

Criminal Justice Housing Needs

Purpose

In November 2018, the Yolo County Administrator directed staff to create a criminal justice housing plan to research the need for offender housing, which treatment housing models exist, and alternatives for addressing the issue. This report will assist the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) in accomplishing their 2019-2022 Strategic Plan objectives.

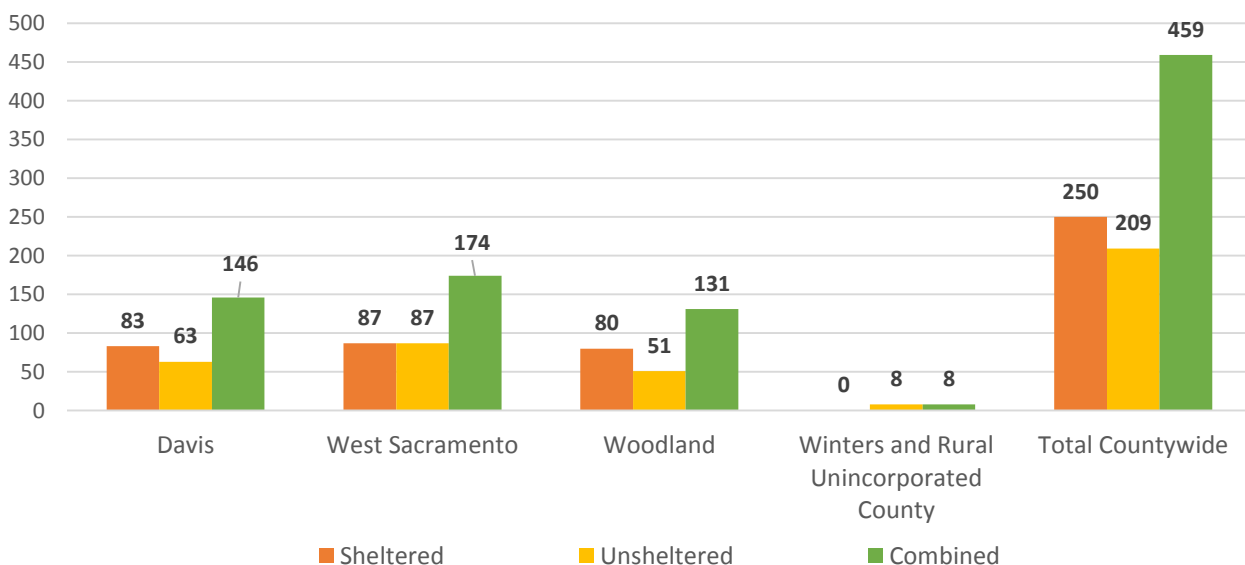
Service Need

Yolo County offenders face significant challenges when applying for housing. Landlords can legally take prior criminal convictions into account when evaluating rent applications, which may reduce the chances of offenders getting the housing they need. Data from a probation survey on client treatment and housing needs shows that 43% of respondents needing treatment due to a traumatic brain injury, intellectual disability, mental health diagnosis, or substance abuse were also in need of housing.

Probation Housing and Treatment Need Survey Count for Respondents Needing Treatment and Housing (Unduplicated) in February, 2019	
Need Area	Percentage of Respondents Needing both Treatment and Housing (Unduplicated)
Only Traumatic Brain Injury	66% (2/3)
Only Intellectual Disability	50% (1/2)
Only Mental Health Diagnosis	50% (10/20)
Only Substance Abuse	41% (30/74)
Combination of Two or More Treatment-Related Need Areas	78% (40/51)
Total Individuals Needing Treatment	43% (43/99)

In the Yolo County 2017 Homeless Point in Time Count, the unsheltered homeless population reported high rates of criminal justice involvement with 61% reporting a prior misdemeanor conviction and 43% reporting a prior felony conviction.

