



State of California
BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 1:00PM



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Council Meeting

June 12, 2024



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Agenda

- I. Call to Order, Tribal Land Acknowledgement, and Roll Call
- II. Consent Calendar
- III. Council Co-Chair Opening Remarks
- IV. Executive Officer Updates
- V. Cal ICH Mission, Vision, and Values
- VI. Lived Experience Advisory Board Priorities
- VII. Action Plan Public and Tribal Input
- VIII. General Public Comments
- IX. Final Remarks and Adjournment

I. Call to Order, Tribal Land Acknowledgement, and Roll Call

Tribal Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge that Sacramento is the unceded homeland of the Southern Maidu, Valley and Plains Miwok, the Nisenan people, the Patwin Wintun people, and members of the Wilton Rancheria Tribe, who have inhabited this landscape since time immemorial.

We extend our gratitude to the ancestors of all California Native American Tribes and their descendants, as we recognize that wherever we are joining from in our virtual community, we are all on California Native American land.

Committee Member Roll Call

- Please say "here" or "present"

II. Consent Calendar

- Adoption of the Meeting Summary from the March 27, 2024, Council Meeting

Public Comment on Agenda Item II - Consent Calendar

- If joining by Zoom, click the “raise hand icon”
- If connected by phone, press “*9” to indicate that you would like to comment

Council Member Vote

- Shall items on the Consent Calendar be approved?
- Adoption of the Meeting Summary from the March 27, 2024 Committee Meeting

III. Co-Chair Opening Remarks

IV. Executive Officer Updates

V. Cal ICH Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission and Vision

Who is Cal ICH and what does Cal ICH do?

Mission: Cal ICH is a statewide facilitator, coordinator, and leader for policy development and research for state, local, and Tribal partners in their work to prevent and end homelessness in California.

Vision: Cal ICH is motivated by a vision of a future in which homelessness is rare, brief, and a one-time experience in order to prevent and end homelessness in California.

Values

What does Cal ICH believe?

We equally value:

Purposeful and action-oriented leadership and collaboration across Council member departments and agencies

Meaningful partnerships with local jurisdictions

The pursuit of racial equity and justice

The expertise of people with lived experience of homelessness

Housing First as an evidence-based practice

Trauma-informed care and person-centered services for the full diversity of people experiencing homelessness

The autonomy and self-determination of California's Tribes in addressing homelessness in their communities

Accurate, actionable, and honest data analysis

Audiences

Who does Cal ICH serve?



State Departments



Local Jurisdictions
(cities, counties, CoCs)
and Tribes



Public*

Services

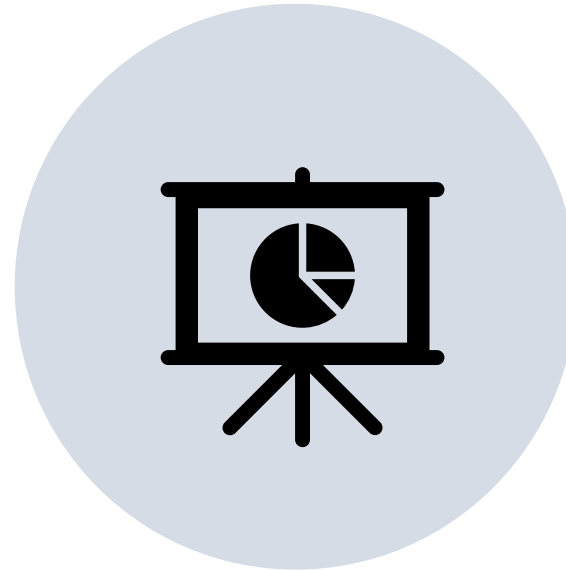
What does Cal ICH do?



