

Women 1st Subcommittee of the Reentry Council City & County of San Francisco

AGENDA

Tuesday, October 5, 2021
5:30pm to 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84636246547?pwd=ZXJsdjFla204WFVrZC9pc0dUMms2QT09>

Meeting ID: 846 3624 6547

Passcode: 140606

Dial by your location

- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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REMOTE MEETING VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Watch via Zoom: In accordance with Governor Gavin Newsom’s statewide order for all residents to “Stay at Home” – and with the numerous local and state proclamations, orders and supplemental directions – aggressive directives have been issued to slow down and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Reentry Council and Subcommittees meetings will be held through videoconferencing will allow remote public comment via the videoconference or through the number noted above. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely by submitting written comments electronically to victoria.westbrook@sfgov.org. These comments will be made part of the official public record in these matters and shall be brought to the attention of the members of the Reentry Council member. Explanatory and/or Supporting Documents, if any, will be posted at: <https://sfgov.org/sfreentry/>

Note: Public comment will be taken throughout the meeting or by email to reentrycouncil@sfgov.org

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1. Introductions/Role Call
2. Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement (*discussion only*)
3. December Reentry Retreat (discussion only)
4. December Meeting (*discussion and possible action*)
5. Community Forward SF – Women’s Center - Felicia Torrez & Nicole Johnson (*discussion only*)
6. Rebound Documentary – Laura Murray (*discussion only*)
7. Sharing of Resources, Upcoming Events, or Announcements (*discussion only*)
8. Member Roundtable and Agenda Items for Next Meeting (*discussion only*)
9. Adjournment

Next Meeting:
TBD
Zoom Meeting

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SUBMITTING WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE REENTRY COUNCIL

Persons who are unable to attend the public meeting may submit to the Reentry Council, by the time the proceedings begin, written comments regarding the subject of the meeting. These comments will be made a part of the official public record, and brought to the attention of the Reentry Council. Written comments should be submitted to: Victoria Westbrook, Interim Reentry Policy Planner, Adult Probation Department, 564 Sixth St., San Francisco, CA 94102, or via email: victoria.westbrook@sfgov.org.

MEETING MATERIALS

Copies of agendas, minutes, and explanatory documents are available through the Reentry Council's website at <http://sfreentry.com> or by calling Victoria Westbrook at (415) 930-2202 during normal business hours. The material can be Faxed or mailed to you upon request.

ACCOMMODATIONS

To obtain a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the meeting, please contact Victoria Westbrook, at reentry.council@sfgov.org or (415) 930-2202 at least two business days before the meeting.

TRANSLATION

Interpreters for languages other than English are available on request. Sign language interpreters are also available on request. For either accommodation, please contact Victoria Westbrook, at reentry.council@sfgov.org or (415) 930-2202 at least two business days before the meeting.

CHEMICAL SENSITIVITIES

To assist the City in its efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illness, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code)

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from the Clerk of the Sunshine Task Force, the San Francisco Public Library, and on the City's web site at: www.sfgov.org/sunshine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE OR TO REPORT A VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE, CONTACT THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE:

Administrator
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
San Francisco, CA 94102-4683.
Telephone: (415) 554-7724
Fax: (415) 554-5163
E-Mail: soft@sfgov.org

CELL PHONES

The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Co-Chairs may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

LOBBYIST ORDINANCE

Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance (SF Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code sections 2.100-2.160) to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at 30 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 3900, San Francisco CA 94102, telephone (415) 581-2300, FAX (415) 581-2317, and web site <http://www.sfgov.org/ethics/>

