

Salinas Housing Advancement, Resources & Education Center

# **SHARE Center**

A Housing Navigation Center

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#### Mission

Community Human Services is a nonprofit agency dedicated to providing high quality mental health, substance use and homeless services to Monterey County residents to help them reach their full potential.

In Monterey County since 1969.





### **SHARE Center Overview**

Variable Capacity – Max. 104 beds:

- 24 men's beds
- 24 women's beds
- 56 family beds (12 bedrooms)

Case management services offered:

- Rapid Rehousing (RRH) financial assistance
- Housing navigation
- Employment assistance
- Assistance with benefits enrollment
- Linkages to medical, mental health and substance use services
- Assistance with finances/budgeting
- Educational and vocational goals
- Family reunification

Participation in program is not required.

### **Overview Continued**

### **Eligibility:**

- Federal definition of homelessness
- Non-violent
- Not registered sex offender
- Capable of self-care

#### **Intake Process:**

- 1) Phone screening for eligibility
- 2) Intake session scheduled if bed is available:
  - Meet with a Case Manager for in-processing
  - Review program guidelines
  - Tour facility
- 3) Placed on waitlist if bed unavailable



### **Overview Continued**

### **Program Amenities:**

- Laundry facilities
- Health clinic hours
- Donated clothing, hygiene kits, toys/games, etc.
- Computer/internet access
- Garden boxes
- TV projector
- Outdoor relaxation areas
- Dog kennels for pets
- Healthy meals and snacks
- On-site medical clinic



### **Program Guidelines**

#### The SHARE Center is:

- Low-barrier shelter guided by Housing First principles
  - Minimizes barriers to entry, such as identification, sobriety, and mandatory program participation
  - Focuses on access to permanent housing

#### The SHARE Center is not:

• Transitional Housing

Guests are supported in setting achievable goals in a personalized housing plan.

Length of stay is determined by guest progress and housing availability.

Progress reviewed every 30 days.



## **SHARE Center Staff**

- ▶ .25 FTE Senior Program Officer, Homeless Services
- ▶ 1 FTE Program Officer II, SHARE Center
- ▶ 1 FTE Program Coordinator
- ▶ 4 FTE Case Manager/Housing Navigators
- 3 FTE Support Counselor II
- ▶ 8.2 FTE Support Counselor I (7 FT and 1.2 PT)
- ▶ 1 FTE Office Manager
- ► 1 FTE Office Assistant
- ► Subcontract with Dorothy's Place: 2 FTE Case Manager/Housing Navigators
- Subcontract with Victory Mission: Food Service

### **Initial Challenges**

- CHS assumed operations in September 2024
- Staffed at 60% with a census of 78 individuals
  - o As of 4/30/25, staffed at 95% (1 vacancy) with a census of 82
- Waitlist of 539 households (1,129 people)
  - o As of 4/30/25, waitlist of 180 households (406 individuals)
- Immediately began addressing:
  - Cleaning up waitlist
  - o Onsite drug use
  - o Guest aggression toward staff and each other
  - Limited progress on housing goals
  - Excessive lengths of stay
    - "Occupied" beds frequently empty
    - 16% stayed 1-3 years (HMIS data from year prior)
- Implemented new guest handbook
  - o Encountered/dealt with resistance to added structure
  - o Improved safety and security, accountability and progress
  - Majority of guests and staff appreciate improvements
  - City/County staff approved



### **Challenges Continued**

Limited office space for case managers and support counselors

- Using computer room for case managers
- Modular installed for client computer use
- Modular installed for support counselors