Coordination
and Relationship
Building



Policy
Development



Data and
Research



Technical
Assistance

Statewide Policy: Current Services

	State Departments	Local Jurisdictions	Public
Coordination and Relationship Building	Conduct quarterly Council and Advisory Committee meetings, setting direction for state work and including public in state decision making processes		
Policy Development	Providing guidance on Housing First best practices and monitoring implementation		
Data and Research	Annual reports on state's progress within Action Plan activities		
Technical Assistance	Advising Council depts/agencies on implementation of policies/programs		

Statewide Policy: New Services

	State Departments	Local Jurisdictions	Public
Coordination and Relationship Building	Develop clear plans for moving effective work forward within all Council member depts/agencies		
Policy Development	Advise partners in legislature, GO, and advocacy groups on homelessness policies/programs		Communicate importance of Action Plan publicly and identify ways everyone can engage
Data and Research	Measure progress toward measurable goals in Action Plan		
Technical Assistance	Provide technical assistance to a variety of audiences on Housing First best practices in the form of trainings, resources, etc.		

Local Initiatives: Current Services

	State Departments	Local Jurisdictions	Public
Coordination and Relationship Building	<p>Development of collaborative resources to support local coordination across systems</p> <p>Support cross-systems collaboration at the local level; serve as connection to communities</p> <p>Statewide Housing & Homelessness Calendar</p>		
Technical Assistance	<p>Establishment of Lived Experience Advisory Board to inform the Council and member depts</p> <p>AB 977 TA to state departments and their grantees</p>	<p>Share and replicate successful strategies and best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cal ICH Newsletter - Webinars - STEP UP Group <p>Oversee SB 914/918 stakeholder engagement and technical assistance activities</p>	Direction to local resources and support

Local Initiatives: New Services

	State Departments	Local Jurisdictions	Public
Coordination and Relationship Building	Local coordination and resource development for all member depts	Increase relationship building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convenings/peer learning sessions - 1:1 systems coordination support (ask LI) - Development of resources based on systemic trends and gaps 	
Data and Research		Gather and analyze information (jurisdictional profiles)	
Technical Assistance	Educational Materials (homelessness 101 toolkit)	Serve as a central resource HUB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource library - Interactive contact maps - Development of resource materials - Amplify best practices 	Community Response Connections Homelessness 101 toolkit

Research and HDIS: Current Services

	State Departments	Local Jurisdictions	Public
Coordination and Relationship Building	Coordinate with data teams in other depts		
Data and Research		Maintain and improve HDIS	
	Respond to data requests Create dashboards with AB 977 data Provide data for the Action Plan	Develop and maintain CoC dashboards Set performance metrics and measuring progress (CA SPMs, SB 914/918)	Create and maintain public dashboard(s) Respond to public records act requests Produce research reports (ex: Statewide Homelessness Assessment)
Technical Assistance	Provide AB 977 TA to state depts and grantees		

Research and HDIS: New Services

	State Departments	Local Jurisdictions	Public
Coordination and Relationship Building	Support development of Action Plan metrics	Facilitate HDIS Academy Sessions	
Data and Research	Provide HMIS/HDIS data training to state staff Develop data sharing infrastructure and procedures	Develop data tools and resources for local jurisdictions Lead CA SPM methodology improvements	Build partnerships with researchers Develop research briefs and fact sheets
Technical Assistance		Build data quality checker and reports for HMIS administrators	

