

# CALIFORNIA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

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## Department and Federal Partner Updates

California Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting  
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### Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH).....          | 2  |
| California Department of Aging (CDA) .....                             | 3  |
| California Community Colleges (CCC).....                               | 4  |
| California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) .....   | 6  |
| California Department of Education (CDE).....                          | 7  |
| California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).....              | 7  |
| California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).....  | 10 |
| California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA).....                        | 16 |
| California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).....      | 18 |
| California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR).....                     | 24 |
| California Department of Social Services (DSS) .....                   | 26 |
| California Department of State Hospitals (DSH).....                    | 30 |
| California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC).....                 | 31 |
| California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).....                | 33 |
| Federal Partner: U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)..... | 33 |

## **California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)**

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council is now the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), as of January 1, 2022. A [Letter from the HCFC Executive Officer to the HCFC Stakeholders](#) released on October 20, 2021, provides details on the changes to the council.

Cal ICH welcomes the fourth group of communities to participate in the Governor's 100-Day Challenge which began day one of their 100 days on January 4, 2022. Cities, counties and CoCs in Merced, Sacramento, San Bernardino, and Santa Cruz have come together to participate in this cohort of the 100-Day Challenge focused specifically on encampments. In the 100-Day Challenge, all the entities of the local homelessness response system are encouraged to work together to set audacious goals, create new approaches, streamline systems, and find innovative ways to rehouse persons experiencing homelessness. Coaches from the Rapid Results Institute are paired with each community to provide intensive support and guidance throughout the challenge. Composed of front-line staff from each community, the following goals were set by the 100-Day Challenge teams:

- **Merced:** In 100 days, of the 100 individuals living in Los Banos encampments, 20 will be placed into permanent housing and 25 will be put on a pathway to safe and stable housing. Prioritization will be given to those over the age of 50.
- **Sacramento:** In 100 days, we will safely and stably house 43 individuals living in encampments or identified shelters who currently have a voucher and connect 43 individuals living in encampments to a pathway to housing. We will seek to address the barriers that have historically created racial and other inequities in housing outcomes.
- **San Bernardino:** In 100 days, we will work with 150 individuals living in encampments with 30 percent becoming stably housed and 60 percent connected to services on the pathway to housing. Forty percent of the persons served will identify as BIPOC.
- **Santa Cruz:** In 100 days, we will safely and stably house 40 individuals living in encampments, 25 percent of whom will be undocumented, and we will connect 100 individuals to a housing pathway.

## **Council Administered Grants**

The HCFC grants team has hit several statutory and programmatic milestones since the last quarterly council meeting.

The HHAP-3 Standard Agreement to Apply that was due on October 15th, permitted the disbursement of initial funding that will allow communities to fund costs related to completing a homelessness action plan or pay for technical assistance or contracted entities to support the completion of the homelessness action plan if necessary. Many applicants chose to apply to this funding jointly, bringing the total number of individual grantees down from 100 in HHAP-2 to 76 in HHAP-3, reflecting commitment to the intent of the HHAP Program to support regional coordination and encourage local partnerships, systems alignment, and a shared vision and strategy for ending homelessness amongst jurisdictions with overlapping service areas.

As a result, all 76 HHAP-3 grantees have been sent their Initial Disbursement Contract for funding that will allow the disbursement of \$162.5M in funds.

On October 29, HCFC released its first competitive grant program, the Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) Grant, a new program intended to result in innovative demonstration projects for supporting people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in encampments. Proposals were due December 31.

- We received a total of 39 completed applications and 5 incomplete applications requesting \$120M in funding.
- A panel is currently reviewing the applications with the goal of releasing notice of intent to award before the end of February.

### **Action Plan Implementation and Working Groups**

At its last meeting, the Council adopted the FY 20-21 [Action Plan Implementation Progress Report](#), which provides data, highlights, and details about the state’s collective efforts to prevent and end homelessness. Our next focus with the Action Plan is updating it to reflect the changes to the Council. We will request activities from new council member departments as well as any updates to activities from departments already represented on the council. This will help us ensure the Action Plan reflects the full scope of work of our council and set us up for a more significant update to the plan in 2023.

Cal ICH continues to work toward launching the interagency Working Groups called for by the [Action Plan](#). We convened our first Working Group last quarter, focused on maximizing the impact of state funding and programs addressing homelessness. This group has now met four times, bringing together leaders from 13 different state departments/agencies to work to coordinate and streamline our distinct funding and programs. Cal ICH staff are now in the process of planning for and launching the next Working Group focused on racial equity in our homelessness response system.

### **Housing First**

Cal ICH has notified all state partners about the release of the Housing First Survey on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. The survey, previously referred to as the Housing First checklist, will be completed by state departments by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. The purpose of this survey is to obtain information on the implementation of Housing First in programs that serve people experiencing homelessness within all California State Agency and Departments. The results of this survey will allow Cal ICH to better understand how Housing First is being implemented across the state and help Cal ICH provide support to state partners.

### **California Department of Aging (CDA)**

#### **Master Plan for Aging (MPA)**

California’s MPA, released on January 6, 2021, established as Goal #1 – “Housing for all Ages and Stages” with a targeted goal of millions of new housing options to age well by 2030. In addition, Goal #5 called on the state to enhance “Affording Aging” with a targeted goal of closing the equity gap and increasing elder economic security. A key strategy is ending homelessness for older adults. Several CalHHS Agency external stakeholder engagement groups (IMPACT Committee, Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee and Equity Workgroup) focused their fall 2021 meetings on Goal #1 – “Housing for all Ages and Stages” with robust discussion and a series of recommendations related to older adult homelessness.

#### **New Initiative: Adult Family Homes Pilot for Older Adults**

(\$9.1M enhanced federal funding, \$2.6M Ongoing)

Adult Family Homes offer the opportunity for up to two adult individuals to reside with a family and share in the interaction and responsibilities of being part of a family unit, while the family receives a stipend and support from a local Family Home Agency (FHA) for caregiving for the adult individual(s). California will pilot Adult Family Homes for older adults in one county, with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) assisting the Department of Aging (CDA) in developing and operating the program. This pilot is based on the successful program serving adults with developmental disabilities currently run by the DDS. This furthers the vision and recommendations of the Master Plan for Aging.

### **CDA Resources**

With increased funding in the 2021-22 state budget and the Medicaid HCBS Spending Plan, CDA is adding specialized staff expertise in two critical areas: housing policy and behavioral health. Positions have been approved and will be filled by the second quarter of 2022. These new roles will support implementation of the Master Plan for Aging, work across departments and agencies, and support the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) network of community-based providers.

### **California Community Colleges (CCC)**

Below is a summary of work in relevant homelessness programs since the November 2021 council meeting:

#### **Student Housing Program**

Our \$9 million dollar ongoing housing program called the Homeless and Housing Insecure Pilot (HHIP) Program is in year three of implementation. In September 2021, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) launched a student-level data collection portal from the 14 California Community Colleges (CCC) piloting the HHIP Program. The data elements include student participation, services received, and educational indicators and outcomes. By having student-level data, we will begin to understand the student population that we are serving and are one step closer to evaluating the effectiveness of our interventions. The current data collection period ended in November 2021, and we are in the process of reviewing the data submitted. With the passage of AB 977, colleges are required to enter data about the HHIP Program into the Homeless Management Information System beginning January 1, 2023.

#### **Student Housing**

The enacted budget includes \$2 billion in one-time General Funds to create a new fund for affordable student housing at the three higher education segments. The funding will be split over three years, with \$500 million available in 2021-22 and \$750 million in each of the next two years. Fifty percent of funds will go to California Community College Districts (CCD). Thirty percent of funds will go to the California State University (CSU) system. Twenty percent of funds will go to the University of California (UC) system. Specific details of this funding were established through SB 169, which established the Higher Education Student Housing Grant Program Codified in Education Code section 17201 (f). The Department of Finance (DOF) is disseminating these funds. The DOF created a grant application process to apply for these funds as grants for:

- Construction of student housing
- Acquiring and renovating commercial properties into student housing

California Community College Districts may also submit planning grant requests for campuses exploring or determining feasible affordable student housing. Up to \$25 million over next three years could be used for these planning grants. The CCCCCO worked collaboratively with the California Community Colleges Foundation to provide technical assistance to CCC about the grant application and process. Project and grant applications were due to the DOF by October 31, 2021, for the initial round of grants. The DOF received 113 applications (92 of which are from CCC) a total funding request of \$3.3 billion (\$1.3 billion more than the total funding allotted for the program). The DOF will provide a list of projects submitted and proposed for funding by March 31, 2022. Any proposals previously submitted by the initial deadline and not funded will be considered in subsequent proposal filling rounds without the need to resubmit. The CCD may use public-private partnerships for constructing, operating, and maintaining affordable, low-cost housing facilities. Joint proposals and intersegmental partnerships are encouraged.

