



# **ACTION PLAN**

**for Preventing and Ending  
Homelessness in California**



**California  
Interagency Council  
on Homelessness**

## **Implementation Progress Report for Fiscal Year 22-23**

**November 2023**

# California Interagency Council on Homelessness

## Member Composition

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Secretary, California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency

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State Public Health Officer and Director, California Department of Public Health

**Stephanie Clendenin**

Director, California Department of State Hospitals

**Jacey Cooper**

State Medicaid Director and Chief Deputy Director of Health Care Programs, California Department of Health Care Services

**Susan DeMarois**

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**Joe Xavier**

Director, California Department of Rehabilitation

Cal ICH appreciates the time and effort put forth by staff from the 18 departments required to report activities for FY 22-23, providing updates and information to include in this report. Cal ICH staff deeply involved in the creation of this report included Nykole Sakihara, Cody Zeger, Giselle Sanchez, Claire Bannerman, Sydney Bennet, and many others. We also offer thanks to Cal ICH consultant Matthew Doherty for his contributions to this report.

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# Action Plan Development and Reporting

## Vision and Intent of the Action Plan

On any given night, more than 171,500 people were experiencing homelessness in California—representing more than one-quarter of all people experiencing homelessness in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Making significant progress in preventing and ending homelessness across the state requires sustained and focused efforts at the federal, state, and local levels.



Through the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California, first adopted in March 2021, and updated in September 2022 and again in September 2023, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH)—the State's interagency council on homelessness—pursues a vision for the State's work to prevent and end homelessness that features:

- Increased leadership from the state for identifying and supporting both short-term interventions and long-term solutions;
- Purposeful, action-oriented coordination and alignment across State agencies and programs; and
- Stronger, collaborative partnerships with public and private partners in communities.

The Action Plan orients the State's efforts to drive purposeful, meaningful, and measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California. This effort is motivated by a vision of a future in which homelessness in California is: **rare, because it is prevented** whenever possible; **brief, ended quickly whenever it does occur**, through a focus on Housing First approaches and housing outcomes; and a **one-time experience, ended successfully the first time**, so that no Californians experience homelessness repeatedly.

The implementation of the Action Plan is aligned with several **key principles and practices**, including:

- ✓ Pursuing racial equity and justice;
- ✓ Creating solutions for the full diversity of people experiencing homelessness;
- ✓ Seeking and valuing the expertise of people with lived experiences of homelessness;
- ✓ Strengthening Housing First approaches;
- ✓ Balancing crisis response and permanent housing solutions;
- ✓ Advancing trauma-informed care and person-centered services;
- ✓ Aligning health, housing, and homelessness strategies; and
- ✓ Increasing Access to Resources for California's Tribal Communities.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "The 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report \(AHAR\) to Congress"](#)

## Development of the Action Plan

This Implementation Progress Report is focused on the implementation of the [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness](#) during Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 22-23). The development and updating of the Action Plan has been led by Cal ICH staff and consultant Matthew Doherty, under the guidance and direction of the Council, and deeply informed by planning conversations with State staff and input discussions with external stakeholders.

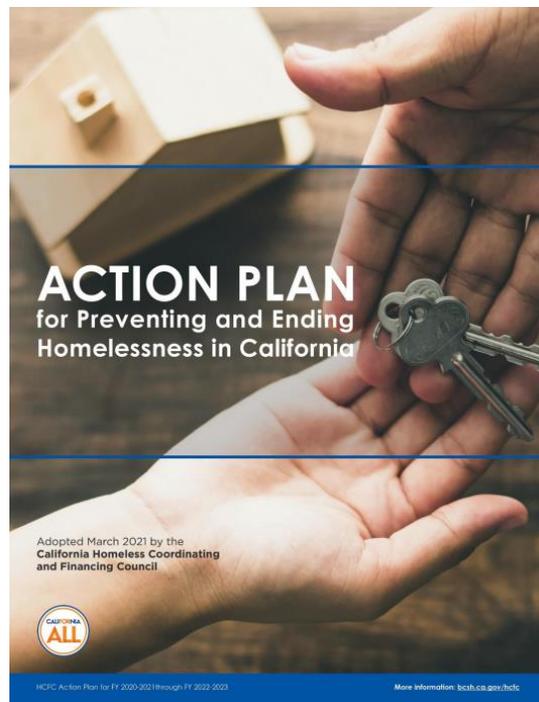
The initial planning process began in July 2020, including extensive conversations with Council Members as well as external input from a variety of stakeholders. Over the course of five regular and special Council meetings, the Council developed the Plan's Action Areas and Objectives.

Additionally, it identified current and planned Activities across all participating State departments and agencies. Priorities for additional State activities based on external stakeholder conversations were also discussed and included. The Council adopted its first Action Plan during its March 2021 meeting.

Cal ICH staff initiated the FY 22-23 update of the Action Plan at the Council's January 2022 meeting. Staff then held planning conversations with partners from each Council member department and agency, as well as two virtual input sessions and discussions with local advisory bodies of people with lived expertise. The Council discussed priorities for the updated Action Plan at its May 2022 meeting, and the updated Plan was adopted by the Council during the September 2022 Council meeting.

The updated Action Plan and summary materials are available at [https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/action\\_plan.html](https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/action_plan.html).

Note: This report focuses on the implementation of the Action Plan during FY 22-23, therefore it references the document and content that was adopted in September 2022. There is a more recent update to the Action Plan that the Council adopted in September 2023, and the Implementation Progress Report for FY 23-24 will focus on the implementation of that updated Plan.



## Driving Progress Across Five Action Areas

Implementation of the Action Plan drives progress across five distinct, but interrelated and complementary action areas, inclusive of the full range of activities necessary to prevent and end homelessness.

### ACTION AREA 1

#### Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California



Objectives and Activities focus on pursuing **racial equity** in response to homelessness and housing instability; engagement and partnership with people with **lived expertise** from experiences of homelessness; support of interjurisdictional and **regional planning**; partnerships to strengthen outcomes related to education, employment, income, and assets; **disaster preparedness** and response; and communications and **public awareness**.

### ACTION AREA 2

#### Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness



Objectives and Activities focus on addressing health and safety needs and increasing access to State-supported services and programs for people who are experiencing **unsheltered homelessness**.

### ACTION AREA 3

#### Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing



Objectives and Activities focus on expanding the supply of safe, housing-placement focused **sheltering and interim housing** models and addressing health and services needs of people staying within such programs.

### ACTION AREA 4

#### Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities



Objectives and Activities focus on strengthening Housing First approaches and expanding **permanent housing opportunities** through development strategies, short- and long-term rental assistance, and other rehousing activities.

### ACTION AREA 5

#### Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness



Objectives and Activities focus on reducing entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services through State-funded programs and systems and enhancing communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness **prevention and diversion** services and assistance.

Each Action Area contains multiple Objectives, totaling fifteen Objectives to be prioritized and pursued. Each Objective further details multiple Activities that one or more departments have committed to pursuing in order to drive progress toward the overall goal of preventing and ending homelessness. There are a total of 151 distinct Activities over three fiscal years, each of which contains:

- Activity reference numbers, arranged by Action Area, Objective, and Activity Number
- A description of the Activity to be implemented;
- The lead department(s) responsible for implementing each Activity;
- The collaborating department(s) deeply involved in implementing each Activity;
- Timeframes for each Activity; and
- Performance measurements that will be used to assess progress and impact, including process measures, output measures, and, when possible, outcome measures.

The Action Plan identifies Objectives, Activities, and performance Measures from FY 20-21 through FY 22-23. It is not intended to be inclusive of every strategic activity or investment that State agencies or the Council will undertake, but instead seeks to focus on the highest-priority strategies and efforts that will have the greatest impact. Performance measures can include:

- **Process Measures** focused on assessing if activities have been implemented as intended;
- **Output Measures** focused on documenting the amount or scale of actions taken; and
- **Outcome Measures** focused on the results or impacts of the activities.



For more information, please refer to Attachment A in this report for a list of all the Action Plan's objectives, Attachment B for a list of all of the FY 22-23 activities included, and the complete [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#) in effect for FY 22-23 and the focus of this Progress Report.

## Focus and Structure of this Implementation Progress Report

Driving progress to prevent and end homelessness—and toward more racially equitable outcomes—requires multi-pronged, multi-year strategies across sectors and systems. These must be supported by data analyses, performance measures, and metrics that help assess, refine, and revise those strategies. The development and adoption of the Action Plan responded to those needs and represents a commitment to a sharpened focus on performance measurement, data, and analysis.

Cal ICH reports annually on progress made toward the implementation of the Action Plan. The [FY 21-22 Implementation Progress Report](#) focused on reporting progress related to activities that were expected to be implemented during FY 21-22. This progress report will focus on activities projected to be implemented during FY 22-23.

This report is organized into the following sections:

- **Highlights from FY 22-23 Implementation Progress** describes several specific, high-impact accomplishments by Council member agencies and departments during FY 22-23.
- **Key Measures for Defining and Assessing Progress** collects baseline data for key measures regarding homelessness in California that were identified within the Action Plan for Cal ICH to regularly analyze, review, and report on publicly. This section also includes a comparison with national and regional trends as well as an equity analysis of certain key measures.
- **Implementation Progress Reporting** documents the progress that agencies and departments have made implementing each Action Plan activity. This section is organized by the Action Plan's five action areas and fifteen objectives, but only includes activities expected to be implemented during FY 22-23. Further, each activity is accompanied by one or more icons that communicate the nature of the activity being implemented.

The Council updated the Action Plan at the beginning of FY 23-24 to make slight modifications to the Plan's Objectives and to identify additional specific Activities to be implemented during FY 23-24. The next annual progress report will focus on the implementation of that updated Plan.

# Highlights from FY 22-23 Implementation Progress

This section highlights key efforts and achievements of State agencies and departments during FY 22-23, organized by the Plan's five Action Areas. The activities below are only a portion of the work completed during FY 22-23, but illustrate the breadth and depth of the State's work to implement the Action Plan and to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time. A fuller accounting of the State's activities is provided in the *Implementation Progress Reporting* section of this report.

## ACTION AREA 1

### Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California



- **Numerous agencies took concrete steps to ensure that Tribal entities have more equitable access to State funding and to partner with Tribal communities to address capacity challenges**, including: **Cal ICH's** Tribal Liaison contacted all 109 California Federally Recognized Tribes to receive feedback on the Tribal HHAP program; **CDSS** launched a comprehensive Technical Assistance (TA) initiative in partnership with Change Well Project, to provide eligible tribal grantees direct and intensive support in a wide range of areas; **HCD** provided technical assistance and training for its various programs, including Homekey, ESG and ESG-CV, CDBG-CV, and released its first ever Tribal-specific NOFA; and **DHCS** continued to implement its Tribal Engagement Plan, hosting quarterly meetings and its DHCS Tribal Advisory Process outlined in the Medi-Cal State Plan.
- **Cal ICH in collaboration with Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) provided racial equity focused technical assistance to communities** including: developing strategies for embedding equity-based decision-making processes within policymaking, funding process and decisions; collecting and analyzing data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry System (CES) to identify racial disparities; and identifying and implementing Racial Equity Improvement Projects over a 12-month time period.
- **CDPH reported that 16 Community Based Organizations across California are implementing the Peer Health Ambassador program** to increase ability of people experiencing homelessness to access testing, vaccinations, and treatment for COVID-19 and a Peer Ambassador toolkit was developed by CDPH subcontractor Homebase.
- **Cal ICH developed and released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the establishment of a Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB)** and the eleven selected LEAB members will begin onboarding during Q2 of FY 23-24.
- **As part of the Prison to Employment Initiative, CDCR, in collaboration with Mother Lode Job Center, implemented a pilot project at Sierra Conservation Center** establishing California Workforce

Development Board case management services for individuals within one year of release, and continued to develop partnerships with state agencies, large employers, including in the construction and manufacturing trades, and non-profit organizations to provide employment opportunities and resources to individuals transitioning from CDCR's institutions.

- **DOR developed a video series highlighting models across the state where DOR rapidly engages participants on their road to employment**, including a [video](#) focused on how DOR, in partnership with community

stakeholders, works with individuals who are unhoused and want to find employment.

- **CDSS implemented the Guaranteed Income Pilot focused on populations facing key life transitions that puts them at higher risk for adverse outcomes: pregnant people; and youth aging out of extended foster care.** The pilot seeks to use guaranteed income (GI) as a tool to advance equity and change the economic landscape for these populations by providing unconditional, regular cash payments for a specific period intended to support the basic needs of the recipients.

## ACTION AREA 2

### Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness



- **Cal ICH released multiple rounds of awards through the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Program, supporting person-centered, housing-focused approaches to addressing both the needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and the impact of encampments on communities** and providing nearly \$250 million in funding awards to more than 30 communities.
- **Caltrans updated its policies and trainings to better reflect the department's holistic approach to addressing homelessness and encampments on the state Right of Way**, developed an Encampment Coordinator Reference Guide to serve as an in-depth internal manual with updated guidance and best practices, and held the first-ever statewide Encampment Training Academy in San

Diego that gave headquarters staff, district encampment coordinators, and external partners the opportunity to strategize and exchange information.

- **In July 2022, the Co-Chairs of the Interagency Council issued a [letter to city mayors, county supervisors, Continuums of Care leaders, and Public Housing Authority directors](#) promoting information about state funding programs and encouraging applications from California communities to federal funding opportunities**, including the Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness.
- **BCSH, in partnership with CalOES, CalHHS, DMV, and county government, and in coordination with community-based nonprofits outreach teams, engaged with people experiencing**

**homelessness at five encampment sites in Los Angeles**, connecting people to government documentation, including California ID cards and birth certificates, and government benefits and services. Following this successful pilot, the team served formerly unsheltered people at

Inside Safe interim housing hotel sites, and organized four housing fairs, and facilitating open-house viewings with community landlords with available units.

### ACTION AREA 3

#### Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing



- **Through the Homekey program's Round 2, nine sites were acquired and rehabilitated to serve as interim housing projects with a total of 415 new interim units**, bringing the total for the Homekey program to 27 interim projects and 1,370 units through the end of FY 22-23.
- **DHCS implemented the new Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program, through which 53 counties are receiving over \$900 million in funding to address the immediate housing and treatment needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with serious behavioral health conditions** by providing time-limited operational supports in various bridge housing settings.
- **HCD's ESG-CV program supported 38,984 persons in emergency shelter and served 16,004 persons through Street Outreach and HCD's Pet Assistance and Support (PAS) program served 476 individuals and 518 pets across at least 58 different shelters** by providing pet owners with behavioral support, spay/neuter services, and vaccinations, as well as food, kennels and supplies for their animals.
- **DSH executed a new contract with the Los Angeles Office of Diversion and Reentry for expanded Diversion and Community-Based Restoration services**, which will expand the number of beds in the Los Angeles program from 515 to 1,334 beds over five years, serving defendants experiencing homelessness at the time of their arrest and securing a permanent supportive housing upon discharge.
- **DOR has developed collaborative working relationships throughout the state with county coordinated entry programs, agencies providing emergency shelter and transitional housing**, and other community-based organizations to receive referrals and provide DOR services.
- **California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) administered six grant programs, with approximately 165 subrecipients, with the primary purpose of providing shelter and housing services to victims of crime**, providing more than 45,750 nights of shelter and more than 194,000 nights of transitional housing and providing emergency shelter and housing assistance to more than 5,200 youth, and stabilization planning to more than 5,400 youth.

## ACTION AREA 4

### Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities



- **HCD administered the Homekey program to expand housing for persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and during FY 22-23, twenty permanent and interim-to-permanent projects were completed and leased up with new tenants.** 886 permanent supportive housing units were produced and made available through the Homekey Round 2 program, housing 1,152 individuals.
- **The California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) continued to provide priority for projects serving people experiencing homelessness** in both the federal 9% and 4% low-income housing tax credit applications. In 2022 awards were made that will create 2,080 units for those experiencing homelessness.
- **Cal ICH continues to include Housing First requirements in the NOFA and guidance for all Cal ICH-administered grants and is working to identify the barriers faced in implementing Housing First at both the state and local-levels** in order to better support the effective administration of programs administering programs effectively.
- **CDCR's Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) distributed guidelines that assist the Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) contractors with implementing Housing First Requirements,** contract language was also changed to reflect Housing First expectations, and developed guidelines on expectations on how to meet Housing First requirements.
- **HCD administered the last planned round of No Place Like Home (NPLH) awards until additional new funding becomes available.** Overall, it is anticipated that approximately 7,852 NPLH-assisted units will be produced and FY 22-23 tenant outcome data will be available in the NPLH Annual Report to be released later 2023.
- **HCD facilitated 196 exempt surplus land dispositions and 121 standard surplus land dispositions, resulting so far in a pipeline of 5,656 total proposed housing units,** of which 3,753 (approximately 67%) will be affordable to households at 80 percent area median income or below.



- **DHCS launched the PATH Round 2 application which provides support for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, County Social Services Department, County Correctional Facilities, and County Probation Facilities to develop and implement new processes in support of the Inmate Pre-Release Application Mandate** and PATH Justice Involved Round 3 applications were due on July 31, 2023.
- **CDCR strengthened the pre-release process such that the Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) Community Transition Program now provides housing referrals to the Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) network,** who then secures community-based housing options, as appropriate.
- **CDA continues to engage ADRC and Area Agency on Aging partners to identify promising approaches for helping older adults and people with disabilities access the information they need to make informed choices about their long-term services and supports need, including housing** and to identify promising approaches for transitioning people to settings of their choice, including individuals at-risk of homelessness.
- **In FY 22-23, DSH activated 35 Early Access and Stabilization Services (EASS) programs during the course of the year, and a total of 1,440 Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) patients were served** by the program during that time, providing treatment and medication supports at the earliest point possible for individuals in jail who are deemed IST to facilitate stabilization and increase opportunities for diversion.
- **CWDB's Prison to Employment (P2E) 2.0 program launched near the end of FY 22-23** and WWDB is working with external evaluators, to ensure adequate data collection and the eventual rigorous analysis of that data.
- **DOR is piloting an employment services program in one Central Valley prison where DOR counselors are working with 79 individuals with disabilities prior to exiting the prison system to prepare them for meaningful employment** as they transition back into the community.

# Key Measures for Defining and Assessing Progress

Cal ICH uses data from a variety of sources to regularly analyze, review, report upon, and publicly share key measures regarding homelessness in California. This serves to assess the impact of federal, state, and local efforts; document and analyze racial inequities; and refine this Plan's objectives and activities. The September 2023 update to the Action Plan aligned Key Measures with the California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs), pursuant to Health and Safety Code §50220.7, that help the state and local jurisdictions, including HHAP grantees, assess their progress toward preventing and ending homelessness. The measures below have been updated to match these new measures and differ from prior years' measures.

The charts below use the most recent U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Point-in-Time (PIT) Counts as well as data from the Cal ICH Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) to document baseline data for key measures, comparing these to national and regional trends, and providing an analysis of racial and ethnic disparities where data is available. The detailed reporting below relies primarily on HDIS data. Cal ICH acknowledges the limitations in HDIS data, including the lack of data for Tribal communities. For more information on the methodology used in this summary, see Attachment C.

## Key Measures from Action Plan

**Measure 1a:** The number of **Californians accessing services while experiencing homelessness**, including Veterans, people experiencing chronic homelessness, families with children, adults, and unaccompanied youth.

**Measure 1b:** The number of **Californians experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness at a point in time**, including Veterans, people experiencing chronic homelessness, families with children, adults, and unaccompanied youth.

**Measure 2:** The number of **Californians experiencing homelessness while accessing services for the first time each year**.

**Measure 3:** The number of **Californians successfully exiting homelessness into permanent housing each year**.

**Measure 4:** The **average length of time Californians are remaining homeless** while accessing services.

**Measure 5:** The percent of **Californians returning to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing each year**.

**Measure 6:** The number of **Californians successfully placed from street outreach** into emergency shelter, transitional, or permanent housing each year.

**Student Measure:** The number of children and youth **experiencing homelessness during the school year in California**, including unaccompanied youth.

## FY 22-23 Quick Facts

- Throughout FY 22-23, CoCs in California reported serving a total of 349,497 individuals experiencing homelessness. Of those, **128,865 people were in residential settings only, 131,620 people were in non-residential settings only, and 89,012 people were in both types of settings.** A total of **72,241 people successfully exited homelessness to permanent housing** during the fiscal year.
- The 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress estimated that over **171,500 people were experiencing homelessness** on any given night throughout the State of California.
- Last, while the national number of people experiencing homelessness on any given night has declined by about 10% since 2007, California's has **increased by over 23%.**

## Fiscal Year 22-23 Key Measures

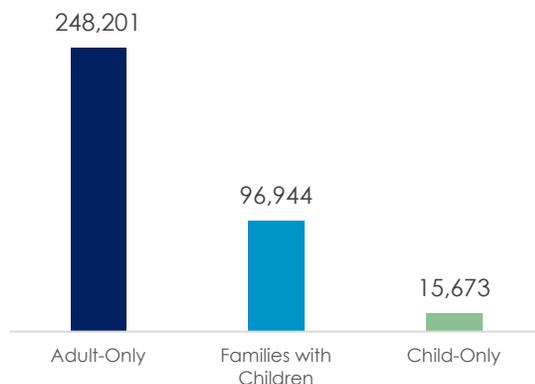
**Measure 1a:** The **number of Californians accessing services while experiencing homelessness** (over the course of a year)

*This measure includes people in adult-only households, people in families with children, and people in child-only households. A person is counted in multiple household types if they are part of different households while accessing services during the report period. Californians accessing services while experiencing homelessness hold a diverse set of characteristics, some of which are reflected in the "populations of interest" chart below. A person may be counted in multiple populations of interest. Source: HDIS.*

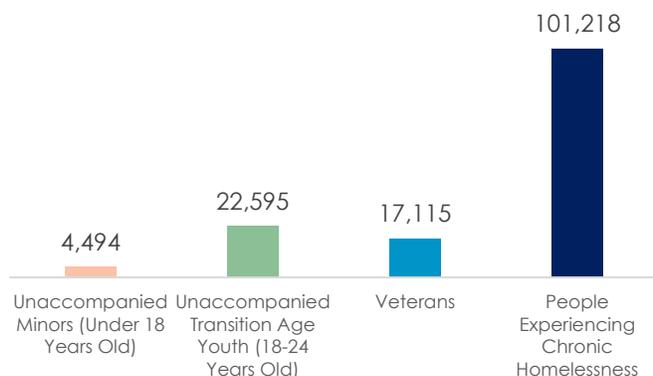
### 349,497 Californians

#### Accessed Services While Experiencing Homelessness in FY 2022-2023

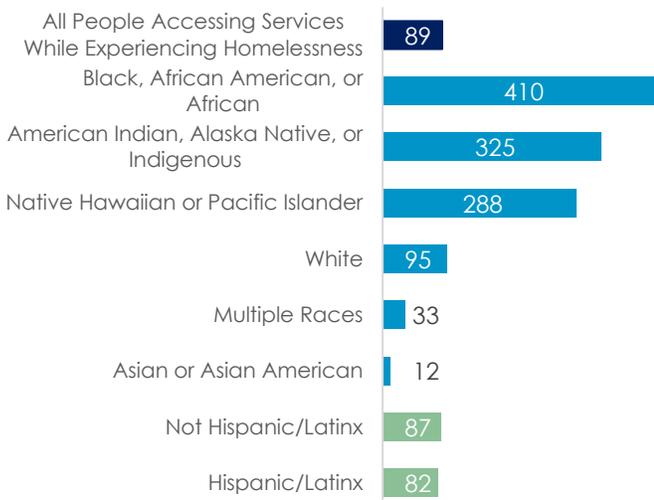
Number of Californians Accessing Services While Experiencing Homelessness, by Household Type



Number of Californians Accessing Services While Experiencing Homelessness, by Population of Interest



## Californians Accessing Services While Experiencing Homelessness, Rate by Race & Ethnicity



This chart shows the number of Californians in each race and ethnicity group who are accessing services while experiencing homelessness, relative to their share of California's overall population. Out of every 10,000 people in California, 89 accessed services while experiencing homelessness during FY 2022-2023, meaning 0.89% of all Californians accessed services while experiencing homelessness. Sources: HDIS and American Community Survey (2021).

**Measure 1b:** The number of **Californians experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness at a point in time**. Source: HUD 2022 PIT Count

**171,500 Californians**  
Experienced Homelessness at a Point in Time in 2022

Of these individuals, approximately **67% were unsheltered**. This unsheltered rate is higher than that of the country overall (40%) as well as other western states like Arizona (59%), Oregon (61%), and Washington (50%).

Over **30% identified as Black or African American**. This represents a significant disparity given the overall population identifying as Black or African American in California is 5.7%.

Over **70% of Veterans and Unaccompanied Youth** experiencing homelessness are living unsheltered on any given night throughout the State of California.