Bed bug infestation/eradication in October, November & December

Washer/driers inoperable until mid-November

• Off-site facilities used. Coins provided

Electrical outlets insufficient to power bed bug boxes

• Only one usable outlet located in playroom

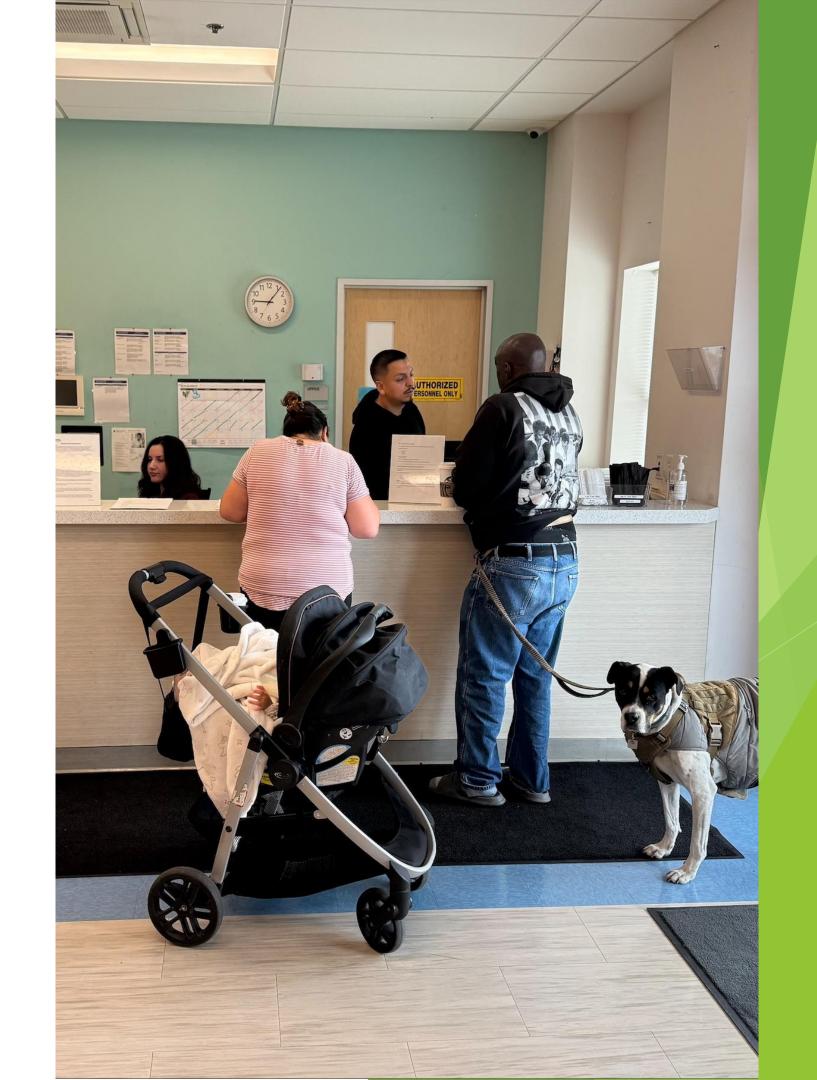
Water filtration system inoperable until April

• Bottled water provided

Carpeting in computer room scheduled for replacement in June

Facility interior scheduled to be painted in June.

Kennel expansion and backyard improvements in discussion.



