



State of California

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Lourdes M. Castro Ramírez, Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: [Russ Heimerich](#)

(916) 505-1729

California Marks One-Year Anniversary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s “House America” Initiative by Delivering on Housing Goals

Over 8,900 Affordable Housing Units Created by the State with the Support of the American Rescue Plan Act in the Initiative’s First Year

SACRAMENTO – California continues to deliver on the goals of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s [House America](#) initiative, which celebrated the completion of its [one-year anniversary](#) on September 20.

House America is a federal initiative to address homelessness through the use of unprecedented federal investments made available through the [American Rescue Plan Act](#) (ARPA).

Since House America kicked off over one-year ago, more than 8,900 units have been added to development pipelines by leveraging ARPA dollars through the state’s Homekey and Housing Accelerator programs, providing long-term affordable housing consistent with California’s Housing First Approach. These include 6,658 Homekey units and 2,300 Housing Accelerator Units, with additional funding to be deployed by the time the House America initiative ends on December 31, 2022.

“California is proud to join our federal partners be part of the House America initiative, which has led to the creation of nearly 9,000 new homes for individuals and families in need of a stable, affordable place to call home,” said BCSH Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez. “California will continue to diligently work in partnership with our federal counterparts at HUD and with our partners at the local level, in a collective effort to meet our shared goal of preventing and ending homelessness.”

500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1850, Sacramento, California 95814 (916) 653-4090 www.bcsch.ca.gov

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Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency Marks Beginning of the Second Year of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s “House America” Initiative

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In addition to the state level response, 19 cities and counties in California are participating in the House America Initiative.

HUD notes that House America communities have added at least 15,500 units affordable and supportive housing into their development pipelines across the country. The more than 8,900 units in California, not including efforts from our partners at the local level, represent about 45 percent of the national goal of 20,000.

- **Homekey: 6,658 units**
 - **The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has awarded \$1.9 billion to 108 projects in Homekey Round 2**
 - This \$1.45 billion expansion of HCD’s Homekey is comprised of \$1.2 billion in ARPA funds and \$250 million in state General Funds.
 - More than 73,000 families are expected to be housed over the lifetimes of these projects.
 - The 6,658 units created as part of the House America effort represent a little more than half of the 12,500 units created by Homekey over the past 24 months.
- **Housing Accelerator: 2,300 units**
 - **HCD awarded \$923 million to 27 projects in Tier 1 of the Housing Accelerator Program**
 - The Program uses ARPA funding to provide bridge funding to shovel-ready projects that have been unable to obtain tax credits and bond financing and are thus stuck in the funding pipeline.
 - Tier 2 project awards will be made this in the coming weeks.