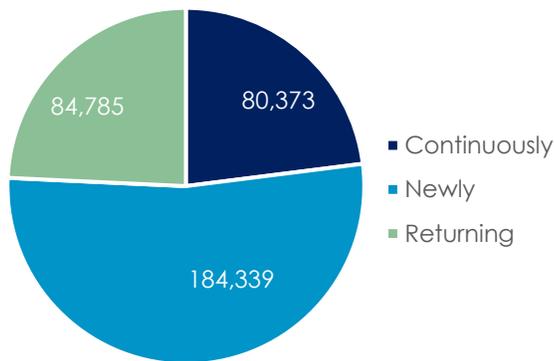
Note: New PIT data is not available for this reporting period. The number above represents the 2022 PIT Count. Cal ICH recognizes the importance of the PIT Count as it relates to federal funding and its inherent flaws when trying to accurately capture the number of people experiencing homelessness. In an effort to focus on the state of homelessness in California, Cal ICH is utilizing HDIS for in depth analysis.

**Measure 2:** The number of **Californians accessing services while experiencing homelessness for the first time each year**.

This measure includes people who accessed housing and/or services while experiencing homelessness during FY 2022-2023, but had not accessed housing and/or services while experiencing homelessness during the prior two years. Source: HDIS.

**184,339 Californians**  
Experienced Homelessness while Accessing Services for the First Time in FY 2022-2023

Number of Californians Experiencing Homelessness by Prior Experience (Continuous, New, or Returning)



**Continuously experiencing homelessness:** Experiencing homelessness while accessing services at the beginning of FY 2022-2023.

**Newly experiencing homelessness:** Experiencing homelessness while accessing housing and/or services during FY 2022-2023, but did not experience homelessness while accessing housing and/or services during the prior two years.

**Returning to homelessness:** Experiencing homelessness while accessing services during FY 2022-2023, and had previously experienced homelessness while accessing services during the prior two years.

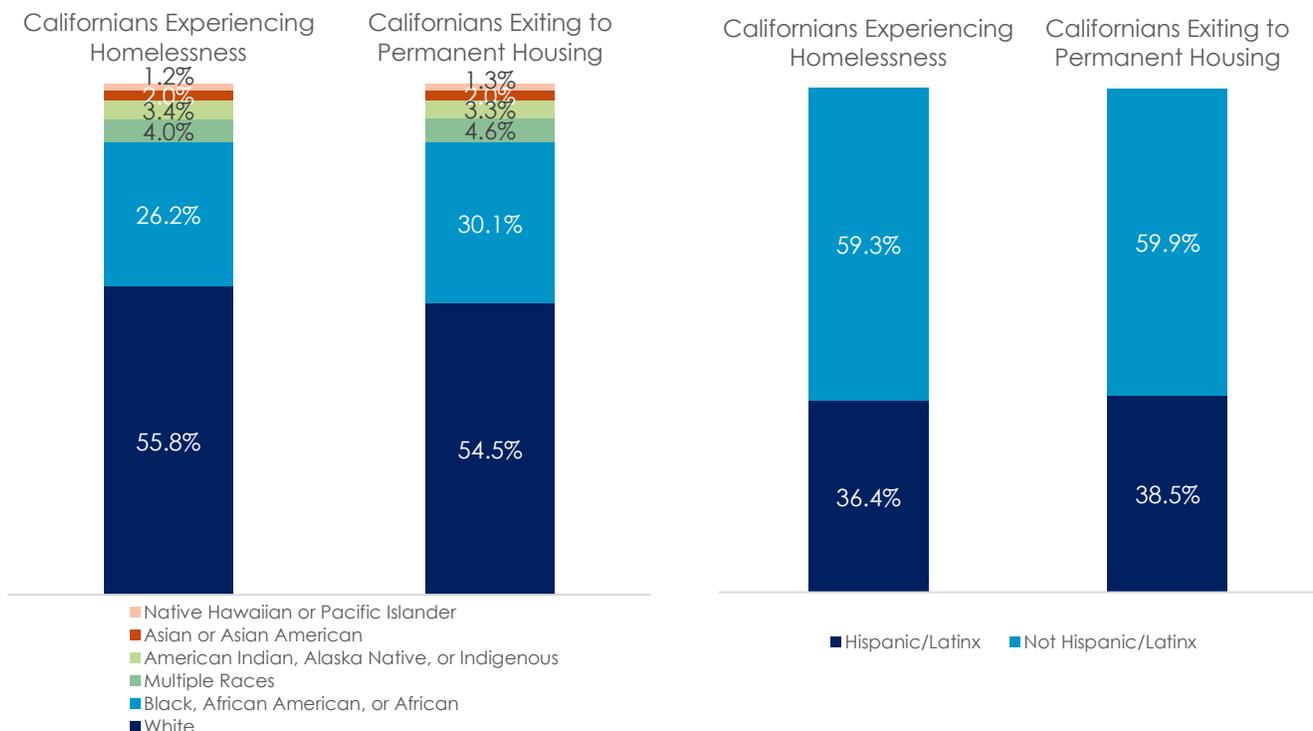
**Measure 3: The number of Californians successfully exiting homelessness into permanent housing each year.**

This measure includes people who have exited homelessness by moving into permanent housing, or by transitioning from unsheltered homelessness into a temporary sheltered setting such as an emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing. Source: HDIS.

**72,241 Californians**  
Successfully Exited Homelessness in FY 2022-2023

**Californians Successfully Exiting Homelessness into Permanent Housing, Percent by Race & Ethnicity**

These charts show the racial and ethnic composition of Californians who successfully exited homelessness into permanent housing, compared to the racial and ethnic compositions of all Californians who experienced homelessness while accessing services in FY 2022-2023. Source: HDIS.



**Measure 4:** The **average length of time Californians are remaining homeless** while accessing services.

This measure shows how many days that people experienced homelessness while accessing different types of homelessness services, including days in sheltered situations (such as emergency shelter and transitional housing) and days in unsheltered situations (but still receiving services). Source: HDIS.

**Californians Remained Homeless While Accessing Services for**

**154 Days**

on average in FY 2022-2023

**Measure 5:** The percent of **Californians returning to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing each year.**

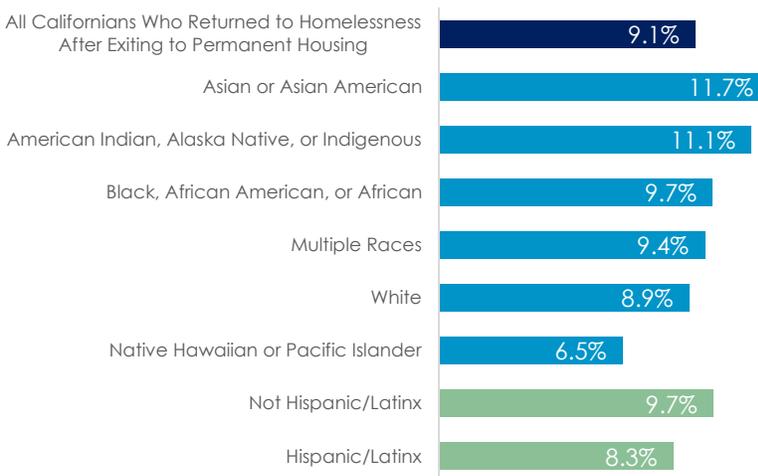
This measure shows the percentage of people who returned to homelessness within six months of exiting homelessness to permanent housing (out of all people who exited homelessness to permanent housing during the first six months of the report period). Returns are measured based on people accessing services while experiencing homelessness. Source: HDIS.

**9% of Californians**

**Returned to Homelessness in FY 2022-2023 After Exiting to Permanent Housing**

**Percent of Californians who Return to Homelessness after Exiting to Permanent Housing, by Race & Ethnicity**

This chart shows the percentage of people who accessed homelessness services within six months of exiting homelessness to permanent housing (out of all people who exited homelessness to permanent housing during the first six months of the report period). Source: HDIS.



**Measure 6:** The number of **Californians successfully placed from street outreach** into emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing each year.

This measure includes people who received services from a street outreach program, and then moved directly into a successful placement. Successful placements can include emergency shelter, safe haven, transitional housing, or a permanent housing destination. Source: HDIS.

**11,748 Californians**

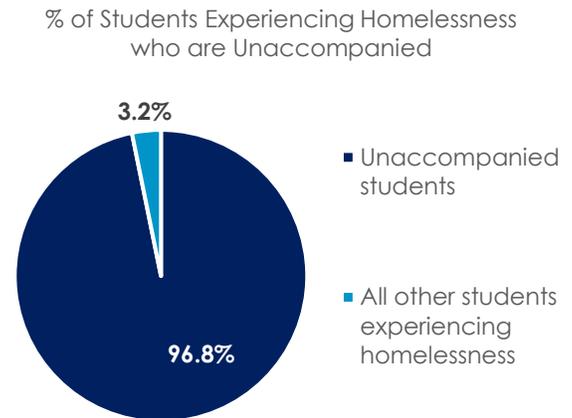
**Were Successfully Placed from Street Outreach into an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Housing in FY 2022-2023**

**Student Measure:** The number of children and youth **experiencing homelessness during the school year in California**, including unaccompanied youth.

This measure includes students who were identified as experiencing homelessness at any point during the 2021-2022 school year. Please refer to the "Methodology" section for more details about the broader definition of homelessness used to identify students. "Unaccompanied students" or "unaccompanied youth" include any students who were identified as homeless and were not in the direct care of their parent or guardian at any point in time during the school year. Source: [California Department of Education DataQuest](#).

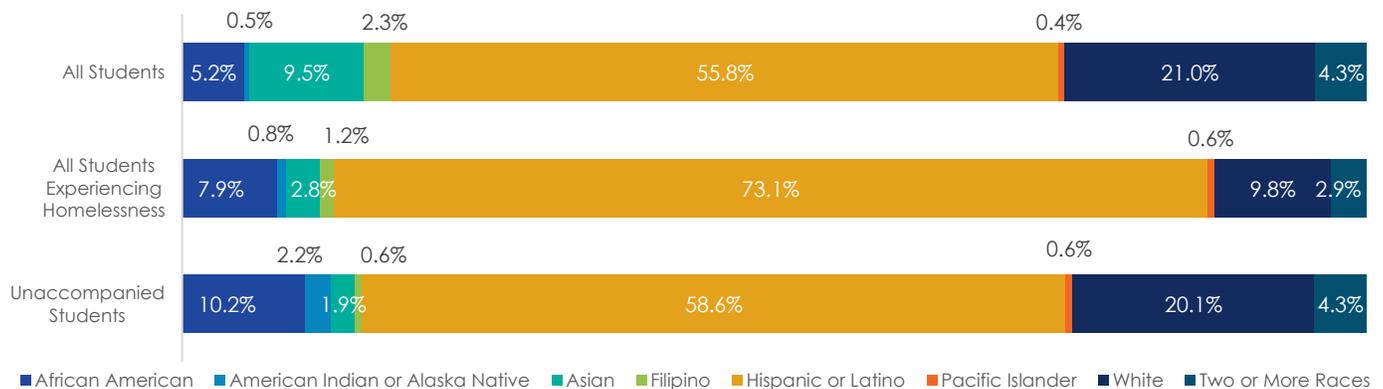
**Out of 6,064,658 students enrolled in Grades K-12 during the 2021-2022 school year, 224,191 Students Experienced Homelessness**

**7,163 Students were Unaccompanied Youth**



### Students experiencing homelessness in California, percent by race and ethnicity.

This chart shows the racial and ethnic composition of all students who were experiencing homelessness, as well as the racial and ethnic composition of unaccompanied students, next to the racial and ethnic composition of all students enrolled during the 2021-2022 school year. Source: [California Department of Education DataQuest](#).



### Measure 7: Comparison of these measures for each racial and ethnic group.

This set of measures shows the performance in Measures 1 through 6 for each racial and ethnic group, side by side. Source: HDIS and HUD 2022 PIT Count.

Race or Ethnicity	# Accessing Services while Experiencing Homelessness (M1a)	# Experiencing Homelessness at a Point in Time (M1b)	# Experiencing Homelessness for the First Time (M2)	# Exiting to Permanent Housing (M3)	Average # of Days Remaining Homeless (M4)	% Returning to Homelessness (M5)	# Successfully Placed from Street Outreach (M6)
All Californians	349,497	171,521	184,339	72,241	154	9.1%	11,748
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	11,728	7,210	6,162	2,353	152	11.1%	560
Asian or Asian American	6,876	4,003	3,830	1,417	176	11.7%	212
Black, African American, or African	91,547	52,110	44,649	21,767	168	9.7%	2,752
Multiple Races	13,865	11,763	6,641	3,341	172	9.4%	433

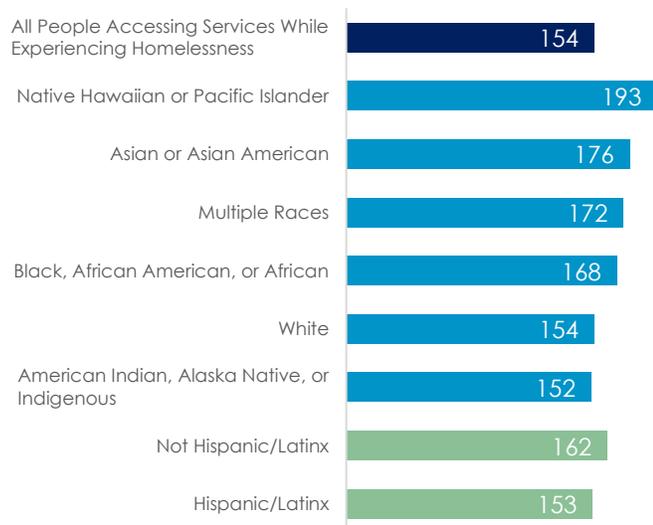
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	4,275	2,492	2,135	912	193	6.5%	153
White	194,866	93,943	101,167	39,390	154	8.9%	7,244
Hispanic/Latinx	127,197	63,556	69,224	27,797	153	8.3%	4,350
Not Hispanic/Latinx	207,351	107,965	102,773	43,293	162	9.7%	7,269

## Equity Analysis

The response to homelessness requires a commitment to addressing and reducing the racial inequities among people experiencing homelessness, how they are served, and their outcomes achieved within the homelessness response system. HDIS enables Cal ICH to analyze data across all racial and ethnic groups experiencing homelessness in California for all Key Measures. This disaggregation provides additional insights into racial and ethnic disparities across the population of people experiencing homelessness overall, those served in residential and non-residential settings, and those going through the events described in the Key Measures section above.

According to HDIS, people who are Black, African American, or African remain overrepresented in the population of people experiencing homelessness in California. Out of every 10,000 Black, African American, or African Californians, 410 accessed services while experiencing homelessness, compared to 89 people out of every 10,000 Californians of any race. Other overrepresented groups include people who are American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous, and people who are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Average Number of Days Californians Remain Homeless, by Race & Ethnicity



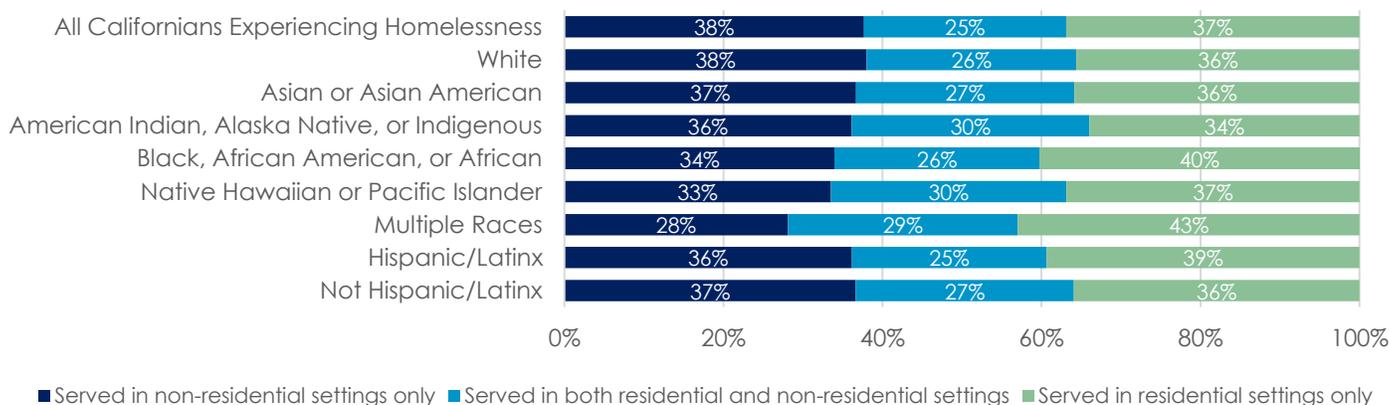
The disparity for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) can also be seen in the average length of time remaining homeless while accessing services as shown in the chart to the left. While the average for all people experiencing homelessness was 154 days, people who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander had an average of 193 days, over one month longer than the total population. People who identify as Asian or Asian American and those who identify as multiple races also experience homelessness for a longer period of time on average. For almost every non-white race category, the average number of days was longer

than the averages for both the total population and the population of people who identify as white, with the exception of the population of people who identify as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous. However, due to several factors including inaccurate categorization, lack of culturally-informed data collection methods, and exclusion of data about services provided by Tribes that do not report data to HMIS, this metric and other metrics that use HDIS data do not accurately reflect the realities for American Indian, Alaska Native and Indigenous people who are experiencing homelessness.

When examining the service settings in which people experiencing homelessness were served, there is little to no disparity in whether people are served in residential settings, non-residential settings, or both. Among all Californians served, people were just as likely to be served in non-

residential settings only (38%) compared to residential settings only (37%). The greatest divergence from the service settings for all Californians is for people who identify as multiple races, with a lower percentage of people served in non-residential settings only (28%), a higher

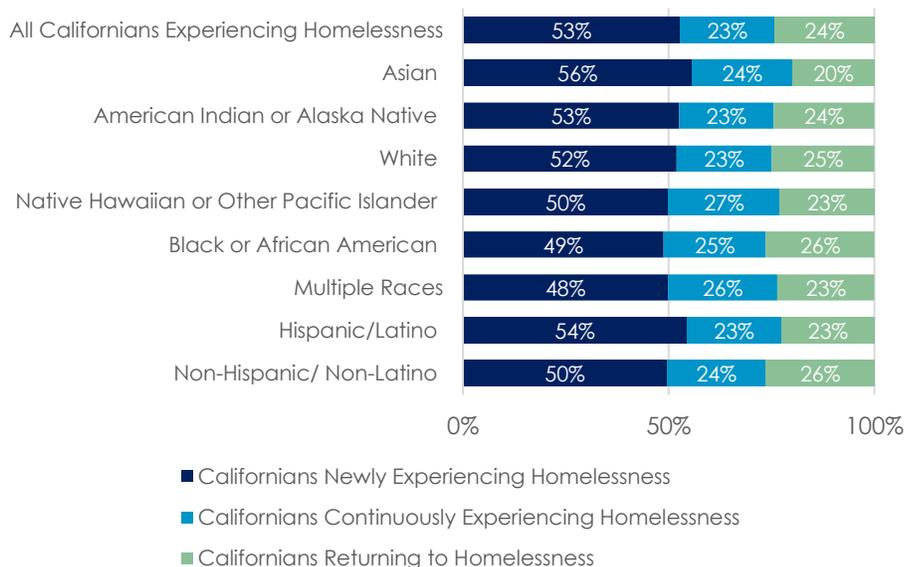
% of people of each race or ethnicity who were served in each type of setting



percentage of people served in both non-residential and residential settings (29%) and a higher percentage of people served in residential settings only (43%). People who identify as Black, African American or African are also more likely to be served in residential settings only (40%), while American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous people are less likely to be served in residential settings only (34%).

There is also a notably large share of people who are “newly” experiencing homelessness, compared to those continuously or returning to homelessness, which speaks to the need for additional or more robust prevention services. Across all populations, people were more likely to be newly entering the system than they were to be continuous participants or returning to homelessness, with at least half of most populations newly accessing homelessness services. There are slight disparities in the percentage of Asian or Asian

% of people of each race or ethnicity who are newly, continuously, or returning to homelessness



Americans newly experiencing homelessness (56%) compared to all Californians (53%), while those who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (27%), Black, African American or African (25%), or multi-racial (26%) are more likely to be continuously experiencing homelessness than the total population of Californians continuously experiencing homelessness (23%).

These differences in experiences of homelessness between people from different racial and ethnic groups underscore the importance of racial and ethnic data collection to help inform future

programming and reduce disparities. There is more work to be done to prevent people from entering homelessness, to equitably serve people while they experience homelessness, and to support people in exiting homelessness to reduce the chance that they'll return.

### **Tribal and Native American Representation**

There is also disparate representation of Indigenous and Native American populations among those experiencing homelessness, inclusive of American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and other Indigenous peoples. The data does not accurately capture the number of individuals experiencing homelessness within unsheltered and sheltered settings, nor the depth of the disparity. The data available regarding Indigenous populations is not accurate for various reasons, one being that not all of California's 109 Federally Recognized Tribes and those in their communities are included in the PIT Counts, and another being that HDIS generally does not include data on services provided by Tribes. Additionally, when urban Indigenous people attempt to seek services, they are often classified as mixed race, due to the impacts of colonization and acculturation. Indigenous and Native American individuals are sometimes denied services and told to seek services from their Tribe, regardless of whether their Tribe is in the state, or has services to provide them. Furthermore, they may not be forthcoming as to their Tribal ancestry, due to the historic way government has mistreated Native American individuals and other Indigenous populations, and for other reasons. Finally, there are often errors in survey wording, design, and administration as it relates to the Indigenous and California Tribes that leads to inaccuracy in data collection.

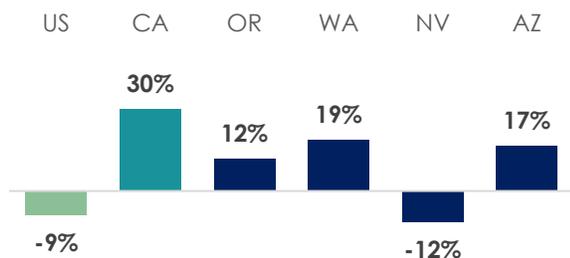
In one example, data from the [2019 needs assessment](#) conducted by the California Coalition for Rural Housing and Rural Community Assistance Corporation, with support from the CA Department of Housing and Community Development, estimated that the American Indian population experiences homelessness at least 4x the rate of the general population. Information from the needs assessment and from a year of Tribal engagement and consultation with Tribes and Tribal Partners in California highlights how chronically underserved and mischaracterized this population is and makes clear the need to work more closely with Tribes, Tribal Entities, and other partners to gather a more accurate understanding of homelessness among all Indigenous populations.

## Comparison to National and Regional Data and Trends

Note: This analysis utilizes the 2022 HUD Point in Time Count, therefore, this section reflects no changes from the FY21-22 report as no new PIT data has been collected for this reporting period.

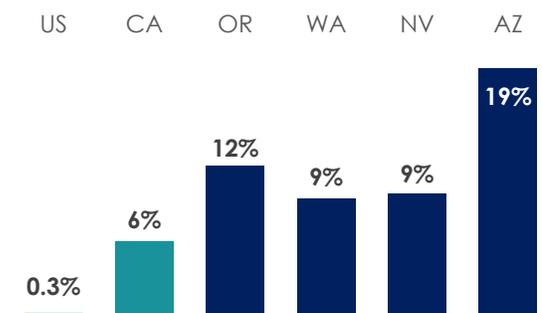
### Percent Change in Population of People Experiencing Homelessness, 2012 to 2022

U.S., California, and select West Coast states  
Source: HUD 2022 and 2012 PIT Counts



### Percent Change in Population of People Experiencing Homelessness, Pre-Pandemic to Now (2020 to 2022)

U.S., California, and select West Coast states  
Source: HUD 2022 and 2020 PIT Counts



California has had a unique trajectory in its effort to end homelessness compared to those of neighboring states and the US in general. California is the state with the highest total number of people experiencing homelessness – with Californians making up roughly 50% of the total unsheltered population in the US. Additionally, Californians are experiencing the highest rate of homelessness, with 44 out of every 10,000 people experiencing homelessness in the state (Oregon follows closely behind with 42 out of every 10,000)<sup>2</sup>.

However, despite a 30% increase in homelessness over the last decade, most recently, California has seen slower growth than its neighbors. Since 2020, before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, California had the slowest rate of growth compared to neighboring states. This could be a result of the urgency with which the state acted to help people experiencing unsheltered homelessness during the pandemic as well as the measures to keep people in their homes—whether through rental assistance, eviction moratoriums, or some combination.

