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# State Department and Federal Partner Updates

California Interagency Council on Homelessness Quarterly Council Meeting

May 31, 2022

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Note: Department and Federal Partner Updates are highly encouraged, but not required. Departments not included in these updates are the California Housing Finance Agency (Cal HFA), the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC), and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet).

# California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)

Cal ICH welcomes newly appointed BCSH Deputy Secretary of Homelessness, Dhakshike Wickrema. Deputy Secretary Wickrema has an extensive background in homelessness services, including her service as Senior Deputy for Homelessness and Housing for Los Angeles City Council District 10 and, before that, as Senior Deputy for Homelessness and Mental Health for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 2. We look forward to her leadership and guidance to prevent and end homelessness in the state.

Cal ICH also welcomes three new council members to continue our work towards statewide leadership and coordination around the homelessness crisis:

- Steven Keck, Acting Director, California Department of Transportation
- Veronica Lewis, Director of HOPICS, Special Service for Groups (appointed by Speaker of the Assembly)
- Tomiquia Moss, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, All Home (appointed by the Senate Rules Committee)

Looking at funding for homelessness programs and services in general, the Governor's May Revise builds upon the historic \$22 billion for housing and homelessness passed in the Governor's budget last year. The Governor's budget includes a total of \$9.4 billion to address the state's homelessness crisis. Through an additional \$500 million \$500 million awarded to Cal ICH for the Encampment Resolution Fund grant, we will continue to support jurisdictions to resolve encampments in their communities, expedite housing connections for people living in unsheltered settings, and provide supportive services. Additional details on the proposed budget can be found in the Revised Budget Summary for Housing and Homelessness.

Updates on Cal ICH Staff work are below:

#### **Council Administered Grants**

The Cal ICH grants team is underway with implementation of several statutory and programmatic milestones related to its grants' programs.

Round 3 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-3): Cal ICH has processed initial disbursements for nearly all grantees. Notably, the Cal ICH grants team has established supports for grantees to prepare for the June 30 deadline to submit the full HHAP-3 application packet. Application packets include local action plans and performance goals. In the last three months, the grants team has conducted individualized local action plan engagement meetings with all grantees, established four technical assistance provider programs, and provided five technical assistance webinars, in addition to regular ongoing technical assistance services.

The grants team has also developed and disseminated a NOFA and application for our first Tribal grant program. Ahead of the June 30 deadline for Tribal nations to apply, the grants team has held three listening sessions, three webinar application seminars, and conducted robust individualized outreach to ensure culturally appropriate and responsive program design.

Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) grants: Cal ICH have awarded 19 demonstration projects. The grants team has also developed a request for proposal (RFP) for acquiring expert technical assistance to further support the success of grantee encampment demonstration projects.

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Last, the Cal ICH grants team has launched the Family Homelessness Challenge (FHC) grant intended to fund innovative demonstration projects with the goal of ending family homelessness. Cal ICH has convened a panel of evaluators to review the proposals with the intent to release a notice of award in early June.

# **Action Plan Implementation and Working Groups**

Cal ICH is underway with updating the <u>Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California</u>. Led by consultant to the state, Matthew Doherty, the update will include input from Council member departments and agencies, external stakeholder groups, advocates, and members of the public. The Cal ICH team is now working with each member department and agency to assure activities focused on Homelessness are depicted in the updated Plan in advance of the September 1 Council meeting.

The State Funding and Programs Working Group is the first of five Working Groups called for in the Action Plan and continues to meet monthly. The Working Group has focused meetings on topics such as the HHAP local homelessness action plans, Tribal outreach, engagement in grantmaking, and updates to the Working Group's priorities based on the Action Plan. Cal ICH staff continue to work toward standing up the next Working Groups, focused on Racial Equity in homelessness services and effectively serving Youth and Young Adults.

# **Housing First Guidelines and Regulations**

Pursuant to AB 1220, Cal ICH is underway with its work in overseeing the implementation of Housing First Principles in state programs that provide services to people experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness.

Cal ICH is in the process of analyzing results from our FY 21-22 Housing First Implementation Survey. Adapted from the 2018 Housing First checklists presented to the Council, this survey helps Cal ICH staff understand how our state partners are implementing Housing First requirements, identify areas where more support is needed, and develop recommendations for improving implementation.

Cal ICH staff worked with partners from eight state departments or agencies and identified 35 grant programs that fall under Housing First requirements. Staff are currently analyzing and summarizing responses from the survey in order to develop a report on the progress of Housing First implementation, which will be presented to the Council at a future meeting. In the meantime, Cal ICH staff will continue to meet periodically with state departments and agencies to ensure current and new state programs are developed and updated in compliance with Housing First requirements.

#### **Landscape Assessment**

Per Assembly Bill 140, signed into law by Governor Newsom July 2021, Cal ICH is conducting a landscape assessment of the state's response to homelessness. This assessment aims to study the landscape of programs that are funded, implemented, and/or administered by California state agencies, which serve people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. To complete this work, Cal ICH has contracted with the Terner Center for Housing Innovation and Goldman School of Public Policy at UC Berkeley, UCSF's Center for Vulnerable Populations, the Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative, and Abt Associates.

Through a comprehensive review of state programs and interviews with staff at state agencies, Cal ICH identified 35 state-funded and administered programs that serve people at risk of or experiencing homelessness across nine different state agencies. By administering a survey, collecting publicly available data, and communicating with state agency staff, Cal ICH has collected data about program activities, administration, and funding distribution. Cal ICH has also added three additional staff members to bolster internal staffing and to assist with the writing and research necessary to complete the landscape assessment. At the time of this report, Cal ICH and partners are collecting, cleaning, and analyzing the data described above.

# 100-Day Challenge

The four California communities that took part in the Governor's 100-Day Challenge on Encampments completed their initial 100 days on April 15, 2022. During their 100 days, Merced, San Bernardino, Sacramento, and Santa Cruz counties housed 109 people that were previously experiencing unsheltered homelessness and placed 229 on the pathway to safe and stable housing by connecting them with shelter and services.

In the 100-Day Challenge, all entities of the local homelessness response systems 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 RE!NSTITUTE are paired with each community to provide intensive support and guidance throughout the challenge.

Composed of front-line staff from each community, the following accomplishments were reported by the 100-Day Challenge Teams:

- Merced County: Merced County's team focused their efforts on a long-term encampment in Los Banos, and provided safe and stable housing for 20 people living at the site. Another 65 people were put on the path to housing by being provided shelter and services. The team achieved these results through new approaches that hastened the process of getting new documents, improved data collection and expanded community engagement.
- San Bernardino County: San Bernardino County's team worked on small, scattered encampments throughout the county, which is the largest county by area in the continental United States. Thanks to an enhanced data platform and expanded case conferencing, the team was able to house 52 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and put another 98 people on the path to housing.
- Sacramento County: Sacramento County's team worked to integrate the homelessness response amongst dozens of service providers and local agencies in the county. During the challenge, all these entities came together understand how a unified approach to both services and data creates a more efficient and effective system. As a result of this work the team was able to develop a list of 49 people who received intensive case management as they work toward housing and housed four people experiencing homeless, with another 12 on the pathway to housing.
- Santa Cruz County: Santa Cruz County's team confronted several obstacles during the 100-Day Challenge, including flooding, COVID-19, limited resources and a lack of available housing. Despite these difficulties, 45 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness were placed in housing and another 54 people were put on the pathway to housing, using a combination of shelters and managed encampments. To achieve this, the team members expanded their housing navigation services, improved their data systems and expanded their landlord outreach.