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Priorities in Discussion

- Emergency Resource Listing
- Women Resource Outreach Pop-Up
- Resource List/Toolkit/ Hotline; Emergency Services and longer care needs
- Identifying Gaps -- Gaps in Services and also time points
- **COVID Vaccine Information -- easy to understand -- dispel the myth - Mega Black / HRC**
- **Single dose vaccine -- outreach/ distribution**
- **Outreach to DPH to argue our point for using single dose vaccine in community**
- Access to Employment Related Network -- Big Job Fair -- Virtual
- Women Conference SF
-
- Pigeon hole -- barriers to accessing services because eligibility is so tight
- Preventative Care -- Where can get needs met
- Mental Health
- Wellness
- Safe sex
- Self-Care
- DV Housing beds --- Family, Formerly incarcerated housing



2,700 women experience homelessness on a given night in SF. Over 50% are over 50 years old. If they return to the streets after shelter in place lifts, they will die. They are the highest users of hospitals and costly care. We must act quickly to seize this chance to house them.



Scan to Sign our Petition!

Our Vision

We envision a city where all women can find safety. This vision starts with a 120 unit semi-to-permanent housing site where chronically homeless cis and trans women can thrive in a vibrant, supportive environment.

Upon entering our building, you find a bustling ground floor where women can come for daytime drop-in services like showers, laundry, and access to Community Forward's mental health outpatient program as well as a health clinic run by DPH. For women in crisis, the first floor offers emergency shelter beds for short-term stays. The upper floors include semi-permanent micro units with private bathrooms and kitchenettes. One floor boasts a large community room where tenants can engage in daily programming such as mindfulness classes, exercise, substance use disorder groups, and other activities that support health and healing.

The Facts

- More than 90 percent of cis and trans homeless women experience severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives (National Network to End Domestic Violence).
- The average mortality age for chronically homeless women is 48 versus 83 years of age for housed women (LA Times).
- San Francisco offers just 99 beds of women's only shelter per night, and 157 units of permanent supportive housing dedicated to female-identified clients.

Why Now?

For decades, unhoused women of San Francisco have been forced to suffer inhumane conditions as a trade off for safety. Elderly, medically fragile, or LGBTQ+ identifying women have opted to sleep in plastic chairs at Community Forward's drop-in center for lack of viable options. Due to COVID, many of these women accepted hotel rooms run by Community Forward SF and are housed for the first time. Rather than going back to plastic chairs, we must seize this moment to build a better future for women.

Why Community Forward?

For 43 years, Community Forward SF (formerly CATS) has served the homeless population of San Francisco. We serve ~3,000 women/year in our drop-in center.





Women's Center Overview

Moving our community forward one neighbor at a time

What we do

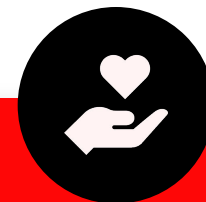


We operate
emergency shelter
and permanent
supportive housing
programs for the most
vulnerable in San
Francisco

Our work



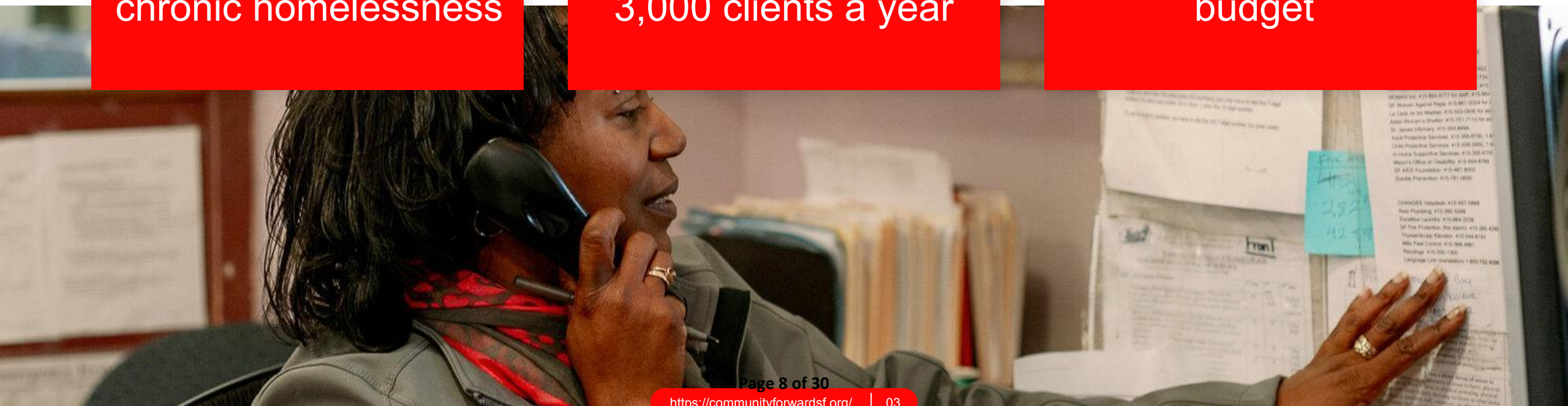
43 years experience in chronic homelessness



