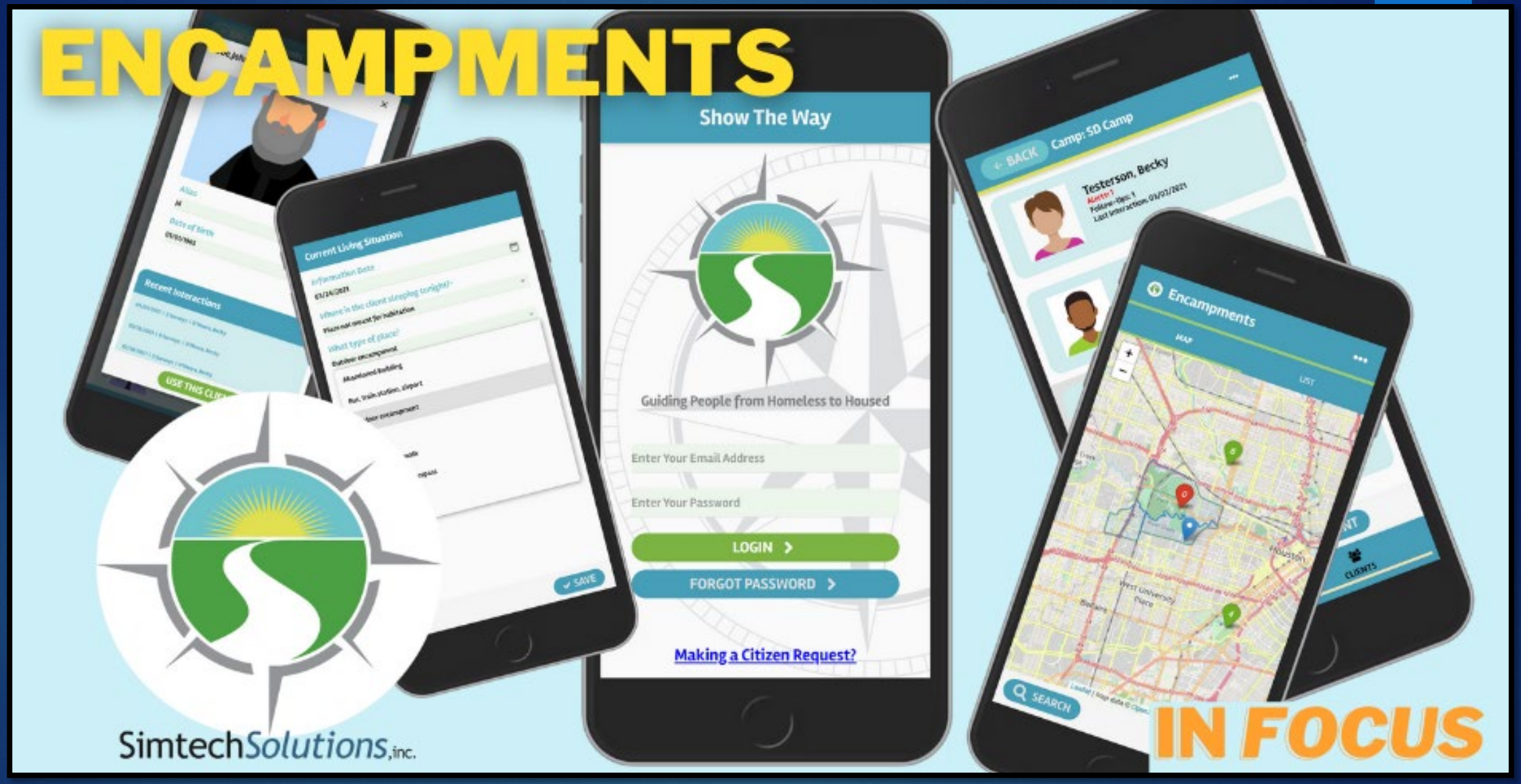
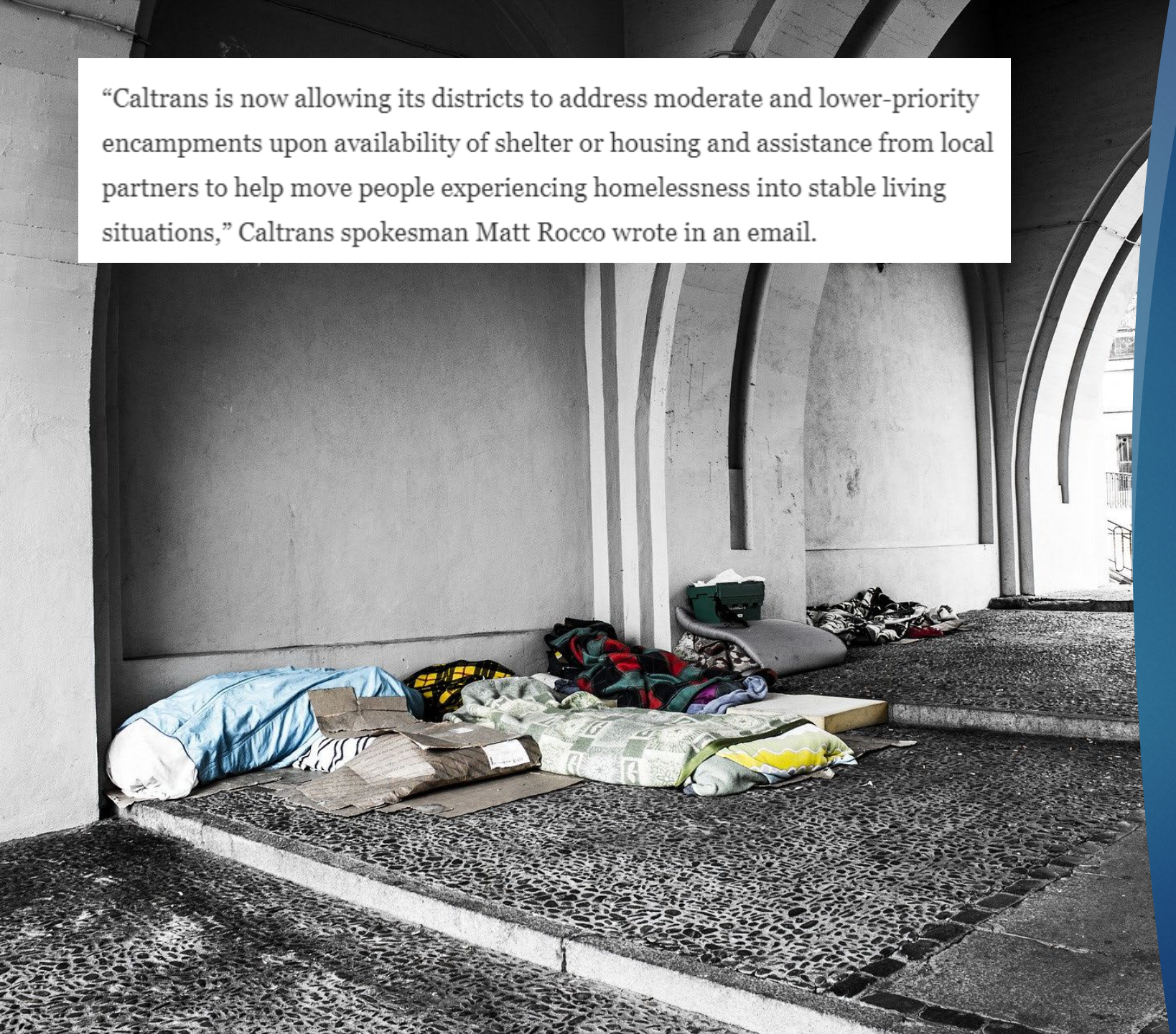


Show The Way, the Street Outreach Mobile app from Simtech Solutions Inc.



"Caltrans is now allowing its districts to address moderate and lower-priority encampments upon availability of shelter or housing and assistance from local partners to help move people experiencing homelessness into stable living situations," Caltrans spokesman Matt Rocco wrote in an email.

Why Focus on Encampments?

- States are now moving past the CDC Guidance to support leaving encampments alone.
- To help inform the interpretation of the word "Resolution"
- Knowing the people who live in each camp is an important first step to helping them.

Caltrans to begin clearing more homeless encampments - The San Diego Union-Tribune (sandiegouniontribune.com)

NO
RIGHT
TURN

Legal Considerations for Encampments

PUBLIC SAFETY

Court Tosses Case After SDPD Fails to Turn Over Evidence

The case drives home the impacts of the city attorney's decision to hand over responsibility of prosecuting infraction cases to police, who aren't bound by the same standards as attorneys.

