

Action Plan

for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California

Adopted March 2021 (Anticipated) by the California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council

To be updated in Spring 2022

**DRAFT CONTENT FOR DISCUSSION AT FEBRUARY 23, 2021
COUNCIL MEETING**



Note: Final draft of Action Plan document is expected to include on the opening pages:

[Statement from Governor of California]

[Statement from Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency]

[Statement from Deputy Secretary for Homelessness]

[Quotes from Council Members]

The California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council

Preventing and ending homelessness in California requires urgent actions and sustained, long-term efforts across all levels of government and across the public and private sectors. The California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) serves as the State's interagency council on homelessness, providing leadership, coordination, and guidance to strengthen and align efforts across all of State government. HCFC was created in 2017 to oversee the implementation of Housing First policies, guidelines, and regulations to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness in California. The Council's mission is to develop policies and to identify and coordinate resources, benefits, and services to prevent and work toward ending homelessness in California.

HCFC's current activities, and activities forecast within this Action Plan, are designed to fulfill its charter to oversee implementation of California's Housing First guidelines and to achieve eighteen statutory goals, including five youth-related goals identified through SB 918 in 2018. HCFC pursues those statutory goals through both a Council of state leaders and a team of staff within the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency:

- The Council, chaired by the Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH), is a committee comprising: senior leaders from ten (10) State departments; five (5) members appointed by the Governor represent statewide organizations and homeless advocacy groups; one (1) stakeholder appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; one (1) stakeholder appointed by Speaker of the Assembly; one (1) formerly homeless adult; and one (1) formerly homeless youth.
- Led by the BCSH Deputy Secretary for Homelessness, the team at HCFC includes up to twenty-nine State staff who: implement two (2) major grant programs, the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP), providing vital, flexible resources to support communities to address both crisis services and permanent housing needs; oversee the development and ongoing management of the forthcoming Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS); coordinate Council activities and foster collaborations across State agencies and departments, including those not represented on the Council, to ensure alignment with the Council's policy priorities and best practices; and work in partnership with Continuums of Care (CoCs), federal agencies, city and county governments, non-profits, housing and services providers, and others. HCFC staff work in consultation with the Governor's Office and with the Legislature as subject-matter policy experts to guide and strengthen the State's response to homelessness.

The Council is expected to adopt this Action Plan in March 2021 and will be responsible for overseeing and monitoring its implementation - and for updating this Action Plan on an annual basis to adjust and tailor its Objectives and Activities. [Text will be updated before final draft.] Council members from State agencies will be responsible for mobilizing actions and accountability across their agencies in support of the Action Plan's implementation. HCFC staff and senior staff across State agencies will be responsible for ensuring that the Activities committed in this plan are implemented and well-coordinated, and for reporting to the Council on its implementation, regarding the measures identified within the Action Plan and progress toward fulfilling HCFC's statutory requirements.

See [Appendix Exhibit A](#) for documentation of HCFC's statutory requirements.

Action Plan's Vision

In developing and implementing its first-ever Action Plan, the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) is pursuing a vision for the Council and the State's work to prevent and end homelessness 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 well-documented racial inequities in who experiences housing instability and risks of homelessness, in who experiences homelessness, and in how people are served and outcomes achieved within homelessness response systems;
- Progress will require multi-pronged, multi-year strategies to enhance every element of our responses to the housing, services, 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.

The vision for this Action Plan is not simply making changes in how HCFC and State agencies do their work. This Action Plan seeks to orient the State's efforts toward driving purposeful, meaningful, and measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California. The collaborative development of this Action Plan has been driven by a vision of a future in which homelessness in California is:

- Rare, because it is prevented whenever possible;
- Brief, ended quickly whenever it does occur, through a focus on Housing First approaches and housing outcomes; and
- A one-time experience, ended successfully the first time, so that no Californians experience homelessness repeatedly.

The development and implementation of this Action Plan creates commitments and structures through which HCFC and its member departments will pursue that vision relentlessly, with shared accountability across State departments and with local partners, and with a sharpened focus on data and analyses that will help assess progress and inform adjustments to sharpen strategies and activities.

Action Plan's Five Action Areas

Reflective of the perspectives provided through stakeholder conversations, this Action Plan is also deeply informed by the national [Framework for an Equitable COVID-19 Homelessness Response](#) and is structured into five (5) distinct but interrelated and complementary Action Areas, inclusive of the full range of actions necessary to prevent and end homelessness:

Note: The graphics used on the following pages are not the final graphics for the Action Plan, but are used here to provide an indication of the planned layout.

▶▶ ACTION AREA 1

Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California

▶▶ ACTION AREA 2

Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

▶▶ ACTION AREA 3

Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing

▶▶ ACTION AREA 4

Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities

▶▶ ACTION AREA 5

Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness

Action Plan's Objectives

The Action Plan identifies a total of fifteen (15) Objectives to be prioritized and pursued across the five (5) Action Areas, as described below. For each Objective, the Action Plan further details:

- **Activities** to be implemented to drive progress toward achievement of the Objectives
- The **Lead Department or Departments** responsible for implementing each Activity
- The **Collaborating Departments** serving on the Council and also deeply involved in implementing each Activity
- **Timeframes** for each Activity
- **Performance Measurements** that will be used to assess progress and impact, inclusive of Process Measures, Output Measures, and, when possible, Outcome Measures.

▶▶ 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.

Timeframe for this Action Plan: Fiscal Year 20-21 through Fiscal Year 22-23

This development of this Action Plan has identified Objectives and Activities that cover the State's FY 20-21 through FY 22-23. It is not intended to be inclusive of every strategic activity or investment that State agencies or the Council will undertake, but instead seeks to focus on the highest-priority strategies and efforts that are expected to have the greatest impact.

The Action Plan is inclusive of efforts that have been implemented or are underway in current FY 20-21 in order to document current activities, to recognize significant and meaningful efforts under way, to align them within this Action Plan's Objectives, and to incorporate those Activities into the accountability mechanisms and measurement systems that the Council and HCFC staff will use to manage and monitor the implementation of this Action Plan.

The Council will update this Action Plan ahead of FY 22-23 and will use that opportunity to make any modifications to the Plan's Objectives, and to identify more specific activities that will be implemented during FY 22-23.

Key Principles and Practices

The implementation of the Activities within this Action Plan will be aligned with the following key principles and practices:

- **Pursuing Racial Equity and Justice:** The historic – and very current – causes of racial injustice and inequities in housing and homelessness, and the racially disparate impacts of housing instability and homelessness, are clear, stark, and even deadly. HCFC and its member agencies are committed to deepening their knowledge and understanding of these issues, and to taking action through the implementation of this Action Plan, with a focus on racial justice and equity and the formation of an interagency Working Group focused on racial equity in housing and homelessness.
- **Creating Solutions for the Full Diversity of People Experiencing Homelessness:** The Objectives and Activities are designed to support progress toward preventing and ending homelessness for all people and populations, but HCFC also recognizes that strategies, activities, and programs must be tailored to address the specific needs of people with different experiences and identities – including youth and young adults, families with children, adults, older adults, women, people who identify as LGBTQ+ or gender-non-conforming, Veterans, people with disabilities, survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence, and other people.
- **Seeking and Valuing the Expertise of People with Lived Experiences of Homelessness:** Effective and efficient systems, programs, and strategic decisions for preventing and ending homelessness are strengthened when they are deeply informed by and guided by people who have expertise that is grounded in lived experiences of homelessness. HCFC will strengthen its partnerships with people with lived expertise through the formation of a new Lived Experience Advisory Board, who will deeply inform the implementation of Activities throughout this Action Plan, and will also encourage and support communities to further center the voices of people with lived experiences of homelessness within their local planning, decision-making, and activities.
- **Aligning State Activities with Housing First Approaches:** While awareness, understanding, and implementation of Housing First approaches have expanded in recent years, a sustained focus on Housing First within communications, guidance, technical assistance and training, and the implementation of State programs is needed. The implementation of every element of this Action Plan will be based upon and help

advance a focus on strengthened Housing First approaches, removing barriers to and fundamentally focused on ensuring people have access to permanent housing and the right level of services to support their success, as quickly as possible.

