

RaApplication Narrative Template

Madera County App ID: MAD-COU-9IBWS77XU7

This section of the toolkit is to assist jurisdictions in thoroughly completing their application narrative document. Below you will find the questions that HHAP program staff will be ensuring are answered in each jurisdiction's narrative document. Applications will not be deemed complete if all the below questions are not addressed in a jurisdiction's narrative attachment. More information on these areas can be found in the [HHAP program guidance](#).

1. SUMMARY OF HOMELESSNESS IN THE CoC, LARGE CITY, OR COUNTY

To successfully complete this section, applicants must:

Submit their CoC's complete HUD Longitudinal System Assessment (LSA) from June 2018 – June 2019.

Submitted by Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care.

A. Use the LSA data to provide (as defined by HUD):

Madera County is part of the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care, hence our data is rolled up with Fresno County. To get a reasonable estimate of Madera County specific counts we have used 15% of the total for the CofC. The below supplied numbers are derived from taking 15% of the total CofC LSA's numbers.

1. Total number of households served in:
 - a. (1) Emergency Shelter, **96**
 - b. Safe Haven and Transitional Housing,
 - c. (2) Rapid Rehousing **54**, and
 - d. (3) Permanent Supportive Housing. **68**
2. Total number of disabled households served across all interventions. **165**
3. Total number of households experiencing chronic homelessness served across all interventions. **77**
4. Total number of 55+ households served across all interventions. **89**
5. Total number of unaccompanied youth served across all interventions. **23**
6. Total number of veteran households served across all interventions. **98**

Number of individuals served across all interventions who were:

- (1) Female, **84**
- (2) Male, **147**
- (3) Transgender, **1** or
- (4) Gender Non-Conforming. **<1**
7. Total number individuals served across all interventions who were:
 - (1) White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino (only), **92**
 - (2) White, Hispanic/Latino (only) **67**,
 - (3) Black or African American (only) **57**,
 - (4) Asian (only) **2**,
 - (5) American Indian or Alaska Native (only) **7**,
 - (5) Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (only) **1** or
 - (6) Multiple races **6**

Please note:

- Per HHAP program guidance, CoCs are expected to share the LSA with their regional co-applicants (i.e. applicable large cities and

counties that overlap the CoC's jurisdiction). Each entity will submit a copy of the LSA for their CoC.

- Acknowledging that there may be differences in demographics and characteristics within a region, large city and county, applicants may also include additional information and data that is specific to the geography they represent.

2. DEMONSTRATION OF REGIONAL COORDINATION

To successfully complete this section, applicants must provide:

A. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Information

For CoC applicants:

1. Describe how your CES functions, including:
 - a. What entity is responsible for operating your CES?
 - b. What is the process for assessment and identification of housing needs for individuals and families that are experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness in your community?
 - c. How are people referred to available housing through CES?
2. How do you promote the utilization of your CES? Specifically:
 - a. What outreach do you conduct to ensure all individuals experiencing homelessness, including those with multiple barriers, are aware of the CES assessment and referral process?
 - b. What is the grievance or appeal process for customers?
 - c. How do you provide culturally responsive services to people experiencing homelessness?
3. What, if any, are the current challenges preventing successful CES operation in your jurisdiction, and how do you plan to address these challenges?

N/A

For Large City and County applicants:

1. How do you coordinate with your CoC's CES? .

As a member of the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care (CoC) Madera County will utilize the CoC Centralized Entry System (CES) for all services funded by HHAP as well as other programs designed to reduce the negative effects of homelessness. By utilizing the CoC's CES, we will address the needs of homeless

individuals by minimizing barriers in accessing the most appropriate and effective housing services. Incorporate a “housing first” philosophy in matching homeless individuals with services. Use Homeless Management Information System – Service Point to maximize existing resources and simplify implementation. The CoC will not deny services to any participant based on that participant’s refusal to allow their data to be stored or shared unless a Federal statute requires collection, use, storage, and reporting of a participant’s personally identifiable information as a condition of program participation. Where appropriate, non-personally-identifiable information about participants who refuse consent to share personally identifiable data should be logged in an electronic case file that uses pseudonyms, e.g., “Jane Doe,” to preserve as much non-personally-identifiable information as possible for statistical purposes.

2. What, if any, are your jurisdiction’s current challenges related to CES, and how do you plan to address these challenges?

Madera County recognizes that barriers to utilizing the CoC’s CES will need to be addressed. To date we have identified two (2) major barriers. Surely others will pop up as we proceed.

