



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Lourdes M. Castro Ramírez, MA, Co-Chair | Dr. Mark Ghaly, MD, MPH, Co-Chair

To: Members of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness
From: Julie Lo, Executive Officer, Cal ICH
Subject: Summary of the Update to the Cal ICH Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California
Date: August 19, 2022

Purpose

This memo provides a high-level summary of updates made to the *Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California* for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Included below are background on the update process, key changes to the Action Plan, and a description of the vote being taken by the Council on this updated Plan. This memo is provided in advance of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) meeting on September 1, 2022, during which members will consider and take action on a recommendation to adopt the updated Plan.

Background and Update Process

The original [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#) was adopted by the Council in March 2021. The Action Plan orients the state's efforts to drive purposeful, meaningful, and measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California, motivated by a vision of a future in which homelessness in California is rare, brief, and one-time. The Council adopted the Plan with the explicit understanding that it would be updated to reflect additional, more specific Activities for FY 22-23 than could be projected at that time. This update also comes at a critical time for ensuring that the Plan reflects activities for departments and agencies newly added to the Council at the beginning of 2022.

Cal ICH staff, supported by consultant Matthew Doherty, began this update process in February 2022, holding conversations with every Council member department and agency, external stakeholder groups, public input sessions with attendance of more than 150 people, and discussion at the Council's May 2022 meeting.¹ In total, more

¹ For more detail, refer to the memo "[Update of the Cal ICH Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#)" provided for the May 31, 2022 Council meeting.

than 70 organizations, including state agencies and departments, provided input on activities or priorities during the development and the updating of the Action Plan.

This update process:

- Sustained the Plan's current structure of Action Areas and its timeframe (Fiscal Years 2020-21 to 2022-23).
- Refined language, data, and information within the Plan's opening content.
- Updated Activities included in the original Plan and added many new Activities, so that the updated Plan now fully reflects the range of Activities being implemented during FY 22-23—the final year covered by the Plan.

Summary of Plan Updates

The updates to the Action Plan include revisions to the opening content, refinements to descriptions of the Plan's Objectives, updates to existing Activities, and newly added Activities. The fully updated Plan document is included as an attachment to this memo, titled *Updated Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California*.

Refined Opening Content

The opening content of the Plan includes: an Executive Summary; sections on Cal ICH and the history of the Action Plan; identification of the Plan's vision, Action Areas, Objectives, timeframe, and key principles and practices; information regarding advisory structures and working groups; data regarding homelessness in California; and how the State will define and measure progress for the implementation of the Plan. This content was updated primarily to clearly highlight the priority being placed on aligning health, housing, and homelessness strategies and to incorporate the most current data available regarding homelessness in California.

Noteworthy changes include:

- Refinement of Objective descriptions in order to clarify language and ensure they fully capture the range of Activities being implemented.
- Additional Key Principles and Practices to include a focus on trauma-informed care and on alignment of health, housing, and homelessness strategies.
- Information regarding the formation of the Council's Advisory Committee required per Assembly Bill 1220 (2021), and the planned creation of a Lived Experience Advisory Board.
- Updated data on homelessness in California, utilizing the Homeless Data Integration System, which documents people being served by homelessness services across the State.

Two letters, one from Governor Newsom and one from the Council Co-Chairs, are in development and will be included once the Plan is adopted and ready for public dissemination and promotion.

New and Updated Activities

The updated Plan identifies the Activities planned for implementation in FY 22-23 and reflects the most current information possible about all programs and funding streams related to homelessness across the 18 Council member departments and agencies. Conversations with representatives from these entities began in February 2022 and wrapped up in August in order to reflect any changes from the FY 22-23 budget. The updated Activities provide a comprehensive view of the most significant efforts of Council member departments and agencies in FY 22-23, some of which will continue into future fiscal years.

Noteworthy changes include:

- The updated Plan now identifies more than 150 Activities to be implemented in alignment with the Plan's five Action Areas and 15 Objectives.
- The Plan includes more than 80 new Activities, either newly identified by Council member departments and agencies or newly added to reflect the efforts of the five departments and agencies added to the Council at the beginning of 2022.
- Every Activity has new or updated performance measures.
- There is a significant expansion of identified Activities addressing:
 - The intersections of public health, physical and behavioral health care, and homelessness and housing strategies and resources; and
 - The prevention of experiences of homelessness as people exit and/or receive services from State-funded settings and systems, including people re-entering communities from prison and people exiting health care settings and programs.

In sum, this updated Action Plan better reflects the priorities of Cal ICH and the actions its member departments and agencies are taking to prevent and end homelessness in FY 22-23, the final year within the Plan's current timeframe. Discussion at a future Council meeting will focus on determining how the Council wants to approach the updating of this Action Plan for future fiscal years, which could include changes to the Plan's structure, Action Areas and Objectives, and other changes the Council determines.

Council Member Action

During the Cal ICH meeting on September 1, 2022, Council members will discuss the updated Action Plan and will consider and take action on a recommendation to

adopt the updated Action Plan, presented in the attachment titled *Updated Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in California*.

All Council member comments and questions are welcomed, and Cal ICH staff encourage members to reflect on lessons from this update process that can inform future updates to the Action Plan.