Homelessness is an ongoing challenge in California, on the Central Coast, and in our City. Many City departments work on numerous aspects of addressing the issue of homelessness through emergency medical services, police enforcement, public health and safety clean-up efforts.

Regional Effort to Address Homelessness
The City continuously works with the County of San Luis Obispo and various organizations such as Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO) and Transitions Mental Health Association (THMA) provide assistance to unhoused people. Being homeless is not a crime, nor is using a public space.

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**
The County is the lead social services and mental health agency to address the needs of the area’s homeless population. The County receives federal and state funding from various sources to provide a wide range of programs and services including:

- Case management
- Emergency assistance
- Mental health services
- Transportation
- Medical & social services including drug & alcohol counseling

**Homeless individuals counted in the City**

- **Police Department**
  - $892,000 2019-20 budget for staffing for Downtown/Homeless outreach
  - 32,421 total calls for service in 2018
  - 4,825 calls in the downtown corridor in 2018
  - 7,591 calls in some way related to a homeless individual
  - 1,557 calls involved a homeless individual
  - Violations include alcohol & drug offenses, trespassing, smoking in public, leash laws and warrants

- **Fire Department**
  - 30 encampment fires
  - 508 medical incidents

- **Parks & Recreation Rangers and Public Works**
  - 182 illegal camps
  - 22 tons of Trash Removed
  - $457k spent annually on staff, illegal/dangerous material clean up, trash removal, and maintenance activities
What can you do to help?

Giving to panhandlers exacerbates issues with homelessness in our community.
You can help people in need by donating or volunteering with local support organizations.
If you see something that needs to be reported, call the Police Department at 805-781-7312 or 911 for emergencies.

---

**Housing** is a 2019-21 Major City Goal | Facilitate the production of housing with an update of the Housing Element, including an emphasis on affordable housing (including unhoused people) and workforce housing through the lens of climate action and regionalism.

**Community Development | Grants in Aid (GIA)**

The City’s Grants-in-Aid program provides financial support to non-profit organizations that promote the economic and social wellbeing of the community including homeless prevention programs, support services, affordable and transitional housing opportunities, hunger and malnutrition prevention, and supportive and development services for children and seniors. The City has allocated $150,000 to the GIA program annually for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

**SLOPD Community Action Team**

In 2018, social worker John Klevins, MSW, joined CAT through a partnership with Transitions Mental Health (TMHA) and the County of SLO. Klevins works side-by-side with SLOPD Officer Tim Koznek focusing on outreach and preventive engagement with the city's most vulnerable populations.

Over the last year, CAT engaged with more than 300 people, and of those, more than 49 were treated for mental health, substance abuse, or other issues. CAT also connects people with resources to find housing and other services such as veterans’ benefits, educational opportunities, social security, and more.

Koznek and Klevins say their most notable successes are when they are able to reconnect individuals with their families. By helping people to identify the support they need to get on a path to recovery or out of homelessness, they are often able to move back in with family members and mend relationships.

**40 Prado (CAPSLO)**

40 Prado received a total of $157,000 from the City’s General Fund in 2019-20 for ongoing homeless support programs and operational efforts.

**COMMUNITY IMPACTS**

Since opening in October:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>1,322</strong></th>
<th><strong>115</strong></th>
<th><strong>20%</strong></th>
<th><strong>57</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>people received services</td>
<td>children helped</td>
<td>from the city of SLO</td>
<td>adults housed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MENTAL HEALTH CARE**

- Awarded 1 of only 20 grants in the country to begin a project to serve 30 individuals who have both mental health and substance use issues.
- Full-time therapist from TMHA is on-site and 2 case managers are dedicated to this program.
- Full-time County Mental Health Therapist on-site working with the “moderate to severe” mentally ill

**HEALTH CARE**

- 2 full-service primary medical care exam rooms open four days per week
- Recuperative Care helps medically fragile people coming out of the hospitals who would otherwise be on the street. A dedicated nurse and case manager are assigned to this project.