



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Gavin Newsom, Governor
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Department and Federal Partner Updates

California Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting
May 31, 2023

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Note: Department and Federal Partner Updates are highly encouraged, but not required. The department not included in these updates is the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB).

California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)

The California Interagency Council on Homelessness welcomes newly appointed Executive Officer, Meghan Marshall, who has over 17 years of experience working in the public sectors of public health, behavioral health, human services and housing and homelessness. We look forward to her leadership to end and prevent homelessness in the state.

The Cal ICH Advisory Committee held their meeting on May 8, 2023, where they discussed committee needs for their charter and discussed the alignment of funding and creating statewide performance measures that may be included in a future Action Plan. The [meeting recording](#) and meeting materials can be accessed on our [Meetings Webpage](#).

The remaining 2023 Council and Advisory Committee Meetings are the following dates:

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

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

Council Grants Administration and Support

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP)

Round 1, 2, and 3 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-1, HHAP-2, and HHAP-3)

By early March 2023, all grantee-initiated, extension requests for processing HHAP-3 “Remainder” disbursement contracts were closed. This means that all 75 grantees have now received “Remainder” funds from the State Controller’s Office; 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.

In April 2023, Cal ICH received HHAP-1, HHAP-2, and HHAP-3 Quarterly Report data from grant start dates through December 31, 2023.

By May 31, 2023, HHAP-1 and HHAP-2 grantees must meet s statutorily prescribed, obligation deadline. This means that CoCs and Large Cities must each obligate 50% of their allocations and Counties shall obligate 100%, respectively. Grantees that fail to meet this obligation deadline are subject to various accountability measures identified in statute including potential reversion. Cal ICH staff continue to proactively support grantees on these and other fiscal matters (e.g., technical assistance webinar on addressing ESG-CV fiscal cliffs and how HHAP may support).

In May 2023, Cal ICH executed an interagency agreement to assess the impact of HHAP youth set-aside funding and inform its ongoing implementation.

Cal ICH continues to support HHAP-3 grantees with outcome goals.

HHAP-3 Tribal Set-Aside (2022 Tribal HHAP) and HHAP-4 Tribal Set-Aside (2023 Tribal HHAP)

In March 2023, Cal ICH published the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for 2023 Tribal HHAP. The NOFA and application process were informed by insights and lessons from 2022 Tribal HHAP as well as several, meaningful consultations and public listening sessions with tribal partners. \$20 million is available for California Federally Recognized Tribes. From April through June, Cal ICH will further engage tribes and provide application-focused technical assistance. Final applications are due on June 30, 2023.

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

By March 30, 2023, all HHAP-4 application amendments were complete. For some grantees, amendments required a MOU for overlapping jurisdictions. For other grantees, amendments pertained to their outcome goals. Technical assistance was made available to support applicants.

By later April 2023, HHAP-4 award packages were sent to all 75 applicants, and these packages are due back to Cal ICH on May 28, 2023. These returned contracting packages are reviewed for substance and form, and where necessary, applicants are directed to correct. As of May 17th, 13 applications were determined to be correct and were advanced to higher levels of State review. These advancements will occur in batched waves to increase efficiency across State partners. Cal ICH anticipates that the first wave of grantees will receive their disbursements from the State Controller's office by mid-summer.

Based on HHAP-3 administrative insights, HHAP-4 is governed under one contract. The first 50% of the HHAP-4 award will arrive in a single advance (i.e. grantees will have full, upfront access to 50% of the awarded funds). The second 50% will be processed once a grantee (1) meets the minimum obligation and expenditure requirements in Health and Safety Code section 50220.8(k); and (2) demonstrate that it remains on track to meet its outcome goals.

Family Homelessness Challenge Grant (FHC)

In April 2023, Cal ICH received FHC Quarterly Report data from grant start date through March 31, 2023. These data fall within one of three categories: (1) fiscal; (2) programmatic; (3) and performance. Cal ICH uses this reporting contact point to secure and analyze budget change requests.

Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program

Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program, Round 1 (ERF-1) and Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program, Round 2, Lookback Disbursement (ERF-2-L)

In April 2023, Cal ICH received ERF-1 and ERF-2-L Quarterly Report Data from grant start date through March 31, 2023. These data fall within one of three categories: (1) fiscal; (2) project management / programmatic; (3) and performance. These data are relied upon to inform Cal ICH monitoring and technical assistance.

By June 31, 2023, ERF-1 grantees must meet a statutorily prescribed, 50% expenditure deadline. Grantees that fail to meet this expenditure deadline “shall return to [Cal ICH] no less than 25 percent of their total allocation amount for reallocation.” Cal ICH staff continue to proactively support grantees on this fiscal requirement to ensure the timely, efficient, and effective expenditure of awarded funds.

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

ERF-2-R's rolling application process opened on 12/1/22 and will remain open until 6/30/23, or until all program funds have been exhausted, whichever comes first. The application process has three submission windows. The windows are as follows: #1 from 12/1/22 to 2/28/23; #2 from 3/1/23 to 4/30/23; and #3 from 5/1/23 to 6/30/23. Cal ICH anticipates announcing window #1 awards by late May 2023.

Applications that were not awarded will be provided individualized feedback on deficiencies and how to improve should the applicant choose to resubmit. Window #2 applications are undergoing review.

Applications for projects on state right-of-ways were prioritized in this review process. As relevant, Caltrans partnered with Cal ICH for the review of submitted applications.

Grant Monitoring

The Cal ICH Monitoring Unit has continued to proactively identify, outreach, and support grantees regarding nearing obligation and expenditure deadlines.

Grant Technical Assistance

Recent Cal ICH technical assistance (TA) has focused in four areas: (1) Encampment Resolution Funding Grant Program (ERF); (2) racial equity; (3) youth; and (4) performance-based contracting. These TA efforts were managed and coordinated through a centralized Cal ICH TA unit.

ERF TA is available to ERF-1 and ERF-2-L grantees. TA providers have delivered 1:1 assistance, conducted monthly check-ins with all 19 ERF-1 grantees, and completed initial assessment calls with all 7 ERF-2-L grantees. Additionally, TA providers have facilitated community learnings groups on topics such as Community Partnership and Housing Pathways & Stabilization. Lastly, TA providers have created foundational training series that explored Housing First, Continuum of Care Eligibility, and Coordinated Entry.

Racial Equity TA continues to progress. The current California Racial Equity Lab Phase II is a year-long engagement with the objective to identify and implement a Racial Equity Improvement Project that works towards eliminating racial disparities in homeless systems of care. The participating cohort is comprised of 27 communities.

The Youth Action Board Collaboration has launched the YAB Collab Phase II that focuses on supporting local efforts to build out youth action boards. These efforts will engage, center, and meaningfully incorporate people with lived experience to prevent and youth homelessness. The participating cohort is comprised of 13 communities.

Performance-Based Contracting TA continues to be made available for HHAP grantees seeking 1:1 assistance. This support typically involves meeting with a grantees and providing monthly follow-up support on issues pertaining to contracting, data analysis, and performance improvement.

Data

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 977 (AB 977), the State of California requires grantees of specified and new state funded homelessness programs to enter specific data elements related to individuals and families into their local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). For Cal ICH, this means that non-Tribal HHAP, ERF, and FHC grantees must populate specific data into HMIS, in a specific manner, by specific compliance dates. To support these requirements, Cal ICH modified and aligned its prior and new guidance and continues to make technical assistance available.

Policy and Research

Action Plan

Cal ICH staff, supported by consultant Matthew Doherty, began an update to the [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness](#) in February 2023. To date, this process has included conversations with every Council member department and agency, external stakeholder groups, Tribal communities, lived experience advisory boards, and two virtual public input sessions. The Advisory

Committee to the Council has also participated in discussions to inform the updating of the Action Plan. The Cal ICH team is now working with each member department and agency to reach agreement on Activities to be included within the updated Plan.

Working Groups

Additionally, Cal ICH has continued its work with the State Funding and Programs Working Group, focusing on the Council's goals to bring racial equity into grantmaking across Council member departments and agencies. Cal ICH has also launched its Racial Equity Working Group, bringing together staff from multiple state departments and agencies as well as community members with expertise on racial equity in homelessness services. These groups meet monthly and will continue to implement Council priorities as directed by the Action Plan.

AB 977

Pursuant to [Assembly Bill 977 \(AB 977\)](#), the State of California requires grantees of specified state funded homelessness programs to enter specific data elements related to individuals and families into their local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). AB 977 requires Cal ICH to provide technical assistance and guidance to grantees or entities administering projects that operates a program subject to this bill. AB 977 applies to the ten programs named in statute without limitation, and all state funded homelessness programs commencing on or after July 1, 2021. Cal ICH has contracted with Abt Associated to provide technical assistance and training to ensure that grantees have all the resources needed to be able to comply with AB 977.

