



**Department and Federal Partner Updates**

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### **California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)**

Cal ICH would like to welcome the following members to the Council:

- Jennifer Troia, Director of the Department of Social Services
- Christina Snider-Ashtari, Secretary of Tribal Affairs (official start date January 1, 2025)

Cal ICH would like to acknowledge the following members who are leaving the Council and thank them for their contributions:

- Joe Xavier, Director of the Department of Rehabilitation
- Tiena Johnson-Hall, Executive Director of the California Housing Finance Agency
- Rebecca Ruan-O’Shaughnessy, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Support for the California Community Colleges

The Advisory Committee to the Council convened on November 12th, 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"><li>• Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1:00 - 4:00PM</li><li>• Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 1:00-4:00PM</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 1:00-3:00PM</li><li>• Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> 1:00PM-3:00PM</li></ul>

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

### **Statewide Policy and Local Initiatives**

#### *Action Plan*

The final draft of the new Action Plan for calendar years 2025 through 2027 will be presented and proposed to the Council during their meeting on December 3rd. The Council will provide comments and may vote to adopt the Plan with proposed changes. Following the adoption of the Council, the completed Action Plan will be published and publicly available by January 2025.

#### *Housing First*

Cal ICH has identified 38 state 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.

#### Homeless Emergency and Active Readiness Toolkit (HEART)

Cal ICH will be releasing the Homeless Emergency and Active Readiness Toolkit, a collaborative effort by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) interdepartmental emergency preparedness group - Strategies, Tools, and Emergency Preparedness for Unsheltered Populations (STEP-UP), to address the specific needs of people experiencing homelessness during disasters. The toolkit offers valuable resources and tools to assist emergency planning and response agencies and homelessness response system leadership in comprehensively incorporating the needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness into planning efforts before disasters occur.

The goal of this toolkit is to assist local emergency managers and city and county homelessness and housing department leadership, and Continuums of Care by:

- **Creating a shared understanding** of the specific needs of people experiencing homelessness during a disaster or emergency and opportunities for coordination across different entities and services.
- **Informing local partners of respective roles and capacities**, including local emergency planning and response agencies, local public health jurisdictions, county social services agencies, Continuums of Care and homelessness response system leaders, and other community partners.
- **Supporting local interagency collaboration** to create structures and resources for integrating people experiencing homelessness into disaster planning and response efforts.
- **Providing strategies for supporting people experiencing homelessness** during disasters and emergencies.

The toolkit is anticipated to be released on the Cal ICH website this month.

#### **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 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.

Cal ICH is also partnering with Abt Global to provide technical assistance to state-funded homelessness programs that commenced on or after July 1, 2021, to help grantees 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). Technical assistance for these programs is ongoing.

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. In July of 2024, Cal ICH and Abt Global developed data quality reports that state agencies and departments can use to verify that their grantees are complying with AB 977's requirements. Abt Global worked with CalVet, CDSS, HCD, and CCCCO 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 and Abt Global also published a separate data quality tool in September 2024 aimed at supporting HMIS administrators with checking for quality at the point of upload to HDIS.

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

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).

Cal ICH is working to implement SB 914 by gathering input about meaningful goals, barriers, and successful partnerships from Tribes and from a variety of stakeholders including Cal ICH's Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) and other people with lived experience of homelessness, service providers, advocates, and state and local administrators. Cal ICH is also analyzing data that can be used to create meaningful and actionable goals and measures of progress. Cal ICH will set initial goals pursuant to SB 914 by January 1, 2025, and will continue to engage with service providers, local governments, people with lived experience, and informants in state agencies in 2025 and beyond to improve upon these initial 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 half of 2024. Cal ICH also updated the [demographic data](#) posted to the state's open data portal.

Cal ICH presented its third, fourth, and fifth workshops for local HMIS administrators in its HDIS Connect series. The third workshop, held in July, explained how HDIS checks the data that it receives from CoCs for data quality, and how it prepares the data for publication and analysis. The workshop also highlighted the data quality issues that are common in HMIS data, and shared resources for data quality improvement. The fourth workshop, held in September, explained how Cal ICH calculates the California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs), and how data quality and completeness can impact the calculations. The fifth workshop, held in November, focused on the new HDIS CoC Data Quality Dashboard and how it can help improve CoCs' data quality, particularly for AB 977 programs. Cal ICH will continue to develop relationships with HMIS administrators through bi-monthly HDIS Connect workshops, with the next workshop on February 12, 2025.

BCSH approved a Business Use Case Proposal (BUCP) between Cal ICH and the California Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Center for Data Insights and Innovation (CDII). Through this BUCP, Cal ICH initiated the first transfer of HDIS data to CDII in November 2024. This data will be matched with data from the California Department of Social Services and the California Department of Health Care Services, enabling the state to measure social services and health care program take-up among people experiencing homelessness, analyze health care utilization, and measure the impact of safety net programs on housing stability and homelessness. To ensure efficient and successful use of the HDIS data, Cal ICH and contractors from ICF will provide technical assistance to HHS member departments that receive data.

### California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs)

The California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs) are a series of metrics developed by Cal ICH that help the state and CoCs assess their progress toward preventing and ending homelessness. The CA SPMs include six performance measures disaggregated by gender, household type, race, ethnicity and other characteristics. [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 SPMs 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. Cal ICH will release CA SPMs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 before the end of 2024. 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 stakeholder engagement and new code development and will create data visualization dashboards.



## **Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency (BCSH)**

### **Federal All INside Initiative**

Last summer, the White House and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) selected seven jurisdictions across the nation – Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Seattle and the State of California – to participate in the All INside initiative which would facilitate connections to federal partners, technical assistance and regulatory improvements to expedite services and housing for people experiencing homelessness.

As noted in the [September 5<sup>th</sup> update to the Cal ICH State Council](#), to aid in this effort, BCSH organized a California “core team” made up of multiple state entities, including the California Health and Human Services Agency (Cal HHS), Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), the California Department of Veteran Affairs (CalVet), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), California Department of Aging (CDA), California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). California was assigned a Federal Team Lead (FTL) from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) who would serve as the formal conduit to USICH and federal agencies. California’s FTL assisted the California “core team” to develop, forward, track and follow up on requests to multiple federal departments seeking federal waivers, technical assistance, and partnership support.

The All INside initiative is scheduled to sunset at the end of calendar year 2024. California is grateful for the diligent service of California’s FTL, Maxie Pulliam, who worked closely with BCSH throughout this assignment. Here is an update on California’s many collaborations with federal partners:

#### Department of Defense (DoD)

- CalVet received approval and support from the DoD, which allowed CalVet to authorize accredited agents contracted to CalVet to use the Defense Personnel Records Information Retrieval System (DPRIS). This local access to DPRIS will speed up enrollments for Veterans to obtain benefits, healthcare, and services.
- More than 20 accredited agents contracted to CalVet have now used DPRIS resulting in faster verification of eligibility for VA benefits and services.

#### Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)

- CalVet is collaborating with the DOJ’s BOP and the VA to connect California Veterans incarcerated in and exiting Federal Prisons to benefits and services.
- CalVet has developed a plan with the VA’s Veterans Justice Outreach program personnel and BOP liaison to visit and provide in-reach services for Veterans who are preparing for re-entry. Through this joint initiative, CalVet staff will join VA staff to help re-entering Veterans understand the services and benefits that are available to them during and/or after their incarceration. The first joint visit is scheduled for December 2024.
- Concurrently, BOP has agreed to disseminate California Veteran Resource Books to Veterans throughout the nation who will be re-entering communities in California.
- BOP, CalVet and VA will also collaborate on WebEx trainings for BOP staff and Veterans in federal prison.

#### Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)

- On September 30, 2024, California’s FTL, VA, BCSH, Cal ICH, HCD and CalVet organized a virtual Housing First training called “Putting Plans into Practice in California” for housing 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. Link to webinar recording and PowerPoint slides: <https://www.usich.gov/guidance-reports-data/federal-guidance-resources/housing-first-training-putting-plans-practice>

- California's FTL and the VA are finalizing a resource brief on aging Veterans for use by VA staff.

#### Health and Human Services (HHS) – Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- SAMHSA, via a contract with Homebase, provided four months of technical assistance to help update HCD's property management plan (PMP) and toolkit, which incorporates tenant screening and Housing First practices for permanent supportive housing and extremely low-income units. PMPs provide for good stewardship of properties by streamlining both sponsor development and HCD approval of PMPs to serve priority populations. Ultimately, PMPs help residents retain housing.
- Homebase created a template PMP that may be used across HCD's programs, and provided PMP guidance for HCD staff, applicants, and grantees, including best practices for successfully implementing a PMP.

#### Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department

- HCD sought a "mega-waiver" that would offer maximum flexibilities to improve housing opportunities for persons experiencing homelessness without Congress having to act to change the programs rules for HUD grants administered by HCD:
- Waiver of statewide fair market rent (FMR) for HUD Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) administered by HCD to allow local homeless service providers the ability to access units where rents are currently higher than FMR permits. Providers will still need to verify that the rent is reasonable.
- The HUD San Francisco Field Office is reviewing and working with HUD Headquarters on the FMR waiver. Once HCD receives approval, HCD will document the process so they can submit a waiver each year for areas where they see the FMR is varying significantly from local market rents.
- Extension in time period of HUD ESG rental assistance administered by HCD from 24 months to 36 months to ensure that people who have been housed can stay housed. Because of increases in rental costs and the extremely low level of income of people who were formerly homeless, it can be difficult for them to pay the rent and utilities without rental assistance. This extension would allow a longer period to identify alternative sources of rental support or for the tenant to gain more resources to be able to pay the rent themselves.
- The HUD Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPs) office provided information on the types of documentation needed to support a request for increase in the term for rental assistance under the Emergency Solutions Grant program administered by HCD. With this information, HCD can work with the California Continuums of Care to develop waiver requests on a case by case basis as warranted by local need.
- Authority to extend HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) rental and utility payments from 3 months to 6 months, so that homeless service providers in rural California will have an additional resource to help them house and stabilize persons experiencing homelessness. The CDBG program is important to rural communities in California and is often used to support the provision of homeless services.
- The HUD Office of Block Grant Assistance provided guidance for the implementation of the CDBG request. HCD is updating their policies and procedures and will be able to roll this out with the next round of NOFA awards. This will allow significant flexibility for the State to determine how many months of HCD-administered CDBG-funded emergency grant payments can be made.
- California is mapping out the pathway to include disasters in the next five-year (2025-2029) Federal Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) which sets forth goals and objectives for the use of over \$500 million

in HUD funding. As part of that plan, HCD plans to incorporate language to allow the state to deviate from the Con Plan in the event of a nationally- or state-declared disaster. This allows HCD to utilize non-Disaster Recovery resources to address needs in a timely manner, such as modifying their method of delivery.