Jesse Marx
August 12, 2021

A screenshot of body camera footage shows San Diego police officers approaching Matthew Houser in Balboa Park on Jan. 31, 2019, and issuing him an infraction for overnight camping that was later dismissed. / Image courtesy of the city of San Diego

HARVARD LAW REVIEW

EIGHTH AMENDMENT

Martin v. City of Boise

Ninth Circuit Refuses to Reconsider Invalidation of Ordinances Completely Banning Sleeping and Camping in Public.

COURT TOSSES CASE AFTER SDPD FAILS TO TURN OVER EVIDENCE (VOICEOFSANDIEGO.ORG)

MARTIN V. CITY OF BOISE - HARVARD LAW REVIEW

CALTRANS TO BEGIN CLEARING MORE HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS - THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE (SANDIEGOUNIONTRIBUNE.COM)

California AB 140 – Encampment Resolution Program Funding

50252. (a) The council shall distribute moneys appropriated for purposes of the program in accordance with this chapter.

(b) Except as specified in subdivision (e), the council shall award the moneys appropriated as competitive grants to applicants to be used to support encampment resolution and rehousing efforts for local jurisdictions. Council staff shall develop and disseminate encampment resolution strategies, case studies, and learnings to local jurisdictions.

(c) Applicants may submit an application for a program grant to the council in a form and manner specified by the council. The application shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:

(1) Information on the number and demographics of the individuals living in the encampment that the applicant is requesting funding to help resolve.

(2) A description of why this specific encampment is being prioritized for resolution support.

(3) A description of how the applicant intends to collaborate with state and local partners to mitigate risk and address safety concerns, while ensuring a pathway for individuals living in encampments to move into safe and stable housing.

(4) A description of how the applicant intends to use these funds to connect all individuals living in the encampment to services and housing.

(5) A description of other local resources and funding streams that will be used to ensure the ongoing availability of services and housing support for people who are moved out of encampments into permanent housing.

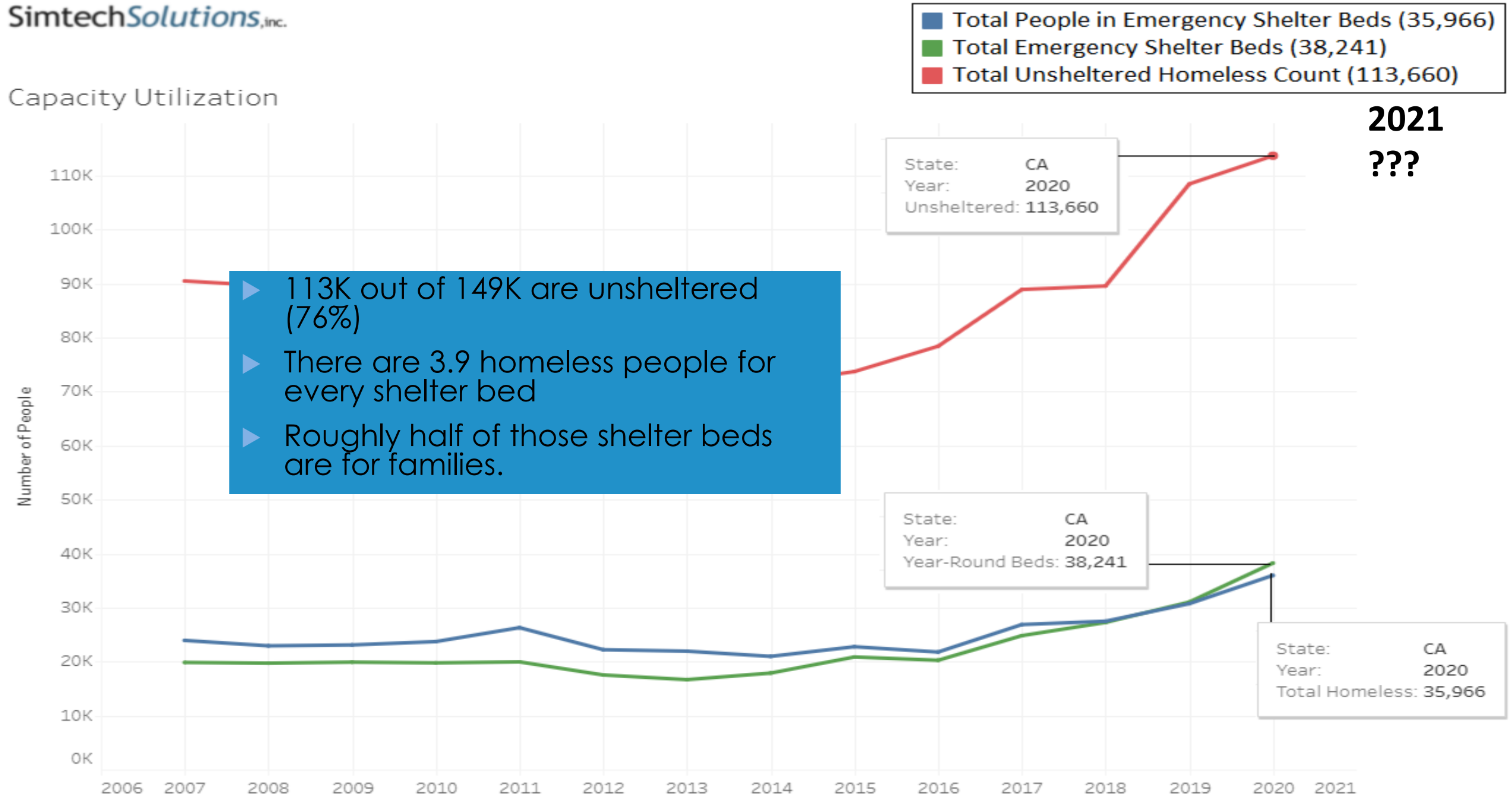
(d) When determining grant awards, funding shall be prioritized for:

(1) Jurisdictions that can demonstrate a commitment to cross-systems collaboration and innovative efforts to resolve encampment issues, while focusing on protecting the health and well-being of the individuals living in those encampments.

(2) Jurisdictions that have 50 or more individuals living in the encampment that they are seeking to support with these funds.

- $50 million in funding available for encampment remediation and support
- Bill Text - AB-140 Housing. (ca.gov)

SimtechSolutions, Inc.



- 113K out of 149K are unsheltered (76%)
- There are 3.9 homeless people for every shelter bed
- Roughly half of those shelter beds are for families.

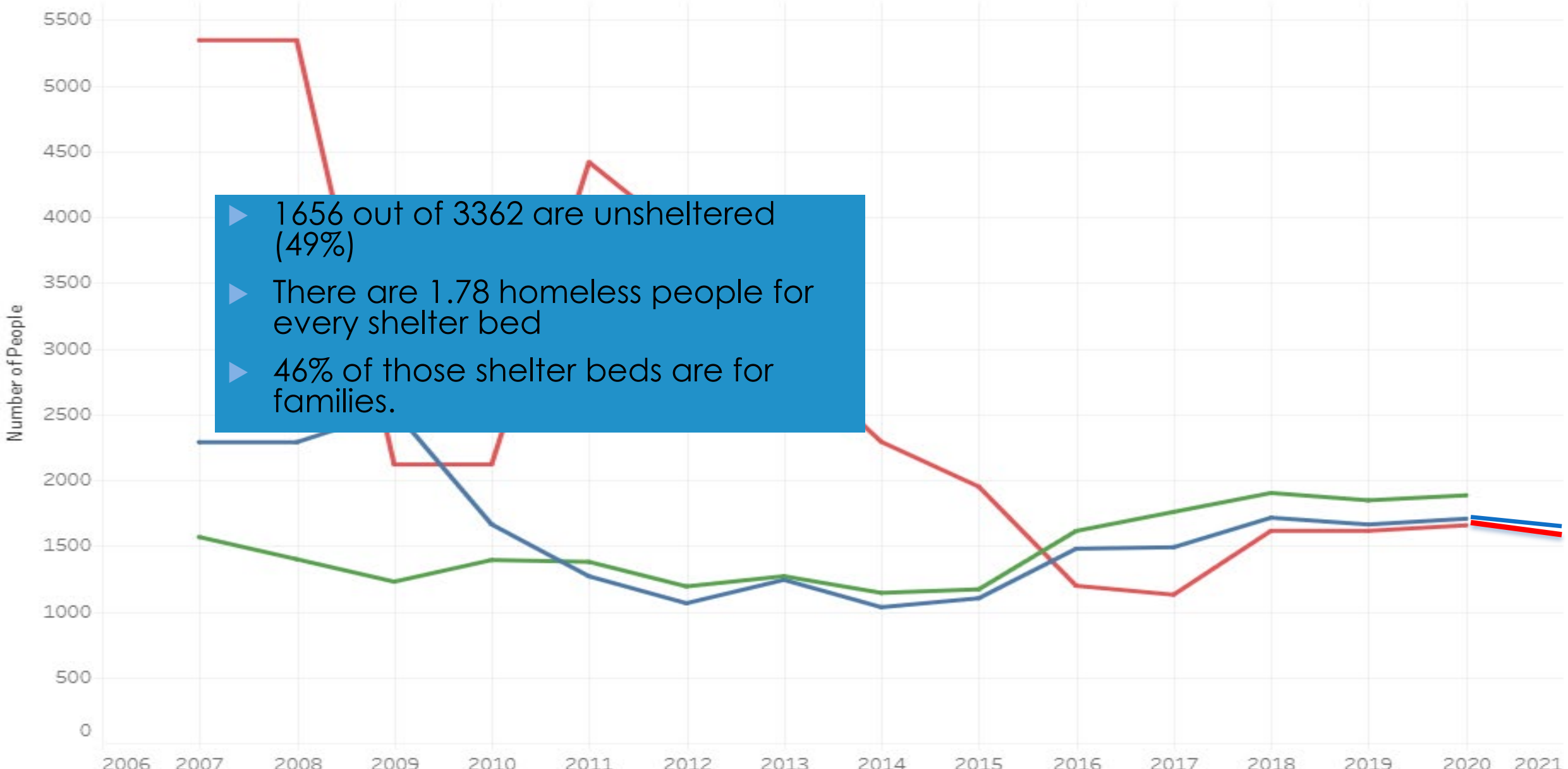
SimtechSolutions, inc.

Your CoC selection: TX-700 Houston, Pasadena, Conroe/Harris, Ft. Bend, Montgomery, Counties CoC

Population Type: ES

Utilization Breakdown (By Homelessness Type)
- Total Homeless
- Year-Round Beds
- Unsheltered

Capacity Utilization



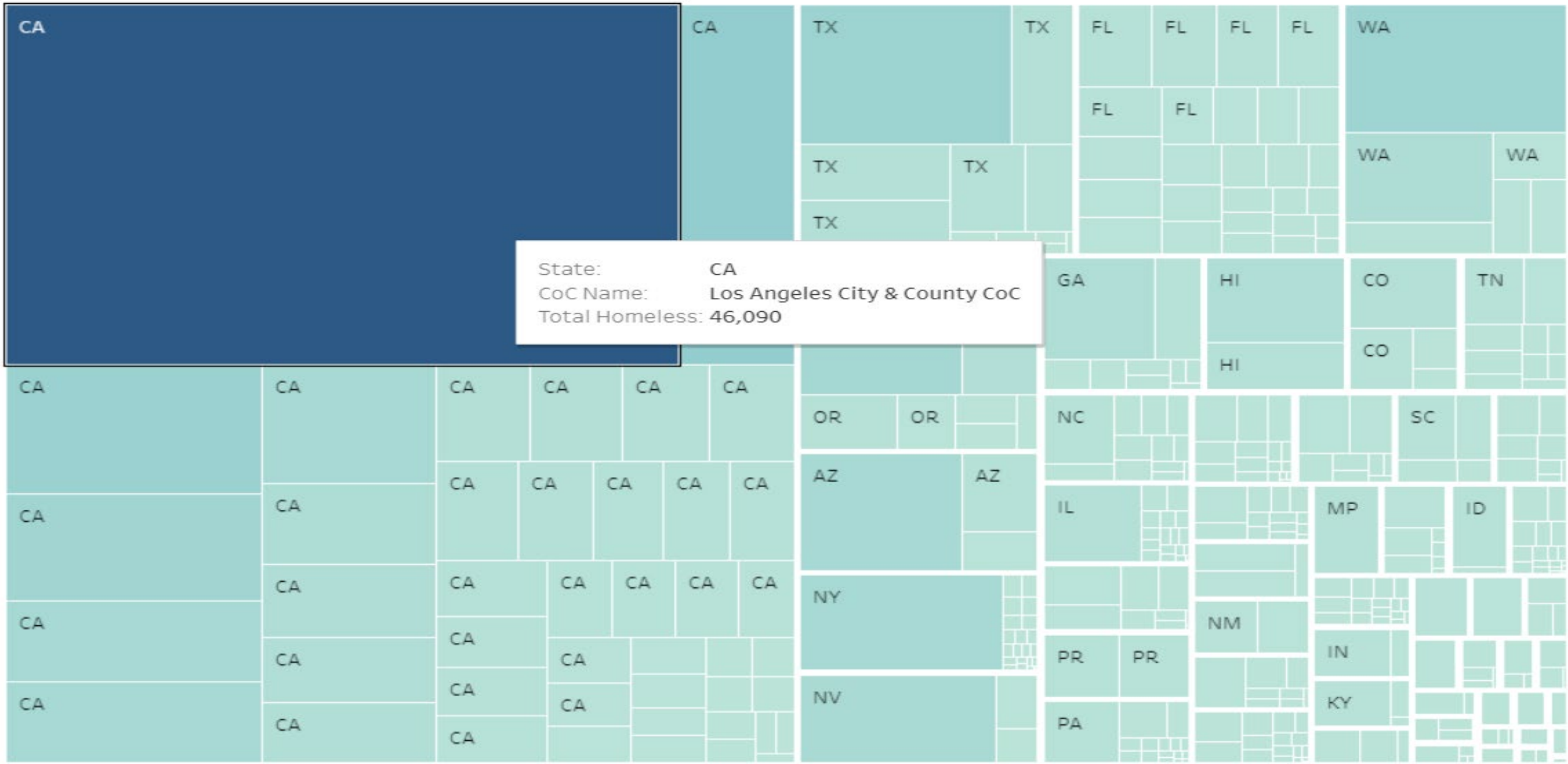
- 1656 out of 3362 are unsheltered (49%)
- There are 1.78 homeless people for every shelter bed
- 46% of those shelter beds are for families.

SimtechSolutions, inc.

Homeless Totals

Min & Max Totals
0 46,090

Homelessness Type: Unsheltered
State(s): (All)
CoC(s): (All)
Grouping: State
Year: 2020



HUD "System" Measures Ignore the Unsheltered

- HUD System Performance Measures (SPMs) only have 1 measure that includes outreach.
- LSA does not include outreach.

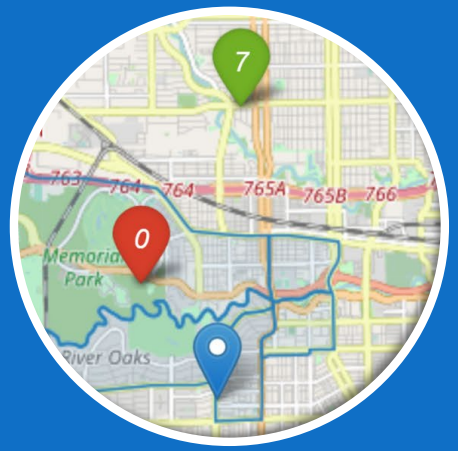
Logic

Systemwide LSA

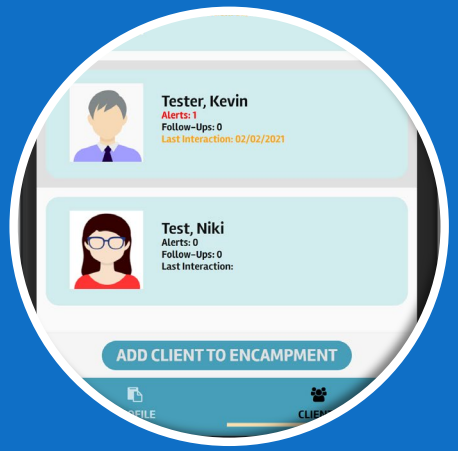
When the LSA is being generated for all relevant projects systemwide, export records for projects where:

- *OperatingEndDate* is NULL; or
  - *OperatingEndDate* >= 10/1/2012 and > *OperatingStartDate*
- *ContinuumProject* = Yes (1)
- ProjectCoC.*CoCCode* = ReportCoC
- *ProjectType* is ES (1), SH (8), TH (2), RRH (13), PSH (3), or OPH (9 or 10)

Show The Way provides tools for:



Tracking active encampment status & the # of clients



Maintaining lists of clients who are staying at each camp

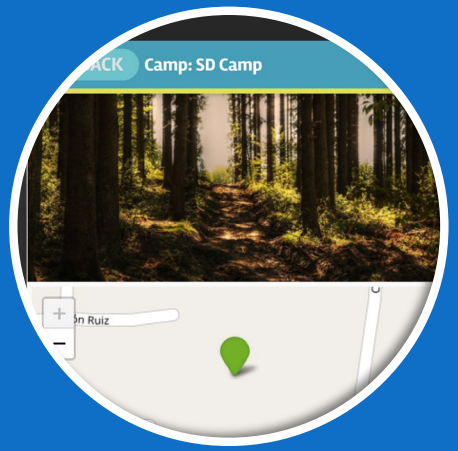
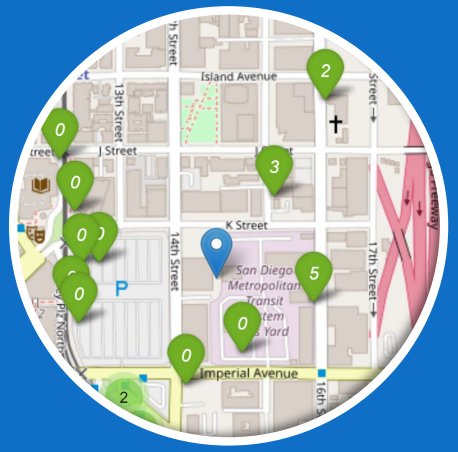


Photo uploads of the camp site & custom camp surveys



Geographic tagging of each encampment

Special Guest: Ana Rausch

COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS OF HOUSTON/HARRIS COUNTY

The Christian Science Monitor

$11 / Month or Log in

1 of 3 stories this month > Help fund Monitor journalism

Houston, we have a solution: How the city curbed homelessness

Juan A. Lozano/AP/File

Defining Encampments

Large Encampments

- Concentration of 10 or more people in a definable location,
- Use of structures for sustained habitation (cardboard boxes, tents, non-permanent structures),
- Evidence of sustained presence – trash piles, cooking fires, shopping carts.

Small Encampments

- Concentration of 3 – 9 people in a definable location,
- Use of structures for sustained habitation (cardboard boxes, tents, non-permanent structures),
- Evidence of sustained presence, although degree/visibility may be less than large encampments

Hot Spots

- 1 – 3 people in a definable location,
- Evidence of bedding down but not sustained presence in the same location for sustained periods of time greater than one week.

Selecting Encampments for Remediation

Location Characteristics

- Number of people
- Location
- Community complaints
- Visbility
- Criminal activity in vicinity

Vulnerability of Population

- Elderly (65+)
- Children (<17)
- Physical/behavioral health concerns
- Prostitution or human trafficking on site
- Frequent 911 calls
- Drugs/violence
- Neglected animals

Environmental Health

- Presence of vermin
- Presence of hazardous materials
- Biowaste
- Food waste
- Loose sharp objects
- Loud noises from traffic

Community Safety

- Camping in public parks
- Camping on sidewalks
- Open fires
- Site close to highway, heavy traffice, flash flood areas, homes/apts.
- Abandoned building
- Near schools/daycares

Solid Waste

- Excessive garbage & trash
- Bagged garbage
- Large, abandoned items

Site Identification/Reconnaissance

4 – 6 weeks prior to closure

Visual inventory of site

- Geographic boundaries
- Number of structures
- Number of people
- Safety and/or traffic concerns

Identify community groups, elected officials

Review reports of police or ERT activities

Site Assessment

- 4 weeks prior to closure
- Document location characteristics
- Vulnerability of population
- Solid waste needs
- Confirm schedule for closing
- Brief community staff & elected officials
- Brief outreach teams & determine roles

Comprehensive Engagement

3 weeks prior to closure

Outreach teams start working with clients

- Create by-name list
- Refine challenges/issues
- Identify housing intervention for each client
- Collect needed documents

First briefing with partners

- Review roles & commitments

Encampment Response – 2 wks prior

Outreach continues intensive engagement

- Ensure CE assessments completed
- Confirm services & housing needs
- Identify missing documents & plans for securing them
- Medical appts set for disability verification

Ongoing planning with partners

Landlord Engagement Team presents unit availability & location

Confirm solid waste & transportation

Encampment Response – 1 wk prior

Outreach continues intensive engagement

- Confirm by-name list
- Confirm structures to be removed
- Confirm storage needs for clients

Second briefing with partners

- Confirm partner roles
- Confirm # of staff involved

Landlord Engagement Team

- Units available
- Location
- Pre-approvals initiated
- Process Landlord Engagement Fees

Confirm with clients that encampment will be decommissioned

Housing Surge Week

Encampment Response PMs

- Coordinate all work & communication

Outreach Teams

- Provide enagement, navigation support
- Support move-ins
- Identify belongings for trash or storage
- Identify temporary shelter for clients not able to move in

Landlord Engagement Team

- Point of contact with LLs
- Secure additional units if necessary
- Manage changes, application issues, denials in real-time

Transportation

- Transport clients to move-ins

Case Managers

- HMIS enrollments, upload documents, unit applications

Law Enforcement & Solid Waste

- Support engagement
- HOT IDs as necessary
- Remove belongings & trash

HOUSTON-AREA LANDLORDS & PROPERTY MANAGERS!

You can be a part of the nationally-recognized effort to solve homelessness within our community!

Community COVID HOUSING PROGRAM

COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/H...
630 followers
5d •

Landlords & Property Managers - we need you! We are looking for one-bedroom units to lease to individuals as part of the Community COVID Housing Program (CCHP). Please SHARE with those in your network who may be connected to landlords and property managers. More info on our website: https://lnkd.in/ejaxgm9g

4

Like Comment Share Send

Add a comment...

Aftercare

Daily site-visits with housed clients

Outreach continues engagement

- Site monitored to maintain clearance
- Clients in temporary shelter moved in

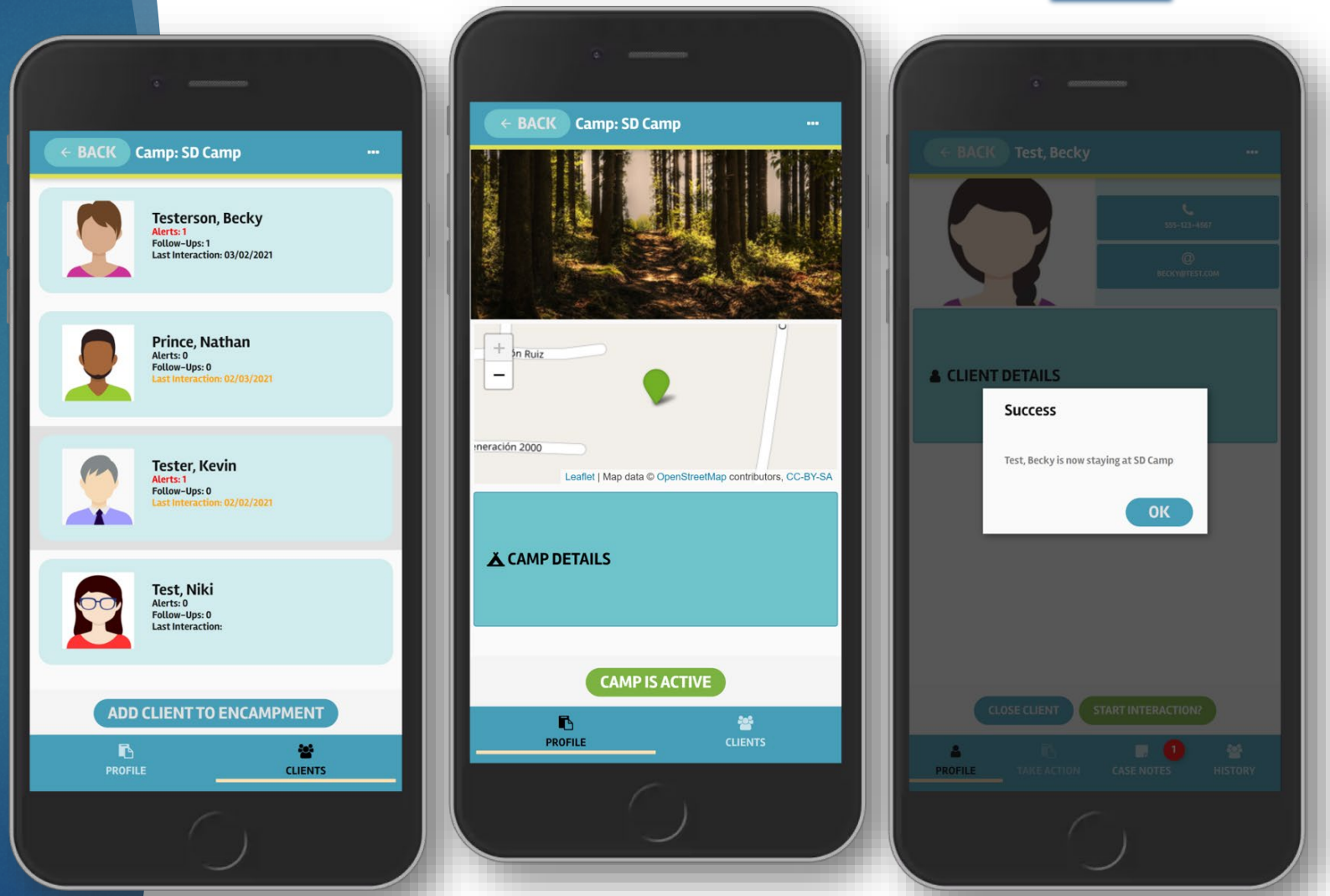
Official "closure" notice posted

Site monitored by police or sheriff

Show The Way Overview

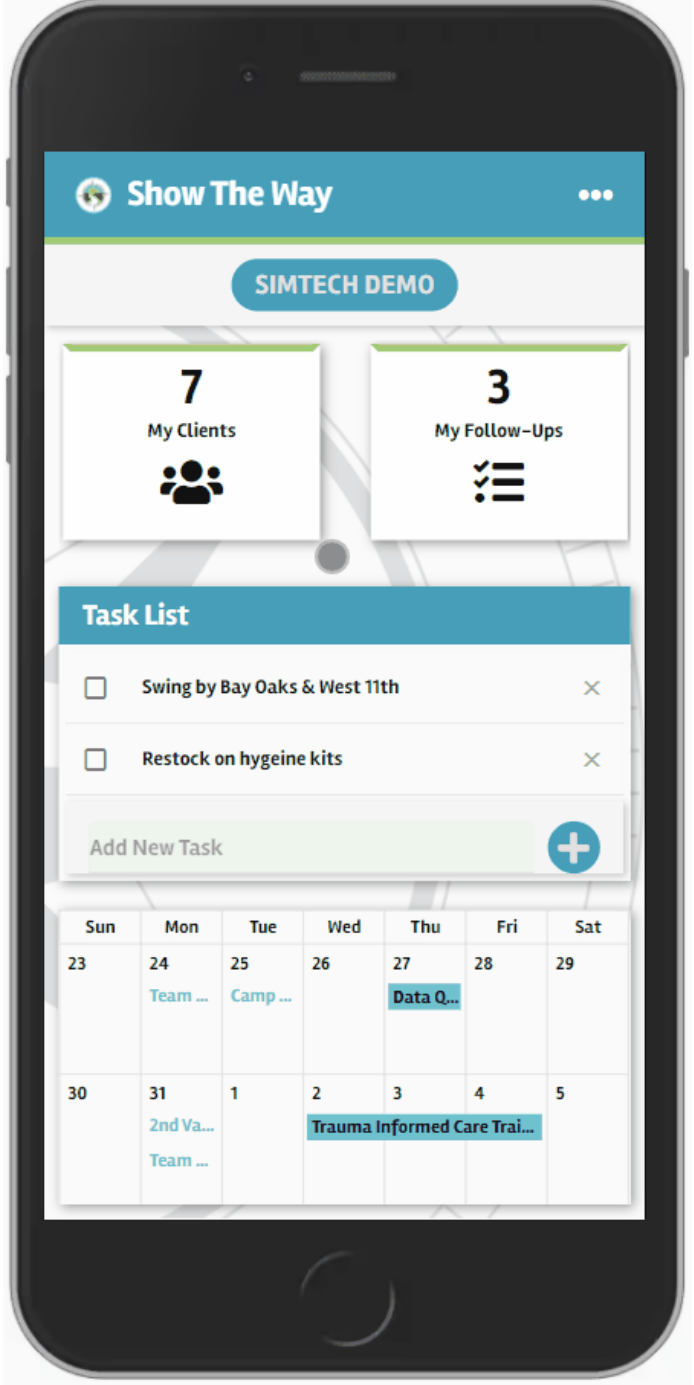
Encampments

- Create Encampments
- Add Images & Details
- Connect clients with specific Encampments
- Toggle active status



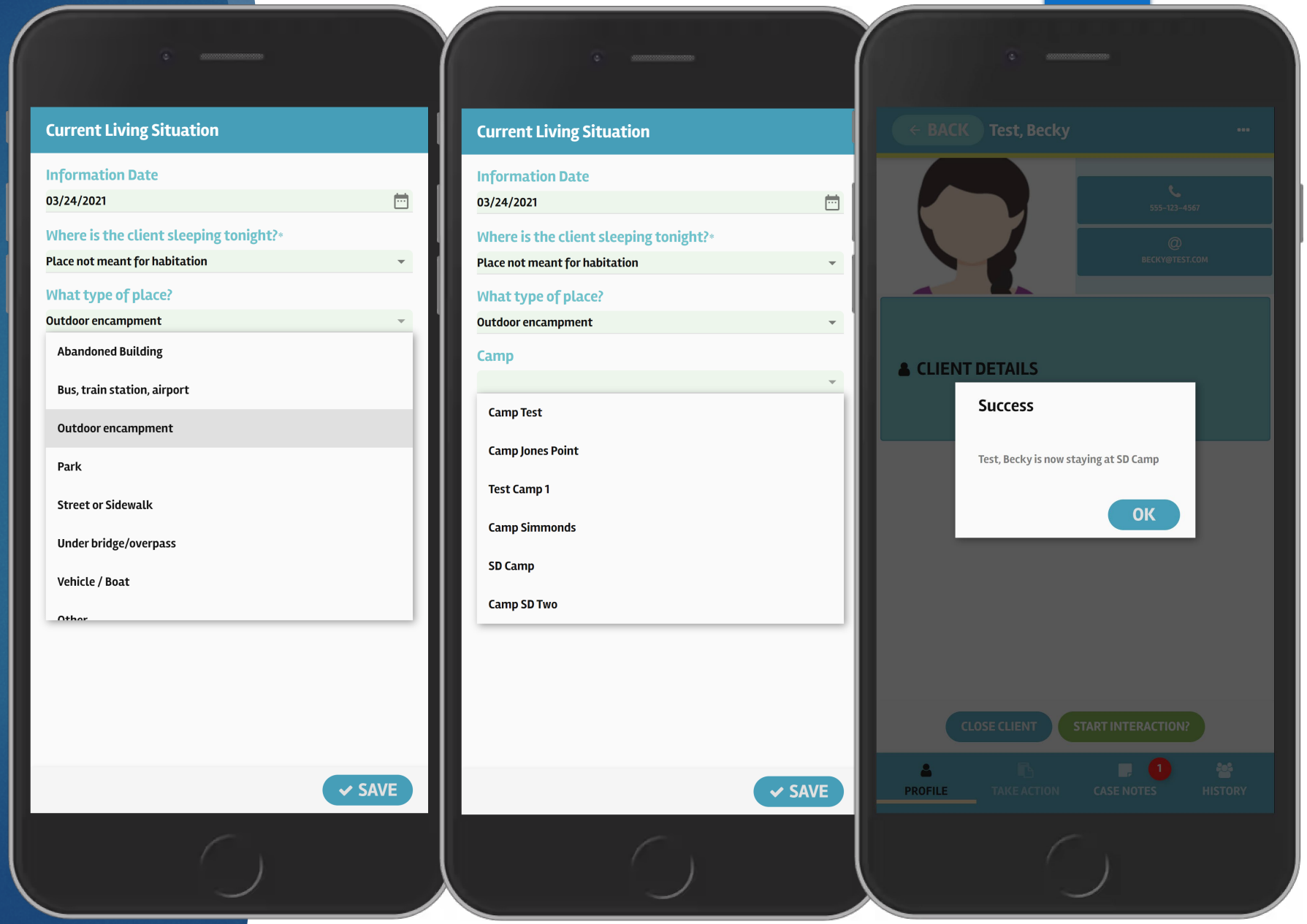
Encampments

- Access Clients from the Client List
- Add a Client directly to the Encampment



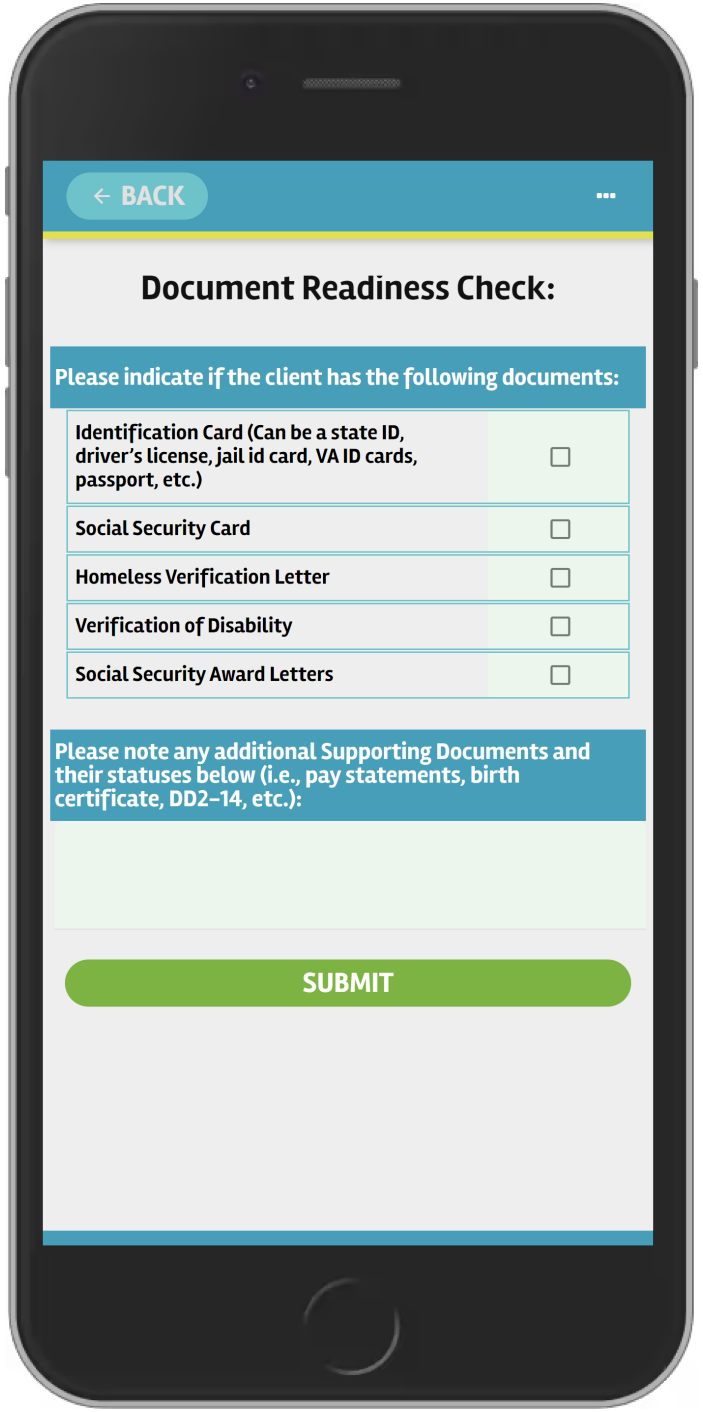
Encampments

- Add a Client directly to the Encampment from the Current Living Situation screen



Encampments

- Custom data collection
  - Client
  - Encampment



Encampments

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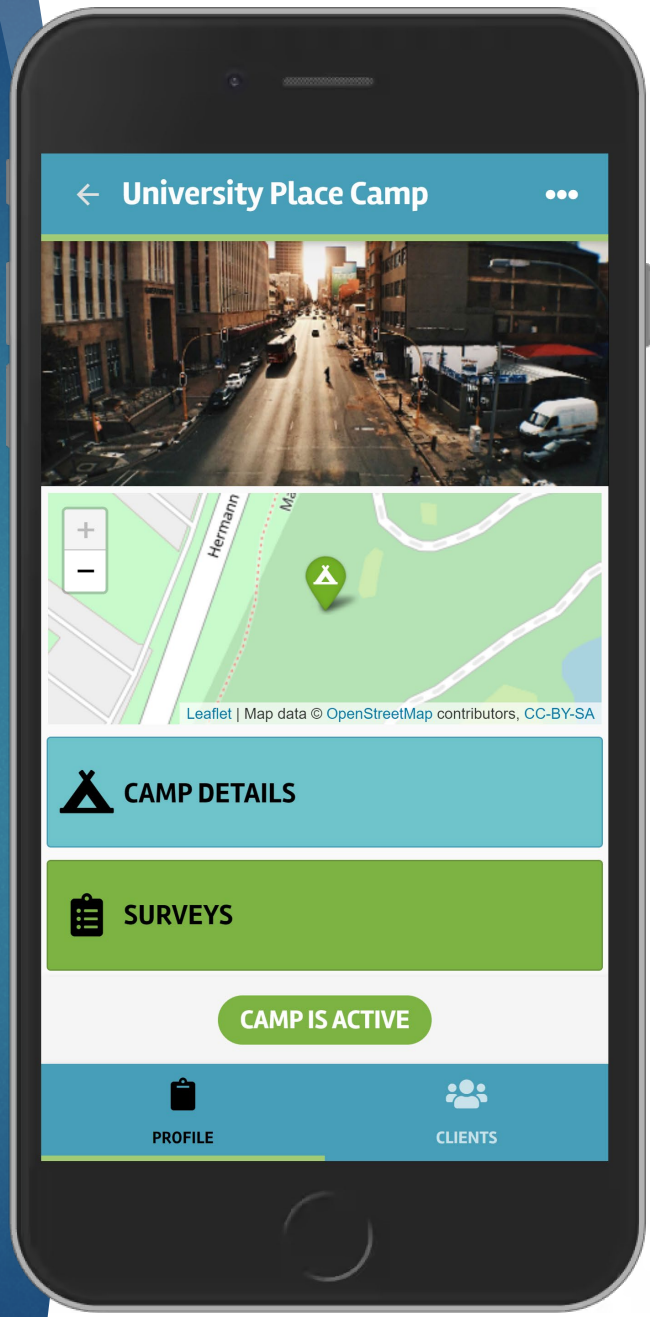
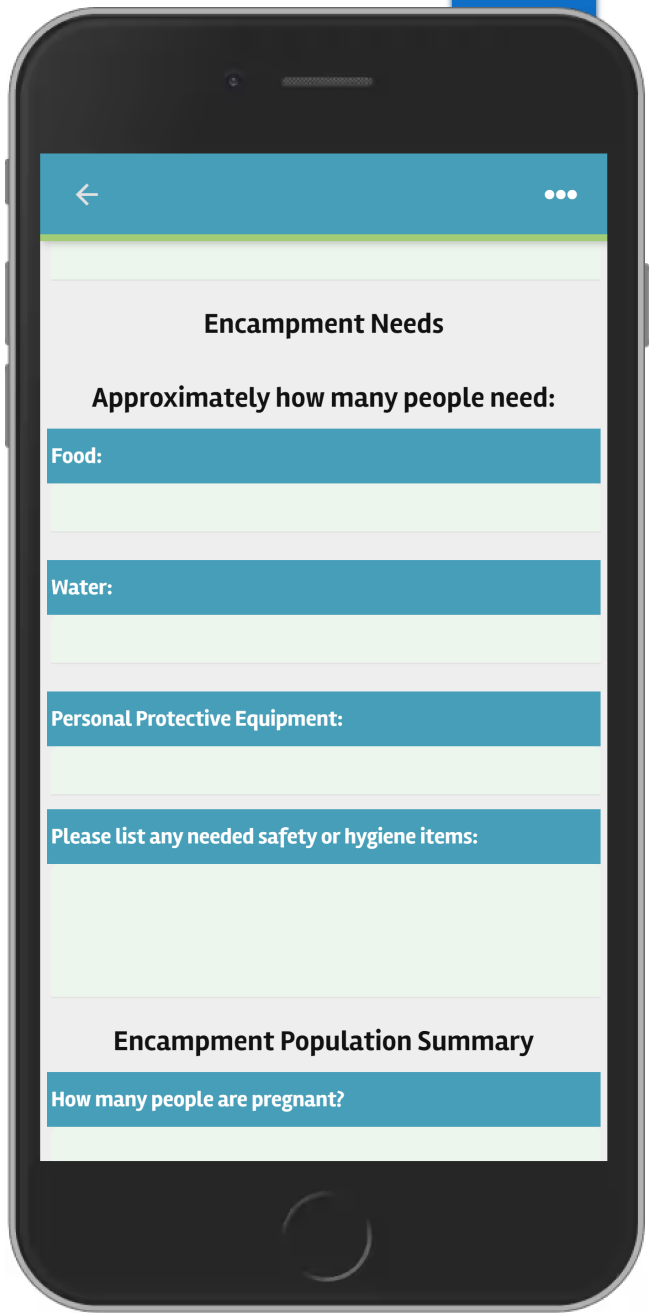




