

# Keep People Housed



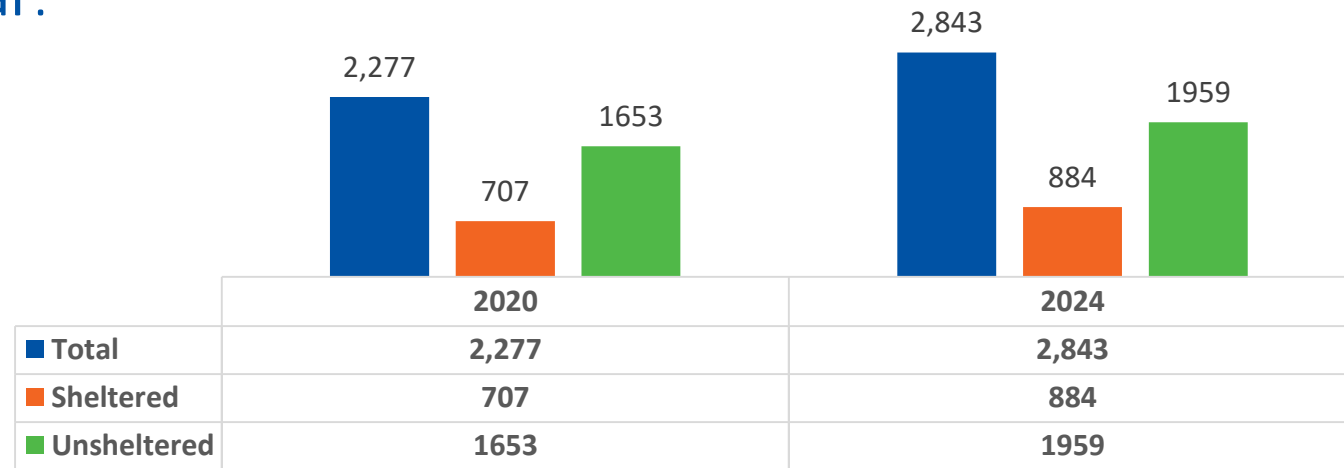
Athena Matthias  
Program Manager of Keep People Housed



♥ **Rising rents, stagnant wages, and weak renter protections** have led to homelessness

increasing year over year:

Contra Costa Point In Time Count



Number of Individuals unsheltered vs. sheltered from PIC 2020 vs 2024

♥ For every \$100 increase in the median rent, we can expect a 9% increase in homelessness

# Prevention vs Diversion

## Eviction Prevention

- Serves low income individuals with an **eviction notice**
- Funded by legal assistance funds
- Access Point: Any legal aid provider (Bay Legal, Centro, etc.)

## Homelessness Prevention

- Targeted to extremely vulnerable (extremely low income, disabling condition, living in highly distressed zip code, justice involvement, etc.) individuals who are **about to lose** their housing. One-time financial assistance to prevent losing housing.
- Funded by local government and private philanthropy
- Access Point: visit **KeepPeopleHoused.org** or 211

## Diversion

- Serves people who have **lost housing** and are about to enter shelter or sleep outside. Many are considered “transitionally homeless” (suffered major life change or catastrophe) or “hidden homeless” (often staying with friends or family)
- Goal is to return them back to previous housing, unite with family or friends, or explore shared housing opportunities
- Funded by homelessness system funds (CoC)
- Access Point: 211

## Rapid Rehousing

- Serves people who are “episodically homeless” (experienced 3 episodes in 12 months) or “chronically homeless” (unhoused for more than 1 year)
- Short term or medium term rental assistance is usually needed, as well as supportive services. Will need to enroll in “Coordinated Entry”.
- Funded by homelessness system funds (CoC)
- Access Point: 211

# What is KPH?



Since 2023, **Keep People Housed (KPH)** has been a coordinated partnership to help Contra Costa residents at risk of losing their homes. It closes the gap to support the most vulnerable people in precarious housing situations, and prevent homelessness before it starts.

Keep People Housed has been able to reach those most vulnerable, equitably by using the **Homelessness Prevention Platform (HPP)**: A web-based application portal and workflow management platform.

## **KPH with the use of HPP;**

Uses an online application, where people can apply in several languages for help paying their rent.

Use the assessment tool, which is embedded in the application and asks questions about evidence-based risk factors for homelessness.

The prioritization scores, which facilitates service providers reaching out to the highest-scoring households to offer direct financial assistance, housing stabilization services (time-limited, housing-focused case management, and legal referrals).

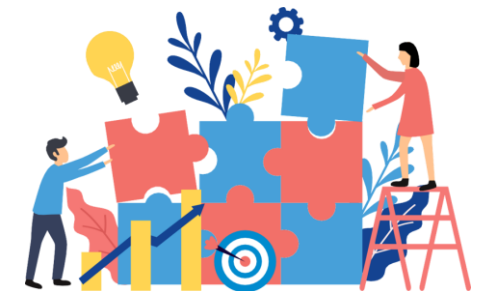
# Assessment Tool

Our assessment tool assigns point values to major risk factors.

Risk Factor	Weight	Risk Factor	Weight
<b>Household Demographics</b>			
Change in household composition	Low	Children 3-17	Medium
Pregnancy in household	Medium	Senior(s) in household	Low
Children 0-2	Medium	Head of household < 25	Low
<b>Housing/Income Status</b>			
Priority Zip Codes	Low-High	Living without a lease	High
Living in a rent-controlled unit for 5+ years	Low	Experienced homelessness ever	High
Pressured to move out	Low	Experienced homelessness in last 2 years	Automated
Received notice of past-due rent	Low	Lost home through eviction as an adult	Low
Received court papers (UD)	Low	AMI ≤ 30%	Low
<b>Other Risk Factors</b>			
Arrested/jail or prison in last 2 years	Low	Have or need an ITIN (undocumented proxy)	Medium
Disabling condition	Low	Emotional/physical/financial abuse in last 2 years	Low
Discharged from hospital/treatment in last year	Low		

# How it works:

- ♥ Time-limited flexible assistance to pay rent or other housing related expenses including:
  - ♥ Move-in costs if applicant needs to move because of eviction, DV, or has located an affordable unit
  - ♥ KPH can make internal referrals to our Landlord Engagement Programs for assistance with moving
- ♥ KPH partners closely with Bay Area Legal Aid and Centro De La Raza Legal Aid
  - ♥ All UD's, habitability issues, landlord discrimination, etc. get direct referrals to Legal Providers
- ♥ Problem solving and stability planning (Motivational Interviewing and CTI skills)
- ♥ Internal and external referrals for employment that include:
  - ♥ Resume building, job search, vocational training, etc.
- ♥ Care coordination
  - ♥ housemate matching, connection to community resources, etc.



# Results From December 2023-August 2024



	Overall	Conventional	Pilot
Total Applications	1513	63	1450
Total Amount Spent	\$1,183,620	\$177,159	\$1,006,461
Approved Apps	206	36	170
Total Average	\$5,745	\$4921	\$5,920
% of apps 0-30% AMI	77.45%	76.19%	77.52%
% of apps 30-50% AMI	21.55%	22.22%	21.52%
Average Priority	6.87	6.65	6.88
Exit Destination (Rental unit no subsidy)	52	11	41
Prior Homelessness	137	17	120
% Apps 50+% Rent Burden	56.80%	52.78%	57.65%
Tier 1 (highest risk)	156	3	73
Tier 2 (high risk)	647	24	623
Justice Involved (applied)	75	2	73
Justice Involved (served)	18	1	17