



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 21, 2015

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Administration, Housing & Human Services Division,
Community Development Department Name

SUBJECT: 2015 Homeless Point In Time Count And Vulnerability Survey Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive a report from the Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness (C3H) on the 2015 Homeless Point In Time Count and Vulnerability Survey.

DISCUSSION:

Since 2003, all Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care communities have been required to conduct a biennial Point in Time (PIT) Count of people experiencing homelessness.

The PIT Count is a snapshot of people encountered during a two day period; therefore it is limited to the number of people encountered during this specific time. It does not capture data on every person who experiences homelessness.

In addition to the PIT Count, a Vulnerability Survey has been administered along with the count since 2011. This survey gathers self-reported data on those experiencing homelessness, which allows providers to assess the health and housing needs of each person in order to target appropriate resources.

The 2015 PIT and Vulnerability Survey was conducted on January 28th and 29th. There were 893 contacts in the City of Santa Barbara during this year's count, down from 946 in 2013 and 1,040 in 2011. This equals a 14% decrease over the past four years. Approximately 61% of the persons experiencing homelessness countywide were in the City of Santa Barbara. Key observations from the data collected include:

- ✓ ~52% of survey respondents report that they lived in Santa Barbara County, prior to becoming homeless.
- ✓ People experiencing homelessness continue to face a high risk of violence and trauma, serious injury, chronic disease, and mental illness.

- ✓ ~74% of those surveyed report that they are enrolled in some type of health insurance.

✓

The Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness has adopted three strategies to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness and reduce the impacts of homelessness on the community: Housing First, Housing Ready and Family/Employer Reunification.

“Housing First” is an approach that offers permanent, affordable housing as quickly as possible and then provides the supportive services and connections to the community-based support people need to keep their housing and avoid returning to homelessness. This strategy is a best practices model for vulnerable persons experiencing chronic homelessness who are frequent users of hospitals, jails and law enforcement.

“Housing Ready” consists of emergency shelter and/or transitional housing with supportive services and a transition to permanent housing. It is a frequently used strategy for persons or families who need assistance with employment, money management, education and/or substance abuse.

“Reunification” involves connecting individuals experiencing homelessness with their families or previous employers and helping the individual/family relocate successfully. This strategy is typically implemented when a person has no source of income and has caring family who can provide housing and support.

The information gathered from the PIT Count and Vulnerability Survey assists providers in determining which strategy to employ, depending upon the needs and circumstances of each individual or family.

ATTACHMENT: 2015 Point In Time Count and Vulnerability Survey Data for the City of Santa Barbara

PREPARED BY: Sue Gray, Community Development Business Manager

SUBMITTED BY: George Buell, Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office

2015 COUNT & SURVEY DATA

City of Santa Barbara

POINT IN TIME COUNT DATA: 2011 – 2015

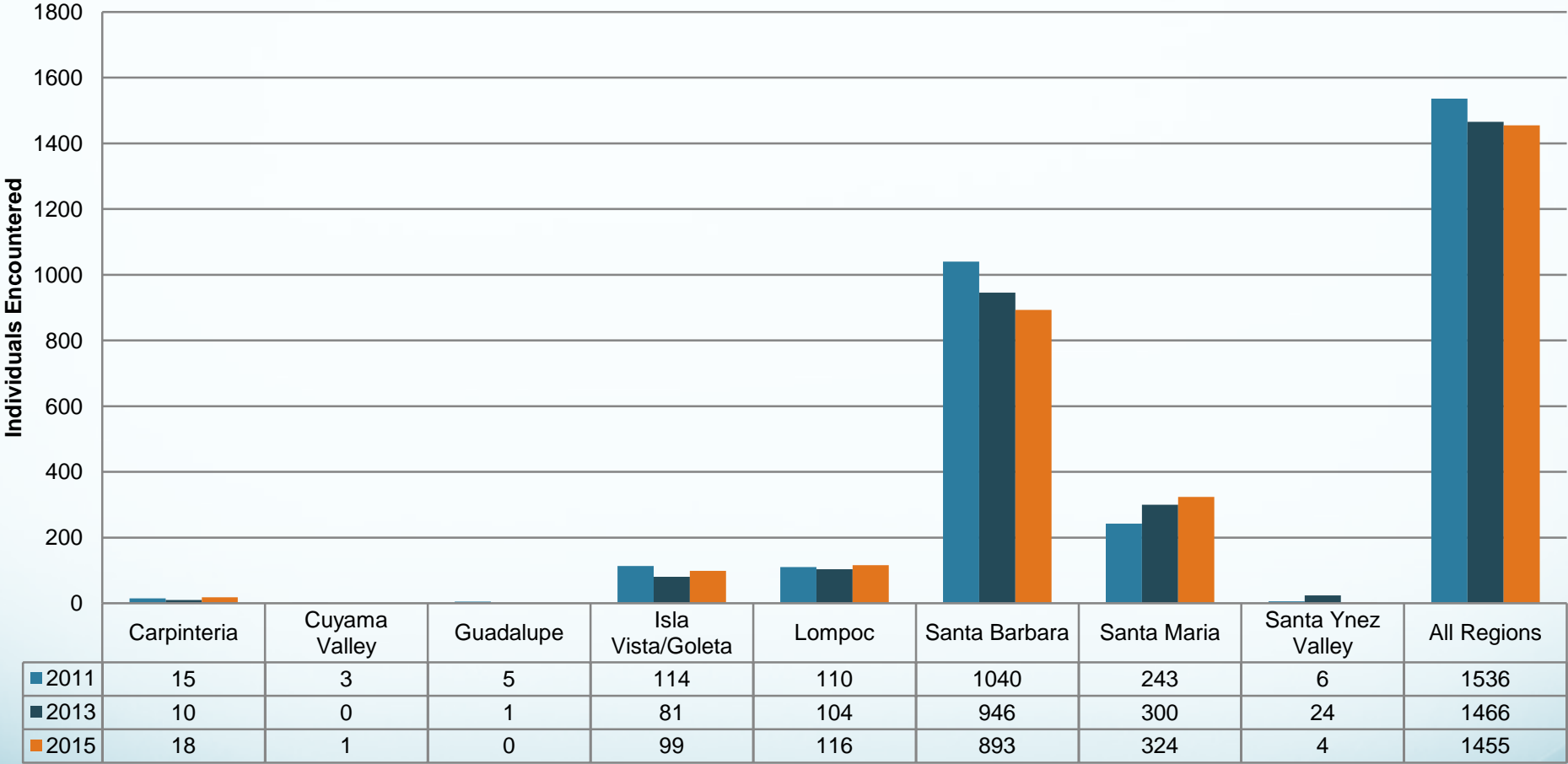
GENERAL COUNT INFORMATION – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA	2015	2013	2011
Individuals Encountered	893	946	1,040
% Change from Previous Count	-5%	-9%	N/A

