



# California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Gavin Newsom, Governor  
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## **Department and Federal Partner Updates**

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February 27, 2023

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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 (CalHFA), the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), and the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB).*

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

The California Interagency Council on Homelessness looks forward to a year of deeper collaboration with our state and community partners to end and prevent homelessness in California. It has been one year since the formation of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, and Cal ICH is working to stand up and refine the Council’s advisory bodies.

Cal ICH also welcomes CDCR Secretary Jeff Macomber and Cal OES Director Nancy Ward to the Council. We look forward to their leadership and coordination to end and prevent homelessness.

The Advisory Committee to the Council held its first meeting of 2023 on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The [meeting recording](#) and meeting materials can be accessed on our [Meetings Webpage](#).

The 2023 Council and Advisory Committee Meetings have been scheduled and are the following dates:

<b>Council Meetings</b>	<b>Advisory Committee Meetings</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00PM</li><li>Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00PM</li><li>Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00PM</li><li>Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00PM</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 – 5:00PM</li><li>Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00PM</li><li>Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00PM</li><li>Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00PM</li></ul>

To receive notice of these meetings and receive updates from Cal ICH, [subscribe here](#).

### **Council Administered Grants**

#### Leadership Update

Victor Duron, former Cal ICH Grants Director, was appointed Chief Deputy Director at the California Department of Rehabilitation. Cal ICH is currently recruiting to fill this vacancy.

#### Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program

##### *Round 1 and 2 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-1 & HHAP-2)*

In December 2022, Cal ICH received HHAP-1 and HHAP-2 Annual Report Data from grant start dates through 9/30/22. These data fall within one of three categories: (1) fiscal; (2) narrative / programmatic; (3) and performance. These performance data are currently being analyzed within the State's Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) and will be published later this year.

##### *Round 3 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-3)*

In November and December 2022, Cal ICH released the HHAP-3 “Remainder” disbursement contracts for all HHAP-3 grantees; this is the second of two disbursements with the potential for grantees to receive a Bonus disbursement in late 2024 based on meeting their performance goals. Award packages were sent to all 75 grantees and most checks were disbursed in December and January, on a flow basis, as signed contracts were returned.

Cal ICH continues to support HHAP-3 grantees with their respective outcome goals by providing technical assistance to all grantees. Cal ICH also established expectations for adherence to implementing best practices.

#### HHAP-3 Tribal Set-Aside

For the HHAP-3 Tribal set-aside, in November 2022, Cal ICH awarded a total of \$20 million to 16 California Federally Recognized Tribes. Cal ICH will continue to engage California Federally Recognized Tribes to build relationship, announce the availability of funding, and share opportunities for partnership. Insights and lessons from the HHAP-3 tribal set-aside will be incorporated into the HHAP-4 tribal set-aside.

*Round 4 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-4)*

As required by statute, Cal ICH completed individual engagements with pertinent HHAP-4 grantees to ensure timely and complete submission of all eligible applications. Cal ICH received 75 applications from the 116 eligible HHAP 4 jurisdictions due to many jurisdictions applying jointly -- a testament to technical assistance and guidance given to spur regional coordination. Then, after submission, Cal ICH analyzed applications for (1) statutory compliance; (2) responsiveness; and (3) adherence to funding requirements. For an example of statutory compliance, applications were reviewed to ensure they were agendaized before the local governing body meeting. For responsive materials, Cal ICH evaluated the quality and responsiveness to the originally provided prompts. Insufficient or non-responsive answers were identified as requiring an amendment (e.g., outcome goal appeared inconsistent with baseline data). Cal ICH has communicated the necessary revisions to grantees and applicants are in the process of submitting required amendments. Cal ICH anticipates making HHAP-4 "Initial" Disbursement awards in the Spring of 2023.

In January 2023, Cal ICH published the HHAP-4 base allocations. The base allocation is the total share of funds that jurisdictions are eligible to receive, not including the additional bonus funds that will be awarded based on successfully meeting outcome goals in 2025. The base allocation will be disbursed in two rounds – Initial and Remainder.

*Family Homelessness Challenge Grant (FHC)*

The remaining FHC grantees received their disbursements in December 2022. Now, \$17 million has been disbursed across 10 grantees. In January, FHC grantees submitted their first quarterly report containing data through December 31, 2022.

*Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program, Round 1 (ERF-1)*

This is the first of three current disbursements of the ERF program. Grantees continue to implement their funded projects. Cal ICH and its partners are providing technical assistance to grantees and is tracking the demonstration projects to capture encampment resolution best practices that can be shared with communities statewide. In January, ERF-1 grantees submitted quarterly reports containing data through December 31, 2022.

*Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program, Round 2, Lookback Disbursement (ERF-2-L)*

This is the second of three current disbursements of the ERF program; it funded proposals from ERF-1 that satisfied all applicable program requirements and would have been funded but for insufficient funds. All eight awardees received disbursements in January and February of 2023.

*Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program, Round 2 (ERF-2-R)*

This is the third of three current disbursements of the ERF program. On December 1, 2022, Cal ICH released the Notice of Funding Availability and opened the application portal; it is currently accepting applications on a rolling basis until June 30, 2023, or until funds have been exhausted, whichever occurs first. Approximately \$240 million is available, with up to \$150 million being prioritized for projects on state

right-of-ways. In January 2023, Cal ICH and Caltrans held an Applicant Conference to walk through the NOFA and application and answer Frequently Asked Questions.

## **Grant Support Updates**

### *Grant Monitoring*

In January, the Cal ICH Monitoring Unit introduced the Grant Monitoring Plan for all Cal ICH administered grant programs. Grant monitoring will occur through the distribution and analysis of grant reports that collect both fiscal and people served data, in addition to scheduled monitoring activities including desk reviews and site visits. Information collected through the Grants Monitoring Plan will help Cal ICH better understand and support grantees in the effective and timely spending of all grant funds.

### *Grant Technical Assistance*

Cal ICH has invested in a robust technical assistance (TA) program to support grantees in effectively utilizing grant funding to serve people experiencing homelessness while considering the unique needs of each community across the state. TA is a free resource that is made available to all Cal ICH grantees across all grant programs. TA can be provided in many ways including the development of tangible tools and resources, group webinars, cohort learning environments and one on one work with experienced consultants. In some cases, technical assistance is provided for very specific grant operation purpose (e.g., the development of outcome goals). In other cases, technical assistance is made available to support grantees with grant award planning and implementation in line with statutory principles and grant requirements.

A recent highlight of the Cal ICH TA program is our focused efforts to assist grantees in setting outcome goals in six system performance measures. TA providers have been meeting with grantees one on one to discuss setting ambitious outcome goals in six system performance measures. Individual, jurisdiction specific data is reviewed, and customized visualization are provided to grantees to better understand their unique data and outcome goals. In addition, our Racial Equity TA providers directed a 12-month engagement that assisted over 40 grantees in using data to identify racial and social disparities to set goals that aim to eliminate inequities in homelessness systems throughout California. TA providers will continue to work with grantees to create strategies to achieve these goals, periodically revisit data and reestablish goals as necessary.

Other TA highlights include a focus on youth programing, how to build out youth action boards to engage people with lived experience and implementing performance-based contracting to help grantees achieve goals.

## **Statewide Policy**

In October 2022, Cal ICH Co-Chairs appointed 31 members to the Advisory Committee to the Interagency Council on Homelessness. This group is made up of local experts and people with lived experience of homelessness and are tasked with advising the Council on homelessness policy and statewide coordination of programs, services and best practices. The Advisory Committee met on February 6<sup>th</sup>, where they discussed policy and procedure for the Committee and gave feedback on local implementation of the Action Plan. This feedback will be given to the Council for consideration in future iterations of the Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in California.

Cal ICH staff continue to administer and start up the working groups called out in the Action Plan. The State Funding and Programs Working Group has set priorities for the year and will present them to the Council for consideration and feedback. The Racial Equity Working Group recently finished its pre-

implementation phase having selected community members and State employees to participate in the group and will be launching in late-February.

Cal ICH staff, with the support of consultant Matthew Doherty, completed the Action Plan Implementation Progress Report for FY 21-22, which documents progress made on the original plan and its activities.

### **Cal ICH Lived Experience Advisory Board**

One of the six key principles and commitments of Cal ICH is to ensure decisions are deeply informed and guided by people who have expertise grounded in lived experiences of homelessness. Meaningful input from people with lived experiences of accessing homelessness services while experiencing homelessness is required to assure that policymaker and providers learn of problems and solutions from firsthand accounts. Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) members will greatly impact the work of state departments and local governments allowing communities to make significant progress in preventing and ending homelessness across our state.

Cal ICH, in coordination with the contracted vendor, Homebase, are forming a Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) to inform the implementation of Activities throughout the Statewide Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness, advise on needed areas of support for grantees receiving council administered Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program funding, and to encourage and support communities to further center the voices of people with lived experiences of homelessness within their local planning, and decision-making. The LEAB will be comprised of up to 11 members representing diverse populations including race, ethnicity, gender, age, and other demographic characteristics representative of the diverse populations of individuals experiencing homelessness in California. Member recruitment will begin in March with member onboarding anticipated to begin in early summer. Members will meet monthly and receive compensation.

### **Statewide Homelessness Assessment (AB 140 Report)**

In 2021, the California Legislature passed and Governor Newsom signed into law AB 140, tasking the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) with assessing the current landscape of programs funded, implemented, and administered by state entities across California. This [Statewide Homelessness Assessment](#) seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of the funding available for California's homelessness response, with the intention to help inform the state's policies and corresponding investments aimed at preventing and ending homelessness.

Cal ICH partnered with the UC Berkeley Turner Center for Housing Innovation, among other research partners, to answer the statutory questions laid out in AB 140. The Statewide Homelessness Assessment covers the impact of 35 state programs serving people experiencing homelessness between Fiscal Year 2018-19 and 2020-21. Cal ICH partnered closely with the state departments and agencies responsible for each program to collect the most accurate information possible on program fiscal data, funding mechanisms, eligible uses, match requirements, geographical funding distributions, and intended use of funds awarded. Using data from Cal ICH's [Homeless Data Integration System](#) (HDIS)—a data warehouse that integrates data from the CoCs' locally implemented Homelessness Management Information Systems (HMIS)—the assessment also investigates how many people were served, the types of services they received, and their outcomes at the end of the reporting period.