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The participants have now moved into the "sustaining phase" of the challenge, where they are working to lock in the innovations made during the challenge and continuing their work serving people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with greater efficiency.

Cal ICH welcomes the final group of communities to participate in the Governor's 100-Day Challenge, which is scheduled to begin its 100 days on July 6, 2022. The final cohort will utilize an applied training model that will involve training two individuals (ambassadors) from each community and equipping them with the tools and skills necessary to organize, launch, and support 100-Day Challenges on Homelessness in their communities. In addition to building the capability to design and support 100-Day Challenges, each community will participate in a 100-Day Challenge led by their own community ambassadors during the program. Participating communities in the 100-Day Challenge Applied Training cohort are Lake County, Fresno County, City of Richmond, City of Eureka, Santa Barbara County, City of Los Angeles, Merced County, and Santa Cruz County.

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

The Department of Aging (CDA) continues to focus efforts on advancing the Master Plan for Aging, including Goal 1: Housing for All Ages and Stages, which is a key component to building out an age-and-disability friendly California. The following efforts reflect the department's housing-related efforts as well as related stakeholder engagement on housing issues.

**Adult Family Homes (AFH):** The AFH project will place up to 10 older adults with cognitive impairments into family homes and participants will receive the health, emotional, and social benefits of being a part of a family unit. This program is modeled after the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS) successful Family Homes Agency (FHA) program. CDA has hired a lead for the project and has received FHA program policies and procedures from DDS. CDA will start collaborating with DDS to develop and implement this new program after the AFH program lead starts. CDA estimates that the new program will be implemented by December 2023.

Office of the Long-Term Care Patient Representative: The Office of the Long-Term Care Patient Representative (OLTCPR) provides individuals on facility interdisciplinary teams to represent the health care wishes of incapacitated and unrepresented individuals. In January, CDA hired a new executive to oversee the development and implementation of the new Office. In February, CDA issued a request for information to solicit non-profit and local government agencies for their interest in providing local patient representatives. The RFI closed on April 14th. CDA is currently in the process of drafting the policies that govern the program and after those are completed, will be developing and implementing the training for the new patient representatives. CDA estimates that the new program will be fully implemented in July.

**Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Council (DACLAC):** The Department of Aging is leading CalHHS' DACLAC committee with a focus on advancing community living, inclusion, and integration across California. Housing continues to be a key priority of the committee, with members of the housing subcommittee focusing advocacy on expanding access to affordable housing for older adults and people with disabilities through rental assistance and section 8 vouchers.

California Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council: The first ever California Elder & Disability Justice Coordinating Council launched in January. This stakeholder-led Council, which includes cross-sector elder and disability justice leaders, as well as several representatives from across State agencies, departments, and offices is convened by CDA with support from the Department of Justice. The goal of this coordinating council is to increase coordination and develop recommendations to prevent and address the abuse, neglect, exploitation, and fraud perpetrated against older adults and adults with disabilities. The Council membership is currently focused on developing an Equity Framework to guide its recommendations and activities, as well as a landscape and gap analysis to identify Council priorities. For vulnerable older adults, housing is a critical issue as it pertains to conservatorships, safe transition into housing, and financial exploitation.

Implementing the Master Plan for Aging in California Together (IMPACT) Committee: In April 2022, the IMPACT Committee issued an MPA Year One in Review Report, calling on the state to focus on two big issues in the years ahead: 1) Building a System of Care, and 2) Ending Older Adult Homelessness. On the issue of older adult homelessness, the committee advocated for both capital and ongoing funding for deeply affordable, accessible housing linked with needed health care and supportive services. Further, they asked for more targeted investments to meet the needs of older adults and people with disabilities, and they hope to see more explicit allocations. Finally, they are proponents of a rental-assistance program targeted to severely rent-burdened and other precariously housed older adults and persons with disabilities.

Last, there's been considerable discussion in the aging and disability network about the New York Times series that highlighted the impact on older adults as a cohort in need of focused attention: <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2022/04/18/us/homeless-deaths-los-angeles-new-york.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2022/04/18/us/homeless-deaths-los-angeles-new-york.html</a>

## California Community Colleges (CCC)

## **Student Housing Programs**

Homeless and Housing Insecure Pilot (HHIP)

In fiscal year 2019-20, the state Legislature appropriated \$9M annually to California Community Colleges (CCC) to support ongoing rapid rehousing services to CCC students. As a result, the Chancellor's Office launched the HHIP program to support pilot colleges develop and/or strengthen capacity to support students facing housing insecurity or homelessness by maintaining stable housing, ultimately improving their educational outcomes.

The first cohort consists of 14 colleges, with each college receiving \$500,000-\$700,000 annually for three years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the pilot has been extended for a fourth year. Among others, a primary requirement of the program is that colleges establish a partnership with a local Housing Service Provider (HSP) in order to support participating students with housing navigation and placement. Colleges have the flexibility to determine services for their individual HHIP programs. Common support services include providing case management, housing navigation, emergency grants, hotel vouchers, housing deposit assistance, and ongoing rental assistance.

Please see below for a list of key program findings from the 2020-2021 academic year.

- The Program served 332 students in Fall 2020, and in Spring 2021 672 students were served. There was a 102% increase in students served from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021.
- The most common services provided include: case management, housing navigation services and ongoing rental assistance.
- All colleges executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a Housing Service Provider or had an MOU in-progress.
- 36% of participating colleges hired new HHIP program staff as of June 2021.

# Higher Education Student Housing Grant Program

SB 169 appropriated \$500 million one-time General Fund in fiscal year 2021-22, and states intent to provide additional one-time \$750 million in FY 22-23 and in FY 23-24 (\$1.5 billion in total) to either construct student housing or acquire and renovate commercial properties to provide affordable, low-cost housing options for public postsecondary students in California. The CCCs will receive 50% of the total funding (\$1 billion for FYs 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24), and up to \$25 million can be used to support planning grants to determine if it is feasible for a community college to construct and offer affordable student rental housing.

University of California and California State University campuses, and CCCs, submitted 42 construction grant applications requesting approximately \$2.8 billion in state funding. CCCs also submitted 75 planning grant applications requesting approximately \$191 million in state funding.

For available construction grant funding, the Department of Finance prioritized support for eligible construction grant applications that reflected an intersegmental housing arrangement, and then prioritized further applications based upon a weighted ranking that combined an applicant's state-supported per bed construction costs and an applicant's proposed student rental rates. The Department of Finance prioritized available planning grant funding to support early-stage planning activities for all colleges requesting planning grants, including feasibility studies, engineering studies, financing studies, and environmental impact studies.

## **Student Basic Needs**

Basic needs funds from the 2021-2022 Budget were allocated to CCCs including:

- Ongoing \$30M for Basic Needs Centers and Coordinators
- One-time \$100M to Support Basic Needs
- One-time \$3.1M for Cal Fresh Outreach and Application Assistance

We implemented data collection tools and streamlined reporting, to understand how funds are being used, and how we can best support CCCs.

