



State of California

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

Edmund G. Brown Jr. Governor
Alexis Podesta, Secretary

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STATE BOOSTS EFFORTS TO ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH HOMELESS CRISIS

\$500 million in grants to be made available reduce and prevent homelessness

Sacramento – The 2018-19 state budget signed today by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. includes \$500 million in emergency funding to help local governments across the state address homelessness. In addition, the state’s Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council, which will distribute the emergency funding, will be expanded and elevated to the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) from the Department of Housing and Community Development, effective July 1. Dedicated staff will also be hired to support the Council.

“With this \$500 million and the new resources added to the council, I am hopeful we can provide effective and timely assistance to local jurisdictions to help address the statewide homelessness crisis,” said BCSH Secretary Alexis Podesta. “We will now be better able to focus our efforts and enhance collaboration between all of the entities tackling this huge challenge.”

The grants will provide funding to local governments to respond to homelessness through prevention efforts, emergency aid and providing wrap-around services. Local Continuums of Care, the regional or local planning bodies that coordinate housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals, will administer the grants. Jurisdictions must declare an emergency shelter crisis, and Continuums of Care must demonstrate coordination between cities and counties.

Allocations will be as follows:

- \$250 million to be distributed to Continuums of Care, with the amounts based on their point-in-time count of homeless individuals;

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- \$100 million allocated to local Continuums of Care based on their percentage of the statewide homeless population; and
- \$150 million in direct allocation to a city, or city that is also a county, with a population over 330,000.

The notice of funding availability for the Homeless Emergency Aid Block Grants will be released later this summer, with the goal of distributing the money starting in the fall.

The next meeting of the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council will be July 11, 2018 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in room 4202 of the State Capitol. To receive updates from the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council, visit <http://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc> and subscribe to the council's email alerts.

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The Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) oversees 11 Departments whose mission is to protect consumers by licensing and regulating California professionals and business; preserve expand and fund safe and affordable housing opportunities; protect the civil rights of Californians; and investigate and research ways to reduce earthquake risk.