



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

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Department and Federal Partner Updates

California Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting
September 7, 2023

California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH).....	2
California Department of Aging (CDA)	6
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)	8
California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).....	11
California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).....	15
California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA).....	21
California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).....	22
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)	26
California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR).....	26
California Department of Social Services (DSS)	28
California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) and California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC).....	33
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).....	34
California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)	36
Higher Education	36
Federal Partner: U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH).....	39

Note: Department and Federal Partner Updates are highly encouraged, but not required. The departments not included in these updates are the California Department of Education, the California Department of State Hospitals, and the California Workforce Development Board.

California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)

The California Interagency Council on Homelessness welcomes the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. As of July 2023, exemptions allowing fully remote meetings have expired and Council Meetings will be conducted in a location. Public members are welcome to join meetings in-person or online.

The Council also welcomes newly appointed CalVet Secretary, Lindsey Sin. We look forward to her leadership and coordination to end and prevent homelessness in the state.

The Advisory Committee to the council convened on August 14th, 2023, to discuss draft recommendations to the Council for improving State funding and programs and developing performance measurement on the progress of the 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	Advisory Committee Meetings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thursday, September 7th, 1:00 – 4:00PMThursday, November 30th, 1:00 – 4:00PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monday, August 14th, 1:00 – 3:00PMMonday, November 6th, 1:00 – 3:00PM

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

Council Administered Grants

Grant Implementation & Administration

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP)

As of September 1, 2023, 60 of the 75 HHAP-4 recipients have received their initial disbursement check for the first 50% of their HHAP-4 base allocation. Grantees will be eligible to receive their second disbursement once they have obligated 75 percent and expended 50 percent of their initial HHAP-4 disbursement.

Cal ICH is currently drafting the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for HHAP-5 and will post the NOFA and application on its website no later than September 30, 2023. Regional applications will be due in March 2024 and must include a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan.

Tribal HHAP

Final applications for the second round of Tribal HHAP were due on June 30, 2023. Cal ICH received 22 complete applications from Federally Recognized Tribes requesting a total of \$72.7 million, which is over \$50 million more than the \$20 million in Tribal HHAP dollars available to allocate. Cal ICH staff are reviewing applications and determining award amounts and hope to announce awards in October 2023.

Family Homelessness Challenge Grant (FHC)

The application for the second round of awards for FHC will be made available no later than December 31, 2023. Recipients of the initial round of program funds that demonstrate adequate progress towards

their program goals, remain in compliance with all program requirements, and demonstrate the most promising and innovative practices which could be scaled and replicated to support statewide efforts to eliminate family homelessness are the only eligible applicants for this second round of funding.

Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Grant Program

As of September 1, 2023, Cal ICH has announced 57 ERF awards to communities all across the state, including \$50 million in ERF-1 dollars, and \$300 million in ERF-2 dollars. Cal ICH will be announcing the first round of awards under ERF-3 in the coming weeks, to fund the remaining eligible applicants from round 2 that have not yet received awards. No later than December 1, 2023, Cal ICH will open the rolling application period for the remaining ERF-3 dollars and will keep that application portal open until June 30, 2024, or until the \$400 million in ERF-3 funds have been exhausted, whichever comes first.

Grant Operations & Support

Monitoring and Reporting

The Monitoring and Reporting Unit is responsible for monitoring statutory expenditure and reporting requirements of Cal ICH grants. The following provides and update on Grant Monitoring Unit activities in recent months:

- **HHAP Rounds 1 & 2:** The HHAP Rounds 1 and 2 obligation deadline was May 31, 2023. Of the 202 reports Obligation Self-Certification forms received, 201 reported compliance with the applicable obligation requirements.
- **Encampment Resolution Fund:** ERF-1 50% expenditure deadline was June 30, 2023. All 19 grantees submitted verification of expenditures in a timely and complete manner.
- **All Grants Desk Review:** In addition to monitoring expenditure and reporting requirements, the Monitoring Unit is finalizing a comprehensive Desk Review process that aims to virtually monitor all grantees throughout the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This process is being finalized and is hoped to be released to grantees in late Fall.

Technical Assistance

The Technical Assistance (TA) Unit is responsible for providing support to all Cal ICH grantees through targeted, contracted technical assistance providers and evaluators. The following provides and update on recent developments within the TA Unit with some of the TA programs offered:

- **Youth Set-Aside Evaluation:** The University of California at Berkely (UC Berkely) has kicked off their evaluation of the HHAP Youth Set-Aside. UC Berkely is assessing the impact of the HHAP youth set-aside, calculating the evidence-based recommended proportion and size for the youth set-aside and recruiting and supporting a cohort of Youth Experiencing Homelessness to participate in the research and provide guidance for the evaluation.
- **Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) TA:** TA provider Homebase conducted monthly check-ins with 19 ERF-1 grantees and 7 ERF-2-L grantees. Homebase in partnership with Cal ICH hosted the ERF-2-L Grantee Orientation where communities were given an in-depth overview of the ERF-2-L grant program and reporting requirements. Additionally, Homebase has facilitated community learnings groups on topics such as Community Partnership and Housing Pathways & Stabilization. Lastly, Homebase created a foundational training series that explored Housing First, Continuum of Care Eligibility, and Coordinated Entry.

- **Racial Equity TA:** The Technical Assistance Collaborative established phase two of the California Racial Equity Lab. This 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 25 HHAP grantees.
- **Youth Programing TA:** The Technical Assistance Collaborative established the phase two Youth Action Board Collaboration. This Collaborative focuses on supporting HHAP grantees 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 12 HHAP grantees.
- **Permanent Housing Solutions TA:** Focus Strategies (FS) recently developed Shelter Standards for Monterey and San Benito County using the Housing First principles' approach. They are using this effort to establish a "tool kit" that can be utilized by all grantees to develop shelter standards for their individual communities. FS is also working with the City of San Francisco towards achieving equitable services for permanent supportive housing through analyzing the Homeless Management Information System to better understand the permanent housing strategies outcomes and equity factors.
- **Performance-Based Contracting TA:** Third Sector Capital hosted two live webinars where they demonstrated how HHAP grantees could develop a continuous improvement process system to improve contract management between HHAP grantees and service providers.

Statewide Policy

Action Plan

Since the last Council meeting, Cal ICH staff, along with consultant Matthew Doherty, have completed the update to the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness. This update serves to add Activities for the upcoming fiscal year and to update Activities for the Council member departments with the most recent information. This is an update to the September 2022 adopted plan for Fiscal Year 2023-24 that will be adopted by the Council at their September 7th meeting.

Cal ICH staff will soon begin the process of envisioning the next update to the plan that will extend its timeline and vision beyond the original scope.

Local Initiatives

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 a broad range of Council decisions, priorities, and actions. Cal ICH LEAB members may also provide guidance on 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 encourage and support communities to further center the voices of people with lived experiences of homelessness within their local planning, and decision-making among other items.

The LEAB will be comprised of 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 underway after receiving over 320 applications from people representing diverse experiences across the State of California. From those applications, 55 people were selected for interviews. Selected members will begin onboarding and hold their first meeting in Fall 2023. Members will meet monthly and receive reimbursement for their participation.