### Outcomes for the Period of 9/1/24 - 4/30/25

### **TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED: 222**

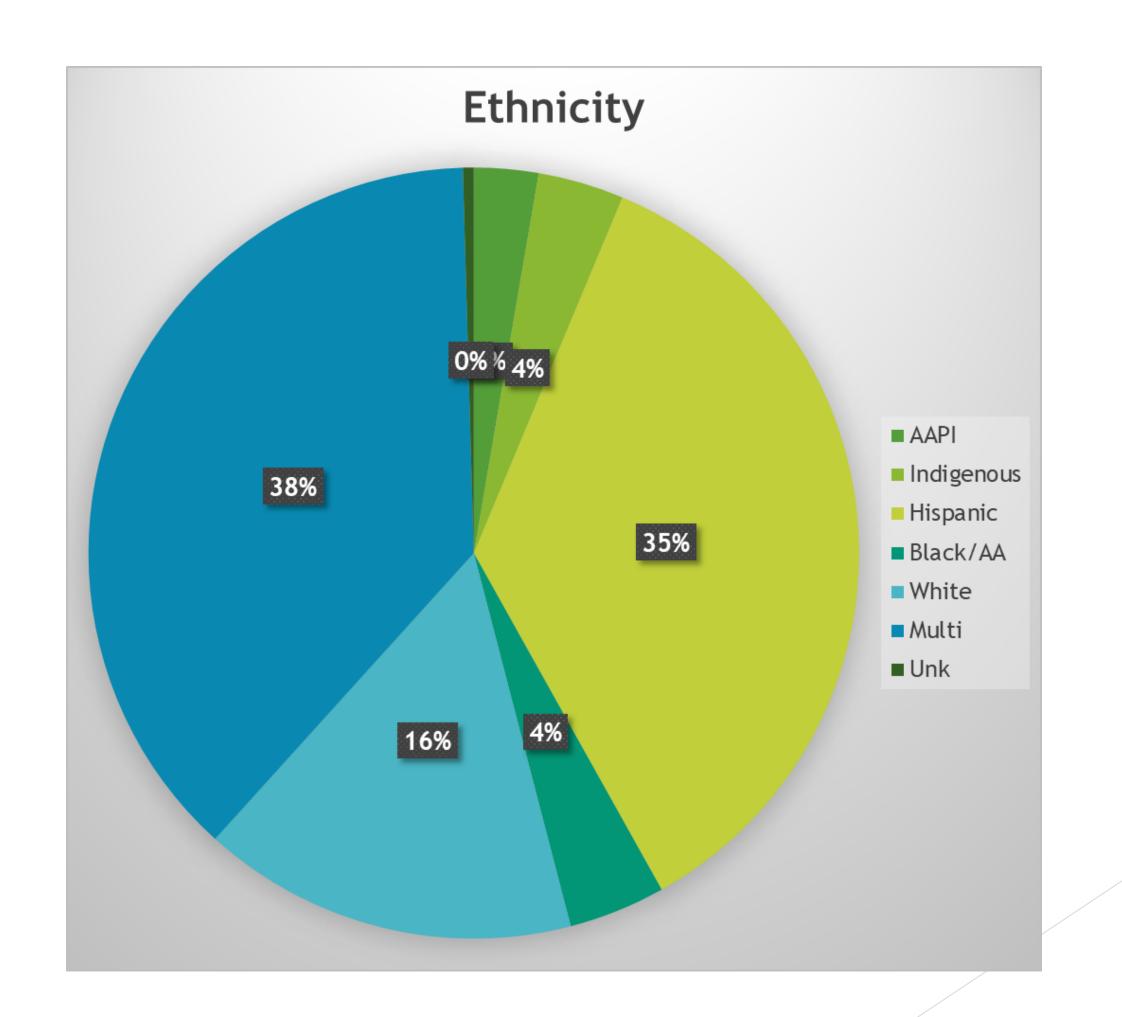
Del Rey Oaks	3
Greenfield	1
King City	3
Marina	3
Prunedale	5
Salinas	198
Sand City	1
Seaside	1
Soledad	1
Watsonville	1
Other	5