The Statewide Homelessness Assessment marks the first large-scale research report using HDIS data, resulting in a first-of-its-kind assessment of the ways this state funding has benefited communities across California. The full report can be accessed on Cal ICH's website [here](#).

## California Department of Aging (CDA)

### **Master Plan for Aging Updates**

The Department of Aging continues to focus efforts on advancing the Master Plan for Aging, including Goal One, *Housing for All Ages and Stages*, and Goal Five, *Affording Aging*, which includes the strategy of “Ending Older Adult Homelessness”. These goals are key components 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:

### **Implementation Tracker**

The Master Plan for Aging launched the [MPA Implementation Tracker](#), an interactive website that provides on-demand public access to initiative progress updates. The tracker is searchable by goal, strategy, initiative, and topics for year-round access to progress updates on each of the MPA’s initiatives.

### **Annual Report**

California’s Master Plan for Aging (MPA), a 10-year blueprint to prepare the state for the coming demographic changes and continue California’s national leadership in aging, disability, and equity, released its [Annual Report](#). The Annual Report reviews investments and progress made in 2022 toward the 132 initiatives that were the focus of the first two years of MPA implementation and outlines the 95 new initiatives that will drive activities for the next two years.

### **2023-24 Initiatives Released**

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the administration released the [2023-2024 MPA Initiatives](#). These 95 priority initiatives build upon the work of the MPA’s first two years. Each initiative has one or more areas of focus — Deliver, Analyze, Communicate — that add another level of accountability beyond the Annual Report, Initiative Tracker, and other reporting. Associated with these initiatives are the following strategies that have recently been implemented:

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the administration released the [2023-2024 MPA Initiatives](#). These 95 priority initiatives build upon the work of the MPA’s first two years. Each initiative has one or more areas of focus — Deliver, Analyze, Communicate — that add another level of accountability beyond the Annual Report, Initiative Tracker, and other reporting. Associated with these initiatives are the following strategies that have recently been implemented:

- **Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative:** The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) is preparing a funding opportunity that will consist of \$20 million to support the implementation of Age Wise and Program PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives) programs, with the overall goal of addressing the mental health needs of older adults. The Request for Applications (RFA) will be available on the MHSOAC website tentatively during the week of February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- **Healthier Homes-Aging in Place Program:** CDA is in the early stages and planning and developing the RFA for the \$12.5 million to administer, implement and evaluate the “Healthier-at-Home” pilot project. This pilot will support residents of low-income and affordable senior housing communities by utilizing registered nurses and community health workers to coordinate care, navigate services and supports, and link to health promotion resources.
- **Office of the Long-Term Care Patient Representative:** The Office of the Long-Term Care Patient Representative (OLT CPR) provides individuals to represent the health care wishes of incapacitated and unrepresented individuals on facility interdisciplinary teams. Program implementation began on January 27, 2023. Two providers will provide public patient

representative services in four counties. CDA staff will provide services throughout the remaining counties.

### **Age and Disability Grant Program**

In line with initiative 77, the California Department of Aging (CDA) will release a Request for Applications (RFA) for its [Local Aging & Disability Action Planning \(LADAP\) Grant Program](#). Under the LADAP grant program, CDA anticipates awarding grants to up to 36 communities throughout the state to support local communities plan and create their own age and disability-friendly action plans. The local plans developed under this grant program aim to improve a community's livability and address the current, emerging, and future needs of California's older adults, people with disabilities, and professional and family caregivers through cross-sector collaboration and transformational systems change.

**Elder and Disability Justice – Legal Services Technical Assistance:** The Department of Aging has awarded a \$1 million contract to Justice in Aging (the TA provider for the National Center on Law and Elder Rights), to support statewide legal services capacity building including training and best practices for legal services focusing on the needs of older adults and people with disabilities.

### **Stakeholder Committees**

The following stakeholder committees continue to address housing and homelessness:

- The **Implementing the MPA Together in CA (IMPACT)** Stakeholder 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 holder adults and persons with disabilities.
- The **Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee (DACLAC)** recommended that the Administration “create a Rental Assistance Program targeted to older adults and persons with disabilities at high risk of homelessness.” MPA 2023-24 initiative #2 reflects this recommendation, with the state analyzing implementation of local efforts to develop targeted rental assistance programs.
- The **CA Commission on Aging** called on the Administration to “address homeless and affordable housing challenges experienced by older adults” and provided eight strategies to do so, with the input reflected in the 2023-24 MPA initiatives.

### **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 (CO) 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 four years. The Chancellor's Office intends to continue funding the original cohort (HHIP 1.0) for at least one additional fiscal year before transitioning into a modified version of HHIP 2.0. The 2022-2023 budget included a 10 million dollar increase to the program. The

annual appropriation for this program is now \$19 million. The CO is working strategically on developing methodology to determine the funding criteria for the next cohort (HHIP 2.0) of this pilot program based on the learning from the first cohort. The focus areas for the second cohort include:

1. Focusing on Youth/Students under care of a Resource Parent (Foster Youth) to support equitable opportunity and housing stability through the duration of their education at a California community college.
2. Contributing to the reduction of regional achievement gaps by prioritizing colleges in the high need regions informed by the Vision for Success.
3. Supporting community colleges with existing affordable housing options to develop a comprehensive housing solution set and maximize impact on improving student housing security.

### **Affordable Student Housing Taskforce**

AB 183 shifted the administration of the affordable student housing program from DOF to the CO. Accordingly, the CO has established an Affordable Student Housing Unit to review future applications. The CO will build on the initial DOF selection process to develop a comprehensive scoring rubric for evaluation of future applications. Once reviewed and approved by the CO, the applications and project scores will be shared with DOF for their review and initial approval. The Legislature will indicate their final selection of approved projects through budget act funding.

At the time of this update, 22 projects are currently in production for new construction housing units, and two existing commercial buildings are being reconfigured and renovated to become student housing. Additionally, three of the colleges in production are indicating a percentage of the units will be reserved for student-parents/family housing. For more details, please go to the Task Force Webpage by clicking [here](#).

The Board of Governors has prioritized the development of a holistic, student-centered, affordability and basic needs infrastructure. This priority includes a focus and strategy around student housing which increases the stock of affordable units to support low-income students and facilitates their access to higher education. The Taskforce convened between May 2022 and November 2022 to develop comprehensive framework, short and long-term needs policies and operational infrastructure. Their final report can be found [here](#).

### **California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance (CHEBNA)**

The three higher education segments, UC's, CSU's and CCC's meet on a bi-weekly basis to plan and develop various strategic initiatives focusing on basic needs in California's Higher Education Institutions. Currently the alliance is working to produce an online Learning Series that discusses topics affecting students across higher education, best practices, and existing resources available now. The online learning series was highlighted in the Cal-ICH Action Plan and is on track to debut in April of 2023.

### **Student Basic Needs**

The 2022-2023 budget increased its ongoing support to \$40M (from \$30M previously) to further strengthen efforts of the basic needs centers to address the social determinants of educational success for students. The [CEO Affordability, Food & Housing Access Taskforce](#) is moving forward with fielding a **2023 #RealCollegeCalifornia Survey on the Real Experience of College Students** beginning March 2023. This survey is the most comprehensive assessment of basic needs security among college students, with nearly all the California community colleges participating in either the 2018 national survey or part of the state COVID survey in 2020. The data and subsequent analysis significantly impacted on our understanding and support for colleges and meeting students' basic needs.



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

### **Prison to Employment Initiative**

As part of the Prison to Employment Initiative, CDCR in collaboration with Mother Lode Job Center implemented a pilot project at Sierra Conservation Center consisting of establishing California Workforce Development Board case management services for individuals within one year of release. The case plans were made available to the job center where those individuals will reside so they can obtain employment resources and support services based on their identified needs. The department continues to develop partnerships with state agencies, large employers including in the construction and manufacturing trades, and non-profit organizations to provide employment opportunities and resources to individuals transitioning from CDCR's institutions.

### **Returning Home Well Initiative**

The CDCR Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) received an additional \$10M from budget to continue the Returning Home Well Initiative. The funding has been allocated to the current STOP contracts to add temporary housing for parolees who have an identified need for housing upon release. This new initiative is for parolees and is available as of February 1, 2023. The field has been notified of these additional resources. DRP will be able to report data on such services in late summer 2023.

### **State and Local Partnerships**

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), CDCR's Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) and DRP, and Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) met in January 2023, and are schedule to meet again in March 2023, to continue exploring opportunities to formalize a referral process to connect individuals releasing from CDCR who have housing needs, or individuals on parole who become unhoused, to CDSS housing programs. CDSS is also researching when there might be future housing grant opportunities that could be marketed to CDCR's DRP providers (approximately 600 potential providers). CDCR is pursuing efforts to designate Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) providers as the responsible entity to facilitate these referrals to CDSS-funded housing for individuals who have housing needs either pre-release or while on parole, including establishing connections between pre-release PSAs and STOP providers. CCJBH continues to facilitate these discussions by scheduling working meetings and tracking/following-up on action items.

CDCR, CCJBH and Cal ICH held preliminary conversations in Fall 2022 to discuss strategies for establishing data sharing between Continuums of Care (CoCs) and CDCR. Given CDCR's focus on transient/sheltered parolee data reporting, CDCR, with support from CCJBH, will further pursue conversations with Cal ICH and interested CoCs in Spring 2023.

### **Housing First Implementation**

As of February 9, 2023, DRP has distributed guidelines that assist contractors with implementing Housing First Requirements. As DRP becomes aware of housing resources, they continue to make connections. Contract language was changed to reflect Housing First (as it pertains to CDCR since they're excluded from three of the requirements), walked through it with contractors, and developed guidelines on expectations on how to meet Housing First requirements.

Upon admission, STOP programs start a discharge plan, which includes connecting the parolee with resources such as county services, transitional housing, and permanent housing, if applicable. The discharge plan is updated regularly so the parolee is aware of alternative housing solution upon exit. This

is tracked in each individual's case management plan. DRP is working to produce a flyer that educates parolees on housing options that are available, which encompass Housing First and harm reduction options. DRP plans to distribute the flyer by the end of March 15, 2023.

