



**STAFF REPORT
HOMELESS COORDINATING
AND FINANCING COUNCIL
JULY 11, 2018 MEETING**



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CALIFORNIA HOMELESS COORDINATING AND FINANCING COUNCIL

State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
Assembly Committee Room 4202

Wednesday, July 11, 2018
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

AGENDA

	Agenda Item	Presenter
I.	Call to order and roll call – 1:00 pm a. Introductions	Alexis Podesta Chair
II.	<i>Action item:</i> Adoption of the minutes from the April 10, 2018 meeting.	Council
III.	<i>Action item:</i> Adoption of changes to the Council as reflected in the 2018-19 Governor’s Budget.	Council
IV.	<i>Action item:</i> Review and adopt the California Tax Allocation Committee’s assessment and the extent the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program employs a Housing First approach.	Mark Stivers Council Member
V.	<i>Action item:</i> Review and adopt the California Finance Housing Agency’s assessment and the extent the housing based programs employs a Housing First approach.	California Finance Housing Agency Staff
VI.	<i>Informational item:</i> Presentation from Santa Clara County – “Using data to make our case in Santa Clara County”.	Jennifer Loving Council Member Ky Le County of Santa Clara
VII.	<i>Informational item:</i> A report on California’s homeless Data Integration Project.	Chris Pitcher ICF and HUD Consultant
VIII.	<i>Informational item:</i> An initial report on the assessment on the need of supportive housing, rapid re-housing, diversion, and prevention interventions based on local data.	CSH Team
IX.	<i>Informational Item:</i> A report from the Interagency Staff Working group on the revised catalogue of housing or housing-based programs	Catherine Kungu Interagency Staff
X.	<i>Informational item:</i> Other matters not on the agenda for consideration at future meetings.	Alexis Podesta Chair
XI.	<i>Informational item:</i> Public comments on agenda items and matters not listed on the agenda.	Alexis Podesta Chair
XII.	Adjournment	Alexis Podesta Chair

Background on the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (Council) is responsible for overseeing the implementation of Housing First guidelines and regulations and identifying resources, benefits, and services to prevent and end homelessness in California. The [Statute](#) requires state programs that fund housing for homeless residents to adopt guidelines and regulations that incorporate the core components of “Housing First” and tasks the Council with assisting with that goal.

Agenda Item II: Adopt the April 10, 2018 Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
California Department of Veterans Affairs (Cal Vet)
Medal of Honor Hall
1227 O Street, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814**

Item I: Call to order and roll call

Council Chair Ben Metcalf called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Prior to the roll call, California Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary, Dr. Vito Imbasciani, provided opening remarks and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Council Chair Metcalf proceeded to introduce Councilmembers Joe Uchishiba and Jennifer Loving and asked each member to share their professional and personal experience in regards to homelessness.

In attendance/member roll call

Councilmembers present:

- Ben Metcalf, Council Chair and Director, California Department of Housing and Community Development;
- Russell Atterberry, Vice Chair and Undersecretary for the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- Alicia Sutton, Chief of the Housing, Homelessness and Civil Rights Branch for the State Department of Social Services;
- Donald Cavier, Chief Deputy Director for the California Housing Finance Agency;
- Stephanie Welch, Executive Officer for the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation;
- Mark Stivers, Executive Director of the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) in the Treasurer's Office;
- Gina Buccieri-Harrington, Governor's Office of Emergency Services;
- Gary McCoy, Policy and Community Affairs Manager, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department;
- Emilio Ramirez, City of Riverside Community and Economic Development;
- Jennifer Loving, Executive Director for Destination: Home;
- Gail Gilman, Chief Executive Officer for the Community Housing Partnership;
- Jody Ketcheside, Deputy Regional Director for Turning Point of Central California Incorporated (late arrival);
- Joe Uchishiba, City of Fairfield Police Officer.

Absent:

- Marianne Cantwell, Chief Deputy Director of Health Care Programs for the State Department of Health Care Services;
- Amy Anderson, Executive Director at PATH Ventures.

Item II: Approval of the January 10, 2018 minutes

Council Chair Metcalf made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2018 meeting. The motion was moved by Councilmember Stivers and seconded by Councilmember Cavier. The motion passed with Councilmember Ketchside abstaining.

Item III: Adoption of the Final Housing First Checklist for Housing and Housing Based Services and Programs and a Report from the California Department of Housing and Community Development

California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) staff member Monique Pierre presented the assessment of the housing or housing-based programs that fall within the [Statute](#) and the adoption of the checklist as a statewide tool for future evaluations.

Discussion

- Councilmember Welch commended the interagency staff working group on their efforts to
- determine the assessment criteria identified in the April 10, 2018 Staff Report (Staff Report).
There was some reservation on the adoption of the Checklist as the statewide tool for all state administered homelessness programs. However, members agreed that the Checklist should be used to assess programs that provide dedicated housing units to individuals or families who were formerly homeless.
- Councilmembers continued to discuss the criteria and questioned why Senate Bill 2 homelessness funding was not included in HCD's analysis. Staff stated that the program is still under development and plan to integrate the Housing First approach as part of the design process.

Public Comments

Bill Mendelson Executive Director, Central Valley Low Income Housing

Mr. Mendelson introduced himself and complimented HCD on using the Checklist to assess its programs. He felt the Checklist was most appropriate for permanent housing programs and inquired why HCD excluded the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) from the analysis. Mr. Mendelson added that, as part of an application package, the applicant should be mandated to participate in the Continuum of Care activities, i.e., Coordinated Entry Systems (CES) and their information should be entered in the local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). Council Chair and HCD Director Metcalf stated that the programs presented in the Checklist were focused on addressing the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The AHSC program did not meet the criteria, and furthermore, it does not have a programmatic preference to serve the homeless population.

Council Recommendations: The Council moved to adopt the following recommendations:

1. The Council supported HCD's assessment provided in the Staff Report and agreed that the recommendations presented met the Council's objectives and adhered to the statutory requirements.
2. The Council agreed to adopt the Checklist for state housing agencies or departments and will further discuss utilizing the Checklist for non-housing state agencies or departments.

Item IV: A report on the initial catalogue of housing and housing-based services programs

HCD staff member Catherine Kungu provided a brief presentation on the list of state housing or housing-based programs compiled by the interagency staff working group.