# **Interagency Collaborations**

The CCCO is actively engaged with other state agencies and workgroups including the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and other segments of higher education.

The California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance (CHEBNA) hosted a virtual learning series in April 2022. Sessions addressed ways to continue supporting students in a number of areas, including with access to information about financial aid, healthy food, safe housing, and

overall health and mental health care. This basic needs professional development effort presents an opportunity to expand the knowledgebase by exploring creative ways to support students that are responsive to the pandemic affecting our communities.

## California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)

# California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Updates:

- Active Parolees that are Transient/Experiencing Homelessness: 8,012
- Active Parolees that are Transient/Experiencing Homelessness percentage 17.78%
- During the period of July 2020 until March 31, 2022, the Returning Home Well (RWH)
   Initiative has allowed CDCR to enroll an additional 2567 individuals into housing and
   wrap around services. RHW funds were also allocated to nonprofits such as Transitions
   Clinic Network and the Anti Recidivism Coalition which provided direct transportation to
   individuals who were returning home after serving their prison sentence.

Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) <u>Action Area 5, Objective 14, Activity 7</u> is as follows: "Assess recommendations from the Council of State Governments' Reducing Homelessness for People with Behavioral Health Needs Leaving Prisons and Jails report and identify priorities for actions to be taken in FYs 21-22 and 22-23."

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 hosted a webinar series from December 2021 through April 2022 that focused 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 covered 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

The recordings and meeting materials from these webinars may be found on the <a href="CCJBH">CCJBH</a> website.

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# **CDCR Attachment:**

**Table: Homeless 12-Month Average** 

Year	Population	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	12-mon Avg
2019	Total Pop	37,025	37,169	37,107	37,200	37,466	38,105	38,042	38,507	38,570	38,620	38,845	38,895	37,963
2019	Homeless	4,125	4,107	4,095	4,140	4,292	4,574	4,405	4,596	4,657	4,692	4,717	4,735	4,428
2019	Homeless %	11.1%	11.0%	11.0%	11.1%	11.5%	12.0%	11.6%	11.9%	12.1%	12.1%	12.1%	12.2%	11.7%
2020	Total Pop	39,014	38,949	39,708	41,590	41,802	41,515	42,408	42,972	43,864	43,461	42,624	42,280	41,682
2020	Homeless	4,835	4,866	5,208	5,879	6,134	6,129	6,215	6,322	6,482	6,240	6,194	6,354	5,905
2020	Homeless %	12.4%	12.5%	13.1%	14.1%	14.7%	14.8%	14.7%	14.7%	14.8%	14.4%	14.5%	15.0%	14.2%
2021	Total Pop	41,785	40,623	38,468	38,352	38,102	37,613	36,431	35,317	34,757	34,431	34,085	33,695	36,972
2021	Homeless	6,319	6,125	5,953	5,900	5,954	5,867	5,863	5,647	5,654	5,563	5,470	5,429	5,812
2021	Homeless %	15.1%	15.1%	15.5%	15.4%	15.6%	15.6%	16.1%	16.0%	16.3%	16.2%	16.0%	16.1%	15.7%

# **Counting Rules Explained**

For all metrics the following filters are applied:

Supervision Status: Include Active, Tolled

Supervision Category: Include Parole

Supervision Type: Exclude CCTRP, MCRP

Unit: Exclude Interstate

Supervision Level: Exclude CD, SD, GX, HC, PD, DP, OH, OS

Homeless Count - Count of Active parolees that do not have an address or have the SOMS address type of Transient - Homeless or Shelter Transient; Excludes parolees in custody or pending deport.

## California Department of Education (CDE)

The California Department of Education (CDE) received an additional \$98M of federal funds to implement the American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth (ARP- HCY) Fund. Through these funds, the CDE has selected three Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers (HE TACs) to provide technical assistance, support, and statewide activities to schools, districts, and county offices of education serving children and youth experiencing homelessness. The selected HE TACs are

- San Diego County Office of Education
- Contra Costa County Office of Education
- Los Angeles County Office of Education

More information about CDE's HE TACs can be found at <u>Homeless Education Technical</u> Assistance Centers - Homeless Education (CA Dept of Education).

The CDE will also use a portion of its ARP HCY funds to select school districts and county offices of education that have innovative program practices to support homeless children and their families. Awardees will be required to scale up their proven practice and teach others on how to implement their innovative practice to support children and youth experiencing homelessness. Awardees will be selected no later than July 1, 2022.

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

## **Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP)**

On March 30, DHCS held its third stakeholder meeting to provide program design updates, including refinements of performance measures based on solicited feedback received in March. All Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) that are eligible to participate in the HHIP submitted Letters of Intent to DHCS by April 4. DHCS is working to finalize program reporting templates, including the Local Homelessness Plan (LHP), and create funding allocations. DHCS issued an MCP All Plan Letter (APL) on May 5. Participating MCPs are required to submit their LHP to DHCS by June 30. Materials from previous meetings and program documents are or will be available on the DHCS website. For questions or comments related to HHIP, please email DHCSHHIP@dhcs.ca.gov.

# **CalAIM Community Supports**

On February 15, DHCS received updated Models of Care (MOCs) from MCPs implementing Community Supports in formerly Whole Person Care/Health Homes Program counties, including proposed networks and estimated capacities for services. The final component of the MOC refresh submission from MCPs implementing Community Supports in all other counties was due by April 15. Revised Community Supports elections are posted on the <a href="DHCS website">DHCS website</a>. DHCS will continue to update Community Supports elections at least semi-annually, or if MCPs propose significant changes that merit a refresh. On March 2, DHCS released revised <a href="APL 21-017">APL 21-017</a> with additional clarifying information on Community Supports.

In addition, DHCS solicited stakeholder feedback through April 29 on the <u>Billing and Invoicing</u> <u>Guidance</u> and <u>Member-Level Information Sharing Between MCPs and ECM Provider Guidance</u>, including identifying additional areas where data standardization may be beneficial.

# CalAIM Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Program Design Webinar

On January 28, DHCS hosted the first in a series of webinars focused on the PATH initiative. California received federal approval to implement the PATH initiative as part of the state's 1115 demonstration waiver. PATH will support the implementation of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), starting this year with Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports, by making funding opportunities available to "on the ground" partners, including providers, counties, former Whole Person Care lead entities, community-based organizations, Tribes, and others working to implement ECM/Community Supports. The webinar provided interested stakeholders with post-waiver approval updates and a detailed overview of the following PATH initiatives:

- Technical Assistance Marketplace
- Collaborative Planning and Implementation
- Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion, and Development

This webinar also served as a venue to answer general questions from stakeholders on PATH initiatives. For additional information, and to view the webinar materials, please visit the <a href="mailto:DHCS">DHCS</a> website. For questions or comments, please email <a href="mailto:CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov">CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov</a>.

## **CalAIM PATH Funding for the CalAIM Justice-Involved Initiatives**

In early May, DHCS released a draft application template for Round 1 of the Cal AIM PATH Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program. Eligible entities will be able to apply for Round 1 funding until July 31.

PATH is a \$1.44 billion program approved under the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative. It provides transitional funding to invest in providers, counties, community-based organizations (CBOs), and other partners to support the state's efforts to maintain, build, and scale the capacity necessary to support and implement key initiatives under CalAIM.