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

### **Youth Advisory Council Applications Open**

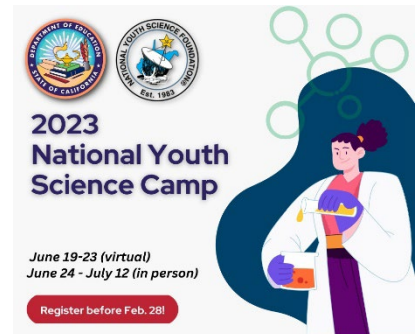
The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is currently accepting applications for the 2022–23 cohort. Applications are open to all California public high school students between the ages of fifteen and eighteen. The YAC works with Superintendent Thurmond to advise policymakers on educational issues that affect young people, their families, their schools, and their communities. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, February 24. Please email the YAC at [YouthAdvisoryCouncil@cde.ca.gov](mailto:YouthAdvisoryCouncil@cde.ca.gov) to receive an application and [follow the YAC on Instagram](#).



### **Opportunities**

#### **National Youth Science Camp 2023 Applications Open (Due February 28)**

The CDE and the National Youth Science Academy are excited to announce that applications for the 60th annual National Youth Science Camp (NYSC) are now open. The NYSC will be held both in person and virtually from June 19 to July 12, 2023. As part of the program, scientists from across the nation present lectures and science seminars and linger to interact informally with student delegates. Delegates are challenged to explore new areas in the biological and physical sciences, art, and music with resident staff members. The submission deadline for applications is Tuesday, February 28. Read more in this [February 3 letter from Superintendent Thurmond](#).



#### **Annual Directing Change Program Student Film Contest (Deadline: March 1)**

The CDE is pleased to support the annual Directing Change Program and Film Contest. This statewide program invites California students from grades six through twelve to create 60-second films about suicide prevention, mental health, and other health-related topics to support awareness, education, and advocacy. Film submissions are due at midnight on Wednesday, March 1. Learn more in the [CDE letter to LEAs about the program](#) or visit the [Directing Change Program and Film Contest website](#). Please contact Stan Collins, Program Coordinator, Directing Change, at [Stan@SuicidelsPreventable.org](mailto:Stan@SuicidelsPreventable.org) or Rico Petrino, Education Programs Assistant, CDE Office of School-Based Health Programs, at 916-319-0229 or [rpetrino@cde.ca.gov](mailto:rpetrino@cde.ca.gov) for more information.

#### **Virtual Statewide School Climate Conference: The Power of Relationships in Supporting Positive School Climates (February 28)**

Join the [California Center for School Climate](#), a school climate initiative of the CDE led by WestEd, on Tuesday, February 28 for a free, full-day, virtual event: [The Power of Relationships in Supporting Positive School Climates](#). The event includes sessions related to community schools, culturally responsive pedagogy, centering relationships for data-informed decisions, and youth perspectives on caring adult relationships. Participants must register for all sessions of interest. Those interested can

[review the schedule and register on the event web page](#). Email questions to [schoolclimate@wested.org](mailto:schoolclimate@wested.org) or contact Hilva Chan, Education Programs Consultant, CDE School Health and Safety Office, at [hchan@cde.ca.gov](mailto:hchan@cde.ca.gov).

**In-Person Statewide Homeless Education Conference 2023: Riding the Waves Together: Navigating and Networking for Our Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (April 26-28)**

Join the [California Department of Education, Homeless Education Program](#), led by the [Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers](#) in partnership with [SchoolHouse Connection](#), held on April 26-28<sup>th</sup>, in person, in San Diego, California: ***Riding the Waves Together: Navigating and Networking for Our Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness***. The intent of this exciting, new conference is to encourage participants to network with one another, build capacity during these challenging times, and learn strategies to navigate their roles and responsibilities for serving and supporting our children and youth experiencing homelessness. Practitioners and other experts will share practical strategies and innovative programs to support children and youth from birth through college/career. The conference also will provide:

- Multiple opportunities to relate and reconnect
- Inspiration to reimagine and transform your programs and practices
- Creative moments to rest, reflect, and rejuvenate
- Informative and interactive sessions on homeless education basics and beyond

Those interested can find out more details at [Conference website](#). Email questions regarding the conference to [info@cahomelesseducation.com](mailto:info@cahomelesseducation.com). For program questions contact the Homeless Education Program at the California Department of Education to the general email at: [HomelessEd@cde.ca.gov](mailto:HomelessEd@cde.ca.gov)



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

**ECM and Community Supports Early Implementation Data**

On December 22, DHCS released [early implementation data](#) for [ECM and Community Supports](#), two major [CalAIM](#) programs that launched in 2022. ECM and Community Supports were designed to support high-need Medi-Cal members and address social factors that impact their health, such as housing and nutrition. Data show the early reach of ECM and Community Supports in January through June, and highlight growing member enrollment in both programs, particularly among historically underserved populations.

**Governor’s January Budget Proposal: CalAIM Transitional Rent**

To improve the well-being and health outcomes of Medi-Cal members during critical transitions, DHCS will seek an amendment to the CalAIM waiver to authorize an additional Community Support for use by Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans. The new Community Support would allow the provision of up to six months of rent or temporary housing to eligible individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and transitioning out of institutional levels of care, a correctional facility, or the foster care system and who are at risk of incurring other Medicaid state plan services, such as inpatient hospitalizations or emergency department visits.

## **Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH)**

Through the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program, DHCS will provide \$1.5 billion in funding to operate bridge housing settings to address the immediate and sustainable housing needs of people experiencing homelessness who have serious behavioral health conditions, including serious mental illness (SMI) and/or substance use disorders (SUDs). The primary focus of the BHBH Program is to help people experiencing homelessness who have serious behavioral health conditions that prevent them from accessing help and moving out of homelessness. The BHBH Program builds on the [CalHHS Guiding Principles and Strategic Priorities](#) and enables DHCS through our county and tribal partners to meaningfully contribute to the implementation of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness' [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#). The BHBH Program will be implemented in alignment with the Community, Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court, which prioritizes BHBH resources for CARE Court participants.

A RFA is scheduled for imminent release to county behavioral health agencies for participation in this first round of grant program funding. The initial round of funding will represent the majority of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budgetary allocation for this program. An RFA for California tribes and tribal entities is scheduled for release in the spring of 2023. For more information, please visit the [BHBH website](#).

**Governor's January Proposed Budget Update:** The 2022 Budget Act provided \$1 billion General Fund for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing in FY 2022-23, with another \$500 million General Fund planned for FY 2023-24. The Governor's Budget delays half (\$250 million) of the FY 2023-24 funding until FY 2024-25 given the state's projected General Fund revenue decline. Additionally, due to updated timelines to release funds, \$50 million of the funding approved for FY 2022-23 is expected to be spent in FY 2023-24.

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

On January 1, 2022, DHCS implemented HHIP in accordance with section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. DHCS released [APL 22-007](#) providing guidance for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) to earn incentive funds for achieving progress in addressing homelessness by keeping members housed and developing the necessary capacity and partnerships to connect their members to needed housing services. The incentive program allows MCPs to earn up to \$1.288 billion over the duration of the program (CY 2022 and CY 2023) to facilitate engagement with community partners.

In 2022, MCPs earned \$193,200,000 for completion of Local Homelessness Plans and Investment Plans in collaboration with their local housing partners. MCPs will be reporting data in March 2023 related to their performance on HHIP measures during 2022, which DHCS will analyze to determine additional incentives earned. Program Year 2 was implemented on January 1, 2023, and DHCS will continue evaluating the MCPs performance improvement and reporting on measures. This includes measures around Engagement, Data Sharing Agreements, Capacity-Building, and the ability to house and keep members successfully housed. DHCS will be hosting a series of educational webinars targeted towards MCPs, including "Peer to Peer" best practices sessions, beginning in February 2023 through January 2024.

## **Mobile Crisis Services Benefit**

In October 2022, DHCS submitted [State Plan Amendment \(SPA\) 22-0043](#) to add qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services ("mobile crisis services") as a Medi-Cal benefit, effective January 2023. Mobile crisis services are a community-based intervention designed to provide de-escalation and relief to individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis wherever they are in the community, including at home, work, or school. DHCS anticipates CMS approval in early 2023.

In December 2022, DHCS released [Behavioral Health Information Notice \(BHIN\) 22-0064](#) to support implementation of mobile crisis services by county mental health plans, Drug Medi-Cal counties, and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System counties. The BHIN provides guidance on mobile crisis service components, provider requirements, considerations for key populations, reimbursement, reporting requirements, and required training and technical assistance. DHCS has identified a contractor to support training and technical assistance for counties and mobile crisis services provider organizations, which includes training related to community engagement, including working with individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness; connecting individuals with housing and other social supports; and coordinating with law enforcement, including strategies to reduce unnecessary law enforcement involvement in mobile crisis response. Counties will complete required trainings and phase in the mobile crisis services benefits by December 31, 2023.

### **Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Round 4: Children and Youth Grants**

The Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program has provided unprecedented state funding opportunities to counties, cities, tribal entities, nonprofits, and for-profit organizations allowing the expansion of behavioral health infrastructure around the entire continuum of care for individuals.

All Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program resources ensure care can be provided in the least-restrictive settings by creating a wide range of options in services and supports. DHCS has released four of the total six rounds of funding. In 2021 and 2022, DHCS awarded a total of \$1.22 billion through the four rounds of grant funding, which target various gaps in the state's behavioral health facility infrastructure. These funding rounds have included awards for the following rounds:

- Round 1: Mobile Crisis,
- Round 2: County and tribal planning grants,
- Round 3: Launch Ready, and
- Round 4: Children and youth.

In December 2022, as part of the fourth round of funding, DHCS awarded \$480.5 million in funding to 54 behavioral health [projects](#) in California serving children, youth, transition-age youth, and pregnant and postpartum women. These awards are being made through the BHCIP Round 4: Children and Youth grants. BHCIP represents the largest provision of resources for mental health and/or substance use disorder infrastructure in the state's history, and an unprecedented opportunity to address historic gaps and effect meaningful, sustainable change in California's behavioral health continuum. Additional information about BHCIP Round 4: Children and Youth awardees is available at [BHCIP Grant Award Information](#).

February 13, 2023, was the request for application deadline for BHCIP Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum. Award announcements are anticipated for Spring 2023.

**Governor's January Proposed Budget Update:** BHCIP Round 6 will focus on the outstanding needs remaining after Rounds 3 through Round 5. Round 6 is proposed to be delayed until FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26, reducing costs by \$480.7 million General Fund in FY 2022-23.