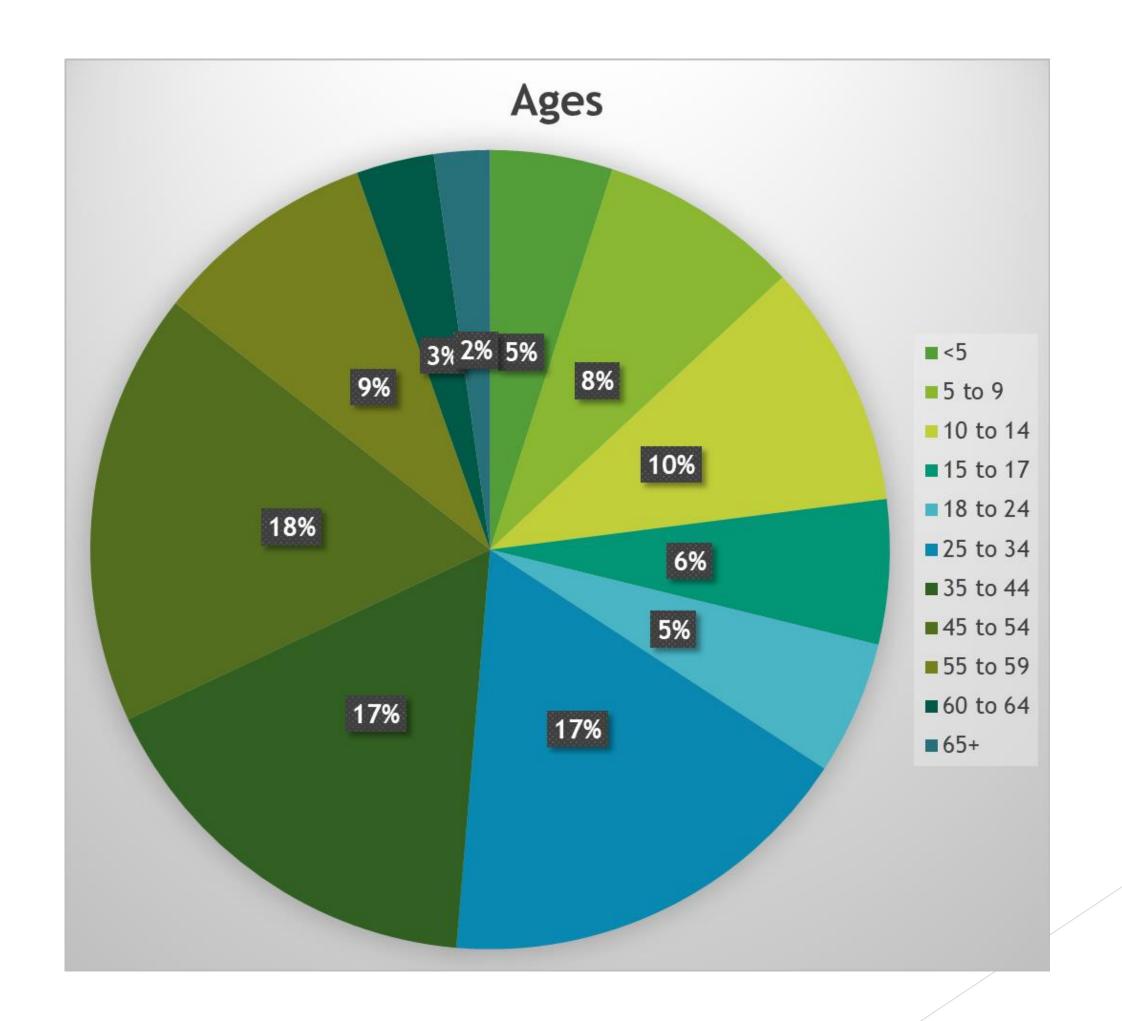
 Male:
 99

 Female:
 120

 Other:
 3







### **Outcomes Continued**

### TOTAL INDIVIDUALS EXITED: 74

Permanent Housing	34	(46%)
Transitional Housing	15	(20%)
Institution	2	(3%)
Homeless/Other Shelter	9	(12%)
Other	14	(19%)

### INDIVIDUALS CONNECTED TO BENEFITS: 146 (94%)

Cal Fresh	71 (48%)
WIC	6 (.4%)
General Assistance	8 (.5%)
TANF	8 (.5%)
SSDI	9 (.6%)
SSI	12 (.8%)
UI	2 (.1%)
Medi-Cal	133 (91%)
Medi-Care	11 (.7%)
VA Health	1 (negligible)