Research

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 Associates 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 were required to be in compliance with the project set up and data entry requirements when entering data into HMIS by July 1, 2023. Cal ICH is working with Abt Associates to develop data quality reports to support administering state agencies and departments verify their grantees are complying with the requirements on AB 977.

In June 2023, Cal ICH reached 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. Cal ICH will be holding kickoff meetings with the state agencies and departments administering new state funded homelessness programs in August and September 2023. Abt Associates will be working with administering state agencies and departments to conduct a needs assessment and tailor a technical assistance plan to ensure grantees have the resources needed to comply with AB 977.

SB 914 & SB 918

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).

Pursuant to Senate Bill 918, the Homeless Youth Act of 2018, the State of California requires Cal ICH to set and measure progress towards goals aimed at preventing and ending homelessness among youth in the state, to coordinate funding, policy, and practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness, and to provide technical assistance and program development support.

Cal ICH awarded a contractor through a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the delivery of consulting services in Cal ICH's implementation of SB 914 and SB 918. The contractor will support Cal ICH in setting and measuring progress toward goals to prevent and end homelessness among domestic violence survivors and their children, unaccompanied women, and young people 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 released data on our [public dashboard](#) about the people who accessed the homelessness response system during the first quarter of 2023. Cal ICH also updated the [demographic data](#) posted to the state's open data portal. Continuums of Care submitted data for the second quarter of 2023 to Cal ICH in August, and Cal ICH is in the process of processing and validating this data.

In May 2023, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released new [Homeless Management Information System \(HMIS\)](#) data standards. Beginning on October 1, 2023, all CoCs must enter data in alignment with these new standards. Cal ICH is working to integrate these data standards changes into HDIS.

California Department of Aging (CDA)

Master Plan for Aging Updates

The Department of Aging (CDA) 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 (MPA)*, 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:

- **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 6/30/2024.
- **Elder and Disability Justice, Legal Services Technical Assistance:** CDA has partnered with Justice in Aging to strengthen elder justice initiatives and map California’s legal landscape. The collaboration includes a comprehensive needs assessment of Legal Services in California, a collaborative roundtable discussion on relevant topics, the opportunity to learn about different legal models and strategic plans among service providers in California. Additionally, a curriculum will be developed to equip providers with the resources, tools, and skills required to address the complex legal challenges faced by older adults and adults with disabilities. 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. Funding for the program expires 6/30/2024.
- **Healthier at Home Program:** CDA is in the early stages of planning and developing the RFA for the \$12.5 million "Healthier at Home" initiative. This two-year 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. CDA will issue the RFA in Winter 2023 for the pilot counties established in statute: Shasta, Fresno, Sonoma, Riverside, San Diego, Contra Costa, Sacramento, and Orange.
- **Home and Community Based Services Gap Analysis:** A key initiative of the Master Plan for Aging, the CDA’s [Home and Community Based Services \(HCBS\) Gap Analysis](#) and Multi-year Roadmap project will focus on assessing the landscape of non-Medi-Cal HCBS, including an analysis of affordable/accessible housing for older adults and people with disabilities. The project seeks to develop an inventory and gap analysis of HCBS to inform a multi-year roadmap that will build upon California’s HCBS infrastructure. CDA’s Non-Medi-Cal HCBS Gap Analysis is being carried out in partnership with the California Department of Health Care Service’s [\(DHCS\) Medi-Cal HCBS Gap Analysis](#) and Multi-year Roadmap.
- **Older Adult Behavioral Health Augmentation:** The 2023-24 budget included a \$50 million investment in older adult behavioral health. The initiative seeks to build local capacity for trusted community-based providers to expand older adult behavioral health services, address isolation and loneliness by continuing an emotional support warmline for older adults and reducing stigma through an ethnic media outreach campaign.
- **Local Aging & Disability Action Planning Grant Program:** CDA established the [Local Aging & Disability Action Planning \(LADAP\) Grant Program](#) to support communities in developing local age and disability-friendly action plans. The local plans seek to improve a community’s livability and address the current, emerging, and future needs of California’s older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers through local coordination and cross-sector collaboration. CDA released Round 2 of the LADAP grant program’s Request for Applications (RFA) in late August 2023. CDA previously awarded nearly \$3 million to 15 organizations under the LADAP Round 1 RFA solicitation.

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, the Committee has 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. This was the focus of the most recent DACLAC meeting with presentations from local communities piloting targeted rental assistance as well as updates from DHCS on the role of CalAIM community supports and new Medi-Cal housing assistance approved in the FY 23-24 state budget, subject to CMS approval.

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)

CDCR’s Quarterly Progress Report for the FY 2023-24 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)	September 2023 Quarterly Update (due on August 25, 2023)
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.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome Measures: Report the following metrics on a data dashboard: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Types of training and employment secured post-release; ○ Training participation during incarceration; and ○ Employment duration and retention measures 	CDCR staff are currently incorporating employment data into a dashboard and are simultaneously working internally to strengthen processes to maximize post-release connections to employment (e.g., post-release) Prison to Employment linkage, CCTRP/MCRP linkages from CTE to employment, working with community reentry program contract providers to help transitioning citizens develop relationships/opportunities to engage in training and employment to develop self-sufficiency upon release).
New	Work to establish referral processes to link unsheltered parolees who are enrolled into Medi-Cal to the Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans so they may gain access to the new CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS) benefits.	Process Measure: Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.	CDCR’s Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO), Behavioral Health Reintegration (BHR), clinicians are currently beta testing referral processes to request ECM assessments from Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans, which will also help to facilitate linkages to the CS benefit. In June 2023, all BHR clinicians completed the CalAIM Overview for Justice System Partners webinar, which was developed through a collaboration between the Department of Health Care Services and Council on

			Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH). BHR clinicians in LA County were also trained by LA Care, LA's largest Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan, on their ECM referral process. DAPO is now monitoring these ECM referral implementation efforts to identify areas for quality improvement. As the process becomes more established, it will be leveraged to refer unsheltered parolees to ECM (and CS).
3.9.11	Implement the Returning Home Well initiative to expand interim housing options for people transitioning from corrections settings up to one year of release.	<p>Outcome Measure: Increased community capacity to provide interim housing options to target population.</p> <p>Output Measures: Demographics and other information regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ population served; ○ duration between release and housing placement; ○ duration of housing placement. ○ Additional measures, as identified. 	CDCR will be able to report data on Returning Home Well services beginning in late summer 2023.
3.9.15	Explore potential opportunities for CDCR and their contracted providers to directly refer individuals releasing from State Prison who are at risk of homelessness and who are on parole and become homeless to existing, applicable programs to address housing needs. Specific emphasis will be made to explore connections to housing resources for the American Indian / Alaska Native population.	Outcome Measure: TBD (based on available and applicable housing programs.)	CDCR's Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) began reaching out to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Homeless Disability Advocacy Program providers to explore opportunities to establish referral connections. DRP staff are continuously documenting their findings from these efforts, which are being shared with CDSS. CDSS is following up on CDCR's findings to evaluate compliance with CDSS requirements (or not). CDCR, CCJBH and CDSS agreed to meet bi-monthly to continue working to strengthen connections for transitioning citizens and parolees to access existing community-based housing resources.
New	Partner with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to implement the HCD Reentry Pilot Project(s), which will leverage individuals with lived experience in the program design.	Outcome Measure: TBD (based on pilot program requirements).	HCD and CDCR continue to work collaboratively to develop the Reentry Pilot Project methodology.
4.11.8	Monitor CDCR contractor's adherence contractual	Process Measure: Documentation of	Cal ICH provided feedback on CDCR's Housing First flyer, which CDCR is