Barriers identified to date are:

Barrier #1: Limited services in the cities/communities of Madera County. Services provided through the CoC are primarily in Fresno which is 30-60 miles from parts of Madera County.

Plan: Until services can be secured in the cities/communities of Madera County, outreach workers and other staff will need to transport people to Fresno for needed services.

Barrier #2: Sparse population in the remote areas of Eastern Madera County. Difficult to reach people especially during the winter months due to weather conditions.

Plan: Madera County outreach workers will coordinate with the Madera County Sheriff’s Department to access people in the remote areas of Madera County.

3. How do you promote the utilization of your CES?

- a. Specifically, what outreach do you conduct to ensure all individuals experiencing homelessness in your jurisdiction, including those with multiple barriers, are aware of the CES assessment and referral process?**

Madera County recognizes the need to outreach to people experiencing homelessness and local agencies who provide services to people experiencing homelessness. It is our estimation that there are a number of agencies that are not aware of the CES processes. As a member of the CoC, workers from the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission provide outreach to people experiencing homelessness in our community. Included in this outreach is creating awareness of the CES assessment and referral process. Madera County also has local homeless outreach workers who provide similar awareness.

Madera County does recognize that there are local agencies that may not be aware of the CES process and referral system. Madera County will ensure that all local agencies are aware of the processes by developing strategies for information dissemination. We will make announcements at local provider meetings and distribute informational pamphlets, train staff in County Departments such as Public Health, Community Action Partnership and Social Services as well as other local agencies. We will provide these resources to our local Live Well Madera group which is a collaboration of agencies designed to improve the health of Madera County.

In addition, these are the specific steps FMCoC CES provider(s) are taking to market the coordinated entry system:

- Monthly email updates to the general community, service providers, City and County departments;
- Posting of coordinated entry policies and other information on the FMCoC website and their social media platforms;
- Informational flyers distributed at service locations in the community;
- Providing information about coordinated entry and the homeless response system, as well as access to coordinated entry services in accessible formats, such as large print, audio, Braille, interpreters, and sign language, when necessary. Additionally, some coordinated entry staff are fluent in various languages and equipped to conduct intake, assessment, and diversion when possible;
- Direct outreach to people on the street and other sites where people experiencing homelessness access services and supports;
- Announcements regarding CES information and updates during FMCoC or other committee meetings related to the homeless response system;
- Educating mainstream service providers (including, but not limited to, County Department of Social Services, County Department of Behavioral Health, County Department of Public Health, Public Housing Authorities, Employment Services, School Districts, Mental Health providers, Health Care providers, Law Enforcement, Faith Based Organizations, Business Community, Landlords, and Substance Abuse providers) about how to refer someone who is literally homeless to the coordinated entry system.

Madera County is in the course of developing a formal process to bring together local organizations (both government and non-government), agencies, private sector businesses, community partners and community members with the purpose of reducing the negative effects of homelessness within Madera County. Formation of this alliance of agencies and people will ensure efforts are coordinated to more effectively and efficiently categorize current resources and efforts focused on homelessness prevention and homelessness service, identify gaps in services, and seek resources to fill local needs or gaps. The purpose statement of the Alliance is: We will unite, we will merge our efforts, we will cooperate, and we will support each's work for our common cause to reduce the negative effects of homelessness.

B. Prioritization Criteria

1. What are the criteria used to prioritize assistance for people experiencing homelessness in your jurisdiction?

The Fresno Madera Continuum of Care prioritizes chronically homeless individuals and families and has committed to adopting a Housing First approach in CoC/ESG programs. For homeless families with children, FMCoC seeks to mediate/prevent homelessness whenever possible, reduce the homeless episode for families through rapid rehousing (RRH) and shelter/transitional housing (focused on moving families from homelessness to permanent housing as soon as possible), and permanently house the most vulnerable families as resources are available. Information is gathered to determine the "best fit" intervention to prioritize families for more intensive services, as needed, using the VI-SPDAT assessment through the Coordinated Entry System. Rapid Re-Housing projects serving homeless families with children will strive to place clients into permanent housing within 30 days of entering homelessness, and will not screen out families based on any criteria that will impact future housing success, including age, gender or marital status. For vulnerable, chronically homeless individuals, FMCoC utilizes the VI-SPDAT CoC-wide, which identifies those most at risk of dying on the street and will prioritize placement and services for those highest in need. The SPDAT, will be used for more in-depth understanding of participants and even more tailored placement and services. Referral systems are already in place and continue to be expanded for greater coverage.