### **Whole Person Care (WPC) Program Final Evaluation Report**

On February 8, the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research's Health Economics and Evaluation Research Program released the [final evaluation of the WPC pilot program](#). The evaluation, which has been submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for final review and approval, describes a major and expansive effort in California to address the needs of the most vulnerable Medi-

Cal members who were high utilizers of services, including individuals experiencing homelessness or experiencing housing insecurity. The report found that WPC improved member health outcomes, reduced avoidable inpatient and emergency department utilization, improved housing stability, and lowered health care costs.

## **Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Updates**

### **PATH Technical Assistance (TA) Marketplace Now Open**

On January 31, DHCS [launched](#) the PATH TA Marketplace, a one-stop-shop website where providers, community-based organizations, Medi-Cal Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs, counties, and other eligible organizations that are ramping up to provide the [Enhanced Care Management \(ECM\)](#) benefits and [Community Supports](#) services can access TA resources from curated and approved vendors. Organizations seeking assistance can work with these vendors to develop applications that detail the project scope for which they are requesting funding. These TA resources will help partners further our shared vision of CalAIM, a long-term commitment to innovate and improve Medi-Cal. DHCS invites eligible TA recipients to browse the TA Marketplace today, and learn about available vendors and TA services, and register for technical assistance. Organizations will be able to begin applying for specific projects through the beginning on February 27, 2023. Learn more at the [PATH website](#).

### **Funding Expanded for CalAIM Infrastructure Initiative**

On January 31, DHCS [announced](#) awards for the first round (Round 1A) of [PATH](#) Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion, and Development ([CITED](#)) funding to support the delivery of ECM and Community Supports services. DHCS increased the original funding amount for Round 1 due to the high interest and quality of applications. Round 1 initially intended to award \$100 million to eligible entities but the additional funding will now be awarded through two sub-rounds (1A and 1B) because of the volume and complexity of applications. Round 1B awards will be announced in March 2023. Both Round 1A and Round 1B awardees are selected from the Round 1 applicant pool.

CITED funding will be available in multiple rounds. The Round 2 application window is scheduled to open on February 28, 2023. For more information about CITED, please visit the [PATH website](#).

### **PATH Collaborative Planning Initiative**

The Collaborative Planning Initiative (CPI) provides funding to support regional/county collaborative planning efforts among managed care plans (MCPs), providers, community-based organizations, county agencies, public hospitals, Medi-Cal Tribal and designees of Indian Health Programs, and others to support the implementation of Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports. In November 2022, DHCS awarded 10 facilitator contracts to lead 25 collaborative groups statewide. The collaborative planning groups will work together with the goal of identifying, discussing, and resolving implementation issues and identifying how PATH and other CalAIM funding initiatives may be used to address gaps in MCP Needs Assessments and Gap Filling Plans. MCPs are encouraged to participate in and support PATH collaborative planning efforts in the counties they serve. As of February 2023, there are 768 Collaborative group participants registered. Participant registration will continue to be accepted on an ongoing basis. Additional information on the Collaborative Planning Initiative, facilitators and how to register to participate in the collaborative groups is available on the [PATH website](#).

## **California Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum Demonstration**

In 2023, DHCS will apply for a new Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration to increase access to and strengthen the continuum of mental health services. The demonstration, known as the California Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum (CalBH-CBC) Demonstration, takes advantage of

federal guidance ([State Medicaid Directors' Letter 18-011](#)) and associated funding aimed at improving care for people living with serious mental illness (SMI) and serious emotional disturbance (SED).

This opportunity allows California to make historic investments in building out the full continuum of behavioral health care, with a special focus on the populations that experience a disproportionate impact of behavioral health conditions, particularly children and youth, individuals who are justice-involved, and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

If approved, DHCS will implement statewide improvements in services, quality, and accountability and will also create county options to cover expanded, community-based services and receive FFP for short-term stays in inpatient or residential settings with more than 16 beds (known as “Institutions for Mental Disease” or “IMDs” and typically excluded from federal Medicaid reimbursement).

Several components are specifically designed to support counties to better meet the needs of Californians at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

- **Establishing new benefits in counties that opt in** to help beneficiaries find and keep employment and housing. These include:
  - Community health worker services to help beneficiaries engage in, and navigate, available health services and housing supports;
  - Supported employment services; and
  - Up to six months of rent/temporary housing for beneficiaries who meet the access criteria for SMHS, DMC and/or DMC-ODS services and who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, including individuals transitioning from institutional care, leaving incarceration, and youth transitioning out of the child welfare system.
- **Implementing incentive programs** to support and encourage activities like the following:
  - Reduced rates of homelessness among beneficiaries living with SMI and SED; and
  - Improvements in coordination between county behavioral health plans and managed care plans to connect beneficiaries to Community Supports, ECM, and other services that can help individuals gain and maintain housing.
- **Strengthening the continuum of behavioral health services** for people with severe impairments, including those impacted by the CARE Act (Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act).
  - DHCS will establish statewide Centers of Excellence to support expansion of evidence-based practices and new benefits.
  - Residential and inpatient facilities will be expected to implement new standards for care coordination upon discharge.
  - In addition to the employment and housing services described above, counties will be able to opt into covering new community-based services like Assertive Community Treatment and Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis.

On November 15, 2022, DHCS released a [concept paper](#) describing DHCS' proposed approach to the CalBH-CBC Demonstration for stakeholder review and feedback. DHCS intends to release a draft Section 1115 Demonstration application for public comment in spring 2023, followed by submission of the application to CMS in summer 2023.

**Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative: Evidence-Based and Community-Defined Evidence Practices Round Two: Trauma-Informed Programs and Practices**

On February 9, 2023, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released a [Request for Application \(RFA\)](#) seeking proposals for Evidence-Based Practice and Community-Defined Evidence Practice (EBP/CDEP) grants as part of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI). Interested parties are encouraged to apply for funding by April 10, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. Round Two aims to scale trauma-informed care available to children, youth, parents, and caregivers in California. Trauma-informed care addresses how trauma may impact an individual's life and response to behavioral health services, focusing on realizing the prevalence of trauma; recognizing how trauma affects an individual; and responding by putting knowledge into practice. Specifically, the grant round aims to cultivate safe and stable learning environments that model trauma-informed approaches, reduce health disparities and promote health equity by improving equitable access to services for parents, caregivers, and children that are culturally and linguistically responsive to the needs of the populations of focus including those experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness, along with much more. Through the grant rounds, DHCS' is committed to equity-driven outcomes for populations of focus. For more information about the RFA and DHCS' strategy for scaling EBPs and CDEPs, please visit our CYBHI [EBP and CDEP Grants page](#).

### **Updated Go-Live Dates for Major DHCS Program Initiatives**

From California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) to transforming the state's behavioral health programs, DHCS' initiatives preserve and improve the overall health and well-being of all Californians. The links below reflect our major program initiatives and anticipated go-live dates, pending readiness and federal approvals. This information was last updated on July 1, 2022, and will be updated as necessary.

- [DHCS Major Program Initiatives – Go-Live Dates \(PDF\)](#) - February 1, 2023
- [DHCS Major Program Initiatives by Category – Go-Live Dates \(PDF\)](#) - February 1, 2023
- [DHCS Major Program Initiatives – Go-Live \(Excel\)](#) - February 1, 2023

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

### **Division of Federal Financial Assistance**

#### **Emergency Solutions Grants Program**

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds a variety of activities to address homelessness, including rapid re-housing, homelessness prevention, street outreach, and emergency shelter.

- 56 of the 60 2021 ESG standard agreements have been executed, and as of January 31, 2023, the remaining 2021 standard agreements will be executed by February 28, 2023.
- The 2022 ESG NOFA and applications were released on June 13, 2022, for the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Balance of State (BoS) allocations, and the due date was August 24, 2022. The program received 93 applications in total. As of January 31, 2023 the ESG team has reviewed all applications and award announcements are anticipated in February 2023.
- The 2023 ESG NOFAs for the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Balance of State (BoS) allocations will be ready to internally route for approval as of January 31, 2023. The expected release date will be Thursday, March 16, 2023, with applications being due Monday, May 15, 2023. Award announcements are anticipated for late July 2023.

#### **Emergency Solutions Grants CARES Act**



Authorized by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act enacted March 27, 2020, Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) funds prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or receiving homeless assistance.

- HUD awarded HCD \$3.8 million in ESG-CV re-allocated funding. Per Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice 2022-06, the State amended their Consolidated Plan and the Department identified ESG-CV grantees that expended over 50 percent of their overall award and Rapid Rehousing funding. Five of the seven ESG-CV tribal communities received this additional funding for their ongoing street outreach and emergency shelter projects. The 14 ESG-CV contracts are being amended and several are currently routing for execution. This funding expires on June 30, 2024.
- As of January 27, 2023, 75-percent of the \$315 million ESG-CV grant has been drawn.
- ICF continues to provide one-on-one technical assistance to each of the seven ESG-CV tribal grantees.
- The ESG/ESG-CV team continues 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 of December 2022, ESG-CV funds have been used to serve 84,833 people and 21,562 moved into permanent housing (12,736 households).

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

In March 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. ARP provided \$5 billion nationwide to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness, 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 are administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

- In September 2021, HUD allocated \$155 million to HCD to serve California's non-entitlement jurisdictions. On February 7, 2023, HCD posted the [HOME-ARP Draft Allocation Plan \(PDF\)](#) to its website and opened up a 15-day public comment period.
- HCD will hold a public participation webinar on February 15, 2023, at 1:30pm to review the plan and gather feedback from the public.
- Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Release: HOME-ARP staff anticipate funding availability in May 2023.

### **Housing for a Healthy California**

The goal of the Housing for a Healthy California program (HHC) 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 in the amount of approximately \$160 million on December 31, 2021, and the application period closed on March 1, 2022. Three supplemental over-the-counter applications and 33 competitive applications were submitted by the deadline.
- This is the last HHC round using the State’s annual federal allocation of National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) dollars.
- The final 2020-21 HHC Article I Notice of Funding Availability award list that includes 20 permanent supportive housing developments was posted to the HHC webpage at: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/housing-healthy-california-program>
- The 20 developments will provide 532 HHC assisted units, inclusive of 1,574 total units, located in the following eight counties:
  1. The County of Alameda
  2. The County of Fresno
  3. The County of Los Angeles
  4. The County of San Luis Obispo
  5. The County of San Mateo
  6. The County of Santa Barbara
  7. The County of Sonoma
  8. The County of Ventura
- Nine of the twenty projects awarded from the 2020-21 HHC NOFA will be closing on construction financing no later than June 2023. Upon a project’s successful close of escrow, the Department staff will report on more details for each project.
- The HOPE Center is scheduled to close on permanent financing no later than the end of April 2023. Upon successful closing, the Department staff will report on more details on the HOPE Center project.