## **Student Basic Needs**

### *Ongoing \$30M for Basic Needs Centers and Coordinators*

The 2021-2022 budget included ongoing funding of \$30 million to create and support basic needs centers at every CCC and designate at least one staff person as the Basic Needs Coordinator to provide holistic, comprehensive basic needs services and resources to students to support their successful matriculation through the CCC system. These funds were released to CCCs in November 2021.

In addition to establishing a basic needs center and dedicating a coordinator on each campus, every CCC is required to: 1. develop and provide to students a resource document for all on-and off-campus basic needs services; 2. ensure basic needs information is easily accessible to students on the campus website; 3. streamline the application and intake process for on-campus basic needs services; 4. Implement an outreach plan to students who have basic needs insecurity; and 5. provides service outcomes annually to the Chancellor's Office.

### *One-time \$100M to Support Basic Needs*

The 2021-2022 budget included an additional \$100 million one-time funds for colleges to support basic needs, including to maintain food pantries, assist students with enrollment in CalFresh, support students in obtaining nutrition assistance, and assist homeless and housing-insecure students in securing stable housing, among others. These funds will be distributed over two years in phases. The CCCCCO will distribute the first 30 million of these funds to CCCs by January 2022 to support strategic collaboration and planning towards building a student-centered and data driven support ecosystem.

### *One-time \$3.1M for CalFresh Outreach and Application Assistance*

Senate Bill 85, passed in February 2021, amended the Budget Act of 2020 by adding one-time local assistance funds to provide funding for immediate COVID-19 response and relief efforts. Specifically, the package included \$3.1 million for outreach and application assistance to students applying for CalFresh.

The funds were allocated to CCC Districts in February 2021. Districts were encouraged to use a data driven approach to disbursing the funds to colleges in alignment with the needs of their low-income student populations. These funds may be used to create outreach materials, host CalFresh sign-up events, support equipment needs, and support application assistance, including hiring staff and student workers to assist students applying for CalFresh and understanding how to use their CalFresh benefits.

The current data collection period for these funds ended in November 2021, and the CCCCCO is in the process of reviewing the data submitted to understand how the CalFresh Outreach funds were used.

### **Interagency Collaborations**

The CCCCCO is actively engaged with other state agencies and workgroups including the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), other segments of higher education, and the [Community College League of California Affordability, Food, and Housing Task Force](#) to advance basic needs security including addressing homelessness and housing insecurity for students to increase their success.

Namely, the CCCCCO participates in the California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance (CHEBNA) intersegmental workgroup with California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) systems to advance policy focused on basic needs security and professional development for colleges to best serve homeless and housing insecure students.

For the last several months CHEBNA focused on BenefitsCal (one-stop shop to apply for CalFresh, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, County Medical Services Program, Disaster CalFresh, and General Assistance/General Relief in 39 counties statewide). Specifically regarding reviewing and providing feedback about BenefitsCal to ensure the student's eligibility and user experience is considered, so that students can utilize this unified experience afforded to other Californians.

CCCCCO in partnership with CHEBNA and CDSS is reviewing and providing feedback regarding student eligibility policies for CalFresh in an effort to expand CalFresh exemptions to students with a declared major or Career Technical Education (CTE).

### **California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)**

CDCR reported the following statistics on programs serving people experiencing homelessness.

- Active Parolees that are Transient/Homeless: 8,293
- Active Transient/Homeless percentage 17.45%

Additionally, CDCR's Return Home Well program currently provides housing to approximately 2,297 Parolees following their release

### **The Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health**

The Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) update for Action Area 5, Objective 14, #7 of the [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#):

In 2021, the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center used funding from the Melville Charitable Trust to produce a report for the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH), entitled [Reducing Homelessness for People with Behavioral Health Needs Leaving Prisons and Jails: Recommendations to California's Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health](#). To further explore these recommendations, with the support of the California Health Care Foundation, the CSG Justice Center and CCJBH, is hosting a webinar series from December 2021 through April 2022 that focuses on how key stakeholders from across the justice, behavioral health, housing, and other systems can help people successfully transition out of the justice system and into the community by connecting them with

housing options that meet their needs. Specifically, the five-part webinar series will cover the following topics:

- Building Partnerships Between Corrections and Housing
- Defining, Screening, and Assessing for Homelessness Risk
- Common Practices for Connecting to and Using Housing as a Strategy for Diversion & Reentry
- Developing New Housing
- Leveraging Rental Assistance and Supportive Service Funding for People with Behavioral Health Needs Leaving Jails and Prisons

Additional information regarding these webinars, including registration, may be found on the [CCJBH website](#).

### **California Department of Education (CDE)**

On Friday, January 7, 2022, the California Department of Education (CDE) released the student performance data for the 2020-21 school year. The data release consists of results from the 2020–21 administration of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, which includes Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics; the California Science Test; the California Alternate Assessments for English language arts, mathematics, and science; and the California Spanish Assessment as well as the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California. It also includes information on high-quality interim and diagnostic assessments, chronic absenteeism, discipline data, and graduation rates. This data shows that students experiencing homelessness are not as proficient in Math or ELA as compared to non-homeless youth. The results are available to the public and posted on the [CDE Test Results for California's Assessments website](#).

For the 2020-21 school year there were 226,275 students enrolled in our public schools. This is a decrease of 9.2 percent from the 2019-20 school year. The average number of days absent for our students experiencing homelessness is 22.2 days which is an increase from prior school years. The graduation rate for students experiencing homelessness is 67.8%.

The CDE will be allocating \$55M of the America Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth funds to over 1100 local educational agencies (LEAs). The funds are to identify homeless children and youth, provide wraparound services in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and provide assistance needed to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities, including in-person instruction.

The CDE recently selected 3 Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers (HE TACs) that will be leading efforts in their region and statewide to build capacity and provide training and support to LEAs that serve our homeless youth and their families. Los Angeles County Office of Education, Contra Costa County Office of Education, and San Diego County Office of Education have been selected as a HE TAC for the 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years.

### **California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)**

## CalAIM Federal Approvals

On December 29, 2021, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) received approval of the CalAIM Section 1115 demonstration waiver, CalAIM Section 1915(b) waiver, and Medi-Cal State Plan Amendments from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This approval provides the authority to launch [California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal or CalAIM](#), a long-term commitment to transform and strengthen Medi-Cal – the cornerstone of California’s health care system.

CalAIM shifts Medi-Cal to a population health approach, prioritizing prevention, addressing social drivers of health, and transforming services for communities who historically have been under-resourced and faced structural racism in the health care system. CalAIM is a bold transformation, putting people’s needs at the center of care and setting the pace for transformation of the entire health care sector.

## Background

California is using several federal authorities that provide the state more flexibility to carry out CalAIM initiatives with the goal of scaling innovations statewide and aligning how care is provided across delivery systems. These waivers and key authorities launch the implementation of CalAIM and pave the way for Medi-Cal to be more equitable, coordinated, and person-centered to help people maximize their health and life trajectory.

CalAIM, and the waivers and pilots that preceded it, are the result of extensive outreach to stakeholders. Since 2019, DHCS has engaged stakeholders in developing the proposed CalAIM initiatives, and in spring 2021, solicited feedback through a formal 30-day public comment period that included three public hearings, one specifically for Tribal organizations and stakeholders. Written comments are available on the [CalAIM 1115 Demonstration & 1915\(b\) Waiver webpage](#).

## A Better Medi-Cal

The CalAIM Section 1115 demonstration waiver amends and renews the prior Medi-Cal 2020 Section 1115 demonstration and is approved through December 31, 2026. The CalAIM Section 1915(b) waiver is also approved January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2026. Together, the CalAIM Section 1115 and the 1915(b) waivers, along with State Plan Amendments approved by CMS, move tested initiatives from prior federal waivers to statewide rollout, benefiting all Medi-Cal enrollees. Key provisions include:

- **Delivery System Transformation and Alignment** shifts California’s managed care delivery systems – Medi-Cal Managed Care, Dental Managed Care, Specialty Mental Health Services, and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System – to one coordinating authority to simplify and align the programs, enhance oversight, and standardize benefits and enrollment into Medi-Cal. The waiver strengthens the state’s commitment to ensuring enrollees have access to critical services in managed care through independent assessments of access to Specialty Mental Health Services, Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System, and Dental Managed Care services and care, as well as an independent assessment comparing Medi-Cal managed care plans’ network adequacy across Medi-Cal Managed Care, Medicare Advantage, and the private market (*1915(b) waiver*).
- **Enhanced Care Management** addresses clinical and non-clinical needs of the highest-need Medi-Cal enrollees through intensive coordination of health and health-related services. It will meet enrollees primarily through in-person engagement where they live, seek care, and choose to access services – on the street, in a shelter, in their doctor’s office, or at home (*1915(b) waiver*).

