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California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)

General Updates

The Advisory Committee to the Council convened on August 22nd, 2024. The [meeting recording](#) and meeting materials can be accessed on our [Meetings Webpage](#).

The next Council and Advisory Committee Meetings are the following dates:

Council Meetings	Advisory Committee Meetings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thursday, September 5th, 1:00 – 4:00PMTuesday, December 3rd, 1:00 - 4:00PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tuesday, November 12th, 1:00-3:00PM

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

Statewide Policy and Local Initiatives

Action Plan

The creation of the new Action Plan for calendar years 2025 through 2027 is currently underway. Cal ICH staff are working with Council departments and agencies to identify specific activities for inclusion in the plan that are associated with the goals proposed for the new plan. A draft of the new plan will be proposed for adoption at the December Council meeting.

Housing First

Cal ICH has identified 38 states funded, administered, or implemented programs across nine departments and agencies that should comply with Housing First statute ([Welfare and Institutions Code Section 8255-8256](#)). Staff surveyed these programs and are analyzing responses to understand their compliance with the statutory requirements and challenges in implementing Housing First. Cal ICH staff will provide support to state partners to strengthen the implementation of the Housing First statute. Cal ICH plans to provide guidance and resources to both state and local partners to help ensure effective implementation of the statute at all levels.

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.

The Cal ICH Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) was established to inform a broad range of Council decisions, priorities, and actions. In December 2023, the eleven (11) member LEAB officially began convening once a month to provide feedback on requests, while also continuing to build-up their organizational structure. The Cal ICH LEAB recently identified the following top priorities to guide their work and advocacy efforts:

- Work to End Criminalization of People Experiencing Homelessness
- Promote a Focus on Prevention
- Advocate for More Affordable Permanent Housing, Supportive and Sustainable Housing
- Center Lived Experience/Expertise in Decision Making

The LEAB's priority list serves to:

- Highlight the most urgent homelessness issues to the Council, Working Groups, Homelessness Systems Leaders, and the general public.
- Guide the LEAB in accepting project requests that align with their priorities.
- Develop LEAB-driven initiatives creating tools for inclusive local planning, identifying strategies to support racial equity in homelessness response and beyond.

Cal ICH recently launched a formal request process for the Council and member departments to submit requests to the LEAB.

Members meet monthly and receive reimbursement for their participation.

Research and Data

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 Global (formerly 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. The state agencies and departments expressly named in statute, in partnership with Cal ICH and Abt Global, have issued instructions to their grantees to support HMIS data entry. Grantees of the ten programs identified in statute were required to comply with the project set up and data entry requirements when entering data into HMIS by July 1, 2023. In May of 2024, Cal ICH disseminated a memo to administering departments defining AB 977 compliance and the resources available to assist in achieving it. Cal ICH is working with Abt Global to develop data quality reports that state agencies and departments can use to verify that their grantees are complying with AB 977's requirements. Cal ICH is also working with Abt Global to produce a separate data quality tool aimed at supporting HMIS administrators with checking for quality at the point of upload to HDIS. Abt Global worked with CalVet, CDSS, HCD, and CCCCCO to review and correct data that their programs submitted in the first quarter of 2024; second quarter data submissions will be under review shortly.

Cal ICH is also partnering with Abt Global to conduct needs assessments for and to provide technical assistance to state-funded homelessness programs that commenced on or after July 1, 2021, in order to ensure grantees have the resources needed to comply with AB 977. Needs assessments, TA plans, and project setup instructions have been completed for the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) program (funded by the California Department of Health Care Services), and for the Veterans' Support to Self-Reliance (VSSR) Pilot (funded by the California Department of Veterans Affairs). Office hours for these programs are ongoing.

Cal ICH continues to provide updates and improvements to a dashboard that departments can use to see outcomes of participants in AB 977 programs, with data disaggregated by the demographic characteristics of participants, the CoC that they received services in, and the specific projects that they received services from. Cal ICH also launched a new publicly available dashboard for Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant Program (HHAP) projects showing characteristics of participants and the types of services accessed by participants.

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. SB 914 requires Cal ICH to set initial goals by January 1, 2025 to prevent and end homelessness among these key populations. SB 914 further requires local jurisdictions to work with victim service providers to develop 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 is working to implement SB 914 and SB 918 by analyzing data that can be used to create meaningful and actionable goals and measures of progress. Cal ICH contracted with experts to conduct focus groups and Cal ICH will continue to engage with service providers, local governments, people with lived experience, and informants in state agencies to inform these goals and measures.

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 its [public dashboard](#) about the people who accessed the homelessness response system through the first quarter of 2024. Cal ICH also updated the [demographic data](#) posted to the state's open data portal.

Cal ICH presented its second workshop for local HMIS administrators in its HDIS Connect series. The workshop focused on the impact of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) new 2024 [HMIS](#) data standards on race and ethnicity data, and facilitators demonstrated how to use Cal ICH's CoC dashboards to analyze local racial disparity data. Cal ICH will continue to develop relationships with HMIS administrators through bi-monthly HDIS Connect workshops, with the next workshop on July 10 focused on data collection and data quality best practices.

California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs)

The California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs) are a series of metrics developed by the Cal ICH that help the state and local jurisdictions assess their progress toward preventing, reducing, and ending homelessness. The CA SPMs provide standardized data to each continuum of care in the state on six performance measures, as well as information that can be used to identify underserved populations and populations disproportionately impacted by homelessness. [CA SPM data](#) for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and Calendar Year 2023 is posted to the state's open data portal.

Cal ICH released CA SPM data for Calendar Year 2023 this summer. These are the first CA SPMs using data submitted following the 2024 HMIS data standards, which include a combined race and ethnicity field. The combination of the previously separated race and ethnicity fields resulted in a different set of race and ethnicity categories in the CA SPM data; specifically, there is no longer a "multiple races" category, and instead each person is counted in each of the race and ethnicity categories that they identify with, either as a race *alone* or *in combination with another race or ethnicity*. Cal ICH also provided unsuppressed CA SPM data and historical data on detail-level measures to CoCs for the first time. Communities will continue to use the CA SPMs to analyze system-level trends, set goals, and identify disparities between populations.

Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) Data Analytics and Technical Assistance

Cal ICH kicked off a new 3-year contract with ICF to provide technical assistance to Council member departments and agencies to use HDIS data and CA SPMs, and to continuums of care and service providers to improve HDIS data quality and compliance. ICF will also assist with improving CA SPM methodology through partner engagement and new code development and will create data visualization dashboards.

Business, Consumer Services, and Housing (BCSH) Agency

Proposition 1, Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) and Bond Measure

The Business, Consumer Services, and Housing (BCSH) Agency continues to collaborate with the Governor's Office, the California Health and Human Services (Cal HHS) Agency, California Department of Veteran Affairs (CalVet), Housing and Community Development (HCD) and Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) [to issue guidance](#) to local jurisdictions and community partners on accessing funding for the creation of permanent supportive housing through the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act, approved by voters in March 2024. The state is readying the release of a notice of funding availability for supportive housing [by the end of the year](#). BCSH and state partners are working to ensure that local jurisdictions are aware and understand how to braid available capital dollars with the forthcoming resources available through reforms to the Mental Health Services Act funding which will transition to the Behavioral Health Services Act, including a 30% set-aside for housing which will provide rental assistance and operating subsidies, and a 35% set-aside for Full Service Partnerships (FSPs) which provide field-based clinical and supportive services.

On June 8th, BCSH participated in an [all-comers webinar](#) on California's Behavioral Health Transformation organized by DHCS and Cal HHS, and which included HCD and CalVet. On August 13th, BCSH, Cal HHS, HCD and CalVet participated in a webinar organized by Housing California to discuss the implementation of Proposition 1, the BHSA and Bond Measure.

The [Homekey + program webpage](#) includes a [Fact Sheet](#), and will be updated with additional information in the coming months.

Federal All Inside Initiative

Last summer, the White House and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) selected seven jurisdictions across the nation, including the State of California, to participate in the All Inside initiative which would facilitate connections to federal partners, technical assistance and regulatory improvements. To

aid in this effort, BCSH organized a core team made up of multiple state departments, including HCD, Cal ICH, CalVet, Cal HHS, DHCS, California Department of Aging (CDA), California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). California’s Federal Team Lead (FTL), assigned from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), serves as the formal conduit to USICH and federal agencies.