<sup>2</sup> Source: [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "The 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report \(AHAR\) to Congress](#)

# Implementation Progress Reporting

The reporting of implementation progress in this section is organized by the Action Plan's five action areas and fifteen objectives, and only includes progress reporting for activities which were to be implemented during FY 22-23. See Attachment B for details on each activity to be implemented in FY 22-23, and the [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#) for a complete list of activities to be implemented through FY 22-23. See Attachment D for a list of acronyms commonly referred to throughout this section.

In August 2023, Cal ICH reached out to staff from Council member agencies and departments for updates on their FY 22-23 activities. Departments were asked to report data specifically for FY 22-23 whenever possible. However, if this information was not yet available, agencies and departments provided the most current data or noted when FY 22-23 data will be available.

To help communicate the nature of the activities being implemented, each activity is coded with one or more of the following icons:



**Activities Focused on Addressing Racial Equity:** This icon denotes activities with an explicit focus on addressing racial equity within State and local efforts to prevent and end homelessness.



**Activities Documenting and Strengthening the Impact of State Programs:** This icon denotes activities related to strengthening the implementation and impact of State and Federal funding, programs, and policies. As described within the Action Plan, during FY 22-23, State agencies and departments will set targets for many of these activities and future reports will assess progress toward those goals.



**Activities Providing Technical Assistance, Training, and Guidance:** This icon denotes activities offering technical assistance, training, or guidance to assist community partners as they implement programs to address homelessness.

## ACTION AREA 1 Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California



This Action Area includes activities focused on pursuing racial equity in response to homelessness and housing instability; engagement and partnership with people with lived expertise from experiences of homelessness; supporting interjurisdictional and regional planning; partnerships to strengthen outcomes related to education and employment; public health and disaster preparedness and response; and communications and public awareness.

### ► Objective 1: Strengthen racial equity-focused activities of State agencies and of local agencies and organizations receiving State funding for homelessness services and housing activities.

**Activity 1:** Provide and coordinate technical assistance focused on racial equity to support equitable access and outcomes within State-funded programs, and to strengthen coordinated entry systems, prioritization policies, and targeting strategies in order to address disparities in access to services and resources.



Cal ICH in collaboration with Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) continued to provide racial equity focused technical assistance to communities including:

- Developing strategies for embedding equity-based decision-making processes within policymaking, funding process and decisions, and across homelessness response systems.
- Collecting and analyzing data from the HMIS and CES to identify racial disparities throughout the State's homelessness service-delivery system and target crisis response, diversion, and prevention activities more effectively.
- Partnering with public health agencies to assess intersection between racial inequities in homelessness and in impact of public health crises.
- Utilizing a racial equity analysis tool for local homelessness service-delivery system's budgetary, programmatic, and policy decisions.

In March 2023, **Cal ICH** in coordination with TAC introduced the California Racial Equity Action Lab (CA REAL) Phase 2. Building off CA REAL Phase 1 which helped communities analyze data and set goals to assist underserved and disproportionately impacted populations, CA REAL Phase 2 assists grantees in identifying and implementing a Racial Equity Improvement Projects over a 12-month time period. 32 HHAP grantees participated.

**HCD** has provided Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) focused racial equity technical assistance that includes more than 15 webinars, 3 technical assistance engagements, and is finalizing the development of the Best Practices to Advance Racial Equity.

**HCD** is also developing a Racial Equity toolkit for non-entitlement jurisdictions and HCD to use in advancing racial equity in the delivery of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

**HCD's** Division of State Financial Assistance (DSFA) staff also have provided TA to emerging developers and tribal entities, assisting in answering questions and providing guidance for applying to affordable housing financing programs which offer funding for affordable multifamily housing developments, including supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness.

State agencies increased their efforts to enhance Tribal Organizations access to homelessness and housing program and resources during FY 21-22. Examples include:

- The **Cal ICH** Tribal Liaison contacted all 109 California Federally Recognized Tribes to receive feedback on the Tribal HHAP program and build strong relationships. Tribal Liaison also attended 14 tribal engagements and hosted or co-hosted 10 listening sessions with tribes to receive feedback in order adapt program guidelines and strengthen relationships. As a result, 3 program and policy items were updated to include tribal feedback and input, including the Tribal HHAP – 1 allocation formula, the Tribal HHAP – 2 NOFA, and its application.
- In May and June 2023, a series of engagements were held with **BCSH** and the leaders of the Pala Band of Mission Indians, Chicken Ranch Band of Me Wuk Indians, and Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians to hear from Tribal leaders about their successes, progress and challenges with the Tribal Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (Tribal HHAP) program. These visits were opportunities to strengthen the government-to-government relationship with California Tribes and lift-up success stories and best practices by Tribes in addressing housing insecurity and homelessness.
- **HCD** has provided technical assistance and training for its various programs
  - Homekey (HK) Tribal Program coordinated and hosted 12 in-person, lessons learned sessions, July through November 2022, to identify barriers that California Tribes experienced in Homekey 2.0. The HK Tribal Program also hosted four in-person NOFA workshops with California Tribes, January – February 2023 to allow input and gain feedback on draft NOFA.
  - **HCD** has provided ESG and ESG-CV focused tribal nations technical assistance that includes more than 10 webinars, 12 technical assistance engagements and the creation of the Tribal Nations Engagement Handbook which will be published in the next few months.
  - **HCD's** Division of Federal Financial Assistance (DFFA) Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV) team and tribal consultant have worked very closely with tribes to remove barriers to implementation. All HCD CDBG-CV program staff received tribal competency training provided by the tribal consultant.
  - Technical assistance and training were provided to tribes on federal requirements including procurement, Davis Bacon, Section 3 and other CDBG requirements. TA also assisted tribes with the

**Activity 2:** Provide technical assistance and training opportunities, and adapt program guidelines and guidance, to enhance Tribal Organizations' access to State homelessness and housing programs and resources.



development of Scopes of Work for contracts and Requests for Proposals to facilitate project implementation.

- **HCD's** DSFA staff attended the Pala/BCSH/HCD: Building Partnerships Event on May 26, 2023, to increase coordination with Tribal communities, broaden understanding of barriers and receive input from local entities on tribal housing needs.
- **CDSS** launched a comprehensive Technical Assistance (TA) initiative in partnership with Change Well Project, to provide eligible tribal grantees direct and intensive support in areas related to integrating housing and homelessness programs, as well as disability benefits advocacy, outreach, family support resources through a data informed racial equity lens.
  - TA is being provided to Tribes who expressed readiness for support staff and will require support with drafting job positions, descriptions, budgeting, and hiring. Change Well Project has established Action Items for each Tribal entity.
  - Per the December 2022 End-of-Year Report by Change Well, Change Well reported that 23 Tribal communities were provided in-depth technical assistance by end of the 2022 calendar year. Per Change Well Project's June 2023 monthly activity report, 13 Tribal communities are receiving technical assistance for BFH, Home Safe, and/or HDAP programs.
- Through an All County Welfare Director Letter (ACWDL) dated September 21, 2022, **CDSS** informed counties and continuing Tribes of FY 22-23 total funding available and a breakdown of funding for FY 22-23 Tribal Set-Aside funds:
  - Home Safe: \$5.0 million
  - Bringing Families Home (BFH): \$5.0 million
  - Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP): \$7.5 million

As of April 2023, 25 tribal entities requested and were awarded funding of \$35 million to establish 62 new tribal housing and homelessness programs. In FY 22-23, a total of 26 eligible tribal grantees (an increase from 3 tribal grantees) were awarded funding for the following HHD programs:

  - Home Safe: 23 Tribes and Tribal entities.
  - BFH: 25 Tribes and Tribal entities.
  - HDAP: 17 Tribes and Tribal entities.
  - Community Care Expansion (CCE): 1 Tribal entity.
  - Project Roomkey (PRK): As of FY 22-23, two Tribal communities continue to operate Project Roomkey.
- Other **CDSS** Tribal Engagement Highlights for FY 22-23 included:
  - CDSS presented on housing and homelessness regulation development in May FY 22-23 Tribal Consultation

- CDSS also hosted six Tribal Listening Sessions throughout FY 22-23 regarding program opportunities, regulations, and more.
- CDSS staff have attended training events to obtain more knowledge and expertise with respect to Tribal engagement.
- In accordance with the **DHCS** Tribal Engagement Plan, DHCS hosts regularly scheduled meetings on a quarterly basis. These meetings allow for ongoing engagement with tribes and Indian health representatives on DHCS initiatives during development as well as other DHCS activities.
  - These meetings are in addition to the existing DHCS Tribal Advisory Process outlined in the Medi-Cal State Plan. As part of this process DHCS also hosts a quarterly webinar on State Plan Amendments, Waivers, and Demonstration projects to allow tribal partners to provide immediate feedback on these proposals.
- **DHCS** is in the process of reinstating the American Indian Health Policy Panel (AIHPP) to provide on-going policy guidance to the department, assist in development of meeting agendas, and facilitate further engagement with Tribes and Indian health program representatives.
- **CDA** hired its first Tribal Engagement Manager and will be developing a strategy for outreach and engagement with California based Tribal partners.
- **DOR** has collaborative local relationships with four Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation (TVR) programs (Pinoleville Pomo Nation, Fort Mojave, Sycuan Inter, Hoopa Yurok), serving tribal communities within their respective areas to support employment outcomes.
- **CTCAC** updated regulations in July 2022 increasing the Native American apportionment of annual federal tax credits available to \$1,500,000.

**Activity 3:** Incorporate a focus on racial equity data, analysis, goals and planned activities within applications for State homelessness and housing-focused funding (HHAP, ESG-CV, others), and analyze the data and information gathered in response.



**Cal ICH** continued to incorporate a focus on racial equity data, analysis, goals and planned activities within applications for State homelessness and housing focused funding. Examples include:

[Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention \(HHAP\) Program, Round 4](#) required applicants to submit a regionally coordinated Homelessness Action Plan that included:

- Utilization of the Homeless Management Information System data to set trackable outcome goals in six System Performance Measures based on United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's System Performance Measures. Within each measure, applicants were required to:
  - Describe any underserved and/ or disproportionately impacted population(s) that your community will especially focus on related to the outcome goal and how this focus has been informed by data.
  - Describe the trackable data goal(s) related to this outcome goal.

- Identification of the actions the jurisdiction will take to ensure racial/ethnic/gender groups that are overrepresented among residents experiencing homelessness have equitable access to housing and services.
- Description of the most notable specific actions the jurisdiction will take regarding equity for racial/ethnic/gender groups.
- Description of specific and quantifiable systems improvements that the applicant will take to improve the delivery of housing and services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Improving coordinated entry systems to eliminate racial bias, to create a youth-specific coordinated entry system or youth-specific coordinated entry access points, or to improve the coordinated entry assessment tool to ensure that it contemplates the specific needs of youth experiencing homelessness.
- Description of how the planned investments of HHAP-4 resources and implementation of the activities to be supported will:
  - Help address racial inequities and other inequities in the jurisdiction's homelessness response system.

[Statute](#) was announced and requires an explanation as to why the particular encampment was being identified for support, including demographic factors related to addressing racial equity.

**Activity 4:** Utilize the newly developed Homeless Data Integration System to support both Statewide and local analyses of data, focused on documenting and understanding racial inequities in experiences of homelessness and provision of services, including the creation of a public dashboard documenting analyses.



**Activity 5:** Provide guidance and education regarding requirements of AB 686: Housing discrimination; affirmatively further fair housing, and perform

**Cal ICH** continues to update the HDIS [public dashboard](#) on its website on a quarterly basis with information from all 44 CoCs. It utilized HDIS data in the updated [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness](#) to update information on race and ethnicity of people being served by the homelessness response system in California. Cal ICH shared data on the people receiving homelessness response services by race and ethnicity to the [California Open Data Portal](#).

Cal ICH also provides Continuums of Care with dashboards using HDIS data to help them to understand racial inequities in their CoC and track their progress to address these disparities. Cal ICH previously developed a series of California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs) to measure local progress towards preventing and ending homelessness. Cal ICH performed an extensive data validation process to ensure CA SPMs are as accurate as possible.

**HCD's** Fair Housing team has developed guidance and educational materials to further inclusive communities and lift barriers to access for all community populations, including people experiencing homelessness. Guidance and materials were made available on the [Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing resource webpage](#).

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reviews and enforcement of local governments' Housing Elements with a focus on addressing racial inequities and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.



**Activity 7:** Implement set-asides to ensure tax credit and bond allocation awards are provided to Tribal entities and to BIPOC-led developers. CDLAC to implement bond allocation set-aside for BIPOC projects and CTCAC to implement tax credit set aside for tribal projects.



**CTCAC** reported that 100% of the Tribal tax credit set aside is being allocated.

► **Objective 2:** Ensure that State and local planning and decision-making processes are deeply informed and guided by recommendations from people with lived expertise from experiences of homelessness.

**Activity 1:** Implement a committee of people with lived expertise to inform the considerations and decisions of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness and member departments.



**Cal ICH** developed and released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the establishment of a Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB). The contract was awarded to Homebase and executed in December 2022 to engage in the establishment and administration of a Lived Experience Advisory Board to inform the considerations and decisions of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness and member departments. Cal ICH worked in coordination to finalize LEAB recruitment materials to begin member recruitment in July 2023. During the one-month recruitment period, a total of 320 applications were received from people representing diverse experiences across the state of California. The eleven selected LEAB members will begin onboarding during Q2 of FY 23-24.

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**Activity 2:** Ensure that whenever the expertise of individuals with lived experience of homelessness is sought, those individuals are adequately and appropriately compensated, and also seek new and additional ways to decrease barriers and to prevent any unintentional economic hardships that might result.



**BCSH** is in the process of reviewing and evaluating the compensation process across the departments and boards overseen by the Agency. Recent legislative language clarified stipends for Cal ICH Advisory Committee Members. Additional work is needed to identify and review next steps for other boards and commissions under the BCSH umbrella.

**Activity 3:** Partner with the UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative (BHHI) on the California Statewide Survey of Homelessness (CSSH), which will use survey data and in-depth interviews of hundreds of adults experiencing homelessness, in order to inform policies and programs to prevent and end adult homelessness in California



**Cal HHS** reported that the study was released. <https://homelessness.ucsf.edu/>. UCSF Benioff continues to provide webinars to educate the public about the realities of homelessness in California. Webinar registration can be found at the link above.

**Activity 4:** Proactively engage local boards and committees of people with lived experience and expertise to provide input on the development of the Cal ICH Action Plan.



In Spring 2023, **Cal ICH** staff received feedback on the FY 23-24 Action Plan update from nearly 200 people from across the state representing multiple sectors and disciplines, including people with lived experience of homelessness. This included public input sessions, tribal listening sessions, meetings with lived experience advisory boards and young adult boards, among other stakeholder input. Feedback integrated into the Plan's update and shared directly with the Interagency Council.

**Activity 5:** Convene quarterly meetings of

**CDA** reported that in 2022, the Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee (DACLAC) convened a housing workgroup that meets monthly

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housing work group of Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee and document any relevant recommendations or ideas generated



and is chaired by committee members. The workgroup continues to focus on a range of issues impacting housing for older adults and people with disabilities, including elevating the recommendation to establish a statewide housing rental subsidy fund for older adults and people with disabilities.

**Activity 6:** Provide guidance on the inclusion of paid peer positions, such as care navigators and vaccine ambassadors, within public health funding streams focused on supporting people experiencing homelessness.



**CDPH** reported that 16 Community Based Organizations across California are implementing Peer Health Ambassador program to increase ability of people experiencing homelessness to access testing, vaccinations, and treatment for COVID-19. PHAs are also conducting outreach to provide critical resources to PEH (outside of COVID-19). The program is in its 2nd quarter; funded through June '24.

A Peer Ambassador toolkit was developed by **CDPH** subcontractor Homebase.

**Activity 7:** Provide guidance to local grantees regarding the eligible uses of State funds for costs associated with engaging people with lived experience and expertise into planning and decision-making processes, and also encourage local grantees to hire people with lived expertise into regular staff positions.



**Cal ICH** HHAP grantees are encouraged to include people with lived experience in the planning of the usage of grant funding and establish a mechanism for people with lived experience of homelessness to have meaningful and purposeful opportunities to inform and shape all levels of planning and implementation, including through opportunities to hire people with lived experience.

Through Cal ICH's robust investments in technical assistance, HHAP grantees have had access to participate in the Youth Action Board Collaboration (YAB-Collab). The YAB Collab Workshops were created to help communities in California develop Youth Action Boards, that engage people with lived experience in all levels of the work to end youth homelessness.

**Activity 8:** Incorporate questions regarding the involvement of people with lived experience and expertise into local planning and decision-

**Cal ICH's** HHAP-4 applicants were required to identify if they consulted with people with lived experience to determine how HHAP-4 funding would be used. Applicants were also asked to provide partnering or plans to use any round of HHAP funding to increase partnership with people with lived experience.

## ACTION AREA 1

making processes within applications for State homelessness and housing-focused funding (e.g., HHAP, ESG-CV, HSP) and analyze the information gathered in response.



**Cal ICH's** ERF-2R applicants were required to provide details on how input from people with lived experience were meaningfully incorporated into the proposal.

**CDSS** provided guidance through ACWDL September 21, 2022 and ACWDL February 11, 2022 for CalWORKs Housing Support Program, Bringing Families Home, Housing and Disability Advocacy Program, and Home Safe Program and was disseminated to grantees for the purpose of encouraging meaningful input and participation from people with lived experiences.

**CDSS** collected Program Update surveys from HDAP, Home Safe, BFH, and HSP grantees in FY 21-22 to demonstrate use of program funds consistent with program guidance and requirements. The survey asks grantees about the development of recruitment, hiring and advancement of BIPOC, and people with lived experience and their involvement in planning and policy design.

- BFH and HSP – 66.7% reported that their programs are in the process of increasing recruitment and hiring of BIPOC and people with lived experience. 84% of grantees reported YES to involving BIPOC and people with lived experience in program and policy design.
- HDAP and Home Safe – 50% reported that their programs are in the process of increasing recruitment and hiring of BIPOC and people with lived experience. 60% reported YES to involving BIPOC and people with lived experience in program and policy design.

**DHCS'** BHBH Program is forming a People with Lived Experience (PWLE) panel for people who have personal experience with homelessness and behavioral conditions and would like to share their expertise. The PWLE application was released on July 11, 2023 with a deadline of August 21, 2023.

**HCD's** ESG Program is developing a to-be-published Best Practices to Advance Racial Equity document that directly provides guidance on engaging persons with lived experience. In addition, input and feedback from Homekey Round 1 residents was integrated and utilized to improve areas in the Homekey Round 3 NOFA related to incorporating community and the voice of lived experience in project design.

**Activity 9:** Assess composition of Department of Rehabilitation's advisory boards and committees for representation of people with experiences of homelessness and engage in recruitment efforts to support representation, and recruitment of people with lived expertise.

**DOR** has updated committee and board recruitment efforts for applicants to self-disclose lived experience. This includes application and interview questions that encourage participants to share their lived or professional experience with diverse and historically marginalized communities including experience with homelessness.

## ACTION AREA 1



**Activity 10:** Coordinate with local CBO systems to elevate local housing issues and identify any policy goals focused on issues of housing instability and/or homelessness and identify opportunities for advancing such policy recommendations.



**DOR** provides support to 28 Independent Living Centers (ILCs) in California that serve individuals of all ages and with any type of disability including with housing services and supports. The ILCs participate in the Disability Organizing (DO) Network which has a Housing Issues Workgroup that focuses on Housing Affordability, Access, Visitability, and Universal Design. The workgroup identified barriers to obtaining and retaining housing including that individuals on fixed income have a hard time meeting housing income eligibility requirements. There is need for more accessible and affordable housing units located near public transportation and social service programs and there is a lack of organizations that can provide legal housing assistance and advocacy.

The DO Network worked to support ILC staff and community advocates to build the skills needed to promote affordable housing options and protect existing affordable housing resources in local communities. They also identified the need to strengthen state and local partnerships to connect individuals with housing including coordinating care systems that provide access to wraparound services, including mental health and substance use treatment.

### ► **Objective 3: Incentivize and support cross-sector, interjurisdictional, and regional planning, decision-making, and accountability.**

**Activity 1:** Perform the Statewide Homelessness Landscape Assessment Study of programs funded, implemented, and administered by state entities across California using a mixed-methods research approach, collecting both quantitative and qualitative data, to provide holistic understanding of how state resources are being used and to guide state policy decisions.



**Cal ICH** presented the [Statewide Homelessness Assessment](#) to the Legislature in February 2023. The Statewide Homelessness Assessment covers the impact of 35 state programs serving people experiencing homelessness between Fiscal Year 2018-19 and 2020-21. The report includes analysis of program fiscal data provided by state departments and uses data from HDIS to understand how many people were served by these state programs, the types of services they received, and their outcomes at the end of the reporting period.

**Activity 2:** For deployment of new Homeless, Housing,

Examples of work related to this activity include:

## ACTION AREA 1

Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) programs funds, develop and implement processes for requiring and supporting local jurisdictions to develop, and to submit for review and approval, local homelessness action plans, that include outcome goals and equity related goals for key measures of the performance of their local homelessness response system.



- **HCD's** ESG/ESG-CV programs developed the CoC Collaboration Policy and provided a webinar on CoC Collaboration to program participants reviewing reporting guidance, coordinating requirements, optional coordinating activities, and best practices.
- **Cal ICH** HHAP-4 applicants were required to submit a regionally coordinated Local Homelessness Action Plan that included new outcome goals that are specific, ambitious, achievable, and quantifiable to prevent and reduce homelessness over a three-year period, informed by the findings from local landscape analysis data. Per [Assembly Bill 140 \(Health and Safety Code 50218.6, et seq.\)](#) and building off of HHAP-3, the outcome goals were based on the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's system performance measures, including:
  - Reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness.
  - Reducing the number of persons who become homeless for the first time.
  - Increasing the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.
  - Reducing the length of time persons remain homeless.
  - Reducing the number of persons who return to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing.
  - Increasing successful placements from street outreach.
  - Homeless Management Information System trackable data goals related to the outcome goals listed above as they apply to underserved populations and overrepresented populations disproportionately impacted by homelessness.

BCSH continues to foster engagement opportunities with local communities. The goal is to learn more about how homelessness manifests in California and how communities are leveraging state programs and funding to address homelessness and uplift stories of success. FY 22-23 notable engagements focused on homelessness include:

In November 2022, a meeting in Sacramento was held with Governor Newsom and local leaders to discuss opportunities to maximize regional collaboration and funding through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program (HHAP). More than 100 city, county and continuum of care leaders joined to discuss local challenges and opportunities to partner to address homelessness.

In February 2023, BCSH leadership attended a 3-day series of homelessness engagements in Bakersfield, Riverside, and Los Angeles showcasing the power of regional partnerships and local solutions to resolve homelessness. There were visits to an interim shelter and navigation center, a Homekey community for LGBTQ+, HIV+ youth and veterans experiencing homelessness, and the celebration of the grand opening of a permanent supportive housing site for low-income families and people experiencing homelessness.

**Activity 3:** Based on local homelessness action plans, outcome

Due to numerous competing high-priority activities, **Cal ICH** has not had the opportunity to complete analyses on the local homelessness action plans.

## ACTION AREA 1

goals and equity-related goals submitted by local jurisdictions, develop statewide projections for key performance measures and monitor and assess performance against those projections.



**Activity 4:** Develop interagency practices for sharing and, where feasible, integrating, data from health and human services, housing, and homelessness programs, in service of data-informed and equity-anchored policy and program implementation.



**Activity 5:** In compliance with AB 977, add prioritized State programs into Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS), including supporting communities to incorporate such programs within their local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to provide State access to data across State-funded programs, and generate relevant reporting.



The **Governor's Office** hosted a series of workgroups, including about communications and data. This series has led to increased collaboration between **CDA, BCSH, and HCD**, sharing housing data resources to better inform metrics for the Master Plan on Aging Goal 1, Housing for all ages and stages.

**Cal ICH** contracted with Abt Associates to provide technical assistance to state departments and agencies and their grantees to achieve compliance with AB 977. State agencies and departments expressly named in statute, in partnership with Cal ICH and Abt Associates, have issued instructions to their grantees to support HMIS data entry. Grantees of the 10 programs specified in AB 977 received technical assistance to achieve compliance by July 1, 2023. Cal ICH is in the process of engaging state agencies and departments administering state funded homelessness programs that commenced on or after July 1, 2021 to assess their technical assistance needs. Technical assistance will be provided to these grantees in FY 23-24.

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**Activity 7:** Support greater collaboration and coordination between Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) with local Continuum of Care (CoC) organizations and with State-funded homelessness programs.



**CDPH** has recruited People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) Equity Specialists connected with points of contact at 9 LHJs to obtain information regarding PEH services within each jurisdiction. A survey was disseminated to identify strengths and needs of LHJ's/CoC. In FY 23-24 CDPH will work with Homebase and continue to foster collaboration and coordination between LHJs and CoCs through listening sessions, office hours, and other technical assistance. A Statewide LHJ convening in September will present an opportunity to connect directly with LHJ's.