- **Community Supports** provides new statewide services covered by Medi-Cal managed care plans as medically appropriate alternatives to traditional medical services or settings, including assistance with housing supports, caregiver respite, food insecurity, and transitioning from nursing home care to the community (*1115 & 1915(b) waivers*).
- **Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Supports** provides funding to community-based organizations, counties, and other local providers to support capacity building as they begin to implement and scale Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports, in particular increasing resources available to populations and communities that have been historically under-resourced and under-served. In addition, PATH will support justice-involved adults and youth by sustaining the pre-release and post-release services (*1115 waiver*).
- **Substance Use Disorder Services and Initiatives** advances treatment for individuals with substance use disorder, including:
  - Reauthorization of California’s groundbreaking Medi-Cal 2020 waiver to permit the **Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System** services to be delivered for short-term residential treatment stays (*State Plan Amendment, 1115 & 1915(b) waivers*).
  - Beginning in July 2022, new authorization of **Contingency Management** as a Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) benefit to offer evidence-based, cost-effective treatment for stimulant use disorder that combines motivational incentives with behavioral health treatments. California’s approval of this evidence-based contingency management pilot represents the first time it has been formally approved as a benefit in the Medicaid program (*1115 waiver*).
  - Also beginning in July 2022, **Peer Support Specialists** will offer culturally competent services that promote recovery, engagement, socialization, self-sufficiency, self-advocacy, development of natural supports, and identification of strengths. Using a combination of federal authorities, peer support specialist services will be implemented at the option of individual counties (*State Plan Amendment, 1115 & 1915(b) waivers*).
- **Coordination and Integration for Dual Eligibles** better coordinates coverage programs for the complex health care needs of individuals eligible for both Medi-Cal and Medicare (“dual eligibles”). CalAIM provides a special kind of managed care plan that coordinates all benefits in one plan for eligible enrollees, building an infrastructure to integrate managed long-term services and supports for all Medi-Cal enrollees who qualify (*1115 waiver*).
- **New Dental Benefits** expands key dental benefits statewide, including a tool to identify risk factors of dental decay for all Medi-Cal children, and silver diamine fluoride for children and certain high-risk populations. Statewide pay-for-performance initiatives will reward dental providers for focusing on preventive services and continuity of care (*State Plan Amendment*).
- **Chiropractic Services for Indian Health Service and Tribal Facilities** continues authority to pay Tribal providers for the chiropractic services which were eliminated as a Medi-Cal covered benefit in 2009 (*1115 waiver*).
- **Global Payment Program (GPP)** renews California’s statewide pool of funding for care provided to California’s remaining uninsured population. This includes streamlining funding sources for California’s uninsured population served by California’s public hospitals, with a renewed focus on addressing social needs and responding to the impacts of systemic racism and inequities (*1115 waiver*).

In alignment with the waiver approvals, CMS has also authorized a number of statewide benefits via Medi-Cal State Plan Amendments, including the statewide expansion of coverage for low-income

pregnant women and substance use treatment services. For additional information, visit the [DHCS State Plan Amendment webpage](#).

Additionally, DHCS and CMS continue to work toward additional approvals for equity-oriented CalAIM initiatives that provide services and supports for justice-involved adults and youth and reimbursement for American Indian / Alaska Native Traditional Healers and Natural Helpers services as a covered DMC-ODS benefit. CMS approval of these waivers is anticipated in early 2022.

### **Accessing Materials**

CalAIM waiver materials are currently accessible on [CMS' website](#) and will be accessible on the [CalAIM 1115 Demonstration & 1915\(b\) Waiver DHCS webpage](#) in the coming days. For more information about CalAIM, visit [www.dhcs.ca.gov/CalAIM](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/CalAIM) and follow on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## **California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)**

### **The HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Program**

In March 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. ARP provided \$5 billion to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability across the country. The grant funds will be administered through HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

- In September 2021, HUD allocated \$155 million to HCD to serve California's non-entitlement jurisdictions. Since then, the HOME-ARP team has been working together to assemble the necessary data required to complete the HOME-ARP draft Allocation Plan by Spring 2022.
- This team is actively working to ensure **equity** is at the heart of providing permanent solutions to end homelessness. Specifically, the HOME-ARP team is working with community partners to successfully support our long-neglected subpopulations of Justice-Involved/Behavior Health communities and our Tribal partners. Both of these groups have a higher rate of homelessness than any other subpopulation and until we successfully address their needs, we cannot end homelessness and achieve functional zero.

### **California Accelerator Program (listed as Streamlining Backlogged Affordable Housing in budget)**

In July 2021, Governor Newsom signed the budget bill, AB 140, which allocated federal ARPA funding to address critical affordable housing needs in California. HCD created the California Housing Accelerator program with that funding to assist projects unable to move forward due to a severe shortage of financing available through CDLAC and TCAC, which historically played a critical role in funding affordable housing development. This program makes awards to projects that are otherwise shovel-ready but have a funding gap because they are unable to attain a final commitment of tax credits or state bonds due to the unprecedented shortage.

- The Project Solicitation document for Tier 1 was released September 16, 2021, and is [available on the HCD website](#).
- Tier 1 is expected to add more than 3,000 new affordable units with nearly \$500 million in existing HCD funding.

- On October 5, 2021, the application was released, and the application window opened for Tier 1 projects – the deadline to submit applications for those projects is November 3, 2021.
- The tier 2 Project Solicitation and application release date are expected late 2021 or early 2022.

### **Portfolio Reinvestment Program (listed as Preservation Initiative in budget)**

The FY 2021-22 budget includes \$300 million one-time Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund to provide capital to HCD legacy projects about to go market-rate to extend affordability covenants and preserve the state's affordable housing stock.

- Initial target of 60 to 80 projects, including projects with expired loans and regulatory agreements, as well as other projects at risk of conversion to market-rate over a five-year period.
- HCD plans to issue a NOFA in Spring 2022.

### **Program Streamlining and Alignment (AB 434)**

The state budget included \$2.7 million General Fund to implement AB 434 to create a single application system for HCD's major housing financing program, streamline the ability for developers and local governments to apply and obtain valuable funding for affordable housing financing and development.

- Programs under AB 434 include the Joe Serna Farmworker Housing Grant program (FWHG), Infill Infrastructure Grant program (IIG), Multifamily Housing Program (MHP), and Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention program (VHHP).
- Draft guidelines for all four programs were published for public comment in December 2022, with a universal scoring system and guidelines content alignment.
- The AB 434 Super NOFA release is expected February 2022, with the competitive NOFA application period closing 90 days later (May 2022)

### **Multifamily Housing Program (MHP)**

In 2018, voters approved Proposition 1, authorizing the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act. MHP consists of bonds for new construction, acquisition/ rehabilitation of permanent or transitional rental housing, and conversion of nonresidential structures to rental housing for lower income households.

- In July 2021, The Notice for Funding Availability (NOFA) was released for \$220 million in funds.
- \$20 million is set-aside for projects selected under Executive Order N-06-19, which identifies and prioritizes excess state-owned property and aggressively pursues sustainable, innovative, cost-effective housing projects.
- 84 applications received with a total request of \$982,338,817 with a total of 6,278 units.
  - 57 projects have met minimum threshold requirements and moved to rating and ranking.
  - 23 projects have met the minimum scores needed to meet the geographic targets and set asides.
  - HCD anticipates 20 projects being recommended for awards in the amount of \$225,618,262, including those highlighted below:
    - One (1) tribal project will be recommended for award.
    - One (1) non-tax credit project will be recommended for award.
    - Five (5) 9% tax credit projects will be recommended for award.

Two (2) Excess Site projects located in the South Lake Tahoe area will be recommended for award.

## **Homekey**

In July 2020, HCD launched Homekey, an innovative program to purchase and rehabilitate properties - including hotels, motels, apartment buildings and other properties - and convert them into interim and permanent, long-term housing for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This program makes awards directly to local communities with properties ready for conversion.

### Round 2

- The first awards were announced on December 15, 2021
- 12 total awards have been announced as of January 6, 2021, for a total of \$278 million awarded.
- The final day for geographic-based allocations is January 31, 2022, and the final application date for Fiscal Year 2021-22 is May 2, 2022.
- Awards are continuous as complete applications are received.

## **Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)**

ESG provides funds for a variety of activities to address homelessness including rapid re-housing, homeless prevention, street outreach and emergency shelter.

- The ESG 2021 NOFA was posted on August 17, 2021, for the CoC and Balance of State (BOS) allocations. Both can be submitted on a rolling basis and are due by October 19, 2021. (See next bullet point). 2021 ESG application must be submitted through the eCivis online grants network system.
- Due to technical issues, both 2021 ESG NOFAs are being amended to extend the application due date to October 29, 2021
- Spending is ongoing on ESG-2019 funds and award letters were issued in February for 2020 ESG funds. The expenditure deadline is October 22, 2021.
- Due to wildfires and the pandemic, some grantees have had trouble expending ESG 2018 funds, and HUD approved an extension from February 2021 to December 12, 2021, to completely expend these dollars.