### **Division of Housing Policy Development**

#### **Technical Assistance to Improve Delivery of Homelessness Programs**

Since January 2019, HCD has provided technical assistance (TA) to counties and CoCs to enhance, develop, and/or improve the delivery of homelessness programs and services. Since 2021, TA was expanded to support Homekey applicants and grantees in areas related to supportive services, property management, and implementing Housing First core components.

- Homebase completed a report for HCD in February 2023 on resident experiences in Homekey Round 1 funded housing units. Feedback was collected from 12 Homekey housing locations, including 9 interim housing and 3 permanent housing locations, through information sessions, focus groups, and surveys.
  - As a follow up, Homebase will be developing a toolkit, to be released around the same time as the Homekey Round 3 NOFA in Spring 2023, on client engagement and feedback. The toolkit is intended to support Homekey operators, including supportive service providers and property management staff, on collecting and acting on client feedback, utilizing best practices for collecting feedback, and developing a Resident Advisory Board.
- The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) has been providing technical assistance for Burbank Housing on supportive housing best practices, including coordination between property management and supportive services, and supportive services planning and delivery. CSH has provided three trainings since October 2022 with a fourth scheduled for February 2023 on

Trauma-Informed Care and Harm Reduction. CSH anticipates additional coaching and TA delivery for Burbank Housing through March 2023.

### Division of State Financial Assistance

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

In July 2021, Governor Newsom signed the budget bill, AB 140, which allocated ARP funding to address critical affordable housing needs in California. HCD created the California Housing Accelerator program to assist projects unable to move forward due to a severe shortage of financing available through the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) and Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC), which have historically played a critical role in funding affordable housing development. This program makes awards to HCD-funded 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.

#### Budget Status:

The California Housing Accelerator program is funded with \$1.75 billion from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA).

Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 state budget appropriated additional \$250 million of state funds to California Housing Accelerator.

The funds were released in three project solicitations – Tier 1, Tier 2, and a Supplemental Gap Funding Solicitation (for Accelerator-awarded projects experiencing funding gaps due to the sharp rise in construction costs and interest rates in Q4 2022).

#### Highlights:

- All available funds, totaling approx. \$1.97 billion, have been awarded.
- A total of 58 eligible projects awarded. These projects were:
  - In HCD’s multifamily pipeline,
  - Had not received tax-exempt bonds/tax credits.
- 4,639 affordable units have been accelerated, as follows:

<b>ELI Units (&lt;30% AMI)</b>	<b>VLI Units (31-50% AMI)</b>	<b>LI Units (51-60% AMI)</b>	<b>LI Units (61-80% AMI)</b>	<b>Total</b>
2,162	1,304	958	257	4,639

- 3 Tier 1 funded projects will provide farmworker housing, exceeding the \$50 million set-aside.
- Expedited applications reviews and execution of Standard Agreements with developers.
- No program monitoring fees and zero interest rates for the Accelerator loans.
- Over 40% of projects have already started construction.

#### Homekey

Homekey was created as an opportunity for local public agencies to quickly acquire and rehabilitate properties like motels, multifamily buildings, and commercial properties, to expand housing for persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness, who are inherently impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since

its inception in 2020, Homekey has awarded over \$2.7 billion to 210 projects, which will quickly and cost-effectively create 12,774 units of housing.

- Homekey Round 2 awarded \$1.95 billion to eligible projects across the state creating 6,863 units. Of the funds awarded, \$1.67 billion is for capital costs and \$282 million for operating costs.
- In Round 2, HCD awarded \$156 million for 25 projects serving youth experiencing homelessness, \$40 million above the \$116 million set-aside as required by the Homekey statute. This funding supports the creation of 535 units for homeless youth, and 7 manager units.
- Round 2 also funded 6 Tribal projects totaling \$16.8 million to create 54 units. Two of the Tribal projects serve homeless youth. HCD plans to use the remainder of the \$72.5 million Round 2 Tribal set-aside for a Tribal only NOFA.
- A third NOFA with an additional \$736 million is anticipated for release in March 2023. This will be supplemented by a separate Homekey NOFA for approximately \$72 million for tribes, to be released later in 2023. Taken together, these NOFAs will exhaust the Homekey funding previously appropriated by the Legislature.
- If no new funds are appropriated, the Homekey program will sunset in late 2023, after Round 3 funds are awarded

Please see Homekey award updates and data on the Homekey Dashboard at [Awards Dashboard | California Department of Housing and Community Development](#)

### **Housing Navigators and Maintenance Program**

Health and Safety Code Section 50811 renamed the Housing Navigators Program to the Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program (HNMP). The new program received \$13.7 million in the FY 2022-23 state budget to enable counties to utilize HNMP to serve former foster youth with specialized federal Housing Choice Vouchers. The program previously served youth ages 18 through 21 and the priority population was current foster youth. As of July 1, 2022, the upper age limit was expanded to age 24, and the priority population was expanded to include former foster youth.

Program staff contacted 56 eligible counties, informing them of the Round 1 HNMP funding, and 48 counties accepted their allocation. Eight counties opted out of their allocation. Several counties opting out provided the following reasons:

- Reported no unhoused young adults in their latest point-in-time count.
- Wildfires have caused staff retention issues and lack staff to run the local program.
- Experiencing a severe housing shortage after multiple wildfires. County staff stated that it would be challenging to expend these funds.

HNMP awarded \$13,602,428 to 48 counties in February 2023. These counties all submitted their allocation acceptance forms.

### **Multifamily Finance Super Notice of Funding Availability (Multifamily Finance Super NOFA)**

The FY 2021-22 state budget included \$2.7 million of General Fund to implement AB 434 to create a single application system for HCD's major housing financing program. The Multifamily Finance Super NOFA, as the application is called, streamlines the ability for developers and local governments to apply and obtain valuable funding for affordable housing financing and development.

Programs under the Multifamily Finance Super NOFA include the Multifamily Housing Program (MHP), Infill Infrastructure Grant Program (IIG), Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program (FWHG), and Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program (VHHP).

Program Guidelines and the Super NOFA were released March 30, 2022, followed by the application release on May 6. The competitive NOFA application period closed July 12, 2022, with awards scheduled for December 2022.

- HCD received approximately 243 applications requesting more than \$3.5 billion under the \$650 million Super NOFA – an oversubscription rate greater than 5:1. Individually all four programs are oversubscribed, however, MHP is the most significantly oversubscribed – with a ratio of 10:1 – the highest-ever MHP oversubscription.

Program	Funding Available	Applications with Program Funding Requests	Total Program Funds Requested
MHP	\$275 million	191	\$2.87 billion
IIG	\$200 million	98	\$413.83 million
VHHP	\$95 million	15	\$118.17 million
FWHG	\$80 million	26	\$148.73 million

*\* Note: the total applications submitted by program will not necessarily reconcile to the total applications received as noted above. This is because one application may be accounted for in the programmatic breakdown more than once, depending on the funding request. For example, an application requesting MHP, Serna and IIG funding would count as one application in the total received number but would be identified as an application funding request in the table for all three programs.*

- Staff recommended a total of 72 project awards for approval on January 26, 2023 and February 6, 2023:

Program	Funding Available	Total Program Funds Awarded	Number of Projects Funded*
MHP	\$275,000,000	\$380,440,556	25
IIG	\$200,000,000	\$195,004,238	46
VHHP	\$95,000,000	\$74,806,597	9
FWHG	\$80,000,000	\$49,483,445	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$650,000,000</b>	<b>\$699,734,836</b>	<b>72</b>

*\* Note that the Number of Projects Funded will not reconcile to the total 72 awards. This is because one application may be accounted for in the programmatic breakdown more than once, depending on the funding request. For example, an application being awarded both MHP and VHHP funding is identified twice in this column.*

- These projects will create an anticipated 6,434 housing units:

- 1,372 units for special needs and permanent supportive housing.
- 1,658 units for families.
- 482 units for senior households.
- Program-specific outcomes:
  - 9 VHHP-funded projects include 288 assisted units designated for veteran households.
  - 11 FWHG-funded projects include 306 assisted units designated for agricultural worker households.
  - 46 IIG-funded projects will provide onsite and off-site infrastructure improvements, which will result in the development of 4,118 restricted units.
  - MHP funding is assisting 25 of the 72 projects and includes 1,304 assisted units.

### **No Place Like Home**

On July 1, 2016, legislation was passed enacting the No Place Like Home (NPLH) 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 in need of mental health services and experiencing homelessness or are exiting institutions with a history of 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 program.

Through December 2022, HCD has made 156 awards totaling approximately \$1,911,376,910 in 46 counties:

- HCD made awards to four Alternative Process Counties in the amount of \$1,070,149,587 that will result in approximately 4,855 NPLH-assisted units.
  - Alternative Process Counties are those counties with five percent or more of the state’s homeless population who are designated to receive and administer their own allocations.
- HCD has awarded \$841,227,323 to 42 counties in the balance of the state for 141 projects that will result in 2,997 NPLH-assisted units.
- Overall, it is anticipated that 7,852 NPLH-assisted units will be produced. This is the last planned round of funding for the program. As of December 2022, there were 30 completed projects, and 122 projects under construction.

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

The Pet Assistance and Support (PAS) Program provides grant funding competitively to emergency shelters with the intent of reducing barriers for those households experiencing homelessness with their pet. PAS provides funding for pet food, pet supplies, basic veterinary services, and staffing and liability insurance related to providing those services. The PAS program makes the grant funds available competitively to eligible applicants statewide. The program received \$1 million in the FY 2022-23 state budget. HCD anticipates informing applicants of the additional funds in Spring 2023 and awarding funds in Summer 2023.

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

The FY 2021-22 state budget included \$300 million from the 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. Beneficiaries of the Portfolio Reinvestment Program (PRP) are underserved low, very-low, and extremely low income households, which may also include various

disadvantaged special needs groups, such as the elderly, disabled, large families, female heads of households, and people experiencing homelessness.