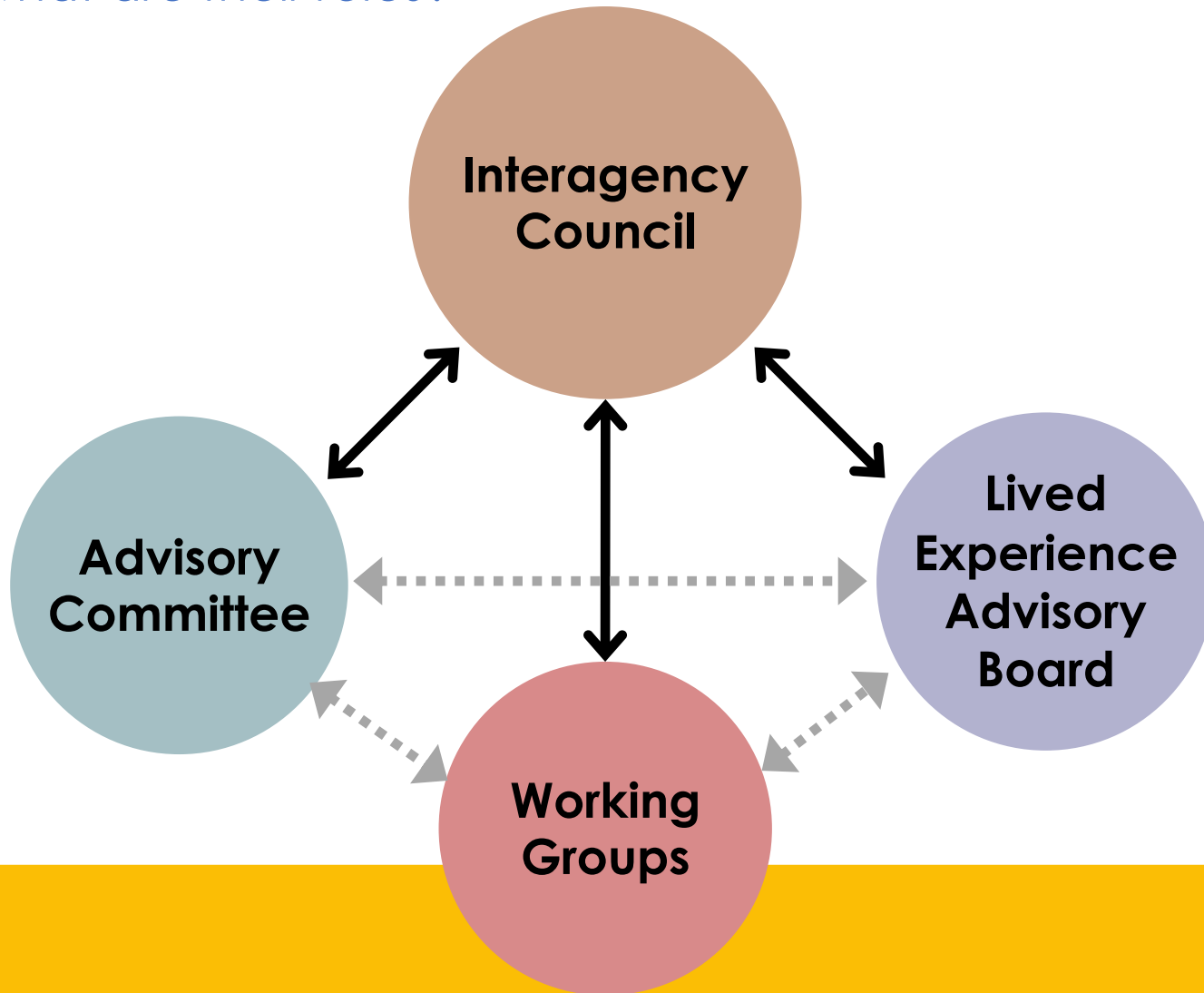
Discussion and Wrap-Up

- How can Cal ICH support your agency or department's mission?
- Are there new services/initiatives your agency or department is planning to rollout in FY 2024-2025 that intersect with Cal ICH's work?

VI. Lived Experience Advisory Board Priorities

Council Support

What groups support the Interagency Council and what are their roles?



The Advisory Committee and LEAB **provide guidance and recommendations to help inform the Interagency Council**. Guidance is utilized in Council decision making and department- and agency-level implementation. The Working Groups implement Council priorities that cut across multiple departments and agencies. The Council can ask them to work on projects or request specific feedback.

The LEAB, Advisory Committee, and Working Groups may **engage directly with one another on specific issues that intersect across groups**. They can co-create recommendations for the Council or check their draft recommendations with one another.