	requirements related to Housing First in order to provide participants with meaningful choice and seek to minimize exits to homelessness.	CDCR’s contractual monitoring results for Housing First requirements.	currently reviewing/incorporating, as appropriate. Once finalized (anticipated in September 2023), CDCR DRP will disseminate the flyer to the Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) providers so it may be provided to STOP program participants. In FY 2023-24, DRP will develop a process to monitor compliance.
5.14.5	Track CDCR pre-release and community referrals that are facilitated by CDCR’s Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming contractors, who employ and leverage individuals with lived experience to address the housing needs of individuals identified as being at risk of homelessness before leaving prison or who become homeless after transitioning to their communities.	<p>Potential Output Measures:</p> <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><i>Note: metrics for this activity are related to referrals to the housing programs mentioned above.</i></p>	As of June 30, 2023, there were 3,978 unhoused parolees (sheltered + unsheltered). During FY 2023-24, CDCR will work to report the output measures.
New	Explore opportunities to establish referral pathways from CDCR to local Continuums of Care for people exiting CDCR who are identified as being at risk of homelessness upon transition to their communities and for people who are on parole who become unhoused.	Process Measure: Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.	CDCR is waiting for confirmation from Cal ICH as to whether or not this is a viable FY 2023-24 Action Item given Continuums of Care may not currently have the capacity for this effort.
5.14.6	Analyze existing data, which could include interdepartmental data matches, to better understand the scale of risks for homelessness among people preparing to exit prison settings.	Process Measure: Document findings from analyses.	CDCR continues to work to develop a Parolee Housing dashboard to track housing need for individuals who are under CDCR DAPO supervision. CDCR is also working to develop a Business Use Case Proposal to establish a data match between CDCR and Cal ICH to assess the extent to which individuals leaving CDCR are served by local Continuums of Care (CoCs).
New	Explore opportunities to support CoCs in using CDCR data to initiate planning efforts to address the housing and housing services needs of the pre-release and parolee populations.	Process Measure: Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.	Given that the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Grant Program has moved from Cal ICH to HCD, CDCR is working to establish a relationship with the new team that will be responsible for administering this grant in order to explore opportunities for local CoCs to use data from the

	*Cal ICH will check with teams for support capacity.		CDCR Parolee Housing dashboard in their grant applications (perhaps as performance incentives).
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California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

Enhanced Care Management (ECM)/Community Supports Year-One Report

In the first 12 months, 109,004 Medi-Cal members across the state received the Enhanced Care Management benefit, and 36,391 members received 80,859 Community Supports services. Housing supports are the most popular Community Supports offered. More than 40 percent of members who received Community Supports received housing transition navigation services that helped them find, secure, and maintain stable housing.

DHCS released a new [report](#) highlighting a notable increase in the number of Californians accessing and utilizing the wide array of benefits and services provided by the Medi-Cal program’s Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports, which DHCS launched in January 2022 under Governor Newsom’s California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative.

“California is transforming Medi-Cal to provide members with better access to more coordinated, person-centered, and equitable care. The first year of implementation represents just the beginning of our transformation journey,” said **Jacey Cooper, State Medicaid Director and DHCS Chief Deputy Director for Health Care Programs**. “As we connect eligible members who would benefit from Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports, we anticipate these numbers will continue to increase in the coming months and years, and we are committed to making policy improvements so Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports are more accessible to members and providers across the state.”

WHY THIS MATTERS: The report outlines the positive impact of ECM. More than half of Medi-Cal members enrolled in ECM in 2022 were individuals who were at risk of avoidable hospital or emergency department visits, more than 42,000 were members with serious mental health/substance use disorder needs, and more than 36,000 members were individuals experiencing homelessness. DHCS expects even more Californians to use these expanded Medi-Cal services in 2023 and 2024 as eligibility expands to new members or populations of focus, and as more providers contract with Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) to deliver these vital services.

ABOUT THE EXPANDED SERVICES:

- **The ECM** benefit provides high-touch, person-centered care management to Medi-Cal members with the most complex medical and social needs. Eligible members referred to ECM receive access to a single lead care manager who helps them coordinate care and services among the physical, behavioral, dental, developmental, and social services delivery systems, making it easier for them to get the right care at the right time in the right setting.
- **Community Supports** are 14 services provided by Medi-Cal MCPs to help members address their health-related social needs, such as access to safe housing or healthy meals to aid in their recovery from illness, avoid higher and costlier levels of care, and live healthier lives.

MOST POPULAR SUPPORTS: Community Supports have proven to be a crucial safety net for Californians, with housing-related Community Supports being the most utilized services in 2022:

- More than 40 percent of members who received Community Supports received **housing transition navigation services** that helped them find, secure, and maintain stable housing.
- Another highly utilized support was the **housing tenancy and sustaining service**, which provides members with landlord coordination assistance, eviction prevention resources, and the annual housing recertification process.
- The third most utilized housing-related support was **housing deposit assistance**, which helps members pay for housing security deposits, first and last month's rent, and first month of utilities and related setup fees. Members can also receive funding for medically necessary items like air conditioners, heaters, and hospital beds to ensure their new home is safe for move-in.

NEXT STEPS:

- This year, DHCS is working with its Medi-Cal managed care plan partners to expand access to and utilization of ECM and Community Supports across the state, focusing on including children and youth and members eligible for long-term care. Next year, ECM will expand to include justice-involved individuals and high-risk pregnancies.
- In addition, DHCS is taking [several steps](#) to improve standardization and streamline program design to reduce administrative burden for ECM and Community Supports providers. For example, all Medi-Cal MCPs are required to use consistent standards to determine member eligibility for ECM. Also, DHCS now will require plans to contract with specific types of community-based organizations that have experience working with eligible populations. With these specific changes, DHCS expects to reduce barriers for community-based providers to engage and participate as ECM and Community Supports providers.
- Finally, DHCS is working to ensure that members, providers, and Medi-Cal MCPs are aware of ECM and Community Supports services, and that providers and plans are explaining them accurately to members who may be eligible for them. An initial set of updated policies were reflected in each program's policy guide in July 2023 and are now available on the DHCS [website](#) at the following links: [ECM Policy Guide](#), [Community Supports Policy Guide](#), and a "[Cheat Sheet](#)" for ECM and Community Supports policy.

ECM and Community Supports Webinars

DHCS hosted two virtual webinars, on August 14th and 18th, for all stakeholders to provide an overview of the progress of Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports implementation and to discuss important policy refinements and areas of reinforcement. The webinars covered a range of topics, including eligibility, referrals and authorizations, provider networks, payment, market awareness, and data exchange. Key insights from the ECM and Community Supports calendar year 2022 implementation [report](#) were also unveiled.

BH-CONNECT and CalAIM Transitional Rent Services

On August 1, 2023, DHCS began a 30-day public comment period to solicit feedback on a new Section 1115 demonstration request, entitled the BH-CONNECT demonstration. DHCS also began a 30-day public comment period to solicit feedback on a proposed amendment to the CalAIM Section 1115 demonstration related to transitional rent services. The public comment period for both ran through August 31, 2023.