The NOFA was released on March 28, 2022, with the application over-the-counter period running from April 29 to July 29, 2022, or until the Department has received enough eligible applications to reasonably use all the funds available. Since then, Senate Bill No. 197 (Chapter 70, Statutes of 2022) was signed by the Governor on June 30, 2022, amending Chapter 5.5 (commencing with section 50606) of Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code.

In response to additional funding for the program provided through the General Fund and legislative amendments made by SB 197, the Department released PRP NOFA Amendment #1 on July 28, 2022, which a) increased available funds from \$285 million to \$332.5 million; b) extended the deadline to November 30, 2022; c) expanded the program criteria for eligible projects; d) provided additional incentives to applicants; and e) clarified a few PRP terms and regulations.

HCD received 34 PRP applications for a total requested amount of \$351,663,731 million, preserving 1,511 units. HCD has awarded three projects for a total award amount of \$34,157,327, preserving 150 units.

	<b>Total Award to Date</b>
Projects	3
Assisted Units	150
Units ≥ 30% AMI	129
Units ≥ 50% AMI	21
Total Units	150

HCD continues to review the remaining PRP applications and anticipates recommending all application for approval by the end of April 2023.

### **Transitional Housing Program**

The Transitional Housing Program (THP) received \$33.3 million in the FY 2022-23 state budget to expand the number of youth served. The program provides funding to counties for child welfare services agencies to help young adults aged 18 to 24 years to find and maintain housing, with priority given to those formerly in the foster care or probation systems.

Program staff contacted 53 eligible counties, informing them of the Round 4 THP funding, and 47 counties accepted their allocation. Six counties opted out of their allocation. Several counties opting out provided the following reasons:

- Reported no unhoused young adults in their latest point-in-time count.
- Wildfires have caused staff retention issues and lack staff to run the local program.
- Experiencing a severe housing shortage after multiple wildfires. County staff stated that it would be challenging to expend these funds.

THP awarded \$33,074,038 to 47 counties in February 2023. These counties all submitted their allocation acceptance forms.

### **Transitional Housing Program - Plus Housing Supplement Program**

The Transitional Housing Plus Housing Supplement Program (THP-SUP) provides additional funding to the California Department of Social Services Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus), to fund transitional housing for young adults who exited foster care on or after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. THP-SUP received \$9 million in the FY 2022-23 state budget to expand the number of youth that can be served under the program. This expansion increased the length of the program from 24 to 36 months for all youth. Additionally, youth may participate until they turn 25 instead of 24. The intention of this funding is to increase the number of youth served in supportive transitional housing to cover the cost of the additional year of THP-Plus and to address THP-Plus waiting lists.

Program staff contacted the six eligible counties, informing them of the Round 4 funding, and five counties accepted their allocation. One county declined its allocation due to the administrative cost burden of implementing the local program. In February 2023, HCD awarded \$8,985,406 in THP-SUP to five counties that submitted an allocation acceptance form.

### **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 youth experiencing homelessness 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

#### **Statistics (July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **674**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **861**
- Employment training services provided: **249\*\***
- Education services provided: **235\*\***



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

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

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

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

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

### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Contingent on State Budget

### **Statistics (July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **909**
- Individuals that received transitional housing: **297**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **1,491**
- Rental assistance services provided: **225\*\***
- Employment training services provided: **4,566\*\***
- Education services provided: **6,883\*\***

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

### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive

### **Statistics (July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,013**
- Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: **5,945**
- Relocation assistance services provided: **24\*\***

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

#### 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**

The KE Program Request for Proposal for the next five-year funding cycle was released in March 2022. Submitted proposals were read and rated and the Funding Decision was recently approved by Cal OES leadership. A total of 32 Applicants were selected

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

##### **Statistics (July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **1,456**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: **15,465\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **1,356\*\***

\*\* 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 crime into permanent housing. Successful transitional housing programs provide a range of optional supportive services and let victims choose the course that best fits their needs.

##### **Next Funding Opportunity**

The XH Program Request for Proposal for the next five-year funding cycle was released in May 2022. Submitted proposals were read and rated and the Funding Decision was recently approved by Cal OES leadership. A total of 51 Applicants were selected.

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

##### **Statistics (July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,071**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **101,222\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,232\*\***

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

## 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**

The XD Program Request for Proposal for the next five-year funding cycle was released in April 2022. Submitted proposals were read and rated and the Funding Decision has been routed to Cal OES leadership for approval. A total of 65 Applicants were selected.

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

### **Statistics (July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,247**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **28,352\*\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **8,549\*\***

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

## **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)**

### **Peer Health Ambassador Program**

The COVID-19 Peer Health Ambassador Program for people experiencing homelessness (PEH) is underway. 16 organizations are in the process of finalizing work plans and budgets, and some have begun hiring and onboarding Health Ambassadors. Ambassadors will serve as trusted messengers to share information and messaging around COVID-19 testing, vaccination, and treatment, as well as other relevant health information and resources with people living in encampments, shelters, permanent supportive housing, and others who have currently or recently experienced homelessness.

### **Sanitation Research Project for PEH**

Lack of access to clean water, restrooms, and garbage removal is a major risk factor in the spread of communicable diseases, including COVID-19, amongst people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. CDPH's Office of Health Equity has contracted with a team of researchers at San Diego State University to conduct an assessment of the hygiene and sanitation needs of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness throughout California with the goal of creating evidence-based recommendations for meeting these needs.

### **Lived Experience Advisory Board**

CDPH's Office of Health Equity is contracting with Homebase, LLC. to convene an advisory board of people with lived experience of homelessness. Members will serve in an advisory capacity to better inform public health interventions and messaging around COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, as well as other social determinants of health related to housing and homelessness. The Advisory Board is expected to launch in mid- to late spring.

### **Interagency Emergency Response**

CDPH is participating in a new, interagency effort to ensure that people experiencing unsheltered homelessness are included in local emergency planning efforts following the recent surge of winter

storms. CDPH is working with agencies including Cal OES, Cal ICH, CDSS, and HCD to ensure consistent messaging and actionable resources are provided.

### **We are hiring!**

CDPH Office of Health Equity is hiring two Housing and Homelessness staff:

- [Housing and Homelessness Research Scientist](#)
- [Housing and Homelessness Equity Specialist](#)

### **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. DOR works on the local level to support people with disabilities including those who are experiencing homelessness and are important partners for No Wrong Door coordination of services.

#### **Life Moves Collaboration 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 agency called, Life Moves, that serves individuals experiencing homelessness in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties with shelter services. Due to the successful model collaboration, a video of the collaboration was completed to demonstrate the effectiveness of rapid engagement.

#### **Los Angeles (LA) County**

There are two program collaborations to highlight in LA County. **Impact Drug & Alcohol Treatment Center** sends referrals to DOR to provide training and employment services while individuals are residing in a sober living facility and receiving housing and supportive case management services.

**Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse (L.A. CADA)** has homeless outreach services and assists individuals who are experiencing homelessness with behavioral healthcare and other community services that are coordinated by L.A. CADA Outreach Housing Navigators. At L.A. CADA, a whole team is involved and looks for resources within the community for that individual. They coordinate services with L.A. Family Housing to place individuals or family in a home. L.A. CADA has a six to nine month outpatient treatment program that include services to help individuals develop a treatment plan.

#### **Sacramento County**

In Sacramento County, DOR has had several meetings with Volunteers of America's Project Adolfo and Next Move serving unhoused former foster youth. DOR has met several times with case managers to make referrals to DOR to obtain employment for emancipated foster youth.

#### **San Diego County**

In San Diego County, there are two DOR staff assigned to the East County Transition Living Center to provide services to adults and youth experiencing homelessness on site to obtain and maintain employment. In addition, DOR in San Diego County held an outreach event to 40-50 unhoused individuals at the Neil Good Day Center, which provides unsheltered individuals with basic services. From this event, a quarter of the recipients applied for DOR services to obtain employment.

#### **San Luis Obispo County**

Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO) is developing a partnership with DOR. With the DOR office a block away from CAPSLO, there are many shared participants between the two agencies. DOR staff are setting up a schedule to hold a “job day” at the CAPSLO shelter. The “job days” will help individuals to become interested in employment and will include visiting with the America Job Centers and employers. This increased collaboration also allows staff to learn more about CAPSLO’s services.

### **Sonoma County**

In Redwood Empire District, DOR partners with Sonoma County Job Link, an American Job Center, to serve individuals experiencing homelessness. A job and resource fair for individuals experiencing homelessness will occur on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Included in this fair will be information about housing and other community resources, resume development, mock interviews, and information about applying for state employment. DOR also continues to provide a rapid engagement for individuals experiencing homelessness served by Job Link.

### **Community Living Fund**

DOR received a one-time \$10 million General Fund, the Community Living Fund (CLF) Program, a Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 State Budget investment to advance the Master Plan on Aging over a three-year period starting July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025. The CLF Program is a "bridge" program that expedites the provision of goods or services not available through other means to individuals either transitioning to the community or at-risk of institutionalization.

The Community Living Fund supports strategies that can help prevent homelessness including discharge planning and purchase of services for individuals transitioning from, or at-risk of going into, a licensed skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility for the developmentally disabled, state hospital for the mentally ill, developmental center, rehabilitation hospital, or California Veterans home.

In January 2023, DOR released an Intent to Award Notification for 26 community-based organizations selected to provide CLF Program services in 40 counties. Currently, there are 18 unserved counties, including Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Del Norte, El Dorado, Humboldt, Imperial, Lassen, Mariposa, Modoc, Placer, Plumas, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne. DOR will continue to accept applications for the CLF Program to expand access to services and serve geographically underserved areas in California.

For more information on the CLF Program and how to apply visit the [CLF website](#) or email [CLF@dor.ca.gov](mailto:CLF@dor.ca.gov).

### **Independent Living Centers (ILCs)**

DOR provides funding to California’s 28 Independent Living Centers (ILCs), who provide a variety of services for individuals with disabilities and are a partner on the local level to support individuals who are unhoused or who are at-risk of losing their housing. In FY 2021/22, ILCs provided over 10,900 housing services to individuals with disabilities. Housing services include assistance with securing or maintain housing, home modifications, and understanding tenant rights.