- HCD is working with HUD to include disasters (state and federal declarations) and CDBG-Disaster Recovery (DR) allocations in their Con Plan, as well as their Annual Action Plan (AAP).
- The 2024-2025 AAP has been approved by HUD and the Con Plan is in development.

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and HUD

- 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.
- On September 16, 2024, California provided coordinated public comment from HCD, CalOES and CDSS in response to HUD's recent notice on Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (RUSH) funding.
- The most significant comment relates to California's position that RUSH funding should not be tied to the activation of FEMA's Transitional Sheltering Assistance program (TSA). TSA is rarely approved by FEMA for non-hurricane disasters which creates inequity in access to RUSH assistance for other equally impactful and regularly occurring disasters such as wildfires. HUD should broaden the eligibility criteria so that disaster events can be analyzed on a case by case basis by the need for housing assistance for underserved and vulnerable communities rather than the activation of a specific FEMA program.

#### General Services Administration (GSA), HUD and HHS

- HCD had several conversations with GSA to explore opportunities to include Federal excess land in the California excess sites database, including VA-owned sites and assets, and currently available sites held by United States Postal Service and other agencies. HCD also sought guidance on navigating the disposition process for agencies with independent statutory disposition authority that may not require GSA assistance or approval prior to disposition.
- California is 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.

#### Department of Transportation (DOT)

- BCSH and CalSTA had multiple conversations with the U.S. DOT regarding the Transportation Infrastructure and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Program and Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing (RRIF) Program to understand the real estate requirements for TIFIA/RRIF low-interest federal loans as a part of California's ongoing efforts to make public land available for affordable housing development and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD).
- BCSH and CalSTA staff met with DOT, presenting California's project "pipeline" and options to streamline multiple projects on State-owned property through one process, including:
- DOT passing funds through to California via one consolidated award, and
- California evaluating projects and providing Technical Assistance to be ready to apply.
- Through an initial review of State-owned property, California estimates 7 developments could yield approximately 750-1000 units of transit-oriented housing. After navigating a first round of projects, California could explore potential for locally owned land.
- DOT staff expressed interest in exploring multiple California projects applying together to streamline efforts and indicated they would be able to discuss further after November 2024. California stands



ready to strategize and explore efforts to leverage federal financing to address California’s housing needs with DOT in the upcoming year.

### **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)**

#### Housing & Homelessness Workgroup

CDPH's intradepartmental Housing & Homelessness Workgroup has created an informational flyer about the Point in Time (PIT) count. It will be sent out to all CDPH employees to encourage them to volunteer in their community. In addition, we will be hosting our 5<sup>th</sup> educational event in January. The topic is *Harm Reduction*.

### **Air Filtration Project**

CDPH used some remaining grant funding 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. As of late October:

- 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 been distributed.

We are partnering with researchers at UCLA to analyze the health impact this project has on people experiencing homelessness. A baseline survey has been sent out to the northern California shelters and we have had over a 50% response rate.

We are also partnering with scientific staff from our Environmental Health Laboratories Branch to plan a pilot study of placing physical indoor air quality monitors in small number of congregate homeless shelters (3-4 sites). The aims of this pilot are to gain a greater understanding of indoor air quality (e.g., particulate matter concentration) in the shelter environment and the uptake, usage, and impacts of portable air cleaner units.

### **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 will be sent to Cal HHS for approval.

### **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 (CHSI).
- 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.

- November 2024: Resubmitting BUCP with some modification requested by CHSI and OHE scientific leadership.

### **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.
- November 2024: Activity with CDPH directorate, being incorporated into larger data governance and data centralization efforts at CDPH.

### **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 stakeholder engagement:

**Modernizing California's Aging Network:** The department led a robust, year-long stakeholder process known as California 2030 that resulted in a final report and agenda for action: More than 250 stakeholders 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 stakeholders who informed the project. The California Commission on Aging sponsored legislation, [SB 1249 \(Roth\)](#) to advance key recommendations in the [CA 2030 report. The bill was signed into law, Chapter 337, Statutes of 2024.](#)

**CA For All Ages & Abilities: 2024 Master Plan for Aging Day of Action:** On October 8, 2024, CDA, with support from the Master Plan for Aging (MPA) philanthropic partners, hosted the second CA for ALL Ages & Abilities: 2024 Master Plan for Aging Day of Action. This biannual event brought together the six MPA Stakeholder Committees, philanthropic partners, community partners, state and federal leaders, consumers, and legislative partners to celebrate accomplishments and reaffirm our collective commitment to advancing the MPA. U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra, a California native, delivered an inspiring keynote on keeping the person at the center of all we do. With more than 1,200 in-person and online participants, many voices were amplified to inform the development of the 2025-26 MPA initiatives and discuss a future built for Californians of all ages and abilities. Housing, specifically ending and preventing older adult homelessness, was a key priority elevated by stakeholders. CDA will be engaging state partners to build out recommendations for 2025-26.

### **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.

### Stakeholder Engagement

The following stakeholder committees continue to address housing and homelessness:

- The [Implementing the Master Plan for Aging in California Together](#) (IMPACT) Stakeholder Committee continues to elevate the need for affordable, accessible housing linked with needed health care and supportive services. Further, the Committee has advocated for more targeted investments to meet the needs of older adults and people with disabilities, and they hope to see more explicit allocations. 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](mailto:sarah.steenhausen@aging.ca.gov).

**California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)**

**CDCR’s Quarterly Progress Report for the FY 2023-24 CallCH Action Plan November 2024 Update**

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)	November 2024 Quarterly Update (due to CallCH on November 15, 2024)
1.4.4	Address the employment needs of people transitioning from State Prison, including those who receive housing under the Returning Home Well initiative, by connecting them to local employment resources, such as leveraging the workforce partnership and Prison to Employment initiative, and linking them to Department of Rehabilitation programs. This could include the provision of Workforce Development Board stipends (if applicable.)	Outcome Measures: Report the following metrics on a data dashboard: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of training and employment secured post-release;</li> <li>• Training participation during incarceration; and</li> <li>• Employment duration and retention measures</li> </ul>	CDCR incorporate employment data into the new <a href="#">Parole Population Housing Dashboard</a> . 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.
3.9.11	Implement the Returning Home Well initiative to expand interim housing options for people transitioning from corrections settings up to one year of release.	Outcome Measure: Increased community capacity to provide interim housing options to target population. Output Measures: Demographics and other information regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• population served;</li> <li>• duration between release and housing placement;</li> <li>• duration of housing placement.</li> <li>• Additional measures, as identified.</li> </ul>	For CDCR Returning Home Well data, see table below, entitled “CDCR Returning Home Well Quarterly Report, Fiscal Year 2023-24.”

3.9.15	Explore potential opportunities for CDCR and their contracted providers to directly refer individuals releasing from State Prison who are at risk of homelessness and who are on parole and become homeless to existing, applicable programs to address housing needs. Specific emphasis will be made to explore connections to housing resources for the American Indian / Alaska Native population.	Outcome Measure: TBD (based on available and applicable housing programs.)	CDCR's Division of Rehabilitation (DRP), Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) and California Department of Social Services (CDSS) staff are continuing to meet to explore linkages for 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.
4.11.8	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.	<b>Process Measure:</b> Verify participants are provided with information regarding housing first during program orientations.	The contractual requirements related to Housing First are now being monitored through CDCR's Program Accountability Review process.
5.14.2	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.	<b>Process Measure:</b> Documentation of consultation efforts and of modifications to policies and practices being implemented in response to findings.	CDCR's Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO), Behavioral Health Reintegration (BHR) clinicians 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 staff are now tracking and almost complete with the electronic application that is being developed for more enhanced data collection and reporting to 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 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 <a href="#">CCJBH website</a> .
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.	<b>Outcome Measure:</b> TBD (based on pilot program requirements).	On October 31, 2024, HCD released the <a href="#">Notice of Funding Availability</a> for the HOME-ARP Reentry Pilot Project, with applications due on December 31, 2024.
5.14.6	Track CDCR pre-release and community referrals that are facilitated by CDCR's Specialized Treatment for Optimized	<b>Potential Output Measures:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of people identified as homeless;</li> </ul>	As of October 31, 2024, there were 3,541 unhoused parolees (sheltered+ unsheltered).



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	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of referrals to housing;</li> <li>• Number of individuals placed in housing;</li> <li>• Type of housing placements;</li> <li>• Duration of housing placements.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: metrics for this activity are related to referrals to the housing programs mentioned above.</i></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."
5.14.6	Analyze existing data, which could include interdepartmental data matches, to better understand the scale of risks for homelessness among people preparing to exit prison settings.	<b>Process Measure:</b> Document findings from analyses.	CDCR released a new <a href="#">Parole Population Housing Dashboard</a> to track housing needs for individuals who are under CDCR DAPO supervision. In addition, CDCR drafted a Business Use Case Proposal (BUCP) to establish a data match between CDCR and CallCH to assess the extent to which individuals leaving CDCR are served by local Continuums of Care (CoCs). CDCR and CallCH are working to schedule a meeting to finalize the BUCP so it may be routed for approvals.
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.	<b>Process Measure:</b> 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 CallCH'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 continues to collaborate with CoCs. In addition, CallCH and CDCR are in collaboration to develop and present a webinar to both CoCs and STOP providers on identifying ways to work together to serve the releasing population. The webinar will be presented in January 2025.
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.	<b>Process Measure:</b> 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 CallCH and the CoCs.