**Activity 8:** Provide technical assistance and guidance to grantees and partners in support of regional planning and strengthening of regional approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.



**Cal ICH** provided extensive technical assistance (TA) for grantees in FY 22-23, including:

- **Permanent Housing Solutions:** 7 HHAP grantees received 1:1 TA to strengthen the homeless response system and increase capacity for permanent housing solutions. A Shelter Standards Toolkit was developed to assist communities in developing shelter standards that meet unique community needs. The document will be released in FY 23-24.
- **Racial Equity:** Since March 2023, 32 HHAP grantees are participating in CA REAL Phase 2, a 1-yr initiative to assist Cal ICH HHAP grantees in identifying and implementing a Racial Equity Improvement Project.
- **Youth Programs:** 10 HHAP grantees completed a 6-series webinar held from Jun-Nov 2022 to support the development of a Youth Action Board that engage people with lived experience in all levels of the work to end youth homelessness.
- **Performance Based Contracting and Partnership Development:** 19 HHAP grantees attended a webinar to learn how to develop a continuous improvement process system to improve contract management relationships between grantees and service providers and build in accountability measures for improved outcomes in serving people experiencing homelessness.
- **Encampment Resolution Funding Support:** Cal ICH in coordination with Homebase provided TA support to all ERF-1 and ERF-2L grantees including providing an orientation to the program and individualized support for their encampment projects.
- **Tribal HHAP Support:** Cal ICH finalized the request for proposal process to contract with a Tribal TA provider that will assist all Tribal HHAP grantees in utilizing funding in the most effective ways in their community. Direct TA work with grantees will begin in FY 23-24.

For FY 22-23, in **CDSS** ACWDL September 2022, the letter details funding opportunities to apply as a region with potential bonus. Currently the Yurok Tribe and Humboldt County partner on a regional Bringing Families Home

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Program (BFH). Technical assistance is available for any community interested in regional coordination.

**HCD** ESG Program has developed a resource webpage that includes several guidance documents that can assist with regional approaches to preventing and ending homelessness – see Resource tab at <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/emergency-solutions-grants>

**Activity 9:** Leverage HCD's role in reviewing and regulating Housing Elements, with Cal ICH's interagency scope, to deliver a new level of technical assistance on homelessness to cities and counties, and, in collaboration with other State departments, develop an interagency guide on actions city governments can take to address homelessness.



**HCD** continues to review housing elements and provide guidance on homelessness-related issues when applicable. Progress was not made on an interagency guide in FY 22-23. This activity has been updated in the FY 23-24 updated Action Plan update to reflect next steps of implementation.

**Activity 10:** Act upon the recommendation of the Implementing the Master Plan for Aging in California Together (IMPACT) Stakeholder Committee to prioritize a focus on ending older adult homelessness within the implementation of the state's Master Plan on Aging.



In September 2022, **CDA's** California for All Ages and Ability Day of Action elevated recommendations to end older adult homelessness, which led to the development of Initiative 2 of the 2023-24 Master Plan for Aging to "Explore emerging local government models to inform consideration of Rental Subsidy Programs for older adults and people with disabilities. Identify existing program parameters including subsidy amount, duration, eligibility criteria, and priority populations."

**Activity 11:** Ensure an appropriate focus on people experiencing homelessness and people transitioning from institutional and care settings, in the

In 2022, **CDA** has promoted the California Department of Rehabilitation's Community Living Fund (CLF) Program with ADRC and AAA partners for expanding the capacity of disability and aging services and programs to provide person-centered institutional transition and diversion services for people of all ages and with any type of disability who do not qualify for existing services.

## ACTION AREA 1

Area Agency on Aging network, and the "No Wrong Door" Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC) system, and through programs including California Community Transitions.



**Activity 12:** Support data analysis leveraging public health data (and other social determinants of health data) with HDIS to better inform broad policy recommendations and program delivery.



**Activity 13:** Enhance the availability of data regarding mortality among people experiencing homelessness, through technical assistance and data collection activities to ensure such information is reflected on death certificate data provided to the state from counties, and use the data collected to inform and strengthen public health interventions to reduce such mortality.



**Activity 14:** Support and strengthen expectation of joint CoC-county-city planning and coordination in

No significant progress on this activity was made in FY 22-23. This activity was updated in FY23 Action Plan to directly address data sharing across agencies. A **CDPH** PEH Research Scientist will start in September 2023 and will support this activity.

An internal **CDPH** people experiencing homelessness working group is to begin development of resources (webinar & toolkit) for coroners, medical examiners, and funeral directors on homeless indicators. In FY 2023-2024, greater collaboration with departments will be needed to move forward with this activity.

**Cal ICH** HHAP-4 applicants were required to coordinate in the development of local homelessness action plans and related analyses and in setting 6 Outcome Goals shared across CoC-County-City regions and to determine the strategies each jurisdiction would implement in pursuit of those goals.

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awards and implementation of State homelessness funding.



These applicants were required to demonstrate how the applicant has coordinated, and will continue to coordinate, with other jurisdictions, including the specific role of each applicant in relation to the other applicants in the region.

ERF-2R competitive applications were evaluated and scored on their cross systems collaborations and service strategies to help people experiencing homelessness transition towards safe and stable housing.

**Activity 15:** Provide grants and incentives that support local and regional planning and initiatives through SB 2 Planning Grants, Local Early Action Planning Grants, and Regional Early Action Planning Grants.



**HCD** progress made during FY 22-23 includes implementation of the Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0). Two batches of REAP 2.0 awards were approved and awarded to seven Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) during FY 22-23. These awards totaled \$336,978,123.45. Additionally, \$18,176,125.09 was awarded in advance allocations for MPOs. These awards support regional planning and implementation efforts to accelerate infill housing development, support multimodal transportation, Affirmatively Further Fair Housing (AFFH) and prevent displacement in historically disadvantaged and underserved communities including people experiencing homelessness.

**Activity 16:** Map affordable and accessible housing for seniors and people with disabilities within Home and Community Based Services and Gap Analysis.



The 2022-23 budget authorized **CDA** to launch the non-Medi-Cal Home and Community-Based Services Gap Analysis and Roadmap to identify availability of services across the state, including affordable and accessible housing. The Gap Analysis will be completed in early 2024.

**Activity 17:** Identify and implement appropriate opportunities to include Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) as eligible applicants within state funding programs.



**CDPH** reported no update for FY 22-23. In FY 2023-2024, collaboration between Cal ICH and CDPH is needed to move activity forward.

**Activity 18:** Implement CalAIM Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Funding; Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community

CMS approved the **DHCS** CalAIM 1115 Waiver Demonstration, including all ECM and Community Supports PATH activities on December 29, 2021.

- All PATH initiatives are live as of Spring 2023. Applications for Round One of the CITED (Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion and Development) and over \$200 million in funding was awarded to 137 organizations over Round 1A and Round 1B.

## ACTION AREA 1

Supports, providing funding to support the statewide implementation of ECM and Community Supports including: services provided by former Whole Person Care Pilot Lead Entities until the services transition to managed care coverage under CalAIM; virtual "marketplace" that offers hands-on technical support and off-the-shelf resources to establish implementation infrastructure needed; regional collaborative planning and implementation efforts to promote readiness among managed care plans, providers, CBOs, county agencies, public hospitals, tribal partners, and others to promote readiness; and direct funding to local entities noted above to support the delivery of Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports services.



- The Technical Assistance (TA) Marketplace Initiative's Project Eligibility Application opened on February 27, 2023. As of August 2023, 27 TA Projects are approved through the TA Marketplace and more are pending.
- Round One of the Justice Involved (JI) Initiative Planning and Capacity Building application opened in June 2022. These funds are dispersed on a rolling basis and provide funding to support the implementation of pre-release Medi-Cal enrollment and suspension processes, as well as the delivery of Medi-Cal services in the 90 days prior to release.
- 10 former WPC Lead Entities were approved for WPC Mitigation funds to temporarily sustain WPC Pilot services that "map to" ECM and/or Community Supports services until a local MCP begins to cover them by January 1, 2024.
- The Collaborative Planning and Implementation Initiative provides funding to support regional collaborative planning efforts among Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs), providers, community-based organizations (CBOs), county agencies, public hospitals, tribes, federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and others to support implementation of ECM and Community Supports. In November 2022, DHCS notified 10 entities of award to facilitate CPI collaboratives. There are currently 25 CPI collaboratives offered across California.

**Activity 19:** Implement the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) through which Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) are incentivized to develop the necessary capacity and partnerships to connect their member to needed housing services and

**DHCS** reported that measurement has not yet been completed, Local Homelessness Plans are still being submitted and reviewed.

## ACTION AREA 1

to take an active role in reducing and preventing homelessness. Implementation includes requirement that participating MCPs and local partners submit a Local Homelessness Plan for each county, including mapping the continuum of services with focus on homelessness prevention, interim housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing.



### **Activity 20:**

Collaborate with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to strengthen the cohesion among California's Veterans Affairs Healthcare Systems' homeless programs and State and local homelessness systems.



**CalVet** reported that planning is ongoing.

## ► **Objective 4: Improve access to education and employment services and opportunities for people at risk of, experiencing, and/or exiting homelessness.**

**Activity 1:** Implement the High Road Training Partnerships Resilient Workforce Fund Program with a focus on: industry as an organizing principle; building partnerships that develop skills employers need in

The **CWDB** High Road Training Partnerships Resilient Workforce Fund Program launched near the end of FY 22-23, so there is not much data available yet to report. Work continues with external evaluators, the UCLA Labor Center, to develop specific measures.

## ACTION AREA 1

ways that secure stronger economic opportunities for low-income workers; and advancing a field of practice that addresses urgent questions of income inequality, economic competitiveness, and climate change through regional skills strategies.



**Activity 2:** Support and invest in partnerships through Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships that add high road approaches to existing sector strategies and career pathways including, but not limited to, improving job quality and job access for students in community colleges who are from underserved and underrepresented populations, including students at-risk for or experiencing homelessness.



**Activity 3:** Implement Homeless Innovative Programs grants to identify innovative practices to improve the educational stability, access, support, and academic achievement of children and youth experiencing homelessness, and engage grantees into statewide professional

The **CWDB** Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships program launched near the end of FY 22-23, and there is not much data available yet to report. CWDB continues to work with external evaluators, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, to ensure adequate data collection and the eventual analysis of that data. CWDB is developing a cloud-based data collection and management system.

By September 30, 2024, **CDE** will have developed information posted to the Homeless Education Web page, including links to the websites of the each of the 20 districts, counties and/or charters that are participating to develop models of innovative practices. Homeless Innovative Program grantees will have presented, at minimum, at one countywide, statewide or national conference session related to increases of access and supports to the education of students experiencing homelessness through systems work.

## ACTION AREA 1

and resource development activities such as communication, outreach, training, and scaling up the model of innovative practice (MIP) for dissemination and replication.



**Activity 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.)



**Activity 5:** Implement and evaluate the Homeless and Housing Insecurity Pilot (HHIP) Program, which provides housing services and support to homeless and housing insecure students.



As part of the Prison to Employment Initiative, **CDCR**, in collaboration with Mother Lode Job Center, implemented a pilot project at Sierra Conservation Center establishing California Workforce Development Board case management services for individuals within one year of release. The case plans were made available to the job center where those individuals will reside so they can obtain employment resources and support services based on their identified needs.

**CDCR** also continued to develop partnerships with state agencies, large employers, including in the construction and manufacturing trades, and non-profit organizations to provide employment opportunities and resources to individuals transitioning from CDCR's institutions.

Note: For the 2023-24 Cal ICH Action Plan, CDCR refined some of the metrics originally identified, which will be reflected in an internal dashboard that will be used for oversight and quality improvement purposes

To date, the **CCCCO** HHIP Program served 819 unduplicated students in 2022 winter and spring semesters, in addition to serving 410 students with case management services.

- Most common services provided include: case management, housing navigation services and ongoing rental assistance.
- The Chancellor's Office expanded the program to 11 new colleges, bringing the total number of participating colleges to 25.
- The Chancellor's Office is hosting an in-person training for the 11 new colleges on September 21st, 2023. This training will include guidance on implementation, program requirements and compliance with Assembly Bill 977. Through the training, they will also have access to best practices as established by existing HHIP program staff.

The Chancellor's Office also continued to provide professional development trainings to colleges piloting the HHIP on topics including successful program implementation, data collection/submission and annual fiscal reporting. Participating colleges submit annual data including both aggregate survey data and unitary student data capturing student services data for 2022-2023 fiscal year.

- Some challenges faced by HHIP colleges primarily involved varying successes with community housing partners and achieving AB977 reporting compliance (especially in small counties). Technical Assistance consultants have been working to help colleges gain compliance with AB977 reporting requirements.

**Activity 6:** Ensure that plan development activities implemented within DOR's employment services programming include a focus on identifying individuals who meet the definition of homeless.



The number of people who identify as experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity has increased on an annual basis since FY 20-21, and in FY 22-23, has reached its highest level of individuals, with 5,195 individuals served, reflecting **DOR's** increased focus and partnerships for serving people experiencing homelessness.

**Activity 7:** Educate Continua of Care organizations across California regarding DOR employment services that can be provided to people with disabilities who are being served within the homelessness response systems' housing and services programs.



Across the state, **DOR** participates in resource and job fairs serving individuals who are homeless or who are experiencing the justice involved re-entry process. DOR also presents at staff and collaborative meetings of community-based organizations who serve individuals who are homeless.

**Activity 8:** Provide technical assistance to enhance capacity of local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide services and supports for students experiencing homelessness and housing instability to foster educational

This year the **CDE**, with the work of the HE TACs, was able to collect concrete data around the needs specific to COEs and align trainings, regional meetings, webinars and fact sheets to those needs. A total of 6 new resource sheets were developed that included tools and best practices and also aligned to the webinar trainings for those resources.

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achievement and progression.



**Activity 9.** Assess the impact of employment opportunities provided through Caltrans' Service Assistance Maintenance positions on hiring of people experiencing homelessness and access to promotional opportunities and career ladders.



**Activity 10:** Explore opportunities to coordinate service delivery at the local and regional levels focused on homelessness by identifying best practices, training opportunities, and peer-to-peer connections between the Local Workforce Development Boards during regional exchanges.



**Activity 11:** Track and report data regarding participation in California Workforce Development Board programs by people experiencing homelessness, including data regarding participants

**Caltrans** collects information regarding housing status from candidates for employment on a voluntarily basis only, and thus this information is not accurately captured or tracked. The Service Assistance Maintenance (SAM) positions are successful with many hired at that level advancing.

- In District Ten, 36 SAMs have been hired- many via the Ready To Work and other programs targeting at-risk individuals (formerly homeless, incarcerated, foster system, etc.).
- Of those 36 workers, 10 have promoted or transferred to another state agency. Three of them are on the management track at Caltrans, with two already becoming Caltrans Maintenance Supervisors and one a Caltrans Maintenance Leadworker.
- The **Caltrans** partnership with Butte County Office of Education allows us to hire people experiencing homelessness among other vulnerable hiring populations.
- **Caltrans** continues to work on creating a methodology that would help in tracking hiring people experiencing homelessness.

**CWDB** is working with **Cal ICH** to have the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) present on the Local Board's role in the workforce ecosystem, importance of collaboration between systems to support people experiencing homelessness, and existing resources.

Regular data tracking continues, though most **CWDB** programs were still in the contracting phase during FY 22-23, and thus there is not much data to report. CWDB is working toward more streamlined data reporting in the future using a new cloud-based data management system.

## ACTION AREA 1

served, career and training services provided, credentials received, and employment placements.



**Activity 12:** Strengthen the tracking and reporting of employment outcomes across State-funded homelessness and housing programs.



Due to numerous competing high-priority activities, **Cal ICH** has not had the opportunity to launch the Employment Working Group and therefore has not made progress on this activity. Cal ICH staff plan to take this on in FY 24-25.

**Activity 13:** Monitor local educational agencies' (LEAs') implementation of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.



The 22-23 School Year (SY) saw an increase to 36 LEA Reviews, compared to the 21-22 SY, which saw 30 LEA reviews. **CDE** updated CARS reporting to include the use of the Housing Questionnaire at least annually, for all students/families to ensure proper and consistent statewide identification, access to resources, rights and protections for all students. Data regarding the use of the Housing Questionnaire was included in the updated risk assessment for prioritizing LEAs for monitoring.

- CDE provided 50 technical assistance letters to all LEAs that had a decrease of 100+ homeless students per LEA for the 20-21 SY to 21-22 SY. This TA letter shared identification strategies, resources and how to properly identify and serve students who may be experiencing homelessness.
- Additionally, CDE has worked to develop a GIS mapping of data using census data that allows comparison of enrollment and identification numbers per county, district and charter schools (i.e. LEAs). This has data dated back to 21-22 that allows for SY data comparison.
- Currently, 22-23 SY data has already shown a 9% increase for students experiencing homelessness that better aligns to overall enrollment and pre-pandemic counts of students experiencing homelessness.

**Activity 14:** Communicate and disseminate guidance to county offices of education (COEs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and partnering agencies to strengthen support for students experiencing homelessness.

**CDE** reports that Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers increased and localized the number of regional meetings dividing the state into 4 areas, with an average of 15 additional meetings that occurred quarterly throughout the state. Increase of trainings provided to the field through partnerships, such as with the National Center for Youth Law, the Center for Cities and Schools and SchoolHouse Connection. Trainings averaged 140+ attendees that represented almost 20 counties per training. A total of 9 Webinars have been recorded and posted for self-paced trainings. The areas covered are:

- Addressing the needs of students experiencing homelessness who have disabilities;
- Expanded learning and summer programs for McKinney Vento students;

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- Supporting young children experiencing homelessness for early education programs;
- Supporting immigrant and refugee students experiencing homelessness;
- Supporting unaccompanied youth;
- Youth engagement/peer to peer solutions for McKinney Vento; and
- Identification and Building School-community partnerships- which includes its own tool-kit.
- These recordings and resources can all be found on the HE TAC website here: <https://www.hetac.org/resources/hetac-resources>.

**Activity 15:** Participate in California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance intersegmental workgroup with CSU and UC systems to advance basic needs security including addressing homelessness and housing insecurity for students to increase their success.



**CCCCO** continued participation in bi-weekly meetings of the California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance (CHEBNA) with the California State University and University of California systems. In Spring 2023, CHEBNA hosted its third annual Virtual Learning Series for higher education professionals across the state. This year the series addressed:

- Needs of parenting students,
- Access to Cal-Fresh benefits, and
- Advancing housing access

In 2024, CHEBNA will not be conducting this event in lieu of a large Basic Needs Summit. The summit will be held February 21-22nd, 2023 at the Sacramento Convention Center, with an expected attendance of 1700+ participants.

**Activity 16:** Work with CHEBNA partners to provide information and guidance focused on addressing the needs of students experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness to higher education leaders and staff, through a session within Learning Series or through other actions.



**CCCCO**, in partnership with CSUs and UCs, developed the Spring Learning Series, which focuses on providing training to support students in a number of areas, including access to financial aid information, healthy food, safe housing and overall physical and mental health. The 2023 CHEBNA Virtual Learning Series presents an opportunity to expand practitioner knowledge as we explore creative ways to support students. A link to the materials can be found at [Spring 2023 Learning Series materials](#).

**Activity 17:** Provide guidance and support to encourage the coordination and alignment of service delivery, including

**CWDB** reports no progress on this activity for FY 22-23.

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strategic co-enrollment and creation of referral processes, across multiple partner programs to effectively leverage resources for maximum benefit to shared participants.



**Activity 18:** Consider the needs of people experiencing or exiting homelessness within the development of state program policies related to access and service delivery to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.



In FY 22-23, **CDSS'** Housing and Homelessness Division (HHD) regularly provided draft guidance, best practices, as well as regulations to client advocates for their review and input for the purpose of understanding how to improve access to housing and supports from the perspective of individuals who have either experienced or at a time, at risk of homelessness.

### ► **Objective 5: Support California communities to develop disaster preparedness plans and public health strategies more inclusive of the needs of people experiencing homelessness.**

**Activity 2:** Support California communities in developing disaster preparedness plans that incorporate extreme heat and are more inclusive of the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including: distribution of best-practice models and toolkits; incorporating additional climate adaptation strategies into homelessness-focused Technical Assistance; assessing and document strong local, state and tribal examples to develop stronger guidance and expectations; support

Both **BCSH** and Cal ICH social media channels were used extensively during the extreme heat events to inform local officials and service providers about best practices as well as encouraging the public to look out for their vulnerable neighbors. The social media posts included original graphics and guidance focused on protecting persons experiencing homelessness as well as reposts from Cal OES, Listos CA, other state agencies and the National Weather Service.

The Extreme Heat Action Plan was released April 28, 2022. The most recent Action Implementation Progress Report for the 2021 California Climate Adaptation Strategy was released April 2023.

Additionally, AB 1643 (2021-2022) established the Heat Advisory Committee (HAC) to advise updating the 2013 Extreme Heat Guidance and Recommendations report. The Department of Industrial Relations convened the first HAC meeting in June 2023. BCSH, along with other representatives, serves on the Heat Advisory Committee to recommend the scope of the study.

**Cal OES**, in partnership with other state agencies, developed the Accessible Cooling Center Guide. The purpose of the guide is to support jurisdictions to plan for, and operate, accessible Cooling Centers that can serve people with disabilities and individuals with access and functional needs in an inclusive and equitable manner.

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the inclusion of Continuums of Care into local planning efforts; and incorporating people experiencing homelessness into planning documents relating to extreme heat events.



The 2021 State of California Planning Best Practices for County Emergency Plans includes best practices and links to additional resources for those needing guidance on how to integrate planning for people experiencing homelessness.

The 2022 Extreme Temperature Response Plan includes best practices for including individuals experiencing homelessness into extreme temperatures (heat and freeze) planning.

The 2023 Coordinating Draft (currently in public comment) of the State of California Emergency Plan has integrated more information on the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness before, during, and after disasters.

**Activity 3:** Work with tribal and local governments, and community-based organizations to bolster protections for unhoused populations during extreme heat events, including: coordinating with tribal and local governments on Climate Action and Adaptation Plans to incorporate strategies on how to aid unhoused populations during extreme heat events; supporting training for first responders to help them anticipate the variety of illnesses associated with excess heat, including mental health and cognitive impacts; working with local governments and local Continuums of Care to support local plans containing provisions for people who are medically vulnerable, including access to resilience centers and/or cooling centers.

**Cal OES** activates the Priority Populations Task Force during extreme heat events to, among other things, address the following:

- Develop and amplify inclusive messaging on preparedness and response resources;
- Provide technical assistance to support local planning and response;
- Identify and address unmet needs;
- Ensure jurisdictions are providing free/low-cost accessible transportation to/from cooling centers.

## ACTION AREA 1



**Activity 4:** Explore models and feasibility of providing enhanced case management services of longer duration focused on post-disaster housing needs (i.e., "Regional Centers" model.)



**HCD** reports that progress was not made on this activity in FY 22-23. The activity has been updated in the FY 23-24 Action Plan update to reflect next steps of implementation.

**Activity 5:** Collaborate with LEAs, state level educational partners, youth organizations and across divisions within the CDE to identify needs of students experiencing homelessness as the result of natural disasters and other emergencies, and develop strategies, resources, and tools to address those needs.



**CDE** has Emergency Support Resources for students who have been displaced due to natural disasters and other emergencies, such as:

- [Access to You Can Enroll poster](#) in English
- [Access to You Can Enroll poster in 11 additional languages:](#)
- The CDE in partnership with CalOES has developed the following coordination: [Resources](#)

► **Objective 6:** Increase public awareness of the State's homelessness strategies, successes, challenges, and the importance of Housing First approaches, trauma-informed care, and other best practices.

## ACTION AREA 1

**Activity 1:** Launch and regularly update a page at Cal ICH website that provides access to key data and resources regarding homelessness in California, including demographics and scale of populations, causes of housing instability and homelessness, and solutions being deployed.



**Cal ICH [public dashboard](#)** launched in prior Fiscal Year and continues to be maintained by Cal ICH staff. Data from all 44 Continuums of Care is uploaded each quarter and provides the most up-to-date summary of data on the provision of homelessness services across the state.

**Activity 2:** Continue implementation of the Housing is Key campaign, providing materials and resources to help Californians stay in their homes, understand their housing options during COVID-19 and beyond, and to educate the public regarding the causes of homelessness, effective solutions, and State strategies and programs.



Throughout FY 22-23, **BCSH** continued to provide information and updates through the Housing is Key website, to help Californians stay in their homes. The website includes information about tenant and homeowner protection and resources.