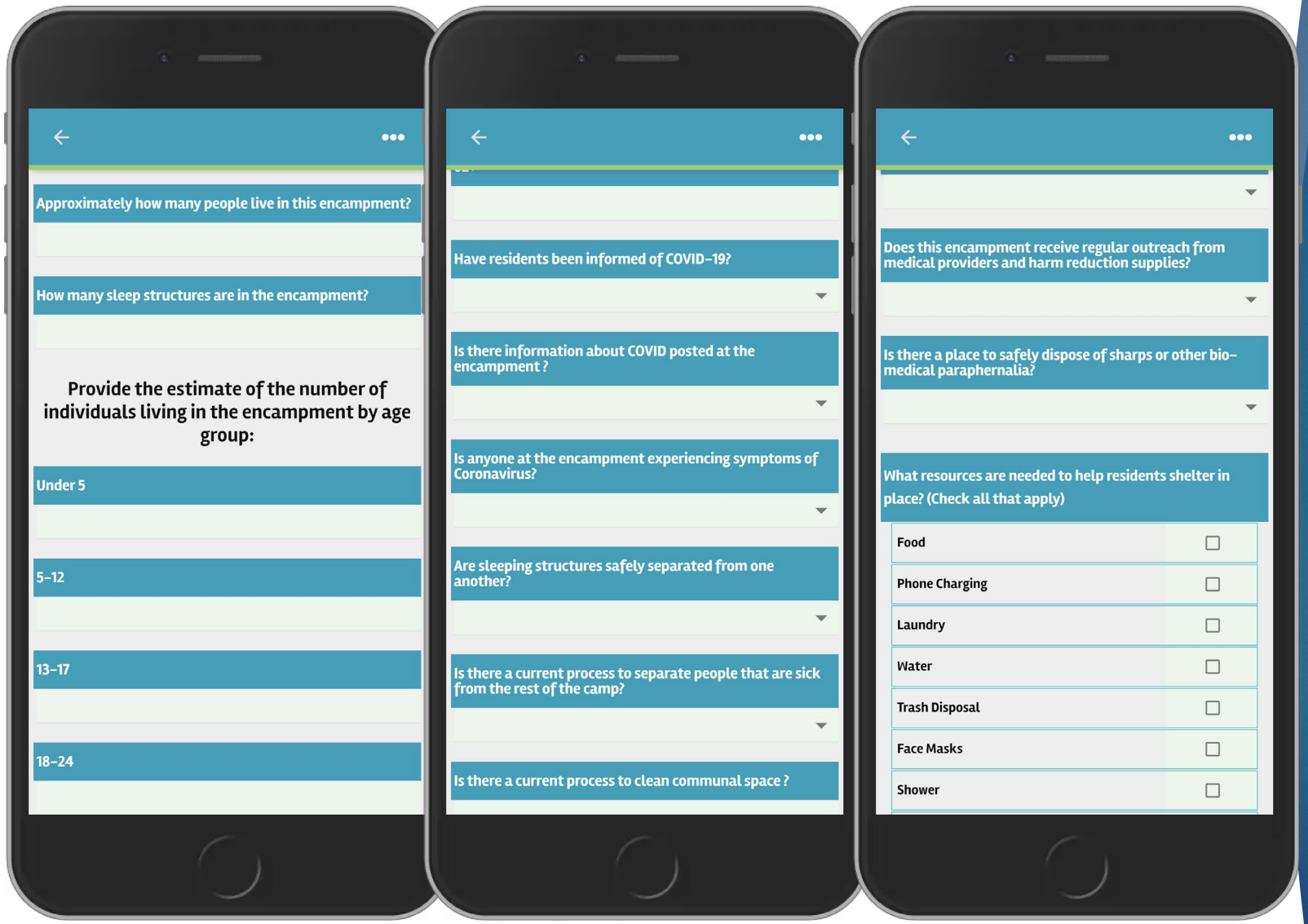
CDC Guidance on Encampments

HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS/2019-NCOV/COMMUNITY/HOMELESS-SHELTERS/UNSHELTERED-HOMELESSNESS.HTML

Considerations for encampments

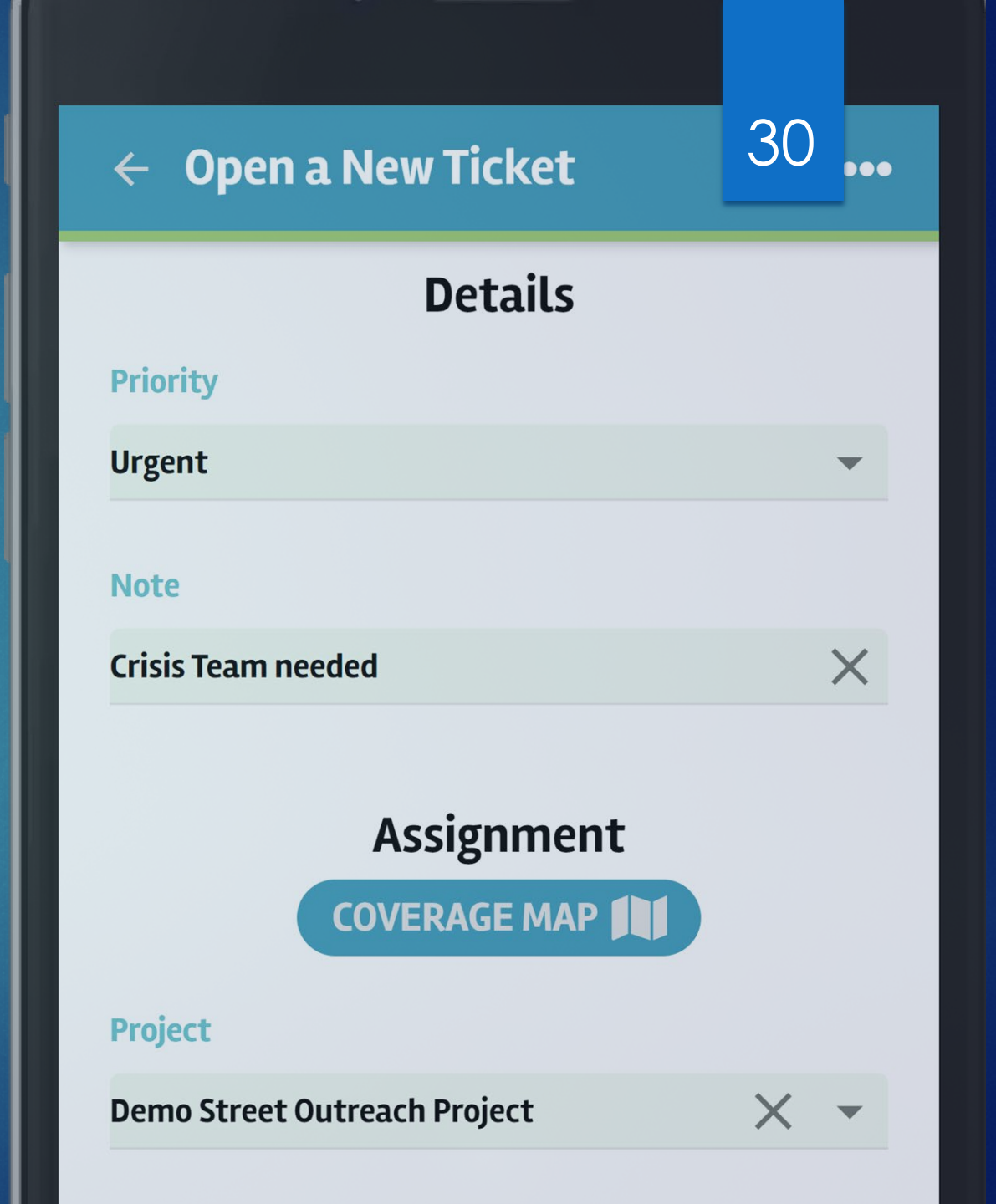
- If individual housing options are not available, allow people who are living unsheltered or in encampments to remain where they are.
  - Clearing encampments can cause people to disperse throughout the community and break connections with service providers. This increases the potential for infectious disease spread.
- Encourage those staying in encampments to set up their tents/sleeping quarters with at least 12 feet x 12 feet of space per individual.
  - If an encampment is not able to provide sufficient space for each person, allow people to remain where they are but help decompress the encampment by linking those at increased risk for severe illness to individual rooms or safe shelter.
- Work together with community coalition members to improve sanitation in encampments.
- Ensure nearby restroom facilities have functional water taps, are stocked with hand hygiene materials (soap, drying materials) and bath tissue, and remain open to people experiencing homelessness 24 hours per day.
- If toilets or handwashing facilities are not available nearby, assist with providing access to portable latrines with handwashing facilities for encampments of more than 10 people. These facilities should be equipped with hand sanitizer (containing at least 60% alcohol).