## **Emergency Solutions Grants CARES Act (ESG-CV)**

Authorized by the CARES Act enacted March 27, 2020, these funds are to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance.

- All 40 Standard Agreements have been executed for ESG-CV program funds.
- As of September 30, 2021, 36% of ESG-CV funds have been expended and CA HCD has met the September 30, 2021, 20% expenditure deadline set by HUD.
- ICF was awarded the ESG-CV Consultant contract and has provided additional capacity to HCD. HCD is working with ICF to provide training, technical assistance and support to subrecipients.
- Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities are eligible to receive ESG-CV funds. In partnership with HCD Tribal Affairs Specialist an Invitation to Apply has been sent to eligible Tribes and applications are due by January 18, 2022.

- The ESG/ESG-CV team are conducting weekly Office Hours to provide updates, training and answer questions from subrecipients and sub-subrecipients.
- ICF provided a Racial Equity Foundation training on November 2, 2021, and over 750 people attended. On January 19, 2022, ICF will be providing a Racial Equity and Coordinated Entry System training.

### **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**

CDBG provides funds for several activities that address homelessness such as public services funding which can fund shelter operations, public facilities funding for homeless shelters and subsistence payments and business assistance which can help prevent homelessness.

- HCD is expecting to release the 2022 NOFA in January
- In January 2021, a CDBG NOFA for approximately \$30 million in funding was announced. Applications were due in June and July and are currently under review.
- Awards made under the January 2020 NOFA have been announced and Standard Agreements have been executed by HCD.

### **Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV)**

- In April 2021, HCD made available an over-the-counter application for the \$50M in CDBG-CV2 reserved for projects in support of Homekey. Applications were due on August 31, 2021. As of December 2021, Award Letters have been issued for all eligible projects.
- Pursuant to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan Amendment, funds were available to waitlisted Homekey projects, and projects that were awarded Homekey funds for acquisition but need additional financial support to complete renovations to bring the property to its ultimate functionality.
- Through the three rounds of CDBG-CV Homekey Set-Aside awards, of 27 submitted projects, 25 were eligible and awarded the full amount requested. One project is an acquisition and rehabilitation, not originally funded under Homekey. Seven are rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing, seven are rehabilitation of interim housing and ten will be able to convert from interim to permanent housing as a result of these funds. The average award per door was \$70,568.
- CDBG-CV2/3 NOFA Closed in May. As of October 13, 2021, 56 Standard Agreements have been executed and 92 more are routing for approval.
- Colonias applications are under review and should be routing for approval in the coming month.
- Five of the nineteen CDBG-CV Tribal Set-Aside Awards have been announced. Four Awards went to the City of Shasta Lake on behalf of the Wintu Tribe of Northern California, and one went to the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians. The remaining tribal applications are under review and will be routing for approval in the coming few months.

### **Technical Assistance (TA) to Improve Delivery of Homelessness Programs**

Since January 2019, HCD has provided three types of technical assistance (TA) to help counties and CoCs enhance, develop, and/or improve the delivery of homelessness programs and services. Eligible entities are counties and Continuums of Care (CoCs).

- The Housing Stability contract (Corporation for Supportive Housing) is extended to December 2021 and Housing contract (Homebase) is extended to June 2023.

- CSH and Homebase are assisting with Homekey technical assistance related to stakeholder feedback, community engagement, and training for supportive services.

### **No Place Like Home (NPLH)**

On July 1, 2016, Governor Brown signed landmark legislation enacting the No Place Like Home program to dedicate up to \$2 billion in bond proceeds from the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) to invest in 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. In November 2018 voters approved Proposition 2, authorizing the sale of up to \$2 billion of revenue bonds and the use of a portion of Proposition 63 taxes for the NPLH program.

- The Round 4 NOFA was released on October 29, 2021, with applications due January 19, 2022. This will be the last planned NOFA under the program’s current bond authority.
  - The amount available for the Competitive Allocation NOFA is a minimum of \$486 million.
  - The amount remaining in the Noncompetitive Allocation NOFA is approximately \$19 million.
- All program funds will be awarded by June 30, 2022.
- As of December 31, 2021:
  - 14 projects are complete, and 90 projects are currently under construction
  - 309 NPLH move-ins are completed or in progress.
- The NPLH 2021 Annual Report has been completed and should be available on the NPLH website by mid-January

### **Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention (VHHP) Program**

In 2008, California voters approved Proposition 12, the Veteran’s Bond Act of 2008, authorizing \$900 million in general obligation bonds intended to help veterans purchase single family homes, farms, and mobile homes through the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) Home Loan Program. In 2013, AB 639 (Chapter 727, Statutes of 2013, Pérez) restructured the Veteran’s Bond Act of 2008 authorizing \$600 million in existing bond authority to fund multifamily housing for veterans.

- The Round 6 VHHP NOFA was posted May 3, 2021, for \$75 million. Applications were due July 15, 2021. A total request of \$149,721,120 from 21 applicants was received.
- HCD awarded \$125,142,219 to 16 applicants on November 10, 2021. HCD worked with the Department of Finance to increase the budget authority for the 2021-22 fiscal year beyond \$75 million. The VHHP statute allows for awards to be made over the \$75 million allocation and this has occurred in previous rounds.
- Round 7 funding will be made available in 2022 under AB 434 alignment.

### **Transitional Housing Program (THP)**

The Transitional Housing Program provides funding to counties for child welfare services agencies to help young adults aged 18 to 25 years find and maintain housing, with priority given to those formerly in the foster care or probation systems. (SB 80, Statutes of 2019)

- HCD has reached out to the eligible counties informing them of the Round 3 funding and is awaiting counties accepting the funds and returning required documents.
- Of the 56 eligible counties, 41 acceptance forms have been received and 9 counties (Colusa, Inyo, Lake, Mariposa, Mono, Modoc, Plumas, San Benito, Tehama – total of \$38,000) have declined funds. Follow-up emails were sent out the week of December 27, 2021. The remaining 6 counties are pending submittal of their acceptance forms Extensions were granted until January 15, 2022.
- \$8 million will be awarded in Round 3 for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

### **Transitional Housing Program - Plus (THP-Plus) Housing Supplement Program**

The THP-Plus Housing Supplement Program provides additional funding to THP-Plus, within the California Department of Social Services, that funds transitional housing for young adults who exited foster care on or after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and are not yet 24 years of age.

- A county shall be eligible to receive funding if the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the county is one of the 11 most expensive in the state during the 2020–21 federal fiscal year.
- HCD has contacted the eligible counties to determine bed capacity as of July 1, 2021, which is a factor in determining funding eligibility and allocation amounts.
- Of the 11 counties, six are eligible to receive the \$9,200,000 in funding.
- Allocation acceptance forms and standard agreement documents will be sent out in January 2022.

### **Housing Navigators Program (HNP)**

The Housing Navigators Program funds the support of housing navigators to help young adults aged 18 years and up to 21 years secure and maintain housing, with priority given to young adults in the foster care system.

- HCD has reached out to the eligible counties, informing them of the Round 2 funding and is awaiting counties accepting the funds and returning required documents.
- Of the 55 eligible counties, 40 acceptance forms were received and 8 counties (Colusa, Inyo, Lake, Mariposa, Modoc, Plumas, San Benito, Tehama – totaling \$39,595) have declined funds. The remaining 7 counties are pending submittal of their acceptance forms. Extensions were granted until January 15, 2022.
- \$5 million will be awarded in Round 2 for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

### **Pet Assistance and Support Program**

Pet Assistance and Support Program funds for qualified homeless shelters to fund shelter, food, and basic veterinarian services for pets of individuals experience homelessness, residing in shelter.

- \$10 million will be awarded in Fiscal Year 2021-22
- A NOFA is expected to be release in January 2022.
- A stakeholder meeting was held in December 2021, to receive feedback on expected updates to the NOFA from the previous round.

### **Housing for a Healthy California (HHC)- Article I**

The goal of the Housing for a Healthy California program is to reduce the overutilization of emergency departments, inpatient care, nursing home stays, and use of corrections systems and law enforcement resources for people who are experiencing homelessness or chronic homelessness and a high-cost health user. The program provides funding on a competitive basis to deliver supportive housing opportunities through grants to counties for capital and operating assistance or to developers for operating reserve grants and capital loans.

- The 2020-21 HHC NOFA was released for approx. \$160 million on 12/31/21
- Applications will be accepted in GMS starting January 17, 2022.
- OTC applications for previously awarded projects are due February 15, 2022
- Competitive applications for new projects are due March 1, 2022
- HCD website: [Housing for a Healthy California Program](#)
- GMS Solicitation page: [eCivis - Grants Network](#)

## **California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)**

### **Special Needs Housing Program**

In 2016, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Program was essentially replaced by the passage of legislation authorizing \$2 billion for the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to implement the No Place Like Home (NPLH) Program. However, prior to deployment of NPLH funds, CalHFA established the Special Needs Housing Program (SNHP) to serve as a transition between the two aforementioned housing finance programs.