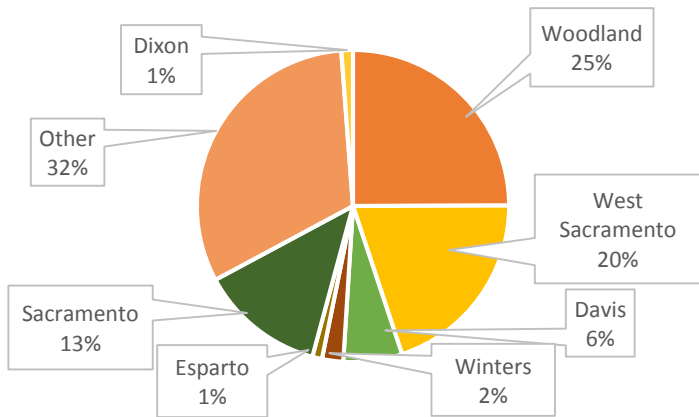
Point in Time Homeless Count in Yolo County (January 23, 2017)



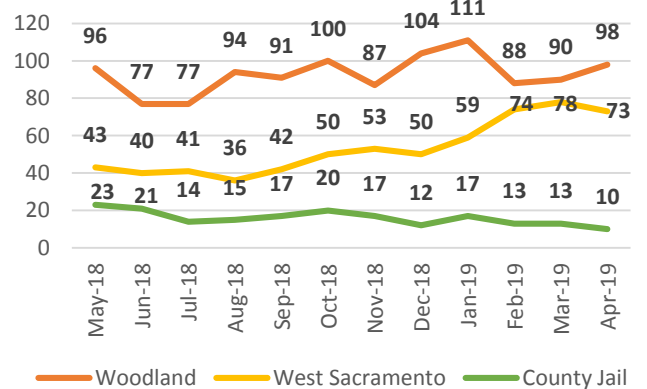
Strategy for Housing

As shown in the data below, Woodland and West Sacramento would be the most strategic locations for offender housing projects, since the largest percentage of the actively supervised probation population already live in those cities, and most of the treatment services are located in there as well. The Day Reporting Center provides most probation-related services at their Woodland and West Sacramento branches. CommuniCare Health Centers has the Hanson Family Health Center in Woodland and the Salud Clinic in West Sacramento, both of which provide a significant portion of the substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health treatment services for probationers. The Alta Regional Center for Yolo County, which provides treatment services for those with brain trauma and intellectual disabilities, is located in Woodland as well. Providing housing close to probation-related services and treatment will reduce costs for the County, and better facilitate successful recovery.

Demographics of Supervised Probationers by City Location (05-01-2019)



Enrollment Numbers for the Day Reporting Centers



Offender Housing Models

Model 1

The first model for Yolo County is to build upon and expand the Helen Thomson treatment housing. This model involves purchasing a residential house for up-to 5 clients at one time, and provides full-service mental health, trauma-centered, and/or substance use disorder treatment. This form of housing project is considered community-based treatment, with multiple treatment houses already in operation. This form of housing would be available to offenders in diversion programs, as well as those reentering from the county jail, and would include full-service, CBO provided treatment services.

Model 2

The second model for Yolo County is to focus on transitional housing for those probationers that have already completed their treatment programs, but are at significant risk of homelessness. This model would be based on the success of the IGT transitional house, and would act as a way to stabilize those who completed their treatment programs, and do not require intensive services. Similar to the Helen Thomson model, this model would involve purchasing a residential house for up-to 5 clients at a time, but with a lower level of services. This facility would focus more on life-skill development and education.

Model 3

The third model for Yolo County is to develop a higher capacity facility, such as an apartment complex, to house a larger number of offenders. The complex would include an imbedded treatment clinic, and would focus on offenders in diversion programs or reentering from the county jail. This clinic would provide full-service mental health, substance use disorder, and/or trauma-centered treatment services to those living in the apartments. The exact number of clients would depend upon the treatment funding available, as well as the size of the complex. One example to look to in further developing this model is the Fourth and Hope apartment complex.

Potential Funding Opportunities

- **Community Services Infrastructure Grant:** Allows for the purchase of housing. Funding awarded to Yolo County for two houses, like the IGT House (Model 2). A second round of funding was announced with applications due December 2, 2019.
- **SAMHSA:** SAMHSA grants do not generally fund the construction or purchase of facilities, but often do provide funding for treatment programs. Grant funds from SAMHSA could be leveraged to provide treatment services in any facilities that Yolo County acquires.
- **BSCC:** These grants do not generally fund the construction or purchase of facilities, but often do provide funding for treatment programs. Similar to SAMHSA, grant funds from the BSCC could be leveraged to provide treatment services in any facilities that Yolo County acquires.
- **Private Health Foundations:** These foundations could provide grant funds for research, housing, and program implementation for the criminal justice involved population, if a nexus to community health and treatment is established.
- **MHSA Funds:** There is potential to work with HHSA and community stakeholders to develop additional treatment housing for the next round of funding.