BH-CONNECT Background

The BH-CONNECT demonstration builds upon unprecedented investments and policy transformations currently underway in California that are designed to expand access to community-based behavioral health care and improve outcomes for Medi-Cal members living with the most significant mental health and substance use needs. California has invested more than \$10 billion and is implementing landmark policy reforms to strengthen the behavioral health care continuum. California’s proposed goal for the BH-CONNECT demonstration is to complement and amplify these major behavioral health initiatives to establish a robust continuum of community-based behavioral health care services and improve access, equity, and quality for Medi-Cal members living with SMI and SED, particularly populations experiencing disparities in behavioral health care and outcomes. The BH-CONNECT demonstration aims to expand Medi-Cal service coverage, drive performance improvement, and support fidelity implementation for key interventions proven to improve outcomes for Medi-Cal members experiencing the greatest inequities, including children and youth involved in child welfare, individuals with lived experience with the criminal justice system, and individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

CALAIM Transitional Rent Amendment Background

To improve the well-being and health outcomes of Medi-Cal members during critical transitions or who meet high-risk criteria, DHCS is seeking an amendment to the CalAIM Section 1115 demonstration to provide up to six months of transitional rent services to eligible individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and transitioning out of institutional levels of care, congregate residential settings, correctional facilities, the child welfare system, recuperative care facilities, short-term post-hospitalization housing, transitional housing, homeless shelters or interim housing, as well as those who meet the criteria for unsheltered homelessness or for a Full Service Partnership (FSP) program. Transitional rent services will be available for a period of no more than six months; must be cost-effective; and will be provided only if it is determined to be medically appropriate using clinical and other health-related social needs criteria. Transitional rent services will be voluntary for Medi-Cal managed care plans to offer and for Medi-Cal members to use.

Please visit the [DHCS BH-CONNECT webpage](#) and [DHCS CalAIM 1115 Demonstration & 1915\(b\) Waiver webpage](#) for background information, links to public comment materials, and information about how to provide feedback during the public comment period.

Modernizing California’s Behavioral Health System

On August 16, DHCS and the California Health & Human Services Agency hosted a brief informational webinar to provide a high-level summary of the status of proposed behavioral health reform legislation. In March, Governor Newsom released his [proposal](#) to modernize California’s behavioral health system. DHCS engaged in multiple webinars, listening sessions, hearings, and meetings to receive comments on this proposal. An [updated proposal](#) was released in June. The webinar was solely focused on amendments to [SB 326](#) (Eggman). The [webinar recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) are now available.

Now is the time to take the next step and build upon what we have already put in place, continuing the transformation of how California treats mental illness and substance use disorders. Please submit any questions to BHReform@dhcs.ca.gov.

Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program Awards

On June 23, DHCS began awarding nearly [\\$907 million](#) of the \$1.5 billion in funding for the BHBH Program to California county behavioral health agencies. The primary focus of the BHBH Program is to help people experiencing unsheltered homelessness who also have serious behavioral health conditions,

including mental health and substance use disorders, that prevent them from accessing help and moving out of homelessness. The BHBH Program helps address housing instability and homelessness by providing support through various “bridge” housing settings, including tiny homes, interim housing, rental assistance models, and assisted living settings.

Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Round 5 Grants

On June 23, DHCS issued a news release announcing awards of \$430 million for [projects](#) that will increase mental health and substance use disorder treatment infrastructure in 21 counties. The awards were made under the BHCIP Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum grants. BHCIP is part of a broader Administration commitment to improve the state’s behavioral health and long-term care continuum infrastructure. The focus of this round of BHCIP funding was determined in part by the statewide needs [assessment](#) that found significant gaps in the availability of crisis services and supported an organized continuum of crisis services to reduce emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and incarceration. The list of BHCIP Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum awardees is posted on the [BHCIP Data Dashboard](#).

Approval of Community-Based Mobile Crisis Intervention SPA

On July 20, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved SPA [22-0043](#), which adds community-based mobile crisis intervention services to California’s Medicaid State Plan as a reimbursable benefit effective January 1, 2023. All 58 counties will implement the benefit, resulting in mobile crisis services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Mobile crisis intervention services provide relief to members experiencing a behavioral health crisis, expanding related efforts supporting the crisis continuum of care, such as the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, which provides 24/7 one-on-one support, crisis intervention and de-escalation, and information and referrals to linked callers to appropriate community resources in their city or county. For more information, please read [CMS’ press release](#).

DHCS 2023-2024 Budget Highlights

For fiscal year 2023-24, DHCS’ budget includes a total of \$156.6 billion and 4,802.5 positions. Of that amount, \$1.3 billion funds state operations (DHCS operations), while \$155.3 billion supports local assistance (funding for program costs, partners, and administration). View DHCS’ [budget highlights document](#). Highlights include:

Transitional Rent: To improve the well-being and health outcomes of Medi-Cal members during critical transitions, the Department will include transitional rent services as part of the BH-CONNECT Demonstration and seek an amendment to the CalAIM waiver to authorize an additional Community Support. The new service would allow the provision of up to six months of rent or temporary housing to eligible individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of 6 homelessness and transitioning out of institutional levels of care, a correctional facility, or the foster care system and who are at risk of incurring other Medicaid state plan services, such as inpatient hospitalizations or emergency department visits. Fiscal impacts from this item will not begin until FY 2024-25

Expansion of Medi-Cal to Undocumented Individuals: The May Revision maintains \$1.4 billion (\$1.2 billion General Fund) in 2023-24 and \$3.4 billion (\$3.1 billion General Fund) at full implementation, inclusive of In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) costs, to expand full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility to all income eligible adults ages 26-49 regardless of immigration status on January 1, 2024, consistent with previously approved TBL.

Extend Contingency Management Pilot: The Budget allows the Department to extend funding for Contingency Management after March 2024, the point at which support from the HCBS Spending Plan is planned to end for this pilot, through the end of the CalAIM 1115 demonstration. After March 2024, counties will provide the non-federal share for contingency management services. In FY 2023-24, the extension of the pilot is estimated to result in an additional spending of \$2.5 million county funds and \$7 million federal funds.

Delay on Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Funding: DHCS is releasing BHCIP funds through six grant rounds targeting various gaps in the state's behavioral health facility infrastructure. BHCIP Round 1: Crisis Care Mobile Unites, Round 2: County and Tribal Planning Grant, Round 3: Launch Ready, and Round 4: Children and Youth projects totaling \$1.22 billion, were awarded in 2021 and 2022. Award announcements for BHCIP Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum were made in Spring 2023. \$480.7 million for BHCIP Round 6: Outstanding Needs Remaining is currently in the planning/stakeholder engagement process, with funding of \$240.4 million General Fund distributed in FY 2024-25 and \$240.3 million General Fund distributed in FY 2025-26.

Delay Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Funding: The 2022 Budget Act provided \$1 billion General Fund for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing, with another \$500 million planned for FY 2023-24. The 2023 Budget delays \$235 million of the \$500 million planned for FY 2023-24 until FY 2024-25.