Cal ICH, in consultation with respective administering state agencies or departments, is required to specify the entry format and disclosure frequency of the required data elements. State agencies and departments expressly named in statute, in partnership with Cal ICH and Abt Associates, have issued instructions to their grantees to support HMIS data entry. Grantees of the ten programs identified in statute are required to begin complying with the project set up and data entry requirements when entering data into HMIS by July 1, 2023.

In June 2023, Cal ICH will be reaching out to state agencies and departments administering state funded homelessness programs that commenced on or after July 1, 2021 to assess their technical assistance needs and provide additional project setup instructions to support the state and local stakeholders in obtaining a more comprehensive understanding of the effects of state funded homelessness programs and allow for better informed policy decisions.

SB 914

Pursuant to [Senate Bill 914](#), the Homeless Equity for Left Behind Populations (HELP) Act, the State of California requires cities, counties, and continuums of care who receive state funding to include families, people fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, and unaccompanied women into their homelessness planning and responses on or after January 1, 2024. To ensure effective service delivery across domestic violence and homelessness response systems, local jurisdictions must take specific steps to include these subpopulations in their homeless services and housing delivery supports.

SB 914 requires Cal ICH to set and measure progress toward goals to prevent and end homelessness among domestic violence survivors and their children and among unaccompanied women in California. Initial goals are to be set by January 1, 2025, and evaluated every two years, to determine if an update is needed. SB 914 further requires local jurisdictions to work with victim service providers to develop any analyses or goals to address the specific needs of this population with data measures not included in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Cal ICH will be releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to obtain a contractor for the delivery of consulting services in Cal ICH's implementation of SB 914. The successful proposer will support Cal ICH in setting and measuring progress toward goals to prevent and end homelessness among domestic violence survivors and their children, and unaccompanied women in California. This will include the development of a data collection approach to measure progress, and provision of technical assistance and training activities to cities, counties and continuums of care to support integration of these goals into local planning processes

Homelessness Data Integration System (HDIS)

Cal ICH's Homelessness Data Integration System (HDIS) aggregates data from the 44 local homelessness response systems (Continuums of Care) in California on a quarterly basis. Cal ICH recently released data on the people who accessed the homelessness response system during the full 2022 calendar year in the HDIS [dashboard](#). Cal ICH also published demographic data to the [state's open data portal](#). Continuums of Care submitted data for the first quarter of 2023 to Cal ICH in May, and Cal ICH is in the process of processing and validating this data.

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 is expected to begin in July with member onboarding anticipated to begin in fall. Members will meet monthly and receive compensation.

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. For more information, see the [2023-24 MPA Annual Report](#) and the [MPA Implementation Tracker](#). The following efforts reflect the department's housing-related efforts, as well as related stakeholder engagement on housing issues:

- **California Commission on Aging:** CDA continues to advance its partnership with the [California Commission on Aging \(CCOA\)](#), which serves as the principal advocacy body for older Californians and as a catalyst for change that supports and celebrates Californians as they age. In May 2023, during the [C4A Conference](#), the CCOA addressed with CDA the critical need to maintain the trajectory of the MPA especially within the scope of supporting Aging in Place opportunities that incorporates housing security.
- **Dignity at Home Fall Prevention and Home Modification Program:** The Dignity at Home Falls Prevention and Home Modification Program is a \$10 million program operated by local Area Agencies on Aging to provide information, education, and home modifications to enable older adults to safely remain in their homes. In 2022, the program assisted 3,606 individuals and provided 312 training programs. Funding for the program expires 12/31/2023.
- **Elder and Disability Justice, Legal Services Technical Assistance:** CDA awarded a \$1 million contract to Justice in Aging, the entity which serves as the technical assistance 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. Among other issues, the legal service needs include housing insecurity, rental issues, tenant protections, eviction protections, and asset management such as estate planning to ensure an individual does not lose their housing.
- **Healthier Homes-Aging in Place Program:** CDA is in the early stages of planning and developing the RFA for the \$12.5 million "Healthier at Home" initiative. 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.
- **Home and Community Based Services Gap Analysis:** CDA has commissioned a [Home and Community Based Services \(HCBS\) gap analysis](#) and multi-year roadmap project which will include an analysis of affordable/accessible housing for older adults and people with disabilities. The goals of this project are to develop an inventory and gap analysis of HCBS, a multi-year roadmap to advance the HCBS infrastructure, propose measures to monitor progress in advancing statewide HCBS infrastructure, and build upon the parallel work of the California Department of Health Care Service's [\(DHCS\) Medi-Cal gap analysis](#) and multi-year roadmap. This project is an initiative of the MPA and supported through a budget allocation.
- **Local Aging & Disability Action Planning Grant Program:** In line with MPA initiative 77, CDA established the [Local Aging & Disability Action Planning \(LADAP\) Grant Program](#) and awarded nearly \$3 million to 15 organizations to 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. CDA anticipates releasing a second round LADAP Request for Applications in the coming months.
- **May Revision (2023), Older Adult Behavioral Health Augmentation:** The proposed \$50 million investment in Older Adult Behavioral Health is intended to strengthen local community behavioral health capacity, reduce mental health stigma, and maintain live, warmline support for older adults such as the Friendship Line currently operated through the partnership between CDA and the Institute on Aging. As with all initiatives, equity is at the center of this proposal. If approved by the

Legislature and signed by the Governor, this proposed funding will be directed to CDA to administer over the next three years.

- **Older Adult Behavioral Health Roundtables:** As a part of the MPA, CDA hosted four Older Adult Behavioral Health Roundtables across the state in Fresno, San Bernardino, Ukiah, and San Francisco. These listening sessions allowed for CDA to hear from people with lived or learned experience about the behavioral health needs of older adults, and the inequities that impact ethnically, racially, and culturally diverse older adults. All four sessions resulted in a successful turnout of community support from both consumers and providers.
- **Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative:** CDA partnered with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) to support a funding opportunity that consisted of \$20 million to support the implementation of Age Wise and PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives) programs, with the overall goal of addressing the mental health needs of older adults, which often correlates with housing security. The [MHSOAC selected and intends to award](#) contracts to the following organizations for the Age Wise program: Korean Community Services, Inc., Monterey County Department of Social Services, and Ventura County Area Agency on Aging. For the PEARLS program, the MHSOAC selected and intends to award contracts to the following organizations: Area Agency on Aging 4, Council on Aging, Council on Aging – Southern California Inc, Family Service Agency, Pacific Center for Human Growth, Peers Envisioning and Engaging in Recovery Services, Stanislaus County Area Agency on Aging, and West Oakland Health.

Stakeholder Committees

The following stakeholder committees continue to address housing and homelessness:

- The [Implementing the MPA Together in CA](#) (IMPACT) Stakeholder Committee continues to elevate the need for affordable, accessible housing linked with needed health care and supportive services. Further, they have advocated for more targeted investments to meet the needs of older adults and people with disabilities, and they hope to see more explicit allocations. Finally, they are proponents of a rental-assistance program targeted to severely rent-burdened and other precariously housed older adults and persons with disabilities.
- The [Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee](#) (DACLAC) housing subcommittee continues to advocate for targeted rental assistance for older adult renters who are at-risk of homelessness.

Coalition on Solutions to Homelessness Among Older Adults

The MPA work continues to build-upon the policy recommendations set forth by the [Coalition on Solutions to Homelessness Among Older Adults](#). These recommendations are as follows:

- Create a Targeted Rental Subsidy Program providing grants to community-based agencies serving older adults at risk of or experiencing homelessness.
 - MPA, Initiative 9: Explore opportunities to increase availability of housing options with “housing for health” strategies.
 - MPA, Initiative 117: Further develop the network of housing needed to end homelessness, prevent older and other at-risk individuals from falling into homelessness, and provide expanded supports at housing placements.
- Use Assisted Living Waiver, Home and Community-Based Alternatives Waiver and Multipurpose Senior Services Program to promote integration of housing and services, allowing older adults to remain independently housed or gain access to independent housing.

- MPA, Initiative 59: Consider opportunities for geriatric social workers to participate in interdisciplinary teams.
- Pursue Additional Opportunities to Integrate the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly into supportive housing.
 - MPA, Initiative 2: Provide tax credits and pursue other strategies to prioritize the types of housing units that are not being produced by the market.
- Increase the State Supplemental Payment to allow older adults to access and maintain housing stability.
 - MPA, Initiative 129: Consistent with the Budget Act of 2018, begin to bring older adult basic income (Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment and Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants) up to meet Elder Economic Index and Federal Poverty Level, to meet need as funding is available.

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 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 future cohorts of this pilot program. With the increase of 10 million in funding, \$3 million was redistributed to existing 14 HHIP colleges. The remaining \$7 million balance is currently being reserved to identified highest need colleges (excluding the 14 colleges in cohort 1) via system level data retrieved from the Chancellor's Office. Moving forward, in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, HHIP cohorts 1 and 2 balances will undergo a recalculation to ensure funding is appropriately balanced.