- **Balancing Crisis Response and Permanent Housing Solutions:** While recognizing permanent housing is the only true solution to homelessness, the thousands of Californians experiencing homelessness right now are facing urgent and dangerous crises every single day. HCFC and its member agencies will balance a focus on the immediate crisis needs of people experiencing homelessness, through supportive and non-punitive approaches, with efforts to create the necessary permanent housing options at the scale needed.
- **Shared Responsibility, Accountability, and Efficiency:** Creating the scale of solutions needed to prevent and end homelessness will require focused, aligned, sustained, and efficient long-term actions and investments across Federal, State, and local government, and that are supported by private partners. In the implementation of this Action Plan, HCFC will foster and rely upon increased coordination and shared responsibility and accountability across State departments and programs, and will work in close coordination with local communities, in order to create the solutions Californians experiencing homelessness need and support the greatest impact of financial resources and programs.

Formation of New Working Groups to Drive Actions and Progress

Implementation of elements of the Activities within this Action Plan will be supported through the formation of five (5) Working Groups, comprised of State staff and external stakeholders, who will be charged with implementing specific Activities, and with developing plans for additional Activities, in support of the Action Plan's Objectives. These Working Groups have the following primary areas of focus, which will include emphases on addressing racial inequities and on tailoring solutions and strategies for different populations of people experiencing homelessness:

1. **Maximizing Impact of State Funding and Programs on Homelessness Working Group**, (State Funding and Programs Working Group) comprised of State staff only, but informed by external stakeholders, and charged with: identifying opportunities for streamlining deployment of State funding; improving access to funding and programs for organizations deeply engaged with historically marginalized communities, including Tribal communities; documenting and projecting the cumulative impact of State funding, programs, and initiatives on the creation or provision of housing opportunities for people exiting homelessness; creating clearer standards for the housing and services interventions to be supported by State funding and programs; collecting and analyzing data on current state funding, programs, and initiatives and assessing and strengthening their equity impacts; providing guidance regarding best uses of funding and regarding targeting and prioritization of people for access to housing opportunities; exploring feasibility of joint procurements that align essential housing and services resources; assessing and addressing challenges that smaller communities face in securing and implementing State funding; and identifying mechanisms for increasing access, and removing barriers to access, for people exiting homelessness to State-funded housing units and programs; and other priorities determined by the Working Group.
 - **Participating Departments:** HCFC, HCD, DSS, DHCS, CalOES, CDCR, CCC, and other Council departments with relevant funding programs
 - **Working Group to Be Formed By:** 1st Quarter of FY 21-22
2. **Racial Equity in Responses to Homelessness and Housing Instability Working Group** (Racial Equity Working Group), including both State staff and external stakeholders, and charged with: expanding the range of

strategies and activities being implemented by State agencies; analyzing data and reporting across State programs to assess equity in access, housing interventions, services, and outcomes; refining procurement processes to ensure more equitable distribution of funds and reach into historically marginalized communities, including Tribal communities; engaging with State agencies' Offices of Equity and the Department of Fair Employment and Housing more fully; providing guidance to support communities in not implementing inequitable policies and practices, including criminalization measures and enforcement activities; and other strategies and activities to address inequities in homelessness and housing instability determined by the Working Group of State staff and external stakeholders.

- **Participating Departments:** All HCFC Member Departments
- **Working Group to Be Formed By:** 1st Quarter of FY 21-22

3. **Tailoring Strategies for Preventing and Ending Homelessness for Youth and Young Adults** (Youth and Young Adults Working Group), including both State staff and external stakeholders, and charged with complementing youth-focused efforts across the other Working Groups with a focus on: assessing the impact of State homelessness and housing programs in creating opportunities for youth and young adults; identifying and removing barriers to access to State-funded programs for youth-serving organizations; providing guidance regarding assessment processes, tools, and prioritization policies that appropriately address safety and other needs of youth and young adults appropriately; developing strategies to address the COVID-19 impacts on homeless and at-risk youth and young adults; and other priorities determined by the Working Group of State staff and external stakeholders.

- **Participating Departments:** HCFC, CalOES, DSS, CCC, CDE, HCD
- **Working Group to Be Formed By:** 2nd Quarter of FY 21-22

4. **Strengthening Employment Opportunities and Outcomes for People with Experiences of Homelessness Working Group** (Employment Working Group) including both State staff and external stakeholders, and charged with: identifying strong and promising practices, including services, training, and social enterprise models, and opportunities for more formal evaluation activities; supporting stronger focus on employment and income within homelessness response systems; exploring opportunities to better serve vulnerable and underserved populations under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act regulations and programs; identifying strategies to address education and employment goals of youth experiencing homelessness; increasing focus on creating employment opportunities through State programs and funding; gathering information from local, state, and national partners that can support asset and wealth building; and other priorities determined by the Working Group of State staff and external stakeholders.

- **Participating Departments:** CDSS, HCD, CalOES, CDCR, CalTrans, CCC, and other State departments with relevant programs
- **Working Group to Be Formed By:** 3rd Quarter of FY 21-22

5. **Preventing Homelessness Among People Re-Entering Communities from Corrections Settings Working Group** (Re-Entry Working Group), including both State staff and external stakeholders, and charged with strengthening efforts to prevent entries into homelessness for both youth and adults, including: identifying opportunities to scale up successful approaches identified through the Returning Home Well initiative; addressing the housing navigation needs of people exiting corrections settings; creating clearer expectations for discharge planning to support exits to stable living arrangements; strengthening coordinated handoffs from corrections and juvenile justice settings to re-entry services; reducing barriers to housing for people on parole/probation; analyzing data drawn from HDIS and other state, federal, and local data sources to better

define barriers, inclusive of urban, suburban, and rural areas of state; and other priorities determined by the Working Group of State staff and external stakeholders.

