

## Responding to Chronic Homelessness Project Profile

Focus on: **Income and Employment**

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Hope House  
San Francisco, CA

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### **Activity Description**

*Why:* Chronically homeless people have many barriers to employment ranging from insufficient vocational and life skills, to aged work experience to lack of stable housing and supportive services.

*What:* Under the leadership of the Private Industry Council of San Francisco, Inc., this “vocationalized housing” program provides housing, case management and employment program services to chronically homeless people. This effort will seek to better combine and coordinate the multiple services and agencies that deliver vocationalized housing in an effort to improve both the involvement of the area’s workforce development system, including the area One-Stop Career Centers, and the employment options for the chronically homeless. As a model program – Hope House is one of five pilot projects in the country of this joint funding effort – the goals include a component of systems change to demonstrate ways to address chronic homelessness in collaborative efforts: stakeholders will demonstrate an increase in their knowledge of employment strategies and resources for use with chronically homeless people; and identify and participate in policy changes to mitigate disincentives to work.

*Partners:* A Collaborative of nonprofit, community and government partners:

- San Francisco Department of Human Services, Housing and Homeless Programs Division and Workforce Development Division
- United Council of Human Services
- Young Community Developers
- Southeast Career Link One Stop
- Corporation for Supportive Housing
- Private Industry Council

*Significant Program Design Features:*

**Case Management**

Supportive services to assist with housing stability and promote increased self-sufficiency.

**Housing**

- 70 units of permanent housing
- scattered sites
- multi-bedroom homes
- private bedrooms and shared common areas
- services provided on-site and at other neighborhood locations

**Employment Program**

*Customized employment* opportunities for chronically homeless adults focused on individual needs and skills and creating a culture of work with the hope of ending the cycle of chronically homeless individuals.

EMPLOYMENT GOALS: At least 70% of Hope House residents will engage in work-related activities:

- 40% will become employed within 12 months of move-in.
- 90% of residents will develop a personal service plan.
- 90% will show an increase in knowledge of employment opportunities and resources.
- At least 60% of residents will obtain employment within 9 months of developing their individualized service plans.
- 80% who become employed will stay employed for 30 days, 70% for 90 days, 60% for 180 days or more.
- 40% will show an increase in earned income; 30% will transfer off public benefits.

**Selected Funding Sources**

Department of Labor/HUD Ending Chronic Homelessness Through Employment and Housing Programs grant

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## **Outcomes**

Cumulative as of September 22, 2005:

<b>Education Level</b>		
GED/H.S. Equiv.	7	9%
High School	50	62%
Associates Degree	5	6%
BA/BS	2	2%
Other	17	21%

Mental Health	23	28%
Visual Impairment	2	2%
Other Physical Disability	11	14%
Developmental Disability	2	2%
Alcohol/Substance Abuse	34	42%
Learning Disability	3	4%
HIV/AIDS	6	7%

<b>Employment Activity</b>	
Full-Time Jobs	15
Part-Time Jobs	25
Average Hourly Wage	\$10.39
Minimum Hourly Wage	\$6.75
Maximum Hourly Wage	\$15.38
Job Types	Food Preparation, Labor, Janitorial, Driving, Warehouse Receptionist, Sales, Self- Employment

## **Places Where Similar Work is Underway**

Los Angeles: LA Homeless Opportunity Providing Employment (LA-HOPE)