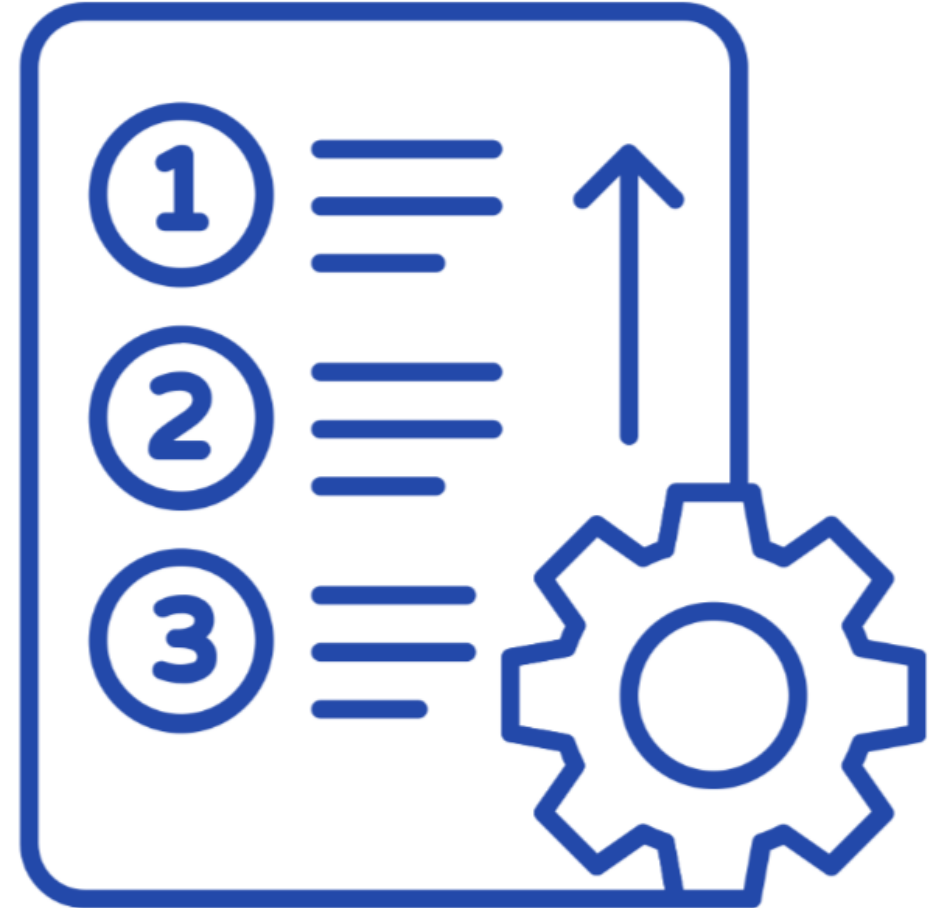
Purpose and Overview of Today's Presentation

1. The LEAB's Priority Areas
 - How priorities were selected and why
2. Member Representative Introductions
3. LEAB members Present Group Priorities
4. Facilitation Questions and Building Connections
5. Announcements and Closing

Why Create Priority Areas?

May 2024, LEAB voted and approved priority areas to:

- **Communicate** the most urgent homelessness issues,
- **Align** external project requests with LEAB priorities, and
- **Create** LEAB-driven, internal projects.