We serve more than 3,000 clients a year



\$16 million annual budget



The Problem

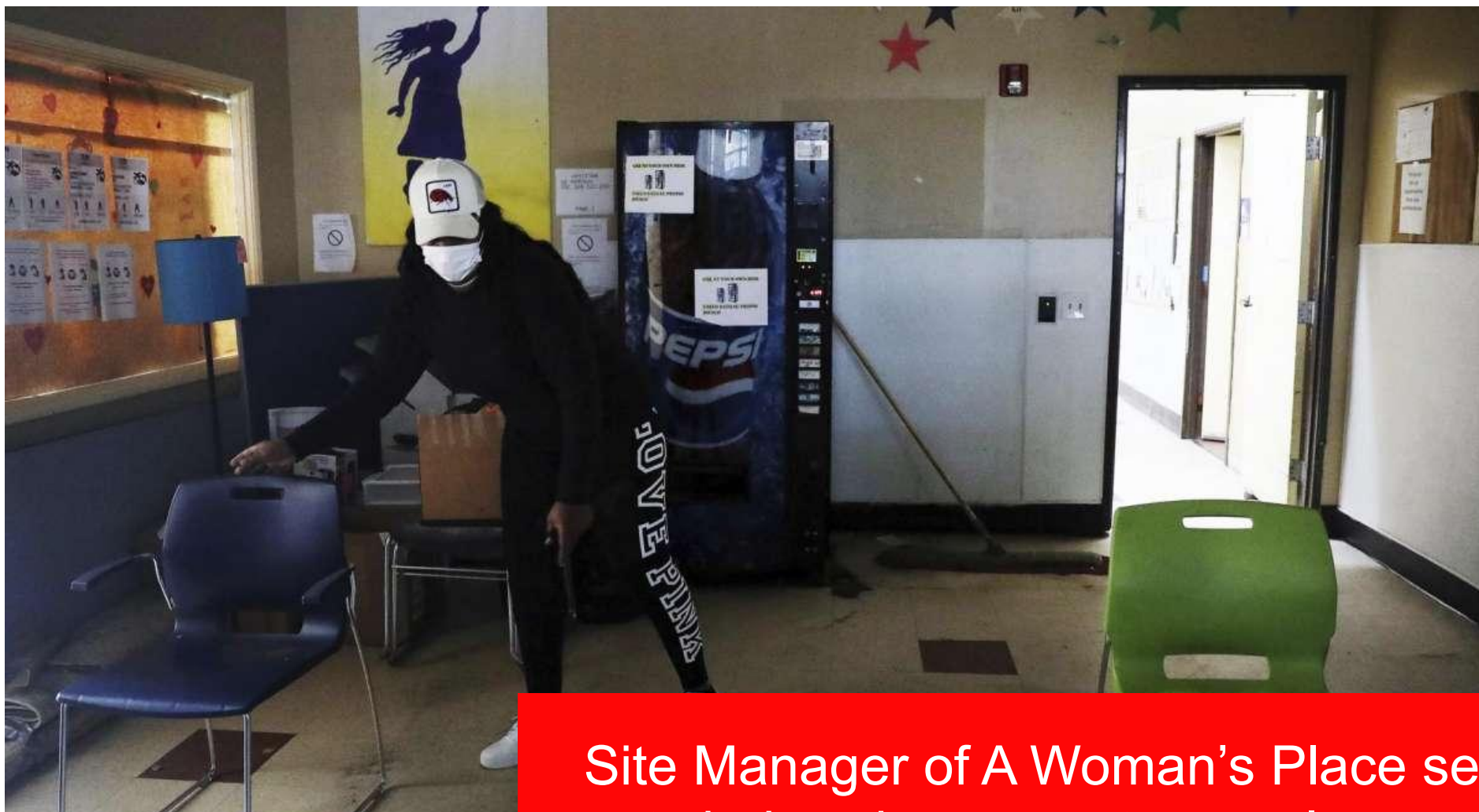
On any given night, there
are at least
2,700 unhoused women
in San Francisco.