Discussion

- Members acknowledged that the variation of the state homeless programs might not align with the tiered system developed by the interagency staff working group. Alternatively, members suggested that the staff working group should compile a comprehensive list of programs targeting or addressing the needs of individuals or families experiencing homelessness.
- It was suggested that the interagency staff working group should survey other state departments or agencies not represented on the Council to build a comprehensive list of all state programs that address homelessness.

Item V: Progress Report on the Council's prioritized goals

HCD Staff member Catherine Kungu provided a report on the interagency staff working group progress on implementing the Council's goals identified at the January 10, 2018 meeting.

Discussion

- Members encouraged the interagency staff working group to seek opportunities to collaborate with universities on implementing the Council's goals.
- Councilmember Welch would be interested in learning more about CES.
- Councilmember Sutton would like to see a need analysis expand beyond supportive housing

and include a full range of interventions that address homelessness.

Item VI: Report from Marin County - Ending Chronic Homelessness in Marin: A Story of Collaboration

Ashley Hart McIntyre, County of Marin Homelessness Policy Analyst, Christine Paquette, Society of Saint Paul Vincent de Paul's Executive Director, Andrew Hening, City of San Rafael's Director of Homeless Planning, and Paul Fordham, Homeward Bound of Marin Deputy Director presented Marin County's approach on reducing chronic homelessness. In response to the persistent and high visibility of people experiencing homelessness, Marin County began piloting new strategies to end chronic homelessness. These strategies included implementing a new Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) and the launch of the CES in October 2017.

The Marin HOT is a collaborative effort of local public and nonprofit entities designed to bridge the system gaps and assist those in greatest need to access permanent housing. HOT partners meet on a bi-weekly basis to develop and implement an action plan to assist each HOT client with access to permanent housing. Depending on an individual's needs and goals, an action plan may include access to behavioral health treatment, reengagement with family, wraparound case management, or other assistance, all with the overarching goal of placing the individual in permanent housing to accommodate their specific needs. Once an individual is placed into permanent housing, a new person is added to the HOT list.

The Marin team reported that their efforts to end chronic homelessness receive support through a commitment of local resources from the City of San Rafael, the County of Marin, and the Housing Authority. These resources include:

- Dedicated funding for Housing First capacity building.

- The creation of a Director of Homeless Planning position.
- A community homeless fund to support countywide outreach support.
- Strategic county investments including the funding of a housing locator position, security deposit assistance, damage mitigation fund, and a landlord support line.
- A set aside of 50 vouchers for people on the CES list.

As result of all of these efforts, over 18 months, the county permanently housed 53 formerly chronically homeless individuals.

The Marin County team provided a list of ways the state could assist with their local efforts:

1. Support data sharing requirements i.e.: support development of releases of information.
2. Fund administrative structures such as the HMIS, CES, and policy staff.
3. Require program participation or integration with the local CES.
4. Fund technical assistance in the form of the "[Built for Zero](#)" model for California.
5. Incentivize collaborative funding applications.
6. Incentivize or require public housing authorities to engage in the homeless systems of care.

Item VII: A Proposal from Councilmember Gary McCoy to Establish Two Subcommittees or Working Groups on Issues Affecting Youth Who are Experiencing Homelessness or were Formerly Homeless.

Councilmember McCoy requested the Council postpone the decision for the creation of the Transitional Aged Youth Subcommittee or working group until the passage of Senate Bill 918. However, Councilmember McCoy proposed the establishment of the Behavioral Health subcommittee or working group.

Discussion

Overall, the members were supportive of the creation of the new working group. However, there was some concern that the additional responsibilities of a new subcommittee would have an impact on their current staff workload.

Public Comments

Mandy Taylor, California LGBT Health and Human Services Network

Ms. Taylor introduced herself and strongly supported the creation of the new working group. She also reiterated that the purpose of the Council is to engage the community and encouraged members to go further and establish a Cultural and Linguistic subcommittee or working group.

Jane Adcock, California Behavioral Health Planning Council

Ms. Adcock was supportive of the new working group and invited Councilmember McCoy to participate in the California Behavioral Health Planning Council meetings. In addition, Ms. Adcock mentioned that her council is establishing a Housing and Homelessness Committee and offered to partner or collaborate with member McCoy.

Kevin McAllister Executive Director –California Coalition for Youth

Mr. McAllister voiced his support for the formation of the new working group.

Council Recommendation

The Council recommended the establishment of the Behavioral Health working group and requested member McCoy present recommendations to the Council at the next quarterly meeting.

Item VIII: Other matters not on the agenda for consideration at future meetings.

There were no other matters proposed at the meeting.

Informational item: Public comments on agenda items and matters not listed on the agenda.

Mandy Taylor, California LGBT Health and Human Services Network

Ms. Taylor provided comments on the following:

- Agenda Item V. The needs analysis should include the collection of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) data. In addition, the Council should encourage the collection of SOGI data when programs are collecting data for their local HMIS.
- On the issue of sexual identity, 30 – 40 percent of the youth on the streets belong to the LGBTQ community. If they are not counted, they do not receive an allocation for funding or services.

Bill Mendelson Executive Director, Central Valley Low Income Housing

Mr. Mendelson would like to see the Staff Report posted on the website the same time as the meeting notice and agenda.

Helene Schneider, Regional Coordinator, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)

Ms. Schneider introduced herself and mentioned that the updated federal strategic plan on preventing and ending homelessness, *Opening Doors*, will be released at the 2018 National Conference on Ending Homelessness on July 25, 2018 in Washington, DC.

Danica Bogicevic, VISN 21 Network Homeless Coordinator

Ms. Bogicevic announced that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated the 2017 [*HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing \(HUD-VASH\) vouchers*](#). Of the 5,211 vouchers awarded, 2,198 were awarded to California. These new allocations will bring the total number of active HUD-VASH vouchers nationally to 90,838, with 16,410 in California.

Joe Colletti, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Initiatives

Mr. Colletti stated that a comparison of the most current point in time count numbers revealed that the number of chronically homeless persons increased significantly in California. There was an 18.5 percent increase between 2016 and 2017.

In addition, Mr. Colletti stated that a prolonged exposure to homelessness has a significant effect on individuals that can result in death. Homelessness is much more than the absence of physical housing; it is a tension-filled, trauma-filled, and treacherous-filled condition that often results in injuries and fatalities.

Mr. Colletti proposed that the solution should include an increase in the number of permanent supportive housing units or beds. He defined permanent supportive housing as an evidence-based and best practice. Supportive housing offers households, with disabling conditions and high levels of needs, the appropriate level of social services and provides subsidized housing at no more than 30 percent of their adjusted monthly income.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm.