Student Basic Needs

The CO finalized its legislative report for Basic Needs Centers (found [here](#)), as reported by the colleges, for fiscal year 2021-2022. The Budget Act of 2021 allocated \$30 million annually, starting in 2021-22, to California Community Colleges for each college to establish a dedicated Basic Needs Center, and to designate at least one staff person as the campus Basic Needs Coordinator to provide holistic basic needs services and resources to support students. The report includes initial student-level data from Summer and Fall 2022 from 60 colleges and additional qualitative data from the Basic Needs Center program plans from all colleges. More complete data for the first year of Basic Needs Center implementation will be available following the completion of 2023-24 academic year. The Chancellor's Office expects improved student-level data as implementation of Basic Needs Centers and associated reporting matures.

Please see below for data highlights from this report:

- Based on a preliminary first year sample of 60 colleges reporting student-level data, 64,777 contacts were made by over 47,000 California community college students accessing basic needs services through the Basic Needs Center. Almost half of all students who accessed Basic Needs Center resources received food insecurity assistance. Transportation services and technology support services were the next most frequent basic need category that was addressed.
- According to the Basic Needs Center program plans, by July 2022, every college was providing basic needs services to students on campus. 77 colleges were providing services from their Basic Needs Centers.
- For Fall 2022, the systemwide average course success rate for students receiving basic needs services was 66%, which is close to the systemwide average course rate for all students (71% in Fall 2022). Given that students receiving services from a basic needs center are, by definition, disproportionately facing far greater challenges than students in general, the closeness of these success rates provide some initial suggestion of the meaningfulness and effectiveness of these services (e.g., they are helping students be able to stay enrolled and successfully complete their courses in the midst of the food or housing insecurity or other challenges they are facing).

Updates from 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. In April, the alliance produced 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. Currently a planning committee has been established and is working on a Basic Needs Summit scheduled to take place in early 2024.

Updates from the California State University System

CSU OVERVIEW

Critical to student success at the CSU, the Basic Needs Initiative takes a holistic look at students' well-being both inside and outside the classroom, from housing and food security to mental health. Student engagement and well-being is a priority of Graduation Initiative 2025, which is supported by ongoing state funding. The CSU is working to find better ways to support our students on their path to graduation.

The CSU offers extensive resources to students facing food insecurity. All 23 CSU campuses have a food pantry, 20 campuses support a meal sharing or meal voucher program, 22 campuses provide access to fresh fruit and vegetables, and several campuses offer or are working toward accepting Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) and/or CalFresh dollars to be used to purchase hot food on campus. Many campuses have partnered with community food banks to provide support to students. All campuses also assist students with the CalFresh application process. The CSU also provides housing support to housing insecure or homeless students through emergency on and off campus placements and emergency grants to support housing expenses, and 8 campuses are collaborating with community-based organizations and piloting a college-focused rapid rehousing program to assist with longer-term solutions.

The CSU recognizes that basic needs for college students goes beyond food and housing security, so access to digital resources is provided on most campuses, as are financial literacy workshops, wellness workshops, cooking classes, and clothing closets with professional clothing options for interviews. Please see below for key highlights regarding basic needs data for the CSU system:

- 23 Campuses
- 457,992 students
- Full time = 81%
- Traditionally underrepresented = 237,779 (52%)
- First Generation = 139,751 (31%)
- 94% come from California

STATE BUDGET

2019 = 6.5 million in baseline funding for Rapid Rehousing

2021 = 15 million in baseline funding for Basic Needs

2022 = 10 million increase in baseline funding for Basic Needs (25 million total)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Community Gardens
 - Bakersfield & SJSU (Organic Campus Community Garden)
- Medical Financial Support
 - San Marcos
- Peer Programs
 - CSUDH - Peer Mental Health Program & Student Mental Health Ambassadors
- Mental Health
 - CSULB Campus Assessment & Stabilization Team (CAST) - mobile mental health team to aid students experiencing urgent mental health concerns
- Financial Peer Education Program (SDSU) - teaching financial literacy

SERVICES

- FOOD INSECURITY
 - 100% of CSUs have food pantries
 - 78% are State supported
 - 22% are supported by ASI
 - Most campuses work with community partners or donors
 - 96% offer fresh produce or a Farmer's Market
 - 70% offer a meal share program
 - 70% offer grocery store gift cards
 - 100% provide CalFresh application assistance
 - 48% have a campus event food alert system
- HOUSING INSECURITY
 - 100% of CSUs offer on-campus emergency housing
 - 52% include a meal plan
 - 70% offer off-campus emergency housing
 - 38% include meals
 - 88% also accommodate students with dependents
 - 57% provide assistance with long-term housing

- Security deposits, Rent supplements, Utility support, etc.
- 8 CSUs have participated in the Rapid-Rehousing pilot (since 2019)
- FINANCIAL SUPPORT
 - 100% of CSUs offer Basic Needs emergency grants
 - 74% offer financial literacy programming
- CHILD & DEPENDENT CARE
 - 87% of CSUs offer programs and services for parent students
- TRANSPORTATION
 - 91% of CSUs offer programs to serve transportation needs
- BROADBAND & TECHNOLOGY
 - 96% of CSUs offer programs to serve broadband and technology needs.

California Department of Rehabilitation (CDCR)

CDCR’s Quarterly Progress Update Tracker for the [FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan](#)

Action Item No.	Action Item (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Metrics (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Update
1.4.4	Address the employment needs of people transitioning from State Prison, including those who receive housing under the Returning Home Well initiative, by connecting them to local employment resources, such as leveraging the workforce partnership and Prison to Employment initiative, and linking them to Department of Rehabilitation programs. This could include the provision of Workforce Development Board stipends (if applicable).	For people exiting prison, how many who are in need of employment resources are connected to employment resources? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parole agent employment referrals • Type of training and employment secured post-release. • Training participation during incarceration. • Employment duration/retention measures. 	CDCR has altered some of the metrics originally identified (see strikethrough and edits in red font in the “Metrics” column) and is in the process of finalizing a dashboard that will include these metrics. These updates will be reflected in the revisions/updates CDCR will set forth for Cal ICH’s FY 2023-24 Action Plan.
3.9.11	Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, in partnership with philanthropic organizations and local partners, to expand interim housing options, including recovery housing models and quarantine options during the pandemic, for people transitioning from corrections settings.	Increased community capacity to provide treatment and interim housing options to target population: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population served (demographics) 	No change. CDCR will be able to report data on the Returning Home Well services beginning in late summer 2023. Note: the “type of housing” metric will be removed from the FY 2023-24 metrics for this activity as Returning Home Well is temporary housing.

Action Item No.	Action Item (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Metrics (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration between release and housing placement • Duration of housing placement. 	
3.9.15	Explore potential opportunities for CDCR DAPO to directly refer individuals releasing from State Prison who are at risk of homelessness or who are on parole and become homeless to existing, applicable CDSS programs to address housing needs.	TBD	The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), CDCR’s Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) and Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP), and Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) are scheduled to meet again in May 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.
4.11.7	Continue to consult with the Legislature, state and federal agencies, and other stakeholders to identify ways to improve the provision of housing to individuals being served within CDCR-funded programs, consistent with Housing First practices.	Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.	This item is completed.
4.11.8	Ensure that state-supported recovery housing programs are adapting policies and practices to continue to address the needs of participants, are educating participants regarding roles, rights and responsibilities, and are connecting people to alternative housing options that are implementing Housing First and harm reduction practices, in order to provide participants with meaningful choice and seek to minimize exits to homelessness, whether directly released from CDCR institutions or from post-	Documentation of activities implemented to support the implementation of relevant policies and practices by state-supported recovery housing programs.	CDCR is producing a flyer and plans to disseminate it in May 2023 to educate parolees on housing options that are available, which encompass Housing First and harm reduction options.

