

Blue Ribbon Commission & San José Homeless Program Update



*Community &
Economic
Development
Committee*

February 25, 2008

Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC)

2007 Activities:

- Top-Flight Leadership Group
- Working groups
- Development & adoption of specific initiatives to end homelessness

Lessons Learned

- Homeless Services in Santa Clara County are fractionalized and difficult to access
- After discharge from hospitals, jails or other institutional settings – people are not receiving the services they need to become self-sufficient
- Barriers to housing and benefits, and the lack of sufficient rental subsidies and case management services perpetuate chronic homelessness

Ending Homelessness – BRC Recommendations

- Create Outreach & Benefits Teams
- Institutional Outreach & Discharge Planning
- Implement Medical Respite Facility
- Establish “One-Stop” Homeless Prevention Center
- Provide Permanent Housing w/Services

Next Steps

- Leadership Team
- Dedicated Program Staff
- New Governance Structure



Other Efforts

- Project Homeless Connect (PHC)
- Housing Services Partnership
- AmeriCorps VISTA members
 - PHC – Building Sustainability & Fundraising Strategies
 - Service Gaps Analysis
 - Public Education & Outreach Program



Questions?