LEAB Representatives



Melanie Robledo



Audrey Pearson



Caressa Smith



Marjorie Beazer



Monique Guerra



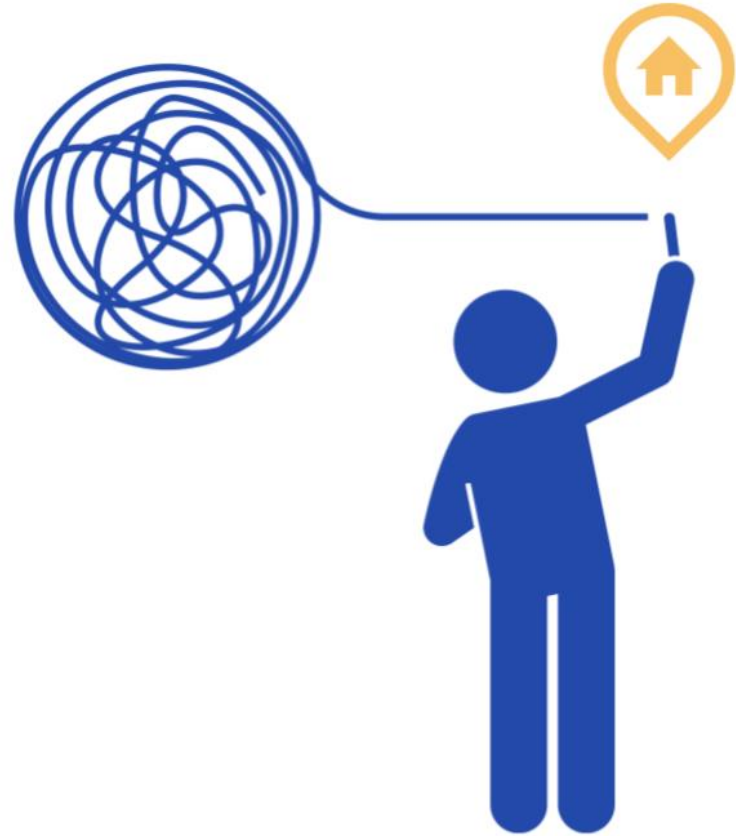
Annalee Trujillo

LEAB Priority Areas

1. Work to **end criminalization** of people experiencing homelessness.



LEAB Priority Areas



2. Promote a focus
on **prevention.**

LEAB Priority Areas

3. Advocate for more affordable, supportive, and **sustainable permanent housing.**



LEAB Priority Areas



4. Center **lived experience/expertise** in decision making.

Discussion

Question 1:

Where does the Council see opportunities to work with the LEAB on these priorities?

Question 2:

Where does the LEAB see opportunity to work with the Council on these priorities?

Reminder: please state your name and association when speaking.



Announcements and Closing

The LEAB will be open for new requests at the end of June

- Requests can be submitted through an online form.
- Email Lisa.Avron@bcsh.ca.gov with any questions.

Thank you!



VII. Action Plan Public and Tribal Input

High-Level Timeline



April - August

- Public and Tribal listening sessions
- Strategy and planning discussions with Council agencies and departments

September - November

- Finalize Plan content and department commitments
- Develop dissemination strategy

Dec 2024

- **Propose new Action Plan to Council for adoption**
- Begin dissemination

Action Plan Listening Sessions

February – May 2024

20 listening sessions with over 200 participants

Conferences, Council member partner groups

Cal ICH Advisory Committee and LEAB (ongoing)

Tribal Consultations (in-person and virtual)

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

A consistent focus on addressing **racial disparities in homelessness** within State programs, including a focus on the **specific needs of Tribal communities**.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- Include a Tribal representation on the Council and/or a Tribal working group
- **Include actionable tools to analyze the effectiveness of equity within programs**
- Create accountability measures to ensure overrepresented populations in homelessness are prioritized in service provision

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Urgently increasing **permanent housing supply** in order to provide pathways out of homelessness.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- **Remove barriers to rapidly deploy funding for the development of new housing**
- Consider funding non-traditional housing options

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Ongoing, flexible resources to be able to support a range of program models that meet the variety of needs of people experiencing homelessness.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- **Use HHAP as a model for program flexibility**
- **Allocate funding for historically un-funded work, such as HMIS licenses and data entry training**
- Re-examine the use of PIT data for funding allocations

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Significant and meaningful **inclusion of people with lived experience** in State-level decision making.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- Provide opportunity to inform the utilization of Prop 1 funding
- **Require and/or incentivize inclusion of people with lived experience in program design within funding applications**
- Incorporate feedback opportunities while people are in programs. Including measures of success that assess a persons' overall well-being

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Streamlining requirements and processes to help address the administrative challenges communities are facing.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- **Keep funding applications and reports consistent across multiple years**
- Discourage use of HUD-ESG reporting requirements as best practice, considering the complexity and difficulty for providers to obtain payment through this program
- **Establish a uniform HGIS/data system or baseline system requirements across all counties**
- Strengthen reporting of employment services provided to, and employment outcomes achieved by, people experiencing homelessness and people participating within housing and services programs.

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Investing in the **skills, wages, and capacity of the workforce** within homelessness response and housing programs.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- **Require harm reduction and trauma-informed care training for all staff and measure utilization of these practices**
- Create more opportunities for peer support positions within programs
- Create a workforce pipeline with education systems

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Guidance and support to **align housing strategies with health and behavioral health strategies** to reach vulnerable populations and increase impact.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- Integrate social support groups within programs to bolster social connections and healthy relationships
- **Increase communication between health, behavioral health, and social service programs to decrease barriers to access**
- Expansion of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program within homeless services programs

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Preventing homelessness among people re-entering communities from hospitals, jails, prisons, and other institutional settings.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- **Prevent people exiting state-systems into homelessness**
- Work with housing insecure students to connect to housing before graduation
- Provide targeted funding for specific subpopulations that experience homelessness at disproportional rates (e.g. people exiting incarceration, child welfare, health care, etc.)
- **Ensure service and health care access of the above populations**

Action Plan Partner Feedback

Themes from Input Provided

Interest in the state engaging in **expanded communications and educational efforts** to help support effective solutions in local communities.