Coordinated Entry System uses the Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) as the standard assessment tool. The VI-SPDAT is built into HMIS. The VI-SPDAT is completed in HMIS with all individuals and families who are homeless under HUD's definition of homelessness. The assessment can only be conducted by a qualified agency or program assessor participating in CES and trained in HMIS.

The VI-SPDAT is generally conducted no sooner than a seven night stay in an emergency shelter, three street outreach contacts, and/or when a Homeless Verification can be attained. The VI-SPDAT is a pre-screening, or triage tool that is designed to be used by all providers within a community to quickly assess the health and social needs of homeless persons and match them with the most appropriate support and housing interventions that are available. A triage tool like the VI-SPDAT allows homeless service providers to similarly assess and prioritize the universe of people who are homeless in their community and identify who to treat first based on the acuity (severity) of their needs. It is a brief survey that service providers, outreach workers, and even volunteers can use to determine an acuity score for each homeless person who participates. The scores can then be compared and used to identify and prioritize candidates for different housing interventions based upon their acuity.

Using the VI-SPDAT, providers can move beyond only assisting those who present at their particular agency and begin to work together to prioritize all homeless people in the community, regardless of where they are assessed, in a consistent and transparent manner.

2. How is CES, pursuant to 24 CFR 578.8(a)(8) used for this process?

VICTIMS FLEETING OR ATTEMPTING TO FLEE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

Victim and non-victim housing/service agencies must prioritize safety and equitable access to housing/services for persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking (DV), while ensuring that client choice is upheld.

Therefore, the screening process includes the following "yes" or "no" questions:

1. "Are you currently residing in, or trying to leave an intimate partner who threatens you or makes you fearful?" (If yes, ask the following question):

2. "Do you want services that are specifically geared to domestic violence survivors OR do you need a confidential location to stay?"

If the client answers “yes” to either or both questions, the client must be offered assistance to contact the appropriate domestic violence assistance provider as follows:

If in Fresno County:

Marjaree Mason Center 24-Hour Emergency Hotline at 559-233-4357

If in Madera County:

Community Action Partnership of Madera at 800-355-8989

It is important to understand that as a protection to a DV victim fleeing their home, the law protects DV agencies and the victims within confidentiality parameters, beyond all other regulations.

In order to truly protect the victim from legal recourse or uncovering their location, a domestic violence agency legislatively has this authority. Only domestic violence certified counselors working in the employ of a DV agency carry confidentiality rights through the justice and law enforcement systems. Further, the Domestic Violence Safe House and network of DV agencies within the state/nation offer security from the abuser; including 24-hour live surveillance of their gates, fences, interior and exterior grounds, in order to protect the victim from being located or the abuser reaching the victim or family. Whether or not the client wishes to be connected to DV services, the client must be offered equitable access to the full housing/services system available through Coordinated Entry System. In such cases, the assessment can be conducted by paper or using an “anonymous” client assessment if possible and desired by the client. To help ensure equitable access while emphasizing safety, victim service providers may elect or not elect to administer the CES assessment process (including prescreening and the VI-SPDAT) for clients seeking other housing/services available through CES. However, the victim service provider should have a standardized policy governing when and how they elect to use the

Coordinated Entry System assessment process, and it should have a process for referring the client to another agency that does administer the VI-SPDAT. The pre-screening and VI-SPDAT may only be administered on paper, and in no circumstances can client identifying information be entered into the master list or HMIS. Rather, the VI-SPDAT score and a unique identifier must be provided to CoC staff, and the victim service agency must destroy any paper copies of the VI-SPDAT and pre-screening form.

C. Coordination of Regional Needs

- 1. How have you coordinated with your partnering CoC, large city (if applicable), and/or county to identify your share of the regional need to address homelessness?**

Madera County has long recognized the benefits of joint efforts to reduce the negative effects of homelessness. Madera County is a member of the regional Continuum of Care (Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care) and has joined the Street2Home Collaborative Impact initiative as member of the founding structure. The initiative governing body will consist of elected officials from counties and cities, representatives from the housing authority, superintendent of schools, Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care, local hospital system and private sector business as well philanthropy. As part of these partnerships Madera County has been able to identify our portion of the homeless population.

Madera County has approximately 15% of the population of the combined Fresno-Madera CoC region (Fresno and Madera County). The 2018 and 2019 Point in Time (PIT) count shows that Madera County has 14% – 15% of the homeless counted during the 2018 and 2019 Point in Time Count. Using these figures it is reasonable to assume that Madera County's need is approximately 15% of the region.

2. What is your identified share of this need, and how will the requested funds help your jurisdiction meet it?

Findings from PIT 2019 data shows that 2,508 individuals experienced homelessness in Fresno and Madera County. Additional analysis showed the number of homeless adults experiencing Serious Mental Illness (SMI) is 536, Substance Use Disorder is 411, and those surviving Domestic Violence is 149.

