



HOMELESS SERVICES DIVISION

Welcome Home Village

August 30, 2023

Agenda

- 1 Introductions
- 2 Current State
- 3 The Opportunity
- 4 The Solution
- 5 The Big Picture
- 6 Tabling Sessions



Introductions



Good Samaritan Shelter
For those in need, our door is open



**Behavioral Health
Department
&
Division of Homeless
Services**



**Department of Social Services
Homeless Services Division**

Welcome Home Village

Current State

	# of People Experiencing Homelessness	# of People Unsheltered
California	171,521	115,491
San Luis Obispo County	1,448	1,156
San Luis Obispo City	385	248

Source: State & County 2022 Point-in-Time Count



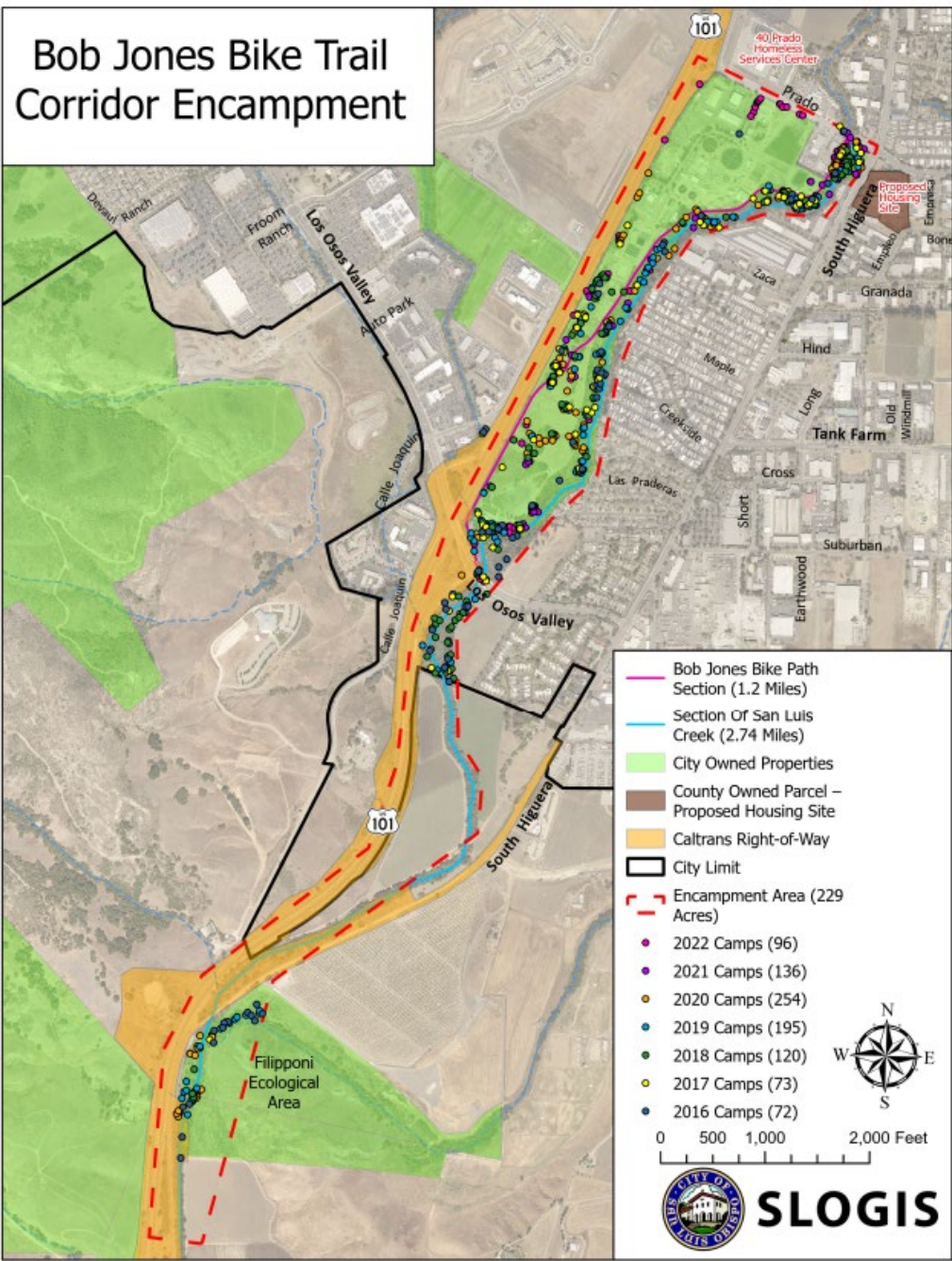
Current State

- **Unsheltered homelessness:** people living and sleeping in places not intended for long-term habitation
 - In vehicles
 - Beneath underpasses & bridges
 - On sidewalks
 - In open spaces
- Taxpayer Cost:
 - \$30k to \$50k per person per year
 - Considering only SLO City, taxpayers are paying **\$7 to \$12 million per year***



An encampment in the open spaces near Los Osos Valley Road.





Current State

- Bob Jones Bike Trail
- **274** Transient Incident Reports from 2020-2022
- Ongoing concerns:
 - Safety
 - Environmental risks
 - Local services over capacity

The Opportunity

- State announced \$199 million in Encampment Resolution Fund awards
 - **\$13.4 million awarded to County of SLO** for the encampments along the Bob Jones Bike Trail (BJBT)
- California prioritizing encampment *resolutions*
 - Funding “rapid deployment” proposals
- Key Outcomes:
 - **Reduce unsheltered homelessness** found along BJBT
 - Find them **stable & safe housing**
 - **Cut incidents** & LEO response needs
 - Improve **environmental health** of San Luis Creek



The San Luis Obispo segment of the Bob Jones Bike Trail in late 2020.





Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg

Representing District 3 of