California received funding to support implementation activities focused on pre-release Medi-Cal eligibility and enrollment, as part of the statewide justice-involved initiative. Funding for the PATH Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program will support collaborative planning as well as information technology (IT) system modifications necessary to implement pre-release Medi-Cal application and suspension processes. This program will provide \$151 million in funding to correctional agencies, correctional institutions, and county social service departments in two rounds:

• Round 1: A planning grant funding opportunity to provide grants to correctional agencies (or a county agency applying on behalf of a correctional agency) to support collaborative planning with county departments of social services and other enrollment implementation partners to identify processes, protocols, and IT modifications that are necessary to support implementation of pre-release enrollment and suspension processes. The planning grant funding in Round 1 can be used to support development of the application for Round 2 implementation grant funding.

Round 2: An implementation grant funding opportunity to provide grants to support
correctional agencies and county departments of social services as they implement the
processes, protocols, and IT system modifications that were identified during the Round
1 planning phase. While entities do not need to participate in Round 1 in order to apply
for Round 2 funding, the Round 1 planning grant funds offer an opportunity to support
the development of a comprehensive application for Round 2 funding.

DHCS will release a fillable PDF version of this application template in the coming weeks. The non-fillable version is being shared for awareness. Eligible applicants are encouraged to begin drafting responses to the questions while the fillable PDF application template is pending release. Eligible entities will be able to apply for Round 1 funding from the time the application template is released until July 31.

For questions or comments, please email <u>CalAIMJusticePreReleaseApps@dhcs.ca.gov</u>. For additional information, please visit the <u>DHCS website</u>.

# 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 nonentitlement 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.
- In the first quarter of 2022:
  - As directed by the United State Housing and Urban Development, the HOME-ARP team issued a statewide survey and held three focus groups to assess California's housing needs and service delivery gaps. The survey was completed by over 530 different stakeholders and the focus groups were attended by over 100 stakeholders.
  - Leading with Equity
    - The HOME-ARP team held three Tribal webinars to ensure Tribal communities are educated on the programs.

- Established relationships with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to ensure California's reentry population will benefit from HOME-ARP Implementation.
- NOFA Release-HOME-ARP staff anticipates making funding available in December 2022.

# 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 awarded 27 projects with 2,315 units created for a total funding amount of \$923 million.
- Tier 1 projects will be starting construction as early as June 1, 2022.
- The Project Solicitation document for Tier 2 was released February 28, 2022 and the application period closed on April 8, 2022.
- 43 applications were received for Tier 2 and awards will be announced late June.

# 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.

- The NOFA was released on March 28, 2022, with the application over-the-counter (OTC) period running from April 29 to July 29, 2022. Awards will be made on a continuous basis through February 2023 or until all funds have been exhausted.
- The total funding amount made available is \$285 million of which \$100 million is setaside for residential hotels and \$50 million is set-aside for small projects with 20 units or less.
- 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 in the five-year period. Rehabilitation and construction activity must conclude prior to August 31, 2026.

# **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. Approximately 800 comments were received from more than 50 stakeholders. Final guidelines and the Super NOFA were released March 30, 2022, followed by the application release on May 6. The competitive NOFA application period closes June 28, 2022 with awards scheduled for November 2022.
- Application workshops and webinars are being conducted in May. In addition, preapplication consultations are available for emerging developers and tribal entities.

# **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.
- 91 applications received with a total request of \$982,338,817 with a total of 6,278 units.
  - o 84 projects were reviewed for threshold.
  - 51 projects met minimum threshold requirements and moved to rating and ranking.
  - o 51 projects scored the maximum of 116.
  - o 22 projects were reviewed for feasibility based on tiebreaker scores.
  - 20 projects were selected based on total funds available, geographic targets, and set asides.
  - \$225,618,262 total funds were awarded to the 20 projects (which includes \$5.6 million of disencumbered funds from a previous round), including those highlighted below:
    - One (1) tribal project.
    - One (1) non-tax credit project.
    - Five (5) 9% tax credit projects.

Two Excess Site projects located in the South Lake Tahoe area were awarded.

## 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.
- 61 total awards have been announced as of May 6, 2022, for a total of \$970.85 million awarded creating 3,428 homes.
- 214 homeless youth households and 1,343 chronically homeless households will be served in the 61 projects awarded to date in Round 2 at a point in time. The final day for geographic-based allocations was January 31, 2022 and the final application date for Fiscal Year 2021-22 was 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 rehousing, homeless prevention, street outreach and emergency shelter.

- The ESG 2022 NOFA and applications are anticipated to be released on May 26, 2022 for the CoC and Balance of State (BoS) allocations.
- 2022 NOFA workshops will be held on June 7, 2022, and applications will be due July 26, 2022.
- Spending is ongoing for ESG-2020 funds. The expenditure deadline is July 7, 2022.
- Award letters were issued on April 1, 2022 for 2021 ESG funds. The expenditure deadline is August 31, 2023.
- The ESG team began monitoring various expenses from selected Request for Funds/Detailed Expense Reports in January 2022.
- The ESG team will begin annual monitoring sixteen 2018 ESG contracts in June 2022.

## California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program

In August 2018 and March 2019, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) announced the availability of approximately \$53 million and \$29 million, respectively, for the California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program.

CESH funds may be used for five primary activities: housing relocation and stabilization services (including rental assistance), operating subsidies for permanent housing, flexible housing subsidy funds, operating support for emergency housing interventions, and systems support for homelessness services and housing delivery systems. In addition, some administrative entities may use CESH funds to develop or update a Coordinated Entry System (CES), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), or Homelessness Plan.

- In August of 2018, the Round 1 NOFA awarded \$29,896,104
- In March of 2019, the Round 2 NOFA awarded \$53,306,833
- A total of 86 contracts have been awarded
- To date, a total of \$42,476,841 has been disbursed
- HCD Website: California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program

#### **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.

- On April 18, 2022, HUD issued CPD Notice 22-06 which extended the ESG-CV expenditure deadline to September 30, 2023. Additionally, HUD replaced the March 31, 2022, 80% expenditure requirement and is now requiring 50% of ESG-CV funds be drawn in IDIS by June 16, 2022.
- As of May 4, 2022, 37% of ESG-CV funds have been drawn.
- HCD is working with ICF to provide additional resources, capacity and assistance to ESG-CV subrecipients in order to meet the June 16, 2022 expenditure deadline.
- Under the ESG-CV Tribal Set-Aside solicitation, seven Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities have been awarded just under \$4 million in ESG-CV funds. ICF is providing one-on-one technical assistance to each grantee.
- The ESG/ESG-CV team continue to conduct weekly Office Hours to provide program updates, trainings from homeless service subject matter experts and answer questions. On average 90 stakeholders attend each week.
- ICF continues to hold trainings, community workshops, and provide intensive technical assistance to subrecipients and homeless services stakeholders.
- As of the end March 2022 ESG-CV funds have been used to serve 29,800 people and 7,900 moved into permanent housing (3,500 households).

# **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 released the 2022 CDBG NOFA on April 19, 2022. Applications for Community
  Development activities are due on June 20th, Economic Development applications are
  due on July 18th, and applications from jurisdictions on behalf of non-federally
  recognized tribes are due on August 19th.
- 2021 CDBG awards will be issued in May 2022.