- **Participating Departments:** HCFC, CDCR, DSS
- **Working Group to Be Formed By:** 3rd Quarter of FY 21-22

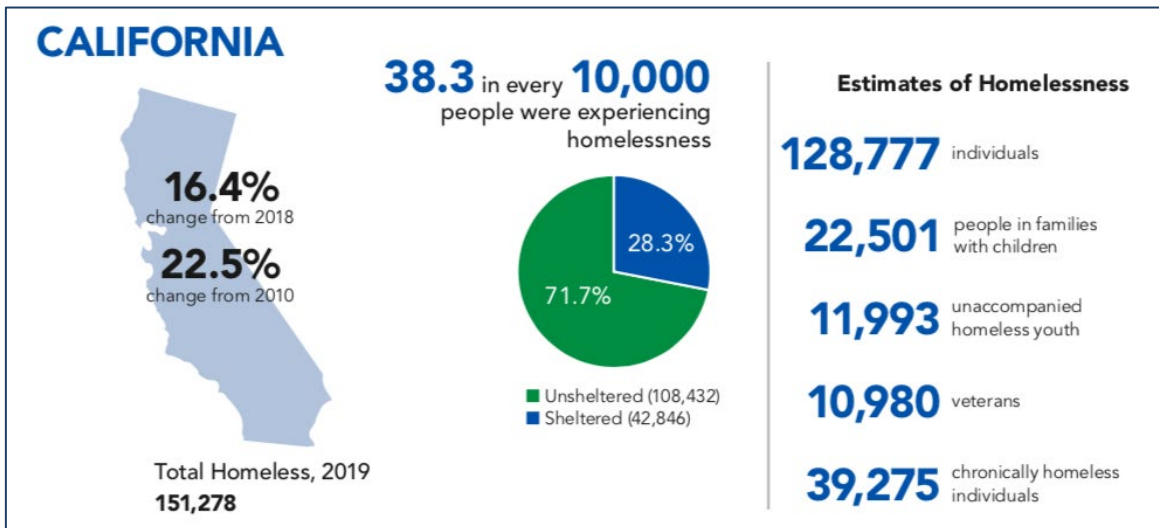
Homelessness in California

Note: Will replace with 2020 PIT Count data if published prior to Action Plan being finalized.

The most recent estimates are that, on any given night, more than 151,000 people are experiencing homelessness in California, representing more than one-quarter of all people experiencing homelessness in the United States, and including:

- Nearly 129,000 adult individuals
- More than 22,500 people in families with children
- Nearly 12,000 unaccompanied youth
- Nearly 11,000 Veterans
- And more than 39,000 chronically homeless individuals (people with disabilities with long-term and repeated patterns of homelessness)

Among California’s homeless population, approximately 72% are unsheltered and 28% are sheltered. Unaccompanied youth have a higher rate of unsheltered homelessness than other populations, with about 8 in 10 of the nearly 12,000 homeless youth not having shelter on any given night across California. These staggering figures pre-date the current global economic and public health disasters which will deepen the crises experienced across the state.



Source: *The 2019 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*

Homelessness in California reflects stark racial inequities and the impacts of systemic racism. Predating our current crisis, the disproportionate negative impacts of system involvement in the criminal legal system, lack of quality and affordable health care, housing discrimination and the continued impacts of redlining policies, and a host of other socially-determined factors have had catastrophic impacts on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in California. Black Californians make up about 7% of the state’s population, yet represent nearly one-third (29%) of the more than 151,000 people experiencing homelessness across the state.

The persistence of these racial inequities has been perpetuated by public policies that have actively worked to the disadvantage of BIPOC communities and require thorough analysis and urgent, innovative, and sustained actions to address, reduce, and eventually eliminate these disparities and achieve racial equity. Through this Action Plan, and through the formation of a new interagency, cross-sector Working Group described below, the Council and staff at HCFC are committed to centering a focus on racial equity and justice within data analyses, within training and technical assistance efforts, and within the implementation of State programs.

Defining and Measuring Progress

As detailed below, this first-ever Action Plan for HCFC includes a strong commitment to accountability and performance measures, inclusive of Process Measures, Output Measures, and, when possible, Outcome Measures.

Simultaneous to the development of this Action Plan, HCFC staff have been developing the State's Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) to securely collect, match, and de-duplicate records from local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). HDIS will allow the State of California to access and compile standardized homelessness data collected by individual Continuums of Care (CoCs) in order to make data-driven policy decisions aimed at preventing and ending homelessness in California. In addition to the broader uses of HDIS, reporting for several of the performance measurements for this Action Plan will be drawn from HDIS.

HCFC will use data from HDIS, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and from the California Department of Education, to regularly analyze, review, report upon, and publicly share the following key measures regarding homelessness in California, in order to: assess the impact of Federal, State, and local efforts; document and analyze racial inequities; and refine this Plan's Objectives and Activities:

- The number of Californians experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness at a point in time, including Veterans, people experiencing chronic homelessness, families with children, unaccompanied youth, and all individuals. The number of Continuums of Care in California reporting increases versus decreases in the number of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness within annual Point-in-Time counts.
- The number of people, including Veterans, people experiencing chronic homelessness, families with children, unaccompanied youth, and all individuals, spending time in emergency shelter and transitional housing in California annually.
- The number of Californians experiencing homelessness for the first time each year.
- The number of Californians successfully exiting homelessness each year.
- The number of Californians returning to homelessness each year.
- The number of children and youth, including both students in families and unaccompanied students, identified as experiencing homelessness at some point during the school year in California.
- Comparison of California's performance across these measures and data points to national and regional trends.

Development of this Action Plan

Under the guidance and direction of the Council, and deeply informed by planning conversations with State staff and input discussions with external stakeholders, the development of this Action Plan has been led by HCFC staff and consultant Matthew Doherty, and the HCFC Council meetings have been used as critical milestones and decision points in its development. The planning process was initiated in July 2020, including surveying conversations with HCFC Councilmembers and the initiation of extensive external input conversations.

A special Council meeting was held in September 2020, focused on discussion of the Plan's Action Areas, in order to inform the development of the Plan's Objectives and Activities. The Plan's draft Objectives were adopted at the Council's October 2020 meeting, and the Council's December meeting focused on discussion of current and planned Activities across State agencies that are driving or will drive progress toward Plan Objectives, as well as potential priorities for additional State activities based on external stakeholder conversations and discussion with staff from State departments.

A draft of the fully developed Action Plan will be discussed at a special meeting of the Council in February 2021, and revisions based upon that discussion will be incorporated into a final draft for consideration and potential adoption at the Council March 2021 meeting. [Text will be updated before final draft.]

A list of organizations that have been represented within external stakeholder input conversations is included as **Appendix Exhibit B**, with regrets for any accidental omissions of organizations who participated in input discussions.

Action Plan: Objectives, Activities, Timeframes, and Performance Measures

The tables on the following pages document this Action Plan's Objectives, planned Activities, Timeframes, and Performance Measures that will be used to assess the implementation of the Activities. Further, the departments with lead responsibility for implementing the Activities, their collaborating HCFC member departments, and other State departments that might be engaged into the Activities are clearly identified.

Appendix Exhibits

- **Exhibit A:** Statutory Requirements for the California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
- **Exhibit B:** Organizations Represented within Stakeholder Input Conversations
- **Exhibit C:** List of Acronyms and Meanings Used within Action Plan

Action Plan

Objectives, Activities, Timeframes, and Performance Measures

Note: This draft Action Plan includes a comprehensive set of Activities aligned with the Plan's Objectives, in draft form. As noted in the tables below, departments are still finalizing some of the information regarding specific Activities, such as Timeframes and Performance Measures. Further, some descriptions of Activities may be revised, and some additional Activities may be included, for the final draft of this Action Plan to be prepared for the March 2021 Council meeting.