BCSH continues to share information about the causes of homelessness, effective solutions, state strategies and programs, and local successes through in-person engagement opportunities, social media and the Housing is Key newsletter.

In spring 2023, BCSH Agency coordinated and participated in The CaseMade Casemaking training to shift the narrative around homelessness, to promote best practices in housing and develop a cohort of state leaders to collaborate on messaging. The training cohort completed six 90-minute training sessions over the span of 3 months and developed a Housing Case Guide. The cohort consisted of staff from departments working across the housing continuum.

In August 2023, BCSH launched an interactive story map which uplifts publicly funded success stories in housing development. Phase one of the project includes stories featuring a permanent supportive housing and transitional housing site for Veterans in Sacramento, a transit-oriented affordable housing community in Santa Rosa, an infill affordable housing community for extremely low- and very low-income families in Fresno, and a Homekey community for LGBTQ+, HIV+ youth and veterans experiencing homelessness in Riverside. The project aims to encourage members of the public to champion housing in their communities and bring person-centered stories to the forefront of the narrative around housing.

**Activity 3:** Provide homelessness-focused communications to

**Cal ICH** regularly sends out homelessness focused communications to local partners and stakeholders through the Cal ICH monthly newsletter. Topics included in FY 22-23 ranged from resources to support disaster response and

## ACTION AREA 1

local partners, including webinars, videos, tools, guidance, and other resources and materials, focused on Housing First implementation, strategic use of funding sources, and effective programs and practices.



recovery, authentic youth engagement, and tools to increase affordable housing in California. In October 2022, Cal ICH also hosted a webinar entitled: Including People Experiencing Homelessness in Disaster Preparedness: Lessons Learned from Alameda, that lifted-up lessons learned from a local community and focused on equitable emergency and disaster planning through cross-system collaboration and partnership building.

Cal ICH also released the Cal ICH Events & Deadlines Calendar featuring upcoming webinars, technical assistance offerings, Cal ICH Advisory Committee and Council Meetings, and Cal ICH administered grant deadlines all in one place. In FY 23-24, Cal ICH expanded into the development of a centralized Statewide Housing and Homelessness Calendar as a resource for stakeholders to stay up to date with state department hosted webinars and meetings, funding announcements, technical assistance offerings, and reporting deadlines. The purpose of this resource is to support purposeful coordination and alignment across state agencies by centralizing all state housing and homelessness program information and increase coordination and information sharing of the state's activities to grantees, local leadership and other stakeholders.

**Activity 4:** Prepare public-facing materials and articles based upon data and information drawn from the Homeless Data Integration System warehouse, to educate the public on challenges, activities, and implementation of programs and resources.



Due to numerous competing high-priority activities including the release of the Statewide Homelessness Assessment, **Cal ICH** did not make significant progress on this Activity in FY 22-23.

**Activity 5:** Proactively analyze and develop educational materials that interpret and communicate key findings of national reports focused on homelessness and featuring California data, such as HUD's Point-in-Time count data and reporting.



Due to numerous competing high-priority activities including the release of the Statewide Homelessness Assessment, **Cal ICH** did not make significant progress on this Activity in FY 22-23.

## ACTION AREA 2

# Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness



This Action Area includes activities focused on addressing health and safety needs and increasing access to State supported services and programs for people who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

### ► Objective 7: Support California communities to strengthen outreach efforts and to address the health and safety needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

**Activity 1:** Implement and evaluate impact of new Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program to support local jurisdictions to ensure the wellness and safety of people experiencing homelessness in encampments by providing services and supports that address their immediate physical and mental wellness and that result in meaningful paths to safe and stable housing, and document effective policies, procedures and practices.



On October 26, 2022, **Cal ICH** released the [ERF-2L Notice of Intent to Award](#). This was the 2nd round of the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Grant and was awarded to 8 grantees totaling \$47.7 million.

ERF-1 grantees were required to expend 50% of their grant no later than June 30, 2023. Cal ICH Monitoring Unit supported grantees in meeting this requirement by providing updates on expenditures in advance of the deadline and referring them to 1:1 technical assistance with contracted TA provider Homebase. All ERF-1 grantees met this 50% expenditure requirement.

**Activity 2:** Promote strong practices for identifying and engaging unsheltered young people into available services and supports.



Due to numerous competing high-priority activities, **Cal ICH** has not had the opportunity to launch the Youth and Young Adults Working Group and therefore has not made progress on this activity. Cal ICH staff plan to take this on in FY 24-25.

**Activity 3:** Work with community partners to document and assess the unique risks and

Due to numerous competing high-priority activities, **Cal ICH** has not had the opportunity to launch the Youth and Young Adults Working Group and therefore has not made progress on this activity. Cal ICH staff plan to take this on in FY 24-25.

## ACTION AREA 2

vulnerabilities of unsheltered young adults and provide guidance on implications for assessments and coordinated entry systems.



**Activity 4:** Create guidance and recommendations to support the provision of health, hygiene, and sanitation services for people staying within encampments until connected to interim or permanent housing options.



**Activity 5:** Develop guidance and resources to connect providers serving people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with free overdose reversal training and supplies, as well as information to share with participants on where to access safer drug use supplies and, for those who wish to reduce or stop their use, referrals to a variety of treatment options statewide, including Contingency Management (CM) and Medication for Opioids Use Disorder (MOUD).



**CDPH** is working in partnership with San Diego State University (SDSU) and an interagency agreement has been fully executed. SDSU will create guidelines focusing on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WaSH) needs and infrastructure for unhoused Californians.

In FY 2023-2024, SDSU will create an actionable report and guidelines will be completed by June 2024.

**CDPH's** People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) Equity Specialist developed and presented [Fatal Overdose Prevention for Homeless Service Providers in California Webinar](#), available to public on [CDPH/Office of AIDS website](#).

In FY 2023-2024, the PEH Equity Specialist will work in collaboration with Harm Reduction unit to update webinar to include contingency management and present training.

## ACTION AREA 2

**Activity 6:** Enhance internal understanding and capacity of staff to implement Caltrans' Encampment Coordinators Reference Guide and Maintenance Policy Directive 1001R and to strengthen partnerships and community engagement within responses to the health and safety risks created by, and the housing and services needs of, people staying in encampments on Caltrans-owned land.



In this reporting period, **Caltrans** retired Maintenance Policy Directive (MPD) 1001 and replaced it with MPD 1001-R1 to better reflect the department's holistic approach to addressing homelessness and encampments on the state Right of Way (ROW).

The Office of Homelessness and Encampments (OH&E) developed an Encampment Coordinator Reference Guide to serve as an in-depth internal manual that includes tools, updated methodology, and best practices for addressing encampments on the state ROW and conducted briefings during monthly meetings to familiarize maintenance staff and others with the new policies. This document is updated as needed.

OH&E created a landing page on the Caltrans intranet that houses resources, including our guidance documents, so that staff have easy access to these materials.

Caltrans also held the first-ever statewide Encampment Training Academy in San Diego that gave headquarters staff, district encampment coordinators, and external partners the opportunity to strategize and exchange information. The discussion focused on the office's updated policies, procedures, and best practices in addressing encampments and people experiencing homelessness on the state ROW.

**Activity 7:** Deploy Encampment Coordinators throughout each of Caltrans' 12 district jurisdictions to help coordinate community partnerships and to strengthen responses to people experiencing homelessness in the state right of way.



**Caltrans** has placed District Encampment Coordinators in every Caltrans District in the state, including multiple coordinators in our largest districts.

Encampment coordinators have been building partnerships and awareness of social service providers. Successful coordination reduces the chances of individuals experiencing additional harm stemming from unsheltered homelessness which include loss of property, disruption to fragile routines that connect individuals to services and basic need services, and negative interactions with public services.

Each Encampment Coordinator works to learn about the network of providers and points of contact. This helps in understanding the services and procedures of how people access these services and any constraints on urgent/emergency services that are often sought for encampments.

**Activity 8:** Promote and encourage applications from California communities to federal funding opportunities, including the Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness, and provide guidance regarding state funding that can be leveraged in support of efforts to

In July 2022, the **Co-Chairs of the Interagency Council** issued a [letter to city mayors, county supervisors, Continuums of Care leaders, and Public Housing Authority directors](#) promoting information about state funding programs and encouraging applications from California communities to federal funding opportunities, including the Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness.

## ACTION AREA 2

respond to needs of people who are unsheltered.



### ► **Objective 8: Provide equitable access to essential State-supported programs and services, including health and behavioral health care services, for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.**

**Activity 1:** Implement CalAIM proposals seeking to extend statewide the service options available under WPC and Health Homes Program (HHP) through the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) program and In Lieu of Services (ILOS), including incentive funding, to better address the health and behavioral health care needs of people who are unsheltered.



**DCHS** received Federal approval of its CalAIM 1115 Demonstration and 1915(b) Waiver. MCPs submitted their ECM and Community Supports Model of Care submissions in January-April for the July 1, 2023 Implementation Phase, and July-September for the January 1, 2023 Implementation Phase. The July 1, 2023 Implementation Phase has been approved and DHCS is currently reviewing the January 1, 2024 Implementation Phase submissions.

Housing Transition Navigation Services, Housing Deposits, and Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services: Across CY 2022, 27,904 members received at least one of these three housing supports.

All MCPs offered at least one of these housing Community Supports in CY 2022, and 18 MCPs offered all three. This made housing supports the most widely available Community Supports in the state; all three housing Community Supports were available to MCP members in 56 counties in CY 2022.

To deliver these services, MCPs built a network of non-traditional Medi-Cal providers with the expertise and experience to support these members. There were approximately 828 provider contracts for organizations to deliver at least one of these housing supports in CY 2022.

DHCS has seen continued growth in the number of housing Community Supports offered by MCPs in 2023. In addition to these three housing-focused Community Supports, MCPs also offered services that support members with unstable housing who needed short-term housing to support recovery from an injury or illness.

**Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing:** In CY 2022, MCPs developed an estimated 96 provider contracts for Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing. In total, 626 Medi-Cal members received those services in CY 2022.

**Recuperative Care:** MCPs developed an estimated 170 provider contracts for Recuperative Care. More than 2,900 Medi-Cal members received those services in CY 2022.

The Medi-Cal ECM and Community Supports 2022 Implementation Report was released on August 3, 2023 which displays data for ECM and Community Supports uptake within the first 12 months of implementation. For more information, please visit: [Medi-Cal Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports](#).

## ACTION AREA 2

**Activity 2:** Pilot efforts that will test feasibility of State programs, and County and local partners, to develop field teams and mobile enrollment processes that can reach, screen, and enroll people who are unsheltered into State benefits and programs.



In August 2022, **BCSH, in partnership with CalOES, CalHHS, DMV, and county government**, and in coordination with community-based nonprofits outreach teams, [engaged with more than 100 people experiencing homelessness at five encampment sites in Los Angeles](#). People were connected to government documentation, including California ID cards and birth certificates, and government benefits and services, such as food stamps and healthcare.

Following this successful pilot, in April and May of 2023, the team served formerly unsheltered people at Inside Safe interim housing hotel sites, organized [four housing fairs](#), and engaged an estimated 261 people experiencing homelessness. They were connected to government documentation, including California ID cards and birth certificates, and government benefits and services, including the facilitation of 180 open-house viewings with community landlords with available units.

**Activity 3:** Continued enrollment of individuals experiencing homelessness in the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) program, increasing access to food and other county services.



**CDSS** does not have data readily available for the number of Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) dollars spent or RMP transactions specific to only RMP participants experiencing homelessness.

**Activity 4:** Continue operation and enrollment of Community Services and Supports program housing services through county-level plans through Mental Health Services Act resources.



**DHCS** continues to provide technical assistance to Counties to improve data collection and to ensure timely submission of data. As of August 2023, 51 of 59 Counties have submitted timely data to DHCS. For Counties not current on data submission, DHCS continues to provide technical assistance and direct IT support, as needed.

Gaps in the collection and/or reporting of housing data persists and limits DHCS' ability to segregate specific housing supports. This may result in data that is unreliable and/or inconsistent.

The implementation of the data driven Behavioral Health Reform Initiative, and the separation of housing interventions as an identifiable funding category in proposed legislation (SB 326, Eggman. The Behavioral Services Act) will assist DHCS in collecting housing specific data, including data related to race, ethnicity, employment, legal status, etc.

**Activity 5:** Partner with academic institution on assessment of impacts of youth set-aside with HHAP program, including impacts of addressing

On May 16, 2023, **Cal ICH** entered into contract with the University of California at Berkeley to provide a full evaluation of the youth set-aside requirement within the HHAP program. This evaluation has commenced and will be completed no later than January 2025.

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the services needs of  
unsheltered youth and  
young adults.



## ACTION AREA 3

# Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing



This Action Area includes activities focused on expanding the supply of safe, housing placement focused sheltering and interim housing models and addressing health and services needs of people staying within such programs.

► **Objective 9: Partner with communities to implement innovative approaches and expand the supply of safe, housing-placement focused, and trauma-informed sheltering and interim housing models for Californians experiencing homelessness.**

**Activity 1:** Rapidly mobilize Homekey resources to support acquisition of sites by local partners, including sites planned for use as interim housing on a temporary or ongoing basis.



**HCD** reported that in FY 22-23, 29 new project sites were acquired, rehabilitated and fully occupied through the Homekey Round 2 program. Of these, 9 of the sites are interim housing projects which consist of 415 new interim units and are housing at least 867 individuals. Total awarded projects include 27 interim projects and 1370 units.

**HCD's** CDBG-CV Homekey Program provided funding for the rehabilitation and/or conversion of properties acquired under Homekey for emergency shelter and permanent housing. During the FY 22-23 fiscal year, construction was underway on the creation of 242 units of permanent supportive housing (PSH) and 54 units of shelter for 8 projects totaling \$15.39 million in CDBG-CV funding.

**Activity 2:** Implement the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program to address the immediate housing and treatment needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with serious behavioral health conditions by providing time-limited operational supports in various bridge housing settings, including tiny homes and existing assisted living settings.



Under **DHCS'** first Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program, 53 counties will be participating in the program representing over \$900 million in funding. Implementation is currently underway with programs expected to be operationalized over the course of the fall/winter 2023-24.

**Activity 3:** Partner with counties and local housing providers to expand the availability

In Fiscal Year 2022-23, **DSH** contracted with Advocates for Human Potential (AHP). In February 2023 DSH and AHP released the first round Request for Proposals (RFP) for county applications; applications from counties will be

## ACTION AREA 3

of residential treatment and interim housing by approximately 5,000 beds statewide to support ongoing sustainable diversion and community-based restoration programs for individuals with serious mental illness who have been found incompetent to stand trial (IST).



accepted through May 2024 and any remaining funds will be open for competitive application from July 2024 through June 2025.

As of June 30, 2023, DSH received three county applications for contracts, nine counties indicated they will be applying in fall 2023, and eight additional counties are considering applying. The number of beds per county program will be reported after infrastructure plans are finalized. AHP regularly reaches out to counties to assess interest and identify potential barriers to application to increase the number of counties participating in the program.

**Activity 4:** Implement a wide array of State and Federal funding that support the provision of safe, effective housing-placement focused sheltering and interim housing models for people experiencing homelessness, with identification of clear goals and targets for the number of shelter or interim housing opportunities to be supported through each program.



Examples of State agencies and departments implementing such funding include:

- Emergency shelter and interim housing are eligible uses of all **Cal ICH** grant programs, including HHAP, Tribal HHAP, ERF, and the Family Homelessness Challenge (FHC) grant programs. Grantees that intend to use funding for these eligible uses are required to show a demonstrated need including a “plan to connect residents to permanent housing” per Health and Safety Code Section 50220.5 (d)—strengthening the focus on housing placements from shelter and interim housing.
- **CDSS** funds a number of housing programs that are designed to support program participants through their quick and safe transition to permanent housing.
  - Project Room Key and Rehousing Strategy (PRK): Since March 2020, over 16,000 rooms were secured and over 62,000 individuals have been sheltered through Project Roomkey. As of early August 2023, 1,194 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by 1,451 PRK participants. Additionally, as of July 2023, 14,048 (23%) of PRK participants exited to permanent housing; 36% exited to temporary housing or congregate shelter; 9% to institutions or other; and 17% to unknown destinations. The remaining 15% exited to unsheltered homelessness.
  - As of August 2023, 21 communities are currently operating Project Roomkey with 1,259 rooms occupied across the state. Fifteen of those communities are in the process of ramping down and CDSS is currently undergoing data validation efforts to collect updated sunset dates from communities who report rooms secured and/or occupied.
  - Six communities continue to operate non-congregate shelters and are working to determine the appropriate ramp down schedule in consultation with local emergency managers and public health departments.
  - Bringing Families Home Program (BFH): Since program implementation in summer 2017 through March 2023, more than 5,100 families have been served in BFH, and of these, over 2,200 families have been permanently housed through BFH. Fifty-three counties and one tribe currently operate BFH, including two new counties in FY 2022-23.

- In FY 22-23, **HCD's** Transitional Housing Program (THP) awarded \$33.3 million to 48 counties to help young adults aged 18 to 25 years find and maintain housing, with priority given to those formerly in the foster care or probation systems. From July 2022 through December 2022, Round 3 of the THP program served a total of 5 program participants; with additional participants anticipated in current fiscal year with expanded program capacity after awards. Data for the latter half of FY 22-23 data is unavailable as reports were just submitted (07/31/2023) and must be reviewed. Reports will be fully reviewed and approved by December 2023, and the full year's outcomes will be provided in the next Cal ICH Action Plan Implementation Progress Report. In FY 22-23, Transitional Housing Plus program awarded approximately \$9 million to 5 counties. These funds will provide transitional housing for young adults who exited foster care on or after their 18th birthday and are not 25 years of age.
- **HCD's** CDBG-CV program provided funding for two tribal projects: acquisition of 9 units targeting at-risk elderly with interim and/or permanent affordable housing; and 5 prefab cabins for interim housing with an average length of stay of 90 days and an estimated 40 to 120 persons experiencing homelessness served over the first 24 months.
- **HCD's** ESG-CV program supported 38,984 persons in emergency shelter with 17% of the persons existing to a positive housing destination. The program also served 16,004 persons through Street Outreach with 13% of the persons served exiting to a positive housing destination. The ESG annual program provided \$3.8 million in funding for emergency shelter for 11,088 and street outreach for 8,623.
- From July 2022 through December 2022, **HCD's** Pet Assistance and Support (PAS) program served 476 individuals and 518 pets across at least 58 different shelters by providing pet owners with behavioral support, spay/neuter services, and vaccinations, as well as food, kennels and supplies for their animals. Of participants served, 106 were seniors and 320 reported a disability. At least 89 individuals exited shelter to permanent housing. Data for the latter half of FY 22-23 data is unavailable as reports were just submitted (07/31/2023) and must be reviewed. Reports will be fully reviewed and approved by December 2023, and the full year's outcomes will be provided in the next Cal ICH Action Plan Implementation Progress Report.
- **Cal OES** administers six grant programs (with approximately 165 Subrecipients) with the primary purpose of providing shelter and housing services to victims of crime.
  - During FY 22-23, an average of 2,800 California victims of crime, per quarter, received emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing services through the following four programs: Homeless Youth Exploitation Program; Specialized Emergency Housing Program; Transitional Housing Program; and Domestic Violence Housing First Program. During FY 22-23, these four programs combined provided more than 45,750 nights of shelter and more than 194,000 nights of transitional housing.

- Two additional Cal OES programs, the Homeless Youth and Emergency Services and Housing and Homeless Youth Emergency Services Pilot Programs, provided emergency shelter and housing assistance to more than 5,200 youth, and stabilization planning to more than 5,400 youth.

**Activity 5:** Provide technical assistance to ensure the effective rehousing of people staying in Project Roomkey non-congregate sheltering sites and the effective winding down of operations of some Project Roomkey sites, therefore returning or transitioning sites to other uses while avoiding exiting people into unsheltered homelessness.



As of early August 2023, 1,194 hotel and motel rooms are occupied by 1,451 participants within **CDSS'** Project Roomkey (PRK). Additionally, as of July 2023, 14,048 (23%) of PRK participants exited to permanent housing; 36% exited to temporary housing or congregate shelter; 9% to institutions or other; and 17% to unknown destinations. The remaining 15% exited to unsheltered homelessness.

Six communities continue to operate non-congregate shelters and are working to determine the appropriate ramp down schedule in consultation with local emergency managers and public health departments. CDSS supports counties with technical assistance as needed to ensure effective deployment of CDSS housing programs.

**Activity 6:** Provide and promote guidance and technical assistance and enforcement of state laws regarding land use, zoning, and other requirements for emergency shelters, low-barrier navigation centers, and permanent supportive housing programs.



**HCD** continues to review housing elements and provide guidance on homelessness-related issues when applicable. This activity has been updated in the FY 23-24 action plan update to reflect next steps of implementation.

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**Activity 7:** Create standards for cleanliness and care protocols at congregate and non-congregate sites providing shelter and interim housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness.



**CDPH** has not yet started the development of this guidance. In FY 2023-2024, an internal People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) working group to identify resources/barriers for guidance.

**Activity 8:** Implement the DSH Diversion program in collaboration with local partners to expand the number of residential treatment options to support jail diversion for individuals who have been deemed incompetent to stand trial (IST) or likely to be found IST. Provide interim housing or facility placement with wrap around treatment and supports for up to two years, including planning for long-term housing and treatment needs post-diversion participation to interrupt the cycle of criminalization of individuals with serious mental illness.



**DSH** continues to support 28 counties participating in the pilot DSH Diversion program. From March 2019 through March 2023, a total of 1,380 defendants have been admitted into a county diversion program; approximately 80% of these patients were homeless at the time of their arrest.

Specific to FY 22-23, counties diverted a total of 472 eligible defendants into the program which reflects data for the first 3 quarters due to reporting timelines.

In June 2023, DSH executed a new contract with the Los Angeles Office of Diversion and Reentry for expanded Diversion and Community-Based Restoration services. The new contract will expand the number of beds in the Los Angeles program from 515 to 1,334 beds over five years. The Los Angeles program only accepts defendants experiencing homelessness at the time of their arrest and secure a bed in permanent supportive housing upon discharge.

**Activity 9:** Implement the Community Based Restoration (CBR) program in collaboration with local partners to expand the number of residential treatment options to support community placement for individuals who have

In June 2023, **DSH** executed a new contract with the Los Angeles Office of Diversion and Reentry for expanded Diversion and Community-Based Restoration services. The new contract will expand the number of beds in the Los Angeles program from 515 to 1,334 beds over five years. The Los Angeles program only accepts defendants experiencing homelessness at the time of their arrest and secure a bed in permanent supportive housing upon discharge.

Also in June 2023, DSH executed a contract for a 16-bed regional CBR program located in Yuba City with Priorities, Inc. This program will activate in July 2023 and be licensed as a sub-acute Mental Health Rehabilitation

### ACTION AREA 3

been deemed incompetent to stand trial (IST) on felony charges. Provide interim housing or facility placement with wrap around treatment and supports for up to two years, including planning for long term housing and treatment needs post-CBR participation.



Center. DSH will use this facility as a step-down option from its Jail Based Competency Treatment programs and acute Community Inpatient Facility programs.

In FY 22-23, a total of 620 IST individuals received services in the CBR program.

**Activity 10:** Generate an inventory of appropriate state-owned land prioritized for potential leasing to partners for the provision of emergency sheltering or interim housing opportunities and proactively promote and educate local jurisdictions and community partners regarding these opportunities.



Caltrans has created a master list of available excess parcels that have high potential for shelter lease utilization by local partners for all Caltrans-controlled property in the state. Shelter leases are generally managed by the District Airspace Lease Coordinator in the Division of Right of Way (ROW).

Local partners are also engaged to identify property that may not be on our master list. District ROW staff provide a rapid response to help address proposals coming in from locals and determine if properties can be used for shelters.

Caltrans actively engaged with the Division of Right of Way and Land Surveys to promote the department's emergency shelter leases. Together, along with the Department of General Services and local governments, Caltrans was able to stand up emergency shelters in San Jose, San Diego, Sacramento, and Los Angeles. In total, the department has helped execute 13 operational leases statewide.

**Activity 11:** Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, in partnership with philanthropic organizations and local partners, to expand interim housing options, including recovery housing models and quarantine options during the pandemic, for people transitioning from corrections settings.



**CDCR** continued implementing the Returning Home Well initiative and will begin reporting service data to Cal ICH in late summer 2023.

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**Activity 12:** Provide technical assistance and guidance that will support the continued application of Housing First practices, including lowered barriers and housing-focused services and supports, within sheltering and interim housing programs.



**Cal ICH** continues to include Housing First requirements in the NOFA and guidance for all Cal ICH-administered grants.