**CDCR Returning Home Well Quarterly Report Fiscal Year 2024-25**

	Q1 (7/1/24-9/30/24)	Q2 (7/1/24-12/31/24)	Q3 (7/1/24-3/31/25)	Q4 (7/1/24-6/30/25)
RHW data for FY 24/25				

Population Served	647			
Average Days Between Release and Housing Placement	45			
Average Days Spent in Housing Placement	76.4			

**CDCR Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming Quarterly Report Fiscal Year 2024-25**

<b>STOP data for FY 24/25</b>	<b>Q1 (7/1/24-9/30/24)</b>	<b>Q2 (7/1/24-12/31/24)</b>	<b>Q3 (7/1/24-3/31/25)</b>	<b>Q4 (7/1/24-6/30/25)</b>
Referrals to Housing*	2,187			
Individuals Placed in Housing *	3,240			
Average Days Spent in Housing Placements* *	70.7			
FOTEP	69.7			
LRT	49.4			
RRH	80.4			

\*Note: Referrals to Housing is a count of all referrals to housing placements made in the specified time period.

Individuals Placed in Housing is a count of unique individuals who received housing placements within the specified time period. These are not intended to be connected.

\*\* Type of Housing Placements – Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program, Licensed Residential Treatment, and Recovery and Reentry Housing (includes RHW).

**California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)**

**PATH Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion, and Development (CITED) Round 4 Application**

On January 6, DHCS will open the PATH CITED Round 4 application window. The PATH CITED initiative provides funding to build the capacity and infrastructure of on-the-ground partners, including community-based organizations, hospitals, county agencies, Tribes, and others, to successfully participate in Medi-Cal. The deadline to apply for CITED Round 4 funding is 11:59 p.m. PST on March 7, 2025. The application preview and guidance document are forthcoming.

**Medi-Cal Coverage of Traditional Healers and Natural Helpers**

On October 16, DHCS announced that the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the state’s request to cover Traditional Healer and Natural Helper Services in the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System, which will expand access to culturally based substance use disorder (SUD) treatment

services for eligible Medi-Cal members accessing this care through Indian Health Services facilities, Tribal health clinics, and Urban Indian organizations.

Traditional healers may use an array of interventions, including music therapy (such as traditional music and songs, dancing, and drumming), spirituality (such as ceremonies, rituals, and herbal remedies), and other integrative approaches. Natural helpers may assist with navigational support, psychosocial skill building, self-management, and trauma support to restore the health of Medi-Cal members receiving care from Indian Health Care Providers. Read [what they're saying](#) about this historic approval.

### **DHCS Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative Goes Live**

On October 1, DHCS [launched](#) the Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative, which is designed to provide a targeted suite of medical and mental health services for youth and adults in state prisons, county jails, and youth correctional facilities in the 90 days prior to their release, aiming to ensure a smoother transition and improving overall well-being and public health outcomes. Three counties – Inyo, Santa Clara, and Yuba – were approved as of October 1 to begin delivering Medi-Cal services to people returning to communities after incarceration. Additional counties will begin offering services in early 2025.

California is the first state in the nation to receive federal approval and implement this historic initiative. For those eligible, a care manager will be assigned—either in-person or via telehealth—to establish a relationship with the individual, understand their health needs, coordinate vital services, and make a plan for community transition. The Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative is designed to help stabilize chronic and significant clinical health conditions, including mental illness and substance use disorders, and to facilitate a coordinated reentry to support smoother transitions and improve public health. Further, the Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative aims to close equity gaps and improve health outcomes for people who are or have been incarcerated.

DHCS worked closely with its implementation partners, including the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, county jails and probation, county behavioral health and social services, Medi-Cal managed care plans, community-based providers, and Tribal partners, to launch the Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative. Correctional facilities have the flexibility to determine their go-live dates between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2026, and will be subject to a DHCS readiness review process before they can launch.

### **DHCS Awards \$147 Million to Help Medi-Cal ECM and Community Supports Providers Statewide**

On August 30, DHCS [awarded \\$146.6 million to 133 community providers](#) throughout California that provide 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 supporting community providers' capacity to partner with MCPs and participate in the Medi-Cal delivery system. ECM and Community Supports are essential to Medi-Cal transformation, serving the highest-need MCP members with in-person care coordination, housing assistance, and other vital services, leading to a more equitable health system that works for all Californians. For more information, visit the [PATH website](#).

### **DHCS Streamlining Access to ECM**

DHCS is streamlining and improving access to ECM by standardizing referrals and expediting the authorization process. DHCS worked extensively with stakeholders to develop statewide [ECM Referral Standards](#) and an updated [ECM presumptive authorization policy](#) (page 107). For full details on the policy and eligible ECM providers, please see the [updated ECM Policy Guide](#). The standards and policy take effect on January 1, 2025, and MCPs are currently operationalizing the new guidance. This adds to a series of DHCS reforms to streamline access to ECM and Community Supports outlined in the 2023 ECM/Community Supports [Action Plan](#).

Stakeholders may also direct questions about the new guidance to [CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov).

## **Behavioral Health Transformation Update**

DHCS opened the public comment period for the first module of the Behavioral Health Transformation Policy Manual (Policy Manual). This module contained the draft guidance for various BHT policies including Housing Interventions. The public comment period ran through December 2, 2024. Opening the public comment period for Policy Manual Module 1 marked the initial release of DHCS' new software solution for managing policy and paves the way for future modules to be released in the same manner. The Policy Manual will be released in multiple phases, called modules. A public comment period will accompany the release of each module. Feedback from the public will be collected and compiled for analysis to identify common themes, concerns, and actionable recommendations.

## **California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)**

### **Division of Federal Financial Assistance Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG)**

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds a variety of activities to address homelessness, including rapid re-housing, homeless prevention, street outreach, and emergency shelter.

- Under the 2023 ESG Homelessness Prevention (HP) NOFA released in September 2023, six ESG applicants were awarded \$1,039,310. This funding was made available from disencumbered funds from the 2020 annual ESG HUD allocation. All six grantees achieved outcomes, expending and requesting reimbursements, totaling \$846,186. Over the span of this six-month grant period, 125 households and 260 adults and children were served with ESG funds. All six contracts expired on September 7, 2024. Funding that was not awarded or expended has been disencumbered and HCD will propose to HUD that these funds be rolled into the 2024 ESG NOFA. A remediation plan to expend the remaining funds has been developed and will be submitted to the HUD field office by mid-November.
- As of November 1, 2024, all 60 Standard Agreements for the approximately \$12 million in 2023 ESG awards have routed for execution and 41 are fully executed.
- The 2022 ESG contracts' expenditure deadline was November 7, 2024. Grantees have currently drawn down approximately 54% of the total award, however, HCD is awaiting the final Requests for Funds before the contracts expire on December 27, 2024. It is typical for grantees to make large draws at the end of the grant period.
- The 2024 ESG Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is simultaneously routing and is anticipated to be released in December 2024, upon Agency approval of the Guidelines, with applications due in April 2025.
- The ESG Team is holding bi-weekly office hours to provide program updates, conduct trainings and answer questions. Their most recent two office hours sessions sought feedback from Continuums of Care on the HUD 5-Year Consolidated Plan currently being drafted and provided an overview of the ESG Program Guidelines which will govern the upcoming December NOFA and the program design going forward. Attendance was robust, with at least 60 individuals in attendance.

ESG provides funding to: engage individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness; improve the number of and quality of emergency shelters for individuals and families experiencing homelessness; help operate these shelters; provide essential services to shelter residents; rapidly re-house individuals and families; and prevent families/individuals from becoming homeless.

### **Emergency Solutions Grants CARES Act (ESG-CV)**

Authorized by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act enacted March 27, 2020, Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) funds prevent, prepare for, and respond to

coronavirus among individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or receiving homelessness assistance.

- As of October 31, 2024, 100 percent of the \$319 million ESG-CV grant has been drawn. Final Request for Funds were due by May 31, 2024. Funding expired on June 30, 2024.
- As of October 31, 2024, a total of 100,054 individuals and 80,362 households have been assisted across multiple components, including emergency shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and homelessness prevention.

### **Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV)**

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

- Construction continues on the CDBG-CV Homekey projects. dates vary, with some projects already complete and some scheduled for completion by March 2025. In November 2023, the CDBG-CV team published an opportunity for CDBG-CV grantees who were awarded funds for construction projects, but who had experienced unanticipated cost increases to come in for funding augmentation to their existing awards. Applications for these additional funds were due April 15, 2024. Grantees could request augmentation that will bring their total award amount to 125% of the original amount, more if they had experienced extenuating circumstances and could substantiate the additional needed funds. HCD received 26 requests.
- The requests totaled more than \$20 million which exceeds the approximately \$15 million available. All requests have been reviewed and 25 of the 26 are receiving an award for the amount requested. One remaining request is pending approval, as HCD has several contracts that are in the process of closing out, and funds are being disencumbered. These disencumbered funds may be able to fund the remaining request.
- HCD has been providing individualized technical assistance to CoCs and units of local government to use CDBG-CV funding to aid in the ramp down of ESG-CV programs as funding is exhausted. Grantees have been encouraged to use this resource available from HUD: [Using CDBG Funds for ESG-CV-Eligible Activities - HUD Exchange](#)

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

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 October 2024, HCD launched 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. 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. Seven projects were awarded in 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. Six programs were awarded in June 2024, and one additional program is anticipated to be awarded in December 2024/January 2025. The Housing Plus Support Program Standard Agreement Boilerplates are currently in the final stages of legal review and are expected to be routing by early December 2024.
  - In addition, a series of training sessions are being developed for Housing Plus Support Program grantees to guide them through the process and support them in the implementation phase. Starting in December 2024, the Housing Plus Support Program team will also begin holding open office hours to address any questions, provide clarification, and support grantees as they move forward with program implementation.
- **HOME-ARP Reentry Pilot Project**—In collaboration with the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, the HOME-ARP team is implementing 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 released the Reentry NOFA on October 31, 2024 and applications are due December 31, 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.

Earlier this year, 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 (not required) 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 the Project Solicitation. There are also two Tribal applications. 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 April 2025. The Tribal applicants are working with multiple Department funding programs and are primarily focused on completing their Homekey applications given the Homekey accelerated schedule. Thereafter, the Tribal applicants will reallocate their resources to the NHTF applications.