▶▶ ACTION AREA 1

Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California

▶▶ ACTION AREA 2

Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

▶▶ ACTION AREA 3

Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing

▶▶ ACTION AREA 4

Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities

▶▶ ACTION AREA 5

Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness

▶▶ 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 #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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Provide and coordinate Technical Assistance focused on racial equity to support equitable access and outcomes within State-funded programs, and to strengthen coordinated entry systems, prioritization policies, and targeting strategies in order to address disparities in access to services and resources.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, and will also engage with SGC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TA initiated by 3rd Quarter FY 20-21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Initiation of Technical Assistance in timely manner. ▪ Output Measure: Number of communities receiving formal technical assistance. ▪ Outcome Measures: Specific outcome measures will be developed and tracked for each TA engagement.
<p>2. Incorporate a focus on racial equity data, analysis, and planned activities within applications for State homelessness and housing-focused funding (HHAP, ESG-CV, others), and analyze the data and information gathered in response.</p>	<p>HCFC via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, CalOES, DHCS, CDCR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporated into funding applications beginning 2nd Quarter FY 20-21 ▪ Analysis of initial data and information by 4th Quarter of 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Annual documentation of homelessness and housing funding programs that have included focus on racial equity data, analysis, and planned activities. ▪ Process Measure: Timely analysis of data and information gathered, provided to relevant Working Groups to inform planned strategies and activities. ▪ Outcome Measure: Increase the number of State programs that

				are including a focus on racial equity data and strategies.
3. Provide guidance and education regarding requirements of AB 686: Housing discrimination: affirmatively further fair housing, and perform reviews of local governments' Housing Elements with a focus on addressing racial inequities and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.	HCD	DFEH CalHFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD by Department.
4. Provide relevant training and skill-building opportunities, such as California's Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity (CCORE) training, to State agency staff to enable staff to provide more expert advice and guidance to partners and communities	HCFC	HCD, DSS, CDCR, CalTrans, CDE, and will also engage with SGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process Measure: Documentation of training activities across HCFC member agencies and departments. Outcome Measures: Determine if outcomes measuring the impact of training opportunities can be documented.
5. Provide technical assistance and training opportunities to enhance Tribal Organizations' access to State homelessness and housing programs and resources	HCD, DSS	HCFC, DHCS, others TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD by Departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD by Departments.
6. Utilize the newly developed Homeless Data Integration System to support both Statewide and local analyses of data focused on documenting and understanding racial inequities in experiences of homelessness and provision of services, including the creation of a public dashboard documenting analyses.	HCFC	All HCFC Member Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Dashboard to be launched by 3rd Quarter of FY 20-21 Utilization of data ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process Measure: Timely implementation of HDIS, performance of analyses, and creation of dashboard. Process Measure: Documentation of how data regarding racial inequities are being used to inform State planning and activities.

7. Implement efforts to ensure that developments funded through the Multifamily Housing Program and other State funding sources are also being developed in high-resource communities.	HCD	TBD	▪ TBD by Department.	▪ TBD by Department.
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**ACTION AREA #1:
STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS TO BETTER PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Implement a Lived Experience Advisory Board to inform the considerations and decisions of the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council and member departments</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>All HCFC Member Departments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Board meets by 1st Quarter of FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Implementation of Board in timely manner and number of meetings held.
<p>2. Proactively engage local boards and committees of people with lived experience and expertise to provide input on the development of the HCFC Action Plan.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Input discussions held during 2nd Quarter and 3rd Quarter of FY 20-21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of input sessions held.
<p>3. Provide guidance to local grantees regarding the eligible uses of State funds for costs associated with engaging people with lived experience and expertise into planning and decision-making processes, and also encourage local grantees to hire people with lived expertise into regular staff positions.</p>	<p>HCFC via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>DSS, HCD, CalOES, DHCS, others TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report back to Council by 2nd Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance and trainings/support provided to local grantees.
<p>4. Incorporate questions regarding the involvement of people with lived experience and expertise into local planning and decision-making processes within applications for State homelessness and housing-focused funding (e.g., HHAP, ESG-CV, HSP) and analyze the information gathered in response.</p>	<p>HCFC, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>DSS, HCD, CalOES, DHCS others TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporated into funding applications beginning 2nd Quarter FY 20-21 ▪ Analysis of initial data and information by 4th Quarter of 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Output Measure: Annual documentation of homelessness and housing funding programs that have included focus on involvement of people with lived experience and expertise into local planning and decision-making processes.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely analysis of data and information gathered in response, and provided to relevant Working Groups to inform strategies and activities.
<p>5. Identify and profile strong local examples, provide guidance to local organizations on how to: establish and manage effective processes; support knowledge and skill development of people participating in such processes; and effective surveying and input processes that complement formal structures.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, CalOES, DHCS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disseminate guidance on a rolling basis, commencing Q2 of FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process measure: Timely implementation of Lived Experience Advisory Board to support development of this guidance. ▪ Process Measure: Timely dissemination of information gathered.

**ACTION AREA #1:
STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS TO BETTER PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Foster and support expectation of joint Co-County-City planning and coordination in awards and implementation of state homelessness funding.</p>	<p>HCFC via State Funding and Resources Working Group</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, DHCS, others TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HCFC review HHAP round 2 applications to ensure meaningful coordination, by Q4 of FY 20-21 ▪ Financial Resources Working Group to report back to Council by 2nd Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening and reporting of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance and support provided to local communities.
<p>2. Provide technical assistance and guidance to grantees and partners in support of regional planning and strengthening of regional approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HCFC technical assistance to commence 1st Quarter of FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Initiation of Technical Assistance in timely manner. ▪ Output Measure: Number of communities receiving technical assistance. ▪ Outcome Measures: Specific outcome measures will be developed and tracked for each TA engagement.

<p>3. Provide grants resources that support local and regional planning and initiatives through SB2 Planning Grants, Local Early Action Planning Grants, and Regional Early Action Planning Grants.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>4. Utilize the Homeless Data Integration System to conduct analysis to support regional and cross-jurisdictional analyses, planning discussions, and decision-making.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Dashboard to be launched by 3rd Quarter of FY 20-21 ▪ Utilization of data ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely implementation of HDIS, performance of analyses, and creation of dashboard. ▪ Output Measure: Number of regions supported through provision of HDIS analyses.
<p>5. Utilize Housing Element processes and plans to inform technical assistance provided to jurisdictions and to strengthen regional assessments and strategies.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

**ACTION AREA #1:
STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS TO BETTER PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Strengthen the tracking and reporting of employment outcomes across State-funded homelessness and housing programs.</p>	<p>Lead TBD, via Employment Working Group</p>	<p>HCFC, DSS, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment Working Group to report back to Council by 4th Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening and reporting of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Outcome Measure: To be determined by Working Group.
<p>2. Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, addressing the employment needs of people re-entering communities from corrections settings.</p>	<p>CDCR</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>3. Implement activities from Basic Needs working group to enhance services and supports for students at-risk or experiencing homelessness and housing instability to foster educational achievement and progression.</p>	<p>CCC</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>4. Enhance services and supports for students experiencing homelessness and housing instability to foster educational achievement and progression.</p>	<p>CDE</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>5. Collaborate with local educational agencies (LEAs), state level educational partners, youth organizations and across divisions within CDE to identify needs of students experiencing homelessness related to distant learning and develop strategies, resources, and tools to address those needs.</p>	<p>CDE</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>6. Communicate and disseminate guidance, and provide as needed technical assistance to County Offices of Education (COEs), LEAs, and partnering agencies to strengthen support for students experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>CDE</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>7. Monitor LEAs for review of High School Graduation and exemptions rights afforded to students experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>CDE</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

**ACTION AREA #1:
STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS TO BETTER PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA**

