

Project Report: EIP Assistance for Individuals Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

Project Summary United Way Home For Good Santa Barbara County Homeless Street Outreach Staff, AmeriCorps Members and Volunteers did countywide outreach to unsheltered individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Two AmeriCorps VISTAs took on a leadership role in administering the project as some of their other projects were impacted by COVID restrictions. We assisted 76 people in completing their applications while other people decided to complete the application on their own. We project that we assisted 250 people obtain their Economic Impact Payment. We distributed over 1,000 flyers about the Economic Impact Payment as part of our Coordinated Entry System and Street Outreach efforts. We utilized our Coordinated Entry Physical locations to provide to support in-person assistance to help individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness obtain their Economic Impact Payment. We shared information about our own program and the United Way Worldwide/2-1-1 via social media. Overall, we implemented the project as planned. We helped many people who had no access to computers with Libraries and day Centers closed due to COVID. We were also able to distribute solar chargers to people so they could utilize their own devices when they had them. One of our biggest challenges was locating people to follow-up to ensure their applications were successfully accepted and then finding them to give them their check. Helping people access Economic Impact Payments helped us meet a key goal of our clients. This helps us build trust and assist our clients in achieving employment, housing and connecting to supportive services.

Beneficiaries Impacted 250

Volunteers Engaged 22

Project Partners Engaged 27

Outreach Partners Engaged 6

EIP Assistance Plans for 2021 We would like to continue to provide Economic Impact PaymentNet assistance and while we can incorporate it into our VITA program we know that to reach the unsheltered population of people experiencing homelessness we will need to continue to utilize outreach and work with our partner agencies to meet people where they are.