Managed Care Plan (MCP) Transition Policy Guide

On June 23, DHCS released the 2024 MCP Transition Policy Guide that includes DHCS policy and MCP requirements related to member transitions of Medi-Cal MCPs that take effect on January 1, 2024. The initial release of the policy guide addresses:

- Protections for American Indian/Alaska Native members.
- Member noticing requirements and member enrollment policies applicable to transitioning and new members.
- Continuity of care requirements for members transitioning due to MCP contracting changes effective on January 1, 2024.

MCPs will use the policy guide to develop their own policies and procedures required to implement Medi-Cal member transitions. While MCPs are the primary audience for the policy guide, DHCS envisions that a wide range of stakeholders will find it useful in supporting smooth member transitions. A companion All Plan Letter (APL) will also be issued to establish the binding nature of the policy guide as the DHCS authority specific to the 2024 MCP transition. The policy guide will be available [online](#) and will be updated throughout the remainder of this calendar year to keep MCPs informed of new and developing guidance.

California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

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 were released August 15, 2023. Applications are due by October 16, 2023, and ward announcements are anticipated in January 2024.

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 August 22, 2023, 87-percent, or \$279 million of the \$315 million ESG-CV grant has been drawn. The 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 its 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 June 2023, ESG-CV funds have been used to move 23,664 persons into permanent housing.

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.

- Construction continues on the CDBG-CV Homekey project. Completion is expected later this year.
- HCD has been providing individualized technical assistance to CoCs and units of local government to use CDBG-CV funding to aid in the ramp down of ESG-CV programs as funding is exhausted. Grantees have been encouraged to use 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 (October 2023)
 - The Housing Plus Support Program (a supportive services program that focuses on providing permanent housing solutions for California's vulnerable populations (November 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 is accessible through the HCD website: [HCD HOME-ARP Allocation Plan](#)

Housing for a Healthy California/National Housing Trust Fund

The goal of the Housing for a Healthy California program (HHC)/National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) 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 HHC Program started in FY 2018-19 and concluded in FY 2020-21. In December 2021, HCD released the HHC NOFA from the 2020 (\$45,755,245.49) and 2021 (\$113,921,160.23) NHTF allocations with an aggregate amount of \$163,148,767.
- HCD awarded these NHTF funds to twenty (20) affordable multifamily housing developments, which will result in 554 NHTF units inclusive of a total of 1,574 housing units. Of the twenty (20) HHC assisted developments, twelve (12) are under construction and will be leasing-up in early 2025; and the remaining eight (8) HHC assisted developments anticipate starting construction within the next twelve (12) months.
 - This is the last HHC round using the State's annual federal allocation of NHTF dollars.
 - The final HHC Article I NOFA awards are posted on the HHC webpage at: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/housing-healthy-california-program>.
- A new \$172 million NHTF NOFA is anticipated to be released in October 2023. In accordance with Section 50676(d) of Health and Safety Code and 24 C.F.R. § 91.220(l)(5)(A), the allocation plan and Guidelines must give priority to Projects based on: (1) geographic diversity; (2) the extent to which rents are affordable, especially to Extremely Low-Income households; (3) the

merits of a Project; (4) Applicant’s readiness; and (5) the extent to which Projects will use nonfederal funds. The Department must award funds to Projects serving people experiencing Homelessness, to the extent that a sufficient number of Projects exist. The Department may alter priority for funding to align eligibility for possible benefits, including Medi-Cal benefits intended to fund services for people experiencing Homelessness.

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.

- The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) will create supportive service plan guidance and templates for operating quality supportive housing. The guidance will be informed by supportive service providers, supportive housing developers/operators, and people with lived experience of homelessness. Guidance will include supportive housing operations best practices, supportive services and property management coordination, and incorporating Housing First components into supportive housing operating plans. Resources will be made available by the end of 2023.

DIVISION OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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 over two Rounds, which will quickly and cost-effectively create 12,774 units of housing.

- The Homekey Round 3 NOFA made available \$736 million. The application period opened April 24th, 2023 and closed on July 28th, 2023.
- The Department received 82 applications in response to the Homekey Round 3 NOFA, requesting over \$1.3 billion.
- The Homekey program reviews applications in an over-the-counter (OTC) process, meaning applications are evaluated and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until available funds are exhausted. Funds are awarded to those applicants that meet the minimum threshold criteria, including a minimum point score of 100 points.
- The first Homekey awards are expected mid-September 2023.
- A separate Tribal Homekey NOFA making available \$75 million for tribes, was released June 27, 2023.
- If no new funds are appropriated, the Homekey program will sunset after Round 3 funds are awarded.

Please see Homekey Round 2 award data on the Homekey Dashboard at [Awards Dashboard | California Department of Housing and Community Development](#)

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 6606 housing units:
 - 763 units for special needs and permanent supportive housing.
 - 1438 units for families.
 - 408 units for senior households.
- Program-specific outcomes:
 - 9 VHHP-funded projects include 304 assisted units designated for veteran households.
 - 11 FWHG-funded projects include 193 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 4370 restricted units.
 - MHP funding is assisting 25 of the 72 projects and includes 1320 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 July 2023, there were 46 completed projects, and 126 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 received the recommendation to award the \$1 million. The program did not receive additional funding in the FY 23-24 Budget.

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. HCD Awarded 29 of those projects for a total award amount of \$315,259,741, preserving 1,364 units, and serving 3,044 persons.

Awarded Projects: 29

Total units preserved: 1,364 serving 3,044 individuals.

AMI Level	Number of units
Units ≤ 30% AMI	622
Units ≤ 35% AMI	12
Units ≤ 40% AMI	42
Units ≤ 45% AMI	69
Units ≤ 50% AMI	449
Units ≤ 55% AMI	32
Units ≤ 60% AMI	108
Units ≤ 80% AMI	23

Assisted units 1,353, (11 Managers units have no AMI restrictions).

PRP is helping to stabilize 453 households with 455 individuals at risk of homelessness.

HCD has completed its review and approval of the PRP applications and is in the process of issuing standard agreements and starting construction calls with the Sponsors. PRP is also working on issuing a second NOFA, anticipated fall of 2023.

Transitional Aged Youth Housing Programs

The Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Program encompasses three programs to prevent homelessness and secure and maintain housing for young adults aged 18 to 24 years, inclusive, with priority given to those currently or formerly in the foster care or probation systems. The three TAY programs are Transitional Housing Program (THP), Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program (HNMP), and the Transitional Housing Plus Supplement Program (THP SUP). Eligible counties receive TAY funding to support child welfare services agencies and housing navigation and maintenance to help house our most vulnerable young adults. It is encouraged that the county coordinate with the local Continuum of Care to foster communication and collaboration.

In FY 2023-24 state budget, the TAY programs received \$56M to help young adults find and maintain housing, with priority given to those formerly in the foster care or probation systems. Program staff will contact eligible counties, informing them of the available TAY funding. HCD anticipates awarding these funds in the fall.

California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)

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 \$141.5 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 March 31, 2023, the total funds disbursed is \$63.8 million, with 57,086 total households helped since its inception. Currently, the program has 75 active Housing Counseling Agencies with a cumulative total of 206 counselors providing various counseling services.

While these households are getting help on a range of housing-related issues including homebuying and mortgage delinquency, some counselors are equipped to provide guidance that is specially for Californians who are in danger of experiencing homelessness.

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 has received more than 69,678 applications, assisted over 21,000 households, and distributed more than \$540 million with an average assistance of \$25,000 per household.