SNHP allowed local governments to use MHSA and other local funds to provide financing for the development of permanent supportive rental housing, including units dedicated for individuals with serious mental illness (and their families), who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

CalHFA is no longer accepting applications for SNHP projects. The application deadline for viable SNHP projects ended on January 3, 2020, with construction loan closings required to occur no later than June 30, 2022. SNHP lending activities and CalHFA's ongoing efforts to responsibly close the program entail the following activities:

- Processing the 55 total SNHP projects that have applied for financing, including 39 projects in the lending pipeline, 15 projects in CalHFA's asset management portfolio, and one project that was assigned to the county at permanent conversion.
- From the program's inception through December 31, 2021, CalHFA has closed \$98.5 million in SNHP loans. Based on the loan amounts for the remaining projects in the CalHFA pipeline, the total amount of SNHP financing will be \$121,295,840 once the program fully winds down.
- A total of 3,586 units distributed throughout 16 California counties are anticipated to be financed by SNHP funds.
- CalHFA staff continues working with the sponsors of all active projects to close the remaining SNHP loans ahead of the construction close deadline. 14 loans representing 808 units remain active. A total of 41 loans representing 2,778 units have closed and are either constructed or under construction.

- CalHFA continues to perform compliance monitoring on SNHP projects and will do so for the duration of the loan term.

### **Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program**

In a collaborative partnership, the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA), Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), California Department of Developmental Services, (DDS), and California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) will administer California’s Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Demonstration (Section 811) program to provide permanent supportive housing for extremely low-income persons with disabilities, particularly those who reside in a long-term care facility and desire to return to community living. A primary barrier to returning to the community from a long-term facility is lack of affordable housing.

The State of California was awarded nearly \$24 million in the first two funding rounds of Section 811 Project Rental Assistance by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide five-year renewable rental assistance to affordable housing projects serving persons with disabilities. The funds will be administered with specific criteria as defined by each Round.

In addition to enhancing opportunities for people with disabilities to live in integrated community settings, the Section 811 funding will help to reduce costs associated with institutionalization for people who need access to affordable housing to avoid institutionalization, or who may otherwise end up homeless.

- Round I (Funding Year 2012), CalHFA was awarded \$13.1 million in Rental Assistance to fund the first 5 years of a 20-year Rental Assistance Contract (RAC). A total of 265 units are receiving rental assistance.
- Round II (Funding Year 2013), CalHFA was awarded \$15.5 million in Rental Assistance to fund the first 5 years of a 20-year Rental Assistance Contract (RAC). A total of 234 units are receiving rental assistance.

### **National Mortgage Settlement Housing Counseling Program**

As part of the 2020-21 State Budget, \$300 million in National Mortgage Settlement funds were allocated to CalHFA for the purposes of providing HUD-certified housing counseling and mortgage assistance.

With consideration to immediate needs, [CalHFA used \\$50 million](#) of these funds to establish the NMS Housing Counseling Program, which allows California residents who are in danger of eviction or foreclosure to receive free, confidential counseling services from a network of HUD-certified housing counselors throughout the state. In addition to reimbursement for services, the program provides capacity building funds to help a struggling network of counseling agencies hire and train more counselors and upgrade their systems to support virtual counseling and make other improvements.

Through September 30, 2021, the following metrics illustrate NMS Housing Counseling Program activities:

- 17,414 households served
- 76 active housing counseling agencies (HCAs)
- \$26.1M in funds distributed
- 226 active counselors

Counseling services provided by the HCAs can be grouped into the following categories:

- Homebuying
- Reverse Mortgage
- Mortgage Delinquency
- Rental Housing
- **Homeless Counseling**

To date, over 430 individuals receiving HCA counseling services sought homeless counseling. CalHFA is currently evaluating opportunities to expand outreach efforts to reach more households at risk of homelessness with counseling services.

### **California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)**

#### **Grant Programs with Primary Purpose of Providing Emergency Shelter and/or Housing Assistance**

The Victim Services Branch at Cal OES has eight grant programs with the primary purpose of providing emergency shelter and/or housing assistance. They include:

- Homeless Youth Emergency Services Pilot (HY) Program
- Homeless Youth Emergency Services and Housing (YE) Program
- Homeless Youth and Exploitation (HX) Program
- Human Trafficking Victim Assistance (HV) Program
- Specialized Emergency Housing (KE) Program
- Transitional Housing (XH) Program
- Domestic Violence Assistance (DV) Program
- Domestic Violence Housing First (XD) Program

#### **1. Homeless Youth Emergency Services Pilot (HY) Program – State Funded**

The 2021 State Budget Act allocated \$10 million to continue funding four existing Subrecipients under the HY Program. The HY Program supports the existing four Subrecipients for five additional years. Counties with Subrecipients include:

- El Dorado
- Fresno
- Orange
- San Bernardino

The purpose of the HY Program is to expand crisis intervention and stabilization services to homeless youth so that the immediate crises these youth face can be resolved, and they can focus on their futures.

#### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Contingent on State Budget

**2021 Statistics (October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021)\***

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: 820
- Stabilization planning services provided: 957\*\*
- Employment training services provided: 1,193\*\*
- Education services provided: 533\*\*

\*Above statistics are from October 1, 2020 – September 2021 and statistics are now being collected quarterly

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

**2. Homeless Youth Emergency Services and Housing (YE) Program – State Funded**

The 2021 State Budget Act allocated \$40 million to continue and expand the YE Program. The YE Program continues to fund Subrecipients in four existing counties and expands to supporting Subrecipients in eight additional counties. The five-year program began January 1, 2022. Counties with Subrecipients selected for funding include:

- Alameda
- Humboldt
- Los Angeles
- Monterey
- Orange
- Sacramento
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Joaquin
- Santa Clara
- Stanislaus
- Ventura

The purpose of the YE Program is to establish or expand access to a range of housing options that meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness, and to provide crisis intervention and stabilization services so that the immediate crises these youth face can be resolved, and they can focus on their futures.

**Next Funding Opportunity**

Contingent on State Budget

**2021 Statistics (October 2020 – September 2021)\***

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **411**
- Individuals that received transitional housing: **179**
- Rental assistance services provided: **330\***
- Stabilization planning services provided: **2,040\***
- Employment training services provided: **428\***
- Education services provided: **337\***

\*Above statistics are from October 1, 2020 – September 2021 and statistics are now being collected quarterly

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

### **3. Homeless Youth and Exploitation (HX) Program – State & Federally Funded**

The purpose of the HX Program is to help homeless youth exit street life. Services provided under the HX Program include access to food, emergency shelter/housing; counseling, outreach services, screening/providing for basic health needs; linkage to other services offered by public and private agencies; long-term stabilization planning; and follow-up services. In addition, the HX Program provides specialized services for youth experiencing sexual exploitation.

#### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive

#### **2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,554**
- Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: **1,154**
- Relocation assistance services provided: **10\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

### **4. Human Trafficking Victim Assistance (HV) Program – State Funded**

The purpose of the HV Program is to help human trafficking victims (both sex and labor trafficking) recover from the trauma they experienced and assist with reintegration into society through the provision of comprehensive safety and supportive services including, but not limited to, housing assistance, counseling services, and other social services, using a trauma-informed, victim-centered approach.

#### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Release of Request for Proposal: **November 2021**

Grant Subaward Performance Period Begins: **April 1, 2022**

#### **2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **777**
- Housing/emergency shelter nights provided: **8,645\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

### **5. Specialized Emergency Housing (KE) Program – Federally Funded**

The purpose of the KE Program is to expand emergency shelter and emergency housing assistance resources in California and provide specialized services for victims of crime. Applicants may serve any or all the following communities: homeless youth, elderly, disabled, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) victims of crime.

**Next Funding Opportunity**

Anticipated Release of Request for Proposal: **Spring 2022**

Grant Subaward Performance Period Begins: **October 1, 2022**

**2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,274**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: **17,086\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,474\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

**6. Transitional Housing (XH) Program – Federally Funded**

The purpose of the XH Program is to create and/or enhance transitional housing for crime victims. The Program will support transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and supportive services, including follow-up services that move victims of crime into permanent housing. Successful transitional housing programs provide a range of optional supportive services and let victims choose the course that best fits their needs.

**Next Funding Opportunity**

Anticipated Release of Request for Proposal: **Summer 2022**

Grant Subaward Performance Period Begins: **January 1, 2023**

**2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,298**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **151,155\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,718\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

**7. Domestic Violence Housing First (XD) Program – Federally Funded**

The purpose of the XD Program is to help victims of domestic violence gain increased access to and retention of, safe permanent housing, and then provides ongoing tailored supportive services.

