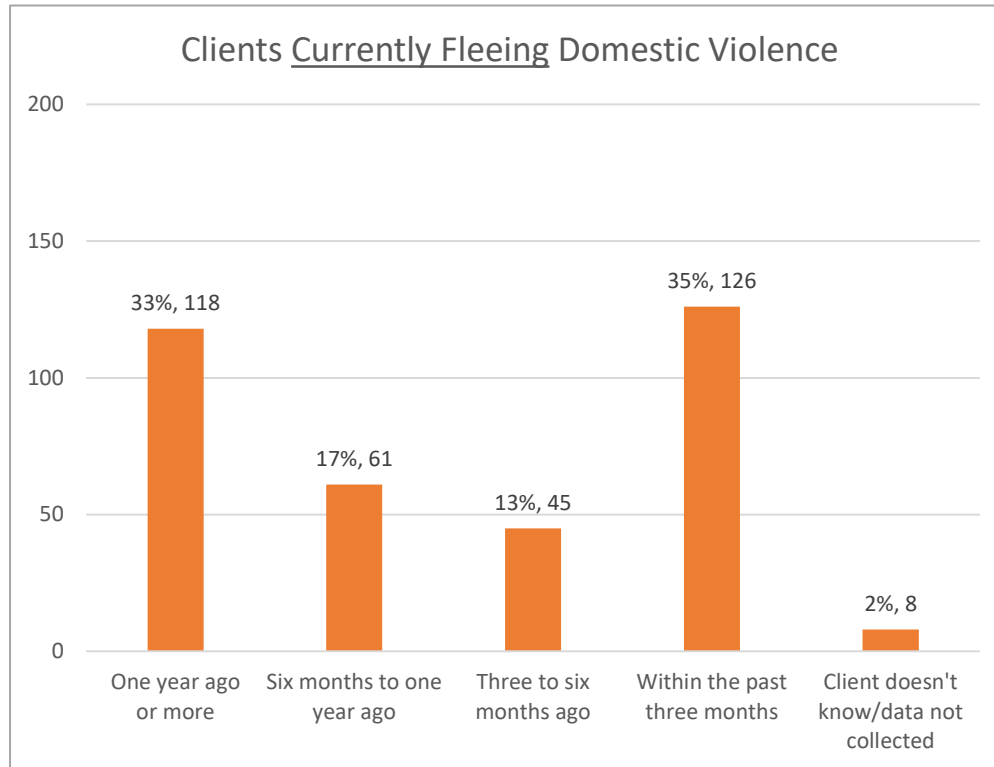
- Between July 1, 2020 and April 23, 2021 of those served through the Homelessness Prevention System, 215 clients reported a domestic violence occurrence.

# Analysis of Survivors: Service through a victims service provider

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# Analysis of Survivors: Current Need



## Characteristics of those currently fleeing domestic violence

- 358 clients on the Community Queue reported currently fleeing from Domestic Violence
  - 323 households are single adults.
  - 35 households include a household size of two or more.
  - 267 are female, 83 are male and 6 are transgender.

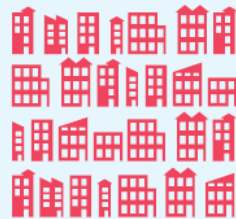
## Their housing intervention is:

- 77% Permanent Supportive Housing
- 22% Rapid Rehousing
- 1% Minimal Intervention

# Housing Opportunities: New Housing Developments



**3,032** New  
Apartments  
Funded

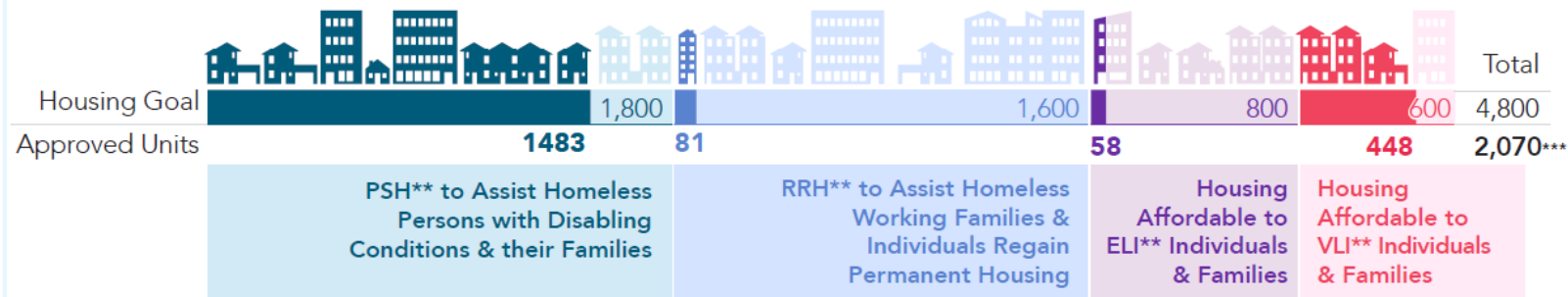


**28** Housing  
Developments  
Funded



**\$377,134,646**  
in Multi-Family  
Housing  
Developments  
Approved

## 2016 Measure A Production Goals & Progress



\*\*PSH (Permanent Supportive Housing), RRH (Rapid Rehousing), ELI (Extremely Low Income), VLI (Very Low Income)

\*\*\*440 additional units of affordable housing and apartments for building managers brings the total to 3,032 apartments approved in the last three years.

## YEAR 4 IMPLEMENTATION

**\$533,001,528**

IN MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT APPROVED

**7** CITIES

**2,969** NEW  
APARTMENTS

**618** UNITS RENOVATED

**34** HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENTS

**\$25 MILLION**

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER PROGRAM

\*As of February, 2021. The implementation update does not include County acquisitions.

# Housing Rights and Tenant Protections

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## Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

- VAWA 1994: in response to rising incidences of domestic abuse and strong advocacy and public support, Congress passed the VAWA to provide federal resources for coordinated responses to violence
- VAWA 2005: language amended to protect victims from admission denials, subsidy terminations, and evictions due to their abusers' acts
- VAWA 2013: expanded housing protections, added coverage of sexual assault victims, and mandated compliance from additional housing program

# VAWA Crimes Defined in Federal Legislation

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Sexual assault: any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent

Domestic violence: includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by the perpetrator

- It is important to note that the 2013 reauthorization broadened this definition, no longer requiring the abuse be perpetrated by a spouse

# VAWA Final Rule

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## Emergency Shelters, Short-term Supported Housing, and Safe Haven Coverage in the Rule:

While these projects are not subject to many of the VAWA related requirements, ALL types of housing projects are prohibited from denying admission to a housing program or terminating housing assistance based on an applicant being a victim or survivor of a VAWA defined crime.



# Recommendations

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## CRISIS PHASE FOR ADULTS

- Homeless shelter for women, or female identifying individuals

## CRISIS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- Shelter for individuals and families fleeing sexual assault with their children for one year
  - Emergency Shelter for women, or female identifying individuals and their children
  - Setup like Depot Commons – to include day care services

## STABLIZATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- Adding daycare funds to housing programs to allow women with children opportunities to access – or creating pathways with day care providers for this (supporting female entrepreneurs)

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# Recommendations Continued

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Create a Work Group to identify real property, community based organizations, State, City and County partnerships to address current challenges and propose a 5- year collaborative approach to curb existing housing issues for survivors of all forms of sexual of Gender-Based Violence (.e. IPV, SA, HT).

Identify resources and infrastructure to ensure sustainability for Survivors

# Questions

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