OBJECTIVE 5:

Support California communities to develop disaster preparedness plans that are more inclusive of the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
1. Produce and disseminate the Listos California Disaster Guide for People Experiencing Homelessness	CalOES	BCSH, HCFC, DSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Released in Q2 of FY20-21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
2. Further embed a focus on people experiencing homelessness into implementation of Joint Housing Task Forces formed in response to emergencies and disasters.	TBD	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
3. Assess and document strong local- and state-level examples of local disaster preparedness and responses to recent emergencies, in order to develop stronger guidance and expectations regarding services and supports for people experiencing homelessness in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.	TBD	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
4. Explore models and feasibility of providing enhanced case management services of longer duration focused on post-disaster housing needs.	HCD	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

5. Incorporate focus on eligibility of people experiencing homelessness for FEMA-funded assistance into federal advocacy efforts.	TBD	TBD	▪ TBD by Departments.	▪ TBD by Departments.
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**ACTION AREA #1:
STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS TO BETTER PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Continue implementation of the Housing is Key campaign, providing materials and resources to help Californians stay in their homes, understand their housing options during COVID-19 and beyond, and to educate public regarding the causes of homelessness, effective solutions, and State strategies and programs.</p>	BCSH	HCFC, HCD, and DFEH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
<p>2. Provide homelessness-focused communications, including webinars, videos, tools, guidance, and other resources and materials, focused on Housing First implementation, strategic use of funding sources, and effective programs and practices.</p>	HCFC	HCD, DSS, others TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Output Measure: Annual compilation of communications activities implementation focused on these topics.
<p>3. Prepare public facing materials and articles based upon data and information drawn from HDIS warehouse, to educate public on challenges, activities, and implementation of programs and resources.</p>	HCFC	HCD, DSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilize ongoing reports and dashboards as source throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Output Measure: Annual compilation of public-facing materials developed focused on these topics.

<p>4. Proactively analyze and develop educational materials regarding national reports that include focus on homelessness and feature California data, including HUD’s PIT count data and reporting.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, DHCS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Development of materials and dissemination plan; incorporate information into analysis and guidance. ▪ Output Measure: Annual compilation of educational materials developed focused on these topics.
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▶▶ 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 #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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Provide guidance and support for the utilization of State funding to effectively address the health and safety needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including guidance regarding State funds that can be used for basic needs and protective measures, e.g., showers, hygiene supplies, sanitation services</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, DHCS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance materials, training activities
<p>2. Create, disseminate, and support implementation of clear and effective policies and procedures for addressing the needs of people currently staying in encampments, including on State-owned land.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>CalTrans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing, beginning in Q1 of FY 21-22 and continuing through, FYs 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance materials, training activities
<p>3. Promote the eligible uses of State funding for employing specialized peer positions to better reach and engage people experiencing unsheltered homelessness into available services and supports.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, DHCS (?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance materials, training activities

<p>4. Continue to support COVID-19 focused adaptations to Whole Person Care (WPC) programs and services to better address the needs of unsheltered people during the pandemic and beyond.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>5. Create, disseminate and support implementation of resources related to vaccination efforts for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and outreach staff, including promoting eligible uses of State funding for such efforts</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, HCD and also engaging with CDPH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing, beginning in Q3 of FY 20-21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance materials, training activities.
<p>6. Identify and promote strong practices for engaging unsheltered young people into available services and supports.</p>	<p>HCFC via Youth and Young Adults Working Group</p>	<p>HCFC, CalOES, DSS, HCD, CCC, CDE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth and Young Adults Working Group to report back to Council by end of 3rd Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening and reporting of Working Group with focus on this Activity.
<p>7. Work with community partners to document and assess the unique risks and vulnerabilities of unsheltered young adults and provide guidance on implications for assessments and coordinated entry systems.</p>	<p>HCFC via Youth and Young Adults Working Group</p>	<p>HCFC, CalOES, DSS, HCD, CCC, CDE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth and Young Adults Working Group to report back to Council by end of 3rd Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening and reporting of Working Group with focus on this Activity.

**ACTION AREA #2:
EQUITABLY ADDRESSING THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SERVICES NEEDS OF CALIFORNIANS EXPERIENCING
UNSHeltered HOMELESSNESS**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Utilize new HDIS to begin Phase 2 of the system - data-matching to other statewide data systems, with the intent to analyze the participation and access to benefits and services of people who are unsheltered within key State programs.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, DHCS, others TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To commence planning in Q1 of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Initiation of planning process in a timely manner.
<p>2. Continued operation of Whole Person Care (WPC) pilots and Health Homes Programs care coordination and housing services in 2021 to continue to strengthen access to health and behavioral health services for people who are unsheltered.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>3. Implement CalAIM proposals seeking to extend statewide the service options available under WPC and Health Homes Program through the Enhanced Care Management program and In Lieu of Services, including incentive funding, to better address the health and behavioral health care needs of people who are unsheltered.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>4. Continue operation and enrollment of Community Services and Supports program housing services through County-level plans through Mental Health Services Act resources. Also provide significant new funding to counties to fill gaps across the community-based behavioral health continuum, including the addition of at least 5,000 beds, units, or rooms to expand such capacity. These resources would provide a comprehensive continuum of services to address short-term crisis stabilization, acute needs, peer respite, and other clinically enriched longer-term treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>5. Provide guidance and support to enhance access to State safety net programs and services to people who are currently unsheltered.</p>	<p>Lead TBD</p>	<p>HCFC, DSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.

▶▶ 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 #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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Support the efficient implementation of State and Federal funding for uses that include the provision of safe, effective sheltering and interim housing models for people experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>HCFC, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>DSS, HCD, CalOES, DHCS, others TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial Resources Working Group to report back to Council by 2nd Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening and reporting of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Output and Outcome Measures: Collect and document available data from funding streams documenting current output and outcomes to create baseline measures.
<p>2. Provide guidance and supports to sustain and strengthen the implementation of Project Roomkey non-congregate sheltering sites to address the health and safety needs of people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>DSS</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>3. Rapidly mobilize Homekey resources to support acquisition of sites by local partners, including sites planned for use as interim housing on a temporary or on-going basis.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acquisitions using initial funding completed by Q2 of FY 20-21. ▪ Other timeframes TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>4. Provide and promote guidance and technical assistance regarding modifications of land use, zoning, and other requirements for emergency shelters, navigation centers, and interim housing programs.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>5. Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, including the provision of interim housing options for people re-entering communities from corrections settings.</p>	<p>CDCR</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>6. Document, assess, and communicate the impact of State funding, across agencies, on the provision of expanded supply of sheltering and interim housing options, including documenting subpopulations being served.</p>	<p>HCFC, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, and CalOES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare summary report by 3rd Quarter of FY 21-22, update annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening and reporting of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Output and Outcome Measures: To be developed following analysis of current output and outcomes documentation.
<p>7. Evaluate and document the implementation of Project Roomkey sites and apply lessons, including focus on any learnings and models for serving youth and young adults, survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence, and other populations, to existing and future State programs and activities.</p>	<p>Lead TBD, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.