**Next Funding Opportunity**

Anticipated Release of Request for Proposal: **Summer 2022**

Grant Subaward Performance Period Begins: **January 1, 2023**

**2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,992**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **47,174\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **18,257\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

**8. Domestic Violence Assistance (DV) Program – State & Federally Funded**

The purpose of the DV Program is to provide comprehensive support services, including emergency shelter, to victims of domestic violence and their children.

**Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive per Penal Code

**2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **14,092**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **243,930\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **10,262\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

**A. Additional Programs that Provide a Variety Services, Including Emergency Shelter and/or Housing Assistance**

The Victim Services Branch at Cal OES has additional Subrecipients that offer a variety of services to assist victims which may include (at the discretion of the local Subrecipient) emergency shelter and/or emergency housing assistance.

**1. Additional Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program-Funded Programs**

**2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **27,952**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **138,193\*\***

- Relocation assistance services provided: **16,635\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

Please note: The above statistics include data from the Emergency Response to Interpersonal Violence – 2020 (CO) Pandemic Program. The purpose of the CO Program was to combat the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on victim service providers. The CO Program ended August 15, 2021, and therefore this data will not be included in future updates and overall data is expected to be lower.

## **2. Additional Family Violence Prevention and Services/Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive Services (FVPS) Program-Funded Program**

The Victim Services Branch at Cal OES has **one** additional Family Violence Prevention and Services/Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive Services Program-funded Subrecipients that provided some form of housing assistance: **Equality in Prevention and Services for Domestic Abuse (GL) Program**.

### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Unknown at this time.

### **2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **3**
- Number of emergency shelter nights provided: **247\*\***

\*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

## **3. Additional Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program-funded Program**

The Victim Services Branch at Cal OES has **one** additional STOP Program-funded program that provided some form of housing assistance: **Native American Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (DS) Program**

### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive

### **2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **60**
- Individuals that received emergency food and/or clothing: **81**

## **B. New One-time Federal Grant Funding Related to Homelessness**

Additional funding was provided to programs providing emergency shelter and supportive services (including permanent housing assistance) to victims of domestic violence through a new federal grant program in fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22:

**1. Family Violence Prevention and Services Act American Rescue Plan (ARP) Supplemental Funding Program**

Cal OES provided additional funding to Subrecipients of the following existing programs:

- Domestic Violence Assistance (DV) Program
- Equality in Prevention and Services for Domestic Abuse (GL) Program
- Domestic Violence Housing First (XD) Program

Cal OES also provided additional funding to 34 Subrecipients, through a competitive process, for the new program:

- Domestic Violence American Rescue Plan (RP) Program.

**Next Funding Opportunity**

Not applicable, one-time funding

**2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021)**

- New funding – no data is available at this time

**California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)**

The Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) works with community partners and stakeholders to improve access to services, supports, employment, and community-based living for people with disabilities. The following programs work on the local level to support people with disabilities including those who are homeless, are important partners for No Wrong Door coordination of services, and have subject matter expertise regarding disabilities.

**Sonoma County – DOR Vocational Rehabilitation Office**

The DOR Redwood Empire District is conducting a Homeless Referral Pilot in Sonoma County in collaboration with our local America’s Job Center of California (AJCC) called the Sonoma County Job Link. The pilot is a partnership with the Sonoma County Community Development Commission, a county agency that coordinates services to the homeless population.

DOR and the Sonoma County Job Link work with local non-profit agencies that provide transitional housing and wrap-around, coordinated services to address the immediate needs of individuals who are homeless. Our local team consists of a DOR Team Manager, the DOR Community Resources Navigator (CRN), and two Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor – Qualified Rehabilitation Professionals (SVRC-QRPs). The CRN acts as the initial point of contact and liaison with personnel from the other agencies. To date, housing and employment have been provided to several vulnerable individuals with disabilities who were served by this pilot program.

### **Life Moves Pilot of San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties - DOR Vocational Rehabilitation Office**

For the past year, the DOR San Francisco and San Jose Districts have a pilot with a homeless agency called Life Moves that serves the homeless in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. The focus of the pilot is to refer Life Moves participants to their local DOR branch and a mental health community-based organization (CBO) for coordination of services leading to job placement before individuals exit the Life Moves shelter in five months. The initial meeting with the participant consists of a DOR staff person, Life Moves, and the CBO mental health agency to begin providing job placement services at the end of the meeting.

During the past quarter, 90 homeless participants have been served. The participants have been placed with a wide range of employers, including FedEx, Safeway, Applebee's, KCE Champions, Tesla, and Bed Bath and Beyond.

### **Los Angeles County - DOR Vocational Rehabilitation Office**

The DOR Greater Los Angeles District has begun collaborating with Los Angeles Housing Services Authority (LAHSA) and the Mayor's Office to serve homeless individuals, including people who have experienced violence. We have developed a referral system to keep track of the individuals coming into the program from any of the partners throughout the city.

### **Independent Living Centers**

DOR provides funding and supports to 28 non-profit Independent Living Centers (ILCs) throughout the state that serve individuals of all ages and with any type of disability, income level, and housing status. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21, ILCs served over 25,000 individuals with significant disabilities and provided 7,788 individuals with services leading to housing or shelter, preventing homelessness, and adaptive housing services. While ILCs do not report the number of homeless individuals served to DOR, all provide service to individuals with disabilities who are homeless, with many engaged in local homeless coordinated entry systems and Continuum of Care Programs.

During COVID-19, ILCs supported individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness including through information and referral services to community resources, distribution of personal protective equipment, temporary housing, rental assistance, eviction prevention advocacy, and vaccine appointment scheduling. Some ILCs coordinated temporary housing to overflow sites to accommodate shelter decompression and higher shelter demands through Project Roomkey and Project Homekey.

### **Aging & Disability Resource Connections**

Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC) is a collaboration between local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) offices and ILCs together with a community network of public, private, and non-profit agencies to form No Wrong Door (NWD) Systems that assist individuals in navigating the complex system of long-term services and supports (LTSS) to allow them to remain in the community. These NWD Systems serve individuals of any age, ability, and income level in navigating and accessing the full range of available LTSS options and provide person-centered objective and unbiased information, advice, counseling, and assistance.

California Senate Bill 80 (SB 80) established the ADRC Infrastructure Grants Program which enabled the California Department of Aging (CDA) to award grants to interested and qualified AAAs and ILCs for

becoming an emerging or fully designated ADRC program to expand or strengthen services to implement a NWD System. DOR and CDA coordinate ADRC efforts across departments.

In FY 2021/2022, there were eight (8) state designated ADRCs in the state that provided person-centered NWD services to 1,492 homeless individuals with disabilities and/or older adults.

Beginning in 2022, there are now 15 state designated ADRCs in California with an additional nine (9) emerging ADRCs serving approximately one half of the state's population.

### **Traumatic Brain Injury Program**

According to the California Department of Public Health, there are more than 200,000 incidents each year of non-fatal traumatic brain injuries in California. The Lancet Journal reports that approximately 53 percent of homeless individuals and others living in unstable housing have had at least one traumatic brain injury (TBI), and the lifetime prevalence of obtaining either a moderate or severe TBI was 22.5 percent. Comparatively, the Centers for Disease Control estimate the lifetime prevalence of TBI for the general population to be 21.7 percent, with a lifetime prevalence of moderate or severe TBI at 2.6 percent.

DOR, in partnership with its TBI Advisory Board and community stakeholders, works to strengthen California's system of services and supports for people with TBI. DOR's goal is to improve the delivery and quality of person-centered services available to TBI survivors, their families, and caregivers by fostering partnerships, providing public education about TBI, and informing culturally competent policies statewide.

The California TBI program consists of six state funded non-profit organizations that provide services to individuals with TBI, family members, and caregivers. In FY 2020/2021, the six TBI program sites provided services to 794 individuals with seven percent being homeless and 13 percent at-risk of homelessness.

The California Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spending Plan also includes American Rescue Plan Act investments to expand the capacity of existing TBI sites and to award funding to additional TBI sites in unserved/underserved areas.

### **Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program**

DOR administers the Older Individuals who are Blind (OIB) program that serves people aged 55 or older who are blind or visually impaired and wish to maintain their independence. Training services and resource referrals are available to these individuals from a network of non-profit organizations across California.

The OIB program serves people in a variety of setting and works to provide the training and referral services in the manner that best fits the person's needs. The OIB program served 4,492 people in grant year 2021 with 5 percent (24) of those being people were documented as homeless.

## **California Department of Social Services (DSS)**

### **CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs Guidance Update**

- [Subscribe](#) to the CDSS Housing and Homelessness Branch newsletter and visit our [website](#) for additional information on all CDSS Housing and Homelessness programs.

