Homeless Update

July 2025

What's Inside

Executive Summary

Accomplishments

Financials

What's Next?

Executive Summary

In 2019, City staff started providing a Homeless Update that summarized strategies that the City was undertaking to address homelessness. In addition, it allowed the public and the Council to provide feedback. In the first report presented in August 2019, the report included two active programs: A Way Back Home Program through The Salvation Army and the El Cajon Housing Connections Program (Housing Navigator).

Fast forward to 2025, and the report includes an array of programs using additional service providers. This report provides accomplishments that occurred during the reporting period of January 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025.

Accomplishments

During the reporting period of January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025, the following accomplishments were achieved through six service providers and two city departments.

Service Provider Programs and Services

Crisis House

- Case Management
- Outreach

- Emergency Shelter
- Housing Navigation
- Outreach

East County Transitional Living Center

Home Start, Inc.

- Case Management
- Housing Navigation and Outreach
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Rental Assistance

- Rotational Emergency Shelter

Interfaith Shelter Network

The Salvation Army

- Reunification

- Clean-Ups
- Encampments
- Outreach

Quality of Life

El Cajon Police Dpt.

- HOT Team
- Outreach

- Convene, inform, engage community members
- Advocate for policies

East County Homeless Task Force

Funding Sources

The City was able to use an array of funding sources to address homelessness. This includes funding from local, state, and federal sources. The following is a list of these sources.

Federal: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

✓	*Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)*

State: State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

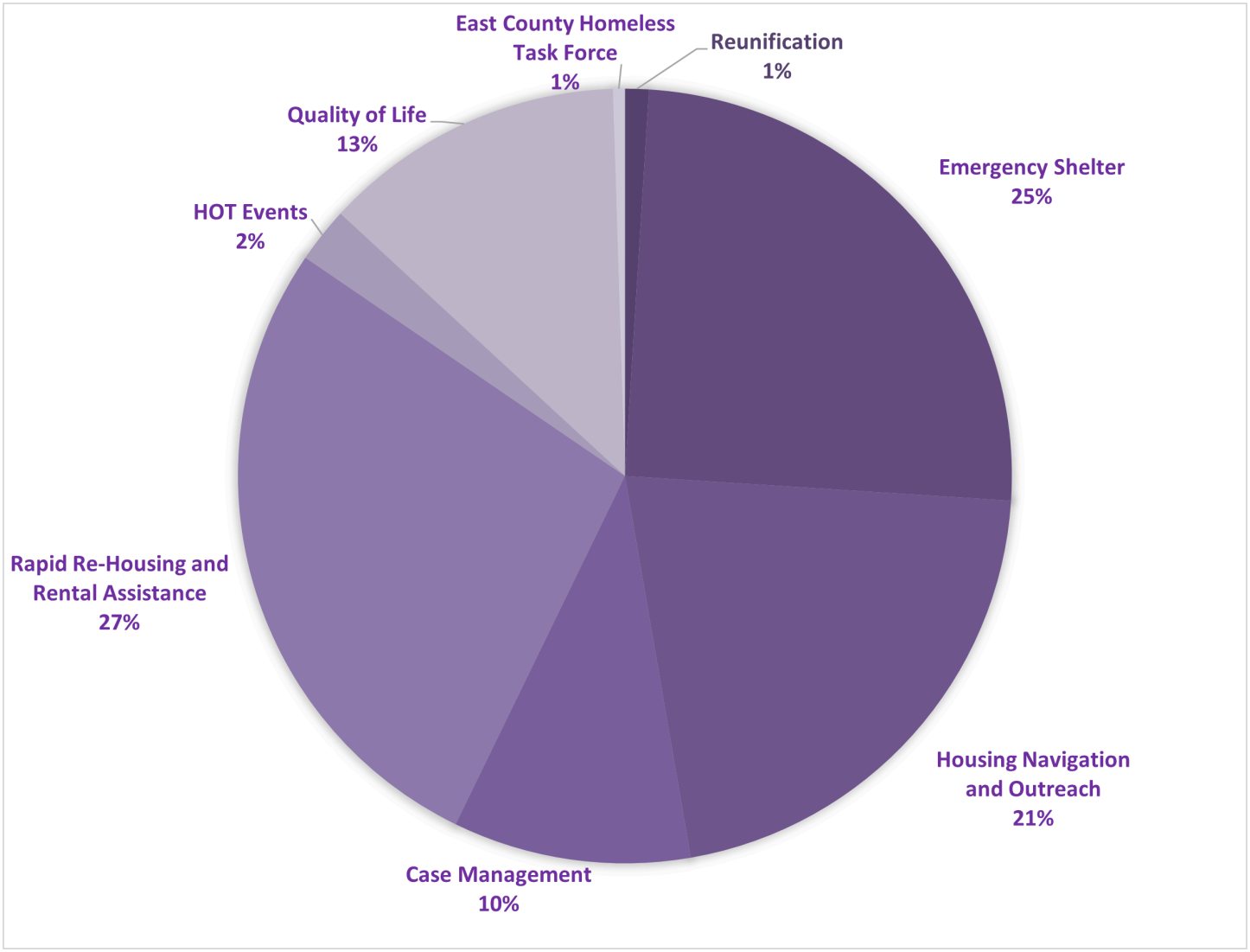
✓	*Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA)*

Local: City of El Cajon (City)

✓	*General Fund*
✓	*Successor Housing Agency funds through the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund*