Yet there are only 99 shelter beds and 157 permanent supportive housing units.



SF Point-in-Time
Count 2019



Site Manager of A Woman's Place setting out chairs where guests can sleep.



The Problem

More than 90% of cis and trans homeless women experience severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives.



Cis & Trans Women

National Network to End Domestic Violence



The Problem

“It’s hard to be a woman here. I wouldn’t recommend SROs to any women.”
-60-year-old housing guest

(SRO) Single Room Occupancy: consists of one small room; no kitchen and communal bathroom


The Problem



More than 50%
of the homeless
population is
over the age
of 50.

SF Point-in-Time Count 2019

The Problem

A photograph showing a person's hands holding a small, brown cardboard cutout of a house. The cutout has two rectangular windows and a triangular roof. The background is a blurred, dark blue-grey color.

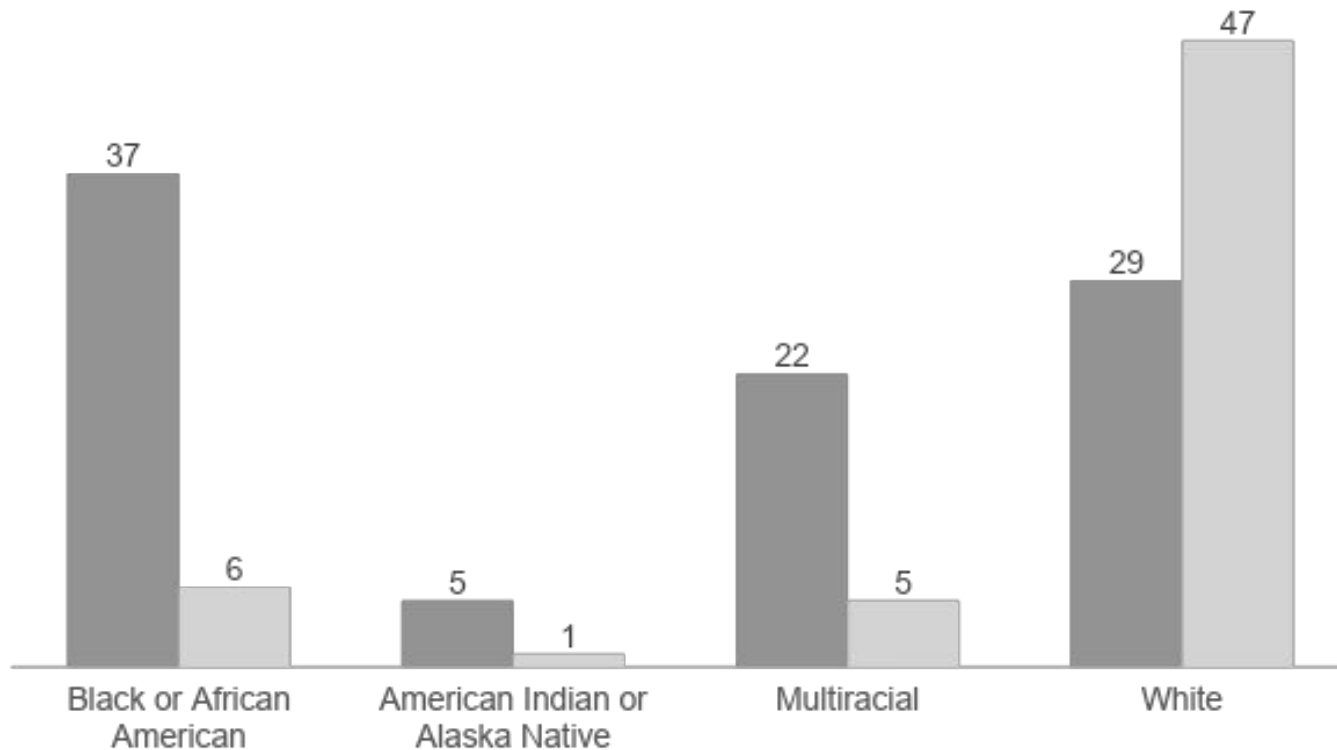
Only 11% of women experiencing homelessness in San Francisco can access women-only transitional & permanent housing options