<p>8. Provide technical assistance and guidance that will support the continued application of Housing First practices, including lowered barriers and housing-focused services and supports, within sheltering and interim housing programs.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance materials, training activities, and initiation of technical assistance in timely manner. ▪ Output Measure: Number of communities receiving formal technical assistance. Outcome Measures: Specific outcome measures will be developed and tracked for each formal TA engagement.
<p>9. Coordinate with local partners and national organizations to identify effective practices for providing safe and effective sheltering and interim housing options, and promote such practices within the implementation of State and Federal resources.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiate work in this area by 1st Quarter FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely engagement with national and local partners. ▪ Output Measure: Annual compilation of any related materials developed or promoted focused on these topics.

**ACTION AREA #3:
EXPANDING COMMUNITIES' CAPACITY TO PROVIDE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE SHELTERING AND INTERIM HOUSING**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Utilize the Homeless Data Integration System to perform data-matching analyses to document and assess the participation and access to benefits and services of people staying in shelter and interim housing sites within key State programs.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilization of data ongoing throughout FYs 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely implementation of HDIS and performance of analyses. ▪ Output Measure: Documentation of any resulting reports or documents.
<p>2. Continued operation and enrollment of Whole Person Care pilots and Health Homes Programs in 2021 to continue to strengthen access to health and behavioral health services for people who are staying in shelter and interim housing sites. Enrolled Health Home and Whole Person Care members will be transitioned to Enhanced Care Management and In Lieu of Services care coordination and housing services, including incentive funding, in 2022.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>3. Develop and advance CalAIM proposals seeking to extend statewide the service options available under WPC and Health Homes Program through the Enhanced Care Management program and In Lieu of Services care coordination and housing services, including incentive funding, to better address the health care needs of people who are staying in shelter and interim housing sites.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ TBD by Department.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ TBD by Department.
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▶▶ 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 #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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Support the efficient implementation of State and Federal funding for uses focused on the rehousing of people experiencing homelessness into a diverse range of housing models, including models appropriate for youth and young adults.</p>	<p>HCFC, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>DSS, HCD, CalOES, DHCS, others TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial Resources Working Group to report back to Council by 2nd Quarter of FY21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Outcome Measures: Within Working Group, develop targets for rehousing outcomes to be supported through State and Federal funding implemented by State agencies.
<p>2. Implement Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy funding and technical assistance to support the rehousing of people staying within Project Roomkey sites into permanent housing opportunities.</p>	<p>DSS</p>	<p>HCFC, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>3. Develop and advance CalAIM proposals seeking to expand CalAIM’s ability to support housing-related services through the Enhanced Care Management program and In Lieu of Services care management and housing services, including incentive funding, to assist people to access and stabilize in housing.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>4. Provide technical assistance, guidance, and training opportunities to strengthen the implementation of Housing First practices and the achievement of rehousing outcomes in the implementation of State and Federal resources.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>DSS, HCD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of guidance materials, training activities. ▪ Output Measure: Number of communities receiving formal technical assistance. ▪ Outcome Measures: Specific outcome measures will be developed and tracked for each formal TA engagement.
<p>5. Assess and revise the current Housing First Checklist for State agencies, confirm alignment with Housing First requirements of relevant State programs, and providing guidance, training, and support to State departments who need to modify programs and policies to achieve alignment.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>All HCFC Member Departments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One round completed prior to FY 20-21 ▪ Next round to commence by Q3 FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Documentation of Housing First checklist and supporting documents provided to HCFC member agencies and departments. ▪ Outcome Measure: Document State departments/programs improving alignment with Housing First expectations.

**ACTION AREA #4:
EXPANDING AND ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PERMANENT HOUSING IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Implement multiple rounds of Homekey program (if funded) to support rapid financing and development of permanent housing units.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acquisitions using initial funding completed by Q2 of FY 20-21. ▪ Other timeframes TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>2. Implementation of wide array of other State and Federal funding programs that support expansion of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, with identification of clear unit production goals and targets for the implementation of each program.</p>	<p>HCD, CalHFA, TCAC, HCFC, DSS, CalVets, depending on funding source</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
<p>3. Identify and implement efforts to better align policies and practices across State housing agencies and programs, while retaining significant focus on extremely low-income (ELI) households and housing for people exiting homelessness.</p>	<p>BCSH</p>	<p>CalHFA, TCAC, HCD, CDLAC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
<p>4. Continue to identify and promote the availability of State-owned land appropriate for affordable and supportive housing development activities.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>In coordination with DGS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>5. Document, assess, and communicate the impact of State funding, across agencies, on the provision of expanded supply of affordable and supportive housing units, including documenting subpopulations being served.</p>	<p>HCFC, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, and CalOES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare summary report by 3rd Quarter of FY 21-22, update annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Outcome Measures: Within Working Group, develop targets for outcomes focused on expanding supply of affordable and supportive housing units through State funding and programs.
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**ACTION AREA #4:
EXPANDING AND ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PERMANENT HOUSING IN OUR 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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Implementation of wide array of State and Federal funding programs that support provision of various forms of rental assistance, with identification of clear goals and targets for the number of households to receive rental assistance through each program.</p>	<p>HCD, CalHFA, TCAC, HCFC, DSS depending on funding source</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
<p>2. Coordinate with local partners and national organizations to identify effective practices for rapid rehousing and for shallow rent subsidies, including in high-cost housing markets, and promote such practices within the implementation of State and Federal resources.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiate work in this area by 2nd Quarter FY 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely engagement with national and local partners. ▪ Output Measure: Annual compilation of any related materials developed or promoted focused on these topics.
<p>3. Document, assess, and communicate the impact of State funding, across agencies, on the provision of short- and longer-term forms of rental assistance, including documenting subpopulations being served.</p>	<p>HCFC, via State Funding and Programs Working Group</p>	<p>HCD, DSS, and CalOES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare summary report by 3rd Quarter of FY 21-22, update annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely convening of Working Group with focus on this Activity. ▪ Outcome Measures: Within Working Group, develop targets for outcomes focused on expanding capacity of communities to provide short- and longer-term forms of rental

				assistance through State funding and programs.
4. Prioritize increased rental assistance resources within State’s federal advocacy.	BCSH	CalHFA, HCD	▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22	▪ TBD by Departments.

▶▶ 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.

**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.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Utilize the Homeless Data Integration System to conduct analysis regarding people experiencing homelessness and their prior engagement with the homelessness response system to identify patterns of engagement and service utilization that can inform prevention and diversion strategies.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commence analysis in Q2 of FY 21-22, ongoing thereafter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely implementation of HDIS, performance of analyses, and creation of dashboard. ▪ Output Measure: Documentation of any resulting reports or documents.
<p>2. Identify opportunities to create expectations or requirements to assess and document information regarding housing status, housing instability, and homelessness among households participating in increased number of State programs.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To commence planning in Q4 of FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Initiation of planning process in a timely manner, further measures to be developed at that time.
<p>3. Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, providing support for interim housing needs of people re-entering communities from corrections settings.</p>	<p>CDCR</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

<p>4. Evaluate impact of the Home Safe Program, to support the safety and housing stability of individuals involved in Adult Protective Services.</p>	<p>DSS</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>5. Provide support through the No Place Like Home program for the development of permanent supportive housing for persons who are in need of mental health services and are experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness, or who are at risk of chronic homelessness.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>6. Implement the Housing for Healthy California program for individuals who are recipients of or eligible for health care provided through the California Department of Health Care Services, Medi-Cal program.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>7. Implement CalAIM proposals seeking to: 1) address needs of people exiting corrections settings through expedited enrollment in Medi-Cal and care coordination and housing services through Enhanced Care Management and In Lieu of Services; 2) provide medically necessary recuperative care placements for unhoused people who are exiting acute inpatient facilities; recently hospitalized, and 3) continuing to develop a long-term plan and strategy for improving health outcomes and the delivery of fully-integrated health care services for youth in foster care.</p>	<p>DHCS</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.