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 Rounds One and Two 2024 awards, seven (7) of the 12 NHTF assisted projects received 9% tax credits. The five (5) remaining NHTF assisted projects will apply for additional gap financing and Project Based Vouchers (PBV), and reapply for 9% tax credits in 2025. In Round One 2024, one (1) of the six (6) NHTF assisted projects received 4% tax credits and MRB. The remaining five (5) NHTF assisted projects have applied for Round Two and the results will be determined during the Committees' meetings scheduled on December 11, 2024. Program staff will provide an update in the quarterly report after the Committees' vote on allocations. The following chart summarizes the eight (8) projects that have closed or are preparing to close on construction financing and break ground within the next six months.

**Summary of NHTF Projects Awarded Tax Credits/MRB:**

Project Name	HHC/NHTF Loan and Grant	NHTF Loan	HHC/NHTF Homeless <sup>1</sup> Units	Total Units	Start of Construction	Target Construction Completion	County
20 <sup>th</sup> Street <sup>2</sup>	\$20,400,000	\$14,752,796	34	78	2/2025	2/2028	Los Angeles
300 Alamos	\$0	\$13,626,765	27	82	12/2024	12/2027	Los Angeles
Eureka Scattered Sites <sup>3</sup>	\$0	\$15,035,126	25	90	5/2025	5/2028	Humboldt
El Dorado Haven	\$0	\$6,218,672	14	65	12/2024	12/2027	El Dorado
Maple Meadows I	\$0	\$8,693,536	20	80	5/2025	5/2028	Madera
The 101	\$0	\$13,500,000	27	52	5/2025	5/2028	Los Angeles
The Garvey	\$6,700,000	\$14,800,000	37	75	5/2025	5/2028	Los Angeles
Willowbrook III	\$0	\$8,000,000	16	51	12/2024	12/2027	Los Angeles
Subtotal – Homeless Projects	<b>\$27,100,000</b>	<b>\$79,591,769</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>483</b>			
Subtotal – Non-Homeless Projects	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$15,035,126</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>90</b>			

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,100,000</b>	<b>\$94,626,895</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>573</b>			
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Legend:

<sup>1</sup>Homeless 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.

<sup>2</sup>20<sup>th</sup> Street project includes HHC units that serve households experiencing Chronic Homelessness or Homelessness who are also high-cost health users.

<sup>3</sup>Eureka Scattered Sites project does not include Homeless Units.

**Division of Housing Policy Development** On July 1, 2024, administration of the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) program, Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF), and Family Homelessness Challenge (FHC) program transferred to HCD.

**Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program**

In July 2024, HCD launched the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP) fiscal dashboard, reflecting current obligation and expenditure progress for every HHAP grantee, for every HHAP round, based on the most recent fiscal reports submitted to HCD. In October, HHAP fiscal reporting frequency increased to monthly, so the dashboard now displays data reported monthly by grantees, with about a month lag to allow for reporting and the dashboard refresh process. The monthly fiscal reporting frequency was a new accountability measure mandated by [AB 166, and increases the transparency of HHAP obligation and expenditure data.](#)

**HHAP Round 5:** The first batch of awards was made on October 17, 2024, representing the first HHAP awards made since the transition of the program to HCD. The remaining five awards will continue to be made as they are approved.

**Tribal Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (Tribal HHAP) Program**

Applications for Round 3 of Tribal HHAP were due on June 28, 2024. HCD received 37 applications for approximately \$121 million, with \$20 million available in funding. After reviewing applications in October, HCD allocated the \$20 million in Tribal HHAP funding and issued conditional awards to the tribes. Those Tribes are now working closely with HCD and Tribal technical assistance providers to finalize their program activities and budgets. Once finalized and approved, tribes will receive their full award and begin this important work. Technical assistance will continue to be available to support tribes throughout the implementation process.

**Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF)**

HCD made [20 awards](#) for over \$130 million for Round 3 Rolling, Window 2 on September 27, 2024. ERF is a competitive grant program that must meet rigorous standards to receive an award. These projects will provide stable, safe housing for individuals living in encampments in their respective communities and will assist individuals living in encampments with compassion and dignity by providing a range of housing solutions: permanent housing; interim housing for individuals seeking coordinated entry system resources or housing vouchers; housing navigation services and rapid rehousing subsidies; support for accessing permanent housing by providing security deposits and other moving expenses; and allowing awardees to acquire property for housing.

HCD is currently reviewing the applications received for Round 3 Rolling, Window 3 and aims to make these awards before the end of the year. Any remaining funds after this final batch of Round 3 Rolling awards will be made available in a new NOFA.

**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 slightly increase as Homekey expects to award the final project under the Round 3 NOFA soon.

- 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 November 19, 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](#)

### **Homekey+**

The NOFA for Homekey+ will be released by HCD in November 2024, with the application period to open in January 2025. 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, which will be administered under a program called Homekey+. Homekey+ will fund permanent supportive housing for individuals, or households including an individual, with a behavioral health challenge. Under Homekey+, \$1.033 billion will be used to fund permanent supportive housing for Veterans, or households with a Veteran, who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness with a behavior health challenge, and \$807 million for permanent supportive housing for people, or households with a person, who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness with a behavioral health challenge.

An additional amount of approximately \$307 million will be released with the Proposition 1 bond funding (within the same NOFA) for people, or households including a person, who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness with a behavioral health challenge, totaling approximately \$1.11 billion for this population. The additional funding is derived from Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Homekey Supplemental funding appropriated by AB 129 (2023) and AB 166 (2024). The remainder of the bond funding will be administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and will create a variety of treatment facilities along the behavioral health continuum.

### **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 withdrew 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 ten award recommendations, totaling almost \$71 million.
- If awarded, one pending application will exhaust remaining funds. The HKT application portal is now closed.
- HKT and CIAP hosted the second annual HCD Tribal Finance Workshop, November 13-14, 2024. The virtual workshop had over 60 registered attendees.

- HKT will release the Tribal Homekey+ NOFA in late November. In-person and virtual NOFA Workshops will be hosted in January 2025.

### **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).

A third round of MFSN program funds is expected to be released in early 2025. The NOFA publication date is undetermined and currently under review.

### **Tribal Multifamily Finance Super Notice of Funding Availability (MFSN)**

HCD will release its first Tribal-specific MFSN NOFA in early 2025. This NOFA provides Tribal Applicants the opportunity to apply for any combination of the available funding programs at the same time and within the same round. This NOFA makes funds more easily accessible to Tribal Entities and provides flexible options to address the unique needs of Tribal communities to achieve better outcomes in health, climate, and household stability.

- The \$54 million NOFA includes program funds from the Multifamily Housing Program and the Infill Infrastructure Grants Program.
- The Draft NOFA will be posted in November. An in-person listening session was hosted on November 16, 2024, and a virtual session is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The final NOFA will be released in early 2025.

### **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 \$1,908,331,963 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 \$838,182,376 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 September 30, 2024, there were 123 completed projects, and 84 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). All 29 applications have executed standard agreements. 22 projects have started construction and will complete rehabilitation in 6-18 months. An additional 6 projects are anticipated to begin construction by December 31, 2024. One project has completed construction and is anticipated to close permanent funding by December 31, 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. HCD received 26 applications for the 2023 PRP NOFA requesting approximately \$247 million in funding. Four applications have been approved for funding by HCD's Internal Loan Committee (ILC), three applications are pending approval by ILC, three applications are being underwritten and ten applications did not pass minimum threshold requirements. Since the program was oversubscribed, six applications could not be funded. Staff is continuing to underwrite the final three applications and processing Standard Agreements for the approved applications. The Department intends on making awards by December 31, 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.

On September 30, 2024, program staff received stakeholder approval to finalize the TAY program fund allocations and reallocations for all three programs. These stakeholders were the State Department of Social Services (CDSS), the Department of Finance (DOF), the County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA), and John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY). On October 9, 2024, Program staff released the invitation to accept the allocations. Counties had until November 8, 2024, to accept their allocations. The Department anticipates 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 June 30, 2024, the total funds disbursed is \$94.6 million, with nearly 79,000 households helped since its inception. Currently, the program has 53 active Housing Counseling Agencies with a cumulative total of 433 counselors.

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 June 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.

The program is in its final wind down stage and had made its final grant awards. Since its inception, the program has received over 100,000 applications, made more than 37,000 grants to households, and distributed more than \$907 million with an average assistance of \$24,000 per household.

It is important to note that more than 56% of the funds have gone to socially disadvantaged communities, with 15% of the assisted households identifying as Black/African American and 37% identifying as Hispanic or Latino.

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 nine 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
- Domestic Violence Assistance (DV) Program
- Human Trafficking Victim Assistance (HV) Program
- Native American Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DS) 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, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **1,618**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **197**
- Employment training services provided: **170\***
- Education services provided: **90\***

\*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, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that received emergency shelter: **626**

- Individuals that received transitional housing: **251**
- Individuals that received stabilization planning services: **1,241**
- Rental assistance services provided: **123\***
- Employment training services provided: **276\***
- Education services provided: **647\***

\*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, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **902**
- Individuals that received emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing: **4,928\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **32\***

\* 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, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **770**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services provided: **6,908\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **356\***

\* 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, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **1,279**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **21,793\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **1,244**

\*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, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **1,051**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **7,207\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,166\***

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

### **Domestic Violence Assistance (DV) Program – State & Federally Funded**

The purpose of the DV Program is to provide local assistance for comprehensive support services to existing domestic violence providers throughout California, including emergency shelter to victims/survivors of domestic violence and their children.

#### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive.

#### **Statistics (July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**



- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: **4,230**
- Emergency shelter/safe house/transitional housing services (i.e., nights) provided: **70,183\***
- Relocation assistance services provided: **2,160\***

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

### **Human Trafficking Victim Assistance (HV) Program – State Funded**

The 2023 State Budget Act allocated \$27 million to continue funding 31 existing Subrecipients under the HV Program. The purpose of the HV Program is to help human trafficking victims/survivors (sex trafficking and labor trafficking) recover from the trauma they experienced and assist them with reintegrating into society through comprehensive safety and supportive services using a trauma-informed, culturally sensitive, victim/survivor-centered approach.

#### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Contingent on State Budget.