California’s FTL assisted the core team to develop and forward requests to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), United States Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), United States Department of Defense (DoD), United States Department of Justice (DOJ), United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), United States Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United State General Services Administration (GSA) and United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) seeking federal waivers, technical assistance, and partnership support. Activities so far include:

- FTL, BCSH and CalVet sought approval from DoD which agreed with and supported CalVet authorizing accredited agents contracted to CalVet to use the Defense Personnel Records Information Retrieval System. This access will speed up enrollments for Veterans to obtain benefits, healthcare, and services.
- FTL, BCSH and CalVet are actively working with DOJ’s Bureau of Prisons to connect California Veterans exiting Federal Prisons to benefits and services.
- FTL, VA, BCSH, Cal ICH, HCD and CalVet are planning a virtual Housing First training for developers, property managers, VA and non-VA case managers, Continuum of Care (CoC) entities and Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to ensure uniform understanding of Housing First within the context of housing for veterans, and introduce the new Property Management Plan template being developed by HCD.
- FTL, BCSH and HCD worked with SAMHSA to arrange technical assistance on updating HCD’s Property Management Plan and toolkit, which incorporates tenant screening and Housing First practices for permanent supportive housing and extremely low-income units. FTL, VA, SAMHSA, HHS-ACL, BCSH, CDA, CDSS, DHCS and CalVet collaborating on a white paper on Aging Veterans and Older Adults in California.
- FTL, BCSH, and HCD working with HUD to address mega-waivers (including a statewide Fair Market Rent) and mapping out the pathway to include disasters in the Consolidated Plan.
- FTL, BCSH, CalOES, CDSS and HCD provided FEMA with recommendations on (1) technical assistance opportunities for disaster assistance plans, emergency management training and support to local governments, (2) inclusivity towards those experiencing homelessness prior to and after disasters, and (3) public assistance and non-congregate shelters. This state group is also coordinating on public comment in response to HUD’s recent notice on Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (RUSH) funding.
- FTL, BCSH and HCD collaborating with HUD and GSA to explore opportunities to include Federal land in the California excess sites database, and awaiting the publication of the Title V Final Rule to explore opportunities with federal HHS, HUD and GSA to expedite the use of Federal surplus land in California to build affordable housing.
- FTL, BCSH and CalSTA are in continued conversations with the U.S. DOT regarding the Transportation Infrastructure and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Program and Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing (RRIF) Program funding for affordable and transit oriented housing development.

At the end of June, California’s FTL and 11 state staff representing both the California All INside core team and the California Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator (HSPA) team attended a two-day SAMHSA-sponsored national convening in Maryland where All INside and HSPA participants from across the country shared experiences with each other.

Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator (HSPA)

The HSPA is a joint HUD-HHS federal initiative to create more efficiencies and collaboration between housing, homelessness and healthcare systems. BCSH is part of the California team led by DHCS and which also includes CalHHS, HCD, CDA, CDSS, DOR and community partners such as the Berkeley Turner Center, Homebase, and California Association of Housing Authorities (CAHA). Forging better connections between housing, homelessness and healthcare resources and policies has been a priority for BCSH, especially at the intersection of CalAIM resources and affordable housing, as well as new opportunities with the Proposition 1 Bond measure and BHSA, including the 30% housing set-aside and the 35% FSP set-aside. Some of the work of the HSPA has included uplifting the Berkeley Turner Center's project to create "translation" materials to help housing and healthcare sectors work together in more seamless ways, and surfacing lessons from separate statewide collaboratives convened by Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) and Homebase, respectively, that highlighted learnings from CalAIM implementation, with input from managed care plans, Continuum of Care entities and community-based organizations. The HSPA will conclude at the end of the year but much of the California state partners' work may continue through joint activities submitted by Councilmember departments and incorporated in the next Cal ICH Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

Social Housing Field Study

In July, 2024, BCSH Secretary Moss and Deputy Secretary for Housing attended a social housing field study with more than 50 other leaders in housing, education, advocacy, philanthropy, health and design. The field study enabled BCSH to learn more about the Viennese model for funding, developing and operating affordable and market rate housing opportunities. The experiential learning demonstrated that there are many differences and similarities between the Vienna and California housing systems. There are elements of the Viennese model, including the disposition of public land for affordable housing, public private partnerships, and transit oriented development, which are strikingly similar to existing tools and practices in California. With this knowledge, the BCSH team will continue to explore opportunities for efficiencies and scale to address housing needs in California.

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Housing & Homelessness Workgroup

CDPH's intradepartmental Housing & Homelessness Workgroup hosted four webinars for CDPH staff. The most recent was titled "*Serving people experiencing homelessness: Best practices on collaborating with homeless systems of care.*" Over 150 CDPH employees attended.

San Diego State University WaSH Guidelines

CDPH has partnered with San Diego State University (SDSU), to create statewide guidance on the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) needs of PEH across California. This guidance will include recommendations for state and local agencies on how to best allocate resources to create and/or maintain sanitation infrastructure for PEH. It will be based on existing data and interviews/focus groups with people with current or prior experiences of sheltered and/or unsheltered homelessness; homelessness service providers; and others with key knowledge of WaSH infrastructure. The final draft has been sent to Cal HHS for approval.

Air Filtration Project

CDPH has used remaining grant funding (\$900k) to purchase portable air cleaning (PAC) devices, plus two replacement filters for each unit, to improve indoor air quality and reduce the transmission of COVID-19 at congregate homeless shelters across California. Because there was no pre-existing list of all congregate shelters in California, we compiled a list using publicly available data. We identified approximately 714 shelters and determined we had enough funding to purchase one PAC for each site. As of mid-August:

- 233 units were delivered directly to CoCs and shelters in the northern CA region. We have already received reports that they are providing relief from the wildfire smoke.
- 165 units were delivered to central CA and have been distributed to the CoCs in the region.
- 95 units were delivered to the San Diego area and have been distributed to the CoCs in the region.
- 206 units were delivered to the LA area and have started distributing to their local shelters.

In addition, we are partnering with researchers at UCLA on a pilot exploratory study to analyze the health impact this project has on people experiencing homelessness.

Data projects

PEH Mortality

- April 2022: The Vital Records Registration Branch, the Vital Statistics Branch, and the Informatics Branch collaborated to change the Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS) to be able to assess whether a decedent was homeless at the time of death. If it is indicated that an individual is homeless, further data is collected to determine if they were unsheltered, sheltered, or in an institution.
- December 2023: A Business Use Case Proposal (BUCP) was submitted for the California Comprehensive Master Death Files, which is currently under review by the Center for Health Statistics & Informatics.
- May 2024: BUCP approval is progressing, final review/approval is scheduled for June 2024.
- August 2024: BUCP still in progress, met with CHSI to discuss application.

Cal ICH HDIS-CDPH data linkage

CalHHS Center for Data Insights and Innovation (CDII) is the lead agency for the sharing and linking of Cal ICH HDIS data with specified CalHHS departments datasets with the overall goal of creating a CalHHS Integrated Homelessness Dataset. CDPH plans to be in the next Business Use Case Proposal (BUCP) amendment.

- May 2024: Started plan for incorporation of CDPH data into the CalHHS Integrated Homelessness Dataset. Working with CDII to present to CDPH Housing and Homeless workgroup this summer. Began to identify appropriate CDPH datasets for HDIS-CDPH data linkage.
- August 2024: Dr. Rita Nguyen and CDPH's Chief Data Officer are taking lead on CDPH's involvement in this activity.

California Department of Aging (CDA)

The California 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 efforts are aimed at ensuring accessible, person-centered services and supports systems through coordination, advocacy, and referral arrangements. The MPA 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, which includes extensive, regular partner engagement:

Modernizing California's Aging Network: The department led a robust, year-long partner process known as California 2030 that resulted in a final report and agenda for action: More than 250 partners were interviewed, including all 33 Area Agencies on Aging, and over 17,000 older adults in all 58 counties responded to a statewide consumer survey. This effort is a 2024 program priority for the CalHHS Agency as reflected on the [2024-2025 Program Priority release](#). Specific to housing, the California 2030 report outlines strategies to improve housing information, navigation and referrals, a

high priority for partners who informed the project. The California Commission on Aging is sponsoring legislation, [SB 1249 \(Roth\)](#) to advance key recommendations in the [CA 2030 report](#). [The bill](#) continues to advance through the Legislature in the final months of the session.

CA For All Ages & Abilities: 2024 Master Plan for Aging Day of Action: California’s Master Plan for Aging is a nationally recognized blueprint for building communities and states for all ages and abilities. On October 8, 2024, in partnership with the MPA’s philanthropic partners, CDA will host the “California for ALL Ages & Abilities Day of Action” convening at the Sacramento SAFE Credit Union Convention Center. The MPA Day of Action brings together consumers, aging and disability leaders, and policymakers to elevate the current and future issues that impact older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers to inform the development of the MPA’s 2025-2026 initiatives. The 2024 MPA Day of Action serves as an opportunity to: 1) focus the MPA’s future work on the highest priority issues facing Californians today; 2) engage diverse partners in a whole-of-government approach; 3) center the MPA’s planning efforts on equity and lived experience; and 4) celebrate the progress and renew our shared commitment to the MPA, California’s 10-year blueprint for all ages and abilities. For more information, see the [event webpage](#).