The Problem

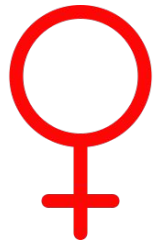
Race & Homelessness

■ Homeless Population ■ SF General Population



Homelessness disproportionately impacts people of color.

SF Point-in-Time Count 2019



Women deserve the safety that comes from women-only housing.



The Solution

A Woman's Center

Envisioning A Woman's Center



01

100 - 120-unit buildings w/bathrooms, kitchens, & community space

75% single occupant rooms (Section 8 ready), 25% shared rooms

02

03

Full Support Services: CFSF Mental Health team, Medical Clinic onsite, substance use groups, mindfulness activities

The Opportunity



Commercial real estate prices are dropping.

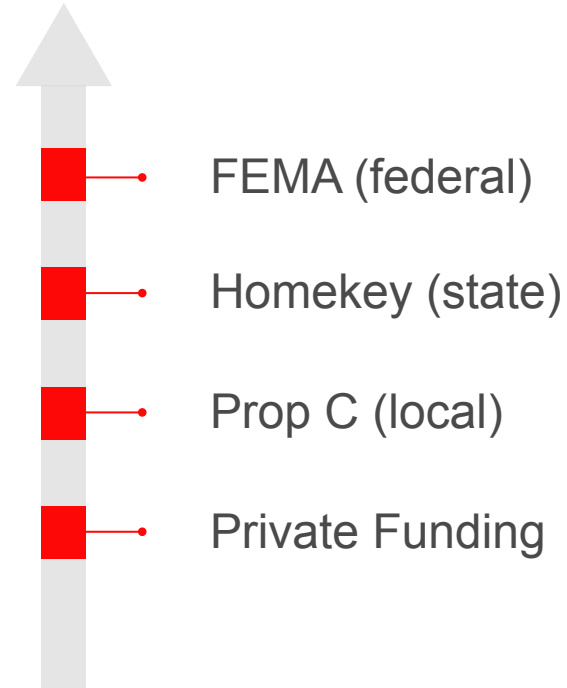
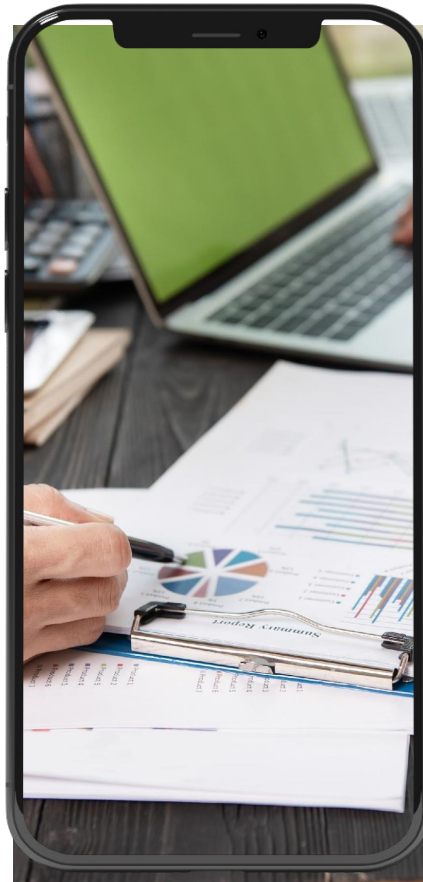


