



State of California

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Tomiquia Moss, Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: [Russ Heimerich](#)
916-505-1729

ICYMI: California Opens New Homekey Site in Sacramento, Releases Data on Services for Californians Experiencing Homelessness

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: California continues to make progress in addressing homelessness and ensuring accountability for the homelessness dollars being spent in local communities. A new 92-unit Homekey project serving Californians experiencing homelessness opened in Sacramento, and a new snapshot was released showing how Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program grantees are spending their grant dollars.

New Homekey Project

SACRAMENTO – Last Monday Central Sacramento Studios, which was funded by a nearly \$24 million Homekey award, opened with 92 studio units serving Californians who are chronically homeless or experiencing homelessness. Of the 92 units, 25 units will be occupied by individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and 67 will be occupied by individuals currently experiencing homelessness.

Central Sacramento Studios is centrally located in downtown Sacramento, within a half-mile of transit, shopping, health facilities, a pharmacy, and a public library, and within one mile of a grocery store. Supportive services will be provided on-site as well.

“These units offer far more than just studios,” said Department of Housing and Community Development Director Gustavo Velasquez. “They offer hope, opportunity, and access to all that downtown Sacramento has to offer – a place where residents are empowered through support to change the trajectory of their lives. We are eager to expand this successful model of permanent supportive housing, thanks to voter approval of Proposition 1.”

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

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California Interagency Council on Homelessness

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So far, 15,319 Homekey units have been funded since the program was established in 2020 and are expected to house 167,164 people over the life of the projects.

Updated Data Released

Last Friday, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) issued [a data snapshot](#) from the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) that provides a one-time, mid-stream summary of data received from grantees that were allocated funds from the first four rounds of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program.

“Since its inception in 2021, HDIS has provided increasingly robust data to help state and local policy makers better understand – and address – homelessness in California,” said Cal ICH Executive Officer Meghan Marshall. “This will help us better determine the outcomes of state homelessness funding, including HHAP.”

This is a continuation of the information Cal ICH has provided throughout this year’s state budget process. The data snapshot shows that, thus far, programs funded from the first four rounds of HHAP have already provided services to more than 100,000 Californians experiencing homelessness. Across the four funding rounds, which support local efforts that are still underway, approximately 40-50% of people accessing HHAP services exited unsheltered homelessness and entered some kind of sheltered living arrangement, with about 20-25% securing permanent housing. This rate of placement is consistent with data across the nation and is impressive for a state with a tight housing supply like California.

The data snapshot further highlights that, based on data collected through HDIS, which aggregates data from collective homelessness interventions, including HHAP, local jurisdictions have housed over 63,000 Californians experiencing homelessness in 2022 and more than 72,000 in 2023.

While homelessness remains a defining challenge for California, the Administration is taking a number of steps to tackle this top priority even in a difficult budget year, including:

- Releasing \$1 billion in HHAP Round 5 funding;
- Releasing \$6.38 billion worth of funding through Proposition 1 to provide housing and treatment sites to veterans and other Californians with behavioral health issues experiencing homelessness; and
- Creating a new Housing and Homelessness Accountability Results and Partnership (HHARP) Unit within the Department of Housing and Community Development to expand state oversight over homelessness efforts.

Looking Ahead

In the coming weeks, HCD and local partners will continue to highlight grand opening celebrations for Homekey and No Place Like Home properties that provide affordable and stable homes for people exiting homelessness.

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In the next ten days, three grand openings of affordable housing developments for people experiencing and at risk of homelessness will happen. In Stanton (Orange County) a Homekey project that has converted three motels will open, providing 151 units of affordable housing. Bienestar Plaza, a No Place Like Home project, will open with 57 units in Santa Cruz. And another No Place Like Home project, Vista de La Sierra, will open with 80 units in Riverside.

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