Programs and Initiatives:

- **Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator:** In February, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development selected California to participate in the [Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator](#) initiative. CDA continues to partner with the lead state entity, Department of Health Care Services, as well as the Department of Rehabilitation, the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency, and the Department of Housing and Community Development to continue advancing efforts to secure housing and services for older adults, in alignment with the Master Plan for Aging.
- **Elder and Disability Justice, Legal Services Technical Assistance:** CDA awarded a \$1 million contract to Justice in Aging (JIA) 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, and the opportunity to learn about different legal models and strategic plans among service providers in California. Additionally, a curriculum has been developed and posted on the JIA [California Resources and Trainings](#) webpage to equip providers with the resources, tools, and skills required to address the complex legal challenges faced by older adults and people with disabilities. The legal service needs include housing insecurity, rental issues, tenant protections, eviction protections, advance planning to identify alternatives to guardianship, and asset management such as estate planning to ensure an individual does not lose their housing.

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Gap Analysis: As a key initiative of the Master Plan for Aging, 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 Department of Health Care Service’s [\(DHCS\) Medi-Cal HCBS Gap Analysis](#) and Multi-year Roadmap in consultation with Mathematica. The Gap Analysis is slated for release in the summer of 2025.

- **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. The 21 grantees join the nearly 100 communities across California that have already embarked upon age- and disability-friendly action planning and implementation. The goals of the LADAP grant program align with [California’s Master Plan for Aging \(MPA\)](#) and California’s commitment to equity. The grant program runs through March 31, 2025.

- **Dignity at Home Fall Prevention and Home Modification Program:** The Dignity at Home Falls Prevention and Home Modification Program is a \$10 million initiative 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 9/30/2024.

Partner Engagement

The following partner committees continue to address housing and homelessness:

- The [Implementing the Master Plan for Aging in California Together](#) (IMPACT) Partner 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. Additionally, the committee is advocating for development of a rental-assistance program targeted to severely rent-burdened and other precariously housed older adults and persons with disabilities. To learn more about their priorities, see their April 2024 report here: [IMPACT Committee Report](#)
- The [Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee](#) (DACLAC) Housing Subcommittee continues to advocate for solutions to prevent and end homelessness among older adults and people with disabilities, including targeted rental assistance for older adult renters who are at-risk of homelessness.
- The [Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council](#) (EDJCC) continues their focus on the issues of abuse, neglect and exploitation of older adults and people with disabilities. The council has explored solutions related to legal services, conservatorships, the role of public guardians, intersections with Adult Protective Services, and closer alignment with health, human services, housing and law enforcement.
- For questions, please contact: Sarah Steenhausen, Deputy Director of Policy, Research, and Equity, California Department of Aging at sarah.steenhausen@aging.ca.gov.

Justice in Aging Brief can be found [here](#).

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)

Action Item No.	Action Item (as written in the FY 2023-24 CallCH Action Plan)	Metrics (as written in the FY 2023-24 CallCH Action Plan)	August 2024 Quarterly Update (due to CallCH on August 16, 2024)
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1.4.4	<p>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.)</p>	<p>• Outcome Measures: Report the following metrics on a data dashboard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of training and employment secured post-release; • Training participation during incarceration; and • Employment duration and retention measures 	<p>CDCR staff completed efforts to incorporate the new employment data methodology into the draft internal Paroled Housing Dashboard. Simultaneously, CDCR staff are strengthening processes to maximize post-release connections to employment (e.g., Prison to Employment linkage, Female Community Reentry Program / Male Community Reentry Program and other vocational training programs), 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.</p>
3.9.11	<p>Implement the Returning Home Well initiative to expand interim housing options for people transitioning from corrections settings up to one year of release.</p>	<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. 	<p>For CDCR Returning Home Well data, see table below, entitled “CDCR Returning Home Well Quarterly Report, Fiscal Year 2023-24.”</p>
3.9.15	<p>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</p>	<p>Outcome Measure: TBD (based on available and applicable housing programs.)</p>	<p>CDCR’s Division of Rehabilitation (DRP), Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) and California Department of Social Services (CDSS) staff are continuing to meet to explore linkages for</p>

	<p>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.</p>		<p>returning citizens and parolees to the CDSS Homeless Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP). DRP staff have documented and shared with CDSS the findings from initial discussions with responsive HDAP providers. CDSS is working with HDAP grantees to explore what can help to increase HDAP utilization for individuals who are justice-involved.</p>
4.11.8	<p>Monitor CDCR contractor's adherence contractual requirements related to Housing First in order to provide participants with meaningful choice and seek to minimize exits to homelessness.</p>	<p>Process Measure: Verify participants are provided with information regarding housing first during program orientations.</p>	<p>The contractual requirements related to Housing First are now being monitored through CDCR's Program Accountability Review process.</p>
5.14.2	<p>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.</p>	<p>Process Measure: Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.</p>	<p>CDCR's Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO), Behavioral Health Reintegration (BHR) clinicians continue to implement referrals to request ECM assessments from Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCP) to facilitate linkages to the Community Supports (CS) benefit. DAPO/BHR is actively working to provide in-depth training to BHR clinicians on CalAIM ECM and CS and is finalizing a data collection application to more accurately and consistently track ECM referrals and referral outcomes. On a bi-monthly basis, BHR and the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) are meeting to discuss progress and identify areas for quality improvement, which are communicated to the Department of Health Care Services. At the requests of</p>

			individuals on parole, CCJBH compiled ECM informational materials available by each MCP so they may better understand ECM and CS services, including how they may be accessed, which has been posted to the CCJBH website .
5.14.5	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. A request for projects is anticipated to be released in the Fall of 2024.
5.14.6	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>	<p>As of July 31, 2024, there were 3,681 unhoused parolees (sheltered+ unsheltered).</p> <p>For CDCR pre-release and community referrals that are facilitated by CDCR’s Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) contractors, see table below, entitled “CDCR Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming Quarterly Report, Fiscal Year 2023-24.”</p>
5.14.6	Analyze existing data, which could include interdepartmental data matches, to better understand the scale of risks for homelessness among	Process Measure: Document findings from analyses.	CDCR completed the draft Paroled Housing Dashboard to track housing need for individuals who are under CDCR DAPO supervision. CDCR is finalizing the draft

	people preparing to exit prison settings.		Business Use Case Proposal to establish a data match between CDCR and CalICH to assess the extent to which individuals leaving CDCR are served by local Continuums of Care (CoCs).
5.14.8	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.	In March 2024, CDCR DAPO and DRP attended and presented at CalICH’s CoC “Office Hours” meetings to educate CoCs on CDCR’s pre-release processes to establish a foundation from which to begin exploring potential linkages to CoC housing services. Since then, CDCR DRP has begun working with a county CoCs who have reached out to establish referral connection, exploring potential partnerships with CDCR STOP providers. Thus far, CDCR has identified a need for community-based housing navigation, access to housing vouchers and identification of and support for landlords for Section 8 housing for the justice-involved population.
5.14.9	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. *Cal ICH will check with teams for support capacity.	Process Measure: Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.	This Action Item relates to Action Item No. 5.14.8 and will be operationalized based on discussions with CalICH and the CoCs.

California Awards Counties Nearly \$133 Million to Rapidly House People Experiencing Homelessness and Mental Illness

DHCS [awarded \\$132.5 million](#) to 10 county behavioral health agencies under the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program. This funding enables counties to provide temporary, safe housing and essential support for people transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing. Bridge housing is a crucial component of addressing the urgent needs of Californians experiencing homelessness who have serious mental health or substance use disorder treatment needs.

These awards, which build upon the more than \$900 million already awarded to counties and tribal entities in 2022, will significantly enhance local efforts to provide immediate housing and support for individuals with serious behavioral health conditions by bolstering the development of tiny homes, interim housing, rental assistance programs, and other housing models, which will include access to behavioral health and housing navigation services to connect BHBH Program participants to long-term housing. For more information, please visit the [BHBH Program website](#).

Critical Funding Opportunity Available to Expand Behavioral Health Services

On July 17, DHCS [released](#) the Bond BHCIP Round 1: Launch Ready [Request for Applications](#) (RFA). Eligible organizations can apply for funding to construct, acquire, and rehabilitate properties for behavioral health services for Medi-Cal members. DHCS will award up to \$3.3 billion in grants to projects that expand community-based behavioral health facilities and services.

This funding aims to address significant treatment gaps by improving access to behavioral health care. Interested parties can find application instructions on the [BHCIP website](#) and submit their applications by December 13, 2024. This initiative, part of Proposition 1, seeks to transform California's mental health and substance use disorder systems, providing more comprehensive care for the state's most vulnerable populations. For more information, contact DHCS at BHTinfo@dhcs.ca.gov.

DHCS Boosts Clinic Capacities for Enhanced Medi-Cal Services

DHCS [awarded \\$37 million to 49 clinics](#) throughout California that provide Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports services to Medi-Cal members. This funding is part of the Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Capacity and Infrastructure, Transition, Expansion, and Development (CITED) Initiative, aimed at enhancing clinics' capacity to participate in the Medi-Cal delivery system.

