

An Initiative of Alameda County Health Care Services Agency | A Whole Person Care Pilot | May 2018

# **Partner Update**

Number of Clients Enrolled: 2,097

Days Until Grant Ends: 975 (December 31, 2020)

# Housing Crisis Impacts Public Health

To end homelessness in Alameda County, we must strengthen partnerships with property owners and housing providers, create housing support services for specific populations with physical or mental health challenges, and build respite and permanent supportive housing options. This coordinated approach to addressing housing and health needs is critical because the housing crisis is growing.

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Alameda County has increased 40 percent in the past two years, according to the EveryOne Home 2017, Point-In-Time Count. One factor placing people at risk for homelessness is rising rent costs, which have increased 13 percent in the past three years.<sup>1</sup> Over half of Alameda County residents spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing,<sup>2</sup> and 25 percent of County residents experience severe housing problems such as overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of a kitchen, or lack of plumbing facilities.<sup>3</sup>

People experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness, include veterans, families with limited incomes, individuals impacted adversely by historical policies of discrimination or illness, and a growing number of seniors. Addressing housing needs requires a whole person and systems-wide approach for lasting solutions.

Alameda County Care Connect is working with partners to address complex housing and health conditions by implementing six critical systems changes: *Care Coordination, Care Integration, Data Sharing, Housing & Homelessness, Behavioral Health Crisis Response, and Consumer and Family Experience.* 



Large outer circlerepresents the Alameda County population. The red circlerepresents the number of people experiencing homelessness.





To learn more about the types of success stories that are representative of the six critical changes, visit

http://accareconnect.org/overview/#infographicro w. For more information about Alameda County Care Connect, visit www.accareconnect.org.

# **Housing Solutions for Health**

Alameda County Care Connect is on the leading edge of innovation with major systems changes that are designed to help residents, providers, and partners. Behavioral Health Care Services, Alameda Health Consortium, Alameda Social Services, Alameda Alliance for Health, Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department, and EveryOne Home, and many others are collaborating with Alameda County Care Connect to help usher in these changes.

Care Connect is working with the County's Housing and Community Development Department and EveryOne Home to redesign housing and homeless services within the County and prepare for integrating access to healthcare into a new Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS). The HMIS is a database used to record, analyze, and transmit client data about housing services. The HMIS captures data from more than 45 community agencies providing support to those who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.



A new HMIS is scheduled to launch this Spring, and other new resources including Housing Resource Centers, Housing Problem Solving, Housing Legal Services, Housing Education Workshops, and Landlord Liaison Services are being used to facilitate critical systems changes.

Alameda County Care Connect's Housing Solutions for Health maintains a health-oriented view of housing policy and services that promote housing affordability and stability, healthy housing environments and neighborhoods. *For more information, visit the Alameda County Care Connect website at www.accareconnect.org.* 

# **Housing Navigation**

Intensive Housing Navigation services are for Alameda County Care Connect clients who are determined to be literally homeless, prioritized by a Housing Resource Center, and verified by the County as chronically homeless and high need. Housing Navigation is intended to help clients access resources such as health care services and provide support with applying for public benefits. Connections to health care services are a part of the client's support plan for housing stability.

Community supports include reunification with family and/or friends, coordinating In-Home



Support Services (IHSS) if needed, addressing housing barriers through a housing retention plan, and working with Housing Resource Center staff to ensure clients have access to additional resources. Housing Navigators work with clients until they are housed, and assist with a warm hand-off to service providers to the extent necessary for clients to retain housing.

If you know someone experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, call **2-1-1** or visit www.211alamedacounty.org.

### Consumer and Family Fellowship Nominations and Applications Due by May 15, 2018

Alameda County Care Connect is seeking nominations and applications for the Consumer & Family Fellowship. The fellowship is a program that trains people with direct lived experience to apply their skills and experience to projects that will change County health care and services for the better. Fellows need to take part in monthly training and be willing to serve 10 to 12 hours each month for one year. Fellows receive a stipend for their service.



### Who can take part?

The fellowship is open to people who:

- Live in Alameda County
- Have (or qualify for) Medi-Cal or have a family member who does
- Use at least two county healthcare or social services or have a family member who does

To nominate a consumer or family member or to apply, visit www.careconnectfellowship.com/apply.

Application deadline is May 15, 2018

## Invitation for Independent Living Operators "Bootcamp" May 18<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>

Alameda County Care Connect and the Independent Living Association (ILA) will conduct training and education for Independent Living Operators on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. So far, more than 30 Independent Living Operators have signed up for this training on best practices to manage

independent living homes. Participants will learn about public health and mental illness, emergency and crisis management, marketing, budgeting, laws and regulations.

### ILA New Membership Course: Introduction to Independent Living Operations

May 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 2000 Embarcadero, Suite 300, Oakland

May 19<sup>th</sup> form 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 2801 Broadway, Oakland

There is no cost to attend. To sign-up, contact Talia Benet, at 510-500-6794 or taliabenet@gmail.com.

### Reference List:

<sup>1</sup>Metropolitan Transportation Commission. (2018). Vital Signs. Retrieved from http://www.vitalsigns.mtc.ca.gov/rent-payments

<sup>2</sup>Healthy Alameda County Community Dashboard. (2018). Renters Spending 30 percent or more on Rent. Retrieved from http://www.healthyalamedacounty.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=393&localeId=238

<sup>3</sup>Healthy Alameda County. (2018). Severe Housing Problems. Retrieved from http://www.healthyalamedacounty.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorld=2365&localeId=238

#### AC Care Connect Steering Committee Members

Kathleen Clanon, M.D., Alameda County Care Connect | Scott Coffin, Alameda Alliance for Health | Lori Cox, Alameda County Social Services Agency | Elaine de Coligny, Everyone Home | Delvecchio Finley, Alameda Health System | Linda Gardner, Alameda County Housing & Community Development | Colleen Chawla, Health Care Services Agency | Beau Hennemann, Anthem | John Jones III, Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice | Travis Kusman, Alameda County Emergency Medical Services | Wendy Peterson, Senior Services Coalition | Ralph Silber, Alameda Health Consortium | Wendy Still, Alameda County Probation | James Wagner, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services

AC Care Connect **4-Year Timeline** 

Start-up: Jan-Jun 2017

Phase 1 Pilot: Jul 2017-Mar 2018 Apr 2018-2019

Phase 2 Pilot: Scale-up & Sustainability

Planning 2019-2020

Wrap-up & Sustainability 2021