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

The Older Individuals who are Blind (OIB) program provides independent living skills training, orientation and mobility training, assistive technology training, and other services to people 55 and older who are blind or visually impaired. Last reporting year, 2022, the OIB program served 34 unhoused Californians. Services are available through a network of 17 non-profit organizations in California. The OIB program

recently published a Request for Applications that will result in determining the non-profit service provider organizations for delivering OIB services in the 2024-27 grant years.

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

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

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

### ***CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs***

The CDSS is administering just over \$2 billion in funding appropriated in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 to provide funds to counties and tribes to establish, continue and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP), Bringing Families Home (BFH), Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), Home Safe, Project Roomkey (PRK) and Rehousing Strategy, and the Community Care Expansion Program (CCE). The FY 2022-23 [State Budget](#) reflected significant state investments in these housing and homelessness programs; these funds are available to spend over multiple years. In the proposed 2023-24 Budget there were no cuts or changes to CDSS Housing and Homelessness programs. Additional updates related to funding awards and program implementation and expansion are outlined below.

### ***Technical Assistance***

To continue supporting 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 is maintaining and scaling up the comprehensive Technical Assistance (TA) initiative launched in early 2022 in partnership with the [Change Well Project](#). The TA offerings include a suite of resources for Housing and Homelessness Division (HHD) grantees, including learning community discussions, webinars, curated program tools and guides, and 1:1 consultation on a wide variety of topics and issues. The TA offerings are designed along several tracks aimed at different staff competencies and span from light-touch support to more intensive assistance depending on the grantee's unique needs. Since January 2022, Change Well Project provided TA to 44 counties and 5 tribes and hosted 21 webinars and events with a combined total of over 2,300 registrants. A 2022 End of Year Report and dashboard are available on the [Change Well Project website](#).

These TA efforts are continuing throughout 2023. The Change Well Project recently launched a [new learning cohort](#) for program leaders which spans over 18 weeks and provides program leaders with the knowledge, tools, and support needed to deepen local understanding of the intersecting homeless systems of care, new programmatic innovations and best practices, and core CDSS-funded housing and homelessness program fundamentals. This learning cohort will be coupled with ongoing virtual office hours, which will provide attendees the opportunity to ask questions, share promising practices or local challenges, and learn from and collaborate with their peers.

Change Well Project has also received TA requests from 14 Tribes since June 2022, with both tailored 1-1 and group TA opportunities forthcoming for new tribal grantees. These tribal TA efforts follow the more than 50 TA sessions Change Well Project held with tribal communities to support funding requests for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Tribal Set-Aside.

### ***Tribal Set-Aside for HDAP, Home Safe and BFH Programs***

The CDSS released an [All Tribal Leader Letter](#) on July 26, 2022, announcing the availability of \$17.5M in FY 2021-22 funding set aside for eligible tribal entities to establish a new BFH, HDAP, and/or Home Safe program. Entities eligible to request set-aside funding included federally recognized tribes, tribal organizations (including but not limited to Tribal 638 Providers and Urban Indian Organizations), tribal consortium, and tribally led nonprofits in California. CDSS held a government-to-government Tribal Consultation in April 2022 to solicit feedback on plans for the set-aside and hosted a subsequent Information Session in July 2022 to discuss the details of the All-Tribal Leader Letter with tribal communities. After the release of the All-Tribal Leader Letter, CDSS held five bi-weekly “Office Hours” sessions between August 4, 2022, and September 22, 2022, at which tribal entities were invited to pose questions to the CDSS team.

A total of 24 tribal entities requested just over \$51.5M in set-aside funds. Following this significant response from tribal entities, CDSS developed a draft Award Proposal, which incorporated a plan to double the funding available via the tribal set aside to \$35M, set base funding awards for all tribes participating in the programs, and provide opportunities for tribes interested in accepting funds to submit funding requests. CDSS held an Award Proposal Information Session in December 2022 to discuss the proposal and solicit feedback from applicants. CDSS is working to finalize award decisions in consideration of the feedback received during the Award Proposal Information Session and subsequent one-on-one meetings with tribes and aims to issue award letters in the early part of 2023.

### ***FY 2022-23 Program Funding Notices***

The CDSS released an [All County Welfare Directors Letters \(ACWDL\)](#) on September 21, 2022, informing counties and continuing tribal grantees of the availability of \$645M appropriated in FY 2022-23 for HSP, BFH, HDAP, and Home Safe. As with FY 2021-22 funding for these programs, the one-time awarded in FY 2022-23 is match exempt and is available for expenditure and encumbrance over multiple years. A [County Fiscal Letter \(CFL\) 22/23-43](#) was released on December 30, 2022, awarding these funds to participating grantees. Additional program specific updates are outlined below.

#### **[CalWORKs Housing Support Program \(HSP\)](#)**

The CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) assists families receiving CalWORKs who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness to quickly obtain permanent housing while providing flexible wrap-around supports to foster housing retention.

- Since the program’s inception in 2014 through October 2022, more than 31,900 families were permanently housed through HSP.
- The [Budget Act of 2022](#) appropriated \$285 million for HSP over multiple years, including the annual, ongoing appropriation of \$95 million available over two years, and a one-time appropriation of \$190 million available over three years through June 2025. These funds are in addition to the \$285 million appropriation made available by the [Budget Act of 2021](#).
- Fifty-five counties currently operate HSP. Final FY 2022-23 allocations and participating county social service agencies can be viewed in [CFL 22/23-43 \(December 30, 2022\)](#).

The CDSS presented a workshop outlining guidance and best practices related to the HSP at the California New PATHS Conference on January 18, 2023.

#### **[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.

- For FY 2021-22, over 44,500 families were approved for temporary HA, and 2,700 families for permanent HA – a total of over 47,200 families approved for CalWORKs HA. The CalWORKs HA program is an entitlement program, available to all eligible families applying for or receiving CalWORKs benefits.
- The 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 on the [CDSS CA 237 HA website](#).
- Pursuant to [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1065 \(Chapter 152, Statutes of 2020\)](#), the CDSS notified the legislature that the changes to the Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS) have been made. An [All-County Information Notice \(ACIN\) from November 1, 2022](#) informed counties of the implementation date for the changes to the CalWORKs HA Program. The changes to the HA Program made pursuant to SB 1065 are operational, effective September 1, 2022.
- CDSS presented a workshop outlining guidance and best practices related to the HA program and implementation of SB 1065 at the California New PATHS Conference on January 18, 2023. The audience consisted of county eligibility workers, social workers, program managers and other front-line staff throughout the state responsible in determining public assistance eligibility. In addition to sharing changes to the HA program, the interactive session covered CDSS's housing and homelessness principles and additional information for accessing or referring individuals and families to other CDSS programs and services.

### **[Bringing Families Home \(BFH\) Program](#)**

The Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program serves families involved with the child welfare system who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or are in a living situation that cannot accommodate the child or multiple children in the home, 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 November 2022, more than 4,700 families have been served in BFH, and of these, over 2,200 families have been permanently housed through BFH.
- The [Budget Act of 2022](#) appropriated \$92.5 million for BFH, available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2025. These funds are in addition to the \$92.5 million appropriation made available by the Budget Act of 2021.
- Fifty-three counties and one tribe currently operate BFH, including two new counties in FY 2022-23. Final FY 2022-23 allocations and participating grantees can be viewed in [CFL 22/23-43 \(December 30, 2022\)](#).

### **[Housing and Disability Advocacy Program \(HDAP\)](#)**

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

- Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through September 2022, over 5,800 people have been enrolled, over 2,800 people have been permanently housed, over 6,300 disability applications have been submitted, and over 1,900 disability applications have been approved.
- The [Budget Act of 2022](#) appropriated \$175 million for HDAP over multiple years. This includes \$150 million, match exempt, available through June 30, 2025 and \$25 million available through



June 30, 2024, which includes a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. These funds are in addition to the \$175 million appropriation made available for HDAP in the Budget Act of 2021.

- Fifty-seven counties and two federally recognized tribal governments representing eight tribes, for a total of 59 grantees, currently operate HDAP. Final FY 2022-23 allocations and participating grantees can be viewed in [CFL 22/23-43 \(December 30, 2022\)](#).

### **Home Safe**

The Home Safe program supports the safety and housing stability of people involved in [Adult Protective Services \(APS\)](#) 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 September 2022, over 5,600 people have received assistance through the program and more than 2,000 instances of housing financial assistance were provided. Additionally, over 1,200 people have been connected to the local Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- The [Budget Act of 2022](#) appropriated \$92.5 million for Home Safe, available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2025. These funds are in addition to the \$92.5 million appropriated in the [Budget Act of 2021](#).
- Fifty-eight counties currently operate a Home Safe Program. Final FY 2022-23 allocations and participating grantees can be viewed in [CFL 22/23-43 \(December 30, 2022\)](#)

### **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 were secured and over 61,000 individuals have been sheltered through Project Roomkey. As of early January 2023, over 2,200 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by over 2,700 individuals experiencing homelessness. Additionally, as of January 2023, 13,473 (23%) of PRK participants exited to permanent housing; 36% exited to temporary housing or congregate shelter; 9% to institutions or other; and 17% to unknown destinations. The remaining 15% exited to unsheltered homelessness.
- The California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, in collaboration with CDSS, engaged Abt Associates to evaluate Project Roomkey. In December 2022, Abt Associates published an [Evaluation of California's Project Roomkey Program: Year 1 Report](#) highlighting the successes and challenges of PRK, including participant experiences and outcomes, and the ways in which the state's housing and healthcare systems collaborated to launch emergency programming. Abt Associates is continuing to evaluate PRK and aims to release a final report upon further data collection and analysis in the months to come.
- 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. CDSS continues to support communities to ensure all individuals exit PRK consistent with their housing

goals or in connection with other available local homelessness, health and social services systems of care.

- Forty-three counties and three tribes, for a total of 46 grantees, accepted \$143 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 [Budget Act of 2022](#) authorized the reappropriation of unspent PRK awards from FY 2021-22 to FY 2022-23.

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

The [Community Care Expansion \(CCE\) program](#) is part of a statewide investment in infrastructure funding to address homelessness, support healthcare delivery reform, and strengthen the social safety net. CCE funds 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) who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Funds are also available to preserve residential care settings, including operating subsidies to existing licensed adult and senior care facilities currently serving SSI/SSP or CAPI recipients through the CCE Preservation program. CDSS has partnered with Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP) to implement this initiative and to provide technical assistance for CCE.