These awards build upon the CITED [Round 1 funding of \\$207 million](#) and CITED [Round 2 funding of \\$144 million](#) announced in 2023, representing all of California's 58 counties. ECM and Community Supports are crucial to Medi-Cal transformation, serving the highest-need Medi-Cal managed care plan members by providing in-person care coordination, housing assistance, and other community-based services. CITED-Clinics funds will support these services through investments in the provider workforce, infrastructure, information technology systems, and capacity building. For more information about the PATH CITED initiative, please visit the [PATH website](#).

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Dashboard Update

On August 9, DHCS posted an update to the public-facing CalAIM [dashboards](#) that promote transparency and demonstrate the impact, progress, and key opportunity areas of CalAIM. This update includes a new dental initiative [dashboard](#) that highlights CalAIM initiatives to improve oral health outcomes. It also refreshes data and enhances features in existing dashboards, including Behavioral Health, Community Supports, Enhanced

Care Management, Incentive Payment Program, Integrated Care for Dual Eligible Members, Population Health Management, Providing Access and Transforming Health, and Bold Goals initiative. The dashboards will continue to be updated regularly and will expand to include additional quality measures, demographic data, and initiatives as more data become available.

DHCS Releases Quarterly Implementation Report on Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports

On August 2, DHCS released the latest ECM and Community Supports [Quarterly Implementation Report](#), which includes data from January 2022 through December 2023. The report shows an increase in the availability and use of Community Supports, showing significant growth in the number of counties offering these services. As of January 2024, 19 counties across California offered all 14 Community Supports, and all counties offered at least eight Community Supports. This marks a significant increase from the end of 2022, when only three counties offered all 14 Community Supports. About 140,000 unique Medi-Cal members used Community Supports in the first two years of the program, with more than 350,000 total services delivered. In Quarter (Q)4 2023, about 86,000 members used Community Supports, a 265 percent increase from Q4 2022.

ECM participation also grew, with around 96,000 members served in Q4 2023, a 40 percent increase from Q4 2022. The number of members under age 21 receiving ECM nearly doubled in Q4 2023 from the previous quarter, from 6,400 members to 12,000, many of whom were newly eligible for ECM in July 2023. Altogether, more than 183,000 Medi-Cal members across the state received ECM in the first two years of the benefit.

[ECM and Community Supports](#) aim to improve Medi-Cal members' overall health and well-being by addressing both medical and social factors that can impact a person's health, including housing assistance, meal programs, job training, and centralized coordination of care.

To learn more, visit the [ECM/Community Supports Resources webpage](#). For inquiries related to the report or to provide feedback on the data, please email CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov.

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) - Soluna and BrightLife Kids

As part of the [CYBHI Behavioral Health Virtual Services Platform](#), California's children, youth and young adults, now have access to a free statewide mental health services program, regardless of income, health insurance, or immigration status. Delivered via two web-based and mobile applications, these tools are designed to be flexible and free for all California families: [BrightLife Kids](#), developed in partnership with Brightline, serves parents or caregivers and kids 0-12 years old. [Soluna](#), developed in partnership with Kooth US, serves teens and young adults ages 13-25. Families with multiple children whose ages span 0-25 can use both platforms to meet their unique needs.

Both programs offer mental health coaching services with trained and qualified behavioral health wellness coaches, delivered via chat and video appointments in English and Spanish or via telephone in all [Medi-Cal threshold languages](#). BrightLife Kids and Soluna also provide age-tailored educational content, clinically-validated assessment tools, live care navigation supports, and peer communities where users can share their experiences in safe, pre-moderated forums. Each program follows strict safety and crisis protocols, including screening and warm-handoffs to appropriate 24/7 resources, for users who are experiencing mental health crises or need immediate assistance.

California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

Division of Federal Financial Assistance

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

HOME-ARP Program assists individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, through the creation of permanent affordable rental housing and the provision of supportive services, including financial assistance, to keep Californians housed. The HOME-ARP Program is uniquely designed to address Californians' housing needs by looking beyond income requirements and providing access to housing based on people's living situation.

Access to HOME-ARP affordable housing is not based solely on a family's income. For example, if a family is experiencing homelessness or fleeing a domestic violence situation, their annual income can be greater than 80 percent AMI and still qualify for the HOME-ARP housing and services. Additionally, if a family is housed and are severely cost burdened, they too can qualify for HOME-ARP affordable housing. The HOME-ARP Program meets Californians where they are at in life and helps move them closer to the California dream.

- HOME-ARP Program launched two programs in 2023/2024, the HOME-ARP Rental Housing Program and Housing Plus Support Program. Additionally in 2024, HCD will launch the first of its kind statewide investment in reentry housing, the HOME-ARP Reentry Pilot Project. More information on each HOME-ARP initiative can be found below:
- **HOME-ARP Rental Housing Program**—in October 2023 the \$89 million NOFA was released. The NOFA incorporates several key innovations to reduce barriers that cause delays to the production of affordable housing and to effectively administer the HOME-ARP Program. For example, the Program incentivizes:
 - Projects where the HOME-ARP award will fill the entire funding gap or where the HOME-ARP program is funding 100 percent of the project (within program award limits), to ensure projects quickly enter the construction phase after award.
 - Projects with 30 units and less. Smaller projects are typically better suited for rural, non-entitlement, and Tribal communities where the market is smaller, and developers often have limited capacity. Funding programs that incentivize large developments can be difficult for rural, non-entitlement areas, and Tribes to access.
- The HOME-ARP Rental Housing Program received 23 applications requesting over \$250 million. Four projects were awarded in June 2024, and five additional projects are anticipated to receive awards in September/October 2024.
- **HOME-ARP Housing Plus Support Program**—The \$29.7 million NOFA was released on January 23, 2024. The program is designed to connect individuals and families who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness, with permanent housing and supportive services provided to increase self-reliance and housing stability. HPSP employs three primary strategies: providing housing case management services to ensure quick placement into permanent housing, supporting and developing strong service providers, and instituting more flexible programming.

The HOME-ARP Housing Plus Support Program received 25 applications requesting over \$105 million. Five programs were awarded in June 2024. One additional program is anticipated to be awarded September/October 2024.

- **HOME-ARP Reentry Pilot Project**—In collaboration with the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, the HOME-ARP team will implement the first of its kind state level investment in permanent housing for individuals exiting correctional institutions. HOME-ARP’s \$16 million capital investment will be complimented with supportive services to ensure housing stability long term. The HOME-ARP team anticipates releasing the Reentry NOFA in October of 2024.

Housing for a Healthy California/National Housing Trust Fund (HHC/NHTF)

The HHC program made funding available to developers for the acquisition, capitalized operating subsidy reserve, rehabilitation, and/or new construction of multifamily rental housing for the creation of permanent supportive housing using federal National Housing Trust Fund dollars under the authority of AB 74 (2017). The goal of the HHC/NHTF program is to provide housing for people experiencing homelessness, reducing the financial burden on local and state health-care resources. Target population includes people experiencing chronic homelessness or homelessness who are high-cost health users and are Medi-Cal eligible upon initial entry.

The state has used its federal NHTF dollars to fund the state HHC/NHTF program for federal fiscal years 2018-2021. The Department anticipates the completion of construction for all HHC/NHTF awarded projects no later than December 2027.

Last quarter, the Department reported the results of the NHTF Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) with a combined federal FY23-FY24 allocations and NHTF Project Solicitation with a combined federal FY24-FY25 allocations. The NHTF Program is operating as a stand-alone program, more closely aligned with the federal regulations and without the HHC Program overlay, which allows for greater flexibility. The NHTF Program provides capital loans for construction and permanent financing for the development of permanent affordable housing for households with the lowest incomes, with a preference for projects serving people experiencing homelessness. All NHTF units are restricted to extremely low-income households set at 30% of Area Median Income (AMI).

The report also included information about the 18 NHTF awarded projects from the NHTF NOFA and Project Solicitation, respectively. There are two Tribal applicants working on submitting the Department with complete NHTF applications, respectively, in response to the NHTF NOFA. Program staff continue to provide weekly technical assistance to the Tribes and target an Internal Loan Committee meeting for award approval no later than the end of December 2024.

The 18 NHTF awarded projects have applied for 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) or 4% LIHTC and Mortgage Revenue Bonds (MRB). While all projects reached the maximum tax credit score and have high tie-breaker scores, California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) and California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC), (collectively, Committees) funding continues to be limited, and the application landscape continues to be highly competitive for tax credits and bonds. As a result of the Round One 2024 awards, three (3) NHTF assisted projects received 9% tax credits and one NHTF assisted project received 4% tax credits and MRB. The remaining 14 NHTF assisted projects have applied for Round Two. The allocation for 9% tax credits will be on October 2, 2024, and the allocation for 4% tax credits/MRB will be on December 11, 2024. Program staff will provide an update after the Committees vote on allocations. The following chart summarizes the four projects preparing to close on construction financing and break ground within the next six months.