Staff Recommendation: Adopt the minutes from the April 10, 2018 Council meeting.

Agenda Item III: Changes to the Council as reflected in the 2018-19 Budget

The 2018-19 Budget includes significant investments and policy changes to address homelessness.

- Places HCD's No Place Like Home program, which offers up to \$2 billion for permanent supportive housing, on the November ballot and directs HCD to issue two Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) over the next several months. The first NOFA, expected later this summer, will make available \$200 million through a noncompetitive over-the-counter process.
- Allocates \$500 million for Homelessness Emergency Aid Block Grants, \$350 million of which will go to California's 43 Continuums of Care (CoC) and \$150 million will be available to the largest 11 cities. These funds will be administered by the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency in consultation with the Council.
- Provides ongoing and/or increased funding to state programs that address homelessness, including:
 - The CalWORKS Housing Support Program, administered by the Department of Social Services.
 - The CalWORKS Homeless Assistance Program administered by the Department of Social Services.
 - The Senior Home Safe Program, administered by the Department of Social Services.
 - The Domestic Violence Shelter Program, administered by the Office of Emergency Services.
 - The Homeless Youth and Exploitation Program, administered by the Office of Emergency Services.
 - The Homelessness and Mental Illness Program, administered by the Department of Health Care Services.
- Directs the allocation of resources to homelessness from last year's Senate Bill 2. This is anticipated to be \$125 million. Fifty percent would be allocated to continuums of care through the California Emergency Solutions and Housing program, and the remaining would be allocated through the Housing for a Healthy California program (created last year through AB 74). Both of these programs will be administered by HCD.
- Moves the Council under the oversight of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency with the Secretary or her designee to serve as the Council Chair.
 - Increases the membership from 15 to 17 Governor's appointees. The new members will include:
 - A representative from the Department of Transportation.
 - A formerly homeless youth who lives in California.
 - Provides funding for three staff positions to support the Council.
 - Authorizes the Council to provide statewide guidance on homelessness issues and directs Council staff to develop a statewide homelessness plan, in collaboration with state and local entities.

At the April 10, 2018 Council meeting, members elected Russell Atterberry, Undersecretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, as the Vice Chair for 2018 and adopted a motion to elect the Chairperson, Chair-elect, Vice Chair, and the Vice Chair-elect. Furthermore, members agreed that in the year where the Chairperson was not a state representative, the Vice-Chair shall be a state agency or state department representative appointed to the Council.

Staff Recommendations: In order to align with the actions taken in the budget, the Council should move to adopt the following recommendations:

- i. Adopt the changes reflected in the Budget.
- ii. Retain Russell Atterberry as the Council's 2018 Vice Chair.

- iii. At the fourth quarterly meeting, the Council will elect only the Vice Chair and the Vice Chair-elect to assure continuity in the succeeding year.

**Background Information for Agenda Items IV and V
Housing First Checklist Evaluation**

The [Statute](#) requires the Council to oversee the implementation of the Housing First guidelines and regulations and identify resources, benefits, and services to prevent and end homelessness in California. In instances where state programs are not compliant with the core components of Housing First, the Council is tasked with collaborating with agencies and departments to make necessary revisions or changes. State programs¹ are defined as any program a California state agency or department funds, implements, or administers housing or housing-based services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Exemptions to the definition include programs that fund emergency shelters or when the requirements in federally funded programs are inconsistent with the [Statute](#).

At the January 10, 2018 Council meeting, members established a Housing First evaluation schedule. At that same meeting, members agreed to present their findings and their progress adopting the core components of Housing First. The table below indicates the agreed upon schedule for the state agencies and departments represented on the Council. However, members reserved the option to expand the list to other departments not represented on the Council.

Table 1: Housing First Evaluation Schedule

State Department or Agency	Quarterly Council Meeting
California Department of Housing and Community Development	April 10, 2018
California Tax Credit Allocation Committee in the Treasurer’s office	July 11, 2018
California Housing Finance Agency	
State Department of Health Care Services	October 5, 2018
Department of Veterans Affairs	
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Winter 2019
State Department of Social Services	
Victim Services Program within the Division of Grants Management within the Office of Emergency Services	Spring 2019

¹ [Welfare and Institutions Code Section 8255 \(e\)](#)

Agenda Item IV: A Report from the Tax Credit Allocation Committee on the Assessment of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program Utilizing the Housing First Checklist

The staff at the Tax Credit and Allocation Committee (TCAC) used the Housing First Checklist (Checklist) to assess to what degree the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program was employing a Housing First approach.

Staff Recommendation: In reviewing the Checklist in [Appendix A](#), the Council should move to adopt the following recommendation:

Support TCAC's determination that the recommendations provided in the Checklist meets the Council's objectives and adheres to the statutory requirements.

Agenda Item V: A Report from the California Housing Finance Agency on the Assessment of the Housing Based Program Utilizing the Housing First Checklist

At the April 10, 2018 Council meeting, members adopted the final Housing First Checklist to be used by state agencies to assess compliance with the [Statute](#). The California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) used the Checklist to perform a self-assessment of whether and to what degree a particular program was employing the Housing First approach.

Criteria

The criteria used to determine which program/s to assess for compliance with the core components of Housing First are:

- The program provides housing or reserves dedicated units for individuals or families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.
- The program dedicates housing-based services for housing units reserved for individuals families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

Applicable Program

The Special Needs Housing/Mental Health Services Act (SNHP/MHSA) program met the above criteria.

Proposition 63 provides funding for the SNHP/MHSA program. This is an interim program pending approval and implementation of the No Place Like Home program. Funding is allocated through the California Department of Health Care Services to the counties. The counties determine the appropriate application of the funds consistent with state requirements and have the option of contracting with CalHFA for program administration and compliance for projects in their jurisdiction.

Housing First Checklist Implementation

CalHFA is committed to implementing a Housing First approach for future projects serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness. The Checklist in [Appendix B](#) includes the assessment and recommendations of the CalHFA administered SNHP/MHSA program.

In order for CalHFA to provide future assistance to a county in making and administering loans, a revised agreement with the county incorporating Housing First provisions will need to be entered into. CalHFA will incorporate the Housing First requirements in the SNHP/MHSA Term Sheet.