COVID presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to house chronically homeless women.



More local, state and federal funding available to leverage than ever before.

The Opportunity



Investment of private dollars will unlock local, state and federal matching funds needed for initial building purchase.



What we need

- Help us advocate for women!
- ✓ Spread the word through your online community by signing and sharing our [petition](https://www.petition.com) (bit.ly/womenshousingsf)
- ✓ Do you work with or know unhoused women? Volunteer to do outreach to potential guests of our program.
- ✓ Do you have ideas for potential funders or supporters? Share your thoughts!

From our guests...



“(A Woman’s Place) Drop-In is top notch -- Good for me, good for my soul. We’re all under the same roof, see each other, have freedom. Here (at the SIP Hotel), it’s a fabulous room, last night I felt the comfort of my bed for the first time.”

- AWP Client of 10+ Years

“I want a building where I can walk downstairs and see a nurse. I need that for my stability. Otherwise, I won’t go. I know it. When I’m here I don’t have to go to no doctor office. It keeps me here.”

- 64-year-old SIP Guest



Thank you!

Contact us to learn more:

DoD

Felicia Torrez

 felicia.torrez@communityforwardsf.org

CoS

Nicole Johnson

 nicole.johnson@communityforwardsf.org



Supporting Data



“I need grief counseling. I know I’m going to die here, and I don’t know how to deal with that.”

The Problem

73-year-old
shelter guest



Diving Deeper

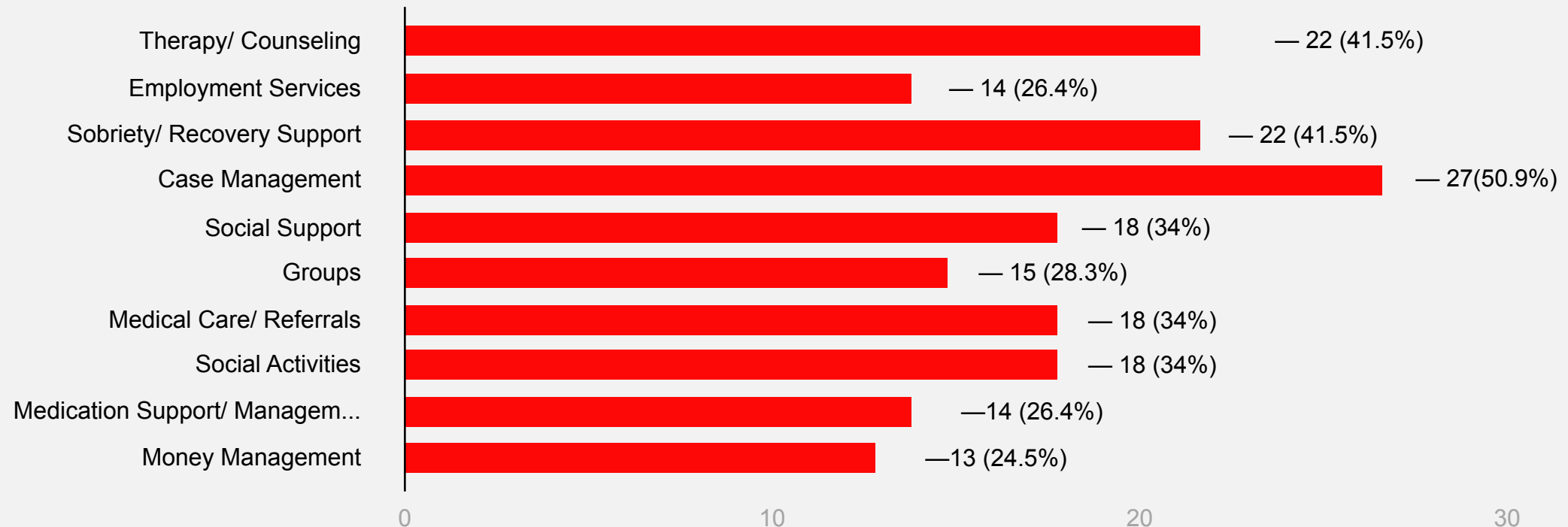
Our solution will address the specific needs of the population.