Action Item No.	Action Item (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Metrics (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Update
	release CDCR-sponsored programs.		
5.14.13	Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, in partnership with philanthropic organizations and local partners, to prevent experiences of homelessness for people transitioning from corrections settings by expanding interim housing options, including recovery housing models and quarantine options during the pandemic, and by addressing transportation needs to facilitate access to such options.	Increased community capacity to provide treatment and interim housing options to target population.	This is duplicative of 3.9.11 above and, thus, will be collapsed in the next version of the Action Plan.
5.14.5	Enhance the pre-release Community Transition Program practices to initiate referrals to specifically address the housing needs of people exiting prison settings who are identified as homeless as they transition back to their communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people identified as homeless • Number of referrals to housing • Number of individuals placed in housing • Type of housing placements • Duration of housing placements 	<p>On February 1, 2023, CDCR distributed a memorandum outlining the eligibility requirements for temporary housing services via the Returning Home Well (RHW) Housing Initiative for individuals who will be released to parole supervision with an identified housing need. During the pre-release process, the DAPO Community Transition Program provides referrals to DRP, who then secures RHW Housing options via the STOP contracts network. In addition, as of April 26, 2023, DRP expanded the RHW eligibility requirements, and temporary housing is now available for parolees with an identified housing need that are within twelve (12) months of release from an institution.</p> <p>As of April 30, 2023, 4,071 parolees under the DAPO supervision were reported as homeless.</p>
5.14.6	Analyze existing pre-release data and information to better understand the scale of risks for homelessness among people preparing to exit prison settings.	Document findings from analyses	Through planning discussions and preliminary analyses, it was determined that pre-release data are too unreliable due to changes throughout the pre-release planning process. Instead, CDCR has focused

Action Item No.	Action Item (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Metrics (as written in the FY 2022-23 Cal ICH Action Plan)	Update
			on data reporting for individuals on parole who have been identified as being transient or living in a shelter. A draft dashboard has been developed by the CDCR Office of Research, which is currently under internal review. <i>Note: CDCR may revisit publishing pre-release data if a time frame for reliable data is identified (e.g., within 30 days prior to release).</i>
5.14.7	Identify opportunity to partner with local communities to pilot data matching activities to analyze rates and timing of post-release experiences of homelessness among people who have exited prison settings.	Document findings from any analyses performed.	CDCR's Office of Research, CCJBH and Cal ICH met in March 2023 on 3/20 to initiate discussion on potential data sharing. Cal ICH shared the HUD Data Dictionary, which reflects the data submitted to Cal ICH from the CoCs. On a parallel track, in April 2023, CDCR's Office of Research and DRP, along with CCJBH, met with a local Continuum of Care (CoC) to explore the potential for direct CDCR/CoC data matching. All of these exploratory discussions are ongoing.

California Department of Education (CDE)

Cross-System Collaboration and School-Community Partnerships

Friday, May 19, 2023, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., the Homeless Education, Technical Assistance Centers (HE TACs) will be conducting the Cross-System Collaboration and School-Community Partnerships Webinar learn how to develop strong school-community partnerships in support of McKinney-Vento students and families and see the new HETAC School-Community Partnerships Toolkit!

Please register at [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#).



California Department of Education's Data and Donuts for Homeless Education

Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 3 p.m., it's the California Department of Education's Data and Donuts for Homeless Education. It's all about the new Geographic Information System (GIS) Map centered around homeless students and their enrollment. Find data via GIS mapping

about county level and even school district level data related to identified homeless eligible students

Following Governor Gavin Newsom’s [announcement](#) of a proposal to improve how California treats mental health, substance use disorders, and homelessness, leaders of the California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS), Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) underscore their shared commitment with the governor.

Governor Newsom is proposing a general obligation bond for the 2024 ballot designed to create thousands of new community behavioral health beds in state-of-the-art residential settings to support and house Californians with mental illness and substance use disorders. The ballot would also include an amendment to the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), providing 30% of MHSA local funds every year in local assistance for housing and residential services for people experiencing mental illness and substance use disorders, and allowing MHSA funds to serve people with substance use disorders.

“By refocusing on how these dollars are used, we will address one of the most important social drivers of health for people with serious behavioral health conditions: housing,” said **Dr. Ghaly**. “The Governor has put forward another bold idea to ensure we have the resources to build those community beds. On top of that, this transformation is going to allow us to treat people with not only mental health issues but with substance use disorders in ways we never have been able to do before.”

LEARN MORE:

- [CalHHS Website](#): More information about the Administration’s policy objectives
- [Policy Brief](#): Understanding California’s Recent Behavioral Health Reform Efforts
- [Fact Sheet](#): Modernizing Our Behavioral Health System

Governor Newsom’s Master Plan for Tackling the Fentanyl and Opioid Crisis

On March 20, Governor Newsom released his [Master Plan for Tackling the Fentanyl and Opioid Crisis](#), which builds on the Administration’s \$1 billion investment to address the opioid crisis. The plan includes steps to support overdose prevention efforts, hold the pharmaceutical industry accountable, crack down on drug trafficking, and raise awareness about the dangers of opioids, including fentanyl. The plan is supported by the Governor’s proposed 2023-24 budget—which includes \$79 million for Naloxone distribution to be managed by DHCS, \$10 million for education and support services grants, and an additional \$3.5 million to provide overdose medication to middle and high schools.

Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP)

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. DHCS has awarded four of six total rounds of BHCIP funding through the Request for Application process. To date, DHCS has awarded a total of \$1.1 billion in funding through four of six total funding rounds targeting various gaps in the state’s behavioral health facility infrastructure.

DHCS BHCIP Rounds 1-4 Funding Overview:

- Directly supported 245 new or enhanced mobile crisis response teams throughout California;
- Supported 50 planning grants providing Counties and Tribal Entities an opportunity to expand planning efforts in their communities or regions for the acquisition and expansion of behavioral health infrastructure statewide;

- Awarded 43 launch ready projects to build or expand behavioral health care facilities creating 36 new inpatient and residential facility sites that offer 1,174 new BH treatment beds, and 40 outpatient facilities to offer 126,000 new annual BH treatment slots;
- Awarded 54 children and youth projects focusing on facilities that provide care for children and youth ages 25 and younger, including pregnant/postpartum women and their children, transition-age youth (TAY) ages 18-25, and their families. These projects will create 29 new inpatient and residential facility sites to offer 498 new treatment beds, and 48 outpatient facilities to offer over 74,000 new annual treatment slots.

DHCS anticipates announcement of BHCIP Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum awards in spring 2023.

BHCIP Round 6 will focus on the outstanding needs remaining after Rounds 3 through Round 5 and is currently in the planning phase with an anticipated release in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25.

For more information about BHCIP, please visit the [BHCIP website](#).

Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH)

On February 22, DHCS made [\\$907 million in grant funding available](#) to County Behavioral Health Agencies (BHAs) for the BHBH program to address the immediate housing and treatment needs of people experiencing homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions, including mental illness and substance use disorders. The program will provide support through various “bridge” housing settings, including tiny homes, interim housing, rental assistance models, and assisted living settings. BHA applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and will highlight how counties propose to utilize their BHBH funds.

- Tribal Entity Request for Application (RFA) in the amount of \$50M is in development and will be released in late spring 2023.
- Competitive RFA (for BHA and Tribal Entities) in the amount of \$250M anticipated for release in late summer 2023; with second competitive RFA in the amount of \$250M anticipated for release in 2024.

To learn more about the BHBH program and view current BHBH program information, visit [Behavioral Health Bridge Housing](#).

Recovery Incentives Program: California’s Contingency Management (CM) Benefit

On March 28, DHCS approved Social Model Recovery Systems: Pasadena Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, the first site in the state to begin offering CM services as part of the [Recovery Incentives Program](#). Additional sites have been approved in Los Angeles, Kern, and San Francisco counties and more sites will be approved on a rolling basis as implementation training and readiness assessment requirements are completed.

For questions, please email RecoveryIncentives@dhcs.ca.gov.

Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Justice-Involved Round 3 Funding Application

On May 1, DHCS opened the [PATH Justice-Involved Initiative Round 3](#) application. Round 3 funding will support correctional agencies, county behavioral health agencies, and other justice-involved stakeholders as they implement personnel, capacity, and/or IT systems that are needed for collaborative

planning and implementation of pre-release service processes. For more information, visit the [Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program website](#).

Capacity and Infrastructure for Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports

On March 24, DHCS [announced](#) awards totaling \$88.5 million to help local organizations build their capacity and infrastructure in support of a more coordinated, person-centered, and equitable Medi-Cal system for all Californians. These funds further the vision of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), California's long-term commitment to transform and strengthen Medi-Cal, and will be used to develop and deploy the Medi-Cal [Enhanced Care Management](#) benefit and [Community Supports](#) services statewide.

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, homeless prevention, street outreach, and emergency shelter.

- The 2023 ESG Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Balance of State (BoS) allocations are expected to be released in June 2023, with applications due in July 2023. Award announcements are anticipated for late September 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 homeless or receiving homeless assistance.

- As of May 8, 2023, 83-percent or \$265 million of the \$315 million ESG-CV grant has been drawn. This grant expires on December 31, 2023.
- 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 have been executed. This funding expires on June 30, 2024.
- 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).

Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV)

Authorized by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act enacted March 27, 2020, Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV) funds prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus via community development and housing projects and programs that serve low- and moderate-income households, including those experiencing homelessness.