Summary of NHTF Projects Awarded Tax Credits/MRB:

Project Name	County	HHC/NHTF Loan and Grant	NHTF Loan	HHC/NHTF Homeless ¹ Units	Total Units	Start of Construction	Target Construction Completion
20 th Street ²	Los Angeles	\$20,400,000	\$14,752,796	34	78	2/2025	2/2028
300 Alamos	Los Angeles	\$0	\$13,626,765	27	82	12/2024	12/2027
El Dorado Haven	El Dorado	\$0	\$6,218,672	14	65	12/2024	12/2027
Willowbrook III	Los Angeles	\$0	\$8,000,000	16	51	12/2024	12/2027
Total		\$20,400,000	\$42,598,233	91	276		

Legend:

¹Homeless Units listed above serve households experiencing At Risk of Homelessness, Chronically Homelessness, or Homelessness as defined in as in 24 C.F.R. § 578.3.

²20th Street project includes HHC units that serve households experiencing Chronic Homelessness or Homelessness who are also high-cost health users.

Division of Housing Policy

Policy & Program Support Homelessness Grants

On Monday, July 15, the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP) fiscal dashboard launched on the HCD [HHAP webpage](#). The dashboard displays obligations and expenditures across all rounds of HHAP and all grantees. It will be updated regularly after HCD receives quarterly fiscal reports, which are soon to become monthly fiscal reports per the requirement of [AB 166](#).

HHAP Round 5: Awards will go out on a rolling basis in September 2024.

Tribal HHAP Round 3: Applications were due on June 28, 2024. HCD received 37 applications for approximately \$113 million. The Tribal Affairs Team is currently reviewing applications.

Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) Round 3R: Applications were due on June 28. HCD received 31 applications for approximately \$200 million, with \$100 million in funding available.

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. Since its inception in 2020, Homekey has awarded \$3.6 billion to fund 259 projects including 15,850 units, and is projected to serve 172,329 households over the life of the projects. These figures will increase as Homekey continues awarding projects under the Round 3 NOFA.

- The Homekey Round 3 NOFA made available \$736 million and in November 2023, HCD added approximately \$114 million, for a total of \$850 million.
- As of August 14, 2024, Round 3 has awarded \$819 million to 49 projects. The program has approximately \$30 million left to award to eligible projects.

View the Homekey Round 3 Dashboard and Awardee List as of August 14, 2024, on the Homekey website: [Awards Dashboard | California Department of Housing and Community Development](#)

Proposition 1, passed by voters in March 2024, reforms the Mental Health Services Act and authorizes a \$6.3 billion bond to be used for housing people with behavioral health challenges. Of the \$6.3 billion, HCD is responsible for nearly \$2 billion, with \$1.065 billion for permanent supportive housing for Veterans who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness with a behavior health challenge, and \$922 million for permanent supportive housing for people who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness with a behavioral health challenge. Both HCD programs will be modeled after Homekey, with the application period opening in early 2025. The remainder of the bond funding will be administered by DHCS and will create a variety of treatment facilities along the behavioral health continuum.

The program implementing Proposition 1 at HCD is called Homekey +, and a website with key information about the program and the implementation timeline is live now ([see here](#)). HCD sent a demand survey to partners this summer to gather information about how to design the next iteration of the Homekey program. Staff continues to review the data and meeting with the Director's Office and Agency to plan the program's implementation.

Homekey Tribal

The Homekey Tribal (HKT) NOFA provides an opportunity for Tribal Entities to develop multifamily rental housing developments, including rehabilitation of existing housing, new construction of apartments, townhomes, or single-family rental homes, including manufactured housing, or conversion of non-residential space to residential housing. Projects developed using HKT funding shall provide permanent housing for people and households experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Rather than utilizing a set-aside within the standard Homekey Program, this NOFA operates independently and is tailored to meet the specific affordable housing needs of California Tribes.

- The HKT NOFA was released on June 27, 2023, and provides \$75 million in grant funding for California Tribes and Tribal Entities. An amendment to add \$6 million was issued on March 15, 2024, for a total of \$81 million.

- As of January 1, 2024, Program received 14 Over the Counter Applications Two Applicants have withdrawn due to challenges with site control and administrative capacity. The total program request is \$98,464,334, an oversubscription of \$17,464,334.
- HCD has made four award recommendations, totaling almost \$30 million.
- Awards will be continuous until all funds are awarded.
- HKT will host the second annual HCD Tribal Finance Workshop, early November.
- HKT will release the Tribal Homekey + NOFA in late Fall.

Multifamily Finance Super Notice of Funding Availability (MFSN)

The MFSN streamlines four of HCD's rental housing programs to align eligibility criteria, scoring, and release of funds allowing for a coordinated single application and award process. Programs under the MFSN include: 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).

MFSN program received funding for the third round. Program is currently assessing the impact and determining the NOFA release date.

No Place Like Home (NPLH)

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.

HCD has made 156 awards totaling approximately \$1,908,649,299 in 46 counties after post-award adjustments through June 30, 2024. These are the last planned HCD awards under this program.

- HCD made awards to four Alternative Process Counties in the amount of \$1,070,149,587 that will result in approximately 4,454 NPLH-assisted units. As of June 30, 2024, the Alternative Process Counties have awarded these funds to 140 local projects.
- 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.
- As of June 30, 2024, HCD has awarded \$838,499,712 to 43 counties in the balance of the state for 141 local projects that will result in an anticipated 3,018 NPLH-assisted units. The above dollar amounts include post-award adjustments since August 2022 when the last balance of state awards were made
- Overall, it is anticipated that 7,472 NPLH-assisted units will be produced. As of August 6, 2024 there were 102 completed projects, and 97 projects under construction.

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 and \$50 million from the State General Fund to provide capital to HCD legacy projects at-risk of converting to 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. To date, PRP has helped preserve 1,364 units, serving 3,044 individuals, with 455 of those individuals being at-risk of homelessness.

HCD awarded 29 PRP applications under the 2022 Notice of Funding Availability, (NOFA) and is in the process of issuing standard agreements and participating in construction calls with the Sponsors. Currently 27 applications have executed standard agreements and 2 are in the process of being executed. Of the 27 applications with executed standard agreements, 17 of them have started construction and will complete rehabilitation in 6-18 months. An additional 10 projects are anticipated to begin construction by September 30, 2024. The remaining two projects are anticipated to begin construction by the end of 2024.

HCD issued a second PRP NOFA for approximately \$112 million on December 28, 2023, with funds allocated through the 2022-23 and 2023-24 state budgets. Applications were accepted on an over-the-counter basis beginning March 28, 2024. The application period has been closed as the program is oversubscribed. HCD received 27 applications for the 2023 PRP NOFA requesting approximately \$247 million in funding. Staff is currently working on threshold and/or financial feasibility review. The Department intends on making awards in the fall of 2024.

Transitional Aged Youth Programs

The Department administers three Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) programs to serve young adults who are 18 to 24 years of age, secure and maintain housing, with a priority given to young adults formerly or currently in the state's foster care or probation systems. These programs are the Transitional Housing Program (THP), Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program (HNMP), and the Transitional Housing Program -Plus Supplement Program (THP-SUP). The Governor's budget preserved the TAY allocations. The Department anticipates informing partners of their allocations in Fall 2024 and awarding funds in Spring 2025.

California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)

PRA 811 Program

CalHFA currently is the Contract Administrator for the federal PRA 811 Program Project Rental Subsidies for Funding Year 2012 (Round I) and Funding Year 2013 (Round II). This federal program awards funding to states to identify, stimulate, and support successful and innovative state approaches to providing integrated supportive housing for people with disabilities. In February 2024, CalHFA's Asset Management Department in collaboration with Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and CA Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) applied for up to \$8 million in rental subsidies available via Funding Year 2023 (Round IV) NOFO.

On August 14, 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration [announced](#) that CalHFA received one of 18 awards to state Housing Finance Agencies (HFAs) across the nation. Through the Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program, HUD provides funding to develop and subsidize rental housing with the availability of supportive services for very low- and extremely low-income adults with disabilities. CalHFA's \$8 million award will fund approximately 56 units across state agencies.

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. The program is currently scheduled to run until May 31, 2026.

As of March 31, 2024, the total funds disbursed is \$87 million, with over 73,000 households helped since its inception. Currently, the program has 53 active Housing Counseling Agencies with a cumulative total of 433 counselors, an increase of 6.9% from the previous quarter, providing various counseling services.

While these households are getting help on a range of housing-related issues including homebuying and mortgage delinquency, many of these sessions help prevent homelessness. Some of the counselors are equipped to provide guidance that is specially for Californians experiencing homelessness.

The quarterly report, dated March 2024, is available on the CalHFA website: [NMS Program](#).

California Mortgage Relief Program (MRP) The California Mortgage Relief Program is funded by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act's Homeowners Assistance Fund. It aids 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.