- A total of \$570 million has been made available for CCE Capital Expansion funding through a [Joint RFA](#) 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 are 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.
- As of January 2023, CDSS has announced a total of \$100.5 million through CCE Capital Expansion to seventeen organizations funding nineteen projects. Program grantees and awards are posted on the [CCE Awards Dashboard](#).
- Following the release of the [Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\) dated June 10, 2022](#), thirty-five counties accepted more than \$186 million in non-competitive allocations. Award information, including participating counties, can be viewed on the [Building CalHHS website](#). Counties are in the process of developing Preservation Program Implementation Plans and are expected to begin implementing local programs later this year.
- AHP in partnership with CDSS hosted a series of informational webinars and office hours to assist county grantees in planning their local CCE Preservation programs.
- In addition to the \$186 million awarded to date, CDSS released an [ACWDL](#) on December 14, 2022, to notify All Counties of an additional one-time \$55 million appropriation for noncompetitive allocations for Operating Subsidy Payments (OSPs) as a result of the [Budget Act of 2022](#) (AB 178, Chapter 45, Statutes of 2022).

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

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

Over the last decade, the State of California has seen significant year-over-year growth in the number of individuals charged with a felony offense who are found Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) and committed to the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH) for competency restoration services. IST defendants are determined by a court to be unable to participate in their trial because they are not able to understand the nature of the criminal proceedings or assist counsel in the conduct of their defense. When the court finds a felony defendant incompetent to stand trial in California, they can be committed to DSH to provide clinical and medical services with the goal of restoring their competency and enabling them to return to court to resume their criminal proceedings. To better understand what was potentially driving the sustained increase in felony IST referrals, DSH partnered with the University of California, Davis to study the IST patients being admitted to Napa State Hospital. One major defining characteristic of this population is that they experience high rates of homelessness. In 2016, approximately 47% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were experiencing unsheltered homelessness prior to their arrest. Between 2018 and 2020, 65.5% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were experiencing homelessness (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 talks with 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. Contracts have been executed with nine counties to expand their diversion programs.
- \$29.0 million to implement diversion programs in any other county interested in contracting with DSH. DSH executed contracts with five new counties. With the addition of these counties, DSH is partnered with 29 counties across the state.

- \$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. DSH executed contracts with 17 counties to support housing for an additional 207 treatment slots bringing the total to 1,190 potential treatment slots in the Diversion program.

The 2022 Budget Act included additional funding for IST Solutions and provided DSH the resources and authority to significantly expand Diversion and CBR and make them permanent, ongoing programs. Once fully implemented, DSH estimates these programs will be able to admit and serve up to 3,000 new felony IST patients annually. DSH is implementing the program over four years and, upon full implementation, will have \$520 million annually to support community-based treatment programming.

To support the expansion of these programs, DSH was authorized \$469 million one-time over the next two fiscal years to fund the development of approximately 5,000 residential treatment beds in the community to support the IST population served in the Diversion and CBR programs. In the second quarter of 2022-23, DSH engaged with Advocates for Human Potential (AHP) to manage the department's 5,000 bed build-out project with the goal of releasing the first round of award letters by June 30, 2023. The goal of both the CBR and Diversion programs is to effectively and safely treat individuals committed as IST in the community to connect them to meaningful treatment and supportive housing and ultimately disrupt the cycle of homelessness and criminal justice involvement for these individuals. In addition, IST individuals who successfully complete a diversion program have their current charges dropped. Both programs are designed to connect participants into ongoing treatment services in their home community upon discharge from diversion or CBR.

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

#### **The California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) and the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC)**

**CTCAC** administers programs that address critical needs for the state of California. CTCAC allocates nine percent (9%) or four percent (4%) federal tax credits to qualified new construction projects or existing properties undergoing rehabilitation. Each number refers to the approximate percentage that is multiplied against a project's requested "qualified basis" to determine the maximum amount of annual federal credits the project may be awarded. CTCAC also administers the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program in the State Treasurer's Office, which is a critical funding source for producing and preserving affordable rental housing and helping reach the Governor's goal of producing 2.5 million units in California by 2030.

#### **Nine Percent (9%) Credit 2022 Awards**

- Annual Federal Credits Awarded: \$117,721,696
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$110,153,585
- Projects Awarded: 62
- Total Number of Units: 3,518
- Total Number of Low Income Units: 3,451

#### **Nine Percent (9%) Credit 2023 Funding**

The amount of 9% federal credits is limited and is calculated at \$2.75 per person in 2023. California's limit for this year is \$108,320,674 for federal credits and there is \$130,945,200 available for projects in California from the State Credit allocation pool.

#### **Four Percent (4%) Credit 2022 Awards**

The 4% tax credits derive from a project's use of tax-exempt bond authority allocated by the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) and are limited only by the amount of volume cap available to California. In 2022 \$3,122,480,469 in tax-exempt bond allocation was awarded.

- Annual Federal Credits Awarded: \$280,130,462
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$525,762,088
- Projects Awarded: 101
- Total Number of Units: 11,320
- Total Number of Low Income Units: 11,151

#### **Four Percent (4%) Credit 2023 Funding**

The 2023 tax-exempt bond allocation for Qualified Residential Rental Projects is \$4,878,725,159, which includes the 2023 state ceiling amount and unallocated carryforward. There is also \$516,505,403 in State Tax Credits available for new construction projects and \$17,797,650 in State Tax Credits available for rehabilitation projects.

#### **Regulation Changes**

CTCAC emergency regulations were recently approved. Changes include an increase to the dollar amount of the 9% threshold basis limit for a 2-bedroom unit to qualify for a basis limit increase and allowing reservation exchanges to 9% Waiting List projects. More information can be found here: [CTCAC Regulations](#)

#### **2023 Meeting Schedule and Application Due Dates**

Information on CDLAC 2023 Meetings and Application Due Dates can be found [here](#).

Information on CTCAC 2023 Meetings and Application Due Dates can be found [here](#).

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

The Caltrans Office of Homelessness and Encampments has been working with local governments to help them navigate the ERF grant process as it relates to the state Right of Way. Caltrans created a tool kit for potential applicants to use as well as had its encampment coordinators undergo a training session given by Cal ICH on the grant process. There has been a great deal of interest and Caltrans is in the process of signing off on several of the grant proposals.

District Coordinators are working with eligible applicants (cities, counties, CoCs) as well as NGOs in nearly every county in California to collaborate on proposals being submitted.

A few examples include:

- District 4 (Caltrans Bay Area) is working with at least nearly a dozen eligible applicants on proposals including a proposal from the city of East Palo Alto, a historically disadvantaged community, to develop a program to create transitional shelter along with a job training program

to help PEH secure stable shelter and begin building skills to allow them to transition to permanent housing opportunities.

Another proposal with the city of San Jose the support targeted outreach and engagement to assess for housing needs, including encampment management strategies (waste and hygiene resources) as well as a program to transition PEH to emergency interim housing programs quickly and/or into permanent housing through rental subsidies and supportive services and other elements.

- District 10 ( San Joaquin County) working with both urban counties as well as remote rural communities on a variety of proposals that includes two of the gateway counties into Yosemite National Park that are developing emergency shelter and outreach capacity. In the past, some of these rural counties didn't even have outreach workers who could do field visits to encampments and our Caltrans District Coordinators ended up being the bridge to social services engaging directly with PEH to help them get shelter options and other services.

Our office is tracking ongoing collaborations on ERF grants in Districts 3, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 and we are aware that the other Districts are working with eligible applicants, but that the proposals are still under development. We have also facilitated multiple requests from eligible applicants and others re: Caltrans property that is available for the shelter lease program and have worked with various District Right of Way divisions to provide information, maps of locations and answer questions about the program.

Caltrans is also exploring the correlation between pedestrians experiencing homelessness being hit by vehicles and the state Right of Way. Caltrans has gathered multiple divisions to look at not only the scope of the issue, but plausible solutions. Caltrans is working towards a pilot to gather data and to test mitigation measures in real time. The goal, to save lives.

Caltrans continues to quilt together local partners with solutions to provide a cohesive plan to move people off the state Right of Way as well as connect them to service providers, offer emergency shelter lease property, support encampment resolution grants, create mitigation measures to prevent return encampments, while working to bridge up stream solutions from the Housing and Homelessness Solution Team and Clean California.

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

#### **Recent News From USICH & Our Council Members:**

- **USICH** released *All In: The Federal Strategic Plan (FSP) to Prevent and End Homelessness*. [Read more.](#)
- **USICH, HUD, and VA** announced two major milestones through the *House America Initiative* that **ended homelessness for more than 140,000** Americans. 19 California communities signed on to *House America*. [Read more.](#)
- **USICH** Director Olivet published a **year-in-review blog** highlighting how the Biden administration addressed homelessness in 2022. [Read more.](#)
- The **White House** announced new federal actions, launched the **Resident-Centered Housing Challenge**, and released a **Renters' Bill of Rights**. [Read more.](#)
- **HUD** proposed (and is taking public comment on) the **"Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule"** to fulfill the promise of the Fair Housing Act. [Read more.](#)

- **HHS** started taking applications for new **Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals**. Deadline: March 21, 2023. [Read more.](#)
- **HUD** and **VA** awarded \$25 million to 99 PHAs across the country to support **HUD-VASH** vouchers, including several CA-based Housing Authorities. [Read more.](#)
- **HUD** awarded \$315 million to 46 cities and localities across 30 states to address unsheltered and rural homelessness, including Oakland/Alameda County and Los Angeles. [Read more.](#)
- **Treasury** reallocated another \$690 million in **emergency rental assistance**, including grants to the State of California and several CA-based local jurisdictions. [Read more.](#)

#### **New Guidance & Resources From USICH & Our Council Members:**

- [All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) (USICH)
- [Webinar Recording and Slides for All In 101: Overview of New Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) (USICH)
- [Webinar Video: When Crises Collide: Supporting the Homeless through Community Resiliency & Service Coordination – Focus on Northern CA](#) (HUD)
- [Podcast Episode: What the New Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness Means for Veterans](#) (VA)
- [Recording and Slides for Infection Control and Winter Planning Series](#) (HUD)
- [Expanding Access to and Use of Behavioral Health Services for People At Risk for or Experiencing Homelessness](#) (SAMHSA)
- [Recording and Slides for Webinar on HOME-ARP IDIS for Non-Congregate Shelter Activities](#) (HUD)