San Luis Obispo County



The Solution



The Solution



- Expand outreach
- In-the-field capabilities:
 - **Case management**
 - **Housing navigation**
 - **Behavioral health assessments**
 - **Psychiatric assessments**
 - **Paramedic support**
 - **Public safety**



Good Samaritan Street Outreach Team engaging with people living on the streets in Santa Maria.



The Solution



- Restore the watershed corridor & open space
- Environmental clean-up
- Improve resilience to fire & flooding
- Reduce littering & hazards
 - Bear-proof trashcans
 - Portable restroom
- Prioritized patrol



Bear-proof trashcans installed near a bus stop near Madonna Rd. in San Luis Obispo



The Solution



- Welcome Home Village
 - 34 interim beds
 - 46 permanent beds
- Prioritize referrals from the BJBT corridor
- Modular & reconfigurable



A LifeArk modular housing complex in El Monte, California



Expanding Partnerships



- Developer
- Specializes in non-congregate supportive housing
- 4 communities since 2021



- Site Manager
- Over 35 years experience
 - Chronic homelessness
 - Encampments
 - Substance misuse



Sylvia Barnard

Executive Director
Good Samaritan Shelter

Kirsten Cahoon

Director of Homeless Services
Good Samaritan Shelter



Good Samaritan Shelter

- Service provider & case management
- Past Projects:
 - Bridge House in Lompoc
 - Good Samaritan Family Shelter in Santa Maria
 - Hedge's House of Hope in Goleta
 - Isla Vista Shelter in Isla Vista
 - Mark's House in Lompoc
 - Life House in Santa Maria
 - Santa Maria Safe House in Santa Maria
 - Dignity Moves in Santa Barbara



Dignity Moves, a 25-unit temporary interim non-congregate shelter based in Santa Barbara.



Hope Village, a 94-unit interim housing community & respite care services center in Santa Maria



The Isla Vista Encampments

- People's Park in Isla Vista
- 6 Months to clean up



Who did Dignity Moves Serve in Year 1?