**ACTION AREA #5:
PREVENTING CALIFORNIANS FROM EXPERIENCING THE CRISIS OF HOMELESSNESS**

OBJECTIVE 15:

Enhance communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention interventions and to successfully divert people from entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Activities	Lead Department(s)	Collaborating Department(s)	Timeframe	Performance Measurement (Type and Measure)
<p>1. Implementation of wide array of State and Federal funding programs that support provision of various forms of diversion and prevention services, with identification of clear goals and targets for the number of households to receive diversion and prevention services through each program.</p>	<p>HCD, TCAC, HCFC, DSS depending on funding program</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments.
<p>2. Provide technical assistance to strengthen and differentiate communities' homelessness prevention, diversion, and eviction prevention plans and practices, in order to increase access to such services.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing, beginning no later than Q4 of FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Initiation of Technical Assistance in timely manner. ▪ Output Measure: Number of communities receiving formal technical assistance. ▪ Outcome Measures: Specific outcome measures will be developed and tracked for each formal TA engagement.

<p>3. Continue implementation of the Housing is Key campaign, providing materials and resources to help Californians stay in their homes or understand their housing options during COVID-19 and beyond.</p>	<p>BCSH</p>	<p>HCFC, HCD, DFEH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing throughout FYs 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Departments
<p>4. Implement the Emergency Rental Assistance resources administered through the U.S. Department of the Treasury to provide financial assistance to households facing rental arrears and risks of eviction and/or homelessness.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>HCFC, DSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD by Department.
<p>5. Partner with Federal and national organizations to identify stronger homelessness prevention, diversion, and targeting practices, and promote such practices within the implementation of State and Federal resources.</p>	<p>HCFC</p>	<p>HCD, DSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiate efforts during 1st Quarter of FY 21-22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process Measure: Timely engagement with Federal and national partners. ▪ Output Measure: Annual compilation of any related materials developed or promoted focused on these topics.

Appendix Exhibits

- **Exhibit A:** Statutory Requirements for the California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
- **Exhibit B:** Organizations Represented within Stakeholder Input Conversations
- **Exhibit C:** List of Acronyms and Meanings Used within Action Plan

EXHIBIT A:
STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
CALIFORNIA HOMELESS COORDINATING AND FINANCING COUNCIL

Note: HCFC staff have projected activities within this Action Plan that are aligned with and will move its work towards meeting the statutory goals below. Subsequent progress reports regarding this Action Plan will include documentation of the extent of progress toward fulfilling those statutory requirements.

Welfare and Institutions Code - WIC

DIVISION 8. MISCELLANEOUS [8050 - 8261]

(Division 8 repealed and added by Stats. 1967, Ch. 1667.)

CHAPTER 6.5. Housing First and Coordinating Council [8255 - 8257]

(Chapter 6.5 added by Stats. 2016, Ch. 847, Sec. 2.)

For purposes of this chapter:

(a) “Coordinating council” means the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council established pursuant to Section 8257.

(b) “Core components of Housing First” means all of the following:

- (1) Tenant screening and selection practices that promote accepting applicants regardless of their sobriety or use of substances, completion of treatment, or participation in services.
- (2) Applicants are not rejected on the basis of poor credit or financial history, poor or lack of rental history, criminal convictions unrelated to tenancy, or behaviors that indicate a lack of “housing readiness.”
- (3) Acceptance of referrals directly from shelters, street outreach, drop-in centers, and other parts of crisis response systems frequented by vulnerable people experiencing homelessness.
- (4) Supportive services that emphasize engagement and problem solving over therapeutic goals and service plans that are highly tenant-driven without predetermined goals.
- (5) Participation in services or program compliance is not a condition of permanent housing tenancy.
- (6) Tenants have a lease and all the rights and responsibilities of tenancy, as outlined in California’s Civil, Health and Safety, and Government codes.
- (7) The use of alcohol or drugs in and of itself, without other lease violations, is not a reason for eviction.
- (8) In communities with coordinated assessment and entry systems, incentives for funding promote tenant selection plans for supportive housing that prioritize eligible tenants based on criteria other than “first-come-first-serve,” including, but not limited to, the duration or chronicity of homelessness, vulnerability to early mortality, or high utilization of crisis services. Prioritization may include triage tools, developed through local data, to identify high-cost, high-need homeless residents.
- (9) Case managers and service coordinators who are trained in and actively employ evidence-based practices for client engagement, including, but not limited to, motivational interviewing and client-centered counseling.

(10) Services are informed by a harm-reduction philosophy that recognizes drug and alcohol use and addiction as a part of tenants' lives, where tenants are engaged in nonjudgmental communication regarding drug and alcohol use, and where tenants are offered education regarding how to avoid risky behaviors and engage in safer practices, as well as connected to evidence-based treatment if the tenant so chooses.

(11) The project and specific apartment may include special physical features that accommodate disabilities, reduce harm, and promote health and community and independence among tenants.

(c) "Homeless" has the same definition as that term is defined in Section 91.5 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(d) (1) "Housing First" means the evidence-based model that uses housing as a tool, rather than a reward, for recovery and that centers on providing or connecting homeless people to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Housing First providers offer services as needed and requested on a voluntary basis and that do not make housing contingent on participation in services.

(2) (A) "Housing First" includes time-limited rental or services assistance, so long as the housing and service provider assists the recipient in accessing permanent housing and in securing longer-term rental assistance, income assistance, or employment.

(B) For time-limited, supportive services programs serving homeless youth, programs should use a positive youth development model and be culturally competent to serve unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age. Providers should work with the youth to engage in family reunification efforts, where appropriate and when in the best interest of the youth. In the event of an eviction, programs shall make every effort, which shall be documented, to link tenants to other stable, safe, decent housing options. Exit to homelessness should be extremely rare, and only after a tenant refuses assistance with housing search, location, and move-in assistance.

(e) "State programs" means any programs a California state agency or department funds, implements, or administers for the purpose of providing housing or housing-based services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, with the exception of federally funded programs with requirements inconsistent with this chapter or programs that fund emergency shelters.

(Added by Stats. 2016, Ch. 847, Sec. 2. (SB 1380) Effective January 1, 2017.)

8256.

(a) Agencies and departments administering state programs created on or after July 1, 2017, shall collaborate with the coordinating council to adopt guidelines and regulations to incorporate core components of Housing First.

(b) By July 1, 2019, except as otherwise provided in subdivision (c), agencies and departments administering state programs in existence prior to July 1, 2017, shall collaborate with the coordinating council to revise or adopt guidelines and regulations that incorporate the core components of Housing First, if the existing guidelines and regulations do not already incorporate the core components of Housing First.

(c) (1) An agency or department that administers programs that fund recovery housing shall comply with the requirements of subdivision (b) by July 1, 2022.

(2) Until July 1, 2022, an agency or department that administers programs that fund recovery housing shall additionally do all of the following:

(A) In coordination with the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council, consult with the Legislature, the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other stakeholders between July 1, 2020, and January 1, 2022, to identify ways to improve the provision of housing to individuals who receive funding from that agency or department, consistent with the applicable requirements of state law.

