

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING: June 28, 2011 – SCHEDULED	AGENDA NO: S-2
SUBJECT: Receive the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report	
DEPARTMENT: Social and Employment Services	

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:
Receive the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Every two years in January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of their homeless populations in order to gain a better understanding of the service needs of that population. The homeless census is a requirement to apply for federal funding for homeless services through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The homeless census report is a necessary component for Monterey County to receive approximately \$1.6M in federal HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding that supports county non-profit shelter and homeless service providers. The 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Point-in-Time Counts were a community-wide effort conducted on January 26, 2011. The results of those homeless counts are enumerated in the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report.

San Benito County joined the Salinas/Monterey County CoC so that it may apply for its "Pro Rata" share of HUD McKinney-Vento funding for the first time. The State established a number of incentives to encourage CoCs to merge with counties that are not currently part of a CoC, one of which is the potential to receive additional points on their HUD application for homeless funds.

In Monterey County, the census identified 1,837 individuals that were unsheltered (living on the streets or in vehicles, abandoned buildings, encampments) and 670 individuals that were sheltered (living in emergency shelters or transitional housing, using motel vouchers) for a total street count of 2,507 homeless individuals. The total number of homeless individuals increased 4% between the 2009 and 2011 census counts which constitutes about 1% of Monterey County's population.

In addition to the county-wide homeless census, an in-depth 34 question survey was administered in the weeks following the street count to 553 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in Monterey County, and 41 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in San Benito County. In 2011, Monterey County increased its efforts to include unaccompanied children (children under the age of 18 who are homeless and living independent of a parent or legal guardian) and homeless youth (individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 years old); 51 unaccompanied homeless children and youth answered the survey.

While the number of homeless persons in Monterey County has increased over the past two years, homeless services providers strongly believe that the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-

Housing Program (HPRP) has been effectively keeping many individuals and families from becoming homeless and assisted homeless persons in obtaining stable housing. As of March 31, 2011, 1,895 households have been assisted through the HPRP Program in Monterey County.

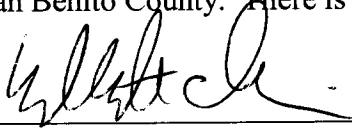
The 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report was prepared by Applied Survey Research and coordinated by the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers. The Report was funded by United Way Monterey County, the Monterey County Department of Social and Employment Services and Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division, and San Benito County. The Report was also supported by many local nonprofits who provide services to homeless individuals and families. The Homeless Census Count was conducted by community volunteers; guidance to areas where homeless lived or congregated was provided by homeless or formerly homeless individuals who received a small stipend for their efforts.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report was prepared by Applied Survey Research and coordinated by the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers.


FINANCING:

The Report was funded by United Way Monterey County, the Monterey County Department of Social and Employment Services and Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division, and San Benito County. There is no impact to the County General Fund.



Elliott Robinson, Director
Department of Social & Employment Services

Date: 6/17/11



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Date: 6/17/11

Attachment: A copy of the 2011 Monterey and San Benito Counties Homeless Census and Survey Comprehensive Report is on file with the Clerk of the Board.