Project developers applying for SNHP/MHSA loans will be required to agree to Housing First provisions. In addition, the Housing First requirements will be incorporated into project loan documents. CalHFA is targeting to have restructured agreements with participating counties, with revised loan documents, operational in the fourth quarter of Current Year (CY) 2018.

Staff Recommendation: In reviewing [Appendix B](#), the Checklist, the Council is requested to adopt the following recommendation:

Support CalHFA's determination that the recommendations provided in the Checklist meet the Council's objectives and adhere to the statutory requirements.

Agenda Item VII: A Report on California's Homeless Data Integration Project

The Council is tasked² with the creation of a statewide data system or warehouse that collects local data through HMIS, with the ultimate goal of matching data on homelessness to programs. At the April 10, 2018 Council meeting, the interagency staff working group informed members that HCD was receiving technical assistance from HUD. ICF's Senior Technical Specialists and HUD technical assistance providers, Chris Pitcher and Mike Lindsay, will present their analysis on a data integration project for California at the July 11, 2018 Council meeting.

Agenda Item VIII: An Initial Report on the Assessment on the Need for Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Diversion, and Prevention Interventions Based on Local Data

To understand and quantify the need for supportive housing, rapid re-housing, diversion and prevention interventions around the state, the Council tasked the interagency staff working group to conduct a needs assessment. The Corporation for Supportive (CSH), a technical assistance provider to HCD, and the interagency staff working group are partnering to provide recommendations on need for the aforementioned interventions to the Council. An initial report on the proposed approach to perform the needs assessment can be found on [Appendix E](#) in this Staff Report.

Agenda Item IX: A Report from the Interagency Staff Working Group on the Revised Catalogue of Housing or Housing-based Programs.





The [Statute](#) requires the Council to perform various tasks and actions, such as identifying mainstream resources used to address homelessness, maximizing federal funding while leveraging local funds, and ensuring programs touching Californians experiencing homelessness are as effective as possible. At the January 10, 2018 Council meeting, the members identified eight goals that could conceivably be achieved by July 2019. Additionally, the Council tasked the interagency staff working group to develop implementation plans or courses of action for the prioritized goals. [Appendix C](#) in this Staff Report provides a progress report of these goals.




At the January 10, 2018 Council meeting, members tasked the interagency staff working group to provide an initial catalogue of the homelessness programs administered for those state departments or agencies appointed to the Council. Due to the variability of homelessness programs administered by the state, the staff working group compiled an initial list of programs using a tiered approach.





At the April 10, 2018 Council meeting, members acknowledged that not all state homelessness programs may readily align with the developed tiered system. Members directed the working group to revise the list and simply look at programs that target or address the needs of individuals or families experiencing homelessness. The revised catalogue in [Appendix D](#) is intended to be a living document and will be regularly updated as a resource on the Council's webpage.









² [Welfare and Institution Code 8257 \(b\)\(13\)](#)

Appendix A – Housing First Checklist – Provided by Tax Credit Allocation Committee on May 24, 2018








Tenant Screening:	Does the Program Require Providers Who House Tenants to Accept Applicants with the Greatest Needs or Vulnerabilities?				
State Programs	Providers Must Accept Tenants Regardless of Sobriety/ Completion of Treatment	 Providers Do Not Reject Applicants for Poor Credit/Financial History, Criminal Background	 Providers May Not Impose a “Housing Readiness” Requirement on Applicants for Housing	 Providers Receive Referrals to Housing from Homeless Response System	 Program Offers Funding Incentives to Providers to Accept Referrals from Coordinated Entry/ Assessment Systems
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program	✘	✘	✘	✔	✔
Comments: TCAC gives first priority within its Non-Profit Set-Aside to projects that serve homeless households. These projects must have an MOU with the coordinated entry system or a similar system. TCAC does not require providers to follow a Housing First model, but rather leaves tenant eligibility requirements (apart from income) to the owners.					
Recommendations: TCAC should amend its regulations to require homeless assistance projects to use the Housing First model, as defined by statute.					







Housing-Based Services:	Are Services Tailored to Tenant’s Needs, Rather Than to Meet Set Programmatic Requirements?			
State Programs	 Service Providers are Required to Offer Services Emphasizing Engagement & Problem-Solving, Rather than Meeting Set Therapeutic Goals	 Service Providers Use Evidence-Based Practices for Engagement	 Service Providers Practice Harm Reduction and/or Recognize Drug/Alcohol Use As Part of Tenant’s Lives & Recovery	Providers Offer Tenants Education on Avoiding Risky Behaviors and Connect to Evidence-Based Treatment By Choice
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program	✔	✘	✘	✘
Comments: TCAC provides up to 10 points in its scoring system for projects that provide specified services relevant to the tenant population. Because projects generally must get maximum points to win, this is akin to a requirement. TCAC has no requirements that services be evidence-based, practice harm reduction, or offer education on avoiding risky behaviors.				
Recommendations: TCAC should amend its regulations to require that services provided in homeless assistance projects use the Housing First model, as defined by statute.				

Services Are Voluntary:	Does the Program Prohibit Conditioning Housing Tenancy on Tenant Participation in Services or Program Compliance?		
State Programs	 <p>Housing Providers Must Accept Most Vulnerable Californians Eligible for Program, Regardless of Applicant's Willingness to Participate in Services (though program may require services providers to offer services)</p>	 <p>Program Disallows Housing/Services Providers from Conditioning Tenancy on Participation in Services or Program Compliance</p>	
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program			
Comments: Tax credits are subject to a good-cause eviction lease rider, so an owner could not evict a tenant for non-participation in services. Nor is TCAC aware that any of its projects condition initial tenancy on a tenant's willingness to participate in services. Homeless assistance projects must accept referrals from the coordinated entry system or a similar system.			
Recommendations: TCAC could clarify in its regulations that all housing providers may not condition initial or continued tenancy on a tenant's willingness to participate in services.			