- **78% experiencing chronic homelessness**, at least one permanent disabling condition, and at least 12 months homeless

- 74% mental health disorder
- 43% substance use disorder
- 55% chronic health condition
- 12% development disability
- 26% physical disability



- 73 persons have entered the project
- 34 are currently residing there
- Approximately 7 persons declined to enter
- Average age is 54

***Avg. Time Unhoused Before Dignity Moves:
7 years***

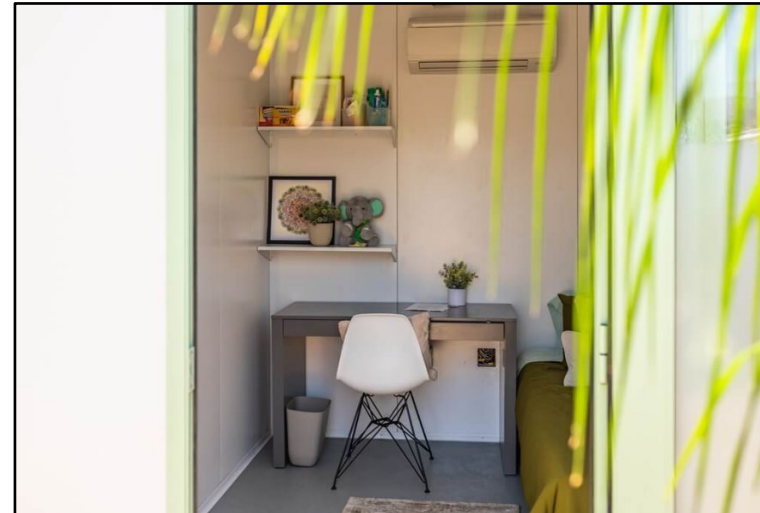


What did Dignity Moves Accomplish in Year 1?

- **48%** have connected to **mental health** services