### **Outcomes Continued**

### **Employment**

- 16 employment placements since 9/1/24
- Assistance provided:
  - Preparing resume
  - ► Filling out job applications
  - Online job searches
  - Preparing for interviews
  - Transportation to interviews and job fairs

### Pet Census

4 dogs



2 cats



▶ 1 bird



### **Outcomes Continued**

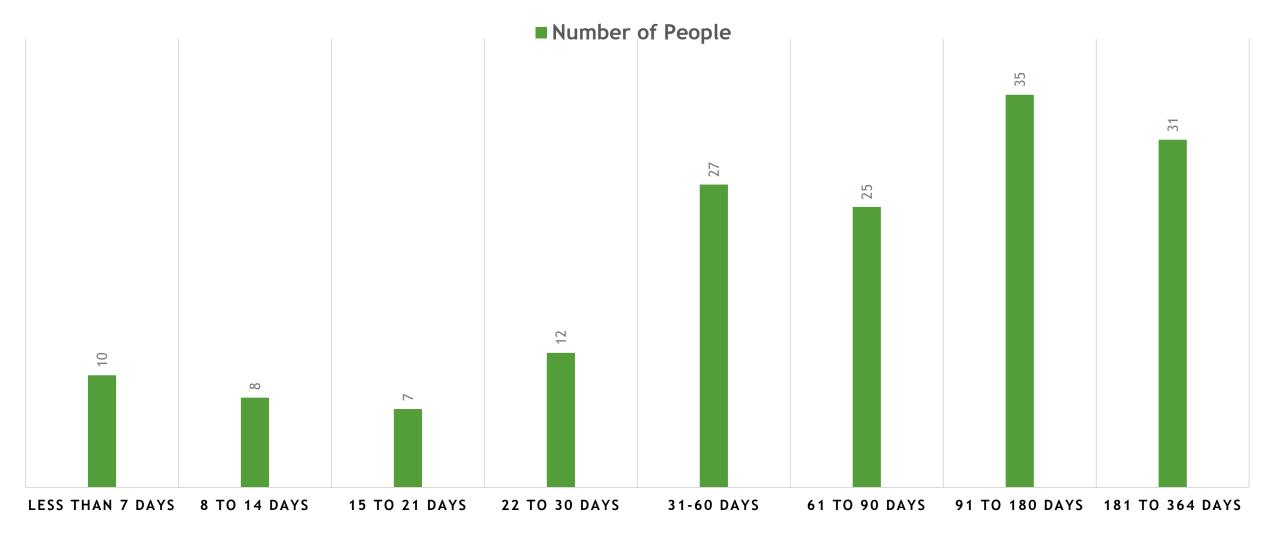
### Recent Housing Placements

- February
  - ▶ 4 Permanent
  - ► 6 Transitional
- March
  - ▶ 9 Permanent
  - ▶ 0 Transitional
- April
  - ▶ 3 Permanent
  - ▶ 3 Transitional

### **Community Partners**

- Dorothy's Place/House of Peace
- Victory Mission
- Housing Resource Center
- Housing Authority
- Community Homeless Solutions
- Door to Hope
- Sun Street
- Monterey County Behavioral Health
- ► MCOE
- Dept. of Social Services
- Property management/private landlords

# AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY 9/1/24 - 4/30/25



### Factors contributing to longer stays:

- Little to no housing history
- High cost of living
- Medical or mental health issues

### Service Goals for the Period of 9/1/24 - 4/30/25

#### Goal 1: 90% occupancy

• Outcome: Grew from 78% in Sep. to 90% in May.