Housing Permanency	Does the Program Require Housing Providers to Offer Housing Without Limit on Length of Stay, with a Lease? <i>If the Housing is Time-Limited, Is the Housing Provider Required to Connect Tenants to Permanent, Decent, Safe Housing Upon Exit?</i>			
State Programs	 <p>Program Requires Housing Providers to Provide Tenants with Leases and Reflects Tenants' Rights & Responsibilities Of Tenancy Under CA Law (including eviction protections)</p>	 <p>Program Disallows Housing Providers from Evicting Tenants for Use of Drugs/Alcohol w/o Lease Violations</p>	 <p>Program Does Not Fund Time-Limited Housing, Unless Housing/ Services Providers Assist Tenants in Relocating to Decent, Safe Permanent Housing Tenant Can Afford Upon Exit</p>	 <p>If Funding Homeless Youth Program, Any Time-Limited Housing Documents Efforts to Avoid Eviction & Help Tenant Find Permanent, Decent, Safe Housing Upon Exit</p>
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program				
Comments: Tax credit projects must use leases that include a just cause eviction provision. Drug or alcohol use by itself (absent nuisance conditions) would not constitute just cause. Tax credit units may not limit the length of residency.				
Recommendations: None				

Appendix B – Housing First Checklist Provided by California Housing Finance Agency on June 26, 2018

Tenant Screening:	Does the Program Require Providers Who House Tenants to Accept Applicants with the Greatest Needs or Vulnerabilities?				
State Programs	Providers Must Accept Tenants Regardless of Sobriety/Completion of Treatment	 Providers Do Not Reject Applicants for Poor Credit/Financial History, Criminal Background	 Providers May Not Impose a “Housing Readiness” Requirement on Applicants for Housing	 Providers Receive Referrals to Housing from Homeless Response System	 Program Offers Funding Incentives to Providers to Accept Referrals from Coordinated Entry/ Assessment Systems
Special Needs Housing/MHSA Program	✘	✘	✘	✔	✘
Comments: SNHP/MHSA tenant population is those who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness (as defined in the SNHP/MHSA term sheet). It does not require providers to follow a housing first model but rather leaves tenant eligibility requirements (apart from MHSA eligibility) to the owners..					
Recommendations: SNHP/MHSA should update its term sheet to require homeless assistance projects to use the housing first model, as defined by statute.					
Housing-Based Services:	Are Services Tailored to Tenant’s Needs, Rather Than to Meet Set Programmatic Requirements?				
State Programs	 Service Providers are Required to Offer Services Emphasizing Engagement & Problem-Solving, Rather than Meeting Set Therapeutic Goals	 Service Providers Use Evidence-Based Practices for Engagement	 Service Providers Practice Harm Reduction and/or Recognize Drug/Alcohol Use As Part of Tenant’s Lives & Recovery	Providers Offer Tenants Education on Avoiding Risky Behaviors and Connect to Evidence-Based Treatment By Choice	
Special Needs Housing/ MHSA Program	✔	N/A	✘	✘	
Comments: The SNHP/MHSA requires that the County Behavioral Health/Mental Health Department commit to providing services to MHSA eligible tenants on a priority basis for the term of the loan. The services that are provided are outlined in each County’s Community Supports and Services Plan. There is an emphasis on evidence-based practices within MHSA funded programs, but it is not a requirement					
Recommendations: SNHP/MHSA term sheet should be updated to require that services provided in homeless assistance projects use the housing first model, as defined by statute.					

Services Are Voluntary:		Does the Program Prohibit Conditioning Housing Tenancy on Tenant Participation in Services or Program Compliance?			
State Programs	 Housing Providers Must Accept Most Vulnerable Californians Eligible for Program, Regardless of Applicant's Willingness to Participate in Services (though program may require services providers to offer services)	 Program Disallows Housing/Services Providers from Conditioning Tenancy on Participation in Services or Program Compliance			
Special Needs Housing/MHSA Program	✓			✓	
Comments: Fundamentally, the SNHP/MHSA program is a voluntary program and tenants must meet eligibility criteria, not participate in services in order to access an MHSA SNHP funded unit.					
Recommendations: None					
Housing Permanency		Does the Program Require Housing Providers to Offer Housing Without Limit on Length of Stay, with a Lease? <i>If the Housing is Time-Limited, Is the Housing Provider Required to Connect Tenants to Permanent, Decent, Safe Housing Upon Exit?</i>			
State Programs	 Program Requires Housing Providers to Provide Tenants with Leases and Reflects Tenants' Rights & Responsibilities Of Tenancy Under CA Law (including eviction protections)	 Program Disallows Housing Providers from Evicting Tenants for Use of Drugs/Alcohol w/o Lease Violations	 Program Does Not Fund Time-Limited Housing, Unless Housing/ Services Providers Assist Tenants in Relocating to Decent, Safe Permanent Housing Tenant Can Afford Upon Exit	 If Funding Homeless Youth Programs, Any Time-Limited Housing Documents Efforts to Avoid Eviction & Help Tenant Find Permanent, Decent, Safe Housing Upon Exit	
Special Needs Housing/MHSA Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Comments: SNHP/MHSA units require tenants sign a lease that complies with CA law and is not time limited.					
Recommendations: None					

Appendix C – A Progress Report on the Prioritized Council’s Goals

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN		
Recommended Council Action (to be achieved by July 2019)	Report at the April 10, 2018 Council Meeting	Progress to date
1. Authorize the newly created interagency staff working group to build a comprehensive list of state homeless programs.	<p>The initial list categorized the homelessness programs into two tiers.</p> <p>Councilmembers directed the working group to simplify the criteria.</p>	<p>The list includes the new homelessness funding authorized in the 2018-19 Budget.</p> <p>The working group will be building a list to include other state departments or agencies not represented on the Council.</p> <p>See Appendix D for the revised list.</p>
2. Conduct a needs analysis to provide Council with data on need throughout the state.	The interagency staff working group is partnering with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), a technical assistance provider to HCD, to perform a statewide needs assessment and associated financial modeling for California.	The needs analysis expands beyond supportive housing and includes rapid rehousing, diversion and prevention interventions.
3. Streamline efforts and reduce redundancies by looking for opportunities to provide input on design or development of programs impacting homeless Californians.	The interagency staff working group will be working to identify opportunities to enhance collaboration across state agencies, i.e., joint training on Housing First or Coordinated Entry Systems for mutual stakeholders, etc.	At the fourth quarterly meeting, the staff working group shall provide their recommendations for the Council’s consideration.
4. Provision of technical assistance to agencies by the interagency working group to adopt and incorporate the core components of Housing First.	Prior to each Council meeting, the interagency staff working group continues to provide assistance to state departments or agencies scheduled to present their analysis.	In progress.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN		
Recommended Council Action (to be achieved by July 2019)	Report at the April 10, 2018 Council Meeting	Progress to date
5. The Council should act as a policy development resource on ending homelessness in California by setting basic expectations for all California Coordinated Entry Systems, and establishing goals for how state programs could interact with these Coordinated Entry Systems.	The interagency staff working group will dedicate time in a future agenda to include a panel on Coordinated Entry Systems.	The working group is developing strategies to pool available technical assistance resources and identifying opportunities where state administered programs can better align with local Coordinated Entry Systems.
6. Authorize a newly created interagency staff working group to develop a scope of work and implementation plan options for building a statewide data warehouse that receives data from local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).	The interagency staff working group plans to interview other state partners with established statewide HMIS systems, including Washington and New York. These conversations will assist in the creation of a lengthier implementation plan on this topic.	In progress
7. Explore opportunities to access HUD technical assistance to develop a data warehouse.	HCD is receiving some limited technical assistance from HUD, and the identified technical assistance provider is currently in the process of providing additional information to assist in a lengthier implementation plan on this topic.	HUD technical assistance provider will present on California's Data Integration Project. Councilmembers will have an opportunity to learn what it takes to implement a statewide data warehouse or an HMIS system.
8. Summarize the Council's work and progress in a cumulative report to the Legislature.	At the January meeting, the Council elected to provide these summaries annually at the first meeting of each calendar year.	No action yet taken.