- The CDBG-CV team has been coordinating with the ESG-CV team to identify awards that can be used to aid in the ramp down of ESG-CV programs as funding is exhausted. The team has been providing individualized technical assistance to CoCs and units of local government and has directed grantees to this resource available from HUD: [Using CDBG Funds for ESG-CV-Eligible Activities - HUD Exchange](#)

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 homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability across the country. The grant funds 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 reduce homelessness and increase housing stability in California. HCD will prioritize funding projects in California's non-entitlement jurisdictions which are jurisdictions that did not receive HOME-ARP funding directly from HUD.
- HUD required HCD to complete an Allocation Plan to implement the HOME-ARP Program. As part of the plan, HOME-ARP staff obtained feedback from over 1000 community members from hundreds of entities serving individuals and families that are at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness throughout California. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan was approved by HUD on April 18, 2023. Approval of the plan allows HCD to implement:
 - A multi-family housing development program (NOFA Summer 2023)
 - The Housing Plus Support Program (a supportive services program that focuses on providing permanent housing solutions for California's vulnerable populations (NOFA December 2023); and
 - An affordable housing project for justice-involved individuals (the HOME-ARP Reentry Project will be a collaboration with CDCR).
- The Home-ARP Allocation Plan should be posted to the HCD website by the end of May.

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
- On April 18, 2023, South Park Commons (aka Bennett Valley) successfully closed on construction financing. The new construction development is in the County of Sonoma. There will be 62 total units comprised of 19 studio, 19 one-bedroom, 12 two-bedroom, and 12 three-bedroom units, including one management unit and 29 HHC Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units for people experiencing chronic homelessness or homelessness and are high-cost health users with incomes at or below 30 percent of Area Median Income (AMI). The Department is providing \$19,843,464 in loans that consist of \$4,265,288 in HHC funds and \$15,578,176 in MHP funds. The HHC funds leveraged over \$44.7 million in tax credit equity, private, and public funds. Overall, the Department’s HHC and MHP loans leveraged over \$29.1 million in tax credit equity and conventional and local gap loans. Construction is anticipated to be complete by April 2025.
- On April 19, 2023, Crocker Umeya successfully closed on construction financing. The new construction development is in the County of Los Angeles. There will be 175-units comprised of 102 studios, 60 one-bedroom, and 13 two-bedroom units, including two exempt management units and 65 HHC PSH units for people experiencing chronic homelessness or homelessness and are high-cost health users with incomes at or below 30 percent of AMI. The Department is providing \$78,116,734 in construction and permanent financing, and consists of \$10 million in HHC funds, \$48,116,734 in Accelerator (ACC) funds, and \$20 million in Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) funds. The HHC funds leveraged over \$92 million in private and public funds. Overall, the Department’s HHC, AHSC, and ACC loans leveraged over \$24 million in conventional and local gap loans. Construction is anticipated to be complete by April 2025.
- On April 21, 2023, Walnut Park successfully closed on construction financing. The new construction development is in the County of Los Angeles. There will be 64 total units comprised of 32 one-bedroom, 20 two- bedroom and 12 three-bedroom units, including two exempt management units and 25 HHC PSH units for people experiencing chronic homelessness or homelessness and are high-cost health users with incomes at or below 30 percent of AMI. The Department is providing \$41,534,249 in loan and grant funds that consist of \$11,250,000 in HHC funds, \$3,094,000 in Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG) funds, and

\$27,190,249 in ACC funds. The HHC funds leveraged over \$38.4 million in private and public funds. Overall, the Department's HHC, IIG, and ACC funds leveraged over \$8.1 million in conventional and local gap loans. Construction is anticipated to be complete by April 2025.

- On May 3, 2023, Pimentel Place successfully closed on construction financing. The new construction development is in the County of Alameda. There will be 57 total units comprised of 11 one-bedroom, 28 two-bedroom and 18 three-bedroom units, which is inclusive of one exempt management unit and 15 Housing for a Healthy California (HHC) permanent supportive housing units for those who are experiencing chronic homelessness or homelessness and are high-cost health users with incomes at or below 30 percent of AMI. The Department is providing \$65,250,473 in loan and grant funds that consist of \$7,040,000 in HHC funds (using National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) dollars), \$4,038,134 in Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG) funds, \$8,020,611 in Multifamily Housing Program (MHP) funds, and \$46,151,728 in Accelerator (ACC) funds. The NHTF/HHC funds leveraged over \$67.6 million in private and public funds. Overall, the Department's NHTF/HHC, IIG, MHP and ACC funds leveraged over \$9.4 million in conventional and local gap loans. Construction is anticipated to be complete by May 2025.
- Berkley Food and Housing Project's (BFHP) HOPE Center is anticipated to close on permanent financing by May 19, 2023. The new construction development is in the County of Alameda. There are 53 studio units, which is inclusive of 12 HHC PSH units for those who are experiencing chronic homelessness or homelessness and are high-cost health users with incomes at or below 30 percent of AMI. The Department is providing \$16,014,061 in permanent loans and grants consisting of \$3,443,026 in HHC funds, \$6,478,688 in No Place Like Home (NPLH) funds, \$3,854,205 in Multifamily Housing Program (MHP) funds and \$2,238,142 in AHSC funds. The HHC funds leveraged over \$38.9 million in tax credit equity, and private and public funds. Overall, the Department's HHC, NPLH, MHP and AHSC loans leveraged over \$26.3 million in tax credit equity, and conventional and local gap loans. Construction is anticipated to be complete by May 2025.

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 created a [client engagement and feedback toolkit](#) as a resource for the Homekey program. 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.
 - Homebase will host a webinar on Tuesday, May 23 and office hours on Wednesday, June 14 and Monday, June 26, introducing the toolkit to the public.

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. \$1.95 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.
- 4,945 affordable units have been accelerated, as follows:

ELI Units (<30% AMI)	VLI Units (31-50% AMI)	LI Units (51-60% AMI)	LI Units (61- 80% AMI)	Total
2,255	1,407	1,030	253	4,945

- 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 65% 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 homeless youth, \$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 was released on March 29, 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. For the counties that opted out of receiving their allocation, the Department awarded those unallocated funds to Los Angeles and Alameda Counties in April 2023. These counties accepted the remaining \$97,572.

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, with 72 awards made in January and February 2023.

- 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.

The second Super NOFA was released on May 18, 2023, with applications due July 12, 2023, and awards estimated January 2024.

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. These are the last planned HCD awards under this program until additional new funding becomes available:

- 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. As of March 2023, there were 46 completed projects, and 118 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.

HCD was monitoring 28 PAS Round 1 contracts from the 2019 NOFA when they added another 36 contracts with the new 2021 funding. The PAS program has awarded a combined \$13,052,426 in award funds. Of this, \$11,936,014 has been disbursed to support pet owners in 58 different shelters. The program received an additional \$1 million in the FY 2022-23 state budget. To reduce the administrative impact of releasing a million dollars, [HCD allocated the funds](#) via formula to the PAS Round 2 grantees. In March 2023, HCD informed grantees of the additional funds, and in May 2023, program staff will seek a recommendation to award the \$1 million.

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, to preserve 1,511 units. HCD has awarded 18 projects for a total award amount of \$178,108,116, preserving 824 units, and serving 2,263 persons.

	Total Award to Date
Projects	18
Total Units	824
Assisted Units	818
Units ≤ 30% AMI	338
Units ≤ 40% AMI	178
Units ≤ 50% AMI	216
Units ≤ 60% AMI	84
Units ≤ 80% AMI	2

HCD continues to review the remaining PRP applications and anticipates recommending eligible applications for approval by the end of May 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. For the counties that opted out of receiving their allocation, the Department awarded those unallocated funds to Los Angeles County in April 2023. Los Angeles accepted the remaining \$225,962.

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 18th 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. For the county that opted out of receiving its allocation, the Department awarded those unallocated funds to San Diego County in April 2023. San Diego accepted the remaining \$14,594.

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 – March 21, 2023)

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **1,297**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **1,370**
- Employment training services provided: **642****
- Education services provided: **421****

** 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 – March 31, 2023)

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **1,661**
- Individuals that received transitional housing: **639**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **2,519**
- Rental assistance services provided: **347****
- Employment training services provided: **6,223****
- Education services provided: **7,840****

** 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 – March 31, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,740**
- Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: **7,421**
- Relocation assistance services provided: **35****

** 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 – March 31, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **2,226**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: **23,124****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,162****

** 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 – March 31, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,216**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **125,631****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,813****

** 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 – March 31, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,272**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **39,595****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **13,793****

** 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)

New Housing & Homelessness Equity Specialist Started 3/1/23!

Laura Luengas, the new Housing & Homelessness Equity Specialist comes to us with 8+ years of experiencing working with PEH. She most recently worked for the LA County Public Health Department supervising a team that conducted COVID-19 investigations and surveillance at homeless shelters and encampments. Laura also has direct service experience working at a shelter for transitional aged youth in Los Angeles. Laura holds a Master of Public Health degree with an emphasis in community health education.

Peer Health Ambassador Program

The COVID-19 Peer Health Ambassador Program for people experiencing homelessness (PEH) is underway. 16 contracts executed and programs have already made significant progress on their

deliverables. The 16 awardees convene monthly to discuss strategy, challenges, wins, etc. Below are a few highlights from the first round of progress reports.

- Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates: Conducting health surveys to gain insights into PEH's health needs in district 10 (Bayview Hunters Point). 1k+ surveys conducted as of April 2023. Plan to exceed 2k metric by end of grant (June 24). Estimate they will be able to reach over half of the population of district 10 via street outreach.
- Code Tenderloin: Providing vaccinations to PEH in Tenderloin and Mid-Market areas of San Francisco via vaccination crews, which include peer health ambassadors and UCSF medical professionals. The team has been making vaccinations available two times a week.
- Healthy House Within a MATCH Coalition: developed culturally sensitive trainings and flyers in Spanish and Hmong to reach PEH in the community, particularly elders around Merced. Health ambassadors teamed up with Merced County to participate in Point in Time (PIT) count to reach unsheltered PEH to provide resources around vaccination and health as well as other necessities. Already provided services for over 500 PEH.

CDPH Lived Experience Advisory Board – Will launch this summer 2023!

CDPH's Office of Health Equity is contracting with Homebase to convene a CDPH 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.

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 homeless and are important partners for No Wrong Door coordination of services. As a social determinate of health, employment can be a critical path out of homelessness.

Life Moves Collaboration in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties

For two years the DOR San Francisco and San Jose Districts have worked with a homeless agency called Life Moves that serves homeless individuals in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties with shelter services. They are just opening a new Maple Street location which will include a Navigation Center to provide dental, medical, and mental health services in addition to housing support. DOR and Life Moves meet twice per month to coordinate referrals and employment services for individuals.

Butte County

DOR is working with Pallet Village in Chico, which provides rapid-response housing for individuals who are homeless. The Pallet Village has hired two DOR consumers with lived experience to assist other individuals who are unsheltered with peer delivered services. Since January 2022 Pallet Village has developed 177 cabins creating a safe space and community for individuals.

Orange County

DOR has a counselor that is co-located at the mobile unit in the Santa Ana County Court House. This homeless court program is a collaboration with the Superior Court of California of Orange County to reduce recidivism for unhoused individuals. DOR counselors conduct outreach to the court and supporting agencies to increase access to employment services for individuals who are justice involved and homeless.

Los Angeles (LA) County

A Collaboration between, Career Expansion, Department of Veterans Affairs, Watts Community Labor Action Committee (WLCAC), South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB), AVIDEX who is an employer in audiovisual solutions, and DOR was established to provide training and employment to disabled homeless veterans. The collaboration resulted in 15 disabled veterans who were trained and graduated as Low-Voltage Audio-Visual Installers now making \$45 to \$65 per hour.

Sonoma County

In Redwood Empire District DOR is starting to partner with Napa State Hospital to co-locate DOR staff in the hospital once a month to support individuals exiting the hospital setting. The Napa State Hospital provides mental health services to individuals who are mandated for treatment by a criminal or civil court judge. DOR staff will provide information and resources and enroll individuals in employment services before they are discharged and will transfer their case to the closest DOR office for on-going support. This collaboration assists in the reduction of homelessness as individuals leave the state hospital and reintegrate back to the community with stable housing options.

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 [FY 2023-24 May Revise](#) there remain 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. During the calendar year 2022, Change Well Project provided TA to 47 counties and 23 tribes and hosted 33 webinars and events with a combined total of over 2,300 participants. Change Well recently released its [end-of-year](#) report, which describes the areas of focused support provided to grantees and key activities. Monthly “Learning Labs” were also launched for grantees covering topics such as developing program processes, human-centered design, and trauma-informed care.

There are a series of publicly available dashboards created by Change Well that provide information about TA delivery, CoCs, local communities, programmatic best practices, and more:

- [Change Well Activities Report](#)
- [CoC Map](#)
- [Rehousing Funding Matrix](#)
- [Funding Dashboard](#)
- [Housing Navigator](#)
- [Housing System Performance Measures](#)

Change Well Project has also conducted more than 50 TA sessions with tribal communities to support funding requests for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Tribal Set-Aside. In early May 2023, the Change Well Project launched a six-month TA series specifically for Tribes that combines both group learning and tailored 1-1 TA and will provide information on program design fundamentals.

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 25 tribal entities requested funding to operate CDSS-funded housing and homelessness programs. 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. In April 2023, CDSS awarded all \$35 million across all 25 tribal entities that requested funding.

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 December 2022, more than 32,000 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 \(December 30, 2022\)](#).

[CalWORKs Homeless Assistance \(HA\) Program](#)

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

- From July 2022 through February 2023, over 38,400 families were approved for temporary HA, and 3,700 families were approved for permanent HA, a total of over 42,100 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 will be hosting an HA and HSP webinar on May 25, 2023. This webinar will provide grantees and contracted housing partners with a review of program requirements, clarification of some frequently asked questions, and recent policy updates.

[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 December 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 December 2022, over 6,000 people have been enrolled, over 2,900 people have been permanently housed. HDAP grantees have reported on approximately 6,000 disability applications on behalf of HDAP participants since the inception of the program, and over 1,900 disability applications have been approved for participants while in HDAP.
- 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 \(December 30, 2022\)](#).
- CDSS released [CFL 22/23-84](#) on May 5, 2023, announcing the allocation of approximately \$31 million in FY 2022-23 Targeted Strategic Investment (TSI) grants for HDAP. Applications were requested in an [ACWDL dated September 21, 2022](#), and accepted on a rolling basis. This funding was made available on a first come, first served basis with priority given to complete applications received no later than November 2, 2022. Approved TSI projects aim to improve, expand, enhance, or pilot a program to support HDAP clients and HDAP-specific services.

[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 December 2022, over 7,200 people have received assistance through the program and more than 2,000 instances of housing financial assistance were provided. Additionally, over 1,400 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 62,000 individuals have been sheltered through Project Roomkey. As of late April 2023, 1,911 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by 2,336 PRK participants. Additionally, as of April 2023, 13,819 (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.

[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.

- A total of \$570 million has been made available for CCE Capital Expansion funding through a [Joint RFA](#) published on January 31, 2022. 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.

- Applications for CCE Capital Expansion project funding are accepted on a project basis through this joint RFA. CDSS continues to review and award projects on a rolling basis. CDSS will be closing the application portal on June 1, 2023 unless funds are exhausted sooner.
- For the latest information on awarded projects, visit the [CCE Awards Dashboard](#).
- In addition to the Capital Expansion program funds, [CDSS has awarded \\$249 million](#) in one-time, non-competitive allocations to 35 counties through the CCE Preservation program. This funding will be used by counties to preserve existing licensed residential adult and senior care facilities that serve applicants and recipients of SSI/SSP and CAPI, including those experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Award information, including participating counties, can be viewed on the [Infrastructure Building CalHHS website](#). Counties are expected to begin implementing local programs later this year.

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 \$479 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. DSH is in the process of developing its methodology to distribute the housing funds and transition counties from the pilot Diversion program into the permanent program. In the first quarter of FY 2022-23, DSH met with various counties to provide information about this funding opportunity for increasing community-based programming for ISTs and began exploring consulting firms to assist in managing the administration of the funding opportunities for this program. In the second quarter of 2022-23, DSH began working 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. In the third quarter of 2022-23, DSH has continued its work with AHP on developing the housing project, released the request for proposals to counties, and provided technical support to counties interested in applying. AHP is also contracted with the Department of Health Care Services and Department of Social Services to support their behavioral health infrastructure projects. 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 Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)

Veterans Support to Self-Reliance (VSSR) Competitive Grant Program:

On January 18th, CalVet announced the Veterans Support to Self-Reliance competitive grant program awardees. \$20 million in competitive grant funding was made available to non-profit organizations to provide enhanced supportive services for veteran seniors aged 55+, veterans who are high acuity, and veterans who receive assistance or have been assisted through HUD-VASH.

In order to ensure grant funds were available statewide, CalVet separated applications by the 8 Local Interagency Network Coordinator (LINC) regions in the State. We ultimately received applications and granted funding for 5 of the 8 regions.

In total, 7 applications were submitted and after performing comprehensive application reviews, 6 were awarded funding, covering the following six regions:

- Bay Area
- Inland Empire
- Los Angeles
- Sacramento and northern counties
- San Diego
- Sonoma and northern Central Coast

Award amounts ranged from \$1.9 to \$4.3 million with an average award amount of \$3,333,333. An average of 123 veterans will be served at each location. Those selected for funding have three years to implement their application work plans and services are expected to begin in June of 2023.

VSSR Grant awardees plan to fund the following types of positions:

- Pilot Specialist
- Mental Health Specialist
- Transportation Specialist
- Peer Support Specialist
- Service Assistant
- Social Worker
- Nurse
- Occupational Therapist

Since the VSSR Pilot program is an effort to demonstrate the value of added supportive services resources in supportive housing, detailed data collection is needed to examine the efficacy of those services and may be more detailed than other contracts and grants. All Pilot grantees are required to collect quantitative as well as qualitative data using forms provided by CalVet. This will include individual level data for each veteran who is enrolled in the Pilot and receiving the enhanced services as well as aggregate data for each housing program.