- **23%** have connected to **substance abuse disorder** services

28 have moved on to permanent housing, primarily to a rental unit

- 5 moved to an institutional setting
- 4 either reunited with family or entered another interim housing program



Preliminary Site Plan



Department of Social Services
Homeless Services Division

Anticipated Timeline



The Big Picture

The County conducted a needs assessment in 2021



Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness



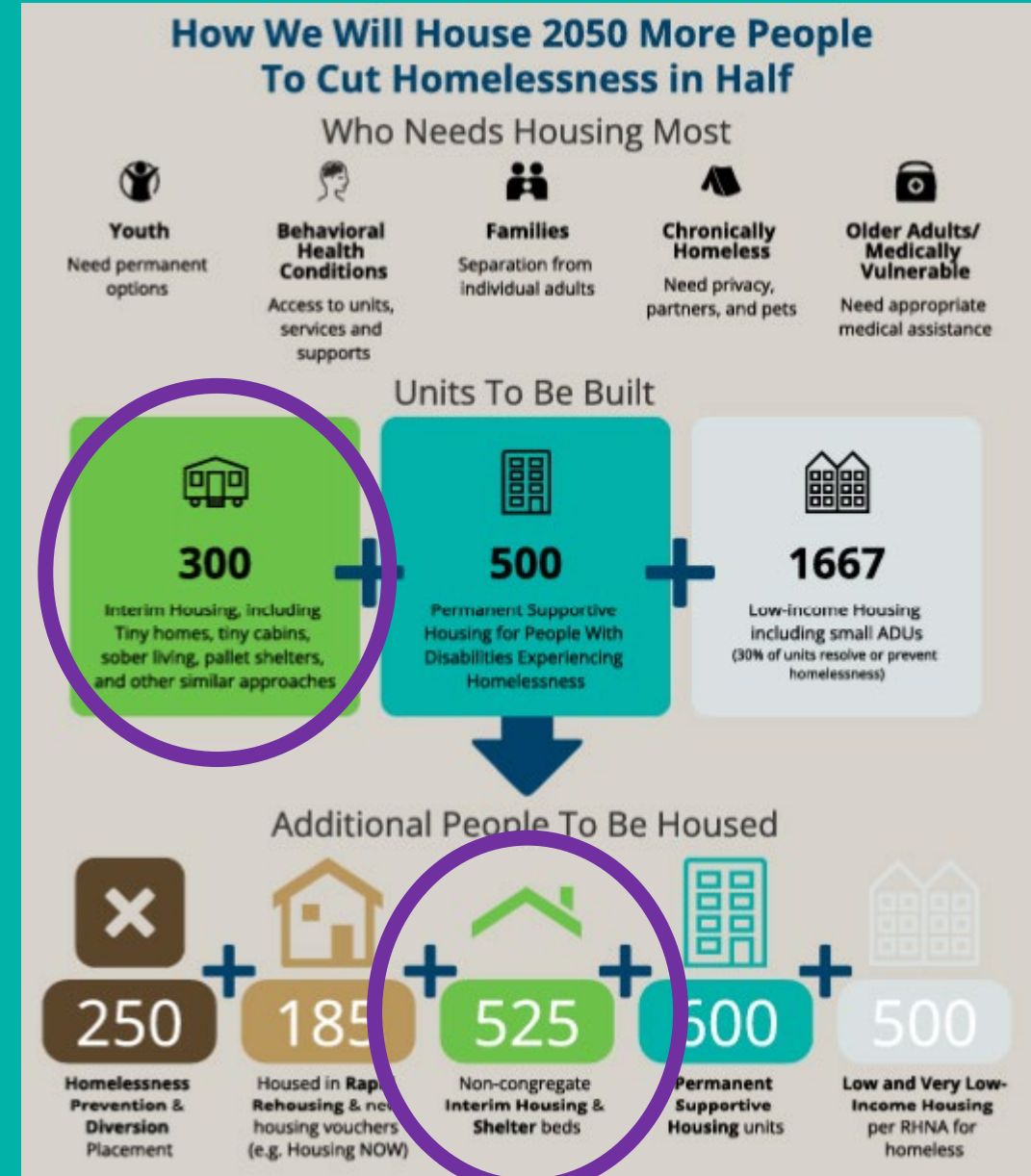
Department of Social Services
Homeless Services Division