POINT IN TIME COUNT DATA (cont.)

CONTACTS BY REGION – INDIVIDUALS	2015 TOTAL	2015 %	2013 TOTAL	2013 %	2011 TOTAL	2011 %
Carpinteria	18	1.2%	10	0.68%	15	0.98%
Cuyama Valley	1	0.07%	0	0.20%	3	0.20%
Guadalupe	0	0%	1	0.07%	5	0.33%
Isla Vista/Goleta*	99	12%	81	6.53%	114	7.42%
Lompoc	116	7.9%	104	7.09%	110	7.16%
Santa Barbara	893	61.3%	946	64.53%	1,040	67.71%
Santa Maria	324	22%	300	20.46%	243	15.82%
Santa Ynez Valley	4	0.27%	24	1.64%	6	0.39%
ALL REGIONS	1,455	100%	1,466	100%	1,536	100%

*IV/Goleta data has been aggregated for comparative purposes; in 2015, 62 individuals were encountered in IV, and 37 individuals were encountered in Goleta.

DISTRIBUTION BY REGION



LIVING SITUATION & LOCATION PRIOR TO HOMELESSNESS – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

LIVING SITUATION	2015* %
Street	40%
Vehicle	16%
Shelter	33%
Doubled Up	3%
SRO < 1 year	1%
Transitional	3%
Other	4%
Unknown/Refused	0%
TOTAL	100%

LOCATION BEFORE HOMELESS	2015* %
North Santa Barbara County	14.7%
South Santa Barbara County	36.8%
Other Part of State	22.4%
Out of State	23.9%
Not Listed	2.2%
TOTAL	100%

51.5% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara report that they lived somewhere in Santa Barbara County prior to becoming homeless.

*Of 585 completed VI-SPDAT surveys.

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHICS – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

45 years old – the average age of individuals contacted during 2015 survey in the City of Santa Barbara.

6.1 years – the average length of time 2015 survey respondents report being homeless in the City of Santa Barbara.

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHIC INFO	2015 %
Male	76%
Female	23%
Transgender	0.3%

15% of survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara are Veterans.

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHICS – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA (cont.)

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHIC INFO	2015* %
Foster Care	15%
Victim of Domestic Violence	32%
Victim of Violence/Trauma	58%
ER Visits – Previous Year	38%
Hospital Admissions – Previous Year	33%
Jail	74%
Prison	27%

32% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report experiencing domestic violence.

58% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report experiencing violence/trauma.

*Of 585 completed VI-SPDAT surveys.

High rates of incarceration self-reported among survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara.

HEALTH-RELATED DEMOGRAPHICS – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

HEALTH-RELATED DEMOGRAPHICS	2015* %
Hepatitis	14%
Traumatic Brain Injury	25%
Coronary Artery Disease/Hypertensive Heart Disease	19%
COPD/Asthma	18%
Cold Weather Injury	7%
Hot Weather Injury	13%
Prescribed Medications	38%
Taking Medications	57%

25% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report traumatic brain injury.

Higher proportion of **hot weather injury** reported, as compared to cold weather injury.

*Of 585 completed VI-SPDAT surveys.

HEALTH-RELATED DEMOGRAPHICS – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA (cont.)

HEALTH-RELATED DEMOGRAPHICS	2015* %
Liver Disease	10%
End Stage Renal Disease	4%
Alcohol Abuse	39%
Mental Illness	65%
Severe Mental Illness	49%
Treated for Mental Health Issue	56%
Physical Disability	30%
Diabetes – Type 1 or 2	9%
Tuberculosis	4%
HIV Positive	4%
Cancer	9%

65% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report mental illness, and **49%** self-report severe mental illness.

39% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report abuse of alcohol.

*Of 585 completed VI-SPDAT surveys.

HEALTH INSURANCE – CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

HEALTH INSURANCE	2015* %
Medi-Cal	52.3%
Medicare	10.3%
Medi/Medi	3.2%
VA Healthcare	3.9%
Private Insurance	3.8%
Other	0%
No Insurance	21.4%
Not Listed	5.1%
TOTAL	100%

73.5% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report enrollment in some form of health insurance.

~52% of 2015 survey respondents in the City of Santa Barbara self-report enrollment in Medi-Cal.

*Of 585 completed VI-SPDAT surveys.