Appendix D – Initial list of California State Homelessness Funding Programs

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	*Domestic Violence Housing First Program	Assist victims of domestic violence in accessing and retaining safe, permanent housing; provide supportive services such as transportation subsidies, career training, job-related expenses, childcare, and temporary rental assistance; community engagement; financial assistance.	Local governmental, community-based, and/or tribal victim service providers	Victims of domestic violence and their children	FY18-19 Total Allocation: \$13,137,108 Previously awarded to cover FY18-19 \$9,449,287 All federal	Jan	Housing and Housing Based Services
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	*Domestic Violence Assistance Program	Shelter, some transitional housing, and supportive services for domestic violence victims and their children	Non-competitive reapplication for existing sub recipients per Penal Code §13823.15	Victims of domestic violence and their children	FY 18-19 Total Allocation: 59,233,635 Fed – 28,586,910 State - \$28,646,725 (including \$8M of new homeless funding)	Oct	Housing and Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	Homeless Youth and Exploitation Program	Provide outreach services, food, temporary safe shelter, in-person counseling, group counseling, basic health care, long-term stabilization planning, independent living and survival skills, access to or referrals to other services as appropriate, and follow up services. Note: safe shelter may include placement in medium to long term shelter facilities.	Existing sub recipients of the HX Program (One each from LA, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Clara)	Minors and Transitional Aged Youth	Total Allocation: \$2,077,000 (including \$1M of new homeless funding) All state	July	Housing and Housing Based Services
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	* Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program	Provide safety and supportive services including 24-hr. hotline, emergency shelter, temporary housing, emergency food/clothing, counseling, referrals, transportation, and legal services.	Active California non-profit organization w/ human trafficking expertise.	Victims of human trafficking	Total Allocation: \$25,000,000 Additional FY2018-19 Allocation: 0	TBD	Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	*Transitional Housing Program	Provides transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and supportive services that move crime victims into permanent housing.	Local governmental, community-based, and/or tribal victim service providers	Subrecipient chooses victim population	FY18-19 Total Allocation: \$9,600,000 Previously awarded to cover FY18-19 \$9,047,632 All federal	Jan	Housing Based Services
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	Equality in Prevention & Services for Domestic Violence	Shelter, some transitional housing, and supportive services for domestic violence victims and their children	Local governmental, community-based, and/or tribal victim service providers	LGBTQ victims of domestic violence and their children	FY18-19 Total Allocation: \$423,000 All federal	July	Housing and Housing Based Services
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	Native American Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Program	Shelter, some transitional housing, and supportive services for domestic violence victims and their children	Tribes and tribal consortiums	Tribal victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking (and their children)	FY18-19 Total Allocation: \$813,000	Oct	Housing and Housing Based Services
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	Specialized Emergency Housing	Emergency shelter and emergency housing assistance resources in California and provide specialized services for victims of crime	Local governmental, community-based, and/or tribal victim service providers	Priority populations include: homeless youth, elderly, disabled, and	FY18-19 Total Allocation: \$4,887,500 Previously awarded to cover FY18-19	Jan	Housing and Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
				lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) victims of crime	\$5,000,000 All federal		
The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	*Youth Emergency Services and Housing Program	Establish new, or expand capacity, to a range of housing options that meet the needs of homeless youth, including rapid re-housing, rental assistance, transitional housing, and/or supportive housing.	One Non-Profit from Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and San Clara counties	Minors and Transitional Aged Youth	<i>FY18-19 Total Allocation: \$0</i> <i>Previously awarded to cover FY18-19 \$4,137,931</i>	TBD	Housing and Housing Based Services
Department of Housing and Community Development	Multifamily Housing Program - Supportive Housing (SHMHP)	Construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of permanent supportive housing;	Non-profits and/or for-profit developers and organizations	Persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and an adult who is disabled. <i>Maximum Income: 30% AMI.</i>	\$58 Million	Fall 2018	Housing

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
<i>Department of Housing and Community Development</i>	California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH)	Rapid rehousing, rental assistance, navigation centers, and landlord incentives, among other uses.	Continuums of Care	Assist persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness	\$57.5 Million	August 2018	Housing and Housing Based Services
<i>Department of Housing and Community Development</i>	Housing for a Healthy California	Construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of affordable housing; operating assistance (including long-term rental assistance and operating costs); administrative costs.	Counties and/or developers	Extremely low and very low income families, including homeless families	\$57.5 Million	March 2019	Housing and Housing Based Services
<i>Department of Housing and Community Development</i>	Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)	Rental Projects - New construction with or without acquisition; Rental rehabilitation with or without acquisition; Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program.	Cities, counties, developers (includes native American entities), Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO).	Provides rent subsidies and or security deposits to eligible households, projects reserving rents below 50% of AMI.	\$72 Million	June 2018	Housing and Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs

State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
Department of Housing and Community Development	Community Development Block Grants (CBDG)	Housing including single and multifamily rehabilitation, rental housing acquisition or homeownership assistance, and activities that support new housing construction, housing related services, public improvements, community facilities, planning and technical assistance,	Non-entitlement jurisdictions; Non-entitlement jurisdictions that apply to assist non-federally-recognized Native American communities. Distressed jurisdictions within 150 miles of the California-Mexico border that contain Colonia.	Benefit to low- and moderate-income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or to meet an urgent jurisdictional need.	~\$30 Million	September 2018	Housing
Department of Housing and Community Development	Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG)	Street outreach; emergency shelter; homelessness prevention; rapid re-housing; data collection; administrative costs.	Local government and private non-profits organizations	For individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness	\$11 Million	April 2018	Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs

State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
<p><i>Department of Housing and Community Development,</i></p> <p><i>Department of Veterans Affairs, and</i></p> <p><i>California Housing Finance Agency.</i></p>	<p><u>Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program (VHHP)</u></p>	<p>Acquisition and/or construction or rehabilitation of an Affordable Rental Housing Development or Transitional Housing, or the conversion of an existing structure into one of these housing types.</p>	<p>Counties and non-profits</p>	<p>For veterans and their families who are extremely low-income or experiencing homelessness</p>	<p>Approximately \$75 Million</p>	<p>May 2018</p>	<p>Housing and Housing Based Services</p>
<p><i>Department of Housing and Community Development</i></p>	<p><u>No Place Like Home (NPLH)</u></p>	<p>Acquisition, design, construction, rehabilitation, or preservation of supportive housing</p>	<p>Counties and counties in partnership with the development sponsor</p>	<p>Those with a serious mental illness who are experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness, or at-risk of chronic homelessness.</p>	<p>\$200 Million</p>	<p>August 2018</p>	<p>Housing and Housing Based Services</p>

California State Homelessness Funding Programs

State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
Department of Health Care Services	Affordable Care Act Section 2703 Health Home Program Medicaid optional benefit (HHP)	This program primarily provides intensive care coordination, but also provides housing navigation and tenancy sustaining case management services for homeless members or members recently housed as part of the program.	This Medicaid benefit will be provided Medi-Cal managed care programs in 29 counties in California.	Medi-Cal members in managed care who have specific eligible chronic conditions. Only members who are experiencing homelessness or unstably housed would receive the housing navigation and tenancy sustaining services.	TBD	Summer 2018	Housing Based Services
Department of Health Care Services	Mental Health Services Ace, Community Services and Support	Acquire, rehabilitate, or construct supportive housing; rental assistance, security deposits, utility payments, moving cost assistance; project based housing, including master leasing units; and outreach.	Counties and counties in partnership with developers.	Individuals with a serious mental illness or severe emotional disorders who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.	Determined locally	N/A	Housing Based Services

The availability of funds and estimated amounts are subject to revision or updates as the information becomes available.

² ["State programs" are defined in the Welfare and Institutions Code Section 8255 \(e\).](#)

California State Homelessness Funding Programs

State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
Department of Health Care Services	Proposed in the 2018-19 Budget	Fund multi-disciplinary teams engaged in intensive outreach, treatment, and related services for homeless persons with mental illness. Proposed budget bill language provides that counties could not use funding from this appropriation to supplant other funds for these purposes, but would be encouraged to use the grant funds to leverage other fund sources, such as federal grants.	Counties	Homeless persons with mental illness.	\$50 million	TBD	Housing or Housing-Based Services
Tax Credit Allocation Committee	Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program	New construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing.	Non-profit, for-profit, public, and tribal entities.	Households serving families at 60% AMI or less.	\$1 billion in competitive federal and state credits	Two rounds each year	Housing

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
The California Department of Corrections	Transitional Housing Program (THP)	Housing and support services to parolees	Parolees on active parole and Long Term Offenders (LTOs)	Parolees on active parole and Long Term Offenders (LTOs)	\$10.9 million	TBD	Housing and Housing Based Services
California Housing Finance Agency	Special Needs Housing Program (SNHP)	Acquisition, construction and rehabilitation of rental units.	For-profit and non-profit developers.	Individuals with serious mental illness (and their families) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness	Determined by participating county	TBD	Housing and Housing Based Services
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency	Homeless Emergency Aid Block Grants Program	Eligible uses that address homelessness, some administrative costs, and services for youth who are experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness	Collaborative Applicant for the Continuum of Care	For individuals experiencing homelessness and youth that are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness	\$500 million	Summer 2018	Housing and Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs							
State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding ¹	Funding Availability ¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both? ²
California Department of Social Services	CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP)*	Flexible housing-related financial assistance; including move-in assistance, rental subsidies and intensive case management.	County Welfare Departments	Homeless CalWORKs recipients.	\$71.2 million	July 2018	Housing and Housing Based Services
California Department of Social Services	CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA)	Temporary and permanent financial assistance to eligible CalWORKs families, including temporary shelter payments, payments for permanent housing (includes costs for security deposits, last month's rent and any legal payment, fee, deposit or charge that is required by a landlord), and arrearages.	County Welfare Departments	Families who are receiving CalWORKs or are apparently eligible for CalWORKs and are either homeless or have received a "pay rent or quit" notice and have less than \$100 in liquid resources	TBD	N/A – entitlement program	Housing and Housing Based Services
California Department of Social Services	Senior Home Safe Program	Senior homelessness prevention pilot program.	County Welfare Departments	APS clients experiencing or at-risk of homelessness	\$15 million	Late 2018/ early 2019	Housing and Housing Based Services

California State Homelessness Funding Programs

State Department or Agency	Program	Eligible uses	Eligible applicants	Target population	Estimated FY2018-19 funding¹	Funding Availability¹	Does the program provide housing or housing based services or both?²
California Department of Social Services	Bringing Families Home (BFH)*	Flexible housing-related financial assistance; case management; housing stabilization and navigation services.	County Welfare Departments	Families involved with the child welfare system who are experiencing homelessness.	<i>Total allocation: \$10 million Additional FY2018-19 Allocation: \$0</i>	N/A – 3-year pilot program through 2019	Housing and Housing Based Services
California Department of Social Services	Housing and Disability Income Advocacy Program (HDAP)*	Outreach, case management, disability benefits advocacy (SSI/SSP, SSDI, CAPI, or VA), and housing assistance (interim, recuperative care, housing navigation services, rental subsidies, PSH)	County Welfare Departments	Individuals who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness and likely eligible for disability benefits.	<i>Total allocation: \$43 million Additional FY2018-19 Allocation: \$0</i>	N/A – 3-year pilot program through 2020	Housing and Housing Based Services

***Programs are subject to SB138**

Appendix E – Needs Assessment Concept Paper – Authored by Corporation for Supportive Housing, provided on June 26, 2018

What the Needs Assessment Is

In 2016, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) began work on a National Supportive Housing Needs Assessment – the first attempt to understand and quantify the extent of supportive housing need across the United States. Notably, this work stepped outside the bounds of populations that are most commonly considered in conversations regarding housing and services interventions. While people experiencing homelessness constitute a large share of those individuals and families with needs consistent with supportive housing and other interventions, health and behavioral health care, corrections, and child welfare systems are beginning to identify supportive housing as a critical first step toward the effective administration of supportive services to achieve successful outcomes.