The Big Picture

The County conducted a needs assessment in 2021



Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness



Department of Social Services
Homeless Services Division

Interim Communities in SLO County



KEY



Welcome Home Village



Active Shelter Programs



Active Interim Programs



Planned Program Sites

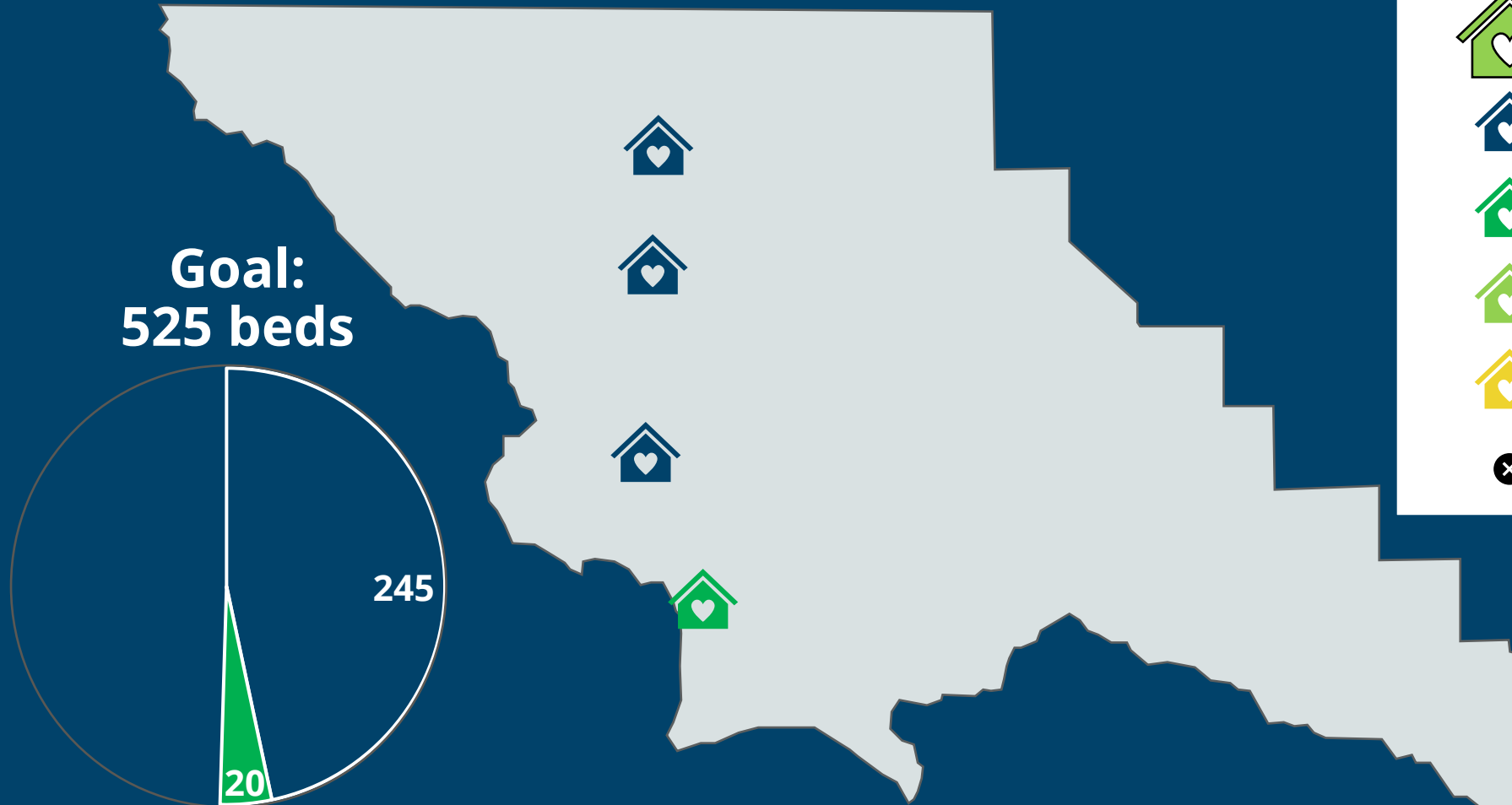