#### **Statistics (July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024) \*\*Data is not yet available**

- Individuals that self-reported as homeless: \*\*
- Individuals that received emergency shelter: \*\*
- Individuals that received temporary housing/housing assistance: \*\*

### **Native American Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DS) Program – Federally Funded**

The purpose of the DS Program is to provide supportive services to Native American women and their children, who are victims/survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. Supportive services may include shelter, counseling, court accompaniment, and advocacy.

The program is ongoing.

#### **Next Funding Opportunity**

Non-competitive.

#### **Statistics (July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024)**

- Individuals that received shelter: 10
- Individuals that received emergency food and/or clothing: 25

### **California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)**

#### **Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)**

DOR works with community partners and stakeholders to improve access to services, supports, employment, and community-based living for people with disabilities. DOR works on the local level to support people with disabilities including those who are homeless and are important partners for No Wrong Door coordination of services. As a social determinate of health, employment can be a critical path out of homelessness.

#### **Employment Services & Supports**

**DOR Community Resource Navigators:**

In 2024, DOR introduced Community Resource Navigators across California. These Navigators work closely with DOR Rehabilitation Service Delivery Teams and Community Partners to assess consumer needs and provide direct support to help consumers navigate service delivery systems for which they may qualify, including housing and homeless services.

Using a wraparound service delivery model, Community Resource Navigators collaborate with both internal and external partners to identify resources that promote consumer independence and support their employment goals. This role may also focus on enhancing the quality and collaboration of services for unserved and underserved populations.

**Redwood Empire District:**

DOR utilizes Community Resource Navigators to assist consumers with disabilities who are unhoused and live in Sonoma, Napa, Shasta, Tehama, and Lake counties to access the Homeless Coordinated Entry Systems so that they can access housing services while working on their employment goals.

**Inland Empire District:**

The Inland Empire District office is actively involved with Homeless Coordinated Entry and Interagency Councils on Homelessness and a Youth Advisory Board which allows DOR to better understand and address the unique needs of homeless youth.

The Community Resource Navigator has established a new partnership with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, a nonprofit providing over 40 housing-related programs. Their support includes grants for essential costs like rent deposits, which helps DOR consumers secure stable housing.

**Santa Barbara District:**

DOR has participated in several meetings with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME). These funds, allocated in 2025, are intended to meet community development needs. They can be utilized to support low- and moderate-income individuals by creating, preserving, and maintaining diverse housing and shelter opportunities. The goals include reducing homelessness, building affordable housing, stabilizing and revitalizing neighborhoods, and increasing economic opportunities.

In Atascadero, DOR is streamlining referrals from El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO) and collaborating closely with ECHO's staff to address employment needs. Both ECHO and Prado Homeless Shelters participate in DOR's Job Developer meetings. In Santa Maria, DOR has successfully referred consumers to Hope Village where they found temporary housing. Hope Village is a tiny home village where participants can reside for up to six months.

**Greater Los Angeles District:**

The district established 15 partnerships with housing specialists within the last four months, including The Midnight Mission, The Weingart Center, Fred Jordan Missions, Downtown Women's Center, Los Angeles Mission, Homeless Healthcare Los Angeles, St. Vincent de Paul Society Los Angeles, Little Tokyo Service Center, Communities Actively Living Independent and Free (CALIF), United Friends of the Children, Union Rescue Mission, St. Francis Center, My Friend's Place, Coalition for Responsible Community Development, and Penny Lane Centers. These partnerships allow DOR to connect consumers to essential housing resources while they are working on their employment goals.

**Independent Living Services**

**Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program:**

The DOR's Traumatic Brain Injury Program (TBI), in partnership with its TBI Advisory Board, TBI Program sites, and community stakeholders, strives to strengthen California's system of services and supports for people with TBI. The Program's goal is to improve the delivery and quality of person-centered services

available to TBI survivors, their families, and caregivers by fostering partnerships, providing public education about TBI, and informing culturally competent policies statewide. TBI has far-reaching implications for individuals, family members, friends, caregivers, and society due to its close ties with homelessness, incarceration, substance abuse, mental health concerns, domestic violence, and US military service. DOR provides funding to 12 TBI Program sites in California. These local programs are an important partner in supporting the homeless response system to serve individuals with TBI. Local TBI Program sites provide services to individuals with TBI including person-centered case coordination, community navigation, community reintegration, supported living, vocational supportive services, enhanced information and assistance, and public and professional education.

In FY 2023-24, TBI Program sites served a total of 1,412 individuals with TBI. Of those served, over 18% were homeless or at-risk of homeless (176 individuals were homeless and 81 at-risk of homelessness). To learn more about TBI and to connect with a TBI Program site visit DOR's [website](#).

### **Community Living Fund:**

DOR works with [local disability and aging organizations](#) throughout California to provide institutional transition and diversion services for people with disabilities and older adults. The Community Living Fund (CLF) Program is a "bridge" program that expedites the provision of goods or services not available through other means to individuals either transitioning to the community or at-risk of institutionalization. As of November 2024, CLF has served 1,386 individuals with support to transition from an institutional setting to community-based housing or to prevent at-risk individuals from going into an institution.

The CLF supports strategies that can help prevent homelessness including discharge planning and purchase of services for individuals transitioning from, or at-risk of going into, a licensed skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility for the developmentally disabled, state hospital for the mentally ill, rehabilitation hospital, or California Veterans home.

For more information on the CLF Program go to the [CLF website](#) or email [CLF@dor.ca.gov](mailto:CLF@dor.ca.gov).

### **California Department of Social Services (CDSS)**

[All County Letter No. 24-88: Housing First ACL](#)

[All Tribal Leaders Letter No. 24-04: Waiver and Modification Process ATLL](#)

#### [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).

#### [CDSS Housing and Homelessness Programs Guidance Update](#)

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

In November, HHD released a new All County Letter on Housing First for counties participating in the following HHD programs: the CalWORKs Housing Support Program, Bringing Families Home, the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program, and Home Safe. This new letter expands on previous Housing First guidance

issued by HHD in 2019 and provides clarifying guidance to help HHD's county grantees better understand and implement Housing First's core components for HHD's time-limited, service-focused programs. The letter also provides new examples to help illustrate how Housing First principles can be practically applied in different scenarios.

On November 1, 2024, HHD published [All Tribal Leaders Letter \(ATLL\) 24-03](#). This letter informs participating Tribes, tribal organizations, and consortia of the changes to the expenditure and invoicing deadlines of the allocations for the Bringing Families Home (BFH) program, Home Safe program, and the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) resulting from the reappropriation of funding in the [Budget Act of 2024](#). The Budget Act of 2024 extended the multi-year spending authority for both FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocations for one additional year, and therefore, the final invoicing deadlines for Tribal Set-Aside funds allocated to Tribal Grantees will also be extended as outlined in the ATLL. This letter will ensure that Tribes, tribal organizations, and consortia implementing important, impactful HHD housing programs will have accurate and timely information regarding their use of program funds.

In November, HHD published All Tribal Leaders Letter (ATLL) 24-04. This letter informs participating Tribes, tribal organizations, and consortia of the waiver and modification process pursuant to [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) Section 10618.8\(g\)](#) for the Bringing Families Home (BFH) program, Home Safe program, the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), and Community Care Expansion Program (CCE). CDSS is authorized to waive or modify CDSS program requirements if any provisions of tribal law, tribal governance, tribal charter, or difference in tribal entity or agency legal structure would cause a violation of, would fail to satisfy, or would create inconsistencies with program requirements for the BFH, Home Safe, HDAP or CCE Programs ([WIC Section 10618.8\(g\)\(1\)](#)). The Tribal Waiver or Modification Request process aims to remove barriers for tribal grantees operating HHD programs.

#### CDSS Collaboration in Federal and State Initiatives

In August, CDSS, in partnership with the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS), and [Center for Data Insights and Innovation \(CDII\)](#), executed the first-ever inter-agency agreement for the exchange and utilization of statewide [Homeless Data Integration System \(HDIS\)](#) in connection with program data within CalHHS, CDSS, and DHCS. This agreement paves the way to facilitate the sharing and linking of critical data, which will help inform program improvements and future policy decisions that advance the State's priority of preventing and ending homelessness.

#### Technical Assistance

CDSS continues to support Housing and Homelessness programs state-wide, based on grantees' needs, including statewide webinars, peer learning opportunities, 1:1 calls and site visits.

- Since July 2024, HHD's technical assistance contractor Change Well Project provided 34 technical assistance (TA) engagements focused on budget planning, braiding and leveraging funding, and strategic planning for counties and tribes.
- In collaboration with Change Well Project, HHD hosted Housing First TA webinars in July and August 2024 for grantees that focused on overarching policies and core guidelines of Housing First as well as how to implement Housing First in HHD programs.
- HHD, in partnership with the Community Care Expansion (CCE) third-party administrator HORNE, hosted a Learning Collaborative for CCE Preservation County grantees on September 26 focused on Relocation Requirements, on October 28 focused on Maximization of Occupancy in Facilities, and on November 21 focused on Bridging the Needs of Individuals and Available Housing Resources.

- In November, HHD held all-grantee calls for BFH and for Home Safe focused on storytelling and crafting public narratives. CDSS also held an all-grantee call for BFH in September on “Landlord Engagement.”

#### [Tribal Programming and Engagement](#)

CDSS sent 65 Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) for final execution to Tribes and tribal entities in order to implement and operate HDAP, Home Safe, BFH, and CCE programs, and 63 of those MOUs have been executed and signed by CDSS and Tribes. The remaining MOUs will be executed on a rolling basis as they are completed.

In partnership with the Change Well Project, HHD continues to support Tribal Grantee programs through 1:1 technical assistance and initiatives such as a Community of Practice specifically for Tribes and tribal entities.

- From January-June 2024, Change Well provided technical assistance to 13 Tribes across several programs operated by each of them.

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

The CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) fosters housing stability for families in the CalWORKs program who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. HSP offers financial assistance and housing related wrap-around supports to foster housing retention. The wraparound services include, but are not limited to: rental assistance, housing navigation, case management, security deposits and utility payments.

- Since the program's inception in 2014 through June 30, 2024, more than 85,800 families have been served. Of those, over 45,400 were permanently housed through HSP.
- As of FY 2024-25, fifty-six counties operate HSP.
- On September 20, 2024, CDSS released [County Fiscal Letter \(CFL\) 24/25-11](#) that announces HSP's final Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 allocations and the final redistribution of FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23, and FY 2023-24 allocations.