It is important to note that approximately 50% of the funds have gone to socially disadvantaged communities, and for some homeowners on the lower end of the income spectrum, the assistance can prevent them from experiencing homelessness.

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

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
- Fresno
- Orange
- San Bernardino

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

Next Funding Opportunity

Contingent on State Budget

Statistics (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **1,949**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **1,884**
- Employment training services provided: **1,074****
- Education services provided: **625****

** 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 – June 30, 2023)

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **2,338**
- Individuals that received transitional housing: **933**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **3,529**
- Rental assistance services provided: **485****
- Employment training services provided: **7,927****
- Education services provided: **9,378****

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

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

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

Next Funding Opportunity

Non-competitive

Statistics (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,689**
- Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: **8,579****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **51****

** 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 approved by Cal OES leadership. A total of 32 Applicants were selected.

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

Statistics (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,152**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: **34,229****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,983****

** 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 approved by Cal OES leadership. A total of 51 Applicants were selected.

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

Statistics (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **4,433**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **151,078****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **3,419****

** 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 was approved by Cal OES leadership. A total of 65 Applicants were selected.

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

Statistics (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **4,603**

- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **45,913****
- Relocation assistance services provided: **18,388****

** 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)

Lived Experience Advisory Board

CDPH's Office of Health Equity has contracted 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. Fifteen board members have been selected representing rural and urban areas across California. Every member comes to the board with lived experiences of homelessness and invaluable expertise. **The first meeting is set for 9/11/23!**

San Diego State University WaSH Guidelines

CDPH has contracted with San Diego State University to create guidelines focusing on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WaSH) needs and infrastructure for unhoused Californians. Researchers have begun their work reviewing existing infrastructure and resources; they will be compiling findings into an actionable report by June 2024.

Housing & Homelessness Workgroup

CDPH's cross-departmental Housing & Homelessness Workgroup hosted their first internal event on 6/6/23 with speaker Will Dominie of Human Impact Partners. The discussion was focused on the connection between public health, housing, and homelessness. There were 245 attendees, with 85% of participants stating they were interested in additional webinars and trainings on housing and homelessness. The group's next event is set to take place in Fall '23.

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.

Alameda County

DOR Greater East Bay District partners with Bay Area Community Services to provide housing services, Alameda Vocational Program to provide mental health services, and the DOR Branches in Alameda

County to provide employment services. The three agencies meet monthly to provide a wraparound service model for housing, health, and employment success.

Los Angeles County

DOR has multiple efforts in Los Angeles County to support individuals with disabilities who are unhoused or at-risk of losing their housing including the Los Angeles South Bay District which has established an employment initiative to support unhoused individuals with disabilities. The DOR Greater Los Angeles District created a partnership with People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) who refers veterans to DOR for employment services. In addition, the DOR Van-Nuys Foothill District has recently partnered with Pasadena Unified School District's Families in Transition (FIT) Program to assist youth and their families to obtain housing while completing school and obtaining paid work experience.

Orange County

DOR continues to have 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. The Court welcomed a new partner called Project Coffee Cup, a non-profit organization with a mission to bring hope and resources to homeless individuals starting with one cup of coffee at a time. Every Wednesday night the DOR counselor meets with participants to support them in obtaining and maintaining employment. This partnership also provides a platform for the students, families, and companies to get involved in serving their community.

San Bernardino County

DOR leadership from the DOR Inland Empire District have seats on both the San Bernardino Homeless Advisory Board and the Youth Advisory Board. These two boards provide planning addressing homelessness for both the adult and youth populations in the county and is under the San Bernardino Office of Homeless.

Sonoma and Surrounding Counties

The DOR Redwood Empire office is communicating with [Nation's Finest](#) to serve homeless veterans in the district. This is a large agency that serves the whole district, with offices in Humboldt, Shasta, and Sonoma counties.

DOR staff from the Napa Branch are co-locating monthly at the south Napa Shelter to provide presentations about DOR services and opportunities and enroll interested participants who are homeless into DOR's programs. The navigation staff at the homeless shelter also attend the presentation, so they can understand DOR services to make additional referrals.

Ventura County

Managed Care Solutions partners with DOR San Barbara District and the Workforce Development Board to serve homeless populations through a Disability Employment Works grant. The grant provides an employment specialist to work in collaboration with the DOR counselor to assist individual to obtain and maintain employment.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program

In 2022, DOR conducted a survey and found that Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) survivors reported more lifetime prevalence of homelessness or being at-risk of homelessness, justice system involvement, and difficulties with employment and activities of daily living. Multiple studies support DOR's survey by demonstrating the far-reaching implications of TBI and its close ties with homelessness, incarceration, substance abuse, mental health concerns, domestic violence, and US military service. For example, a systematic review of homelessness and TBI revealed that the lifetime prevalence of TBI in the homeless population was over 53 percent, with between 51 percent and 92 percent sustaining their head injury before the onset of homelessness.

DOR's TBI Program includes local TBI program sites that provide community reintegration, supported living, vocational supportive services, professional and public education, and information and referral services. To learn more about TBI and to connect with a TBI Program site visit DOR's [website](#).

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) 2021-2022 and FY 2022-23 to provide funds to counties, tribes, and tribal entities 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 one-time funds are available to spend over multiple years.

Please see the full budget summary link [here](#). To summarize, the Budget Acts of [2021](#) and [2022](#) invested a combined \$21.5 billion over multiple years to advance the greater availability of housing throughout California and the 2023 Budget largely maintains these commitments and includes a housing package of \$14.7 billion for 2023-24. 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. CDSS is in the process of finalizing All County Welfare Directors Letters (ACWDLs) to announce the **availability of FY 2023-24 Funding for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) allocated via [Budget Act of 2023](#)** (Senate Bill 101, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023).

The Budget Act of 2023 approved the annual ongoing appropriation of \$95 million for HSP and \$25 million for HDAP. Funds for HDAP will be available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2025. Additional updates related to funding awards and program implementation and expansion are outlined below.

Technical Assistance

CDSS continues to support the expansion and growth of Housing and Homelessness programs state-wide, based on grantees' needs. CDSS is expanding 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 one-on-one consultation on a wide variety of topics and issues. The TA provides various learning opportunities aimed at different staff competencies and span from light-touch support to more intensive assistance, depending on the grantee's unique needs.

In our work to support California counties and tribal communities to combat the homelessness epidemic, prior to 2023 and throughout the year, the Change Well team has:

- Provided TA to 53 California counties and 26 tribal communities, resulting in 128 total engagements from January 2022-July 2023 with individual, in-depth technical assistance focusing on designing and redesigning programs for a newly expanded scale and strengthening overall systems of care to support better housing outcomes for program participants.
- Provided 1,081 system administrators, program managers, and direct service staff with high-impact training to develop the key competencies needed across multiple disciplines to create and scale transformative housing programs.
- Created and deployed resource dashboard that reports [TA activities](#) and is now live on the Change Well Project website.
- The Change Well Project is also working with counties to obtain highlights and success stories from counties who have participated in technical assistance.

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. A total of 25 tribal entities requested funding to operate CDSS-funded housing and homelessness programs.

In April 2023, CDSS awarded all \$35 million across all 25 tribal entities that requested funding to establish 62 new tribal housing and homelessness programs.