#### Goal 2: 70% exit to PH

• Outcome: 46%

#### Goal 3: Exit 100% to known destinations

• Outcome: 82%

• 12% exited without notice

# Goal 4: Provide 12 months assistance to 100% of guests receiving rental assistance

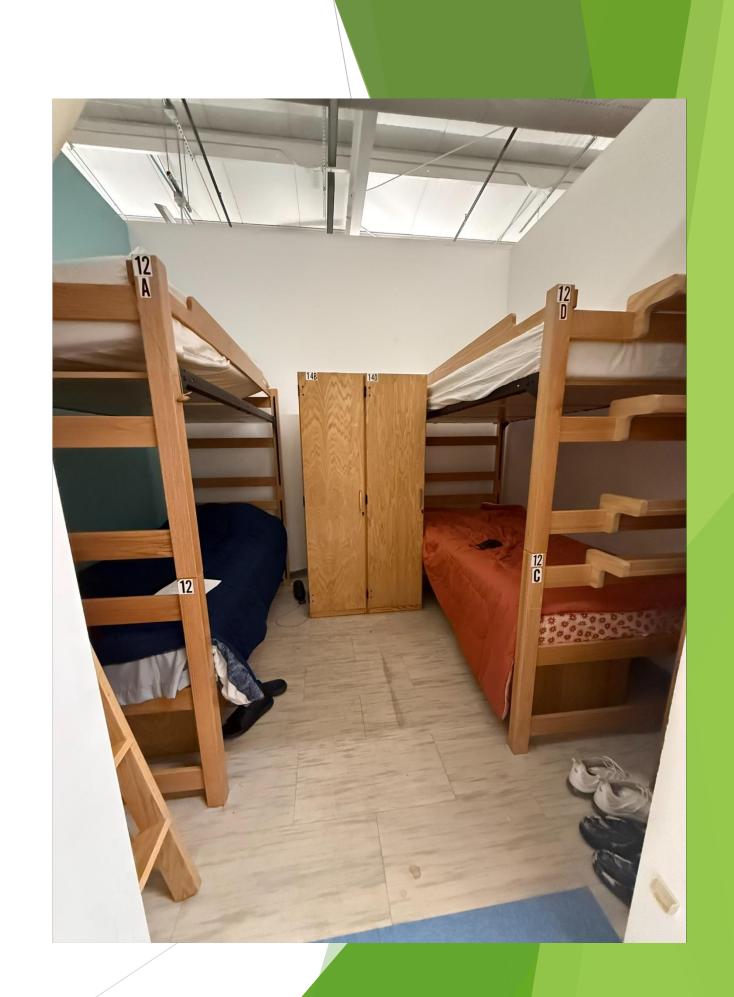
• Outcome: 100% (21 individuals)

#### **Goal 5: Complete HMIS data within 72 hours**

- Outcome: 60% of entries and 50% of exits completed within 72 hours
- Delays due largely to having to re-enter data for all guests during management transition.

### Goal 6: 100% HMIS Universal Element data completion

• Outcome: 95% completion



## **Guest Success Stories**

- Guest A. is pregnant and recently got a job in an afterschool program, a major step toward greater stability and independence.
- ► Guest E., a senior, got a housing voucher and her own apartment in April. She received household essentials and basic furnishings from the SHARE Center.
- Guest O. graduated from high school in May, despite her family's many challenges!
- ► Guest R. and her two daughters received household furnishings and kitchen essentials from the SHARE Center when they moved into their own home this spring.
- A disabling work injury left Guest S. homeless. She persevered for over two years to qualify for SSDI. She and her children moved into their own place in January.

### **Feedback**

#### Guests appreciate:

- Clearer expectations
- Increased safety and security
- Reduction in unsafe, risky behaviors on site
- Improvements in overall environment

#### Guest comments:

- "This is a dream."
- "Like a 5-star hotel."
- "Compared to other shelters I've stayed in, the SHARE Center is the best and cleanest one."
- "Keep showing up for us!"
- "It was a good experience—I've recommended it to others."

#### Guest suggestions:

- Increase staff engagement and support
- Highlight opportunities for continued growth.