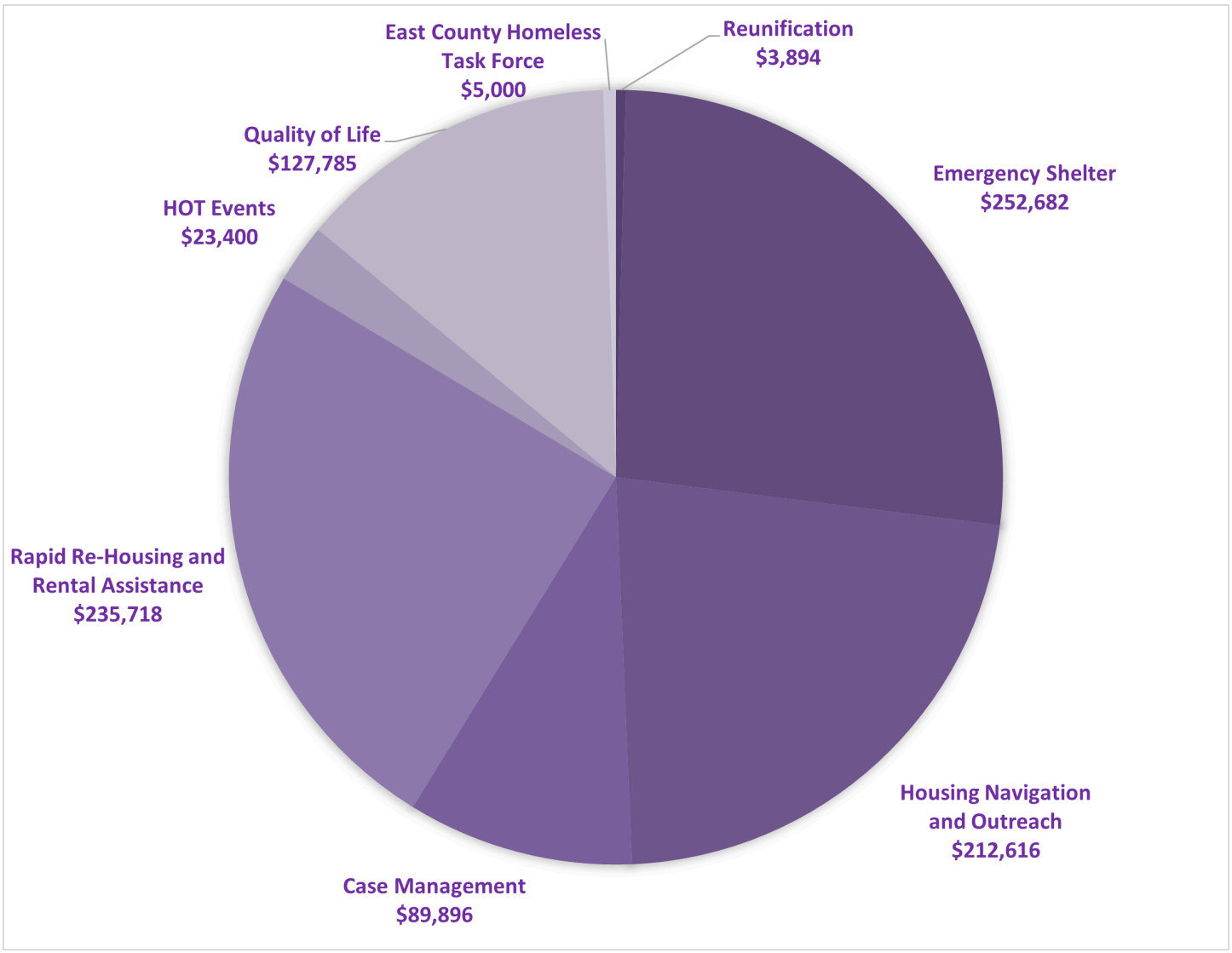
Allocations

A total of $1,009,720 was allocated for homeless programs by service providers.



Expenditures

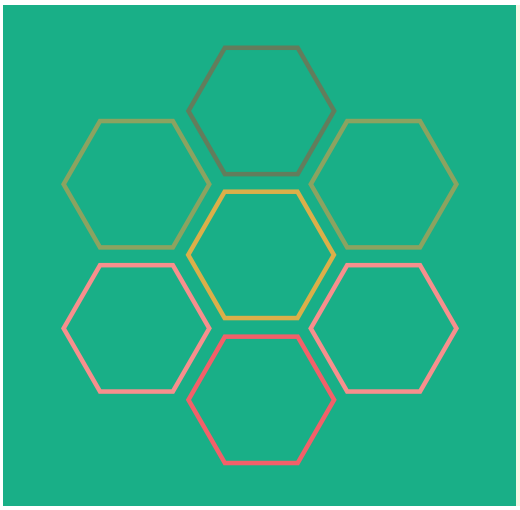
A total of $950,992 was expended through these programs.



Clients Served

A total of 2,447 clients received some type of service during the six-month period. Out of those:

A total of 180 individuals were placed into permanent housing.



A total of 146 individuals were placed into bridge/transitional housing.

A total of 506 individuals were placed in emergency shelter.

Quality of Life Clean Ups in the City

- 67 clean up events completed during the six-month period.
  - 41 City streets
  - 26 City storm channels.

- 443 tons of debris were removed from the City during the six-month period.
  - 160 tons from City streets
  - 283 tons from City storm channels

What's Next?

Continue funding homeless programs (contingent upon available funding)	**Pursue new funding opportunities when feasible (local, state and federal)**
Continue support for the Emergency Sleeping Cabins	**Continue supporting Homeless Outreach Events**
Continue financial support for ECHTF	**Provide six-month updates**

Conclusion

The City of El Cajon remains committed to addressing homelessness through a coordinated network of programs, dedicated service providers, and City Departments working collaboratively to deliver a continuum of services. City Council's feedback, recommendations, and direction will guide staff in refining and enhancing these efforts to best serve the community's needs and achieve positive outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness in El Cajon.

Contact Us

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