



Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury

2014-2015 Response Packet

*Recipe for Failure: Shrinking Budgets and Increasing
Needs for Emergency Homeless Shelters*

Homeless Services Center, Executive Director

Due date: 90 Days (by Thursday Sept. 10, 2015)

When finished, email the completed response packet as a file attachment to:
grandjury@co.santa-cruz.ca.us

Instructions for Respondents

In responding to the Grand Jury report please provide a response for each individual finding and recommendation within a report, not a generalized response to the entire report. Explanations for disagreements and timeframes for further implementation or analysis should be provided.

Please follow the format below when preparing your response.

Response Format

1. Find the Responses Required table that appears near the end of the report. Look for the row with the name of the entity you represent and then respond to the Findings and/or Recommendations listed in that row using the custom packet provided to you.
2. For Findings, indicate one of the following responses and provide the required additional information:
 - a. AGREE with the Finding,
 - b. PARTIALLY DISAGREE with the Finding and specify the portion of the Finding that is disputed and include an explanation of the reasons therefor, or
 - c. DISAGREE with the Finding and provide an explanation of the reasons therefor.
3. For Recommendations, select one of the following actions and provide the required additional information:
 - a. HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED, with a summary regarding the implemented action,
 - b. HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE, with a timeframe or expected date for implementation,
 - c. REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for that analysis or study; this timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report,
 - d. WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

If the respondent is a governing body, please provide the voted response of the body as a whole. Individual responses from members of a governing body will not be published.

If you have questions about the response report please contact the Grand Jury by calling 831-454-2099 or by sending an e-mail to grandjury@co.santa-cruz.ca.us.

How and Where to Respond

1. Please download and fill out the Response Packet provided to you for your responses. Please respond to each finding and recommendation. Be sure to save any changes you make to the packet.
2. Print and send a hard copy of the Response Packet to:
The Honorable Judge Rebecca Connelly
Santa Cruz Superior Court
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060
3. Email the completed Response Packet, as an attachment, to the Grand Jury at grandjury@co.santa-cruz.ca.us.

Due Dates

Elected officials or administrators are required to respond within 60 days of the Grand Jury report's publication. Responses by the governing body of any public entity are required within 90 days.

Findings

Finding 1: Local jurisdictions have not provided adequate emergency shelter to accommodate the vast majority (80%) of the more than 3,500 total homeless persons in Santa Cruz County (using 2013 PIT data).

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than “Agree”):

Finding 2: Despite persistent unmet needs, local jurisdictions have chosen not to fund or plan to increase the number of emergency shelter beds and services.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than “Agree”):

Finding 3: Reliance on the National Guard Armory with its strict rules and regulations limits the effectiveness of the North County Emergency Winter Shelter.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than “Agree”):

Finding 4: The absence of a back-up plan to replace the National Guard Armory threatens the continuing existence of the North County Emergency Winter Shelter program.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than “Agree”):

Finding 5: Insufficient emergency shelter capacity limits access to coordinated entry services for the homeless population.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than “Agree”):

Finding 6: Insufficient numbers of personnel and case managers at the emergency shelters limit the services that can be provided to homeless individuals.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than “Agree”):

Finding 7: Insufficient number of staff dedicated to grant writing results in missed grant funding opportunities.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE - explain disputed portion below

DISAGREE - explain below

Response explanation (required for responses other than "Agree"):

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and the cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola and Scotts Valley should develop plans to provide increased emergency shelter on a priority basis to the most vulnerable populations first, including families, youth, women, and the elderly.

HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED

HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE

- indicate timeframe below

REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS - explain scope and timeframe below (not to exceed six months)

WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED - explain below

Response summary, timeframe or explanation:

Recommendation 2: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and the cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola and Scotts Valley should seek a more permanent, accessible and expandable site for the North County Emergency Winter Shelter program.

HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED

HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE

- indicate timeframe below

REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS - explain scope and timeframe below (not to exceed six months)

WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED - explain below

Response summary, timeframe or explanation:

Recommendation 3: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and the cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola and Scotts Valley should allocate more funds for additional case managers for the local emergency shelters.

HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED

HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE

- indicate timeframe below

REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS - explain scope and timeframe below (not to exceed six months)

WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED - explain below

Response summary, timeframe or explanation:

Recommendation 4: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and the cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola and Scotts Valley should allocate additional staff to seek more grant funding for emergency shelters.

HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED

HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE

- indicate timeframe below

REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS - explain scope and timeframe below (not to exceed six months)

WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED - explain below

Response summary, timeframe or explanation: