



December 8 2023

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS TO DELIVER CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Ventura County Health Care Agency & City of Oxnard

CAPH/SNI Stronger Together Annual Conference

Deanna Handel, VCHCA - Director, Complex Care Coordination and Systems Integration
Emilio Ramirez, City of Oxnard - Housing Director

Background: Ventura County and Oxnard

Ventura County

- Located along California's southern coast just north of LA
- Geographically large – 2,208 mi²
- Population 845,255 (2021)
- 2,441 people experiencing homelessness counted in 2023 PIT Count, 1,633 of whom unsheltered
- Growing #s of:
 - Unsheltered p/e homelessness
 - 1st time experiencing homelessness
 - At risk – e.g. aging, multiple chronic conditions, disability, MH/SUD

City of Oxnard

- Largest city by population in Ventura County – 202,981 (2021)
- Diverse built environment that includes a dense downtown, suburban neighborhoods, extensive agricultural tracts, and commercial and industrial zones
- Lower income
 - 12.8% poverty rate compared to 9.4% county avg;
 - \$85K median family income compared to \$105.5K county avg.
- 838 people experiencing homelessness counted in 2023 PIT Count, 625 of whom unsheltered

Local Partnerships Delivering Care for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness



City of Oxnard

Homeless assistance program within the Housing department. Coordinates homeless services collaboratively across multiple city departments.



Continuum of Care

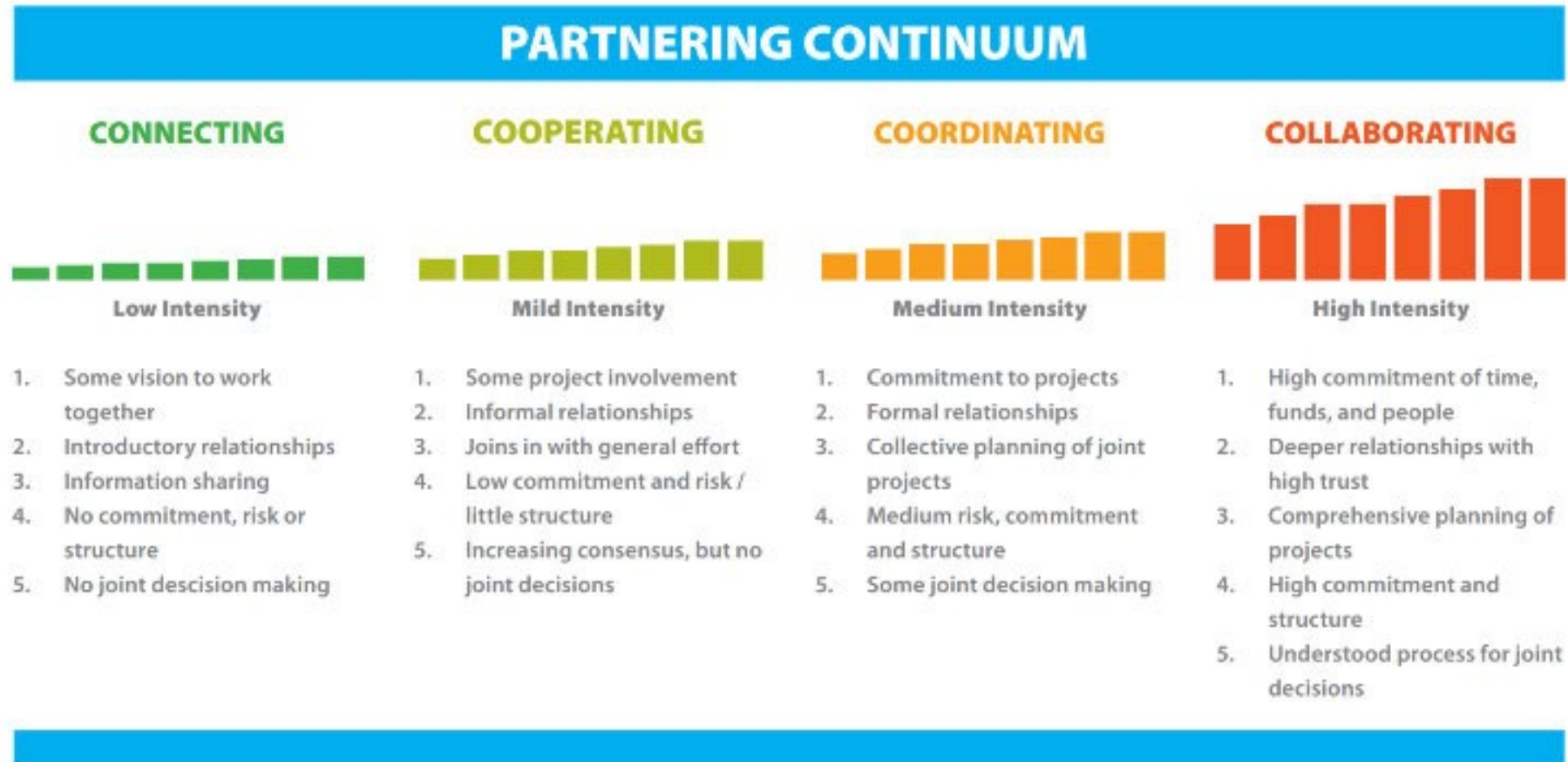
Collaborative group dedicated to promoting a safe, desirable and thriving Community by ending homelessness in Ventura County



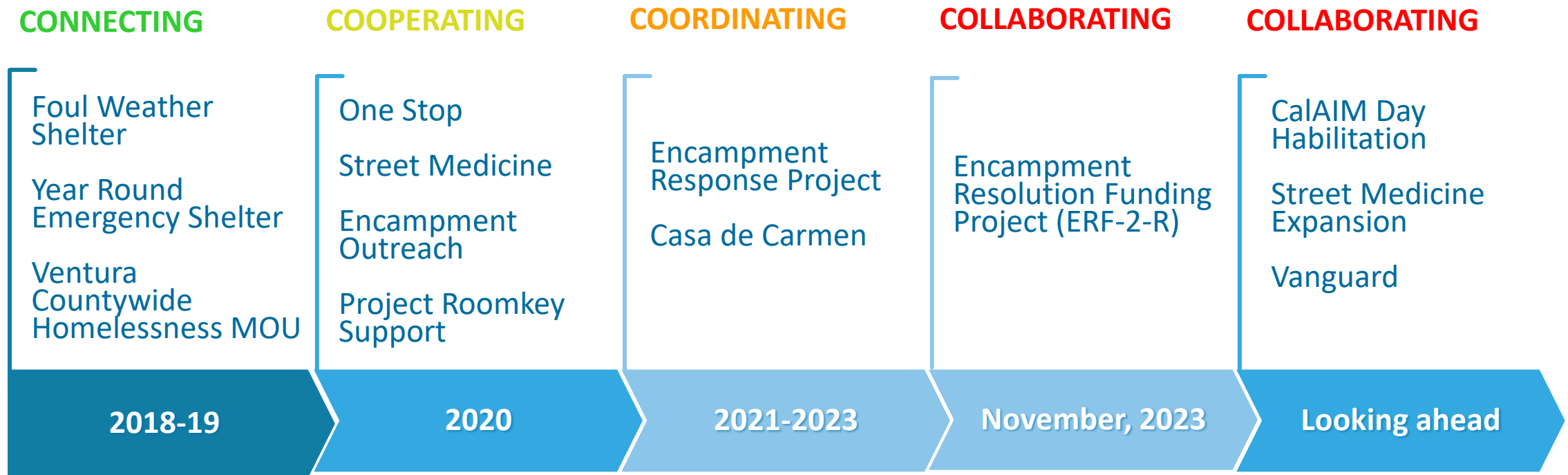
County of Ventura Health Care Agency

Provides health care services to individuals experiencing homelessness through multiple efforts including Healthcare for the Homeless and Whole Person Care/CalAIM

Collaboration Continuum



City of Oxnard/Ventura County Health Care Agency Collaboration Timeline





Oxnard Navigation
Center



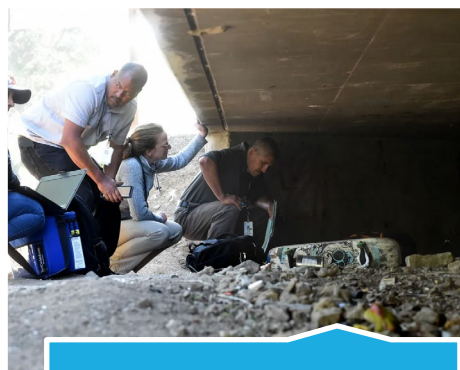
Encampment
Outreach



'Halaco'
Encampment



Casa de Carmen



Street Medicine



'Halaco'
Encampment

Patient Experience

*J and *K had been living in a large homeless encampment known as 'Halaco'. Living in homeless encampments poses health risks, but this site had compound risk factors including that it was located on an EPA Superfund site.

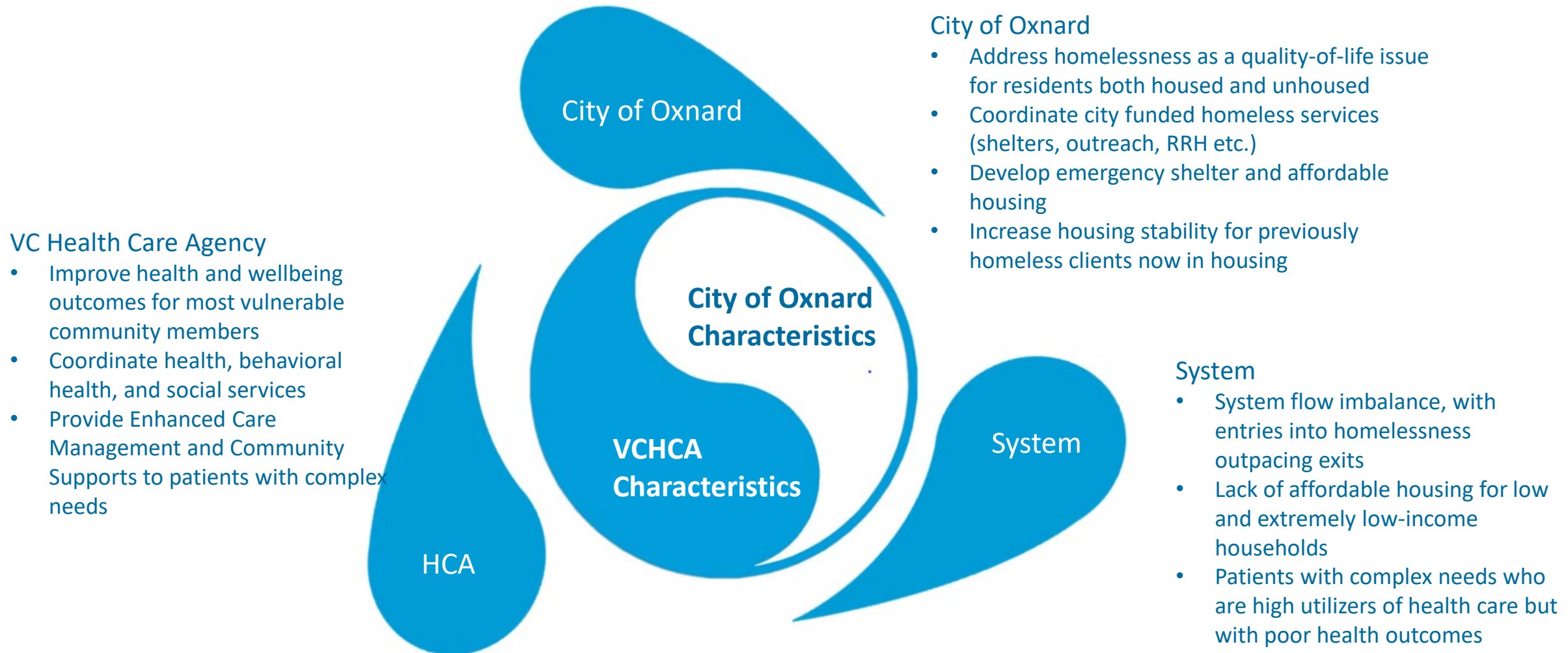
J and K expressed that they did not want to live in the encampment anymore, but with J's addictions and the struggle of getting through daily life they did not see a clear path for change. City of Oxnard housing dept. staff and HCA outreach staff regularly met with J and K to help with their immediate needs, and work on developing a housing plan outlining their next steps.

Through the Encampment Response Project, J and K were able to move into temporary shelter. The shelter provided enough stability that the couple were able to work through plan.

J entered addiction treatment programs, while the couple worked on Housing paperwork and were eventually able to receive a Housing Choice Voucher.



Collaboration Synergy Model



Presenter Contact Information

Deanna Handel

Ventura County Health Care Agency

Director of Complex Care and Systems Integration

deanna.handel@ventura.org

Emilio Ramirez

Housing Director

emilio.Ramirez@oxnard.org