(B) Comply with the core components of Housing First, other than those components described in paragraphs (5) to (7), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 8255.

(C) Ensure that recovery housing programs meet the following requirements:

(i) A recovery housing program participant shall sign an agreement upon entry that outlines the roles and responsibilities of both the participant and the program administrator to ensure individuals are aware of actions that could result in removal from the recovery housing program.

(ii) If a recovery housing program participant chooses to stop living in a housing setting with an abstinence focus, is discharged from the program, or is evicted from housing, the program administrator shall offer assistance in accessing other housing and services options, including options operated with harm-reduction principles. To the extent practicable, this assistance shall include connecting the individual with alternative housing providers, supportive services, and the local coordinated entry system, if applicable. This clause does not apply to an individual who leaves the program without notifying the program administrator.

(iii) The recovery housing program administrator shall track and report annually to the program's state funding source the housing outcome for each program participant who is discharged.

(3) For purposes of this subdivision, "recovery housing" means sober living facilities and programs that provide housing in an abstinence-focused and peer-supported community for people recovering from substance use issues. Participation is voluntary, unless that participation is pursuant to a court order or is a condition of release for individuals under the jurisdiction of a county probation department or the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

(Amended by Stats. 2020, Ch. 264, Sec. 28. (AB 107) Effective September 29, 2020.)

8257.

(a) The Governor shall create a Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council.

(b) The council shall have all of the following goals:

(1) To oversee implementation of this chapter.

(2) To identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California.

(3) To create partnerships among state agencies and departments, local government agencies, participants in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care

Program, federal agencies, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, nonprofit entities working to end homelessness, homeless services providers, and the private sector, for the purpose of arriving at specific strategies to end homelessness.

- (4) To promote systems integration to increase efficiency and effectiveness while focusing on designing systems to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age.
- (5) To coordinate existing funding and applications for competitive funding. Any action taken pursuant to this paragraph shall not restructure or change any existing allocations or allocation formulas.
- (6) To make policy and procedural recommendations to legislators and other governmental entities.
- (7) To identify and seek funding opportunities for state entities that have programs to end homelessness, including, but not limited to, federal and philanthropic funding opportunities, and to facilitate and coordinate those state entities' efforts to obtain that funding.
- (8) To broker agreements between state agencies and departments and between state agencies and departments and local jurisdictions to align and coordinate resources, reduce administrative burdens of accessing existing resources, and foster common applications for services, operating, and capital funding.
- (9) To serve as a statewide facilitator, coordinator, and policy development resource on ending homelessness in California.
- (10) To report to the Governor, federal Cabinet members, and the Legislature on homelessness and work to reduce homelessness.
- (11) To ensure accountability and results in meeting the strategies and goals of the council.
- (12) To identify and implement strategies to fight homelessness in small communities and rural areas.
- (13) To create a statewide data system or warehouse that collects local data through Homeless Management Information Systems, with the ultimate goal of matching data on homelessness to programs impacting homeless recipients of state programs, such as Medi-Cal (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 14000) of Part 3 of Division 9) and CalWORKs (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9).
- (14) Setting goals to prevent and end homelessness among California's youth.
- (15) Working to improve the safety, health, and welfare of young people experiencing homelessness in the state.
- (16) Increasing system integration and coordinating efforts to prevent homelessness among youth who are currently or formerly involved in the child welfare system or the juvenile justice system.
- (17) Leading efforts to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy, and practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness.
- (18) Identifying best practices to ensure homeless minors who may have experienced maltreatment, as described in Section 300, are appropriately referred to, or have the ability to self-refer to, the child welfare system.

(c) (1) The Governor shall appoint up to 19 members of the council as follows:

- (A) The Secretary of Business, Consumer Services, and Housing, or the secretary's designee, who shall serve as chair of the council.

- (B) A representative from the Department of Transportation.
- (C) A representative from the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- (D) A representative of the State Department of Social Services.
- (E) A representative of the California Housing Finance Agency.
- (F) A representative of the State Department of Health Care Services.
- (G) A representative of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (H) A representative of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- (I) A representative from the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee in the Treasurer's office.
- (J) A representative of the Victim Services Program within the Division of Grants Management within the Office of Emergency Services.
- (K) A representative from the State Department of Education.
- (L) A representative of the state public higher education system who shall be from one of the following:
 - (i) The California Community Colleges.
 - (ii) The University of California.
 - (iii) The California State University.
- (M) A formerly homeless person who lives in California.
- (N) A formerly homeless youth who lives in California.
- (O) Two representatives of local agencies or organizations that participate in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care Program.
- (P) State advocates or other members of the public or state agencies, at the Governor's discretion.

(2) The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint one member to the council from two different stakeholder organizations.

(3) The council may, at its discretion, invite stakeholders, individuals who have experienced homelessness, members of philanthropic communities, and experts to participate in meetings or provide information to the council.

(d) The council shall hold public meetings at least once every quarter.

(e) The members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

(f) Within existing funding, the council may establish working groups, task forces, or other structures from within its membership or with outside members to assist it in its work. Working groups, task forces, or other structures established by the council shall determine their own meeting schedules.

(g) The members of the council shall serve without compensation, except that members of the council who are, or have been, homeless may receive reimbursement for travel, per diem, or other expenses.

(h) The Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency shall provide staff for the council.

(i) The members of the council may enter into memoranda of understanding with other members of the council to achieve the goals set forth in this chapter, as necessary, in order to facilitate communication and cooperation between the entities the members of the council represent.

(j) There shall be an executive director of the council under the direction of the Secretary of Business, Consumer Services, and Housing.

(k) The council shall be under the direction of the executive director and staffed by employees of the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 345, Sec. 1.5. (SB 687) Effective January 1, 2020.)

**EXHIBIT B:
ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED WITHIN STAKEHOLDER INPUT CONVERSATIONS**

To date, representatives from the following organizations have had the opportunity to participate in at least one input conversation, with regrets for any accidental omissions of organizations:

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 Diego Regional Task Force on the Homeless
San Diego Youth Advisory Board
San Jose/Santa Clara Lived Experience Advisory Board
Southern California and Neighboring CoCs Alliance
Turning Point of Central California
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness
UC Berkeley
UC Berkeley Youth Policy Group
Ventura County Executive Office

**EXHIBIT C:
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND MEANINGS USED WITHIN ACTION PLAN**

AB	Assembly Bill
AH	Affordable Housing
BCSH	California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
CalAIM	California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal
CalHFA	California Housing Finance Agency
CalOES	California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
CalTrans	California Department of Transportation
CalWORKS	California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids
CCC	California Community Colleges
CCORE	Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity
CDCR	California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
CDE	California Department of Education
CoC	Continuum of Care
DGS	California Department of General Services
DHCS	California Department of Health Care Services
DRE	California Department of Real Estate
DSS	California Department of Social Services
ELI	Extremely Low-Income
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grants Program
ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grants Program—Coronavirus
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development
HCFC	California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
HDIS	Homeless Data Integration System
HEAP	Homeless Emergency Aid Program
HHAP	Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HSP	Housing Support Program
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
MHP	Multifamily Housing Program
OES	Office of Emergency Services
RRH	Rapid Rehousing
SB	Senate Bill
TA	Technical Assistance
TCAC	California Tax Credit Allocation Committee