In addition, Cal ICH staff are working on criteria to help determine which state-funded programs the Housing First core components apply to, in order to facilitate the release of a survey in FY 23-24 to assess compliance at the state level. Cal ICH staff are also working to identify the barriers faced in implementing Housing First at both the state and local-levels in order to better support our partners in administering programs effectively.

**Activity 13:** Provide training and technical assistance opportunities to local partners to address the housing needs of people in pre-trial mental health diversion or CBR programs.



**DSH** has provided multiple trainings to counties in prior years related to housing individuals with serious mental illness involved in the criminal justice system in collaboration with the Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG). Day four of the 2021 Diversion Academy was focused specifically on housing (recordings of these webinars are available on DSH's public Diversion webpage).

In FY 2022-23, DSH and Advocates for Human Potential hosted informational webinars about the 5,000 bed funding opportunity available to counties. In February 2023, DSH and AHP hosted a presentation on housing strategies for counties by Christ Centered Ministries, one of the main housing providers for the LA Office of Diversion and Reentry programs.

As DSH implements the next phase of the Diversion and Community Based Restoration programs, continued technical assistance related to housing will be offered.

**Activity 14:** Provide guidance and coordination for VA Grant and Per Diem grantees to create synergy among veteran transitional housing and permanent supportive or affordable housing.



**CalVet** collected the 2024 Grant and Per Diem award list, a survey will be sent to awardees in late 2023, and analysis of survey results will be performed by early 2024.

**Activity 15:** Explore potential opportunities for CDCR Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) to directly refer individuals releasing from State Prison who are at risk of homelessness and who are on parole and

**CDSS, CDCR's Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) and Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP), and Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH)** met several times to begin exploring opportunities to formalize referral processes to connect individuals releasing from CDCR who have housing needs, or individuals on parole who become unhoused, to CDSS housing programs. Initial efforts are focusing on CDSS' Homeless Disability Advocacy Program. DRP staff are continuously documenting their findings from these efforts, which are being shared with CDSS. CDSS is following up on CDCR's findings to evaluate compliance with CDSS requirements (or not). CDCR, CCJBH and CDSS agreed to meet bi-monthly to

### ACTION AREA 3

become homeless to existing, applicable CDSS programs to address housing needs.



continue working to strengthen connections for transitioning citizens and parolees to access existing community-based housing resources.

### ► **Objective 10: Expand alignment and engagement of State resources, including health and behavioral health care resources, to address health and services needs among Californians temporarily staying within sheltering and interim housing options.**

**Activity 1:** Strengthen connections between DOR and employment services programming and emergency shelter and interim housing programs to help support people experiencing homelessness to secure employment and increase incomes as they transition to permanent housing opportunities.



Throughout the state, **DOR** has developed collaborative working relationships with county coordinated entry programs, agencies providing emergency shelter and transitional housing, and other community-based organizations to receive referrals and provide DOR services. This includes coordination and collaboration with emergency shelters and interim housing in Alameda, Butte, Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Sonoma, and Ventura counties.

**Activity 2:** Develop guidance and resources to connect staff of interim shelters, transitional housing programs and permanent supportive housing with free overdose reversal training and supplies, information to share with residents on where to access safer drug use supplies and, for those who wish to reduce or stop their substance use, referrals to a variety of treatment options statewide, including Contingency Management (CM)

**CDPH's** People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) Equity Specialist developed and presented Fatal Overdose Prevention for Homeless Service Providers in California. Webinar available to public on CDPH/Office of AIDS website.

In FY 2023-2024, the PEH Equity Specialist to work in collaboration with Harm Reduction unit to update webinar to include contingency management and present.

## ACTION AREA 3

and Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD).



**Activity 3:** Strengthen connections between Independent Living Centers, Traumatic Brain Injury, Older Individuals Who Are Blind, and Assistive Technology programs and services and emergency shelter and interim housing programs to help support people experiencing homelessness to secure disability support to increase independent living skills as they transition to permanent housing opportunities.



**Activity 4:** Develop and advance CalAIM proposals seeking to extend statewide the service options available under WPC and Health Homes Program (HHP) through the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) program and Community Support care coordination and housing services, including incentive funding, to better address the health care needs of people who are staying in shelter and interim housing sites.



In 2022, **DOR** received a one-time \$5 million Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant to expand the capacity to serve TBI survivors across the state. Seven of the 12 TBI Program sites are utilizing HCBS funding to improve access to service and supports for individuals with TBI who are experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness including through collaboration with local coordinate entry system and emergency and interim housing programs.

**DOR and Cal ICH** staff are planning a meeting in October 2023 with DOR staff and community providers including Independent Living Centers, Traumatic Brain Injury, Older Individuals Who are Blind, and Assistive Technology programs and services to increase awareness about coordinated entry systems to support coordination of services to support homeless individuals with disabilities who are transitioning to permanent housing.

CMS approved **DHCS'** CalAIM 1115 Waiver Demonstration, including all Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports PATH activities on December 29, 2021.

Managed care plans (MCPs) submitted their ECM and Community Supports Model of Care submissions in January-April 2022 for the July 1, 2023, Implementation Phase. The July 1, 2023, Implementation Phase has been approved and DHCS is currently reviewing the January 1, 2024 Implementation Phase submissions.

All HHP and WPC enrollees were successfully transitioned into ECM and/or Community Supports, depending on each individual member's needs. ECM: There were approximately 36,1k members experiencing homelessness that received ECM during CY 2022.

Housing Transition Navigation Services, Housing Deposits, and Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services: Across CY 2022, 27,904 members received at least one of these three housing supports.

All MCPs offered at least one of these housing Community Supports in CY 2022, and 18 MCPs offered all three. All three housing Community Supports were available to MCP members in 56 counties in CY 2022.

To deliver these services, MCPs built a network of non-traditional Medi-Cal providers with the expertise and experience to support these members. There

## ACTION AREA 3

were approximately 828 provider contracts for organizations to deliver at least one of these housing supports in CY 2022.

Additionally, MCPs also offered services that support members with unstable housing who needed short-term housing to support recovery from an injury or illness.

**Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing:** In CY 2022, MCPs developed an estimated 96 provider contracts for Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing. In total, 626 Medi-Cal members received those services in CY 2022.

**Recuperative Care:** MCPs developed an estimated 170 provider contracts for Recuperative Care. More than 2,900 Medi-Cal members received those services in CY 2022.

The Medi-Cal ECM and Community Supports 2022 Implementation Report was released on August 3, 2023 which displays data for ECM and Community Supports uptake within the first 12 months of implementation. For more information, please visit [Medi-Cal Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports](#).

## ACTION AREA 4

## Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities



This Action Area includes activities focused on strengthening Housing First approaches and expanding permanent housing opportunities through development strategies, short and long term rental assistance, and other rehousing activities.

### ► **Objective 11: Strengthen implementation of Housing First approaches and other best practices in support of equitably and urgently rehousing people from shelters, interim housing, and other temporary settings, and from unsheltered homelessness.**

**Activity 1:** Implement a wide array of State and Federal funding programs that support the rehousing of people experiencing homelessness into a diverse range of housing models, including models appropriate for youth and young adults, with identification of clear rehousing goals and targets for the implementation of each program.



Examples of State agencies and departments implementing such funding include:

- **Cal ICH** oversees 4 grant programs, 2 of which have a 10% youth set aside for services and housing designed specifically for youth experiencing homelessness, and all of which require adherence to housing first and the provision of housing options that meet the individual needs of the people who are being served.
- **CDSS** continued to implement Project Roomkey (PRK). Approximately 85% of clients exiting PRK were connected to local Coordinated Entry Systems (CES). Collaboration with local CES connects clients to mainstream homeless services resources and allows communities to leverage existing infrastructure and mainstream housing vouchers available. In November 2022, one third of PRK grantees confirmed plans to convert 44% of all occupied PRK units to Homekey/permanent units that will serve approximately 578 PRK participants.
- Communities are encouraged to leverage local, state, and federal resources to increase housing outcomes for PRK participants including other **CDSS**-funded programs like the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) and the Community Care Expansion (CCE) program. Given the overlap in eligible population, programs like HDAP allow individuals to continue receiving housing case management, rental assistance and navigation while pursuing disability income and CCE will provide access to expanded or preserved residential care units. Through the CCE program, DSS was able to coordinate the awarding of funds with DHCS to ensure innovative, high-need projects providing wraparound services receive the funding they need to reach project completion.
- **CDSS**'s CalWORKS Housing Support Program: Fifty-five counties currently operate HSP. Final FY 2022-23 allocations and participating county social service agencies can be viewed in CFL 22/23-43 (December 30, 2022).
- **CDSS**' Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP): Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through March 2023, over 7,100 people have been enrolled and over 3,100 people have been permanently housed.

HDAP grantees have reported on approximately 6,800 disability applications on behalf of HDAP participants since the inception of the program, and over 2,200 disability applications have been approved for participants while in HDAP. Fifty-seven counties and two federally recognized tribal governments representing eight tribes, for a total of 59 grantees, currently operate HDAP. CDSS announced the allocation of approximately \$31 million in FY 2022-23 Targeted Strategic Investment (TSI) grants for HDAP.

- CDSS' Bringing Families Home (BFH) program: Since program implementation in summer 2017 through March 2023, more than 5,100 families have been served in BFH, and of these, over 2,200 families have been permanently housed through BFH.
- From July 2022 through December 2022, Round 2 of **HCD**'s Housing Navigators and Maintenance Program (HNMP) served a total of 4 program participants; with additional participants anticipated in current fiscal year with expanded program capacity. Data for the latter half of FY22-23 data is unavailable as reports were just submitted (07/31/2023) and must be reviewed. Reports will be fully reviewed and approved by December 2023, and the full year's outcomes will be provided in the next Cal ICH Action Plan Implementation Progress Report.
- Since inception of program and through FY 21-22, **HCD**'s California Emergency Solutions Grant (CESH) program funds served 2,363 Transitional Aged Youth and 2,382 minors.
- **Cal OES** administers six grant programs (with approximately 165 Subrecipients) with the primary purpose of providing shelter and housing services to victims of crime. These programs offer a diverse range of housing models such as emergency/medium-/long-term shelter, rental assistance, hotel vouchers, and long-term housing. Statistics for FY 22-23 are reported in Objective 3.9.4.

**Activity 2:** Develop and advance CalAIM proposals seeking to expand CalAIM's ability to support housing-related services through the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) program and Community Supports (formerly In Lieu of Services) care management and housing services, including incentive funding, to assist people to access and stabilize in housing.



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**Activity 3:** Design, implement, and evaluate new Challenge Grant models of funding to support innovative approaches to serving subpopulations, with a focus on strengthening rehousing outcomes, including for Tribal communities, for responding to the needs of people staying in encampments, and for families with children, and document innovative and effective activities supported.



**Activity 4:** Provide guidance and Technical Assistance to

On June 24, 2022, **Cal ICH** released the [Family Homelessness Challenge \(FHC\) Grant Notice of Intent to Award](#) providing \$17 million to 10 communities to address and end family homelessness.

On October 26, 2022, **Cal ICH** released the [Encampment Resolution Fund \(ERF\)-2L Notice of Intent to Award](#). This was the 2nd round of the ERF Grant and was awarded to 8 grantees totaling \$47.7 million for innovative solutions to resolve encampments.

**Cal ICH** explored the concept of contracting with an evaluator specifically for the ERF program and will be collaborating with the California Department of Housing and Community Development in the future.

**CDSS'** partnership with Change Well Project has allowed for scaling up an array of CDSS-funded programs, including planning, design, and strategy and

## ACTION AREA 4

Counties and Tribal grantees implementing and scaling up an array of CDSS-funded programs, including planning, design, strategy and implementation, as well as peer-to-peer support and training, to ensure focus on rehousing activities within the implementation of programs.



implementation with peer-to-peer support in the form of technical assistance. A few areas to highlight this work includes:

- The Change Well Project provides monthly and annual reports on the activities they engage in, in partnership with CDSS. Per the December 2022 End-of-Year Report by Change Well, Change Well reported that 23 Tribal communities were provided in-depth technical assistance by end of the 2022 calendar year.
- Per the June 2023 monthly activity report, Change Well Project highlighted that 13 Tribal communities are receiving technical assistance for BFH, Home Safe, and/or HDAP programs.
- TA is being provided to Tribes who expressed readiness for support staff and will require support with drafting job positions, descriptions, budgeting, and hiring. The Change Well Project has established Action Items for each Tribal entity TA was provided for and this will continue to be ongoing.
- The Change Well Project has created a live dashboard showcasing all technical assistance activities in FY 22-23. Total number of engagements for FY 22-23: 128 engagements with grantees. Communities served: 58 counties and 26 Tribes. Number of programs supported:
  - Bringing Families Home (BFH): 58
  - Housing Support Program (HSP): 23
  - Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP): 66
  - Home Safe: 68
  - Project Roomkey (PRK): 27

**CDSS** and its contracted third-party administrator for the Community Care Expansion (CCE) program provided additional technical assistance through 1:1 calls, webinars, learning collaboratives, and office hours during FY 22-23. These TA efforts were focused on program planning and design, as well as providing specialized technical assistance related to real estate transactions.

**Activity 5:** Provide technical assistance, guidance, and training opportunities to strengthen the implementation of Housing First practices and the achievement of rehousing outcomes in the implementation of State and Federal resources.



**Cal ICH** continues to include Housing First requirements in the NOFA and guidance for all Cal ICH-administered grants.

In addition, Cal ICH staff are working on criteria to help determine which state-funded programs the Housing First core components apply to, in order to facilitate the release of a survey in FY 23-24 to assess compliance at the state level.

Cal ICH staff are also working to identify the barriers faced in implementing Housing First at both the state and local-levels in order to better support our partners in administering programs effectively.

## ACTION AREA 4

**Activity 6:** Regularly deploy the Housing First Checklist for State agencies to confirm alignment with Housing First requirements of relevant State programs, and provide guidance, training, and support to State departments who need to modify programs and policies to achieve alignment.



Cal ICH staff are working on criteria to help determine which state-funded programs the Housing First core components apply to, in order to facilitate the release of a survey in FY 23-24 to assess compliance at the state level. Cal ICH staff are also working to identify the barriers faced in implementing Housing First at both the state and local-levels in order to better support our partners in administering programs effectively.

**Activity 7:** Continue to consult with the Legislature, state and federal agencies, and other stakeholders to identify ways to improve the provision of housing to individuals being served within CDCR-funded programs, consistent with Housing First practices.



**CDCR** has integrated Housing First guidance within their programs and will continue to work with grantees on implementation best practices.

**Activity 8:** Ensure that state-supported recovery housing programs are adapting policies and practices to continue to address the needs of participants, are educating participants regarding roles, rights and responsibilities, and are connecting people to alternative housing options that are implementing Housing First and harm reduction practices, in order to provide participants with meaningful choice and seek to minimize exits to

On February 9, 2023, **CDCR**'s Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) distributed guidelines that assist the Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) contractors with implementing Housing First Requirements.

As DRP becomes aware of housing resources, connections are made whenever possible. Contract language was also changed to reflect Housing First (as it pertains to CDCR), presented the new language to the STOP contractors, and developed guidelines on expectations on how to meet Housing First requirements.

Finally, CDCR produced a flyer to educate parolees on housing options that are available, which will encompass Housing First and harm reduction options. This flyer will be disseminated in September 2023.

## ACTION AREA 4

homelessness, whether directly released from CDCR institutions or from post-release CDCR-sponsored programs.



**Activity 9:** Provide training, technical assistance opportunities to support local partners' planning for transitioning diversion or Community Based Restoration (CBR) clients to longer term/permanent housing and treatment.



**DSH** released a funding opportunity for counties to provide resources to support local collaborative planning workgroups in their efforts to develop upstream and re-entry strategies that will assist IST individuals in their transition from Diversion and CBR programs to longer term programs and housing. Funding may be used to support technical assistance activities needed by the local collaborative planning workgroup. A total of 33 counties applied for and received the \$100,000 annual planning grant.

**Activity 10:** Enhance technical assistance for affordable housing providers on fair housing choice, including expanding educational efforts regarding non-discrimination based on source of income (SB 329), disability, criminal history, and other factors addressed by fair housing requirements.



**HCD** was not able to make progress on this activity in FY 22-23. The Activity has been updated in the FY 23-24 Action Plan update to reflect next steps of implementation.

► **Objective 12:** Foster the creation of an expanded supply of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, paired with appropriate health and behavioral health care resources, that are accessible and culturally responsive to people exiting homelessness, to people at lowest income levels, and to people from historically marginalized communities.

**Activity 1:** Implement Homekey program to support rapid financing and development of

**HCD** administered the Homekey program and during FY 22-23, 20 permanent and interim-to-permanent projects were completed and leased up with new tenants. 886 permanent supportive housing units were produced and made available through the Homekey Round 2 program, housing 1,152 individuals.

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permanent housing units.

**Activity 2:** Implement Community Care Expansion program to expand and preserve residential care settings for seniors and adults with disabilities including permanent supportive housing and licensed adult and senior care beds.



**Activity 3:** Implement a wide array of other State and Federal funding programs that support expansion of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, with identification of clear unit production goals and targets for the implementation of each program.



Another 482 units created are currently interim but will convert to permanent in the next 15 years. 116 total projects awarded creating 6,863 units.

The **CDSS** Community Care Expansion (CCE) Capital Expansion Program was established in FY 2021-22 and provides \$570 million in infrastructure grant funding for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation to preserve and expand residential settings that expand the long-term care continuum for Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) and Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) applicants and recipients, including people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Residential settings include but are not limited to adult and senior care facilities, recuperative or respite care settings, and independent residential settings. A Joint Request for Applications was launched on January 2022 in coordination with the California Department of Health Care Services' Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP). Funds may be used for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of adult and senior residential care settings. A portion of the funds may also be used for a Capitalized Operating Subsidy Reserve (COSR) for funded projects for a maximum of five years.

Additionally, \$195 million in CCE Preservation Funds were made available via a noncompetitive allocation for the immediate preservation of licensed residential adult and senior care facilities serving applicants or recipients of SSI/SSP or CAPI, including those who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was published on June 10, 2022.

Examples of State agencies and departments implementing such funding include:

- **Cal ICH** supports the expansion of affordable and supportive housing opportunities including the creation of new housing units as an eligible use of funds under the HHAP, Tribal HHAP, ERF and Family Homelessness Challenge grant program. Cal ICH has provided guidance to grantees on the availability of HHAP funding to cover operational costs to support Homekey projects and increase the expansion of affordable and supportive housing efforts.
- **CDSS**-funded housing programs help connect families and individuals to the right housing intervention and provide flexible funding for rental and utility assistance, security deposits, move-in costs, habitability, legal services, and more. Some examples of how CDSS programs help expand affordable and supportive housing opportunities, include:
  - Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy supports costs related to housing navigation, move-in costs, and time-limited rental subsidies to support exits to permanent housing.
  - Approximately 22% of Project Roomkey participants have exited to permanent housing statewide.
- **HCD** administered the Homekey program to expand housing for persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Round 2 Homekey program awards made from FY 21-22 through July 21, 2022 will create 4,142 homes across 44 jurisdictions. An estimated 1,688 chronically

homeless households and 305 homeless youth households will be served in these homes.

- **HCD** administered the last planned round of No Place Like Home (NPLH) awards. Through December 2022, HCD has made 156 awards totaling approximately \$1,911,376,910 in 46 counties. These are the last planned HCD awards under this program until additional new funding becomes available.
  - In total, HCD made awards to four Alternative Process Counties in the amount of \$1,070,149,587 that will result in approximately 4,855 NPLH-assisted units. 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.
  - In addition, HCD has awarded \$841,227,323 to 42 counties in the balance of the state for 141 projects that will result in approximately 3,000 NPLH-assisted units. More projects are anticipated to be funded by June 30, 2024, as Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Clara meet their statutory deadline to commit their remaining NPLH allocations.
  - Overall, it is anticipated that approximately 7,852 NPLH-assisted units will be produced. As of July 2023, there were 46 completed projects, and 126 projects under construction.
  - FY 22-23 tenant outcome data available for NPLH measures reported in HMIS will be available in the NPLH Annual Report to be released by December 31, 2023.
- The **HCD** Multifamily Finance Super NOFA (MFSN) programs include scoring incentives for housing special needs populations that include homeless households. The first funding round awards made in February 2023 included over 450 units targeted for special needs populations and 300 targeted for veterans supportive housing.

**Activity 4:** Implement advocacy and partnerships to inform the federal administration's efforts to expand housing supply, including the White House Housing Supply Action Plan, to pursue modifications to current and federal programs, to improve the process to use federal public lands for affordable housing development, to provide better loan products for expedited housing development,

In May of 2023, on behalf of the Governor's Office, **BCSH** announced that California is teaming up with the White House and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) to participate in ALL INside, a first-of-its kind initiative to address unsheltered homelessness.

As part of ALL INside, California will partner with its Federal Liaison, USICH and its 19 federal member agencies, and the Domestic Policy Council for up to two years to jointly identify challenges and solutions to expedite movement to stable housing. California will focus on three priority populations experiencing homelessness: youth, older adults and veterans.

In the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the State and Federal governments, there is acknowledgement that the teams will explore several strategies, including better leveraging of existing federal resources and using public land for affordable housing.

## ACTION AREA 4

and to support jurisdictions to make changes to zoning and other processes to expedite development.



**Activity 5:** Identify and implement efforts to better align policies and practices across State housing agencies and programs, while retaining significant focus on extremely low-income households and housing for people exiting homelessness and at risk of homelessness.



**Activity 6:** Pilot Adult Family Homes for older adults in one county, creating opportunities through which up to two adult individuals will reside with a family and share in the interaction and responsibilities of being part of a family unit, while the family receives a stipend and support from a local Family Home Agency (FHA) for caregiving for the adult individual(s).



**Activity 7:** Accelerate selection of developers to create affordable and supportive housing on State-owned Excess Sites.



**BCSH** continues to work closely across state housing agencies to improve housing outcomes for low-income households.

Since December of 2021 CalHFA has provided more than \$500 million dollars in critical assistance to thousands of California homeowners experiencing financial hardships. This mortgage relief is not only a homeownership strategy, it is also a strategy to prevent homelessness.

BCSH has also streamlined efforts to consolidate funding opportunities into one application with HCD's Multifamily Super NOFA.

BCSH has been working to improve tribal access to housing funding programs including HCD's first tribal-specific NOFA for the Homekey released June 2023.

In 2022, CDA determined that the pilot would no longer be implemented, and the funding for this pilot was re-distributed.

Through FY 22-23 **HCD** selected developers to build affordable housing on 18 Excess Sites. HCD anticipates awarding up to 3 more sites in FY 23-24.

HCD's MFSN programs include scoring incentives for affordable housing on State-owned Excess Sites. The first funding round awards made February 2023 included 2 awards to Excess Sites.

**Activity 8:** Provide technical assistance to affordable housing developers and local agencies to support affordable housing development on locally owned surplus land.



For FY 2022-23, **HCD** provided 163 technical assistance contacts to local agencies, developers, and other stakeholders on the Surplus Land Act. HCD facilitated 196 exempt surplus land dispositions and 121 standard surplus land dispositions. Of these dispositions, 35 have resulted in a pipeline of 5,656 total proposed housing units of which 3,753 (approximately 67%) will be affordable to households at 80 percent area median income or below.

During FY 2022-23, HCD coordinated with HCD's Division of State Financial Assistance (DSFA) and the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) to award points in the respective funding programs for affordable housing built on local surplus land. HCD provided language to include in guidelines for the MFSN, Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG), and Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) programs. MFSN projects are currently still in the process of being scored but early data available shows that of the 241 applicants to the program, 45 projects are seeking local surplus land points. For the total 53 applications of the AHSC program, 6 projects sought local public lands points and 1 project was awarded points for that category.

HCD continues to make progress toward goals to expand available technical assistance materials, conduct outreach to stakeholders, and provide direct TA to facilitate development of affordable housing on local surplus land. These actions include but are not limited to ongoing coordination with DSFA and SGC on the SuperNOFA, IIG, and AHSC programs; submission and acceptance of conference workshop proposals including SCANPH's 2023 Annual Conference and the Municipal Management Association of Southern California Conference; and a soon-to-be launched online portal for users to submit Surplus Land Act documents as well as request technical assistance.

► **Objective 13: Improve access to short-term, longer-term, and flexible forms of rental assistance to support racially equitable and successful exits from homelessness, and to support housing development activities.**

**Activity 1:** Implement a wide array of State and Federal funding programs that support provision of various forms of rental assistance, with identification of clear goals and targets for the number of households to receive rental assistance through each program.



Examples of State agencies and departments implementing such funding include:

- In addition to **Cal ICH**'s previously released HHAP round 1, 2, and 3 grants, the HHAP Round 4 allocation totaled \$1 billion and includes continued support for rental assistance, an eligible use of funds under the HHAP and Tribal HHAP programs.
- **CDSS**'s Home Safe program had 58 counties participating as of FY 21-22, an increase of 33 counties from the pilot in 2018-2021. The interim findings from the 2021 University of California San Francisco Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative (BHII) on the Home Safe program finds that 85 percent of Home Safe participants for whom data was available 6 months post-program exit retained housing. This is an important indicator of long-term stability for participants. Grantees have reported being able to provide housing supports through Home Safe that are critical for the safety of seniors and adults with disabilities but were previously inaccessible to most APS departments.