More information about the VSSR Pilot Grant program including the NOFA and grantee award list can be found on our website. WWW.CalVet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/Veterans-Support-to-Self-Reliance

Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention (VHHP) Program:

The VHHP Program, now part of the AB434 SuperNOFA, awarded roughly \$75 million to 9 projects spread across Alameda, Los Angeles, Monterey, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and San Mateo counties. This will add 701 housing units to the overall stock, 256 of which are anticipated to serve veterans and their families experiencing homelessness. Awarded applications proposed 156 units restricted at or less than 30% AMI, 100 units restricted up to 50% AMI, with no units restricted at levels higher than 50% AMI.

CalVet also received feedback for a couple housing sites in the Los Angeles region regarding difficulty finding and placing veterans in units restricted for veteran households with income at or less than the ELI level. The concerted position is that veterans referred to these projects from the Coordinated Entry Systems have too much income to qualify at the 30% AMI level, given income sources such as VA disability compensation, pension, and various other entitlement income.

To investigate these concerns, CalVet staff reached out to all VHHP projects actively leasing in the County of Los Angeles via phone and email, to gather occupancy/vacancy data. After the data collection was complete, CalVet conducted the same effort statewide. Table 1 provides aggregate occupancy/vacancy data for all VHHP projects currently leasing in California at the completion of data collection. Table 2 provides aggregate occupancy/vacancy data for all VHHP projects currently leasing in the County of Los Angeles. All data is current as of 03/17/23.

Table 1. Aggregate Statewide Vacancy Rates:

Total VHHP Supported Units Currently Active	1,674
VHHP Units Leased	1,538
Active VHHP Units Vacant	136
Total Vacancy Rate	8%
Total <30% AMI VHHP Units Active	1121
<30% AMI VHHP Units Leased	1055
<30% AMI VHHP Units Vacant	66
<30% AMI Vacancy Rate	6%

Table 2. Aggregate County of Los Angeles Vacancy Rates:

Total VHHP Supported Units Currently Active	621
VHHP Units Leased	539
Active VHHP Units Vacant	82
Total Vacancy Rate	13%
Total <30% AMI VHHP Units Active	473
<30% AMI VHHP Units Leased	445
<30% AMI VHHP Units Vacant	28
<30% AMI Vacancy Rate	6%

California Housing Finance Agency (Cal HFA)

National Mortgage Settlement (NMS) Counseling Program

California's Fiscal Year 2020-21 State Budget directed \$300 million in National Mortgage Settlement (NMS) funds to the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) for housing counseling and mortgage assistance. Through its NMS Housing Counseling Program, CalHFA has allocated \$91.5 million for HUD-certified housing counselors throughout the state to provide free, confidential counseling services to California residents who are in danger of eviction or foreclosure.

As of December 31, 2022, the total funds disbursed is \$63.8 million, with 50,120 total households helped. The program has 75 active Housing Counseling Agencies with a cumulative total of 205 counselors providing various counseling services.

The latest quarterly report is found on the CalHFA website: [NMS Quarterly Report](#)

California Mortgage Relief Program (MRP)

The California Mortgage Relief Program is funded by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act's Homeowners Assistance Fund. It provides assistance to qualified homeowners who have fallen behind on their housing payments, property tax payments, or who have partial claims or loan deferrals taken due to pandemic-related financial hardships.

Since inception, the program had received more than 46,500 applications, assisted over 15,000 households, and distributed more than \$400 million with an average assistance of \$26,000 per household.

It is important to note that more than 50% of the funds have gone to socially disadvantaged communities.

For the most current statistics of the program, please see the [MRP 2022 HAF Annual Report](#).

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.

First Round 2023 Four Percent (4%) Credit Awards Announced May 10, 2023

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.

- Annual Federal Credits Awarded: \$102,256,001
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$317,908,633
- Projects Awarded: 36
- Total Number of Units: 3,660

- Total Number of Homeless Units: 617

Regulation Changes

Revisions to the CTCAC regulations were approved May 10, 2023. The following are the major changes:

- The amount of State Tax Credits available for each round will be established annually.
- Allow Hybrid projects and simultaneous phased projects a grace period to submit their signed acceptance of a tax credit reservation and performance deposit/reservation fee for the first application no later than five business days after the second application is approved a reservation of tax credits.
- Change the 9% threshold basis limit for a two-bedroom unit from \$400,000 to \$500,000 for the highest and high resource area basis limit increase (previously approved as an emergency regulation change on 2/1/23).
- Allow Waiting List projects to be eligible for a credit reservation exchange. Provide additional discretion to the Executive Director for other projects to request a credit reservation exchange due to circumstances beyond the applicant's control.

Upcoming Rounds:

First Round 9% Credit applications were due April 25, 2023. Awards will be announced July 26, 2023.

Second Round 4% Credit applications are due May 23, 2023. Awards will be announced August 23, 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)

Caltrans is continuing to work towards solutions in addressing the Homelessness Crisis as it unfolds on Caltrans property through a conscience collaborative effort. People experiencing homelessness are often not just dealing with lack of housing, but they are balancing other factors as well, such as food insecurity, mental illness, drug addiction, and abuse. While Caltrans can't address those issues, it is working to lean in and act as connective between those in need on its property and those that help. Caltrans has been training its staff so that we are equitable and compassionate. Caltrans is focused on the Encampment Resolution Grant Program while helping its local government partners navigate the process. Once completed Caltrans reviewing and signing off eligible proposals.

Encampment Coordinators continue to work with city governments like Los Angeles, Fresno, San Jose, and Stockton on innovate approaches to getting people off the street while providing shelter and services.

Caltrans continues to participate in various collaborative efforts through Cal ICH such as the Priorities Populations Task Force and the State Funding and Programs Working Group.

Research and innovation continue to drive data collection to see where Caltrans can affect thoughtful and impactful change. Caltrans is researching incidents between people experiencing homelessness and

vehicles on the state Right of Way. Caltrans is researching what other Departments of Transportation are doing about homelessness and encampments.

As Caltrans expands its efforts to address homelessness, it's standing up its newly formed Housing and Homelessness Solutions Team tasked with exploring long term solutions. The office has a goal to hire half a dozen staff by mid-summer 2023, which could increase the Department's capacity for planning and implementing upstream interventions.

Office of Homelessness and Encampments UPDATES:

- In April, the Caltrans Office of Homelessness and Encampments (OH&E) held its first ever statewide Encampment Training Academy in San Diego.
 - The inaugural in-person training served as an opportunity for Headquarters staff, District Encampment Coordinators, and external partners to meet face to face, strategize, and exchange ideas and information.
 - The discussion focused on OH&E's updated procedures and best practices in addressing encampments on the state Right of Way. In addition to Power Point presentations and specialized breakout sessions, the two-day event also included time for the over 50 attendees to engage with one another.
 - There were speakers from various Caltrans Districts, the Division of Right of Way, DPAC, Labor Compliance, Hazmat, and Environmental Analysis.
 - District 4 Bay Area shared an ongoing case study on the Wood Street encampment removal. The discussion focused on challenges and successes, and cultivated partnerships with local governments, externals, state agencies, NGOs, advocates, and members of the media. The district also gave a presentation on the importance of community engagement and investment in "playing the long game."
 - CHP fielded questions about our partnership in addressing encampments and spoke to how our two agencies can better collaborate and communicate.
 - Fresno Mayor Jerry Dyer shared details about 'Project Off-Ramp' program, which remains a model of collaboration in removing encampments and providing shelter options for people experiencing homelessness. Mayor Dyer also discussed his city's latest endeavor to combat homelessness – Project Off-Ramp 2.0.
- OH&E is collaborating with eligible applicants on the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) grant process as it relates to the state Right of Way. OH&E continues to review grant applications to ensure each application includes a letter of support from the Caltrans Deputy District Director, as well as describes Caltrans' role in the proposal and resources being leveraged.
 - The window to submit grant proposals for Round 1 closed on February 28, 2023, with a total of 52 applicants. The grant awardees for Round 1 will be announced soon.
 - The application submission window for the first funding disbursement of Round 2 closed April 30, 2023, with a total of 15 applicants, most of which addressed encampments on the state Right of Way. OH&E recently reviewed all these applications and provided feedback to Cal ICH.
 - District Encampment Coordinators are actively engaging with county and city governments, Continuums of Care, and NGOs in their regions to help facilitate additional grant proposals for the second funding disbursement of ERF Round 2. The window to submit applications is now open and will close on June 30, 2023.