## **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 and as of April 2022, all contracts have been executed.
- 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 May 1, 2022, all 145 Standard Agreements have been executed.
- A Colonias application is approved routing for approval in the coming month.
- Thirteen of the nineteen CDBG-CV Tribal Set-Aside Awards have been announced. Tribal awards went to City of Shasta Lake on behalf of the Wintu Tribe of Northern California, Fernande~no Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Colfax-Todd's Valley Consolidated Tribe, Yurok Indian Housing Authority, Greenville Rancheria, a federally recognized Tribe, and California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc. The remaining six 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 technical assistance (TA) to help counties and CoCs enhance, develop, and/or improve the delivery of homelessness programs and services.

- Housing Stability TA is provided by the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), and the contract has been extended until December 2022.
- CSH will assist the Homekey Program in developing educational series for establishing working relationships with stakeholders to improve the health and housing outcomes for peoples experiencing and at risk of homelessness.
- Housing First TA is provided by the Center for Common Concerns (HomeBase), and the contract has been extended to June 2023.
- Homebase will assist the Homekey Program in providing TA related to stakeholder feedback process through key informant interviews of individuals who were displaced from Homekey project sites during rehabilitation to support developing additional guidance for Homekey recipients to strengthen support and prevent homelessness for displaced households.

# 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 May 5, 2022:
  - 19 projects are complete, and 135projects are currently under construction.
  - 445NPLH move-ins are completed or in progress.

• The NPLH 2021 Annual Report has been completed and is available at <a href="https://example.com/HCD's No Place">HCD's No Place</a> Like Home Program 2020-21 Annual Report

# **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.
- The Guidelines and NOFA are published on the website. The first workshop was held on May 4th. The application due date is June 28th.
- This will be the last round of funding. The remaining funding allocation is approximately \$90 million.

# **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)

THP "Round 3 funding" is \$8 million. Of the fifty-six eligible counties, forty-six acceptance forms have been received and nine counties have opted out (Colusa, Inyo, Lake, Mariposa, Mono, Modoc, Plumas, San Benito, Tehama) leaving a total of \$38,000 to be reallocated. Representatives are compiling and processing standard agreement routing documents

# **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.

- Five acceptance forms have been received and one county opted out (Contra Costa) leaving a total of \$17,379 to be reallocated.
- Representatives are compiling and processing standard agreement routing documents.

## **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,40acceptance forms were received and now 10 have opted out (Colusa, Inyo, Lake, Marin, Mariposa, Modoc, Plumas, San Benito, Solano, Tehama) leaving a total of \$90,120 to be reallocated (Solano has now opted out).
   Representatives are compiling and processing standard agreement routing documents.

# **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.
- stakeholder meeting was held in December 2021 to receive feedback on expected updates to the NOFA from the previous round.
- A NOFA was released in February 2022.
- The application was due on April 8<sup>th</sup> and the program received 70 applications. After threshold review and score ranking, 36 applications will move forward to award. The program will request internal HCD approval on May 26th.

# Housing for a Healthy California (HHC)

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 are high-cost health users. The program provides funding on a competitive basis to create permanent supportive housing opportunities to developers (Article I) and counties (Article II).

## Article I (Developers)

- The 2020-21 HHC NOFA was released for approx. \$160 million on 12/31/21
- The application period closed on March 1, 2022. Three (3) supplemental over-the-counter applications and thirty-three (33) competitive applications were submitted by the deadline. Awards will be announced this summer.
- This will be the last HHC round using the state's annual federal allocation of National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) dollars.

## Article II (Counties)

California Interagency Council on Homelessness Department and Federal Partner Updates – May 31, 2022

On July 20, 2019, the Department released the HHC Article II NOFA which made available approximately \$60 million in Building Homes and Jobs Act (SB 2) Allocation funds. Unlike Article I, which focuses on multifamily loans, Article II provides grants to counties for permanent supportive housing for individuals who are Chronically Homeless, or Homeless and a High-Cost Health User.

- Eligible activities include:
  - 1. Acquisition, new construction, or reconstruction and rehabilitation of (a) project(s).
  - 2. Operating assistance
    - a. Long-term rental assistance
    - b. Capitalized Operating Subsidy Reserve (COSR)
  - 3. Administrative Costs
- In July of 2019, the HHC Article II NOFA awarded \$60,119,318
- A total of 6 contracts have been awarded
- To date, a total of \$1,069,359 has been disbursed
- HCD Website: Housing for a Healthy California Program

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

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

The Victim Services Branch at Cal OES has six 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
- Specialized Emergency Housing (KE) Program
- > Transitional Housing (XH) 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

Orange

Fresno

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 <u>services</u> provided: 1,193\*\*
- Education <u>services</u> provided: 533\*\*

## 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 <u>services</u> provided: **337**\*

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

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

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

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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 streetlife. 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 podes specialized services for youth experiencing sexual exploitation.

# **Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive

# **2021 Statistics (January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: 3,428
- > Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: 2,208
- ➤ Relocation assistance <u>services</u> provided: **11**\*\*

# 4. 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 – December 31, 2021)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: 3,084
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: 23,540\*\*
- ➤ Relocation assistance services provided: 3,337\*\*
- \*\* This indicates the number of times a service was provided, not individuals. An individual may receive a service more than once.

## 5. 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

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

crime into permanent housing. Successful transitional housing programs provide a range of optional supportive services and let victims choosethe 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 – December 31, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: 4,395
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing <u>services</u> (i.e., nights) provided: 197,569\*\*
- ➤ Relocation assistance services provided: 3,653\*\*

## 6. 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 – December 31, 2021)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: 6,003
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing <u>services</u> (i.e., nights) provided: 76,769\*\*
- ➤ Relocation assistance services provided: 23,662\*\*

## California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

The California Department of Public Health Office of Health Equity is pleased to announce that, in partnership with Homebase and The Center at Sierra Health Foundation, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a pilot Health Ambassador Program will soon be released. Through the pilot Health Ambassador Program grantees will recruit, hire, and train people with current or recent experience with homelessness to increase COVID-19 vaccinations and testing. Health Ambassadors will also provide other health information and services to people experiencing

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

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homelessness. Grants for the Health Ambassador Program will be awarded to Continuums of Care (CoCs) and other community-based organizations (CBOs). The program will also identify and document best practices and lessons learned for future ambassador programs. Grant recipients will receive ongoing technical assistance and support throughout the grant period. To receive more information about the Health Ambassador Program including a notice of the RFP once released, please email: <a href="mailto:centergrants@shfcenter.org">centergrants@shfcenter.org</a>.

# California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)

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 experiencing homelessness, have subject matter expertise regarding disabilities, and are important partners for No Wrong Door coordination of services.