- **CDSS'** Housing and Disability Advocacy (HDAP) program has 57 counties and 2 tribal programs participating beginning in FY 21-22, an increase of 15 additional grantees from FY 20-21. In FY 2021-22, grantees reported HDAP had a 78 percent approval rate for disposed disability benefits applications, with 65 percent of approvals occurring after initial application. By comparison, the average rate of approval solely for initial applications for Social Security Disability benefits specifically was 39 percent in California in 2020.
- Grantees have credited HDAP with improving cross-collaboration among social services agencies, disability benefit advocates, and housing providers for a more holistic approach to service delivery.
  - 94 percent of grantees report that housing made it easier or significantly easier to engage with clients for their disability benefits applications. Grantees also report that clients who were housed during their program participation were easier to contact and completed paperwork in a timelier manner than unhoused clients.
- **CDSS'** Housing Support Program (HSP) has 55 counties participating. HSP has supported systems change within communities through new or stronger partnerships between social service agencies and local homelessness response systems, resulting in more coordinated, efficient, and effective service provision. Counties have reported that providing the core components of HSP including housing case management, housing navigation and rental assistance have successfully supported families in addressing barriers to housing in a way that most families could not have done alone while experiencing homelessness.
- **CDSS'** Bringing Families Home program has 53 counties and one tribe participating as of FY 2022-23 and increase in 2 counties from 2021 and increase of 31 counties from the pilot in 2019-2020.
  - Grantees report that BFH is helping families reunify faster and with greater success, which in turn enables them to better achieve their child welfare case plan goals and shorten timelines to visitation. For example, grantees report that the parenting and life skills learned through BFH increase the likelihood that families will maintain their housing and prevent a return to homelessness, and that some of the families served would not have been accepted by their current landlord without BFH.
  - Grantees report that a key success of BFH is its role in bridging system partnerships between child welfare and housing. While local BFH programs have flexibility in terms of service delivery model, several counties have found the partnerships with local public housing authorities critical to procuring HUD Family Unification Vouchers (FUPs), which helps create long terms affordable housing for BFH families.
  - The Children's Data Network (CDN) of the University of Southern California and California Policy Lab (CPL) out of UC Berkeley are conducting a formal evaluation of the program with publication planned for early 2023. Three highlights from the preliminary findings:
    - Most families who exited the program exited to permanent housing and an additional 14 percent exited to either community-provided or temporary housing.
    - Only 3 percent reported exiting to homelessness.

- Within three months of BFH entry, use of emergency shelter declined, and use of rapid re-housing services doubled for BFH participants relative to the comparison group.
- Families that entered BFH at the point of family reunification were more likely to transition to family maintenance within 6 months.

- Relevant **HCD** funding programs include: The ESG annual program provided \$6.1 million in rapid rehousing assistance serving 3,108 individuals. The ESG-CV program served 20,436 persons through the rapid rehousing program with 33% exiting to a positive housing destination. The CDBG-CV program provided over \$12 million for rental and subsistence payments with \$6.7 million disbursed.
- **Cal OES** manages four programs that have rental assistance as an eligible housing option: Transitional Housing, Specialized Emergency Housing, Domestic Violence Housing First, Homeless Youth and Emergency Services and Housing. In FY 22-23, Rental assistance was provided more than 480 times.
- **CalHFA** administers the Section 811 Rental Assistance program. All Round 1 and 2 funds have been allocated, and CalHFA is no longer accepting applications for the program. A third round of NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is expected in the fall of 2023.

**Activity 2:** Implement transition and diversion funds, including rental assistance resources, for people with disabilities who are discharged from an institutional setting and at risk of homelessness and for individuals who are homeless and at risk of institutionalization.



In FY 22-23 **DOR**-supported Independent Living Centers provided 30 individuals with disabilities who are homeless with flexible funding through the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) Transition and Diversion grant to support individuals with disabilities to transition to stable housing.

SPIL Transition and Diversion funds were utilized for rental assistance, home modifications, assistive technology, and other services to support successful transitions to stable housing. All individuals reported that their quality of life after transition to housing improved and that they feel more equipped to make decisions about their living arrangements as a result of receiving services.

**Activity 3:** Align inventory of appropriate state-owned land prioritized through the Public Lands for Affordable Housing Development Program for the development of permanent affordable and supportive housing opportunities with

**Caltrans** shelter leases seek to provide locals with options to shelter people experiencing homelessness on a temporary and emergency basis, with few exceptions. Exceptions include 3 permanent shelter sites that were established prior to amendments to CA Constitution limiting use of transportation assets to transportation uses.

The requests Caltrans receives regarding affordable housing are largely to use Caltrans excess property for these developments. Unfortunately, Article 19 of the California constitution dictates property must be sold at fair market value with only specific exceptions.

Caltrans is currently exploring other creative opportunities.

## ACTION AREA 4

identified properties, to synergize potential interim and long-term use of property for maximum benefits, and proactively promote and educate local jurisdictions and community partners regarding these opportunities.



**Activity 4:** Design and implement the Veterans Support to Self-Reliance Pilot to support and pilot approaches to providing higher levels of on site supportive services for veterans aged 55 and over who reside in permanent supportive housing, to demonstrate impact of enhanced supportive services on ability of aging veterans to age in place and improve quality of life outcomes.



Veterans Support to Self-Reliance Pilot grantees are in the process of acquiring staff positions and approximately 132 veterans have been enrolled to receive services.

## ACTION AREA 5

### Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness



This Action Area includes activities focused on reducing entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services through State funded programs and systems and enhancing communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention and diversion services and assistance.

► **Objective 14:** Reduce entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services from State-funded settings and systems, addressing racial inequities within risks of experiencing homelessness, and including a focus on people re-entering communities from jails and prisons, young adults connected to the child welfare and/or juvenile justice systems, and people exiting health care settings and programs.

**Activity 1:** Implement CalAIM proposals seeking to address needs of people exiting corrections settings through expedited enrollment in Medi-Cal.



DHCS's [All County Welfare Director's Letter 22-27](#) was published on November 10, 2022 to provide guidance to the County Social Services Department, County Correctional Facilities, and County Probation Facilities on policies and procedures for implementing the Inmate Pre-Release Application Mandate. DHCS has additionally convened regular technical assistance sessions with key stakeholders including a bi-weekly CalAIM Pre-Release Application Sub Workgroup and the monthly Medi-Cal Incarceration Workgroup which support both CalAIM related justice involved initiatives and other DHCS programs which involve the justice system.

On April 12, 2023 DHCS additionally published a Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter, which outlines DHCS' approach to ongoing monitoring and oversight of counties activities under the mandate. This MEDIL includes required reporting of specific metrics related to the Pre-Release Application Mandate which will allow DHCS to assess the success of the initiative in increasing Medi-Cal enrollment. DHCS anticipates issuing updated guidance in August 2023.

**Activity 2:** Implement CalAIM to provide care coordination and housing services to people exiting corrections settings through Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports.



Enhanced Care Management (ECM) is a critical component of the DHCS' CalAIM Justice Involved Reentry Initiative. The care management model begins with pre-release care management services available during the 90 days prior to an individual's release, which are paid on a fee-for-service (FFS) basis by Medi-Cal. The pre-release care manager is required to closely coordinate with the individual's post-release ECM provider— if the pre-release and post-release care managers are not the same person – to ensure continuity of care between the pre- and post-release periods. The ECM Individuals Transitioning from Incarceration will go live January 1, 2024. There is a July 2023 update to the ECM policy guide that includes a section on JI: CalAIM Enhanced Care Management Policy Guide

## ACTION AREA 5

**Activity 3:** Implement CalAIM to provide medically necessary recuperative care placements for unhoused people who are exiting acute inpatient facilities and/or were recently hospitalized.



**Activity 4:** Implement CalAIM Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Funding for Justice-involved Initiatives, including support for implementation of: pre-release Medi-Cal enrollment and suspension processes; delivery of Medi-Cal services in the 90 days prior to release; and supporting correctional agencies, county social services departments, county behavioral health agencies, managed care plans, and to jointly design, modify, and launch new processes aimed at increasing enrollment in Medi-Cal and continuous access to care for justice-involved youths and adults.



**Activity 5:** Enhance the pre-release Community Transition Program practices to initiate referrals to specifically address the housing

**DHCS** has communicated informational and guidance materials and related training (supportive of Housing First) to MCPs on the Recuperative Care (Medical Respite) Community Supports implementation. All guidance is also posted on DHCS' ECM & Community Supports webpage.

On August 18, 2023, DHCS hosted a CalAIM Community Supports Spotlight Series Webinar focused on the Recuperative Care (Medical Respite) Community Support.

DHCS measures the number of MCPs which have adopted, and which will adopt, the Recuperative Care Community Support and communicates this information via its ECM & Community Supports webpage.

In November 2022 **DHCS** launched the PATH Round 2 application which provides support for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, County Social Services Department, County Correctional Facilities, and County Probation Facilities to develop and implement new processes in support of the Inmate Pre-Release Application Mandate. PATH awardees have submitted a DHCS approved implementation plan. As of August 2023, DHCS has approved \$42.3 million in PATH awards representing the participation of multiple organizations across 29 counties and CDCR.

The PATH Justice Involved Round 3 applications were due on July 31, 2023. DHCS is currently in the process of reviewing the applications and providing technical assistance. DHCS will also provide targeted outreach to correctional facilities and county behavioral health agencies that did not submit an application, and ongoing technical assistance for the duration of this demonstration.

**CDCR** strengthened the pre-release process such that the Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) Community Transition Program now provides housing referrals to the Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) network, who then secures Returning Home Well (RHW) or other community-based housing options, as appropriate.

## ACTION AREA 5

needs of people exiting prison settings who are identified as homeless as they transition back to their communities.



In February 2023, CDCR released a policy memo to notify STOP providers that they are to accept DAPO housing referrals, which are being tracked in ARMS.

In June 30, 2022, of the 31,752 individuals on parole, 5,353 (16.9 percent) were unhoused/sheltered. By June 30, 2023, of the 25,371 individuals on parole, 3,978 (15.7 percent) were unhoused/sheltered. Note: These numbers represent the portion of parolees for which CDCR tracks housing status. Not every "parolee" of record is included (e.g., deported, pending deportation, in-local custody).

Although there was a 20 percent decrease in the parolee population during FY 22-23, there was a 26 percent decrease in the parolee homeless/sheltered population, which indicates that the parolee homeless/sheltered population decreased at a slightly greater rate than the decrease of the overall parolee population for whom housing status is tracked.

**Activity 6:** Analyze existing pre-release data and information to better understand the scale of risks for homelessness among people exiting prison settings.



**CDCR** developed a Parolee Housing dashboard to track housing need for individuals who are under CDCR DAPO supervision, which is currently under internal review. CDCR also began meeting with Cal ICH to identify opportunities/mechanisms for data sharing. As such, CDCR will pursue a Business Use Case Proposal with Cal ICH to assess the extent to which individuals leaving CDCR are served by local Continuums of Care (CoCs).

**Activity 7:** Identify opportunity to partner with local communities to pilot data matching activities to analyze rates and timing of post-release experiences of homelessness among people who have exited prison settings.



In April 2023, **CDCR's** Office of Research and DRP, along with CCJBH, met with a local Continuum of Care (CoC) to explore the potential for direct CDCR/CoC data matching. Given there is an established process to share data at the State level, the Interagency Data Exchange Agreement, CDCR will instead focus data sharing with Cal ICH.

## ACTION AREA 5

**Activity 8:** Implement the Housing for a Healthy California program for individuals who are recipients of or eligible for health care provided through the Medi-Cal program, providing tenant-based rental assistance with supportive services or capitalized operating reserve to existing rental projects.



**HCD's** Housing for a Healthy California Program (HHC) Program started in FY 2018-19 and concluded in FY 2020-21. In December 2021, HCD released the HHC NOFA with an aggregate amount of \$163,148,767. HCD awarded these NHTF funds to twenty (20) affordable multifamily housing developments, which will result in 554 NHTF units inclusive of a total of 1,574 housing units. Of the twenty (20) HHC assisted developments, twelve (12) are under construction and will be leasing-up in early 2025; and the remaining eight (8) HHC assisted developments anticipate starting construction within the next twelve (12) months.

**Activity 9:** Incorporate a focus on housing status, housing instability, and housing needs within development of standardized tool for assessing needs within Aging and Disability Resource Centers' (ADRCs') and Area Agencies on Aging's programming.



**CDA** continues to engage ADRC and Area Agency on Aging partners to identify promising approaches for helping older adults and people with disabilities access the information they need to make informed choices about their long-term services and supports need, including housing. As part of the aging and disability No Wrong Door initiative, CDA is in the early planning stages to develop a consumer-facing web portal and contact center to help people connect with services, including housing. The web portal will also include development of a standardized assessment tool.

**Activity 10:** Implement the 180-bed Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) level of care within the DSH Conditional Release Program (CONREP) to support the transition of individuals from the state hospital to community treatment, including provision of housing and residential treatment opportunities.



**DSH's** Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) program commenced a phased in activation across three regions of the state for an average of 30 beds each, beginning in February 2022. As of FY 22-23, 92 individuals were placed and received services.

## ACTION AREA 5

**Activity 11:** Implement the Early Access to Treatment Services for the Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) population, including providing treatment and medication supports at the earliest point possible for individuals in jail who are deemed IST to facilitate stabilization and increase opportunities for diversion.



In FY 2022-23, **DSH** activated 35 Early Access and Stabilization Services (EASS) programs during the course of the year, and a total of 1,440 Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) patients were served by the program during that time. Of the total, 752 (52%) IST patients were enrolled and receiving services within 28 days from commitment to DSH. This percentage will increase over time. Since DSH's overall wait times exceeded 28 days during this timeframe, as new programs are implemented, they began treating individuals who already were on DSH's pending placement list for more than 28 days.

**Activity 12:** Improve IST discharge planning and coordination with counties to enable counties to better plan for continuity of treatment when individuals deemed IST are released from jail.



In FY 2022-23, **DSH** coordinated a series of meetings with county behavioral health representatives to identify the information necessary to establish a standard DSH discharge packet for IST patients transitioning from the hospitals to community care. DSH is now working to standardize the agreed upon documentation and the timing of document production.

**Activity 13:** Implement the Returning Home Well initiative, in partnership with philanthropic organizations and local partners, to prevent experiences of homelessness for people transitioning from corrections settings by expanding interim housing options, including recovery housing models and quarantine options during the pandemic, and by addressing transportation needs to facilitate access to such options.



**CDCR** continued implementing the Returning Home Well initiative and will begin reporting service data to Cal ICH in late summer 2023.

**Activity 15:** Implement Basic Needs Centers providing range of services and supports to students who may be at risk of homelessness, as well as programming targeting students involved with the justice system and/or the foster care system.



**CCCCO** reports that as of August 23, 2023:

- 96 colleges report having an operational basic needs center, with 30.6% of those building a larger center.
- 99.1% of centers are open Monday through Friday, with one college operating on the weekend as well.
- 29.7% of the colleges report having access to services in the evenings after 5pm at least 1 to 2 days per week.
- Additionally, our NextUp program reported serving 2,115 foster students in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

**Activity 16:** Implement Guaranteed Income (GI) Pilot for youth aging out of foster care.



During FY 22-23, **CDSS** executed grant agreements for 3 GI Pilot sites serving former foster youth (FFY), with first results from exit surveys anticipated in 2027.

**Activity 17:** Continue to offer Transition Housing Placements (THP-NMD) for 18-21-year-old Youth transitioning from the Foster Care system, and continue to support THP-Plus for 18-24-year-old former Youth to assist in providing the supports necessary to obtain more permanent housing.



Between June 1, 2023, and July 31, 2023, the **CDSS** Transition Age Youth (TAY) Policy Unit received and offered resources on over 200 housing related inquiries.

**CDSS'** Transition Housing Placements (THP-NMD) program serves youth in extended foster care ages 18 to 21. Housing models include: a host family, staffed sites, and remote sites. In addition to housing, THPP-NMD participants receive supportive services to assist the NMD in obtaining skills needed to successfully transition to independent living. Currently there are over 150 licensed THPP-NMD programs in operation in at least 45 counties statewide. Point-in-time placement data retrieved quarterly between July 2022 and April 2023 consistently shows over 2,000 NMD's placed in THPP-NMD programs each quarter. The most recent available data from county self-reports is from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 21-22 (October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022) and shows over 2,800 young adults participated in THPP-NMD programs that year.

**CDSS'** Transitional Housing Program Plus (THP-Plus) serves young adults who were formerly in foster care that are between the ages of 18 and 24. To be eligible, the young person must have left foster care on or after their 18th birthday. The young person is eligible for THP-Plus for a maximum of 36 cumulative months or until they reach age 25. Housing models include: apartments, single family dwellings, condominiums, college dormitories, and host family models. THP-Plus participants also receive supportive services to assist in obtaining skills needed to successfully transition to independent living. Currently there are nearly 80 county certified THP-Plus programs in operation in at least 43.

## ACTION AREA 5

**Activity 18:** Implement the Prison to Employment (P2E) Initiative to integrate workforce and reentry services in all of California's labor regions and to promote equity and create economic opportunity for formerly incarcerated and justice-involved individuals.



**CWDB's** Prison to Employment (P2E) 2.0 program launched near the end of FY '22-'23, and there is not much data available yet to report. CWDB continues to work with external evaluators, the UC Riverside Presley Center of Crime and Justice Studies, to ensure adequate data collection and the eventual rigorous analysis of that data. CWDB is developing its own cloud-based data collection and management system, and looks forward to more streamlined data reporting once the system goes live.

**Activity 19:** Pilot efforts to address the housing and employment services needs of people with disabilities within state prison facilities, supporting people to access employment prior to re-entering communities or for individuals who are ex-offenders.



**DOR** is piloting an employment services program in one Central Valley prison where DOR counselors are working with 79 individuals with disabilities prior to exiting the prison system to prepare them for meaningful employment as they transition back into the community.

**Activity 20:** Implement the Justice Involved Veterans Initiative to ensure that incarcerated Veterans obtain their earned benefits and receive support upon their release and reentry into post-incarceration life to reduce risks for re-incarceration and homelessness.



**CalVet** reports that the Justice Involved Veterans Initiative is being implemented.

**Activity 21:** Continue to develop a long-term plan and strategy for improving health outcomes and the

**DHCS'** work on this Activity has transitioned to the BH-CONNECT initiative which contains multiple activities focused on children and youth, particularly those involved in the child welfare system. These activities include:

## ACTION AREA 5

delivery of fully integrated health care services for youth in foster care.



- Cross-Sector Incentive Program to reward Managed Care Plans (MCPs), County Mental Health Plans (MHPs), and child welfare systems (CWS) for meeting specified measures related to coordinating care for children and youth in the child welfare system;
- Activity Stipends for children/youth involved in child welfare to promote social/emotional well-being; Centers of Excellence to support the implementation of evidence-based practices for children and youth;
- Clarification of coverage of specific evidence-based practices for children and youth (MST, FFT, PCIT, and potentially other therapeutic modalities);
- Alignment of the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) tool to ensure both child welfare and behavioral health providers are using the same CANS tool;
- Initial Behavioral Health Assessment jointly administered by the behavioral health and child welfare systems; and
- A new Foster Care Liaison, required by DHCS for MCPs to designate at the Plan level and will be responsible for facilitating supporting coordination of services across the MCPs and child welfare systems.

**Activity 22:** Distribute funding and gather outcomes of the Housing Navigators Program and Transitional Housing Program for County Child Welfare Agencies.



In FY 21-22, the **HCD** Transitional Housing Program (THP) funds served 1,332 participants and the Housing Navigators Program (HNP) served 804 participants. Among the two programs, 1,681 foster youth were served. Data for FY 22-23 is still being compiled as of August 2023.

Internal timely submissions of the forty-eight (48) standard agreement contracts for FY 22-23 occurred. At the time of this report, the Department is waiting for five (5) of the forty-eight (48) agreements to be returned from the grantee.

**Activity 23:** Support people with disabilities to successfully and stably transition from nursing homes and other institutional settings to community living opportunities, and also prevent people from going into institutional settings and losing stable housing.



**DOR** received a one-time \$10 million state general fund investment, available from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025, for the Community Living Fund. The program provides transition and diversion services to individuals with disabilities and older adults to move from an institutional setting to the community or to support individuals who are at risk of going into an institution to remain in their community of choice. The program can help prevent individuals who are homeless from going into an institution by assisting individuals to access stable housing and home and community-based supports. As well, the program can assist individuals who are being discharged from an institution such a skilled nursing facility or behavioral health hospital and who are at-risk of homelessness to connect to services to maintain and retain stable housing and community-based services.

In April 2023, DOR fully implemented the Community Living Fund program with 30 community-based organizations to support institutional transition and diversion services and advance community living for people with disabilities and older adults. In the first 3 months of the program in SFY 2022-23, the Community Living Fund served 46 individuals with disabilities and older adults.

## ACTION AREA 5

**Activity 24:** Enhance the capacity of "No Wrong Door" Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) systems to support transitions from nursing facilities back into community living options, minimizing risk that such transitions result in homelessness.



As part of the aging and disability No Wrong Door initiative, **CDA** continues to engage ADRC and Area Agency on Aging partners to identify promising approaches for transitioning people to settings of their choice, including individuals at-risk of homelessness.

In 2022, CDA has promoted the California Department of Rehabilitation's Community Living Fund (CLF) Program with ADRC and AAA partners for expanding the capacity of disability and aging services and programs to provide person-centered institutional transition and diversion services for people of all ages and with any type of disability who do not qualify for existing services.

**Activity 25:** Implement the Workforce Accelerator Fund 10 Grant to test innovative strategies for an equitable recovery to impact economic and racial equity by creating pathways to quality jobs for workers from disadvantaged communities.



This work has been delayed due to **CWDB** staffing shortages. While the WAF program continues, evaluation efforts are on hold until more staff can be onboarded.

### ► **Objective 15:** Enhance communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention interventions and to successfully divert people from entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

**Activity 2:** Implement a wide array of State and Federal funding programs that support provision of various forms of diversion and prevention services, with identification of clear goals and targets for the number of households to receive diversion and prevention services through each program.



Examples of State agencies and departments implementing such funding include:

- **CDSS** housing and homelessness programs were designed and/or expanded to allow for delivery of prevention services to families and individuals who are at risk of homelessness. The historic increase of funding in Budget Act of 2021 and Budget Act of 2022 supports this expansion in program scope while also allowing communities to continue to target vulnerable individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
- The Homeless Assistance (HA) program and Housing Support Program (HSP) mitigate housing instability or homelessness for eligible CalWORKS participants. HA and HSP can be leveraged together to close these gaps to ensure families acquire a living space or do not lose their home. This may include rental or utility arrears, late fee payments, first month's rent and/or security deposits, landlord mediation, repairs, connection to housing stabilization services, habitability/accessibility improvements, and housing navigation.

CalWORKs Permanent HA can provide payments to secure or maintain housing, including a security deposit and last month's rent, or up to two months of rent arrearages.

- Bringing Families Home (BFH) provides preventive services to families in the child welfare system who are at risk of homelessness to increase family reunification and to prevent foster care placements. BFH offers financial assistance and housing-related wrap-around supportive services, including but not limited to: rental assistance, housing navigation, case management, security deposits, utility payments, moving costs, hotel and motel vouchers, legal services, and credit repair.
  - Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) offers housing-related financial assistance and wrap-around supportive services, including, but not limited to interim housing, rental assistance, housing navigation, case management, security deposits, utility payments, moving costs, legal services, and credit repair. HDAP also provides outreach services as well as case management for connections to any additional service needs.
  - Home Safe program offers a range of strategies to prevent homelessness and support ongoing housing stability for APS clients, including housing-related intensive case management, short term housing related financial assistance, deep cleaning to maintain safe housing, eviction prevention, landlord mediation, and more.
- In FY 22-23, **HCD**'s ESG-CV funded Homelessness Prevention programs served 604 persons with 40% of them exiting to a positive housing destination. The annual ESG program provided \$128,613 to serve 189 persons.
  - **CalHFA** implements the National Mortgage Settlement Housing Counseling Program, which allows California residents who are in danger of eviction or foreclosure to receive free counseling services. As of March 31, 2023 of FY 22/23, the program partnered with 75 Housing Counseling Agencies, served nearly 18,500 households, and distributed approximately \$19.2 million in funds (see the most recent Quarterly Report). Since the program started in 2020, it has had an average of 75 HCAs, served 57,086 total households, and distributed \$63.8 million total funds. Additional funding of \$50 million has been approved, extending the program through December 2025.
  - The **CalHFA** Homeowner Relief Corporation has been chosen to administer the California Mortgage Relief Program. The Program uses federal Homeowner Assistance Funds to help homeowners get caught up on past-due housing payments and property taxes. The program is absolutely free and the funds do not need to be repaid. The program helps with the following: Past-due mortgage payments; Missed property taxes; Partial claims and loan deferrals taken during or after January 2022; Reverse Mortgages. Since the program launched in the late 2021, it has served a total of 22,252 households, funded over \$562 million with an average assistance amount of \$25,267 per household.