## Updates to CDSS Participation in Cal-ICH

[Assembly Bill 1220](#) has impacted CDSS' participation in Cal-ICH. Beginning January 2022, CDSS Director Kim Johnson is now representing CDSS as a council member. The CDSS looks forward to the continued collaboration with the Cal-ICH and other state departments represented on the Council. Continued partnership between state agencies, local Departments of Social Services, community organizations, and Continuums of Care will remain critical to build upon existing success and to expand our reach to more Californians in need of housing support.

## Expansions to CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs

As part of the Administration's historic \$12 billion investment in ending homelessness, CDSS will administer just over \$2 billion in funding over the next two years to provide grant funds to counties and tribes to establish, continue and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP), Bringing Families Home (BFH), Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), Home Safe, and Project Roomkey (PRK) and Rehousing Strategy, along with the creation of a new program called the Community Care Expansion Program (CCE).

Further details pertaining to HSP, BFH, HDAP, Home Safe, and PRK are outlined in the [All County Welfare Directors Letter \(ACWDL\) dated July 19, 2021](#), including a summary of statewide program funds and expenditure periods, as well as statutory changes enacted through [Assembly Bill 135](#).

The CDSS is implementing a new program, the Community Care Expansion Program (CCE), established by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 172](#) (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2021) which will fund the acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of adult and senior care facilities that serve applicants and recipients of [Social Security Income/State Supplementary Payment \(SSI/SSP\)](#) or [Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants \(CAPI\)](#) including individuals who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. For more information about CCE and to learn about upcoming announcements, visit the [Community Care Expansion Program website](#). Further updates are included below.

## CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP)

- The CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) assists families receiving CalWORKs who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness to quickly obtain permanent housing while providing flexible wrap-around supports to foster housing retention. Since the program's inception in 2014 through July 2021, more than 26,700 families have been permanently housed through HSP.
- On December 13, 2021, CDSS released the [CalWORKs Housing Support Program Notice of Funding and Expansion of Eligibility to Include Homelessness Prevention](#) to notify counties of funds available to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the CalWORKs HSP. The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$285 million for HSP, including the annual, ongoing appropriation of \$95 million, and a one-time appropriation of \$190 million.
- This letter announced a Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 allocation for all fifty-eight (58) counties, summarized recent statutory changes enacted through [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 135](#) (Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021), including WIC Section 11330.5(a), which expanded HSP to families at-risk of homelessness, and provided new guidance on the expansion of program eligibility to include homelessness prevention. Counties wishing to accept funds must respond to CDSS by January 25, 2022.

### **CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA) Program**

The CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA) Program serves eligible CalWORKs applicants and recipients with up to 16 days of temporary shelter payments, as well as payments to secure or maintain housing, including a security deposit and last month's rent, or up to two months of rent arrearages.

- In FY 2020-21, 30,863 families were approved for temporary HA and 1,683 families were approved for permanent HA – for a total of 32,546 families approved for CalWORKs HA.

### **Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program**

The Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program serves families experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the child welfare system with the goals of reducing the number of families experiencing homelessness, increasing family reunification, and preventing foster care placement.

- Since program implementation in summer 2017 through September 2021, more than 1,600 families have been permanently housed through BFH.
- Currently, 22 counties and one tribe participate in BFH program. The Budget Act of 2021 expanded the BFH program by appropriating an additional \$92.5 million in FY 2021-21 with the same funding expected in FY 2022-23.
- The announcement of funding availability for new and continuing grantees will be released in early 2022.

### **Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP)**

The Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) assists people experiencing or at risk of homelessness who are likely eligible for disability benefits by providing advocacy for disability benefits as well as housing supports.

- Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through June 2021, over 4,600 people have been enrolled, over 2,200 people have been permanently housed, over 5,000 disability applications have been submitted, and over 1,400 applications have been approved.
- On September 13, 2021, CDSS released the [Notice of Funding for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program](#) to notify counties and tribes of funding available to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through HDAP. The letter also summarizes recent statutory changes including expansions of the target population to include those at risk of experiencing homelessness and provides new prevention guidance as a result of expanded eligibility and changes to program statute.
- Fifty-seven counties and two tribal grantees, for a total of 59 grantees, accepted a total of \$133.875 million in match-exempt Noncompetitive HDAP Allocations in FY 2021-22.
- Applications for an additional \$25 million available for Targeted Strategic Investments aimed at optimizing HDAP program design and service delivery are currently under review.
- Final award information including Targeted Strategic Investment grants will be made available in early 2022.

### **Home Safe Program**

The Home Safe Program supports the safety and housing stability of people involved in Adult Protective Services (APS) by providing homeless assistance and prevention. Local Home Safe Programs utilize a range of strategies to support homelessness prevention and housing stability for APS clients, including

financial assistance, legal services, eviction prevention, heavy cleaning, and landlord mediation, among other services.

- As of October 2021, over 3,000 people have received assistance through the program, including over 2,700 instances of temporary housing being provided to clients and more than 1,700 rental payments made. Additionally, over 700 people have been connected to the local Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- On October 15, 2021, CDSS released the [Notice of Funding for the Home Safe Program](#) to announce the availability of funds for counties and tribes to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the Home Safe program. This letter includes updated guidance such as changes to program statute, allowable expansions in service, changes to program assessment requirements, and waived match requirements.
- All 58 counties in California accepted a statewide total of \$82.9 million in FY 2021-22, which will expand the program to statewide from the original 25 counties participating in the pilot program operated in 2018-2021.

### **Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy (PRK)**

Project Roomkey is a multiagency effort led by CDSS to provide non-congregate shelter options such as hotels and motels or self-contained trailers for people experiencing homelessness in response to COVID-19. This effort was designed to save lives, reduce transmission, and relieve pressure on the hospital system by providing safe shelter for those who are COVID-19 positive, have been exposed, or who are at high risk for medical complications if they were to contract the virus.

- Since March 2020, over 16,000 rooms have been secured and over 48,000 individuals have been sheltered through Project Roomkey. As of December 14, 2021, over 6,300 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by over 8,000 people experiencing homelessness, most of whom are seniors and people with underlying health conditions.
- The reimbursement period for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-eligible Project Roomkey non-congregate shelters and related non-congregate shelters has been extended through April 1, 2022.
- On July 29, 2021, CDSS released [Project Roomkey Allocations Available for FY 2021-22](#). This letter notified counties and federally recognized tribal governments operating a PRK of funding to continue providing Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy non-congregate shelter and rehousing services in FY 2021-22. Final FY 2021-22 allocations totaling \$143M were released on October 27, 2021 via [County Fiscal Letter No. 21/22-29](#) to 43 counties and three tribes.
- On October 25, 2021, CDSS released the Project Roomkey Rehousing Plan Template to support all communities in their work across systems to ensure participants exit into permanent housing. CDSS will continue offering grantees technical assistance to ensure clients have a path to permanent housing.

### **Community Care Expansion (CCE)**

California is making a significant investment in supporting seniors and adults with disabilities to live safely in the community. The state budget includes historic investments in infrastructure, including [\\$3 billion in funding opportunities with the California Health and Human Services Agency \(CalHHS\)](#) through competitive grants to qualified entities to construct, acquire and rehabilitate real estate assets. These funds are available through the CCE Program at CDSS and the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) at Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

The [Community Care Expansion \(CCE\) program](#) was established by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 172](#) (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2021) and the FY 2021-22 state budget appropriated \$805 million for the program. The program will fund the acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of adult and senior care facilities that serve applicants and recipients of SSI/SSP or CAPI, including individuals who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Funds will also be available to preserve residential care settings, including operating subsidies to existing licensed adult and senior care facilities serving SSI/SSP or CAPI recipients. Additional information on the application process for both expansion and preservation funding will be available in 2022. Please email [CCE@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CCE@dss.ca.gov) with any questions or for more information.

## **California Department of State Hospitals (DSH)**

### **Community-Based Restoration and Diversion**

Over the last decade, the State of California has seen significant year-over-year growth in the number of individuals charged with a felony offense who are found Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) and committed to the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH) for competency restoration services. IST defendants are determined by a court to be unable to participate in their trial because they are not able to understand the nature of the criminal proceedings or assist counsel in the conduct of their defense. When the court finds a felony defendant incompetent to stand trial in California, they can be committed to DSH to provide clinical and medical services with the goal of restoring their competency and enabling them to return to court to resume their criminal proceedings. To better understand what was potentially driving the sustained increase in felony IST referrals, DSH partnered with the University of California, Davis to study the IST patients being admitted to Napa State Hospital. One major defining characteristic of this population is that they experience high rates of homelessness. In 2016, approximately 47% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were unsheltered homeless prior to their arrest. Between 2018 and 2020, 65.5% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were homeless (sheltered or unsheltered) prior to arrest. DSH's hypothesis of what is driving this crisis is that individuals with serious mental illnesses, primarily psychotic disorders, are untreated or under-treated in their communities and are experiencing homelessness, leading to increased, repeated involvement with the criminal justice system.