HHD has been working with tribes/tribal entities on the next steps in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) process, which is the contractual agreement between tribes/tribal entities and CDSS needed for funds disbursement.

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 funds 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.

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. CDSS has been in the process of developing All County Welfare Directors Letters (ACWDLs) to announce the **availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Funding for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) allocated via [the Budget Act of 2023](#)** (Senate Bill 101, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023).

[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 April 2023, more than 73,900 families have been served. Of those, 34,700 were permanently housed.
- 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 \(December 30, 2022\)](#).
- CDSS is in the process of developing All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) to announce the **availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Funding for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) allocated via [the Budget Act of 2023](#)** (Senate Bill 101, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023).

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

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

- From July 2022 through March 2023, over 49,000 families were approved for temporary HA, and over 6,300 families were approved for permanent HA, for a total of over 55,300 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](#).
- CDSS hosted an HA and HSP [webinar](#) on May 25, 2023. This webinar provided grantees and contracted housing partners with a review of program requirements, clarification of some frequently asked questions, and recent policy updates.
- *On June 26, 2023, CDSS released [All County Letter \(ACL\) NO. 23-56](#) to notify County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the end of the flexibilities allowed in the CalWORKs HA program in response to the COVID-19 State and Federally Declared Emergency.*

[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 March 2023, more than 5,100 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.

- Fifty-seven counties and two federally recognized tribal governments representing eight tribes, for a total of 59 grantees, currently operate HDAP. Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through March 2023, over 7,100 people have been enrolled, over 3,100 people have been permanently housed. HDAP grantees have reported on approximately 6,800 disability applications on behalf of HDAP participants since the inception of the program, and over 2,200 disability applications have been approved for participants while in HDAP.
- CDSS is in process of developing All County Welfare Directors Letters (ACWDL) to announce the availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Funding for HDAP allocated via SB 101 (Senate Bill 101, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023).
- 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. Approved TSI projects aim to improve, expand, enhance, or pilot a program to support HDAP clients and HDAP-specific services. 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.

[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 March 2023, over 9,500 individuals have received assistance through the program and more than 3,000 instances of housing financial assistance were provided. Additionally, over 1,800 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 early August 2023, 1,194 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by 1,451 PRK participants. Additionally, as of July 2023, 14,048 (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 swiftly 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 based on local needs. 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. \$360 million in Community Care Expansion (CCE) Capital Expansion funds have been awarded as of June 2023.

- CDSS [closed the CCE Capital Expansion application portal on June 1, 2023](#) and is currently assessing all applications. CCE Expansion funds will continue to be awarded on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. Awards will be posted on the [CCE data 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. Award information, including participating counties, can be viewed on the [CCE website](#). Counties are expected to begin implementing local programs later this year.

California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) and 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 Nine Percent (9%) Credit 2023 Awards

- Annual Federal Credits Awarded: \$55,018,053
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$60,930,754
- Projects Awarded: 27
- Total Number of Units: 1,388
- Total Number of Low-Income Units: 1,361

Nine Percent (9%) Credit 2023 Funding

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

Second Round 2023 Four Percent (4%) Credit Awards Announced August 23, 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: \$120,334,182
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$181,810,262
- Total Bond Allocation: \$1,340,689,256

- Projects Awarded: 34
- Total Number of Units: 4,600 (4,549 affordable)
- Total Number of Homeless Units: 344

Upcoming Rounds:

Second Round 9% Credit applications were due August 8, 2023. Awards will be announced November 8, 2023.

Third Round 4% Credit applications are due September 6, 2023. Awards will be announced December 6, 2023.

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)

Office of Homelessness and Encampments:

Through the Office of Homelessness and Encampments, Caltrans continues to partner with Cal ICH to publicize the funding opportunities made available through the **Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program**. Most recently, Caltrans convened a statewide meeting with District Encampment Coordinators to learn more about the upcoming application acceptance windows, receive updates about past grant awards, and participate in a special Q&A session with Cal ICH's Grants Development Section Chief.

- Caltrans 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, describes Caltrans' role in the proposal, and lists resources being leveraged.
- The relationships fostered by Caltrans over the past two years have led to this well-coordinated effort that resulted in the submission of a record number of ERF grant proposals from partners.
- As a result of Caltrans's involvement in Round 2 of the ERF grant program:
 - 13 of the 23 applications approved during the first window of ERF Round 2 were for projects at least partially on the state Right of Way. Nearly \$110 million was awarded to fund those 13 projects.
 - 13 of the 15 applications received during the second window of ERF Round 2 were for projects at least partially on the state Right of Way. The awardees will be announced soon.
- Caltrans remains an active member of the state's multi-agency **Priority Populations Task Force (PPTF)**, which addresses the most vulnerable of populations, including people experiencing

homelessness (PEH) in real time. The PPTF was initially mobilized by the Governor in January following the Severe Winter Storms.

- The PPTF re-convened on July 12 in response to the state’s Extreme Heat Event. Caltrans is charged with immediately:
 - developing and disseminating information to local and community partners related to forthcoming weather conditions and providing information regarding existing state and federal resources for unsheltered individuals to accommodate current need.
 - providing real-time assistance related to the engagement of PEH, supporting planning efforts, and coordinating timely responses to requests for information from local and county governments.
 - evaluating resource requests submitted to the state from local and county governments and making recommendations regarding deployment, which includes the deployment of scarce resources as needed.
- Caltrans met with representatives from the **Oregon Department of Transportation** to share innovative ideas and best practices to address homelessness.
 - The discussion focused largely on challenges, collaboration, and lessons learned.
- Caltrans continues to conduct outreach to engage with other state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) to not only build a larger network of partners but also share and track policy and best practices in addressing homelessness on DOT property.
- In its effort to meet the Cal ICH Action Plan measure of “Developing stronger public communications around the State’s efforts to prevent and end homelessness”, Caltrans is **documenting through video production and internal articles** the work being done to collaborate with partners and find solutions in addressing homelessness. The purpose is to educate and inform the Department. The hope is to use the content externally as well. Current topics:
 - Shelter lease projects
 - ERF grantees and their project that address the state Right of Way
- Caltrans employees with lived experience as people experiencing homelessness, their career track from hiring to promotion. This will primarily focus on our SAMs classification (low barrier entry level positions).
- Caltrans is working to **extend Streets and Highways code 104.30** which allows for the shelter lease program on the state Right of Way. The current code sunsets on January 2029.

Office of Housing and Transportation:

Through the newly formed Office of Housing and Transportation (formerly the Housing and Homelessness Solutions Team) and with the assistance of the Office of Homelessness and Encampments, Caltrans is championing a “Transit & Homelessness Forum” – proposing a statewide level one-day forum/workshop, engaging key Caltrans staff with transit agency partners to address transit specific issues relating to homelessness and the use (or misuse) of transit by PEH.

- The goals of the “Transit & Homelessness Forum” are to (1) coordinate with local and regional transit agencies to share best practices and lessons learned on how to effectively respond to the

needs of PEH on and around transit and transportation property and (2) discuss collaboration opportunities with Caltrans, local and regional governments, and Continuums of Care.

California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)

Veterans Support to Self-Reliance (VSSR) Competitive Grant Program: As of August 2023, the six grantees are in the process of acquiring all of the staffing needed to implement their enhanced supportive services plans and 132 veterans have been enrolled to receive services.