Clients want support services

Responses from survey asking what supports women want.

Women want more than just housing. They want support services and community.



Our Solution

With medical and mental health services onsite, senior-focused activities, and community space, our Women's Center will accommodate the needs of aging women.



58% of our guests are over 50
years old

LAURA MURRAY

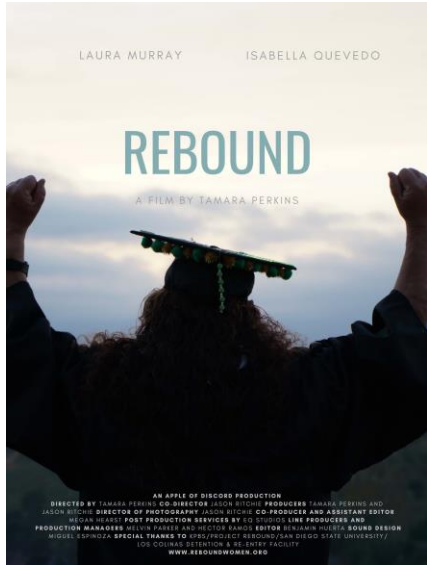
ISABELLA QUEVEDO

REBOUND

A FILM BY TAMARA PERKINS

AN APPLE OF DISCORD PRODUCTION

DIRECTED BY TAMARA PERKINS **CO-DIRECTOR** JASON RITCHIE **PRODUCERS** TAMARA PERKINS AND JASON RITCHIE **DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY** JASON RITCHIE **CO-PRODUCER AND ASSISTANT EDITOR** MEGAN HEARST **POST PRODUCTION SERVICES BY** EQ STUDIOS **LINE PRODUCERS AND PRODUCTION MANAGERS** MELVIN PARKER AND HECTOR RAMOS **EDITOR** BENJAMIN HUERTA **SOUND DESIGN** MIGUEL ESPINOZA **SPECIAL THANKS TO** KPBS/PROJECT REBOUND/SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY/LOS COLINAS DETENTION & RE-ENTRY FACILITY
WWW.REBOUNDWOMEN.ORG



Rebound (2021)

Premieres Sept 30 on KPBS

WATCH PARTY with Film Participants Sunday, Oct 10 at noon!

About the film:

Carrying the weight of motherhood, trauma, and incarceration, two women find healing and hope through sisterhood, service, and education.

Short Synopsis

Separated by decades and starkly different circumstances two women rebound from incarceration. They each overcome their years of addiction and abuse to pursue the promise of higher education. These aspiring scholars navigate parole, raising young children, and self-healing to find acceptance, sisterhood, and hope for a new life.

Learn more and watch the trailer at www.reboundwomen.org

Watch Rebound - Premieres 9/30/21 on KPBS and available free on PBS App!