In Madera County, it was found 378 individuals experienced homelessness, up 22% from 2018. Of 378 individuals experiencing homelessness, 281 were unsheltered, up 38% from 2018, and 96 were sheltered, down 10% from 2018. As Madera County is part of the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCOCC), data for Adults with illnesses and disorders were combined. Based on a percentage calculation of 15% (Madera County equates to 15% of the combined Fresno-Madera CofC totals) it is estimated that in Madera County 27.5% (104 individuals) are chronically homeless, which is up 42.5% from 2018. 80 adults were experiencing SMI, 62 adults experienced Substance Use Disorder, 22 adults survived Domestic Violence, and 3 adults were diagnosed with HIV/Aids. Total estimated number of unaccompanied youth (18-24) is 16, and total estimated veterans is 35, with 8 considered chronically homeless.

Madera County's regional partners (Fresno County and City of Fresno) have much larger populations and have more resources needed to address the negative effects of homelessness. As part of the Fresno-Madera CofC, Madera County is able to utilize the regional resources. Madera County is requesting funds to provide Outreach and Coordination, Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing, and Prevention and Diversion services. By investing in these local services Madera County will be able to reach out to our homeless people to link them to needed services. Madera County also plans to use a small portion of the funds to strengthen our local Homelessness Alliance.

D. Creating Sustainable, Long Term Housing Solutions

1. How is your jurisdiction involved in the efforts to create sustainable, long-term housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness across your region?

Madera County has partnered with local housing developers and our local Housing Authority and other housing and support service partners to increase the number of low income housing units and provide the support services needed so people stay housed. This partnership has resulted in some recent successes. Namely the Madera Village Project and the Downtown Madera Veterans and Family Housing.

The Madera Village housing project Home is a 56-60-unit affordable apartment complex in Madera. The project will provide multifamily housing units targeted to low- and very-low income households. The project will set aside fourteen units as designated supportive housing for people referred from Madera County Behavioral Health Services.

The Downtown Madera Veterans and Family Housing is a proposed 48-unit affordable housing development for low- and very-low income households. The project is located in Downtown Madera at the intersections of C and 5th Streets, on two public owned sites. The project will set aside seven units as designated supportive housing for people referred from Madera County Behavioral Health Services.

Examples could include, but are not limited to:

- a. Partnering with agencies responsible for city planning and zoning, housing developers, and financial and legal service providers.**

- b. Developing or strengthening data and information sharing across and within jurisdictions.**

Madera County has recently appointed a Coordinator of Homeless Planning and Policy tasked with bringing together the different groups focusing on homelessness issues with the goal of forming a strong Alliance to address the negative effects of homelessness in Madera County. The “tag line” of the Alliance is: We will unite, we will merge our efforts, we will cooperate, and we will support each’s work for our common cause to reduce the negative effects of homelessness. It is expected that an outcome of this Alliance will be to better document and share the data related to homelessness and our available resources. We will look to create data sharing agreements and develop a resource guide of local and regional resources. Also, as part of the Fresno-Madera CofC and Street2Home Initiative, Madera County will be inputting data into the F-M CofC Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

- c. Coordinating with other regional jurisdictions to ensure systems are aligned and all available funding is being used efficiently and effectively.**

As a member of the local CofC and the Street2Home Initiative, Madera County will share in the coordination and resource distribution to ensure that funds and resources are used effectively and efficiently. The four entities of our region (Madera and Fresno Counties, City of Fresno, and F-M CofC) have agreed to share data related to funding and available resources to ensure everything is being leveraged as much as possible and that everything is being delivered as effectively as possible. The four entities have all joined the Street2Home initiative thereby combining our resources.

See Attachment: Madera County – HHAP Joint Funding Plan – FINAL 1.31.20

3. RESOURCES ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

To successfully complete this section, all applicants must answer the following questions:

A. Existing Programs and Resources

- 1. Provide an exhaustive list of all funds (including the program and dollar amount) that your jurisdiction currently uses to provide housing and homeless services for homeless populations.**

This list should include (where applicable), but not be limited to:

- a. Federal Funding (Examples: [YHDP](#), [ESG](#), [CoC](#), [CSBG](#), [HOME-TBRA](#), [CBDG](#))**
- b. State Funding (Examples: [HEAP](#), [CESH](#), [CalWORKs HSP](#), [NPLH](#), [VHHP](#), [PHLA](#), [HHC](#), [Whole Person Care](#), [HDAP](#), [BFH](#))**
- c. Local Funding**

See Attachment Titled: Madera County – Funding Matrix - 3 A. Existing Programs and Resources

- 2. How are these resources integrated or coordinated with applicants from overlapping jurisdictions (i.e. CoC, large city, and/or county)?**

Madera County is part of the Fresno-Madera CofC and the Street2Home Initiative. Included in these two organizations are the County of Fresno, City of Fresno and Fresno-Madera CofC. For the purposes of coordination of the funds in the Homeless Housing Assistance Program, the four jurisdictions have been meeting to ensure our applications will facilitate the coordination of our services.