Ideas Generated through Input Discussions

- **Communicate causes of homelessness and responsibility for preventing homelessness clearly and accurately (“People don’t blame firefighters for the fires they put out.”)**
- Create a group to coordinate all State housing and homelessness communications
- Debunk myths surrounding homelessness and combat NIMBY-ism
- Encourage legislators and the administration to engage with the communities they serve to understand what the needs are, what resources are available, and what interventions are effective

Tribal Consultation & Input

Background



Meaningful Tribal inclusion in programs and policies that impact Native Americans

- Executive Order N-15-19
- Agency and Department Tribal Consultation Policies.
- The incorporation of the needs and voices of Tribal Communities ensures that program and policy interventions designed to meet the needs of Tribal Communities are meaningful, culturally appropriate, and effective.

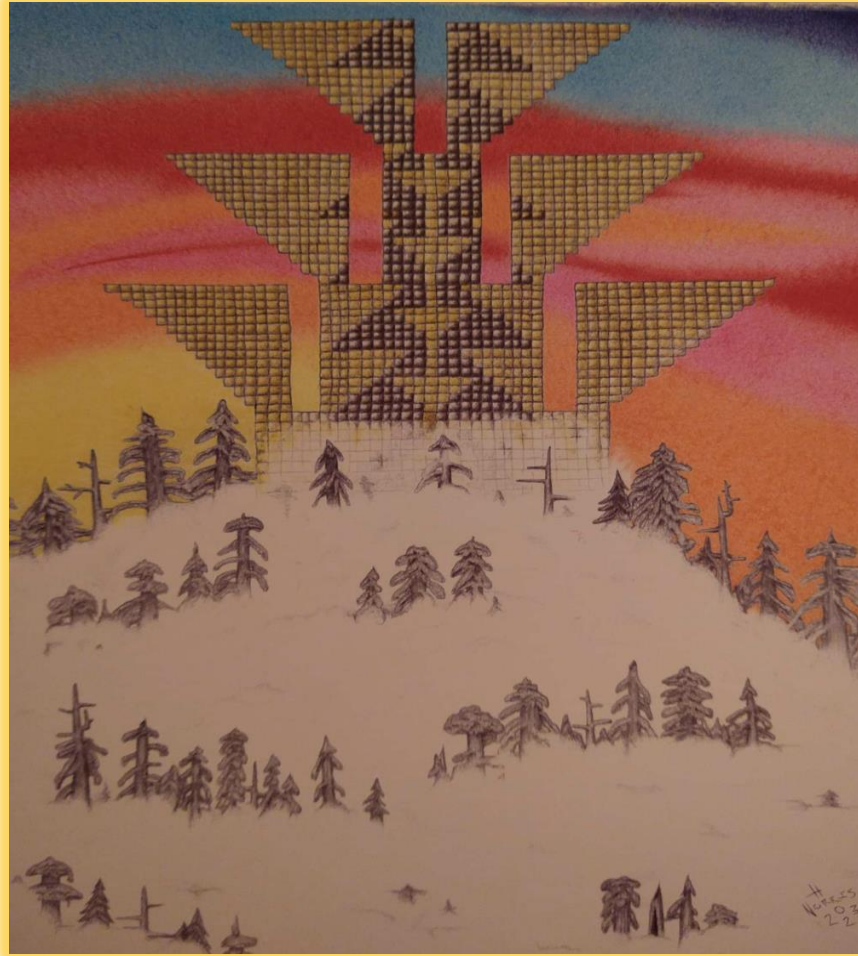
Methods of Tribal Consultation

- Dear Tribal Leader Letters to all California Tribes inviting formal consultation
- Regional, hybrid listening sessions hosted in partnership with Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities
- Meetings with the Cal ICH Tribal Liaison
- Survey
- Tribal feedback has not been censored by Cal ICH



March 29, 2024, Tribal Listening Session with Tribal Leaders and Cal ICH in Pala, California.

