

PATHWAYS

From the Streets into Housing

Homelessness is a humanitarian crisis that will not improve without innovative approaches.

PATHWAYS is an ambitious plan based on national best practices that gives the homeless immediate respite from the elements while connecting them to supportive services and permanent housing.

The Vision

The objective of PATHWAYS is straightforward: develop innovative ways to provide short-term shelter and ultimately permanent housing for our growing homeless population. This will relieve the pressure on city streets, parks, business districts and neighborhoods that are disproportionately impacted by the concentration of homeless, and provide a real chance for the homeless to move their lives forward.

Phase I: The STAIR Center

The City of Berkeley is launching the STAIR Center, a low-barrier service-rich shelter open 24 hours a day. An outreach team will visit encampments throughout Berkeley to connect the homeless to the facility, which will allow people to bring pets and live with partners and/or groups. Meals, storage and services will also be provided on-site. Case managers will work with STAIR residents to qualify for housing, and align rapid rehousing resources to secure housing. The facility is scheduled to open June 27, 2018.

Phase II: Bridge Living Community

The Bridge Living Community, will provide shelter for 25 additional people who are not prepared to be permanently housed after their stay in the STAIR Center, or for others living on our streets that are transitioning into housing. Success of the upcoming ballot measure to fund homeless and mental health services will ensure this innovative program can move forward. **The Berkeley City Council is currently approaching community partners who would be willing to provide the local funding match so that this important complementary housing option can also be made available to our unhoused citizens.**

How You Can Help

The tax-deductible Berkeley Homeless Fund has been established by the city to receive philanthropic donations specifically designated for homeless services. A gift ear-marked for rapid rehousing is the most effective way to assist Berkeley's homeless population. To donate call 510-981-7100.

We are actively seeking community partners and invite you to join us. To learn more about the project, visit www.jessearreguin.com/homelessness/.



What PATHWAYS will do

1. Open the STAIR CENTER on June 27th, 2018, a low-barrier 24/7 shelter
2. Employ outreach personnel and case managers at a 1:14 ratio to deliver intensive services
3. Create transitional housing in a tiny home Bridge Living Community
4. Reunite people with their families through a Homeward Bound program
5. Provide rapid rehousing down-payment and rental subsidies.

STAIR Center FAQ

If someone wanted to get into the STAIR Center, what is the process?

There is no “waitlist”. Instead, the program aims to serve the highest-needs unsheltered people in Berkeley. These people are frequently living in encampments and are unable or unlikely to initiate contact with city services by themselves, so our outreach teams will be conducting visits to where they are in the community to make offers for available beds.

If you believe an unhoused person you know is very high-needs but hasn't been, or is unlikely to be, encountered by outreach, that person can be added to our “target list” of names to outreach by:

- **Calling 211**
- **Attending a drop-in housing workshop at the Berkeley Drop-In Center** (3234 Adeline Street, Berkeley) from 10-11:30 on Tuesdays.

The person should expect to be asked some questions about their homeless situation, simply to determine whether Pathways is actually an appropriate match for them. Our target list for outreach is very long—we have over 500 people already—so please understand that an assessment does not guarantee eventual access to resources.

How can I help?

The solution to homelessness is strikingly simple—by definition, we end someone's homelessness by providing them with access to affordable housing. Subsidizing this housing for everyone who needs it in Berkeley, however, is a task far beyond our current budget. You can donate money to the Berkeley Homeless Fund by calling 510-981-7100.

I want to help, but I am unable to provide any money. Is there another way to get involved? Or to donate things like food or clothing?

There are many ways to donate directly to BACS. For specific inquiries about how to best get involved, contact BACS' volunteer coordinator Nora Daly at ndaly@bayareacs.org.

What is the guest policy for those that will be living there? Can they have visitors on site?

Out of respect for the privacy and well-being of the numerous other guests at the shelter, we cannot accommodate visitors on-site. Feel free to contact the person directly to make arrangements to meet at another location.

To DONATE to the Berkeley Homeless Fund call **510-981-7100**
For more information visit www.jessearreguin.com/homelessness