- The ERF grants have put focused intensity on some of Caltrans' highest priority high-return probable encampment sites.
 - OH&E is currently working with San Joaquin County and District 10 leadership to develop a proposal targeting one of the state's highest priority sites.
 - The county's community partner operates under an existing shelter lease on state property.
 - In addition to the street outreach and permanent transitional housing, the county's proposal also includes an addition of 130 non-congregate beds.
 - Street outreach coupled with the dramatic expansion of beds should have a game-changing positive impact on the entire region.
- OH&E is also working with local governments to make them aware of available financial resources not only through ERF grants, but also possible Storm Water funding to create more options to address homelessness including potential emergency shelter leases.
- OH&E and District Encampment Coordinators continue to support local governments and various state agencies in their housing and outreach endeavors.
 - District 7 Los Angeles Encampment Coordinators are actively engaging with Mayor Karen Bass' office to offer support and resources for the 'Inside Safe' program, which is a citywide proactive housing-led strategy to bring people inside from tents and encampments for good, and to prevent encampments from returning.
 - This year (as of April 19), in partnership with the City's 'Inside Safe' program, Caltrans has removed:
 - 540 encampments in the City of Los Angeles
 - 770 total encampments in District 7
 - District 7 Los Angeles Encampment Coordinators also continue to collaborate on the Governor's Mobile Connect 2.0' initiative, which brings state and local services directly to individuals experiencing homelessness where they are, instead of requiring people to travel to a patchwork of government offices where services are usually available.
 - Encampment Coordinators recently participated in a four-part series of 'Mobile Connect 2.0' outreach events at hotels/motels where PEH were being housed temporarily as part of 'Inside Safe.'
 - April 18: Hotel in South Central Los Angeles
 - April 25: Los Angeles Inn & Suites, West Athens
 - May 2: The L.A. Grand Hotel, Downtown
 - May 9: Motel 6, Canoga Park
 - Encampment Coordinators assisted with logistics for each of the four events by setting up tents, tables, and chairs, supplying generators, portable restrooms and water, and coordinating security through our partnership with CHP.
- OH&E is working with District 7 Los Angeles Encampment Coordinators piloting a program to track the number of 'pedestrian versus vehicle incidents that involve people experiencing homelessness.'
 - District 7 Los Angeles is doing a microcosm study analyzing locations on the state Right of way of these incidents are occurring involving people experiencing homelessness. The

purpose is to see what if any mitigation measures may be taken to decrease/prevent these incidents. The study is in its infancy stage.

- OH&E continues its participation in the Cal ICH State Funding and Programs Working Group.
- OH&E is currently participating in the state’s multi-agency Priority Populations Task Force (PPTF) which addresses the most vulnerable of populations, including people experiencing homelessness.
 - The PPTF was initially mobilized by the Governor in January following the statewide Severe Winter Storms. The initial purpose of the PPTF was to coordinate all state resources, identify and address unmet needs, close gaps, and ensure comprehensive operational preparedness and response in support of Californians at greatest risk during disasters and events.
 - OH&E was charged with developing and disseminating information to local and community partners related to forthcoming weather conditions and provide information regarding existing state and federal resources for priority populations.
 - OH&E also provided real-time assistance related to engagement of priority populations, supported planning efforts, and coordinated timely response to requests for information from local and county governments.
 - OH&E evaluated resource requests submitted to the state from local and county governments and made recommendations regarding deployment, which included deployment of scarce resources.
 - The PPTF recently transitioned from response to a more recovery-focused mission. The group is currently developing specific objectives linked to measurable metrics and formulating a comprehensive resource list for community partners to disseminate to affected priority populations.
- Caltrans Division of Right of Way, in collaboration with OH&E, has been working with the Department of General Services to cultivate property options for local governments for the Governor’s mobilization of small homes.
 - Currently, two of the four cities involved are considering use of Caltrans-owned land.
- OH&E has begun outreach to Departments of Transportation across the country to build not only a larger network of partners, but also a database of best practices and innovative ideas in addressing the homelessness crisis on the state Right of Way.

Office of Housing and Homelessness Solutions UPDATES:

- This May, the Caltrans Office of Housing and Homelessness Solutions hired a temporary Supervising Planner, increasing the number of staff in this office by 100%. The office has a goal to hire half a dozen more staff by mid-summer 2023, which will significantly increase the Department’s capacity for planning long-term solutions and implementing upstream interventions that can contribute to ending homelessness. Executive direction of this office will largely be to do the following:
 - Direct the Homelessness Solutions Team, which will coordinate all long-term planning efforts involving homelessness and housing, across all departmental programs.
 - Find proactive solutions and approaches to prevent the re-establishment of encampments that have been difficult to resolve through innovative Caltrans land use solutions.

- Direct housing and transportation (H+T) linkages' coordination efforts and aligning transportation investments with housing needs, to expand affordable housing supply near transportation.
- Develop and implement H+T linkages' planning policy, guidance, tools, and training.
- Provide strong public outreach and engagement and maintain a network of active stakeholders with whom we collaborate.
- Staff continues active participation in the Cal ICH State Funding and Programs Working Group, which has been focused in part on addressing racial and ethnic disparities in homelessness response to equitably address the health, safety and services needs of Californians experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
 - Particularly, there has been an emphasis on data collection and analysis. Lessons learned from the interagency partners at the table in this group have informed Caltrans activities, including the importance of delivering resources to inform this analysis in everyday operations.
 - In alignment, Caltrans' Office of Equity, Sustainability, and Tribal Affairs has developed the Transportation Equity Index (EQI), a tool that helps Caltrans: identify transportation-specific priority population areas for applicable investment; and provides Caltrans with guidance to improve the analysis of project impacts and for identifying opportunities to advance equitable outcomes during project planning, development, and design. For more information or access to the beta EQI, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/planning-modal/race-equity/eqi>
 - For example, the EQI is being layered into how Caltrans is exploring the correlation between pedestrians experiencing homelessness being hit by vehicles and the state Right of Way, an update mentioned earlier.
- In April, Caltrans attended the 2023 Spring California Association for Coordination Transportation (CALACT) conference, where transit agencies from across the state met to discuss and network on industry matters.
 - Specifically, the conference hosted a session "Public Transit and the Unhoused."
 - During this session, transit agencies exchanged best practices and information about the greater homelessness response system with one another, to continue solutions-focused dialogue and to increase awareness among transit agencies about existing resources available to connect the people experiencing homelessness to the homelessness response system.
 - The conversation underscores the inherent link between housing and transportation.

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

- The [USICH Quarterly Council meeting on March 13th](#) focused on how the federal government can seek to lower or eliminate certain barriers to housing and services for people experiencing homelessness. All In: the federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness includes a number of strategies in this area, including:
 - Identify and enact the full range of options to reduce documentation as a barrier to housing entry, including regulatory flexibility for federal housing programs; improving

- access to identification, medical, and benefits documentation needed to determine eligibility; and strengthening collaboration between federal, state, and local agencies
- Eliminate federal requirements associated with having a permanent address and/or bank account to access federal assistance
- Examine ways to ease eligibility and documentation requirements for specific subpopulations, such as people who are chronically homeless.
- Considers strategies that would streamline eligibility and access processes such as “categorical eligibility” which would allow people to qualify for multiple programs at once without duplicative processes and “conditional eligibility” which would allow immediate entry into housing with a grace period for required documentation.
- President Biden [released a budget that proposes vital, non-targeted investments to prevent homelessness](#) and supports *All In*'s prevention strategies.
- **USICH** Director Olivet [delivered remarks](#) on the past, present, and future of Housing First at a quarterly meeting with HUD's Office of Development and Research.
- **HUD** [awarded historic grants and vouchers specifically to address unsheltered and/or rural homelessness](#) to a 2nd round of communities. California CoCs received a total of \$101,457,175 in grant funds and various public housing authorities received 1,046 new vouchers over the two announcements, including:
 - San Jose/Santa Clara City & County: \$ 11,109,104 & 51 vouchers
 - Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda: \$ 15,061,753 & 96 vouchers
 - Contra Costa County: \$ 5,368,828 & 41 vouchers
 - Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County: \$ 1,055,674 & 41 vouchers
 - Daly City/San Mateo County: \$ 3,533,868 & 40 vouchers
 - Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Counties: \$ 134,300
 - Los Angeles City and County: \$ 60,000,000 & 698 vouchers
 - Long Beach: \$ 5,193,648 & 79 vouchers
- HUD started taking applications for the [FY 2022 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program](#). Deadline is June 27, 2023.
- HUD announced \$5 million in [new Family Unification Program \(FUP\) voucher assistance](#) for youth and families. Through FUP, public housing authorities partner with public child welfare agencies and Continuums of Care to provide housing choice voucher assistance to two groups:
 - Families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in the imminent placement of the family's child, or children, in out-of-home care; or the delay in the discharge of the child, or children, to the family from out-of-home care; and
 - **Youth** at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age (have not reached their 25th birthday) who left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in Section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act, and are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.

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)