As of May 1, the program is no longer accepting new applications and the portal is now closed. The program is continuing to evaluate the final batch of a few hundred applications and will make awards until funds are exhausted, which is expected to be in September 2024. Since its inception, the program has received over 100,000 applications, made more than 37,000 grants, an increase of 2.78 % from the previous quarter, to households, and distributed more than \$903 million with an average assistance of \$24,000 per household.

It is important to note that more than 55% 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 website](#).

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

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
- **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.

The pilot program ends March 31, 2027.

Next Funding Opportunity

Contingent on State Budget.

Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **3,297**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **1,887**
- Employment training services provided: **1,236***
- Education services provided: **586***

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

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.

The program ends December 31, 2026.

Next Funding Opportunity

Contingent on State Budget.

Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **2,172**
- Individuals that received transitional housing: **1,044**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **3,588**
- Rental assistance services provided: **396***

- Employment training services provided: **5,661***
- Education services provided: **5,820***

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

- **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.

The program is ongoing.

Next Funding Opportunity

Non-competitive.

Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,256**
- Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: **19,334***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **77***

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

- **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.

The five-year funding cycle ends September 30, 2027.

Next Funding Opportunity

Late winter/early spring of 2027 for a Grant Subaward performance period beginning October 1, 2027.

Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **3,295**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: **41,464***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,416***

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

- **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.

The five-year funding cycle ends December 31, 2027.

Next Funding Opportunity

Late spring/early summer 2027 for a Grant Subaward performance period beginning January 1, 2028.

Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **5,288**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **99,681***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **3,061***

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

- **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.

The five-year funding cycle ends December 31, 2027.

Next Funding Opportunity

Late spring/early summer 2027 for a Grant Subaward performance period beginning January 1, 2028.

Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **4,858**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **38,180***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **17,967***

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

California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)

DOR works with community partners to improve access to services and 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.

Employment Services & Supports

Los Angeles (LA) County: The DOR Greater Los Angeles District is currently working on a partnership with People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) through their Veteran Employment Liaison Coordinator. PATH's veteran program mandates enrollment in an American Job Center for California (AJCC), where veterans work with a veteran employment specialist. Many of the program participants are interested in enrolling in certification or apprenticeship programs. The program coordinates services with apprenticeship opportunities offered through the Southern California Apprenticeship Network (SCAN), UCLA Extension Certification programs, and Loyola Marymount University certifications for the veterans' community. DOR works with PATH to provide training equipment, including laptops and transportation assistance for participants.

San Bernardino and Riverside Counties: The DOR Inland Empire District is engaged with the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership/Interagency Council on Homelessness and with the youth advisory board working with youth that are experiencing homelessness. Ongoing efforts continue with Riverside County to promote collaborative services for individuals with disabilities. The DOR is also establishing a partnership with Lutheran Social Services of Southern CA which provides 40 different programs related to housing for homeless youth and adults including grants for first and last month's rent and security deposits.

Butte County: The DOR Northern Sierra District, Chico Branch office has a designated staff that provides services for The Jesus Center, Pallet Shelter, True North Shelter, and Oroville Rescue Mission. Due to the Camp Fire in 2018, Dixie fire and now Park fire, Butte County has been impacted resulting in a significant

number of individuals who have been displaced due to the disasters. The DOR staff visit the shelters on a weekly basis to work with individuals with disabilities on career development and employment.

Kern, Fresno, Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin and Tulare Counties: The DOR San Joaquin Valley District partners with Flood Ministries, Fresno Madera Map Point-Poverello House Access Site, Fresno Mission – 24 Hour Emergency Services, Golden State Triage Center, The Welcome Center (Turning Point of CE), The Merced Rescue Mission, The Sierra Saving Grace Homeless Project, and Visalia Wellness Center to support individuals with disabilities who are homeless. The DOR provides employment services while the collaborative partners provide peer support, food, clothing, and other necessities to support individuals to find and maintain stable housing.

Independent Living Services

Assistive Technology Services: Assistive technology (AT) is any object, device, or tool used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities and independence of individuals with disabilities and older adults. AT includes devices and equipment to support eating, bathing, dressing, mobility, and access to information and community support. Access to AT such as ramps, grab bars, adaptive switches, medication dispensers, and smart home devices, to name a few, can be a critical component for individuals with disabilities to find and maintain accessible and affordable housing.

For more information about AT services visit DOR's [AT Website](#) or check out [Ability Tools](#).

California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs Guidance Update

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

CDSS Collaboration in Federal and State Initiatives

CDSS is collaborating with federal partners and other state entities on the All Inside Initiative to strengthen and accelerate local efforts to get unsheltered individuals into homes. This is part of [All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) which set a bold goal to reduce homelessness 25 percent by 2025 and ultimately to ensure that every person has a safe and affordable home.

CDSS is partnering with CHHS, BCSH, DHCS, CDA, DOR, and HCD as well as local community partners on the federal HHS/HUD [Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator](#). The State is leveraging this TA and collaboration opportunity to advance the integration of housing, health, and social services to meet the needs of older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs

CDSS administers funding to grantees 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 2024-25 budget is finalized. The Governor signed the Budget Act of 2024 ([Assembly Bill 107](#)) on June 26, 2024, the Budget Bill Jr. ([Assembly Bill 108](#)) on June 29, 2024, and Human Services Omnibus ([Assembly Bill 161](#)). The 2024 budget package for CDSS Housing and Homelessness programs is summarized below:

- Bringing Families Home Program (BFH):

- Reappropriate up to \$80 million General Fund from the Budget Act of 2022 to be available for use in future budget years. Specifically, up to \$40 million is available through June 30, 2026 and up to \$40 million is available through June 30, 2027.
- Reappropriate Budget Act 2021 funding for use through June 30, 2025.
- Extend the match waiver for remaining funds through June 30, 2027.
- Home Safe Program:
 - Reappropriate Budget Act 2021 funding for use through June 30, 2025.
 - Reappropriate up to \$92.5 million General Fund from the Budget Act of 2022 for use through June 30, 2026.
- Extend the match waiver for the funds through June 30, 2026.
- Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP):
 - Reappropriate Budget Act 2021 funding available for use through June 30, 2025.
 - \$150 million General Fund from the Budget Act of 2022 is reduced by \$50 million and is reappropriated, for a total of \$100 million available for use through June 30, 2026.

Appropriate \$25 million in ongoing, annual funding with a one-year expenditure period through June 30, 2025.

- Remove the local match requirements for \$25 million in ongoing annual funding starting July 1, 2024, and extend the match waiver of one-time funds and waiver of IAR requirements through June 30, 2026.
- CalWORKs Housing Support Program:
 - Reappropriate Budget Act 2021 funding for use through June 30, 2025 (note there is no change to Budget Act 2022 one-time funding, which is also available through June 30, 2025).
 - Appropriate \$95 million in ongoing, annual funding with a one-year expenditure period through June 30, 2025 (note CDSS notified counties of this funding via the [ACWDL dated June 28, 2024](#)).
- Adopt the Governor's Trailer Bill Proposal regarding [Data Sharing to Quantify the Impacts of the Safety Net on the Whole Californian \(HDIS\)](#) to require Cal ICH to share data from the Homeless Data Integration System with Council Members including CDSS in order to evaluate and report point in time and trend data on housing instability for recipients of CDSS programs.
- Adopt the Governor's May Revise Trailer Bill Proposal regarding the [Facility Inclusion for Community Care Expansion Preservation Program](#) to allow CDSS to authorize the use of a legally enforceable agreement in lieu of a deed restriction for certain licensed adult and senior care facilities.

Additional updates related to funding awards and program implementation and expansion are outlined below.
Technical Assistance (TA)

CDSS continues to support the expansion and growth of Housing and Homelessness programs state-wide, based on grantees' needs.

HHD provides TA, in partnership with [the Change Well Project](#), to counties and Tribes operating HHD programs. TA offerings are detailed in the [Change Well Project Activities Report Dashboard](#). These offerings include but are not limited to:

- Individualized support to counties and Tribes operating HHD programs including regular teleconferences and email correspondence to problem solve grantee-specific challenges and improve program efficacy and impact
- Webinars, trainings, and learning collaboratives on evidence-based and housing best practices
- Resources and guidance for implementation of housing and homelessness best practices

HHD also initiated additional statewide grantee calls for the BFH and Home Safe programs this year. The goal of these meeting series is to share relevant policy and data updates to grantees and provide an interactive space to discuss their program successes and challenges.

Tribal Programming and Engagement

On May 10, 2024, CDSS released [All Tribal Leader Letter \(ATLL\) 24-01](#), outlining several distinct policy changes which impact eligibility, services, and programmatic requirements to the Bringing Families Home program (BFH), the Home Safe program and the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), which are pursuant to [AB 120](#) and enumerated in ATLL 24-01.

CDSS sent 65 Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) for final execution to Tribes and tribal entities, and 63 of those MOUs have been executed and signed by CDSS & Tribes. The remaining MOUs will be executed on a rolling basis as they are completed.