The 2018-19 Budget allocated \$13.1 million for DSH to contract with the Los Angeles County Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR) for the first community-based restoration (CBR) program for felony incompetent to stand trial (IST) defendants in the state. In this program, ODR subcontracts for housing and treatment services and most IST clients in this program live in unlocked residential settings with wraparound treatment services. The original CBR program provided funding for 150 beds and subsequent investments have increased the program size to 515 beds after the last set of 100 beds activated in November 2021. In addition, DSH has received additional funding in the 2021-22 Budget to implement additional CBR programs in other counties across the state which will increase the total number of CBR beds to an estimated total of 767.

The 2018-19 Budget also allocated DSH \$100 million (one-time) to establish the DSH Felony Mental Health Diversion (Diversion) pilot program. Of this funding, \$99.5 million was earmarked to send directly to counties that chose to contract with DSH to establish a pilot Diversion program (the remaining \$500,000 was for program administration and data collection support at DSH). Assembly Bill 1810 (2018) established the legal (Penal Code (PC) 1001.35-1001.36) and programmatic (Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) 4361) infrastructure to authorize general mental health diversion and the DSH-funded Diversion program. The original Diversion pilot program includes 24 counties who have committed to

serving up to 820 individuals over the course of their three-year pilot programs. In FY 2021-22, DSH received additional funding to expand this pilot program as follows:

- \$17.4 million to expand current county contracts by up to 20%; WIC 4361 updated to require any expansion be dedicated to diverting defendants who have been found IST by the courts and committed to DSH
  - As of December 2021, DSH has received expansion plans from nine counties that currently have diversion programs and anticipate having executed contracts in place by Spring 2022.
    - Three of these counties have requested to begin diverting under new parameters before the contract amendments are fully processed.
- \$29.0 million to implement diversion programs in any other county interested in contracting with DSH
  - DSH received Letters of Interest from six new counties and, as of December 2021, received program plans from four of them.

The goal of both the CBR and Diversion programs is to demonstrate that many of the individuals committed to DSH as IST patients can be treated effectively and safely in the community. In addition, IST patients who successfully complete a diversion program have their current charges dropped. Both programs are designed to connect participants into ongoing treatment services in their home community upon discharge from diversion or CBR.

### **California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC)**

[CTCAC](#) administers programs that address critical needs for the state of California. CTCAC allocates nine percent (9%) or four percent (4%) federal tax credits to qualified new construction projects or existing properties undergoing rehabilitation. CTCAC also administers the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program in the State Treasurer's Office, which is a critical funding source for producing and preserving affordable rental housing and helping reach the Governor's goal of producing 3.5 million units in California by 2025.

### **2021 Housing Units Developed**

Working in tandem with the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) programs, CTCAC and CDLAC have provided incentives that have allowed for greater production of housing units, with an emphasis on homeless housing, over the past several years. The number of housing units developed in 2017 was 14,091 while 22,946 were produced in 2021. The agencies funded 269 projects with bond allocation of more than \$4.3 billion, nearly \$550 million in annual federal tax credits and more than \$600 million in state tax credits.

### **Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC)**

The California Tax Credit Allocation Committee administers the [Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program](#) (LIHTC) to encourage private investment in affordable rental housing for households meeting certain income requirements. Credits are available for new construction projects or existing properties undergoing rehabilitation.

### **Federal Tax Credits**

Two types of federal tax credits are available and are generally referred to as nine percent (9%) and four percent (4%) credits. Each number refers to the approximate percentage that is multiplied against a project's requested "qualified basis" to determine the amount of annual federal credits CTCAC will award the project.

### **Nine Percent (9%) Credits**

The amount of 9% federal credits is limited and was calculated at \$2.81 per person in 2021, returning to \$2.35 per person in 2022. California's limit for 2021 was \$109.8 million.

- Project owners can take the annual credit each year for 10 years.
- CTCAC award the credits through a [competitive process](#) twice per year.
- Projects compete on point scoring, but because most projects receive the maximum point score, CTCAC's tiebreaker formula generally decides the outcomes.

### **Four Percent (4%) Credits**

The 4% tax credits derive from a project's use of tax-exempt bond authority allocated by the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) and are limited only by the amount of bond cap available to California. In 2021, CTCAC awarded \$356.9 million in annual 4% tax credits. CTCAC awards 4% tax credits non-competitively to all projects that meet threshold criteria.

### **State Low-Income Housing Tax Credits**

Recognizing the extremely high cost of developing housing in California, the state legislature authorized a state low-income housing tax credit program to augment the federal tax credit program. Authorized by Chapter 1138, Statutes of 1987, the state credit is only available to a project which has previously received, or is concurrently receiving, an allocation of federal credits. Thus, the state program does not stand alone, but instead, supplements the federal tax credit program.

Due to the success of the State Tax Credit allocations made in 2020 when the total allocation for State Tax Credit funding was increased from \$109 million to more than \$600 million, [Governor Newsom approved](#) another \$500 million in State Tax Credits for housing in 2021.

- These are one-time credits taken over four years, so there is no tenfold multiplier.
- Because state credits are also in limited supply, CTCAC awards them competitively as well. 85% of the state credits are integrated into 9% tax credit projects and awarded through the same competition. 15% of the state credits are reserved for 4% tax credit projects, and applicants compete for these state credits in a separate competition.

### **Disaster Tax Credits**

In recognition of the recent disasters occurring in California, the U.S. Congress passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA) on December 21, 2020. This legislation provided CTCAC with an additional \$80.7 million in 2021 in Federal Tax Credits for its 9% program -- in addition to the \$110 million annually it already receives.

- The additional \$80.7 million was marked to be used in 2021-22 for projects in declared disaster areas, including 22 California counties struck by devastating wildfires in 2020.
- [CTCAC adopted regulations](#) on June 16, 2021, to allocate these credits, which were awarded to 39 projects producing 2,345 housing units in those counties.

- The CAA also established a minimum credit rate of 4% for LIHTC projects providing additional equity in financing affordable housing projects

### **California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)**

Caltrans continues to explore lease agreements for Safe parking sites for not only vehicles but also Recreational Vehicles in various cities including Los Angeles and San Diego. Caltrans is working on a template to accommodate this pathway.

The Office of Planning and Multi-modal transportation is hiring a long-term planning position to expand the department's efforts on addressing homelessness by exploring innovative pathways to address the challenges of relocating people experiencing homeless off of our Right of Way into better situations.

Caltrans has been identified in the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) 100-day challenge as a cohort for Sacramento and San Bernardino. Caltrans is eager to work with our partners to achieve their goals in creating better working relationships and finding solutions.

Clean California is accepting applications for its local grant program. Please note these funds may not be used to displace people experiencing homelessness.

Activities that can be funded by this grant program include, but are not limited to:

- Provide housing and services solutions for people sheltering at encampments, including supporting people to access permanent housing.
- Activities focused on addressing health and safety needs and increasing access to State-supported services and programs for people who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Local public agencies can apply for these grant funds.

Caltrans encampment coordinators are working with Cal ICH to gather information about encampments within their districts.

### **Federal Partner: U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)**

As USICH continues to develop a new Federal Strategic Plan, we recently [released some key themes](#) that we heard from more than 1,500 comments online and close to 100 listening sessions (including one from CA ICH leaders!) and from more than 500 people with lived experience. These diverse perspectives have provided rich insights into how the federal government can ensure the most equitable and effective execution of its programs and policies to prevent and end homelessness.

As part of the Biden Administration's effort to enable all eligible Americans – regardless of their housing status – to fully participate in our democracy, and in response to President Biden's executive order requiring federal agencies to promote voter registration and participation, USICH developed these two new documents (both are available in five languages):

- [Election checklist for homeless service providers](#)
- [Voting checklist for people experiencing homelessness](#)

San Gabriel Councilmember Jason Pu has been appointed as the new Region IX HUD Regional Administrator. Regional Administrators lead HUD’s 10 Regional Offices that directly serve state and local organizations. They oversee field offices across each state in their region, ensure the Department directly serves local communities, and play a key role in leading assignments of housing assistance funds within the region and coordinating those assignments with HUD headquarters. Region IX serves California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. See the press announcement [here](#).

HUD recently awarded more than \$18M in HUD-VASH Vouchers to 103 public housing agencies in 33 states. This round of allocations will support 2,050 HUD-VASH vouchers, bringing the total number of current vouchers to 106,704. The full announcement [is here](#). The CA allocation includes the following:

- County of Sacramento Housing Authority: \$1,729,752
- Housing Authority of the County of San Mateo: \$ 743,564
- Housing Authority of the County of Monterey: \$ 677,823
- San Diego Housing Commission: \$ 623,982
- Santa Cruz County Housing Authority: \$ 242,925
- Orange County Housing Authority: \$ 458,342
- Housing Authority of the City of Torrance: \$ 183,914
- City of Roseville: \$ 82,991