Sites in Consideration



Non-viable Sites

Interim Communities in SLO County



KEY



Welcome Home Village



Active Shelter Programs



Active Interim Programs



Planned Program Sites



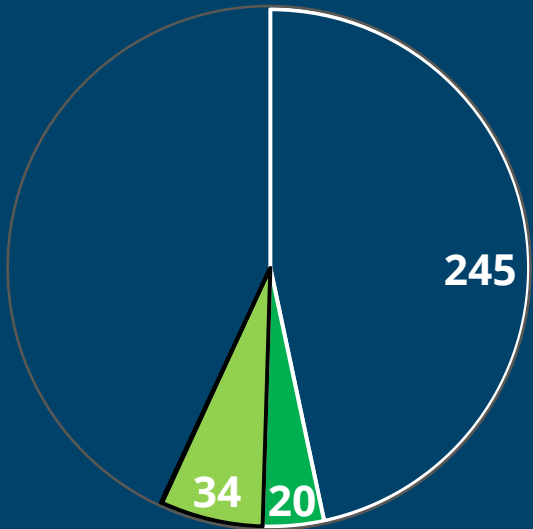
Sites in Consideration



Non-viable Sites

Interim Communities in SLO County

Goal:
525 beds



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Welcome Home Village



Active Shelter Programs



Active Interim Programs



Planned Program Sites

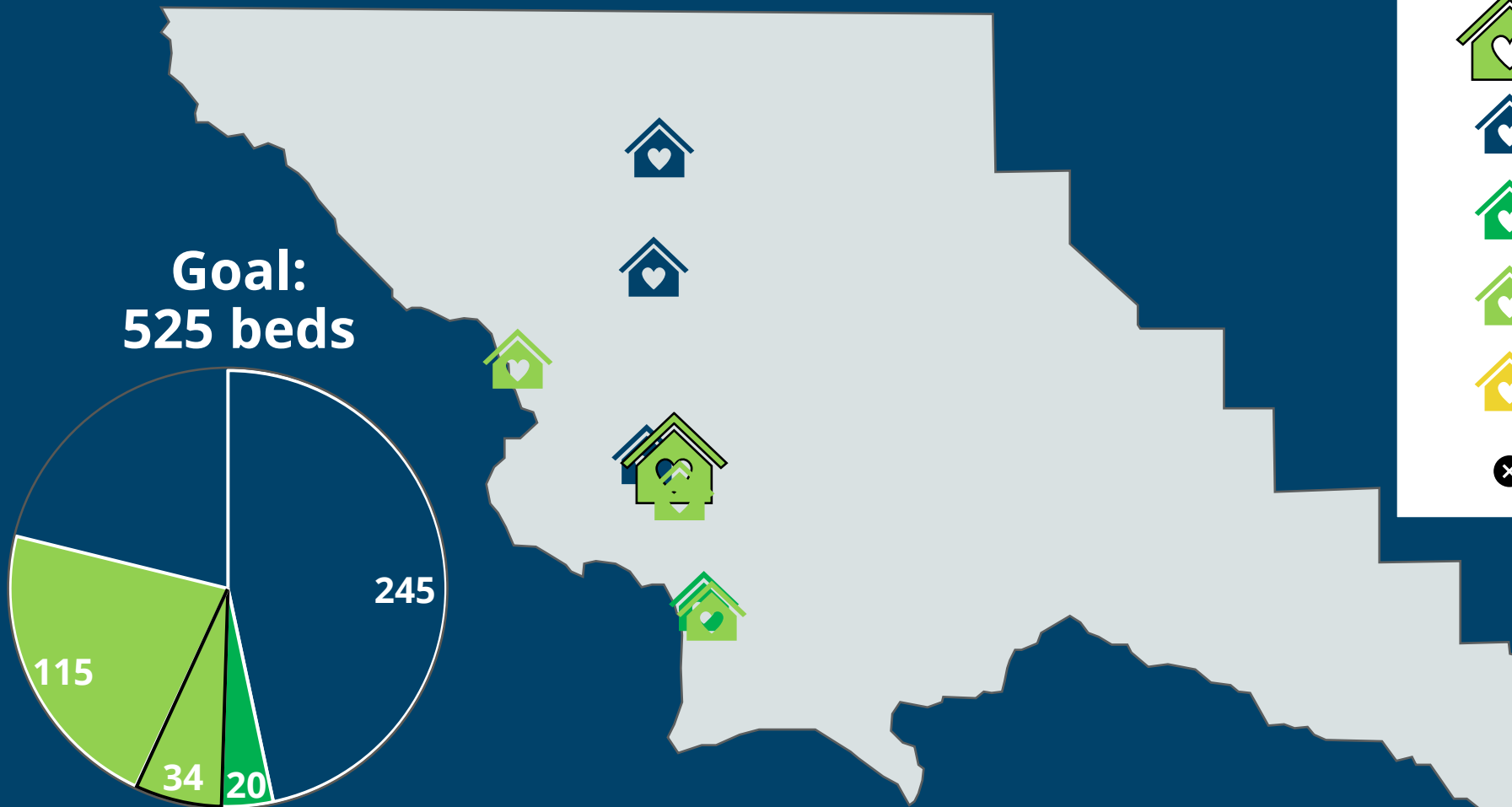


Sites in Consideration



Non-viable Sites

Interim Communities in SLO County



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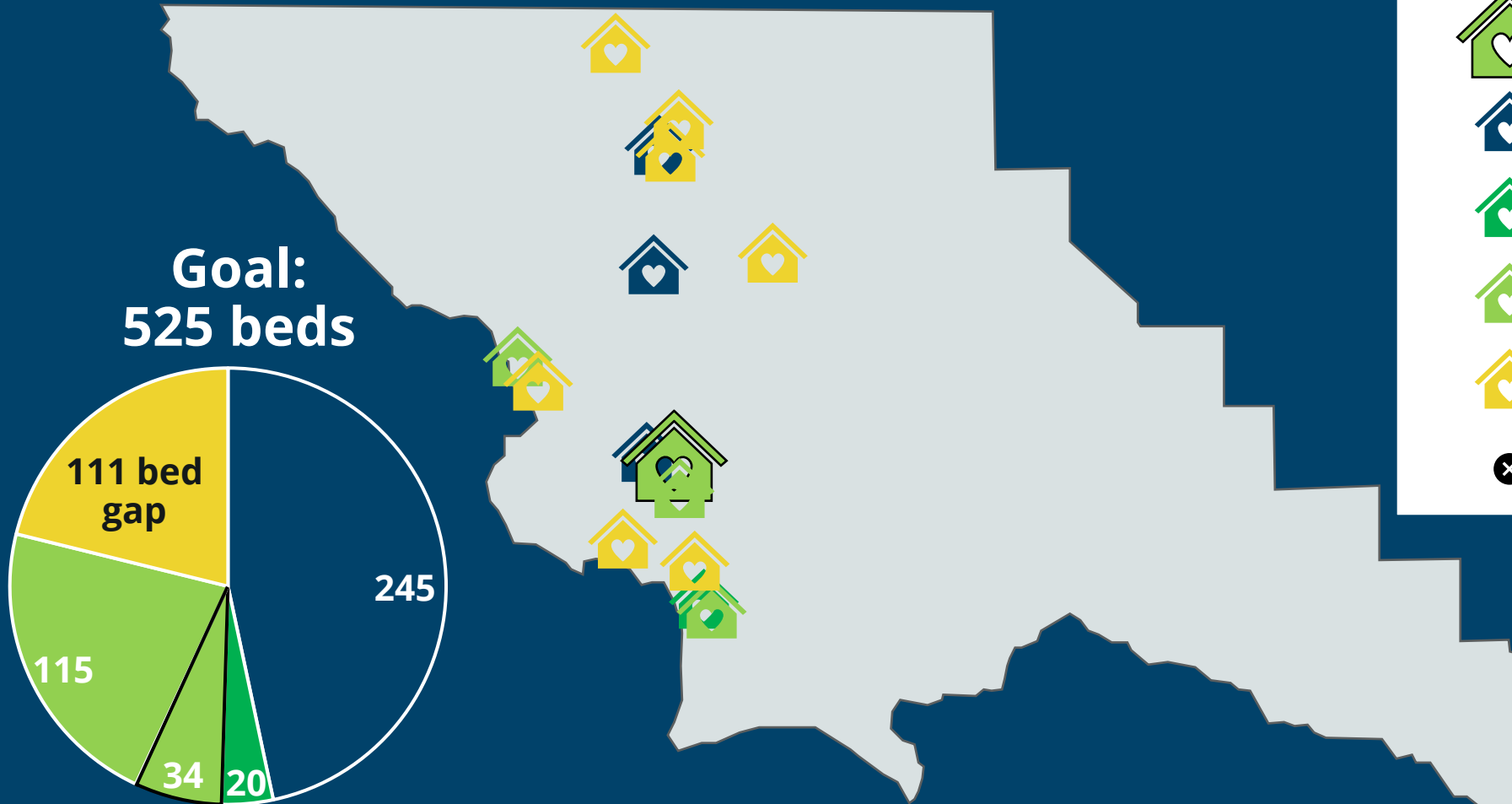