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

The CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA) Program is an entitlement program that serves eligible families applying for or receiving CalWORKs with up to 16 days of temporary shelter payments, once every twelve (12) months with exceptions, as well as payments to secure or maintain housing, including a security deposit and last month's rent, or up to two months of rent arrearages.

- From July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, over 58,900 families were approved for temporary HA and over 8,800 families were approved for permanent HA.
- On October 21, 2024, CDSS released an [All County Information Notice \(ACIN\)](#) that provides County Welfare Departments with guidance and instructions to complete and submit caseload surveys for populations specified in Assembly Bill 236 and 557 for Temporary HA, as well as the [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) Section 11450](#) CalWORKs HA Actual Costs and Best Practices Survey.

#### [Bringing Families Home Program](#)

The Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program serves families involved with the child welfare system or who receive child welfare services in accordance with tribal law or customs 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. BFH offers financial assistance and housing related wraparound supportive services including but not limited to: rental assistance, housing navigation, case management, security deposit and utility payments.



- Since the program's inception in 2017 through June 30, 2024, over 9,000 families have been served and over 4,400 families have been permanently housed through BFH.
- As of FY 2023-24, a total of 53 counties and 25 tribal grantees operate BFH statewide.

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

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. Housing related financial assistance and wraparound supportive services provided by HDAP include but are not limited to: interim shelter assistance, rental assistance, housing navigation, case management, security deposit and utility payments.

- Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through June 30, 2024, over 8,200 people have been permanently housed, over 28,500 disability applications have been submitted, and over 5,300 disability applications have been approved.
- As of FY 2023-24, a total of 57 counties and 17 tribal grantees operate HDAP statewide.
- On October 4, 2024, CDSS released an All County [Welfare Director and Tribal Leader Letter](#) announcing the availability of FY 2024-25 funding for HDAP. The Budget Act of 2024 ([AB 107, Chapter 22, Statutes of 2024](#)) approved the annual ongoing appropriation of \$25 million for HDAP in FY 2024-25. This funding notice provides an allocation to all 58 California counties and 17 participating Tribal grantees. In addition, the All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) implements a redistribution of \$7 million in unspent one-time funds from FY 2021-22 as of July 1, 2024, and a reduction of \$50 million of one-time funds appropriated in FY 2022-23, as enacted in the Budget Act of 2024.

#### [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, 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 June 30, 2024, over 15,600 people have been served and more than 5,800 have been permanently housed.
- All fifty-eight counties and 23 tribal grantees currently operate a Home Safe Program.

#### [Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy](#)

Project Roomkey (PRK) 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. Grantees were notified that reporting of PRK data ended in August 2024.

- Since the launch of PRK, over 62,000 individuals across the state have received emergency non-congregate shelter housing through the program.

### [Community Care Expansion](#)

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. 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. 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. Awards and participating grantees are posted on the [CCE data dashboard](#) on the [CCE website](#).

- CDSS has awarded the full \$570 million for the CCE Capital Expansion Program across 61 projects to add 3,104 beds/units. This includes the final awards [announced August 20, 2024](#) which will create new housing with care and supportive services in the Bay Area, Sacramento, Los Angeles, Bakersfield, San Diego County, and Mendocino County.
- As of November 2024, seven of the 61 CCE Capital Expansion Program-funded housing projects, representing 499 new beds/units, have completed construction and are in the process of initiating move-in, and an additional 13 projects, representing 725 beds/units, have also broken ground.
- The following is a breakdown of the funded projects by housing type:
- \$201.73 million was awarded to a total of 22 projects that will provide 806 units of Permanent Supportive Housing. This includes one project that was awarded funds for pre-development activities.
- \$243.03 million was awarded to a total of 29 projects that will provide 1,512 beds in licensed residential adult and senior care facilities (either ARFs or RCFEs). This includes one project that was awarded funds for pre-development activities.
- \$31.79 million was awarded to a total of 5 projects that will provide 267 beds in medical respite or recovery residences. This includes one project that was awarded funds for pre-development activities.
- \$93.12 million was awarded to a total of 5 projects that are mixed use, meaning they provide some combination of Permanent Supportive Housing, licensed residential adult and senior care facility, and medical respite or recuperative care. Together, these 5 projects will provide 519 beds or units.
- The following describes funded projects based on project type and awarded funding:
- 30 funded projects are new construction projects, while the remainder are either acquisition or rehabilitation.
- 19 of the funded projects will utilize a Capitalized Operating Subsidy Reserve (COSR).
- \$28.5 million was awarded through the tribal set aside to 4 projects which will create 30 units of Permanent Supportive Housing and 92 beds in licensed residential adult and senior care facilities.
- In addition to the Capital Expansion program funds, CDSS has awarded \$247 million in one-time, non-competitive allocations (\$141 million in Capital Projects and \$106 million in Operating Subsidy Payments) to 34 counties through the [CCE Preservation program](#). As of November 2024, 40 licensed residential adult and senior care facilities at risk of closure have contracted with nine counties through the CCE Preservation Program to continue serving their communities, preserving 1,048 beds.

### [California Department of State Hospitals \(DSH\)](#)

#### **Department of State Hospitals - Community-Based Restoration and Diversion**

Over the last decade, the State of California has seen significant year-over-year growth in the number of individuals charged with a felony offense who are found Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) and committed to the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH) for competency restoration services. IST defendants are determined by a court to be unable to participate in their trial because they are not able to understand the nature of the criminal proceedings or assist counsel in the conduct of their defense. When the court finds a felony defendant incompetent to stand trial in California, they can be committed to DSH to provide clinical and medical services with the goal of restoring their competency and enabling them to return to court to resume their criminal proceedings. To better understand what was potentially driving the sustained increase in felony IST referrals, DSH partnered with the University of California, Davis to study the IST patients being admitted to Napa State Hospital. One major defining characteristic of this population is that they experience high rates of homelessness. In 2016, approximately 47% of IST patients admitted to Napa State Hospital were 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. Data as of June 2024 is not yet available.
- **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 1,274 beds over a 4-year period. More recently, DSH announced the contracting process with counties in January 2024 and as of November 1, 2024, DSH has received Letters of Interest from and has commenced contract negotiations with 27 counties to contract for a permanent Diversion (26 counties) or CBR (6 counties) 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, nine award letters have been issued to counties for infrastructure projects with proposed total capacity across the state of 932 beds. In addition, 11 counties indicated they are considering applying at a future date. In October 2024, DSH extended the county application deadline from October 31, 2024, to December 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.
- **Stakeholder Workgroup Grant Opportunity** - Additional support for county planning is available through DSH's annual \$100,000 Stakeholder 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. To date, a total of 39 contracts have been executed.

### **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.

### **Second Round Nine Percent (9%) Credit 2024 Awards (October 2, 2024)**

- Annual Federal Credits Awarded: \$52,507,655 (totals \$525,076,550)
- Total State Credits Awarded: \$65,968,790
- Projects Awarded: 25
- Total Number of Units: 1,562

- Total Number of Low-Income Units: 1,535
- Total Number of Extremely Low-Income (30% AMI or below) Units: 598
- Total Number of Units for individuals experiencing homelessness: 313

**Upcoming Rounds:**

Second Round 4% credit and tax-exempt bond allocation awards will be announced on 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)**



In October, Caltrans compiled a comprehensive progress report of all Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) grants awarded to eligible applicants for projects that target encampments at least partially on the state right of way. In total, Caltrans collaborated on 37 grants that totaled over \$316 million through ERF Round 3 Rolling Disbursement Window 1 (ERF-3-1).

The progress report included construction updates on facilities funded by the ERF program, outreach operations conducted at encampments on the state right of way, data on people experiencing homelessness (PEH) who've transitioned into temporary shelter and – in many cases – permanent, supportive housing.



One of those successful projects included in Caltrans' ERF grant progress report was the Visalia Navigation Center. In October, Caltrans District 6 – in partnership with the city of Visalia – celebrated a major milestone after the grand opening of the first low-barrier navigation center in Tulare County. District 8 Encampment Coordinators and Maintenance staff were instrumental in assisting the city secure a \$3.6 million grant through the ERF program, which paid for the development and construction of the Visalia Navigation Center.





Entry into the new Visalia Navigation Center is prioritized PEH sheltering at two encampments on the state right of way that were targeted by Caltrans in conjunction with the city.

In attendance at the October 4<sup>th</sup> ribbon cutting was District 6 Maintenance Office Chief Jason Miao who stressed the importance of collaboration while addressing city leaders and community members. The Visalia Navigation Center is approximately 20,000 sq. ft. that includes space to accommodate 100-beds, office space for case management supportive services, two group dormitory-type spaces one for men and another for women, up to 10 private rooms to accommodate families with children, a dining room, a large common area, and a laundry room.



Exterior amenities include a playground area, day-use area with green space, and animal kennel space for pets. The Visalia Navigation Center will provide robust wrap around case management services including rapid rehousing services, housing search, landlord mitigation, mental health assessments/enrollments, job training programs, financial literacy, and life skills workshops.

In addition to the onsite resources, residents will receive two-years of follow-up case management after permanent housing. The goal with this comprehensive plan is to ensure long-term housing stability and deter PEH from returning to unstable living conditions on the state highway system.

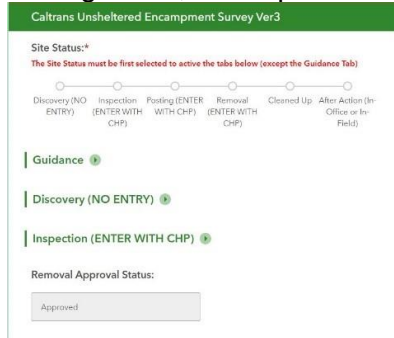
The recent application review period for the latest funding window of the ERF program, designated as ERF Round 3 Rolling Disbursement Window 2 (ERF-3-2), has now concluded. During this review, Caltrans collaborated with the Housing & Community Development (HCD) to evaluate applications from various cities and counties, ensuring compliance with established requirements. A total of 19 applications were submitted for this round.

