

SAN FRANCISCO

Housing Conservatorship





Overview

Housing Conservatorship is designed to help individuals who:

- Cycle in and out of crisis;
- Are incapable of caring for health and well-being;
- Have refused multiple offers of voluntary services; and
- Are not eligible for other existing programs such as Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) and LPS conservatorship.



Overview

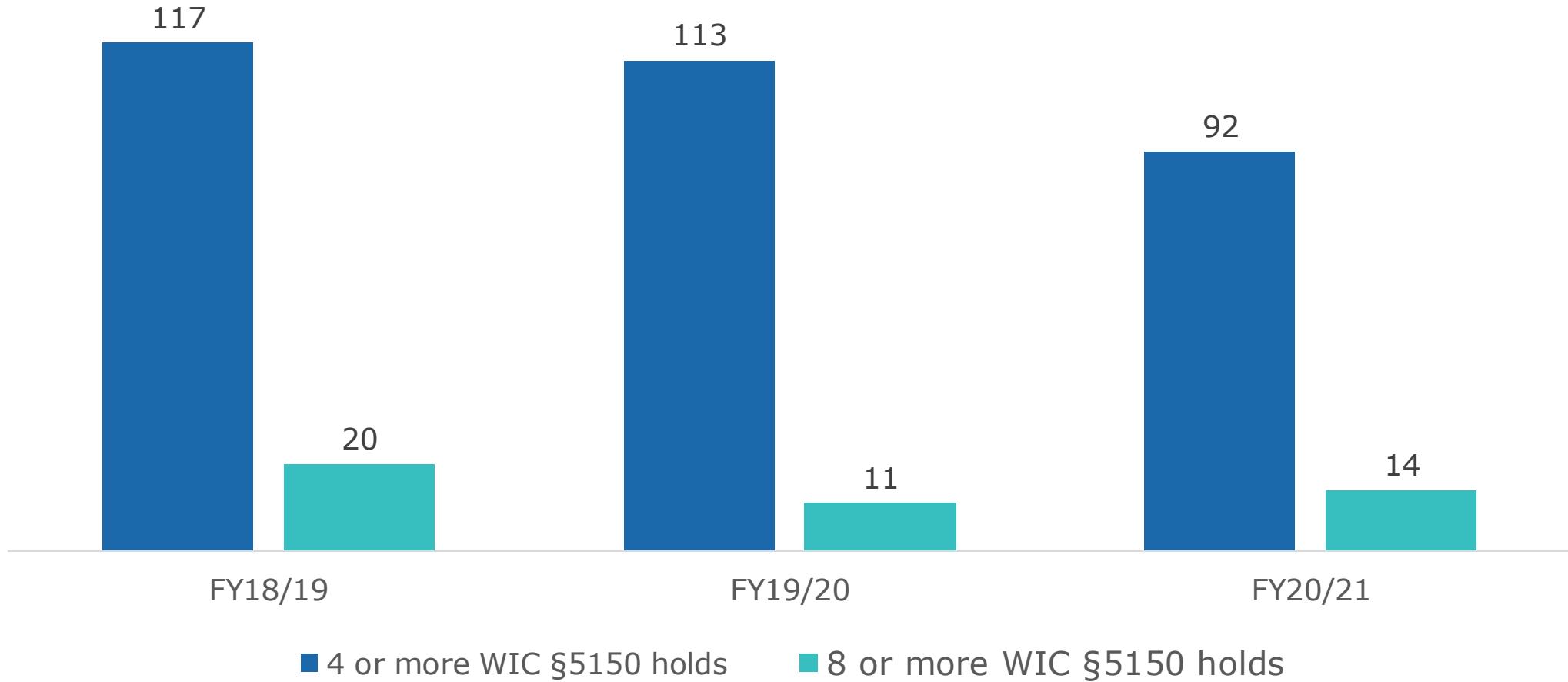
Housing Conservatorship Criteria includes:

- Be diagnosed with a serious mental illness and substance use disorder;
- Have functional impairments or a psychiatric history demonstrating that without treatment, it is more likely than not that the person will decompensate to functional impairment in the near future;
- Be incapable of caring for their own health and well-being;
- Have eight or more 5150 detentions in a 12-month period; and
- Have been provided with opportunities to engage in voluntary treatment.



Population

Number of individuals with WIC §5150 holds over time





Implementation Update

- Fiscal Year 20/21
 - 3 petitions filed for Housing Conservatorship
 - 25 people received notices that they were on the pathway to Housing Conservatorship
 - 14 individuals accepted voluntary services and were connected to care
 - 12 individuals received support and no longer meet criteria for conservatorship
- Fiscal Year 21/22
 - 2 individuals served under Housing Conservatorship
 - 1 petition pending
 - 23 people being served that they are on the pathway to Housing Conservatorship



Population (FY20/21)

- 92 individuals had 4+ 5150's
 - 50% individuals unsheltered
 - 52% have medical urgent/emergent service use
 - 64% contact with the jail
 - 57% assessed for coordinated entry
 - 11% current Conservatorship
 - 41% currently linked to ICM or outpatient BH

- 14 individuals had 8+ 5150's
 - 21% individuals unsheltered
 - 93% have been assessed by coordinated entry
 - 79% individuals linked to ICM, outpatient BH, or residential treatment
 - 29% individuals under an LPS Conservatorship



The Legislative Path to Housing Conservatorship

SB1045 – Initial Proposed Legislation had broader eligibility criteria

Final law had very narrow eligibility and added AOT as a criterion



SB40 – Intent was for this to be a trailer bill to SB1045

Final law added in new requirements including notification to future conservatees at the 5th thru 8th, 5150



SF Local Ordinance

Increased requirements to have a written offer of voluntary services prior to filing petition and after petition has been filed but before conservatorship is granted



Pilot Lessons Learned For Future Efforts

Eligibility Criteria

- Utilizing involuntary holds as an objective measure for eligibility is not effective and eight 5150s is far too restrictive

Hospitals and Connection

- Future programs should not add to the workload of hospital staff (noticing, documentation, and testimony)
- Difficult to capture all requirements for individuals served across medical centers in San Francisco

Net Positive: Voluntary Service Connections

- Individuals at risk for conservatorship were able to be engaged in voluntary services, regardless of whether they were ultimately in a housing conservatorship



Looking Forward

DPH and the Public Conservator will:

- Continue to collaborate to identify clients who could benefit from a conservatorship while prioritizing voluntary service offers first
- Continue to leverage community conservatorship programs and outpatient referral pathway
- Ensure that individuals exiting conservatorship are provided with comprehensive services to increase their stability and well-being



Governor's Proposal- CARE Courts





CARE Courts

- Eligibility Criteria
 - Schizophrenia spectrum or other psychotic disorder
 - Judgement that is so impaired by symptoms of mental illness that they lack capacity to make informed choices about their own medical care
- Services
 - Community based behavioral health services
 - Stabilization medication
 - Housing
- Supporter
 - Helps the participant understand, consider and communicate decisions
 - Supporters will be trained in supportive decision-making principles



CARE Courts

- CARE Court differs fundamentally from Mental Health/LPS Conservatorship in that it does **not** include custodial settings or long-term involuntary medications.
- CARE Court is different from both Mental Health/LPS Conservatorship and Laura's Law in several important ways:
 - CARE Court may be initiated on a petition to the Court by family members, service providers, and other authorized parties, in addition to County Behavioral Health.
 - Local government is also part of the court order, along with the participant, to ensure accountability to the provision of treatment and care.
 - CARE Court provides a new Supporter role, to empower the individual in directing their care as much as possible.



CARE Courts

State is actively developing operational details for Care Courts concept:

- Governor's Proposal was introduced less than a month ago, still changing
- Currently state is engaged in extensive stakeholder engagement, which we are involved in
- Operational plan will go through legislative process