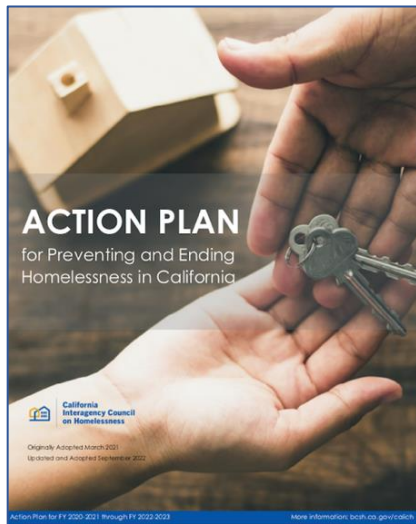




## California Interagency Council on Homelessness



Through its [\*Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California\*](#), first adopted in March 2021 and updated in 2022 and 2023, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) is pursuing a vision for the Interagency Council and the State's work to prevent and end homelessness that features:

- **Increased leadership from the State** for identifying and supporting both short-term interventions and long-term solutions, embracing and advancing Housing First practices and approaches.
- **Purposeful, action-oriented coordination** and alignment across State agencies and programs, with a primary emphasis on continuing to strengthen the alignment of housing, homelessness, and health care strategies and solutions.
- **Stronger, collaborative partnerships** with public and private partners in communities, delivering the guidance and technical assistance and implementing accountability mechanisms to ensure the impact of public resources.

This Action Plan orients the State's efforts to drive purposeful, meaningful, and measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California, motivated by a vision of a future in which homelessness in California is: **rare, because it is prevented** whenever possible; **brief, ended quickly whenever it does occur**, through a focus on Housing First approaches and housing outcomes; and a **one-time experience, ended successfully the first time**, so that no Californians experience homelessness repeatedly.

### Action Areas and Objectives

The Action Plan drives progress across **five distinct but interrelated and complementary Action Areas, inclusive of the full range of actions necessary to prevent and end homelessness**. The Plan is focused on fifteen Objectives, identified below, that are aligned with these Action Areas, and the Plan also identifies approximately 150 Activities that are being implemented in pursuit of those Objectives.



#### ACTION AREA 1 Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California

► **Objective 1:** Assess and **strengthen racial equity-focused activities of State agencies, and local agencies and organizations receiving State funding**, and ensure those activities are informed by and accountable to communities most impacted by housing instability and homelessness.

► **Objective 2:** Ensure that State and local planning efforts **share power and decision-making with people with lived expertise who are fully representative of communities most impacted by homelessness**, including Tribal Nations.

► **Objective 3:** Incentivize and support **cross-sector, interjurisdictional, and regional planning, decision-making, and accountability**.

► **Objective 4:** Improve **access to education and employment services and opportunities** for people at risk of, experiencing, and/or exiting homelessness.

► **Objective 5:** Support California communities to **develop disaster preparedness plans and public health strategies more inclusive of the needs of people experiencing homelessness**.

► **Objective 6:** Increase **public awareness of the State's homelessness strategies, successes, challenges, and the importance of Housing First approaches, trauma-informed care**, and other best practices.



## ACTION AREA 2

### Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

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► **Objective 7:** Support California communities to **strengthen outreach efforts and to address the health and safety needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.**

► **Objective 8:** Provide **equitable access to essential State-supported programs and services, including health and behavioral health care services,** for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.



## ACTION AREA 3

### Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing

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► **Objective 9:** Partner with communities to **implement innovative approaches and expand the supply of safe, accessible, housing-placement focused, and trauma-informed sheltering and interim housing models** for Californians experiencing homelessness.

► **Objective 10:** Align and integrate State resources, including health and behavioral health care resources, within temporary shelter and interim housing options, **to reduce harm and to better address the health and services needs among Californians experiencing homelessness.**



## ACTION AREA 4

### Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities

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► **Objective 11:** Strengthen **understanding and implementation of Housing First approaches and other best practices in order to equitably and urgently rehouse people** from temporary settings and from unsheltered homelessness.

► **Objective 12:** Support the **development and creation of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, paired with appropriate health and behavioral health care resources, that are accessible and culturally responsive to people exiting homelessness,** to people at lowest income levels, and to people from historically marginalized communities.

► **Objective 13:** Improve **access to flexible short-term and longer-term forms of rental assistance and other subsidies to support racially equitable and successful exits** from homelessness.



## ACTION AREA 5

### Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness

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► **Objective 14:** **Reduce entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services from State-funded settings and systems, addressing racial inequities within risks of experiencing homelessness,** and including a focus on people re-entering communities from jails and prisons, young adults connected to the child welfare and/or juvenile justice systems, and people exiting health care settings and programs.

► **Objective 15:** **Enhance communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention interventions and to successfully divert people** from entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

#### For More Information:

Please visit Cal ICH's website at [bcsh.ca.gov/calich](http://bcsh.ca.gov/calich) for the full *Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in California*, for progress reports, and for other important information.