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

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

- Since the program's inception in 2014 through December 2023, more than 77,800 families have been served. Of those, over 41,700 were permanently housed through HSP.
- On June 28, 2024, HHD released [ACWDL CalWORKs HSP Planning Allocation Notice for FY 24-25](#) informing All County Welfare Directors of the availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 planning allocations for the CalWORKs HSP program. This ACWDL also outlines a redistribution of \$79.3 million associated with FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23, and FY 2023-24 allocations.
- On July 9, 2024, HHD hosted a webinar for all HSP counties and their representatives to provide an overview of the FY 24-25 Planning Allocation and Redistribution ACWDL released on June 28, 2024.

[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. The CalWORKs HA program is an entitlement program, available to all eligible families applying for or receiving CalWORKs benefits.

- From June 30, 2023 through March 31, 2024, over 43,600 families were approved for temporary HA and over 6,500 families were approved for permanent HA.

[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 the program's inception in 2017 through December 2023, over 7,300 families have been served and over 3,400 families have been permanently housed through BFH.
- As of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24, a total of 53 counties and 25 tribal grantees operate BFH statewide.
- The California Policy Lab and the Children's Data Network, in collaboration with the California Department of Social Services, conducted an evaluation of the BFH program. The evaluation draws data from the pilot program to track families' access to housing services and their rates of program exit for up to a year and their child welfare and housing outcomes for up to 180 days following their BFH enrollment. The following are the key findings from the CA Policy Lab report:
- BFH served a particularly vulnerable and high-need population, even compared to other families involved in the child welfare system.

- Families were not otherwise connecting to the broader homeless response system prior to BFH enrollment.
- Enrollment in BFH reduced the use of emergency shelter and transitional housing by half and doubled the use of rapid re-housing services in the 6 months following program entry.
- Most families (52%) that exited the BFH program by the end of the program's second year exited to permanent housing.
- On July 18, 2024, HHD hosted the fourth meeting of the BFH All Grantee meeting series. This meeting included 3 panelists from programs that recently accepted funding. Panelists discussed some of the successes and barriers to implementing their new BFH programs.

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

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

- Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through December 2023, over 8,400 people have been permanently housed, over 26,900 disability applications have been submitted, and over 4,900 disability applications have been approved.
- As of FY 2023-24, a total of 56 counties and 17 tribal grantees operate HDAP statewide.
- HHD issued additional HDAP tribal allocation letters awarding eight tribes and tribal communities a cumulative total of \$3 million in match required HDAP funding for FY 2023-24.

[Home Safe Program](#)

The Home Safe program supports the safety and housing stability of people involved in [Adult Protective Services \(APS\)](#), individuals in the APS intake process, or those who may be served through a tribe, or tribal entity or agency, who appears to be eligible for adult protective services, and are experiencing or at risk of homelessness for reasons of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation as determined by the adult protective services agency or tribal agency. 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.

- Since Home Safe's inception in 2018 through December 2023, approximately 12,800 people have been served and more than 4,400 instances of housing-related financial assistance were provided. Additionally, over 2,600 people have been connected to the local Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- All fifty-eight counties currently operate a Home Safe Program.

[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. Communities still operating PRK are in the process of determining the appropriate date for closing the program, based on local needs and in consultation with their local emergency and public health departments.

- On May 7th, 2024, Abt Global, contracted by the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, released the [Project Roomkey evaluation](#). The final report highlights the success of PRK in meeting its goals of creating effective, safe non congregate shelter for some of California's most vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness during the peak of the pandemic.

[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 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 through operating subsidies, to existing licensed adult and senior care facilities currently serving SSI/SSP or CAPI recipients but at risk of closing through the CCE Preservation program.

- A total of \$570 million has been made available for the CCE Capital Expansion Program 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.
- To date, CDSS has awarded \$550.71 million across 59 projects that seek to create an additional 3,051 beds or units within licensed residential care facilities, recuperative care sites, and permanent supportive housing.
- CCE Expansion applications are under review and will be funded on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. Awards are posted on the [CCE data dashboard CCE website](#).
- [In addition to the Capital Expansion program funds](#), million in one-time, non-competitive [allocations to 34 counties through the CCE Preservation program](#). Award information, including participating counties, can be viewed on the CCE Preservation page on the [CCE website](#).

California Department of State Hospitals (DSH)

Over the last decade, the State of California has seen significant year-over-year growth in the number of individuals charged with a felony offense who are found Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) and committed to the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH) for competency restoration services. IST defendants are determined by a court to be unable to participate in their trial because they are not able to understand the nature of the criminal proceedings or assist counsel in the conduct of their defense. When the court finds a felony defendant incompetent to stand trial in California, they can be committed to DSH to provide clinical and medical services with the goal of restoring their competency and enabling them to return to court to resume their criminal proceedings. To better understand what was potentially driving the sustained increase in felony IST referrals, DSH partnered with the University of California, Davis to study the IST patients being admitted to Napa State Hospital. One major defining characteristic of this population is that they experience high rates of homelessness. In 2016, approximately 47% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were unsheltered homeless prior to their arrest. Between 2018 and 2020, 65.5% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were homeless (sheltered or unsheltered) prior to arrest. DSH's hypothesis of what is driving this crisis is that individuals with serious mental illnesses, primarily psychotic disorders, are untreated or under-treated in their communities and are experiencing homelessness, leading to increased, repeated involvement with the criminal justice system. Since 2018-19, DSH has worked to expand its continuum of care to provide community-based treatment options, including community-based restoration and diversion, and supporting counties' efforts to increase community treatment options for individuals deemed incompetent to stand trial on felony charges with the goal of breaking the cycle of criminalization for this population that is largely impacted by homelessness. The following are updates on these actions:

- **Community-Based Restoration and Diversion** - The goal of both the CBR and Diversion programs is to effectively and safely treat individuals committed as IST in the community to connect them to meaningful treatment and supportive housing and ultimately disrupt the cycle of homelessness and criminal justice involvement for these individuals. In addition, IST individuals who successfully complete a diversion program have their current charges dropped. Both programs are designed to connect participants into ongoing treatment services in their home community upon discharge from diversion or CBR.
- **Community Based Restoration (CBR)**- In 2018-19 DSH partnered with the Los Angeles County Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR) for the first CBR program for felony incompetent to stand trial (IST) defendants in the state. In this program, ODR subcontracts for housing and treatment services and most IST clients in this program live in unlocked residential settings with wraparound treatment services. The original CBR program provided funding for 150 beds and subsequent investments have increased the program size to 515 beds after the last set of 100 beds activated in November 2021.
- **DSH Felony Mental Health Diversion (Diversion) Pilot Program** – In 2018-19 DSH established the DSH Felony Mental Health Diversion (Diversion) pilot program. Assembly Bill 1810 (Statutes of 2018) established the legal (Penal Code (PC) 1001.35-1001.36) and programmatic (Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) 4361) infrastructure to authorize general mental health diversion and the DSH-funded Diversion program. There are 29 counties across the state that have partnered with the DSH in the Diversion pilot program. As of March 31, 2024, pilot counties have diverted a total of 1,753 individuals.
- **Expanding CBR and Diversion** - The 2022 Budget Act authorized DSH to significantly expand Diversion and CBR and make them permanent, ongoing programs. Once fully implemented, DSH estimates these programs will be able to admit and serve up to 3,000 new felony IST patients annually. DSH is implementing the program over four years and, upon full implementation, will have \$520 million annually to support community-based treatment programming. In Spring 2023, a new contract with Los Angeles County was secured to expand its existing CBR and Diversion programs to support a bed capacity of up to 1,344 beds over a 4-year period. More recently, DSH announced the contracting process with counties in January 2024 and as of July 2024, DSH has received Letters of Interest from 23 counties to transition from the DSH Diversion pilot to the permanent program and 1 non-pilot county to start a new program.

Housing for CBR and Diversion: The 2022 Budget Act authorized \$469 million one-time over two fiscal years to fund the development of approximately 5,000 residential treatment beds in the community to support the IST population served in the Diversion and CBR programs. In the second quarter of 2022-23, DSH engaged with Advocates for Human Potential (AHP) to manage this project. To date, five award letters have been issued to counties for infrastructure projects with proposed bed capacities that range from 30 to 177 beds and two new county applications have been received and are under review. In addition, 3 counties are in the process of applying for a shared regional project, and 15 counties indicated they are considering applying at a future date. In June 2024, DSH extended the county application deadline from June 30, 2024 to October 31, 2024. AHP continues to host one-to-one technical assistance calls and twice monthly open office hours calls with counties to provide technical assistance, answer questions and identify potential barriers.

- **Partner Workgroup Grant Opportunity** - Additional support for county planning is available through DSH's annual \$100,000 Partner Workgroup Grant Opportunity. This grant supports the work of local

behavioral health and justice partner collaboration and planning related to the IST population, including transitioning diversion or CBR clients to longer term or permanent supportive housing and treatment. In FY 2022-23, 33 counties applied for and received the \$100,000 planning grant. In FY 2023-24, eight additional counties have applied for and been approved for the annual planning grant.