A key requirement assessed by Caltrans pertained to the identification of encampments located on Caltrans state right of way. Of the 19 applications, 13 noted encampments within the right of way, with many prioritizing these locations as well as prioritized hotspots in their respective areas.

Specifically, the City of Carson and the City of Encinitas highlighted Caltrans priority sites in their applications. Carson's identified locations included a northbound section of Highway 110, while Encinitas referenced a 6-mile stretch along Interstate 5.

Collectively, the applications project to serve a total of 3,064 individuals over the entire grant period. Provided if all applicants are awarded.

Most applicants articulated a strategic focus for utilizing ERF grant funds, emphasizing outreach, case management, and rapid rehousing, all grounded in a Housing First approach.

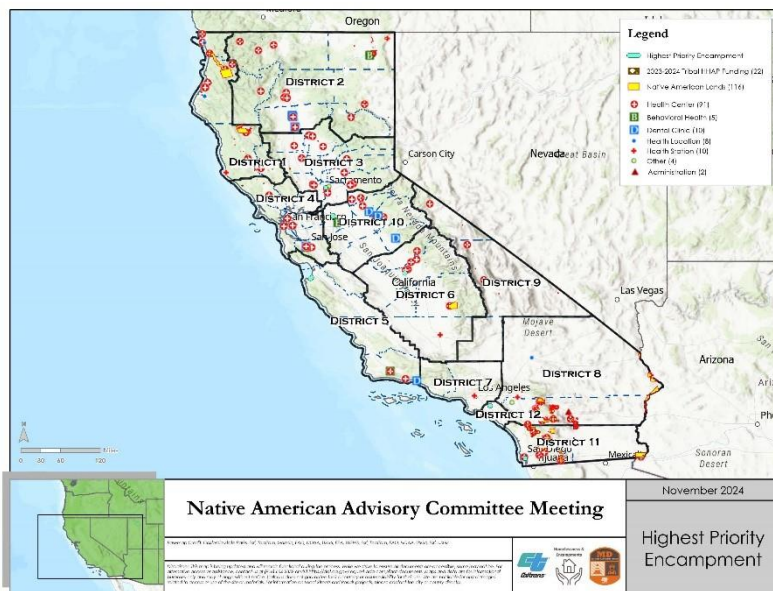


Caltrans is also conducting staff trainings for the Caltrans Encampment Removal Tracker (CERT) application that is currently being rolled out statewide.

From the site inspection to the After Action Reports (AARs), CERT was created to streamline the encampment removal process from start to finish. All information and documentation can be uploaded and shared from the field, thus cutting down on extraneous, time-consuming paperwork.

During the trainings, District Encampment Coordinators (DECs) and support staff are given the opportunity to see CERT in action and ask questions pertaining to its use in the field. Follow-up CERT trainings will be given in December.

The Office of Homelessness and Encampments (OH&E) also presented at the Caltrans Native American Advisory Committee's (NAAC) quarterly meeting to discuss the work being done to connect PEH who identify as Native American with all available tools and resources.



OH&E developed an online GIS web application to display the current annual encampment survey and its relationship with other relevant data, such as Tribal lands and ERF grants. The GIS map includes layers that showcase all Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants that were awarded specifically to Tribal Nations, as well as ERF grants that target areas in or near Tribal Lands. It also includes all resources available to PEH (i.e., health centers, behavioral health centers, dental clinics, etc.) and their proximity to Tribal Lands.

Another component of the GIS map is a layer that displays the state's Highest Priority Encampments identified by OH&E and whether any of these sites intersect with Tribal Lands.

### **California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)**

**Veterans Support to Self-Reliance:** Through six grants operating throughout the State for a three-year observation period, the Veterans Support to Self-Reliance Pilot is testing various models to provide enhanced on-site supportive services for veterans who are aging with high acuity and who reside in permanent supportive housing. Some of the expanded on-site support include skilled nursing, occupational therapy, Peer Specialists, service assistants to assist with activities of daily living, and transportation specialists who assist veterans in getting to medical appointments and running errands. The goal of this Pilot is to demonstrate that with these enhanced supportive services, and within the construct of Housing First and evidence-based practices, that aging veterans with chronic homelessness experience can age-in-place and thrive in community-based housing.

Currently, VSSR is serving about 420 veteran participants who are enrolled in HMIS and receiving these enhanced services. The VSSR Pilot recently completed the first year of implementation, and the data collected from daily shift logs and quarterly reports illustrates positive results. The team is working with the contracted technical assistance provider to develop a report for the Legislature, due February 2025.

**California Veterans Health Initiative Mental Health Support Grant Program:** In November, the Veterans Services Division (VSD) awarded about \$33 million in grants in response to the California Veterans Health Initiative Mental Health Support (CVHI-MHS) Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability. 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.

Grants were awarded in 9 applications with services covering 45 out of California's 58 counties. The CVHI-MHS Grant Program is designed to increase access to mental healthcare for California's veterans and their families and one of CalVet's goals is to ensure that all regions participate. For more information on CVHI, visit our [webpage](#).

**Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program:** The Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program (VHHP) continues to expand California's affordable and supportive housing resources for veterans experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, with significant progress in completed developments and those starting construction. Additionally, a new search feature on CalVet's *Voter Approved Veteran Housing and Homelessness Bond Measures* webpage is now available, enabling individuals to locate and learn more about affordable and supportive housing financed through VHHP across the State.

Over the past quarter, four VHHP-funded projects were completed in Ventura, Santa Ana, Los Angeles, and Norwalk, adding a total of 343 units to California's affordable housing stock for veterans. Of these, 157 units are specifically reserved for veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The Union Tower development assisted by VHHP in San Diego recently began construction. Once completed, it will offer 94 new affordable housing units, including 24 supportive housing units exclusively for veterans experiencing homelessness, with targeted support for those with extremely low incomes. Union Tower and other VHHP-funded developments are set to deliver hundreds of additional affordable units in the coming years.

For additional details on VHHP-funded projects, visit [Voter Approved Veteran Housing and Homelessness Bond Measures webpage](#)

### **California Workforce Development Board Community (CWDB)**

Upcoming Funding Opportunities CWDB

#### **High Road Training Partnerships 2024-25**

H RTP 2024-25 initiative aims to increase access for existing grantees to expand, scale, or replicate high-road jobs for underserved populations and create pathways for incumbent workers seeking job growth with high-road employers. CWDB's High Road policy centers on equity and job quality by promoting the goal of democratic access to high-quality employment and investment in emerging low-carbon industries that are worker-focused.

\$14,250,000

Winter/Spring 2025

### **California Department of Education (CDE)**

**SAVE THE DATE: May 7 – 9, 2025**, the **California Statewide Homeless Education Conference** hosted by California Homeless Education Technical Assistance Center, in partnership with the California Department of Education, the Los Angeles County Office of Education, and SchoolHouse Connection, will be held at the Town & Country Hotel in San Diego, CA.

[Call For Presentations](#) for the 2025 California Statewide Homeless Education Conference is now available.



The Call for Presentations is **now live** and available at <https://www.cahomelesseducation.com/> Proposals are due by **Friday, January 3, 2025**.

[New conference website](#) and will include additional details on the 2025 conference.

For questions regarding the Conference, please email the Education Team at [education@cahomelesseducation.com](mailto:education@cahomelesseducation.com).

**November is Homeless Awareness Month**, and an important reminder for us to increase awareness and understanding around the experiences and needs of children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness. Please join the California Department of Education in raising awareness as partners in ending homelessness in California. Visit the [Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers](#) website for more information.



## HETAC Webinar: Homeless Education Data 101 - Accessing and Utilizing Key Data for Practical Use and Program Improvement 🔔

Register Here: [https://ccoeschools.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_qUGXubVpQauVD4tI6WWOcA](https://ccoeschools.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qUGXubVpQauVD4tI6WWOcA)

California Department of Education Stakeholder Listening Sessions:  
Ensuring Education at the forefront of the Homeless Education Background- Uplifting the Needs of Children and Youth through those who know them and their families best: Educators, Homeless Liaisons

California has a staggering number of homeless, unhoused, children, youth and unaccompanied youth; often uncounted or overlooked due to the discrepancy of definitions (see McKinney-Vento) California's almost 10,000 schools have identified 246,480 children and youth who are experiencing homelessness, see data based on the McKinney-Vento Act definition. The majority of the students, 55 percent, that is over 110,000 children are elementary-school aged or younger.

Education possesses a unique lens, access, and opportunity to identify, serve and change the trajectory of Californians who continue to experience homelessness. Education is vital to changing the trajectory and outcomes for children, youth, unaccompanied youth, and their families experiencing homelessness. Data in the United States last year (2023) revealed that the person most likely to be evicted is an infant, so parents and families are essential to the work.

For many other state agencies, there is an opportunity to focus on housing stability, the focus in education is academic access, success, and equitable supports for students identified as homeless eligible (see McKinney-Vento). The California Department of Education in partnership with schools across the state works to ensure educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness, prioritizing removal of barriers for school attendance, ensuring immediate enrollment with a full and equitable opportunity to succeed in school, and continuity in their academic school placement through the duration of their homelessness.

Homeless Education Stakeholder Listening Sessions:



The California Department of Education led stakeholder engagement sessions on the Cal ICH Action Plan goals with those county offices of education, district and advocates who possess a unique expertise based on their region in our state, culturally, landscape, and leadership.

The Homeless Education Program within the CDE at the Student Achievement and Support Division held a total of Five, two-hour long feedback sessions with all 58 County Offices of Education invited. A fifth session was held for the State Board of Education's initiative in partnership with the CDE's Homeless Innovative Program's where 20 districts and county office of education partners were invited. Lastly, the CDE considered the youth, advocate, legislative, and liaison voice from local convening.

The changes and updates to the sections of the Cal ICH Action Plan developed by the CDE were meaningful and directly related to the prevention of homelessness in California, beyond schools. All sessions, formal and informal were hosted and/or co-hosted with the California Interagency Council on Homelessness staff.

Key outcomes to the California Department of Education's Goals:

The California Department of Education (CDE) is committed to goals in collaboration and partnership, that will lead to:

1. An increased awareness of the needs of homeless children and youths so that programs and agencies can expand and/or customize their services.
2. To coordinate services for efficient use of the state resources that will allow for a comprehensive approach to serving homeless children and youths, and their families.
3. An alignment in policies and practices to remove barriers to services across programs and agencies.
4. To build strong cross-agency advocacy and policy initiatives to develop an integrated system of services.