Sites in Consideration









Non-viable Sites

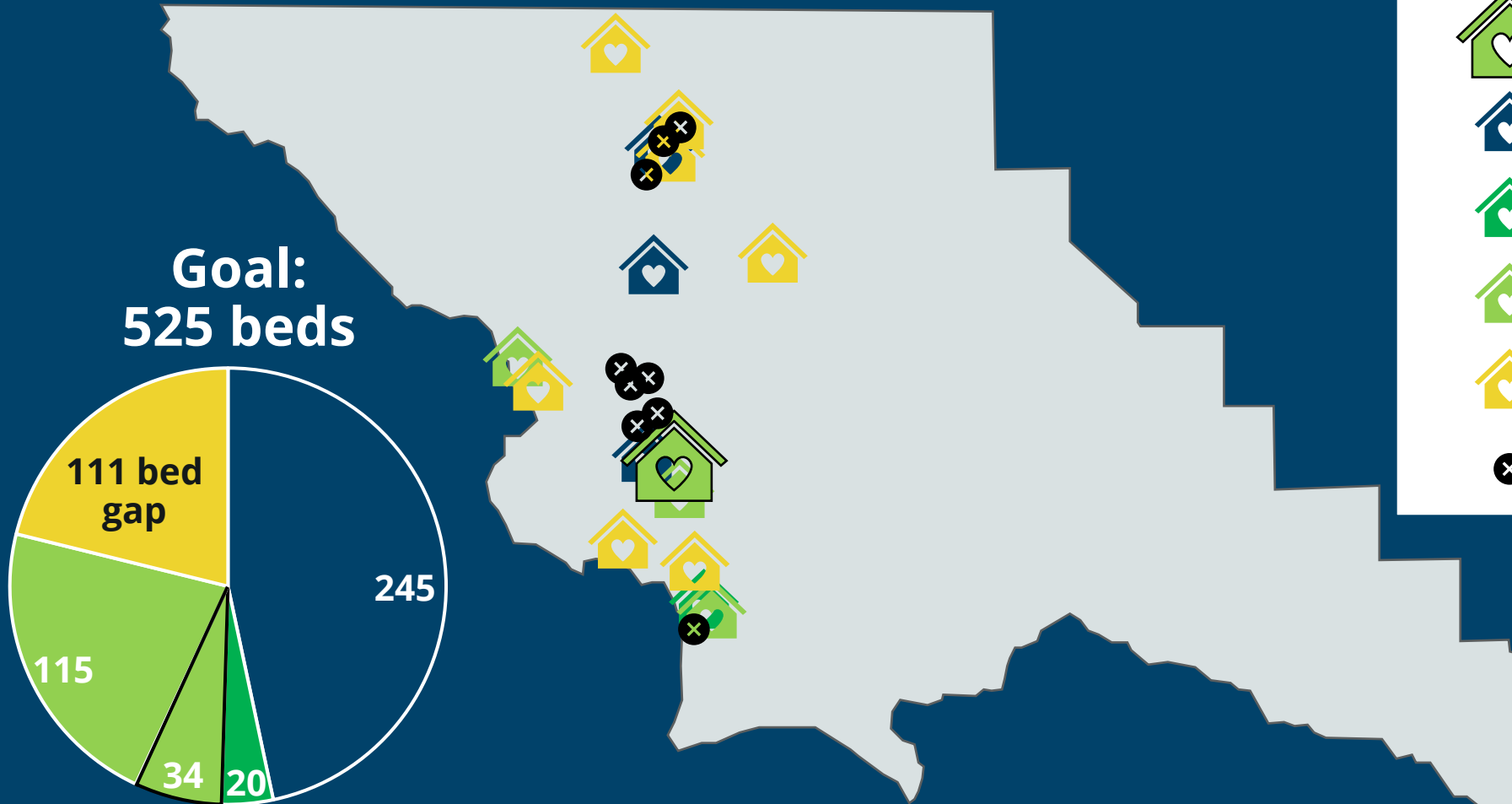
Interim Communities in SLO County









KEY

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-  Active Shelter Programs
-  Active Interim Programs
-  Planned Program Sites
-  Sites in Consideration
-  Non-viable Sites

Interim Communities in SLO County



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State-Funded Encampment Resolution Efforts

- **57 proposals** awarded by State (so far)
- **5 awards** to neighboring counties
- Funded proposals prioritized
 - **Large encampments (50+ people)**
 - **Scalable encampment solutions**
 - **Safe, stable & local housing**



What's Next?

- Exploring a **Neighborhood Advisory Committee**
- **“Adopt A Room” Sponsorships**
- **Volunteer Opportunities** in development
- Updates on the **Welcome Home Village Project Page**
slocounty.gov/welcomehomevillage
- **County- and City-led Conversations**



Frequently Asked Questions

- How will the property be monitored?
- Are drugs and alcohol permitted?
- How long will people live here?
- What about parking?
- How can a person be referred to this program?



Tabling Session

- City of San Luis Obispo Law Enforcement
- City of San Luis Obispo Homelessness Response
- San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Division
- Transitions Mental Health Association Homeless Outreach
- San Luis Obispo County Behavioral Health Department
- Good Samaritan Shelter
- Dignity Moves
- County Executives – Q&A Facilitated by Jeff Eckles



Project Contacts

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