

CENTRAL CITY HOSPITALITY HOUSE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROPOSALS ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN
SAN FRANCISCO

CCHH recognizes that homelessness is a crisis in San Francisco and must be addressed immediately. We have carefully reviewed several proposals put forward to address this crisis and have identified several key elements that are essential to any plan that will solve this serious and complex. To be effective, a plan must include:

- Strategies for creating ample, safe, and affordable housing. Being housed in San Francisco requires a tremendous amount of emotional, physical and psychological resources. It is not easy to find and maintain housing here, even for those who have many resources and choices to draw upon. Any plan that does not emphasize this is incomplete.
- Strategies for expanding employment opportunities for homeless individuals, and a fair living wage
- More and better education and training opportunities
- Reduction of the availability and criminalization of drugs and alcohol in our community
- Maintenance and expansion of high quality, accessible, and well-networked services including legal aid, peer advocacy, case management, support groups, money management, drug and alcohol treatment programs, mental health treatment, outpatient services, medical treatment, eviction defense, storage facilities, hygiene facilities, shelters, and easy access to clothing and food
- Oversight and coordination of homeless services among city departments and community-based organizations to guarantee accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency

- Effective community-based monitoring system for homeless shelters
- Legislation that honors and protects the civil rights of all people, regardless of economic status
- Efforts to raise public awareness of, and sensitivity to, the issues that impact the lives of homeless individuals
- Should **not** formally link shelter beds to any entitlement or benefit programs

Conclusion:

After carefully reviewing several plans, it is our position that the Continuum of Care Plan will be the most effective strategy in addressing homelessness in San Francisco. Because it has already been adopted, it should be implemented immediately.

It is our position that the Local Homeless Coordinating Board should be empowered. The Local Board is in the best position to oversee the Continuum of Care Plan and the integration of homeless services in the City.

It is our position that any budget cuts made by the City would jeopardize efforts to address the root causes of homeless and will make the already serious problem of homelessness in San Francisco worse.