

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TARGETING THE HOMELESS AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Policy Analysis Report to Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer

Presentation to:

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

June 24, 2020

Link between homelessness and unemployment

Top Reasons for Homelessness among Homeless Surveyed, 2019

Reasons for Homelessness	Total Responses	Percent of Responses
Lost Job	270	31.7%
Alcohol or Drug Use	187	21.9%
Eviction	135	15.8%
Argument with Family/Friend	125	14.7%
Mental Health Issues	83	9.7%
Divorce/Separation/Breakup	52	6.1%
Total	852	100.0%

Top Obstacles to Permanent Housing among Homeless Surveyed, 2019

Obstacles to Housing	Total Responses	Percent of Responses
Can't Afford Rent	650	41.4%
No Job/Income	382	24.3%
No Money for Moving Costs	196	12.5%
Housing Process Too Difficult	186	11.9%
No Housing Available	155	9.9%
Total	1,569	100.0%

Source: Point-in-Time Count Survey

Different rankings for chronically homeless

- ❑ Chronically homeless in SF: 3,028 out of 8,011 homeless individuals (2019 PIT Count)
- ❑ Job loss as primary reason for homelessness: 19% compared to 26% for overall homeless population
- ❑ Substance addiction as cause of chronic homelessness: 24%

San Francisco Workforce Development Services, FY 2018-19

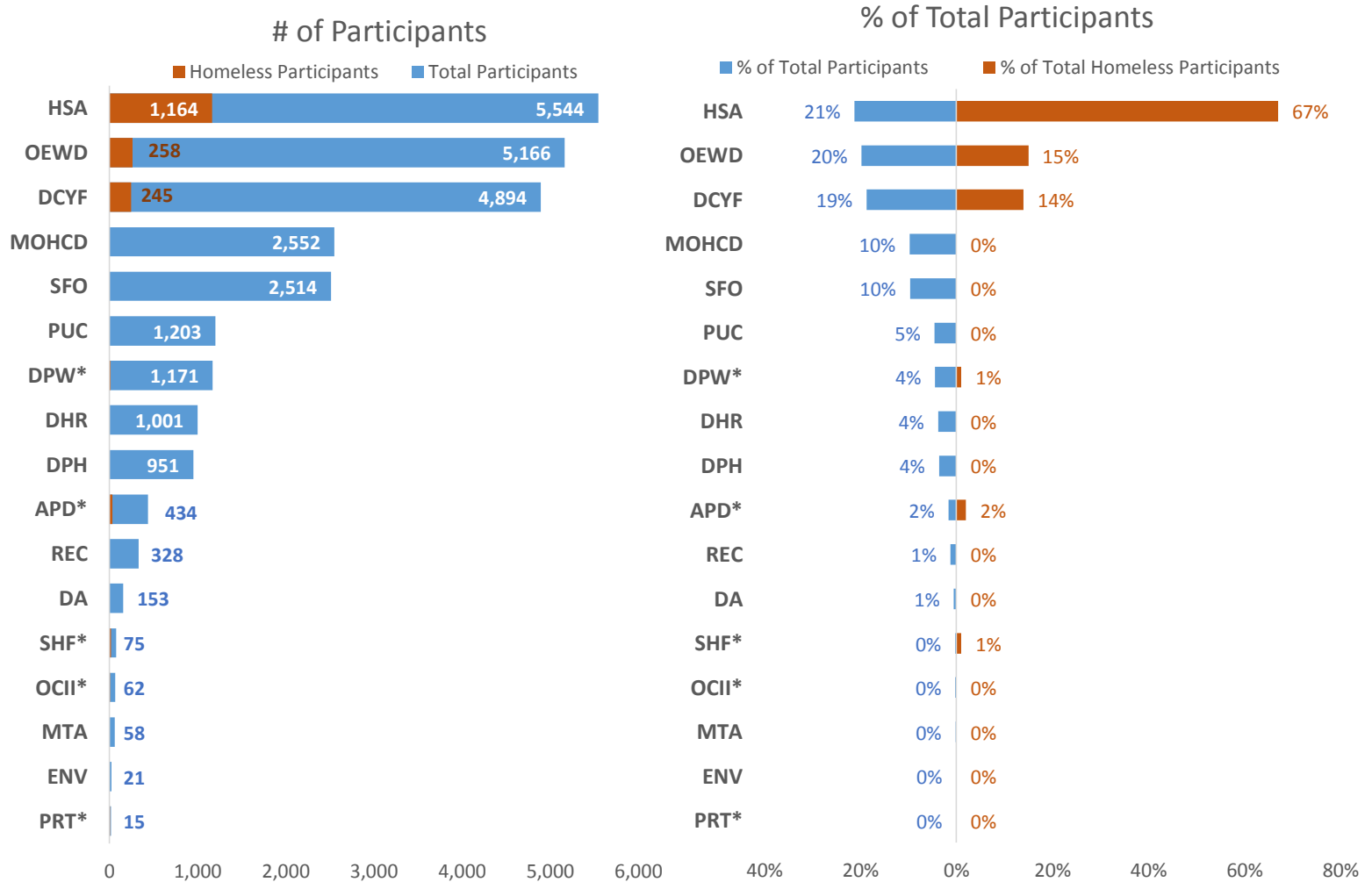
- 294 programs Citywide
- 17 departments
- \$150.4 mn. budgeted; \$64.8 mn. General Fund (43.1%). Budgeted amounts underspent in FY 2018-19.
- 26,142 participants.* Most programs by contractors.
- Authority: Chapter 30, Administrative Code:
 - WISF Board provides oversight
 - OEWD responsible for Citywide planning & coordinating; conducts detailed annual inventory of 17 departments' workforce development programs
 - Multi-stakeholder Alignment Committee prepared Citywide 5 year plan & updates to coordinate services and increase effectiveness (Committee authorization removed from Admin Code in 2019).

