

# **County Budget Talking Points**

ASK: Include a \$3 million allocation for Adult Housing Services and Enhanced Housing Services in the County's final budget.

## Please include this talking point in your comments:

• I support fully funding Innovative Adult Housing Services and Enhanced Housing Services in the County Budget

### Please select talking points from one or more of the following topics:

Topic: Homelessness Prevention and Wrap-Around Services

- The Innovative Adult Housing Services and Enhanced Housing Services have been immensely successful in providing stable housing and wrap-around services to vulnerable populations, including LGBTQIA+ individuals, across San Diego County.
- The services provided through these contracts PREVENT homelessness by providing one-time stipends to keep folks in their permanent, stable housing, while also helping unhoused populations navigate housing solutions.
- These services are provided by providers with lived experience who can provide culturallycompetent care and wrap-around services. Clients served through these contracts gain access to direct housing services and are brought into a wrap-around service model in which they are able to access services for a broad scope of needs, including behavioral health services.

Topic: Effective use of funds

- Innovative Adult Housing Services has already surpassed the total client goal for the ongoing contract, exemplifying the ongoing need for these services across the County.
- Through these services, over 70% of clients served were successfully linked to housing.
- These contracts are also efficient cost-saving mechanisms for the County as it is significantly less expensive to keep someone in stable housing than to find new permanent housing solutions for someone who has already fallen into homelessness.

Topic: Types of Services Provided

- The types of services provided by these programs include wrap-around services like linkages to health services and family of choice reunification.
- People can access services like temporary hotel stays with case management, and they get support with security deposits, utility assistance, move-in assistance, and referrals to eviction prevention programs.

#### Topic: The need for these services

- Nearly 40% of clients served through these programs reside outside of the City of San Diego but still within the bounds of the County of San Diego, including unincorporated regions. The County must continue to invest in programs that serve the entirety of the region.
- While San Diego continues to experience a housing and homelessness crisis, now is NOT the time to cut funding to critical services that help our community remain in their homes and off the streets.
- We understand that it is a difficult budget year, but our budget cuts cannot come at the expense of the communities who need the most support.

#### Topic: San Diego's Housing Crisis

- San Diego is in the midst of a housing crisis, where not enough affordable housing is available for people who need it.
- According to the San Diego County 2025 Affordable Housing Needs Report, 135,211 low-income renter households in the county do not have access to an affordable home.
- In 2024 there were only 8,123 beds available in the interim housing supply for persons experiencing homelessness in San Diego County, but there were more than 10,000 people experiencing homelessness in the county.
- To meet the need, San Diego does not only have to create new affordable homes, we must protect low-income households from losing their homes, help end homelessness, and close LGBTQ+ and racial equity gaps in homelessness.
- Adult Housing Services and Enhanced Housing Services helps to meet these goals by providing support for people who are losing their homes, helping people exit from homelessness, and providing support to people who are disproportionately affected by homelessness.

#### Please include this Final Talking Point in your comments:

• Including Adult Housing Services and Enhanced Housing Services in the County Budget makes sense from an economic perspective and from a humanitarian perspective. We urge you to fully fund these programs.