

# SF Homeless Workforce Collaborative

*SUPPORTING VULNERABLE JOB SEEKERS, INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR*

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The Homeless Workforce Collaborative (HWC) was originally founded nearly 25 years ago as the Supportive Housing Employment Collaborative (later the Homeless Employment Collaborative). The Collaborative is a coalition of San Francisco nonprofit workforce service providers, focusing on vulnerable job seekers – particularly those experiencing homelessness - working primarily in communities of color across the City.

Together, Collaborative members reach thousands of job seekers every year through Neighborhood Job Centers, Specialized Access Centers, Equity Pilot efforts and other innovative programs serving adults, families, transitional age youth, and undocumented immigrants. We lift up the voices of vulnerable job seekers in the struggle for racial equity and economic justice. We stand in solidarity with undocumented workers in their quest for economic justice.

**Collectively we place more than 1,200 job seekers in gainful employment annually, and place more than 200 new hires in stable housing.**

The HWC has developed recommendations for the Citywide Workforce System to achieve these goals.

# Homeless Workforce Collaborative - Recommendations

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- ❑ **Preserve funding for Neighborhood Job Centers:** NJC's are based in the highest-need communities and the backbone of our citywide workforce system.
- ❑ **Prioritize the zip codes – communities - overrepresented in poverty, unemployment, health disparities, and homelessness.** City policy must invest in these key neighborhoods to advance real equity.
- ❑ **Invest in Earn and Learn:** job seekers need paid training to meaningfully improve their job prospects.
- ❑ **Jobs and housing are linked-** invest in joint approaches, co-locate housing and job specialists in priority communities. Employment and housing are essential for economic recovery.
- ❑ **Undocumented job seekers are a growing part of the SF economy** and must not be neglected. HWC stands in solidarity against the unconscionable attacks on immigrants.
- ❑ **Local cuts in workforce services deepen the harm from Federal cutbacks,** e.g. WIOA. San Francisco should stand up for our values.