After implementing the National Needs Assessment, CSH refined the needs assessment methodology to work with cities, counties, and states to assess the need for supportive housing and other homeless housing and services interventions (e.g. rapid re-housing and prevention and diversion resources), based on data we collect from these cities, counties, and states.

How it Works

CSH utilizes data from a variety of systems with populations that typically feed into homeless systems, such as criminal justice, health, behavioral health, and child welfare systems. CSH uses research to identify indicators for need among populations in each of these categories, and specific state or local data drive the rates at which staff estimate the likely need for each housing and services intervention for each population.

CSH staff gather input from our city, county, and state partners to determine specific populations to consider, the scale of analysis, the costs related to developing housing and services needs within the client geography, and the prevalence of indicators that point to the need for each housing and services intervention across populations.

CSH staff funnel the need for housing and services into a financial model that takes the total unit count and sketches out the capital, services, operating, and rental assistance costs related to building and sustaining each appropriate intervention to meet the assessed need. In addition to an analysis of need for supportive housing, the Needs Assessment outputs include recommendations around other housing interventions appropriate for the share of the population who does not need supportive housing. This includes analyses of rapid re-housing or affordable housing needs, as well as need for prevention and diversion resources.

Goals of a Needs Assessment

The needs assessment should be part of a larger conversation around need for each specific housing and services intervention across the state or in a community. In some instances, the needs assessment is the starting point for a conversation, where states or communities are interested in understanding the extent of their need for a range of interventions. For these communities, the Needs Assessment also often identifies data quality issues that a state or community could address to improve systems operations. In other states and communities, it is a midway milestone that can be used to assess homeless housing and services interventions thus far, which can help that state or

community correct course to improve a range of housing-based interventions. For some states and communities, it might mark the last step before producing new homeless housing and services interventions, providing guidance on where to align resources and identify next steps. In all instances, it can help a state or community determine the overall need, assess populations with the greatest vulnerabilities, and decide how to invest existing and future resources. It helps change the larger conversation from “what do we have” to “what it would take” to reduce and eventually end homelessness.

Needs Assessment in California

Given the size of the State of California in terms of both population and geography, conducting a needs assessment across the state is a uniquely complicated task. Methodologies must be tailored to address wide variability in terms of housing need and development costs and resources.

CSH staff discussed the following approaches with the interagency staff working group:

1. An analysis for three to four of the metro areas with the highest homeless populations, paired with a statewide analysis.
2. A needs analysis for each of a subset of several counties that represent a cross-section of geographies across the state. We would then apply findings to other geographies based on similarity to the analyzed counties.
3. A complete analysis of every county across the state.

The first approach ensures that an analysis will be conducted in areas where it is likely to have the largest-scale impact. It also reduces the granularity for the remainder of the state, and makes assumptions around data being consistent across geographies where we can expect some degree of variation. A couple of the counties with the highest homeless populations have either recently conducted a needs assessment or are in the process of completing a needs assessment, which would provide a foundation for the CSH analysis.

The second approach addresses concerns of lack of geographic diversity from the first approach by identifying a cross-section of counties and using them as stand-in’s for other counties of similar geography, allowing an analysis for differences in how need is characterized between counties of varying types (e.g., rural, urban, suburban, etc.). This approach will also divert some efforts away from those areas that likely have the highest need. This approach could also be modified by breaking the state into super-regions and selecting representative counties within each region. This adds a layer of analysis and reflects the fact that need for interventions may manifest differently by county type and geography.

The third approach is the most robust by far, and does not limit granularity of data or flatten data based on the assumptions made in the first and second. It is, however, the most logistically complex and would demand considerable resources in terms of staff time and capacity to implement, not available to CSH under the current contract with HCD.

Because many housing interventions are tied to cost of living, those analyses will vary according to the geographic approach taken from the three options listed.

Proposed Approach Working Group Recommends

Subject to identifying available funding and resources, the interagency staff working group recommends adopting a hybrid approach that would combine a statewide analysis with elements of Approaches 1 and 2, detailed above. Under this approach, CSH staff would undertake the following phased needs assessments, with input and support by the Councilmembers and the interagency staff working group:

Phase 1: A statewide assessment, which would provide conclusions on the supportive housing, rapid re-housing, and diversion interventions needed across the State. CSH would work with the interagency staff working group to collect statewide data on:

- The number of child-welfare involved families,
- Youth held in residential juvenile justice facilities,
- Transition-aged youth in foster care,
- The prison and jail populations,
- The number of people with developmental disabilities living in residential and group homes,
- The number of people living in mental health institutions and residential care settings,
- The number of people living in nursing homes, and
- The number of people living in substance use disorder residential care settings.

Based on these data, along with most-recently published homeless point-in-time counts, CSH would estimate the subpopulations needing supportive housing, rapid re-housing, and prevention or diversion. Staff would then estimate dollars required to provide these interventions through capital, operating and rental assistance, and services funding.

Phase 2: An assessment of the three to four counties with the highest homeless populations (Los Angeles, Santa Clara, and San Francisco Counties and, possibly, San Diego County), with conclusions similar to the statewide assessment. CSH staff would work with the interagency staff working group in addition to state agencies and departments on the Council to collect and confirm data for the needs assessments.

Phase 3: A snapshot of needs for two to six counties across the State, with the goal of incorporating counties that represent geographic and population diversity. CSH would work with the Interagency Working Group to identify counties to assess, taking into account a range of data elements (for example, size of homeless population, economic conditions, local resources, demographics, etc.) Potential counties would also depend on the extent of local cooperation with data collection. Through each of these needs assessments, CSH staff would work with local contacts to obtain data we would need to conduct this assessment, as well as local buy-in with the needs assessment process. To the extent data is available, CSH would conduct a similar analysis as the analysis collected for the statewide assessment.

CSH will provide a scope of work and timeline of the phased implementation of the needs assessment process after the July 11, 2018 Council meeting.