Throughout FY 22-23, **BCSH** continued to provide information and updates through the Housing is Key website, to help Californians stay in their homes. The website includes information about tenant and homeowner protection and resources. The Housing is Key website includes information about the California Mortgage Relief Program (MRP), which is designed to help homeowners get caught up on past-due housing payments and property taxes to keep them stable in their homes.

As of August 2023, the Mortgage Relief Program has served more than 22,250 households and deployed more than \$562 M in assistance.

The COVID-19 Emergency Rent Relief Program (ERAP) provided assistance to lower income households, at greatest risk of eviction and homelessness, caused by pandemic-related hardships. The program has served more than 365,000 households and deployed more than \$4.6B in rental assistance through August 2023.

BCSH continues to share information about the causes of homelessness, effective solutions, state strategies and programs, and local successes through in-person engagement opportunities, social media and the Housing is Key newsletter.

**Activity 3:** Continue implementation of the Housing is Key campaign, providing materials and resources to help Californians stay in their homes or understand their housing options during COVID-19 and beyond.



In FY 22-23, 18 editions of the Housing is Key newsletter were distributed to nearly 1,500 subscribers. These included information about the work of BCSH, Cal ICH, HCD, and CalHFA to fund housing for individuals experiencing homelessness, as well as funding the production and preservation of affordable housing, infrastructure, and other initiatives. The Housing is Key website includes information about the California Mortgage Relief Program (MRP), which is designed to help homeowners get caught up on past-due housing payments and property taxes to keep them stable in their homes. As of August 2023, the Mortgage Relief Program has served more than 22,250 households and deployed more than \$562 M in assistance.

The COVID-19 Emergency Rent Relief Program (ERAP) provided assistance to lower income households, at greatest risk of eviction and homelessness, caused by pandemic-related hardships. The program has served more than 365,000 households and deployed more than \$4.6B in rental assistance through August 2023.

In spring 2023, BCSH Agency coordinated and participated in The CaseMade Casemaking training to shift the narrative around homelessness, to promote best practices in housing and develop a cohort of state leaders to collaborate on messaging. The training cohort completed six 90-minute training sessions over the span of 3 months and developed a Housing Case Guide. The cohort consisted of staff from departments working across the housing continuum.

In August 2023, BCSH launched an interactive story map which uplifts publicly funded success stories in housing development. Phase one of the project includes stories featuring a permanent supportive housing and transitional housing site for Veterans in Sacramento, a transit-oriented affordable housing community in Santa Rosa, an infill affordable housing community for extremely low- and very low-income families in Fresno, and a Homekey community for LGBTQ+, HIV+ youth and veterans experiencing homelessness

in Riverside. The project aims to encourage members of the public to champion housing in their communities and bring person-centered stories to the forefront of the narrative around housing.

**Activity 4:** Provide guidance to support schools to develop community collaborations and stronger referral systems with public, private, and faith-based partners that can help address housing instability and homelessness, and other service needs, among students and their families.



**CDE** coordinated meetings with Cal ICH staff to identify stakeholder overlap- students, youth, families served by the CoCs- i.e. Cal ICH grantees. The collaboration has set shared goals, outcomes and timelines.

CDE sent out a survey to all 58 County Offices of Education to gather bright spots, best practices and also barriers to services in coordinating with local CoCs. CDE worked with UC Berkeley to analyze and follow up on the results of the survey.

CDE presented Homeless Education information (background, liaison roles, regulatory guidance, etc.) at the August 23rd Cal ICH Office Hours Call.

CDE in collaboration developed the COE Homeless Liaison and CoC Cross-Reference Contact Sheet. The sheet assisted both COEs and CoCs to directly contact each other, understand roles after the CDE presentation and better connect and support programs for families.

CDSS' Housing and Homelessness Division (HHD) is responsible for two areas of the Master Plan on Aging:

1. Provide technical assistance and resources to support statewide implementation of Home Safe and the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program, which focuses on older adults and people with disabilities who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Conduct an ongoing analysis of program implementation and success.
  - In January 2022, HHD launched a comprehensive Technical Assistance (TA) initiative in partnership with Change Well Project. TA offerings have assisted grantees in establishing and growing their programs, and provided trainings and assistance in Housing First, racial equity, data systems, and integration of CDSS housing and homelessness programs with the local homelessness response system.
  - As of June 2023, Change Well currently has active one-on-one TA with 20 counties and 13 tribal communities. Change Well additionally hosted 8 activities in June 2023, including webinars, learning labs, and cohort learning collaborative events. See the Change Well Activities Report dashboard for more information.
  - Additionally, in early May 2023, the Change Well Project launched a six-month TA series specifically for Tribes launching new Home Safe and/or HDAP programs that combines both group learning and tailored 1-1 TA and will provide information on program design fundamentals.
  - In June 2023, HHD launched a County TA Initiative to provide support and guidance to HHD grantees in an effort toward continuous quality improvement, to capture innovative practices, and to promote accountability and initiate corrective action as needed.

**Activity 5:** Identify strategies to serve older adults and people with disabilities at risk of experiencing homelessness, including meeting the need for in home supports and access to licensed adult and senior care facilities.



2. Address the housing needs of older adults and people with disabilities by promoting statewide access to integrated models, including connections to social services, healthcare, housing, and home and community-based services, e.g., Community Care Expansion, Healthier at Home, and others in support of Californians remaining in their own homes and communities.
  - The CCE Expansion Program funds the acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of adult and senior care facilities that serve SSI/SSP or CAPI recipients and applicants who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
  - As of June 2023, \$360 million in CCE program funding has been awarded to 50 projects to create over 2,000 beds and units throughout the state. Of the \$28.5 million tribal set aside, \$9.5 million has been awarded so far.
  - The CDSS has also awarded \$249 million to 35 participating California counties through the CCE Preservation Program for the immediate preservation of licensed adult and senior care facilities currently serving applicants and recipients of SSI/SSP and CAPI.
  - HDAP provides case management and housing supports for individuals who are likely eligible for disability benefits.
  - From program inception in 2017 through December 2022, HDAP enrolled over 6,000 individuals with disabilities, and 2,900 individuals were permanently housed.
  - Tribes are eligible grantees who can operate the HDAP Program under the Tribal Set-Aside issued in July 2022. Of the Tribal Set-Aside for HDAP, in April 2023, CDSS made \$15 million in awards to a total of 17 tribes and tribal organizations.
  - The Home Safe program supports the safety and housing stability of individuals involved in Adult Protective Services (APS), or those in the process of APS intake.
  - As of June 2023, approximately 9,792 people have received assistance through the program and more than 3,000 instances of housing financial assistance were provided. Additionally, over 1,800 people have been connected to the local Coordinated Entry System (CES). Fifty-eight counties currently operate a Home Safe Program.
  - Tribes are eligible grantees who can operate the Home Safe Program under the Tribal Set-Aside issued in July 2022. Of the Tribal Set-Aside for Home Safe, in April 2023, CDSS made \$10 million in awards to a total of 23 tribes and tribal organizations.

# Attachment A: Action Plan Objectives

From updated Action Plan adopted September 2022 and covering FY 22-23.



## ACTION AREA 1

### Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California

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#### ▶ Objective 1

Strengthen racial equity-focused activities of State agencies and of local agencies and organizations receiving State funding for homelessness services and housing activities.

#### ▶ Objective 2

Ensure that State and local planning and decision-making processes are deeply informed and guided by recommendations from people with lived expertise from experiences of homelessness.

#### ▶ Objective 3

Incentivize and support cross-sector, interjurisdictional, and regional planning, decision-making, and accountability.

#### ▶ Objective 4

Improve access to education and employment services and opportunities for people at risk of, experiencing, and/or exiting homelessness.

#### ▶ Objective 5

Support California communities to develop disaster preparedness plans and public health strategies that are more inclusive of the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

#### ▶ Objective 6

Increase public awareness of the State's homelessness strategies, successes, challenges, and the importance of Housing First approaches, trauma-informed care and other best practices.



## ACTION AREA 2

### Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

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#### ▶ Objective 7

Support California communities to strengthen outreach efforts and to address the health and safety needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

#### ▶ Objective 8

Provide equitable access to essential State-supported programs and services, including health and behavioral health care services, for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.



## ACTION AREA 3

### Expanding Communities' Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing

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#### ▶ Objective 9

Partner with communities to implement innovative approaches and expand the supply of safe, housing-placement focused sheltering and interim housing models for Californians experiencing homelessness.

#### ▶ Objective 10

Expand alignment and engagement of State resources, including health and behavioral health care resources, to address health and services needs among Californians temporarily staying within sheltering and interim housing options.



#### ACTION AREA 4

### Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities

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#### ► Objective 11

Strengthen implementation of Housing First approaches and other best practices in support of equitably and urgently rehousing people from shelters, interim housing, and other temporary settings, and from unsheltered homelessness.

#### ► Objective 12

Foster the creation of an expanded supply of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, paired with appropriate health and behavioral health care resources, that are accessible and culturally responsive to people exiting homelessness, to people at lowest income levels, and to people from historically marginalized communities.

#### ► Objective 13

Improve access to short-term and longer-term, and flexible forms of rental assistance to support racially equitable and successful exits from homelessness, and to support housing development activities.



#### ACTION AREA 5

### Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness

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#### ► Objective 14

Reduce entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services from State-funded settings and systems, addressing racial inequities within risks of experiencing homelessness, and including a focus on people re-entering communities from jails and prisons, young adults connected to the child welfare and/or juvenile justice systems, and people exiting health care settings and programs.

#### ► Objective 15

Enhance communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention interventions and to successfully divert people from entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

# Attachment B: Baseline Measures Methodology

## Data Sources

In order to assess the impact of Federal, state, and local efforts to address homelessness, the Key Measures include data from the Cal ICH Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS), estimates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, and data from the California Department of Education (CDE). Additionally, this Action Plan uses estimates from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) to compare the population of people experiencing homelessness in California to California's total population.

**HDIS** is Cal ICH's data warehouse that aggregates, processes, and reports data from Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) across the state. HMIS are local databases used by Continuums of Care (CoCs) to collect information about people experiencing homelessness, the housing and services they receive from providers, and their outcomes. CoCs use HMIS to connect people to services and to assess the level of need in their communities. Although service providers that receive Federal funding and certain local or state funding are required to participate in local HMIS, other providers are not required to report into HMIS. Providers who serve survivors of domestic violence, Tribal service providers, and some youth services providers are among those who do not report into HMIS. Therefore, the measures that use HDIS data do not represent all people who are receiving homelessness services in the state. Additionally, people can receive services from providers that report to HMIS while they are not experiencing homelessness, as is the case with prevention services or permanent supportive housing. However, the measures that use data from HDIS only include people who experience literal homelessness during the report period as it is defined by HUD: individuals or families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

**PIT counts** are conducted by CoCs during one night in January. The sheltered count in the Key Measures is an estimate of the number of people in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens, while the unsheltered count is an estimate of the number of people who are living on the street, in abandoned buildings, or in other in places not meant for human habitation.

**CDE** collects data from local education agencies about students who have been identified as experiencing homelessness. In addition to any students who meet HUD's definition of literal homelessness, schools aim to identify students who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Or are abandoned in hospitals.

The cumulative student homelessness data used in the Key Measures include all students who were enrolled for at least one day at any time during the school year, and were identified as experiencing homelessness at any point during the time that they were enrolled. Students are

considered “unaccompanied” if they experience homelessness while not in the physical custody of their parent or guardian.

Each measure is disaggregated by **race & ethnicity**. For all measures that use data from **HDIS**, races and ethnicities are self-reported by people who access services through projects that report to HMIS. Although people may report multiple racial identities, any person who identifies as more than one race is currently included only in the “Multiple Races” group, and not in each group that they identify with. People are asked to report their race separately from their ethnicity. This means that each person appears in one race category and in one ethnicity category, unless their race and/or ethnicity is unknown.

A person’s race and/or ethnicity is reported as “unknown” if a person refuses to report their race and/or ethnicity, does not know their race and/or ethnicity, or if the information is not collected when a person accesses services. In 2022, 7% of Californians who accessed services while experiencing homelessness were reported as having an unknown race, and 4% were reported as having an unknown ethnicity. While people with an unknown race or an unknown ethnicity are included in the total numbers of people experiencing homelessness in each measure, the unknown race and ethnicity categories are not included in the charts in this report as distinct groups. Therefore, the percentages of people who belong to each race and ethnicity category do not equal 100%.

In the data from **PIT counts**, races and ethnicities are either self-reported by individuals, or are estimated by each CoC through other statistical methods. Although people may report multiple racial identities, any person who identifies as more than one race is currently included only in the “Multiple Races” group, and not in each group that they identify with. Since the PIT counts estimate the racial and ethnic identities of people whose race and/or ethnicity is unknown, PIT counts do not report an “unknown” category.

The charts that show the **rate at which Californians of each race and ethnicity are experiencing homelessness**, such as “Californians Accessing Services While Experiencing Homelessness, Rate by Race & Ethnicity (per 10k Californians),” use estimates of California’s total population from the **2021 American Community Survey (ACS)**. These charts show the number of Californians in each racial and ethnic group who are experiencing homelessness (or who have the specific experience of homelessness described by the given measure) for every 10,000 Californians who identify in that racial or ethnic group. Each rate is calculated by dividing the number of people in each racial or ethnic group who have the experience described by the measure, by the total number of Californians in that racial or ethnic group, and then multiplying that number by 10,000. Like the HDIS and the PIT counts, the ACS estimates the numbers of people who identify as each race separately from the numbers of people who identify as Hispanic or Latino, or as not Hispanic or Latino. The ACS also groups everybody who identifies as more than one race into a “Two or more races” category. Unlike the data from HDIS, the ACS does not have an “unknown race” category. However, the ACS does have a “Some other race” category. While people who identify as “Some other race” are included in California’s general population, there is not “Some other race” category in the charts because there is no analogous category in data from HDIS or PIT counts. The ACS estimates that 19% of all Californians identify as “Some other race.”

The data on **student homelessness** does not separate race from ethnicity, so students are only counted once in any of the categories provided.

## Key Measures & Accompanying Charts

**Measure 1a** is the **number of Californians accessing services while experiencing homelessness**. This measure uses data from HDIS to count the number of Californians accessing services while experiencing homelessness over the course of a year.

- The first chart shows the **Number of Californians Accessing Services While Experiencing Homelessness, by Household Type**. A person is counted in multiple household types if they are part of different households or if their household composition changes while they are accessing services during the report period. For instance, a parent and a child may first access services separately from each other, but then reunite later in the report period while continuing to access services. In this case, the child would be counted in both the **Child-Only** category and the **Families with Children** category, and the parent would be counted in both the **Adult-Only** category and the **Families with Children** category. For this reason, the sum of the three categories in this chart is greater than the total number of Californians who accessed services while experiencing homelessness.
- The second chart shows the **Number of Californians Accessing Services While Experiencing Homelessness, by Population of Interest**. A person can be counted in multiple populations of interest. For example, a veteran experiencing chronic homelessness would be counted in both of these populations. Special populations in this chart include:
  - **Veterans**: people who indicated that they are a U.S. veteran, including Reserves and National Guard members who were called up to active duty.
  - **People experiencing chronic homelessness**: adults, as well as children who are considered the head of a child-only household, who have all of the following characteristics:
    - Are either unsheltered, in an emergency shelter, or in a Safe Haven, **and**
    - Are experiencing long-term homelessness (for at least 1 year, or at least 4 times that add up to a year), **and**
    - Have a disability.
  - **Unaccompanied transition-age youth**: people in households in which every person is between the ages of 18 and 24.
  - **Unaccompanied minors**: people in households in which every person is younger than 18 .
- The third chart, **Californians Experiencing Homelessness, Rate by Race & Ethnicity (per 10,000 Californians)**, shows the rates at which all Californians in each racial and ethnic group are experiencing homelessness (*please see the explanation of race & ethnicity above for more details about how these rates are calculated*).

**Measure 1b** is the **number of Californians experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness at a point in time**. This measure uses data from the PIT count to estimate the number of Californians experiencing homelessness at a point in time.

**Measure 2** is the **number of Californians experiencing homelessness while accessing services for the first time each year**. This measure uses data from HDIS, and includes people who accessed housing and/or services while experiencing homelessness during FY 2022-2023, but had not accessed housing and/or services while experiencing homelessness during the prior two years.

- The first chart, **Number of Californians Experiencing Homelessness by Prior Experience (Continuous, New, or Returning)** shows the number of Californians who are **continuously**

experiencing homelessness, **newly** experiencing homelessness, or **returning** to homelessness during the report period.

- **Newly** experiencing homelessness: Experiencing homelessness while accessing housing and/or services during FY 2022-2023, but did not experience homelessness while accessing housing and/or services during the prior two years.
- **Continuously** experiencing homelessness: Experiencing homelessness while accessing services at the beginning of FY 2022-2023.
- **Returning** to homelessness: Experiencing homelessness while accessing services during FY 2022-2023, and had previously experienced homelessness while accessing services during the prior two years.

**Measure 3** is the **number of Californians successfully exiting homelessness into permanent housing** each year. This measure uses data from HDIS. It includes people who have exited homelessness by moving into permanent housing, or by transitioning from unsheltered homelessness into a temporary sheltered setting such as an emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing. Permanent housing includes permanent destinations both *within and outside* of the homelessness response system.

- Permanent housing that is provided through a project that enters clients' information into HMIS is *within the homelessness response system*. People who experienced homelessness and then enrolled in a permanent housing project are included in this measure if they have recorded a move-in date indicating that they have moved into permanent housing during the report period (please note that this does not measure does not include people who have enrolled in permanent housing but are still waiting to move in).
- Permanent housing that is either unsubsidized or uses funding that does not require participation in HMIS, such as HUD Section 8 vouchers, is *outside of the homelessness response system*.

These charts show the percentages of **Californians exiting homelessness to permanent housing, by race & ethnicity**. The first bar in each chart shows the percentages of Californians who are experiencing homelessness who are in each racial and ethnic group, and the second bars show the percentages of Californians who are exiting to permanent housing who are in each racial and ethnic group.

**Measure 4** is the **average length of time Californians are remaining homeless while accessing services**. This measure uses data from HDIS. It shows the number of days people experienced homelessness while accessing different types of homelessness services, including days in sheltered situations (such as emergency shelter and transitional housing) and days in unsheltered situations (but still receiving services, such as street outreach). For people who have been experiencing homelessness continuously since before the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the number of days they experience homelessness includes any days within three years before the current reporting period that they were continuously experiencing homelessness.

**Measure 5** is the **percentage of Californians who return to homelessness within six months of exiting homelessness to permanent housing**. This measure uses data from HDIS. In this report, the measure only includes returns by people who exited during the first six months of the fiscal year (July 2022 through December 2022). The measure calculates the percentage by dividing:

*The number of people who exited to permanent housing in the first six months of the report period and then returned to homelessness within six months of their exit*  
by

*The total number of people who exited homelessness to permanent housing during the first six months of the report period.*

A person is counted as “returning to homelessness” if they access services that report data to HMIS while they are experiencing homelessness.

- This chart shows the **percentage of Californians who return to homelessness after exiting to permanent housing, by race & ethnicity**. It shows these percentages for the total population of Californians experiencing homelessness and for Californians in each racial and ethnic group.

**Measure 6** is the **number of Californians successfully placed from street outreach into a sheltered setting** each year. This measure uses data from HDIS and includes people who moved directly into a successful placement after they finish receiving services through a street outreach project.

Successful placements can include any type of permanent housing (either subsidized or unsubsidized), emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe havens, staying with family or friends, staying in hotels, foster care, psychiatric facilities, substance abuse treatment facilities, and nursing homes.

The **Student Measure** is the number of **children and youth who experience homelessness during the school year in California**, including unaccompanied youth. This measure includes all students who are identified as experiencing homelessness at any point while they are enrolled in school. This includes students who are experiencing any of the following circumstances, even if they do not meet HUD’s definition of “literal homelessness”:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Or are abandoned in hospitals.

The first chart shows the **percentage of students who are experiencing homelessness who are unaccompanied**, out of all students experiencing homelessness during the 2021-2022 school year. A student is considered unaccompanied if they were not in the direct care of their parent or guardian at any point in time during the school year.

The second chart shows the **percentages of students experiencing homelessness in California, by race & ethnicity**. It also shows the percentages of all students in California who are part of each racial or ethnic group, as well as the percentages of students who are unaccompanied who are in each racial and ethnic group.

**Measure 7** shows California's **performance across Measures 1a through 6 for each racial and ethnic group**. The numbers in this chart are the full values of each measure, and are not rates or shares of a total.

## Equity Analysis Charts

The first chart shows the **average number of days Californians remain homeless, by race & ethnicity**, calculated using the methodology for **Measure 4** (described above). Each bar shows the average number of days Californians in each racial and ethnic group remained homeless,

as well as the average number for the total population of Californians experiencing homelessness.

The second chart shows the **percentages of people of each race or ethnicity who were served in each type of service setting**, out of the total number of people of each race or ethnicity who accessed homelessness services. For instance, 38% of white people who accessed homelessness services were served in non-residential settings only, while 26% were served in both residential and non-residential settings, and 36% were served in residential settings only. The total numbers of people who accessed homelessness services are calculated using the methodology for **Measure 1a** (described above). These total numbers are disaggregated by the type of setting that a person received services in during the report period. As the chart suggests, a service setting can be either **residential** or **non-residential**, and each person has either been served in **residential settings only**, **non-residential settings only**, or **both residential and non-residential settings**.

- **Residential:** this category includes emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe havens. It also includes permanent supportive housing, other permanent housing, and rapid rehousing projects that people have *not yet moved into*.
- **Non-Residential:** this category includes street outreach, coordinated entry, day shelters, supportive services only projects, and "other" projects.

The third chart shows the **percentages of people of each race or ethnicity who are newly experiencing homelessness, continuously experiencing homelessness, or returning to homelessness**. Each of these categories is calculated using the methodology for **Measure 2** (described above). As the chart suggests, each person who has accessed homelessness services can be described by exactly one of those categories. For instance, 56% of Asian and Asian American people who experienced homelessness while accessing services were newly experiencing homelessness in FY 2022-2023, while 24% were continuously experiencing homelessness since some point in the previous fiscal year, and 20% returned to homelessness during FY 2022-2023.

# Attachment C: Acronyms Used in this Report

AB	Assembly Bill	CTCAC	California Tax Credit Allocation Committee
AMI	Area Median Income	CWDB	California Workforce Development Board
ADRC	Aging and Disability Resource Center	DFEH	California Department of Fair Employment and Housing
BCSH	California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency	DGS	California Department of General Services
BIPOC	Black, Indigenous, and people of color	DHCS	California Department of Health Care Services
CalAIM	California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal	DOR	California Department of Rehabilitation
CalHFA	California Housing Finance Agency	DSH	California Department of State Hospitals
CalHHS	California Health and Human Services Agency	ECM	Enhanced Care Management
CalHR	California Department of Human Resources	ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grants Program–Coronavirus
Cal ICH	California Interagency Council on Homelessness	FY	Fiscal Year
CalOES	California Governor's Office of Emergency Services	HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development
CalSTA	California State Transportation Agency	HDIS	Homeless Data Integration System
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation	HHAP	Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program
CalVet	California Department of Veterans Affairs	HHP	Health Homes Program
CBO	Community Based Organization	HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
CBR	Community Based Restoration	HSP	Housing Support Program
CCC	California Community Colleges	HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
CCE	Community Care Expansion	ILOS	In Lieu of Services
CCHCS	California Correctional Health Care Services	IST	Incompetent to Stand Trial
CDA	California Department of Aging	LEAs	Local educational agencies
CDCR	California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	MCP	Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan
CDE	California Department of Education	Medi-Cal	California's Medicaid healthcare program
CDLAC	California Debt Limit Allocation Committee	NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability
CDPH	California Department of Public Health	SB	Senate Bill
CDSS	California Department of Social Services	SGC	California Strategic Growth Council
CHEBNA	California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance	TA	Technical Assistance
CoC	Continuum of Care	VA	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
		WPC	Whole Person Care



**California  
Interagency Council  
on Homelessness**



**California  
Community  
Colleges**