# **Partnerships in the Orange – San Gabriel District**

DOR Orange County offices work with multiple community partners in Orange County to support individuals with mental health disabilities who are experiencing/have experienced homelessness. Mental Health of Orange County has a housing program for individuals with mental health diagnoses who are also homeless. The program provides housing to individuals who are seeking employment with a requirement that the individuals must work in order to keep their apartment. As a result, Mental Health of Orange County sends program participants to DOR for employment services. DOR contracts with Pacific Clinics Mental Health who supports consumers that need assistance with housing; the program conducts various residential services which include outreach and engagement with individual who are homeless, temporary housing and support services, linkage to permanent housing, and support to build independent living skills needed to maintain housing stability. In addition, LA RISE has a new liaison with DOR staff at the America's Job Center of California to coordinate employment and housing services for individuals. This program assists Los Angeles County residents 18 and older that are unemployed and seeking long term employment and who are currently experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or previously experienced homelessness.

## **Redwood Empire District**

The Redwood Empire District's (RED) Pilot has arranged for a mock interview program for individuals experiencing homelessness with local businesses through the Workforce Development Board. The DOR RED Pilot works with multiple organizations and agencies including the Regional Center, Community Health Center, Adult Protective Services, Coordinated Entry System and homeless service agencies for wrap around services. This collaborative effort has been assisting consumers during the winter months and COVID-19 pandemic who are at-risk of homeless or who are experiencing homelessness.

## **Expansion of Life Moves Pilot in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties**

For over a year the DOR San Francisco and San Jose Districts have participated in a pilot with a homeless services agency called Life Moves that serves individuals in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties with shelter services. The focus of the pilot is to refer Life Moves participants to DOR and a mental health organization for job placement before exiting the Life Moves

shelter. In the last three months there have been additional housing units open in both counties. They recently opened 52 housing units in Half Moon Bay at the Coast Motel and 80 single and 12 family units in Mt. View. In July they will open a 60-bed shelter along the Guadalupe River in San Jose. By the end of 2022 they will open 200 units at Monterey and Branham in San Jose. By early in 2023 they will open 60 single units and 24 family units in Palo Alto. In September of 2022 they will temporarily move Maple Street residents into motel while they tear down their current building to build a new Maple Street building in Redwood City which will house 260 individuals experiencing homelessness by the winter of 2024. DOR will provide employment services and placement to all of these newly sheltered and housed individuals. In addition to partnering with Life Moves, DOR has begun working with Abundant Grace, an agency providing employment services to individuals experiencing homelessness in Half Moon Bay, providing work experience opportunities in farming and coastal clean-up.

# **Independent Living Centers (ILCs)**

DOR provides funding and supports to 28 non-profit ILCs throughout the state that serve individuals of all ages and with any type of disability, income level, and housing status. ILCs provide information and referral, independent living skills training, housing assistance, peer counseling, individual and systems advocacy, personal assistance, assistive technology, and institutional diversion and transition services.

#### **Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program**

DOR's TBI Advisory Board works to strengthen California's system of services and supports for people with TBI. The TBI Advisory Board is currently conducting a needs assessment and is working to develop a TBI State Plan which includes individuals experiencing homelessness with TBI as a target population.

In April 2022, DOR awarded State and California Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spending Plan funding to eight nonprofit organizations to serve individuals with TBI, family members, and caregivers. TBI core services include community reintegration, supported living, vocational supportive services, professional and public education, and information and referral. In addition to provide service to individuals with TBI, each organization has a priority area of focus to target outreach, coordination and collaboration, and services to underserved populations.

DOR released a Request for Interest in May 2022 to identify providers in the unserved/underserved geographic regions of Northern and Central California to provide TBI services.

## **Current TBI service providers for coordination of services:**

## **Brain Injury Center Central Coast**

Serving - Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

TBI priority area of focus – Individuals with TBI living in rural areas, Latino and Asian communities, and homeless individual.

# Central Coast Center for Independent Living

California Interagency Council on Homelessness Department and Federal Partner Updates – May 31, 2022

Serving - Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counites

TBI priority area of focus - Individuals with TBI living in rural areas and who are monolingual/bilingual.

# Independent Living Center of Southern California

Serving – Los Angeles and Riverside Counties

TBI priority area of focus – Spanish speaking individuals with TBI and services that address the digital divide.

## Jodi House

Serving - Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Imperial, Riverside, San Bernadino, Siskiyou and Solano Counties and the cities of Chico, Bakersfield, South Central Los Angeles, San Marcos, and Watsonville.

TBI priority area of focus – Spanish speaking and homeless individuals.

# Dignity Health, Mercy General, Sacramento

Area Served-Sacramento and Placer Counties and the city of Redding

TBI priority area of focus – Low-income individuals and those that have acquired their TBI due to domestic violence and individuals involved with the criminal justice system.

# Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living

Serving - Los Angeles and San Bernadino Counties

TBI priority area of focus – Homeless individuals on skid row and homeless veterans.

## San Diego Brain Injury Foundation

Serving - San Diego and Imperial Counties

TBI priority area of focus - Spanish speaking individuals.

# St. Jude Brain Injury Network

Serving - Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties

TBI priority area of focus – Improving access to services for transition age youth ages 18 to 24 who acquired their TBI after the age of 18 and are not eligible for Regional Center services and individuals with TBI who are experiencing homelessness.

## California Department of Social Services (DSS)

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

<u>Subscribe</u> to the CDSS Housing and Homelessness Branch newsletter and visit our <u>website</u> for additional information on all CDSS Housing and Homelessness programs.

## **Expansions to CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs**

As part of the Administration's historic \$12 billion investment in ending homelessness, CDSS is administering just over \$2 billion in funding through Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 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). The FY 2022-23 May Revision reflects the continued state investment in these housing and homelessness programs.

To support the expansion and growth of CDSS funded Housing and Homelessness programs statewide, and based upon needs identified by counties, tribes and a vast array of stakeholders, CDSS has launched a comprehensive Technical Assistance (TA) initiative in partnership with the <a href="Change Well Project">Change Well Project</a>. The TA offerings include a suite of resources for Housing and Homelessness Branch (HHB) grantees, including learning community discussions, webinars, curated program tools and guides, and 1:1 consultation, and are designed along several tracks aimed at different staff needs.

An initial summary letter, identifying all funds appropriated in FY 2021-22 is available in the <u>All County Welfare Director's Letter (ACWDL) dated July 19, 2021.</u> Additional information relative to each program is linked in the updates below and the recommended strategic use of these programs is also outlined in the <u>Putting the Funding Pieces Together: Guide to Strategic Uses of New and Recent State and Federal Funds to Prevent and End Homelessness.</u>

In coordination with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), CDSS recently released guidance, <u>All County Information Notice (ACIN) I-26-22</u>, to County Welfare Departments (CWDs) and Federally Recognized Tribal Governments in California administering CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs on utilizing and connecting eligible program participants to Emergency Rental Assistance funds and recommendations on leveraging other funding and resources to address rent and utility arrears in coordination with CDSS-funded Housing and Homelessness Program resources.

## **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 January 2022, more than 28,200 families have been permanently housed through HSP.
- The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$285 million for HSP over multiple years, including the annual, ongoing appropriation of \$95 million, and a one-time appropriation of \$190 million available over three years.

- On December 13, 2021, CDSS released the <u>CalWORKs Housing Support Program</u>
   <u>Notice of Funding and Expansion of Eligibility to Include Homelessness Prevention</u> to
   notify counties of funds available to establish, continue, and expand housing and
   homelessness assistance through the CalWORKs HSP.
- This letter announced recent statutory changes enacted through <u>Assembly Bill (AB) 135</u> (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.
- Fifty-five counties accepted a total of \$270.75 million need-based, non-competitive allocations in FY 2021-22. Final award information, including participating local county social service agencies, can be viewed in County Fiscal Letter (CFL) 21/22-90
- The <u>FY 22-23 May Revision</u> includes another \$285 million for HSP, available over multiple years.

# CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA) Program

The CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA) Program serves eligible families applying for or receiving CalWORKs 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.

- From July 2021 through February 2022, over 28,000 families were approved for temporary HA and 1,600 families were approved for permanent HA – for a total of over 29,600 families approved for CalWORKs HA. The CalWORKs HA program is an entitlement program, available to all eligible families applying for or receiving CalWORKs benefits.
- CDSS publishes the CA 237 CalWORKs Homeless Assistance Program monthly statistical report with statistical information on requests and net expenditures; these data reports are available to the public <a href="here">here</a>.

## **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 February 2022, more than 1,800 families have been permanently housed through BFH.
- The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$92.5 million in one-time funds for BFH, available over three years.
- On February 11, 2022, CDSS released the <u>Notice of Funding for the Bringing Families</u>
   <u>Home Program</u> to notify counties of funds available to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through BFH.
- This letter announced recent statutory changes enacted through <u>Assembly Bill (AB) 135</u> (Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021), including expansion of eligibility to families at-risk of homelessness, and provided new guidance on the expansion of program eligibility to include homelessness prevention.

- Fifty-one counties and one tribe accepted a total of \$82.875 million match-exempt, noncompetitive allocations in FY 2021-22. Final award information, including participating local county and tribal social service agencies, can be viewed in <a href="#">CFL 21-22/99</a>.
- The <u>FY 22-23 May Revision</u> includes another \$92.5 million for BFH, available over multiple years.

## **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 December 2021, over 4,900 people have been enrolled, over 2,400 people have been permanently housed, over 5,500 disability applications have been submitted, and over 1,600 disability applications have been approved.
- The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$175 million for HDAP available over multiple years, including the annual, ongoing appropriation of \$25 million, and a one-time appropriation of \$150 million available over three years.
- On September 13, 2021, CDSS released the <u>Notice of Funding for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program</u> to notify counties and tribes of funding available to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through HDAP.
- This letter announced 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, non-competitive allocations in FY 2021-22.
- Applications and grants for match-required funding via HDAP Targeted Strategic Investments have been awarded totaling \$18.343 million. Targeted Strategic Investments are aimed at optimizing HDAP program design and service delivery.
- Final award information including participating local county and tribal social services agencies can be viewed in <u>CFL 21/22-75.</u>
- The <u>FY 22-23 May Revision</u> includes another \$175 million for HDAP, available over multiple years.

#### **Home Safe Program**

The Home Safe Program supports the safety and housing stability of people involved in <u>Adult Protective Services (APS)</u> by providing housing assistance and homelessness prevention services. 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 December 2021, over 3,200 people have received assistance through the program, including over 2,700 instances of temporary housing being provided to clients and more than 1,800 instances of housing financial assistance were provided. Additionally, over 800 people have been connected to the local Coordinated Entry System (CES).

- The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$92.5 million in one-time funds for Home Safe available over three years.
- On October 15, 2021, CDSS released the <u>Notice of Funding for the Home Safe Program</u> to notify counties and tribes of funding available to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the Home Safe program.
- This letter announced recent statutory changes including expansions to allowable services, changes to program assessment requirements, and waived match requirements.
- All 58 counties accepted a total of \$82.9 million in match-exempt, non-competitive allocations in FY 2021-22. Final award information can be viewed in CFL 21/22-67.
- The <u>FY 22-23 May Revision</u> includes another \$92.5 million for Home Safe, available over multiple years.

# **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 50,000 individuals have been sheltered through Project Roomkey. As of early April 2022, over 5,300 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by over 6,800 people experiencing homelessness, most of whom are seniors and people with underlying health conditions.
- On July 29, 2021, CDSS released <u>Project Roomkey Allocations Available for FY 2021-22</u> to notify 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.
- On March 01, 2022, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced in a <u>Memorandum on Maximizing Assistance to Respond to COVID-19</u> that 100% of reimbursement for shelter costs from FEMA is available for counties and tribes that demonstrate eligible expenses up to July 01, 2022.
- Communities across the state continue to operate PRK non-congregate shelter sites and
  provide PRK participants with an array of rehousing supports; many are in the process of
  determining the appropriate ramp down schedule. The dates of PRK closures will vary
  based on local needs and are made in consultation with local emergency managers and
  public health departments.
- Forty-three counties and three tribes, for a total of 46 grantees, accepted \$143.0 million in need-based, non-competitive allocations for FY 2021-22. Final award information, including participating local county and tribal social service agencies can be viewed in CFL 21/22-29.
- The <u>FY 22-23 May Revision</u> proposes reappropriation of \$135 million for PRK funds from FY 2021-22 to be available in FY 2022-23.

# **Community Care Expansion (CCE)**

The Community Care Expansion (CCE) program provides \$805 million in one-time funding for the acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of adult and senior care facilities that serve applicants and recipients of Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) or Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (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 currently serving SSI/SSP or CAPI recipients.

- Of the \$805 million total for CCE, \$570 million has been made available for CCE Capital Expansion funding through a <u>Joint RFA</u> with the Department of Health Care Service's Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP), published on January 31, 2022. Applications for CCE Capital Expansion project funding will be accepted on a project basis through this joint RFA and funded on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. Funds may be used for capital expansion projects including acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of residential care settings. A portion of the funds may also be used for a Capitalized Operating Subsidy Reserve (COSR) for funded projects for a maximum of five years.
- In addition to the CCE Capital Expansion funding, an additional \$195 million will be made available for adult and senior care facility preservation through a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in the coming weeks. These funds will be made available to counties and tribes through a non-competitive allocation and must be used to preserve existing licensed settings that serve SSI/SSP and CAPI recipients. Allocations include \$55 million for operating subsidy payments for existing licensed facilities currently serving SSI/SSP or CAPI recipients, including but not limited to those facilities that receive rehabilitation funding.

# California Department of State Hospitals (DSH)

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

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. DSH is in active discussion with three additional counties interested in implementing a CBR program in their community.

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 February 2022, five counties in total confirmed participation and submitted program plans to DSH.
- \$48.4 million from the IST Solutions funding approved in FY 2021-22 was allocated to
  the Diversion program to provide additional funding to counties to support housing costs
  for individuals the counties divert directly from the DSH felony IST waitlist. In total 17
  counties requested funding through this program. All \$48.4 million is earmarked for
  county contracts and will add an additional 181 treatment slots to the program for a total
  of 1,171 potential treatment slots.

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 Department of Transportation (Caltrans)**

Caltrans has launched a new program called the Solutions for Housing and Homelessness Program, which works in partnership with the Caltrans Office of Encampments and Homelessness. The new Solutions program will lead development of an internal Department action plan on Housing and Homelessness—a document intended to reinforce the Caltrans Office of Encampments and Homelessness work by increasing Caltrans' capacity for planning long-term solutions and implementing upstream interventions that can contribute to ending homelessness. The document will align to the Cal-ICH Action Plan and lays out a near-term framework for Caltrans to make incremental progress towards the state's goal of ending homeless and ensuring every Californian has a safe, stable, and affordable home.

