



## HCFC ACTION PLAN FOR FYS 2020-2021 AND 2021-2022

### OVERVIEW AND UPDATE ON PLANNING ACTIVITIES

For Discussion at December 18, 2020 HCFC Council Meeting

#### VISION FOR HCFC'S ACTION PLANNING

In developing its first-ever Action Plan, the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) is pursuing a new vision for the Council and the State's work to prevent and end homelessness, a vision that features:

- Increased leadership from the State for identifying and supporting short-term and long-term solutions;
- Purposeful, action-oriented coordination and alignment across State agencies and programs; and
- Stronger, collaborative partnerships with public and private partners in communities.

In pursuing this vision, HCFC recognizes that:

- The response to homelessness in California must address and reduce racial inequities in risks and experiences of homelessness;
- Progress will require multi-pronged, multi-year strategies to enhance every element of our responses to the housing, services, and health and public health needs of people experiencing and at-risk of homelessness; and that
- State agencies need to act with shared responsibility and mutual accountability, and must implement effective data analyses, performance measures and metrics, to assess, refine, and revise those strategies.

#### ACTION PLAN'S STRUCTURE AND OBJECTIVES

This Action Planning process is using a structure adapted from the national [Framework for an Equitable COVID-19 Homelessness Response](#) to help guide the planning process. At the October 26, 2020 HCFC Council Meeting, the Council approved a draft version of Action Planning Objectives to be used to guide the more detailed planning work to follow, which are organized into five (5) Action Areas:

##### **Action Area #1: Strengthening our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California**

- **Objective 1: Strengthen racial equity-focused responses, strategies, and activities of State agencies and of local agencies and organizations** receiving State funding for any homelessness services and housing activities.
- **Objective 2: Ensure that State and local planning and decision-making processes are deeply informed and guided by recommendations from people with lived expertise** from experiences of homelessness.
- **Objective 3: Incentivize interjurisdictional and regional planning, decision-making, and accountability, and support capacity for such coordination** through "mapping" and local gaps analysis activities focused on needs, demographics and inequities, and service delivery capacities.
- **Objective 4: Enhance partnerships between homelessness services systems and services and systems which can support asset building and wealth building**, including improving access to employment services and employment for people experiencing and exiting homelessness.

- **Objective 5:** Support California communities to develop disaster preparedness plans that are more inclusive of the needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- **Objective 6:** Expand State communications efforts to create public awareness of the State’s homelessness strategies, successes, challenges, and the importance of Housing First approaches.

**Action Area #2: Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness**

- **Objective 7:** Continue to support California communities to implement multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional outreach and protective measures addressing the health and safety needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.
- **Objective 8:** Improve access, and address racial inequities within such access, to essential State-supported services appropriate for the needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including through Medi-Cal and behavioral health care reforms.

**Action Area #3: Expanding Communities’ Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing**

- **Objective 9:** Partner with communities to implement innovative approaches and expand the supply of safe, housing-placement focused sheltering and interim housing models for Californians experiencing homelessness.
- **Objective 10:** Expand alignment and engagement of State resources, including Medi-Cal and behavioral health care resources, in efforts to address health disparities and services needs among Californians temporarily staying within sheltering and interim housing options.

**Action Area #4: Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities**

- **Objective 11:** Mobilize State resources, technical assistance, and guidance to strengthen implementation of Housing First approaches and other best practices in support of equitably and urgently rehousing people from Project Roomkey sites, from other temporary settings, and from unsheltered homelessness.
- **Objective 12:** Foster the creation of an expanded supply of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, paired with appropriate health and behavioral health care resources, and accessible and culturally responsive to people exiting homelessness, to people at lowest income levels, and to people from historically marginalized communities.
- **Objective 13:** Improve access to short- and longer-term forms of rental assistance to encourage innovations, to support racially equitable and successful exits from homelessness, and to support housing development activities.

**Action Area #5: Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness**

- **Objective 14:** Reduce entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services from State-funded settings and systems, addressing racial inequities within risks of experiencing homelessness, with initial focus on people re-entering communities from jails and prisons, young adults connected to the child welfare and/or juvenile justice systems, and people exiting health care settings and programs.
- **Objective 15:** Enhance communities’ capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention interventions and to successfully divert people from entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

### UPDATE ON PLANNING ACTIVITIES AND TIMEFRAMES

Since the October meeting, State agency staff have been engaged in dialogue with one another and with external stakeholders, including people with lived expertise from experiences of homelessness, with a focus on identifying:

- **Current and planned State efforts** that will help support the achievement of these Objectives;
- **Potential priorities for additional activities** to drive further progress in support of the Objectives.

Information gathered to date is summarized in a separate document. A more detailed draft of the Action Plan will be presented to the Council for discussion and input at the special Council meeting scheduled for February 23, 2021. Based upon feedback at that meeting, a final draft of the Action Plan will be prepared and will be presented to the Council at the meeting scheduled for March 23, 2021 for a final discussion and for a decision whether to adopt the Action Plan at that time.

### STAKEHOLDER CONVERSATIONS TO DATE

To date, representatives from the following organizations have had the opportunity to participate in at least one input conversation:

All Home

California Coalition for Youth

California Community Colleges

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

California Department of Education

California Department of Health Care Services

California Department of Housing and Community Development

California Department of Social Services

California Department of Transportation

California Department of Veterans Affairs

California Governor's Office

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

California Health and Human Services Agency

California Health Care Foundation

California Housing Finance Agency

California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

California State Legislature

City of Berkeley

City of Fairfield Police Department

City of Los Angeles

City of Oakland

City of Oxnard

City of Riverside

City of Sacramento  
City of San Francisco  
CityTeam  
Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health  
Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Destination: Home  
Empower Tehama  
Family Violence Law Center  
Health Care for the Homeless Program  
Homebase  
Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles  
Housing California  
John Burton Advocates for Youth  
Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance  
Larkin Street Youth Services  
Lewis Advocacy  
Los Angeles County Supervisor's Office  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
Los Angeles Lived Experience Advisory Board  
Marjaree Mason Center  
National Alliance to End Homelessness  
National Harm Reduction Coalition  
Northern California CoCs that Serve Rural Areas Peer-to-Peer Group  
Office of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi  
PATH Ventures  
San Jose/Santa Clara Lived Experience Advisory Board  
Turning Point of Central California  
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness  
UC Berkeley  
UC Berkeley Youth Policy Group  
Ventura County Executive Office