The California Department of Education and our partners at Cal ICH extend our gratitude to the education partners and advocates that attended the sessions and provided feedback to inform more fully the work of the California Department of Education and the Action Plan goals of the Cal ICH Action Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness. If you are interested in learning more about Education's role in homelessness prevention or are looking to partner, please contact staff via email at [HomelessEd@cde.ca.gov](mailto:HomelessEd@cde.ca.gov) or visit our website at Homeless Education - Specialized Programs (CA Dept of Education) to learn more.

### **California Community Colleges (CCCO)**

#### **Student Housing Programs Homeless and Housing Insecure Pilot (HHIP)**

In fiscal year 2019-20, the state Legislature appropriated \$9M annually to California Community Colleges (CCC) to support ongoing rapid rehousing services to CCC students. As a result, the Chancellor's Office launched the Homeless and Housing Insecurity Program (HHIP) to support pilot colleges develop and/or strengthen capacity to support students facing housing insecurity or homelessness by maintaining stable housing, ultimately improving their educational outcomes. The 2022-2023 budget included a \$10 million dollar increase to the program. In the 2023-2024 fiscal year, a cost-of-living adjustment was applied, and the program funding was increased to an annual appropriation of \$20.5 million.

There are currently two cohorts of colleges participating in HHIP, and the Chancellor's Office employs a statewide data driven identification process, including analysis of county and college data, to establish participating cohorts. The first cohort consists of 14 colleges, with each college receiving \$500,000-\$700,000 annually for four years. The second Cohort, consisting of 13 colleges, began participation in the 2023-2024

academic year. Each received a base of \$150,000, with the remaining balance being distributed around the individual campus head count, across the participating colleges. Cohort 2 colleges have now attended two in-person training sessions and are in early stages of program implementation. This will bring our cumulative total to 27 campuses participating in HHIP starting the 2023-2024 academic year.

Recent data analysis and budget considerations have allowed the CO to make necessary modifications to the HHIP program structure. Initially the program was designed as a pilot program, providing resources to colleges throughout the state, identified with high levels of need. Following a five-year pilot period, participating colleges are transitioning to ongoing implementation. Moving forward in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the identified colleges will receive ongoing funding. Individual college HHIP programs will be monitored on a continuous basis and evaluated through various data metrics to ensure that legislative requirements are met and implementation is successful.

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

**TRIBAL EFFORTS**

The CCCCO has been exploring efforts to align tribal community programs and identify potential housing opportunities within higher education. Recently, representatives overseeing the HHIP Program at the CO met with the Native American Student Support and Success Program (NASSSP) Specialist and the Director of Affordable Student Housing to strategize potential areas of overlap within the programs. Below you can find a brief overview of each program and a table used to identify program crossover potential:

*NASSSP 2022-2023 [Assembly Bill 79520](#) approved The Native American Student Support and Success Program (NASSSP). One-time funds, total of \$30 million, allocated to 20 colleges for the implementation of NASSSP. Legislation articulated four goals for the award to 20 colleges: strengthen K-12 pathways to and through the CCC system for Native American students; ensure the educational success of Native American students; develop Native American leaders; and increase the number of Native American mentors to empower future generations.*

*Affordable Student Housing As part of the 2024 California Budget Act package, Senate Bill 155 established a Statewide Lease Revenue Bond (SLRB) as the financing framework to support select affordable student housing projects. This bill authorizes the California State Public Works Board to issue \$804.7M through the SLRB for 13 student housing projects that were approved in the previous two*

*budgets (see Table 1). The budget also includes trailer bill language for the SLRB in Government Code Sections 15820.200 - 15820.206, which details the roles of the State Public Works Board, California Community Colleges Board of Governors and participating colleges as well as the required operating agreements between these entities for each project. The Chancellor’s Office is continuing to work with state and community college leaders to implement the SLRB financing framework and provide details about the funding transition from the former grant program to the SLRB, bond preparation work, interim financing, operating agreements and bond compliance. Please stay tuned for updates as details are finalized.*

HHIP Colleges	Affordable Student Housing	NASSSP
<b>Cohort 1</b>		
Butte College		x
Cerritos College	x-In progress	
College of the Redwoods	x-In progress	x
Fresno City College	x-In progress	x
Modesto Junior College		x
Riverside City College	x-In progress	
San Diego City College	x-In progress	
<b>Cohort 2</b>		
American River		x
SJ Delta		x
Santa Rosa	x-Completed	x
Southwestern		x

Potential scopes of work identified within the Chancellor’s Office include the planning of professional development sessions, developing best practices, and including a workshop focused on tribal housing in the upcoming CHEBNA Basic Needs Summit.

Additionally, the CO has been introduced to UC tribal liaisons through the CHEBNA network and anticipates further collaborating sessions in the upcoming coming year.

### CCCCO HHIP DATA DASHBOARD

Per [Assembly Bill 977 \(AB 977\)](#), the State of California requires grantees of state-funded homelessness programs to enter specific data elements related to individuals and families into their local [Homeless Management Information System \(HMIS\)](#). At the time of composing this report, Cohort 1 data for Q1 has been submitted and corrections are currently underway to ensure accuracy. Cohort 2 is on track to connect to their local HMIS leads and projects set up to begin reporting. Ongoing monthly technical assistance training sessions are continuing with our next meeting scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 where both cohorts are encouraged to attend.

### CSU OVERVIEW

#### Updates from the California State University System

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

With the passage of the 2021-2022 state budget ([AB 128, California Budget Act of 2021](#)), recurring funds for basic needs initiatives were provided by the state legislature to the California State University (CSU). The original \$15 million investment in basic needs initiatives allows the CSU to advance Graduation Initiative 2025, the ambitious initiative to increase graduation rates for all students while eliminating equity gaps and providing the state with the graduates it needs to power the economy. These funds are the result of advocacy efforts from the CSU Board of Trustees, California State Student Association (CSSA), and countless campus and community partners and stakeholders.

The original \$15 million recurring investment was increased by an additional \$10 million with the passage of the 2022-2023 state budget ([AB 178, California Budget Act of 2022](#)). Beginning July 2022, the total amount from the state for basic needs initiatives in the CSU is \$25 million.

In fall of 2019, California State University (CSU) campuses participated in a competitive application process to apply for \$6.5 million in recurring funds made available through the amended Budget Act of 2019 ([SB 109, California Budget Act of 2019](#)) for a systemwide project known as “College-Focused Rapid Rehousing” (RRH). Resources were allocated to campuses to develop and enhance programs and services for students facing challenges with housing instability and homelessness. RRH requires that CSU campuses establish ongoing partnerships with community organizations that have a tradition of providing wrap-around services and rental subsidies to those experiencing homelessness.

## UPDATES

- The Call for Proposals for the next four years of the College-Focused Rapid Rehousing program was launched in early September 2024. The program was renamed and the program structure was reconfigured, as the previous four years have served as a pilot for the CSU Rapid Rehousing program and much was learned during this pilot. The new vision for the CSU College-Focused Rapid Rehousing program, which has been renamed Rapid Rehousing & Housing Security Program (RRHHSP), includes a multifaceted, multi-campus approach to supporting students who are experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness. Participating universities will be asked to expand their housing support services to ensure that students, regardless of their circumstances, receive the appropriate levels of support services. Campuses can shape their housing security programs according to the needs of their students, potentially including the following program elements: need-based emergency housing grants or scholarships, tiered rental subsidies for on-campus housing, security deposit grants, off-campus monthly rent support, bridge housing, hybrid bridge housing, and rapid rehousing. Partnering with a community-based organization is the only mandatory element of this program. The proposals were reviewed by a committee in late September/early October 2024, and award letters have been sent as of November 6, 2024. Eighteen campuses will be awarded as grant recipients of the 2024 – 2028 Rapid Rehousing & Housing Security Program.
- The annual Graduation Initiative 2025 Symposium was held October 28 - October 30, 2024, with a pre-conference Affordability Summit in partnership with the Cal State Student Association. The second half of the Affordability Summit focused on how to address affordable student housing with the help of external non-profit partners and internal collaboration across the CSU system.

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

- On Veterans’ Day, USICH, VA and HUD announced that [Veteran Homelessness dropped to its lowest level on record](#) since the annual Point-in-Time count started reporting this data in 2009. The 2024 PIT data—which will be published by HUD later this year—represents a snapshot of homelessness on a single night. Between January 2023 and January 2024, the number of veterans experiencing

any form of homelessness dropped from 35,574 to 32,882—which represents a 7.5 drop since last year, 11.7% drop since 2020, and 55.6% drop since 2010. Among unsheltered veterans, the number dropped 10.7%—from 15,507 in 2023 to 13,851 in 2024.

- As part of the All INSide Collaboration with the State of California, representatives from USICH, Department of Veterans Affairs, CA Department of Housing and Community Development, Cal Vet and CA ICH presented a 2-hour Housing First Training. Topics included information on supportive service plans, property management plans and how to put these plans into practice. [View the video training and review the slides here.](#)
- USICH Announces [Creation of National Youth Homelessness Partnership](#). The partnership brings together federal agencies, national homelessness organizations, and a newly formed advisory group of young people who have experienced homelessness. The participating federal agencies either fund or administer services, technical assistance, and/or programs that impact youth, their risk of homelessness, and their ability to achieve and maintain housing stability. The National Youth Advisory Group was formed this summer by Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and will inform the national partnership's work to prevent and end youth homelessness. The 15-member Youth Advisory Group included three individuals from the State of California.
- USICH released first-ever [Federal Homelessness Prevention Framework](#). Designed as an actionable guide intended for a wide range of partners includes local, tribal, and state governments, nonprofits, funders, providers and advocates of housing, health, human service, justice, education, employment, child welfare and emergency services. In addition to the framework, USICH launched a blog series spotlighting local and federal efforts within specific subpopulations, which to date includes:
  - [Youth Homelessness](#)
  - [Jail-to-Homelessness Pipeline](#), and
  - [Family Homelessness](#)
- USICH Executive Director Jeff Olivet was interviewed by the Federal News Network on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Read the [transcript here](#).