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: CalVet continues to address periodic feedback received from some projects in the LA Region about difficulty finding and placing veterans in units restricted for extremely low-income (ELI) households. Extremely low-income households have gross incomes not exceeding 30 percent of the area median income (AMI). Projects are required to restrict at least 50 percent of VHHP assisted units to veteran households that fall in the ELI category.

In August, the CalVet VHHP team began collecting a second round of occupancy/vacancy data and while not yet complete, initial findings suggest that vacancy rates of ELI units (around 5%) are similar to vacancy rates collected in February 2023.

Higher Education

UPDATES FROM THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

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. In the 2023-2024 fiscal year, a cost-of-living adjustment was applied, and the program funding was increased to an annual appropriation of \$20.5 million. With the increase in funding, the CO added \$3M to the first cohort of 14 HHIP colleges. Utilizing a set of selection criteria based on system-level data, the CO identified a second cohort of 11 colleges to receive the remaining \$7 million increase in funding.

In-person training for the new HHIP cohort is scheduled for September 21st, 2023. Moving forward, in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, HHIP cohorts 1 and 2 balances will undergo a recalculation to ensure funding is appropriately distributed equitably.

COHORT 1	COHORT 2
Antelope Valley Community College	American River College
Barstow College	College of Marin
Butte College	LA Harbor College
Cerritos College	LA Trade Tech College
College of the Redwoods	Oxnard College
Fresno City College	San Bernardino Valley College
Gavilan College	Santa Barbara College
Imperial Valley College	Santa Rosa College
Long Beach City College	Shasta College
Los Angeles Southwest College	Southwestern College
Modesto Junior College	West Hills Lemoore College
Riverside City College	
San Diego City College	
Victor Valley College	

Student Basic Needs

The Chancellor’s Office is conducting a basic needs survey that will provide updated data on the status of Basic Need centers across the California Community College system. The survey will include confirmation on the operational status of their individual Basic Needs Centers.

As of August 23rd, 2023, the Chancellor’s Office has received 110 responses from the colleges. Findings report:

- **96 colleges report having an operational basic needs center, with 30.6% of those responses declaring the campus is also building a larger center.**
- 99.1% are reporting their centers operational hours are Monday through Friday, with one college operating on the weekend as well.
- 29.7% of the colleges report having access to services in the evenings after 5pm at least 1 to 2 days per week.

Updates from the California State University System

There are no new updates from the CSU this quarter.

Updates from the University of California System

The University of California [defines basic needs](#) as the minimum resources necessary to holistically support all students in their daily lives, including equitable access to nutritious and sufficient food; safe, secure, and adequate housing (to sleep, study, cook, and shower); healthcare to promote sustained mental and physical well-being; affordable transportation; resources for personal hygiene care; and

emergency needs for students with dependents. The UC recognizes housing as a critical need for students and one of the highest, and least negotiable, monthly expenses. Therefore, housing supports and services are critical to serving students struggling to meet their basic needs.

Student Basic Needs

The [Budget Act of 2019](#) appropriated \$15 million annually to the University of California (UC) to establish basic needs supports in the form of food and housing and \$3.5 million annually to the UC to establish rapid rehousing supports. In response to the differing needs of each campus community, approximately half of the State funding was distributed in proportion to the number of food and/or housing-insecure undergraduate and graduate students on each campus. This determination was informed by the systemwide data provided by the UC Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES) and the UC Graduate Student Well-Being Survey.

In fiscal year 2022-2023, [the state legislature](#) increased UC's Basic Needs and Rapid Rehousing budget by \$800,000 and \$200,000, respectively, bringing the total allocation to \$15.8 million for Basic Needs and \$3.7 million for Rapid Rehousing.

As a result of this funding all ten UC campuses have established Basic Needs Centers, providing food and housing services to students struggling to afford day-to-day living while pursuing their higher education. In recognition of the holistic ecosystem that constitutes basic needs, these services and supports continue to expand to include transportation, health and mental health, hygiene and emergency dependent needs.

Student Housing Programs

In Academic Year 2021-22, UC's Basic Needs Centers served over 72,000 students with over 383,000 contacts systemwide. An estimated 8,212 students accessed housing services or supports. All ten UC campuses offer on-campus housing; emergency housing and/or long-term housing assistance; and emergency basic needs grants, which are primarily used to support housing needs. All campuses also work collaboratively with community-based organizations versed in housing programs, as well as their county's Department of Social Services. These collaborations enable the Basic Needs Centers to provide students referrals to more resources than the Basic Needs Centers alone can offer. Additionally, eight campuses provide case management; six provide emergency hotel vouchers or bookings; and five offer on-campus housing vouchers. An estimated 2,913 students obtained permanent housing after accessing Basic Needs Center services in 2021-22.

Moving forward, the UC's goals include improving data collection, refining the understanding of special population needs, and deepening collaborations with community and County partners.

Updates from California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance (CHEBNA)

The three higher education segments, UC's, CSU's and CCC's continue to meet on a bi-weekly basis to plan and develop various strategic initiatives focusing on basic needs services in California's Higher Education Institutions. Currently, CHEBNA has been planning a Basic Needs Summit for February 21-22nd, 2024, and anticipates having 1700+ attendees. The CHEBNA Summit will include workshops and speakers advocating for students in Higher Education facing economical disadvantages, housing, Cal-Fresh, and more.

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

- USICH held its [Quarterly Council meeting on July 10th](#) with President Biden’s new director of the domestic policy council Neera Tanden.
- HUD [released new research and data](#) showing that despite historically high housing needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, rates of sheltered homelessness declined in 2021. HUD experts and independent research suggest that pandemic relief efforts prevented a potential surge in evictions and housing instability and temporarily reduced homelessness during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. HUD experts also outline key lessons from past research about how the federal, state, and local governments can work together to prevent and end homelessness.
- USICH Director Olivet [delivered closing remarks](#) at the annual National Alliance to End Homelessness conference, under the theme, “Hope is a Choice” and focused on the growing challenges of eviction and criminalization, the federal strategic plan, the All INside initiative, the president’s budget and why “despite the challenges ahead, we can and will end homelessness in the United States.”
- In August 2023, as part of the All INside initiative, [HUD approved requests](#) by the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) and the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) to lower the local requirements for housing vouchers.
- [HUD announced \\$73 million for roughly 7,500 new HUD-VASH vouchers](#) for public housing authorities. Application deadline is September 15, 2023.
- [HUD announced](#) that it will allow larger loans to participate in the agency’s Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Pilot Program, which increases the number of apartment sites eligible for a program that streamlines financing. This is one of [several announced actions](#) to lower housing costs and boost supply under the Housing Supply Action Plan.
- SAMHSA’s Homeless and Housing Resource Center released [a free online course](#) on trauma-informed outreach and engagement.
- [GSA has created a website](#) for government agencies and the private sector interested in receiving screening notice for excess (*property available for federal agency acquisition*) or surplus (*property available for private sector acquisition*) real property. After creating an account, users can select which notices they want to receive, including geographic location of the real property.
- GSA also has information in on the [Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program](#), for items such as hand and machine tools, vehicles and boats, medical supplies, electronic equipment, etc. Available to State and Local Government and eligible non-profit organizations.