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

CTCAC administers programs that address critical needs for the state of California. CTCAC allocates nine percent (9%) and four percent (4%) federal low-income housing tax credits (LIHTCs) 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 state's LIHTC program, which pairs with the federal LIHTCs. These programs are 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.

CDLAC administers the tax-exempt private activity bond program for California. These bonds assist developers of affordable rental housing acquire land and construct new units or purchase and rehabilitate existing units. The bonds are paired with the 4% federal LIHTC and state LIHTC programs.

First Round Four Percent (4%) Credit 2024 Awards (August 6, 2024)

- Annual Federal Credits Awarded: \$193,104,950
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$334,979,165
- Total Bond Allocation: \$2,159,079,809
- Projects Awarded: 61
- Total Number of Units: 6,987 (6,882 affordable)
- Extremely Low-Income Units (Area Median Income at 30% or below): 1846
- Total Number of Units for individuals experiencing homelessness: 840

Upcoming Rounds:

[Second Round 9% credit applications were due July 2, 2024. Awards will be announced on October 2, 2024.](#)

[Second Round 4% credit and tax-exempt bond applications are due on August 27, 2024. Awards will be announced December 11, 2024.](#)

2024 Meeting Schedule and Application Due Dates

[Information on CDLAC 2024 Meetings and Application Due Dates can be found here.](#)

[Information on CTCAC 2024 Meetings and Application Due Dates can be found here.](#)

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Since Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-1-24 on July 25th, Caltrans is working to strengthen its partnerships with local communities and Continuums of Care (CoCs) in an effort to collaborate on long-term

solutions to transition people experiencing homelessness (PEH) from the state right of way to temporary shelter and ultimately permanent supportive housing.

Caltrans met with the Director's Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC) to ensure connections for tribal populations who are sheltering on the state right of way. In an effort to identify Native Americans experiencing homelessness, the Caltrans Office of Homelessness and Encampments (OH&E) has added a layer of tribal populations to a working GIS map and is currently working to add tribal health care facilities.

OH&E was also invited to present at the NAAC quarterly meeting to share information about the office and its District Encampment Coordinators (DECs) who act as the primary point of contact for all encampment removal operations. During the meeting, OH&E staff highlighted policies and procedures regarding encampment removals and clean-only operations as well as best practices being implemented in the field. In addition to the procedural information, OH&E also discussed the work being done to foster relationships with cities, counties, CoCs, and local social service providers to close the gap between removal and re-shelter.

California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)

Veterans Support to Self-Reliance: The Veterans Support to Self-Reliance Pilot is providing enhanced on-site supportive services for veterans who are aging with high-acuity and who reside in permanent supportive housing through six grantees operating throughout the State. Some of the expanded on-site supportive services include skilled nursing care, medication management, Occupational Therapist, Peer Specialists, Service Assistants, and transportation specialists who assist veterans in getting to medical appointments and running errands.

There are currently 395 participants enrolled and receiving these enhanced services. This three-year Pilot just completed its first year of implementation, and the data collected from daily shift logs and quarterly reports illustrates positive results. The goal of this program is to demonstrate that with these enhanced supportive services, and within the construct of Housing First and evidence-based practices, that aging veterans experiencing chronic homelessness can age in place and thrive in community-based housing.

California Veterans Health Initiative Mental Health Support Grant Program: In early May, the Veterans Services Division (VSD) released the \$38 million-dollar California Veterans Health Initiative Mental Health Support (CVHI-MHS) Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability with an application deadline of July 12th. The CVHI-MHS Grant Program provides funding to establish and sustain programs that expand outreach and clinical mental health care in order to reach historically underserved veterans who face various barriers to accessing mental health care.

A total of 19 applications were received from 16 different organizations requesting \$45 million-dollars in grant funding. The VSD staff are reviewing applications with the goal of announcing grant awardees in August. The CVHI-MHS Grant Program is designed to increase access to mental healthcare for California's veterans and their families. For more information on CVHI, visit our [webpage](#).

Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program: On June 13, the grand opening ceremony for Puett Place was hosted by Homeward Bound of Marin in the City of Novato. Puett Place received a VHHP loan of about \$3 million and later received support from Homekey Round 3. The complex includes 24 one-bedroom apartments or units restricted to veterans experiencing homelessness; with 12 of the units restricted to veterans with up to 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI) and 12 of the units restricted to veterans with income up to 50% AMI. Of the 24 units, 12 are supported by HUD-VASH. Each apartment is fully furnished with a bed, sofa, television, dining table, and Homeward Bound will offer daily meals to tenants. Supportive services will be offered to veterans by Homeward Bound of Marin, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and other community partners.

California Workforce Development Board Community (CWDB)

- Met with CDA to work toward building a partnership to address an aging and disabled workforce to mitigate homelessness
- We have \$45M in HRTP/RWF (High Road Training Partnership/ Resilient Workforce) grant funds that will be made available in October- priority populations are always- disadvantaged communities, disabled, reentry, homeless, vets, tribal areas
- HIRE and P2E grants are live, supporting reentry folks across the state. Any reentry folks can go into a One Stop to find out about getting job training, job skills, and supportive services.

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

- On June 27th, USICH Executive Director Jeff Olivet testified in a Congressional hearing by the U.S. House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity on the use of data-driven methods and community collaboration to reduce veteran homelessness. [Click to watch the full hearing](#). Read Director Olivet's opening statement (as prepared), [click here](#).
- [Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing \(RUSH\) Notice](#): HUD Welcomes Public Comments – **Deadline: September 16, 2024**. RUSH grants, awarded under the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) grant program, are made to States or local governments for the purpose of assisting individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, who have been residing in a “declared disaster area” and have needs that are not otherwise served or fully met by existing Federal disaster relief programs. This Notice will streamline the process of allocating awards when responding to future disasters and ensure funding quickly reaches communities in need.
- HUD released [a new set of policy changes to the HUD-VASH](#) (VA Supportive Housing) program. Specifically, HUD is expanding access to HUD-VASH for veterans by:
- Requiring public housing agencies (PHAs) that administer HUD-VASH to set the initial income eligibility for veterans at 80% of Area Median Income, rather than 50% of Area Median Income. The use of this higher initial income eligibility threshold is currently optional and many housing agencies have already adopted the higher threshold, but HUD is now making this increase mandatory.
- Adopting an alternative definition of annual income for applicants and participants of the HUD-VASH program that excludes veterans’ service-connected disability benefits when determining eligibility. This alternative annual income definition could be adopted by other housing subsidy programs to determine income eligibility.

Veterans experiencing homelessness often receive VA benefits as a result of an injury or illness that was acquired or worsened during military service. Before this change, these benefits were considered income when determining eligibility for certain supportive housing developments—causing some veterans to exceed the income threshold for these programs. HUD’s policy changes will help more homeless veterans with service-connected disability benefits gain access to these housing developments.

- USICH [published a blog entry by USAging CEO Sandy Markwood](#): Older Adults and Homelessness: How Continuums of Care and Area Agencies on Aging Can Collaborate
- [Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen announced](#) new efforts to increase the supply of housing, including:

- A new program administered by the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund that will provide an additional \$100 million over the next three years to support the financing of housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income households;
- An effort to provide greater interest rate predictability to state and local housing finance agencies borrowing from the Federal Financing Bank to support new housing development;
- A call to action for the 11 Federal Home Loan Banks—government-sponsored enterprises that play an important role in the housing finance system—to increase their spending on housing programs and devote at least 20% of their net income to housing programs, with a particular focus on new construction;
- A new [“how-to guide”](#) to help state and local governments use State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to increase the supply of housing;
- An updated rule for the Capital Magnet Fund—the CDFI Fund’s existing affordable housing investment program—to provide greater flexibility to CDFIs and nonprofits that finance affordable housing.
- HUD Awards \$3.4M to Prevent or End Homelessness After Foster Care [via FYI \(Foster Youth to Independence\) Initiative](#). California communities that received awards include:
 - Housing Authority of The County of Santa Cruz
 - County of Butte Housing Auth
 - Culver City Housing Authority
 - Housing Authority of The County of Alameda
 - Housing Authority of The City of Pomona
 - City of Roseville
 - Housing Authority of The City of Santa Ana
- HUD recently launched the [CoC Builds NOFO](#): \$175 million in first-of-its-kind funding for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing. This will enable communities to develop new units of rental housing with supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. The application deadline is November 21.
- As part of USICH’s recently released [19 Strategies for Communities to Address Encampments Humanely and Effectively](#), we are highlighting several community spotlights around the nation, including:
 - San Diego County: [Integrating Health Care](#)
 - Las Cruces, New Mexico: [Engaging Neighbors and Businesses](#)
 - Hennepin County, Minnesota: [Housing-Focused Outreach](#)
 - Denver: [Engaging Encampment Residents in Solutions](#)
 - Lane County, Oregon: [Cross-Agency, Multi-Sector Response](#)

USICH encourages additional communities to share their best practices.