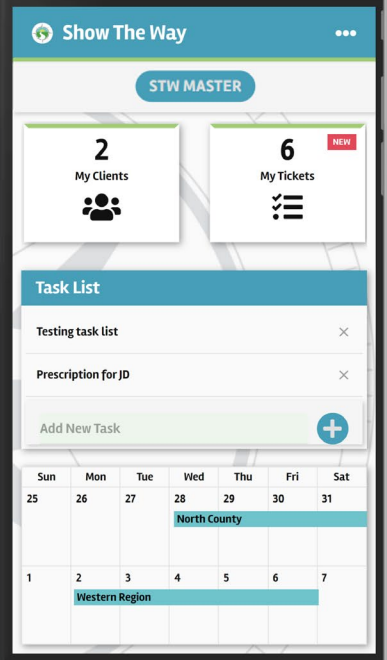
Encampment Surveys

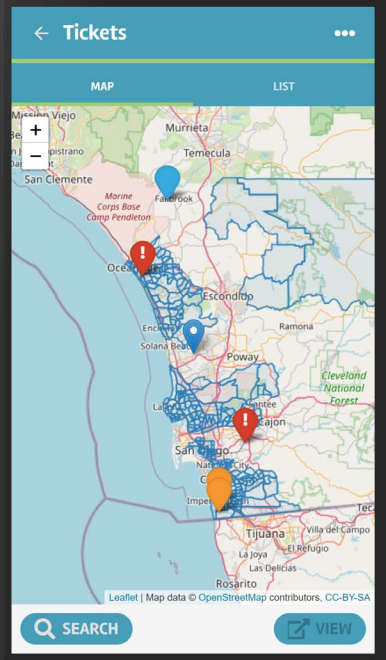


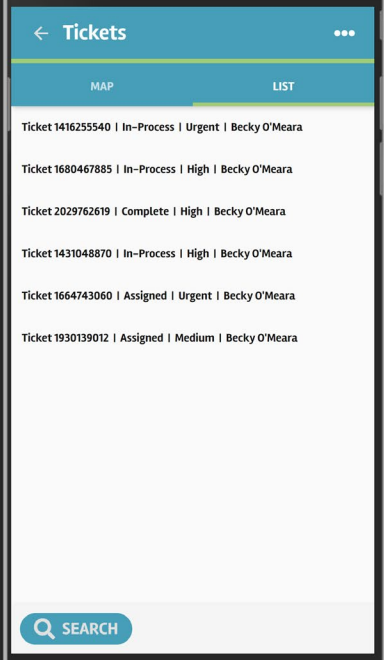
Requests for Assistance

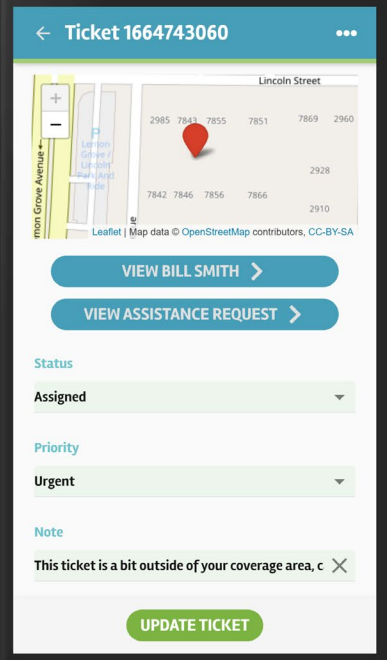
- Can be submitted by multiple user roles:
  - Citizen Requests
  - First Responders
  - Outreach Teams
- For multiple purposes:
  - Observations
  - Client-specific needs
  - Encampment needs

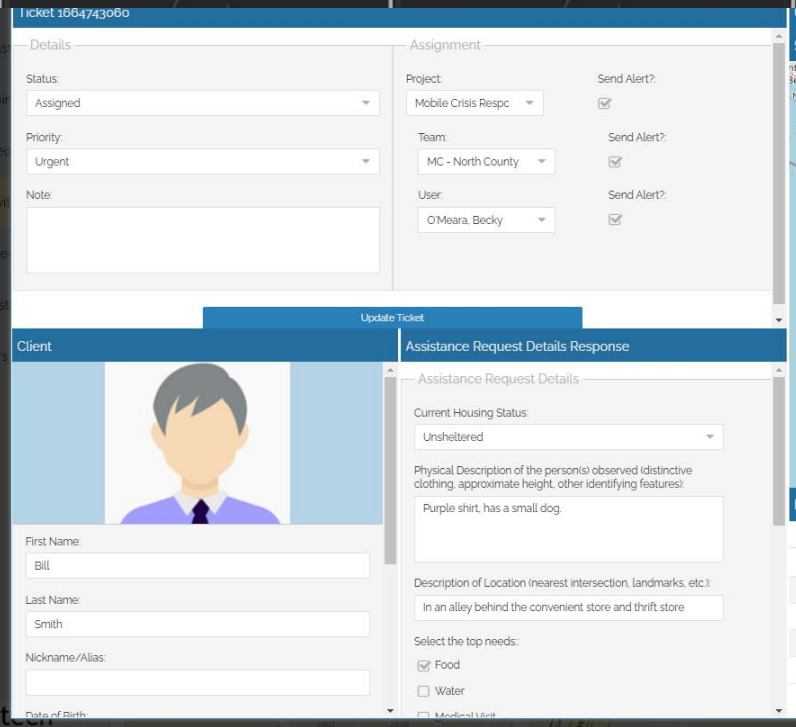


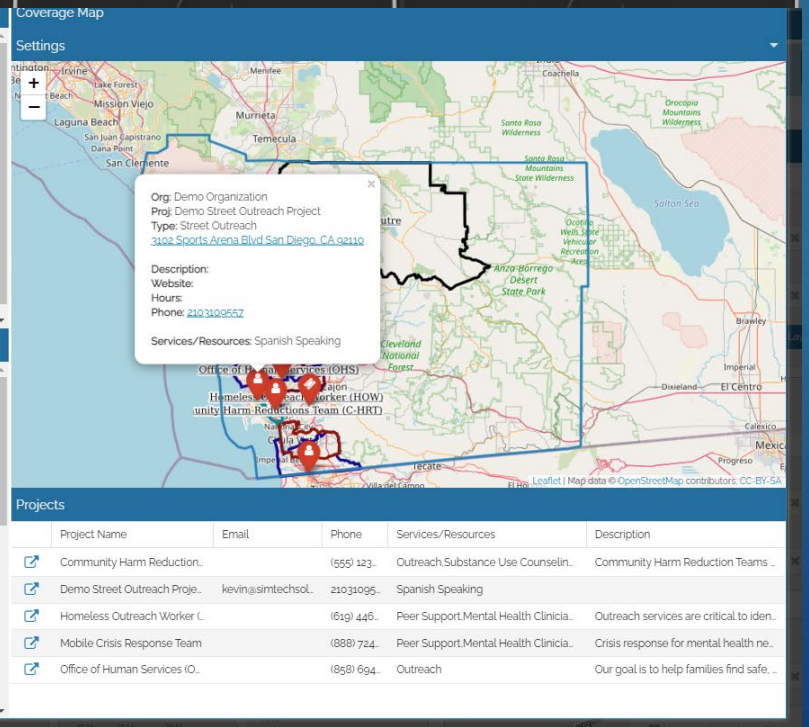












Requests for Assistance

Manage Responses both in-app and the Regional Command Center

Show The Way: The Homeless Depot

https://theblindeyeproject.org/gallery/

SimtechSolutions, inc.

Other Features of Show The Way

- Case Management Tools with the ability to integrate with a region's HMIS.
- Regional Command Center that enables a community lead to coordinate the work of multiple outreach teams with the aid of mapping tools, team management, etc..
- Community Resource Directory to help outreach staff, and people experiencing homelessness, find and access assistance.
- Concerned Citizen Tools for community members to submit a ticket indicating a person experiencing homelessness is in need of assistance;
- "Request for Assistance" function for public officials such as sheriffs and park rangers which enables them to more easily get assistance from trained outreach staff and subsequently avoid the reliance on costly and traumatic interventions such as jails and ERs;
- Family Reunification Service that is being provided through a partnership with San Fran based Miracle Messages.
- Encampment tracking and resolution tools to capture key details about encampments as well as produce a "By Name List" of people living within them.
- COVID Vaccine Tracking to help us increase vaccination rates of people who are unhoused. This includes using the data to help identify reasons why people have not been vaccinated so that we can target awareness and education activities towards these gaps.

Q&A

Upcoming Webinars

- 3rd Tuesday of every month
- 1 PM Eastern / 10 AM Pacific
- Planned Topics:
  - Utilizing "Request for Assistance" tools to divert people from jail and ERs
  - Family Reunification Tools and Processes
  - HMIS-Compliant Case Management Tools
  - How the Ongoing Work of Street Outreach can Improve Your PIT Count
  - Racial Equity

- https://www.eventbrite.com/o/simtech-solutions-inc-11398367938