* Not unique individuals; participants are not "de-duplicated".

Workforce Development: Homeless Participation, FY 2018-19

Department	Total Participants	Homeless Participants	% Homeless of Total Dept. Participants	% Homeless of Total Homeless Participants
Human Services Agency	5,544	1,164	21%	67%
Office of Economic and Workforce Development	5,166	258	5%	15%
Department of Children, Youth and Families	4,894	245	5%	14%
Adult Probation Department	434	30	7%	2%
Sheriff's Department	75	18	24%	1%
Department of Public Works	1,171	12	1%	1%
Port of San Francisco	15	5	33%	0%
Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs	62	4	6%	0%
Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development	2,552	-	0%	0%
San Francisco International Airport	2,514	-	0%	0%
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission	1,203	-	0%	0%
Department of Human Resources	1,001	-	0%	0%
Department of Public Health	951	-	0%	0%
Recreation and Parks Department	328	-	0%	0%
San Francisco District Attorney's Office	153	-	0%	0%
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency	58	-	0%	0%
Department of the Environment	21	-	0%	0%
Total	26,142	1,736	7%	100%

Homeless Participation, FY 2018-19 (cont'd)



Homeless participation data limitations

- ❑ Overstates number of unique individuals; includes duplicates, or individuals who participated in more than one program.
- ❑ Some departments or their providers do not report any information on participant addresses and/or homelessness; may be understating homeless participation rates.
- ❑ OEWD does not have authority to compel departments to provide participant data.
- ❑ Homeless not counted in the same way as other workforce development priority populations.
 - Can't compare relative participation levels by group or analyze funding levels for homeless, types of programs and services provided.

Homeless one of 19 Workforce Development Priority Populations

1. English Language Learners
2. Foster care youth
3. ***Homeless or formerly homeless households***
4. Individuals lacking right to work documentation
5. Individuals re-entering civilian life from prison
6. Individuals with disabilities
7. Individuals with less than a high school degree or GED
8. Justice-involved individuals
9. Long-term unemployed individuals
10. Older individuals (55+)
11. Public benefits recipients (including Project 500)
12. Public housing residents (including HOPE SF)
13. Residents below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
14. Residents between 100% to 200% FPL
15. Residents between 200 to 300% FPL
16. Transitional-aged youth (18-24)
17. Underemployed individuals
18. Unemployed individuals
19. Veterans

Source: San Francisco Citywide Workforce Development Plan: 2017-2022

Homeless participation data limited for assessing program effectiveness

- SF Workforce Development Five Year Plan does not establish specific targets or goals for the 19 priority populations.
- Participation tracked in OEWD's annual Inventory for 12 priority populations (but not homeless) by program, with details on types of services, funding level, etc. for each group.
 - Homeless participation tracked by department only, without data for analysis of funding levels, programs and services provided (e.g., apprenticeships, employment support, basic skills training, etc.).
- HSA and OEWD tracks more details on homeless participants but don't use standardized measures.

12 Priority Populations Tracked by Workforce Development Program, FY 2018-19

	Population	Number of Participants
	Public Benefits Recipients	5,980
	Unemployed	4,871
	Individuals with Disability	1,807
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excludes homeless 29% "Unknown" 	English Language Learners	1,559
	Active or Formerly Justice-Involved Individuals	1,151
	Long-term Unemployed (age 25 and older)	1,086
	Public Housing Residents	745
	Employed	642
	Underemployed (age 25 and older)	276
	Veterans (age 25 and older)	264
	HOPE SF Residents	112
	Active or Former Foster Care Youth	91
→	Unknown	7,558
	Total Participants	26,142

Integrated Services: better approach for some homeless?

- DPH Behavioral Health Division
 - Peer-to-Peer Employment Training
 - Dept. of Rehabilitation Vocational Co-op
 - Transitional Age Youth Career Connections
- CDBG-funded programs
- Workforce System Alignment Collaboration to Alleviate Homelessness: HSA, OEWD, and Dept. of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

Policy options

1. Amend Administrative Code: a) mandate departments provide workforce development services results data to OEWD in format requested for annual Inventory, b) reinstate Alignment Committee, and c) include the Department of Public Health as member of the Committee.
2. Request that the San Francisco Workforce Investment Board and/or the Alignment Committee clarify the priority populations being served, possibly set goals & targets.
3. OEWD report back to Board of Supervisors on costs to de-duplicate participant data and establish a standardized approach to collecting participant data.
4. Request that the DPH Behavioral Health Division track and report back on the number of homeless served and the results of integrated services programs that combine workforce development and behavioral health services.
5. Consider additional funding for workforce development services that are serving the homeless including integrated services for the chronically homeless.

Questions and comments

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