Caltrans has completed its annual statewide encampment count. Caltrans is assessing and compiling the data, which will provide information about the number of encampments on Caltrans Right of Way. This data source can complement the federal HUD Point in Time Count that was administered nationwide in February 2022 and help the State better understand where to direct resources to support the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

Caltrans prioritizes and addresses encampment resolution on department-owned property through a focused lens on safety. To support this effort, Caltrans Public Affairs is working with the Caltrans Office of Encampments and Homelessness on a series of videos that are intended to bring awareness and share information about Caltrans' homelessness response efforts to the public and its many partners.

Caltrans Encampment Coordinators will explore partnerships with award recipients of the Encampment Resolution Grant Program in efforts to connect people experiencing homelessness on Caltrans right of way to the benefits of this state program. Caltrans Encampment Coordinators work within each of the Caltrans' 12 district jurisdictions statewide and help coordinate Caltrans' response to people experiencing homelessness in the state right of way.

## California Workforce Development Board (CWDB)

The California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) reported the following data on programs serving individuals experiencing homelessness, captured via CalJOBS from January 2022 to April 2022:

	AB 1111	P2E	WAF	WIOA Title I
Served	296	411	171	3927
Career Services Provided	266	398	157	2494
Training Services Provided	135	62	57	889
Supportive Services Provided	107	130	13	924
Exited	10	52	10	149

Credentials Received	26	47	15	10
Employment Placements*	42	96	15	40

\*Note: Employment Placements are at least as high as the number reported, as case managers are not required to enter this information.

# **Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative**

The Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative is intended to supplement existing workforce and education programs by providing services to ensure the success of individuals either preparing to enter or already enrolled in workforce and education programs. These services must be delivered through a collaborative partnership between mission-driven, community-based organizations with experience in providing services to target population and Local Workforce Development Boards.

- AB 1111: The grant term for the initiative under AB 1111 recently wrapped up funding in March 2022. Evaluation for the projects will conclude in May 2022.
- AB 628: AB 628 seeks to build upon the Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative under AB 1111 by assisting individuals with obtaining the skills necessary to prepare for jobs in high-demand industries. The program would support individuals who face systemic barriers to employment with training and education programs aligned with regional labor market needs.

# Prison to Employment (P2E) Initiative

The P2E Initiative is intended to strengthen linkages between the state workforce and corrections systems to improve the process by which formerly incarcerated and justice-involved individuals reenter society and the labor force. The goal is to improve labor market outcomes by creating a systemic and ongoing partnership between rehabilitative programs within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the state workforce system by bringing CDCR under the policy umbrella of California's Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan.

• The P2E Initiative wrapped up funding for its most recent grant period in March 2022. There is \$20 million in new P2E funds, and the CWDB is currently preparing to release the RFA for the new round of funds in June 2022.

## **Workforce Accelerator Fund (WAF)**

The WAF funds projects that design, develop, and implement projects that accelerate employment and re-employment strategies for California job seekers. Additionally, the WAF tests innovative strategies for an equitable recovery to impact economic and racial equity by creating pathways to quality jobs for workers from disadvantaged communities. The CWDB and the Employment Development Department (EDD) will fund projects and partnerships to create and prototype innovative strategies that bridge education and workforce gaps for targeted populations, and initial implementation of promising models and practices in workforce system service delivery infrastructure.

- The grant term for WAF 8.0 ended in March 2022.
- The grant term for WAF 9.0 will end in December 2022, with the possibility of a threemonth extension.

 \$10.5 million of WIOA 15% discretionary funds were allocated to the WAF 10 grant program. The discretionary funds are used to design, develop, and implement projects that will drive equitable recovery and quality jobs and accelerate employment and reemployment for California job seekers. The grant term for WAF 10 will begin in June 2022.

# Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP)

The California Budget Change Proposal released in May 2021 includes \$25 million in General Fund funding for Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships between Local Workforce Development Boards and California Community College Regional Consortia. This initiative has the potential to actualize the partnership building and planning work that regions have been engaged in and will result in additional skill-building opportunities. The RERP will add high road approaches to existing sector strategies and career pathways including, but not limited to, improving job quality and job access for people from underserved and underrepresented populations. The application deadline was May 6, 2022, and the anticipated grant term is December 2022 through March 2025.

- Funds will be awarded by the CWDB through a competitive grant process to partnerships between California Community College Regional Consortia and Local Workforce Development Boards working within and among Regional Planning Units.
- Working from existing regional and industry plans, successful partnerships will assess regional hiring demand for good quality jobs and then design short-term targeted education, training, and job placement.
- Projects will focus on integrating community college priorities such as industry-valued credentials, digital literacy, credit for prior learning, and work-based learning, with workforce development board priorities of demand driven skill attainment, targeting individuals with barriers to employment and system alignment, and train 2,500 workers.

## High Road Training Partnerships (HRTP): Resilient Workforce Fund (RWF) Program

The CWDB understands long-term, low-wage work is a significant program for the future of California and seeks to build systems to promote access and advancement to better-paying jobs. The HRTP: RWF will continue to tackle this issue by focusing on industry as an organizing principle and building partnerships that develop skills employers need in ways that secure stronger economic opportunities for low-income workers. This initiative is designed to advance a field of practice that addresses urgent questions of income inequality, economic competitiveness, and climate change through regional skills strategies.

 In FY 2021/2022, the legislature appropriated state general funds to expand the HRTP program. The first cohort of HRTP: RWF will start programming in August 2022.

The CWDB compiled the Results Achieved under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Annual Report for Program Year 2020, which provides updates on efforts made towards CWDB programs and initiatives in 2020. The Annual Report for Program Year 2021 will be published by December 2022.

The CWDB recently submitted <u>California's 2020-2023 Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan Modifications</u>, which outlines agreements among partners and serves as the framework for the development of public policy, fiscal investment, and operation of the state workforce and education system.

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

- On April 14, 2022, USICH released its <u>Equity Action Plan</u>, developed in accordance with Executive Order 13985, issued by President Biden on January 20, 2021. The equity action plan aims to:
  - Establish racial equity as a core part of the upcoming Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness,
  - Engage tribal sovereign nations by developing an advisory group, holding facilitated convenings, and reestablishing our interagency working group on Native American homelessness.
  - Strengthen internal operations, starting with assessment of the current climate of equity to identify areas where USICH can model the operational behavior we encourage communities and partners to exemplify in advancing racial equity.
     Further exploring opportunities to develop a Civil Rights Office will enable the agency to improve advanced civil rights and racial equity.
- USICH developed a tool on <u>Expiring Federal Provisions that May Impact Homelessness</u>.
- On 3/31/22 USICH Executive Director Jeff Olivet wrote an <u>open letter to transgender</u> people experiencing homelessness.
- On April 13<sup>th</sup>, FEMA allocated \$150 million to the National Board for the Emergency
   Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). The National Board will award these funds to state
   government facilities as well as local nonprofit and governmental organizations that have
   helped, or will help, people encountered by the Department of Homeland Security at the
   southern U.S. border with shelter, food, and supportive services.
- USICH broke down President Biden's <u>FY 2023 budget for homelessness</u> and how it compares to previous years.