Call for Action



- Tribal Communities are in crisis
- The “status quo” perpetuates this
- Time for purposeful and bold action, different than how the state typically does business
- California Tribes face rates of homelessness up to 50%
- California Tribes do not have a seat at our table, nor access to adequate and accessible funding

Art by Hop Norris, Yurok Tribe, California Native

Tribal Needs, Voices, and Best Practices

- Tribes are not BIPOC, they are sovereign nations
- Tribal Leaders would like the Council to regularly address tribal issues
- Both Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribes that have not yet been recognized require inclusion in the Action Plan



Art by Hop Norris, Yurok Tribe, California Native

Tribal Needs, Voices, and Best Practices



- Lack of understanding of the needs, circumstances and best practices of Tribal Communities
- State, local governments, and others in the homelessness arena require education
- Requirements to work with Tribes in local and other homelessness solutions
- Uplift tribal expertise
- Having adequate housing in Tribal Communities is key to their safety, healing, stability, and preservation

Tribal Needs, Voices, and Best Practices

- Tribal Liaisons placed in Executive Offices to inform, educate, and coordinate implementation of tribal needs and expertise
- Improved tribal engagement and relationship building
- Tribes face racism, discrimination from businesses, “upcharging,” intimidation, death threats, and more when progressing homelessness interventions
- Uplifting tribally-informed best practices and tribal inclusion in local and state coordination is key

Streamlining & Coordination



- Forum to regularly engage to share information and cocreate solutions with the state
- Improved coordination across state and local practices and amongst tribal liaisons
- Utilization of culturally appropriate, meaningful approaches – uplift tribal expertise
- Communication and programs across the state must “speak the language of Tribes”
- Tribes have limited capacity

Access to Funding

- State programs rarely created for or with Tribes
- Majority of Tribes cannot access most state funding opportunities
- Cal ICH's Tribal HHAP was cited a best practice
- Increase amount of flexible funding
- Decolonize, focus on relationship, a “more human” touch
- Stop disenfranchising Tribes in current programs and practices
- Examples:
 - Definition of “evidence-based practices” that excludes Tribal adaptations
 - Grant thresholds that require housing development experience

Tribal Data



- Current data does not include Tribes. Homelessness is worse than cited in current data sources
- CA Native Americans have the highest disparities of homelessness in the state
- Data solutions begin with meaningful engagement and co-creation of solutions
- Tribes are denied a seat at the table of state and local orgs due to the small population size caused by their genocide and colonization

Conclusion



California Tribes and Tribal Communities **need equity** and consideration of the government's role in their current circumstances, **rather than being an afterthought in homelessness policy and program solutions.**

Contact Info

Thank you to all Tribal Leaders, Tribal Homelessness and Housing Staff, and Community Members who provided feedback.

A special thanks to

- Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority,
- The Pala Band of Mission Indians, and
- The Wilton Rancheria

for hosting Cal ICH Listening Sessions and for their ongoing partnership.

California Native American Artists who shared their art for this presentation.

Vevila Blossoming Bear, MSW
Cal ICH Tribal Liaison
Vevila.Blossoming@bcsh.ca.gov

Discussion Questions

- How does this feedback align with other feedback you have received about your department or agencies' work on homelessness and Tribal engagement?
- How can the Council, collectively and individually as departments and agencies, ensure that feedback is considered carefully in the shaping of activities for the new and bold Action Plan?

IX. General Public Comment

- If joining by Zoom, click the “raise hand icon”
- If connected by phone, press “*9” to indicate that you would like to comment

X. Final Remarks and Adjournment

Contact Information

- Cal ICH Website: <https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/calich>
- Questions: calich@bcsh.ca.gov
- Social Media
 -  https://twitter.com/Cal_ICH
 -  <https://facebook.com/CaliforniaICH>
 -  <https://linkedin.com/company/california-interagency-council-on-homelessness>