The Street2Home Planning Committee was formed following the receipt of the report entitled “A Framework for Action” authored by Barbara Poppe and Associates in which she recommends proven strategies to reduce homelessness that include the launch of a new collective impact initiative. The Committee includes City of Fresno representatives, the County Administrative Officer, County of Fresno Supervisor, Department of Behavioral Health Director, Department of Social Services Director, FHA Executive Director, and FMCoC Chair. The Committee proposes that the S2H, (See Attachment A) serve as the countywide collective impact initiative focusing on the adopted countywide homelessness priorities.

S2H would spearhead the development of affordable housing and homelessness prevention strategies, while coordinating the separately adopted but aligned spending plans, marketing, fund development, and communications. In addition, S2H would review issues impacting communities as a result of increased homelessness (community safety, encampment clean-up, disease prevention, sanitation, trash, etc.) and impacting people experiencing homelessness (connection to services, service provider availability, housing, supportive housing, substance abuse services, access to health care, etc.). S2H will establish subcommittees as appropriate.

The founding structure of S2H would include representation as noted below with the understanding that these representatives not only represent, but are also the voice of their originating agency(s):

1. Fresno County Board of Supervisors member;
2. Mayor of the City of Fresno;
3. Fresno City Council member;
4. Madera County Board of Supervisors member;
5. Fresno County Superintendent of Schools or designee;
6. Fresno Madera Continuum of Care Chair;
7. Fresno Housing Authority Executive Director; and,
8. Fresno County rural city representative (other than the Cities of Fresno and Clovis) designated by Fresno County Council of Governments.

In addition, the following would be selected by the foregoing:

9. A representative of philanthropy;
10. A representative of corporate/business/developer; and,
11. A representative of the hospital system.

3. What gaps currently exist in housing and homeless services for homeless populations in your jurisdiction?

Madera County has identified the following gaps that effect our efforts to reduce the negative effects of homelessness locally.

- Low Income Housing With Support Services
- Low Barrier Shelter Beds
- Outreach and Prevention Services

- Coordination Among Service Providers

B. HHAP Funding Plans

- 1. Explain, in detail, how your jurisdiction plans to use the full amount of HHAP funds (including the youth set-aside) and how it will complement existing funds to close the identified gaps in housing and homeless services for the homeless population in your jurisdiction.**

Madera County plans to utilize the HHAP funds to provide local direct services and partner with our regional Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care for services that are not available in Madera County.

The overarching theme of the Madera County HHAP will be a housing first approach to ensure that people experiencing homelessness are connected to housing swiftly and with few to no treatment preconditions, behavioral contingencies, or other barriers. Services will be offered as needed and will not make housing contingent on the participation in services. (e.g., sobriety, engagement in treatment, service participation requirements).

Madera County plans to use the HHAP funds to provide for three services. 1) Rapid Rehousing, 2) Out Reach and Coordination, and 3) Prevention and Shelter Diversion. A small portion of the funds will be used for Strategic Homeless Planning.

1) Rapid Rehousing

It is offered without preconditions (such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety) and the resources and services provided are typically tailored to the unique needs of the household.

Include three components: #1 Housing Identification, #2 Rent and Move-In Assistance, #3 Case Management. Rapid rehousing programs offered to youth will be tailored to youth. Since Madera County does not have homeless housing specific for younger youth, we may seek services in Fresno County as part of the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care.

2) Outreach

Outreach workers will engage and provide services to people living in places not meant for human habitation, including cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, encampments, or campgrounds. Services will be offered to meet the basic needs of the people aimed at gaining their trust, and help them

access a broad range of stabilization services. Respect is the key. Outreach workers will specifically engage with youth at our two Wellness Centers during the Youth “only” times and engage with our schools to provide services to youth who are identified as homeless.

3) Diversion and Prevention

Outreach workers and staff in local agencies will attempt to divert people who request a place to stay. It is our plan to train staff in a variety of “front door” agencies to act as navigators. Staff will have access to local resources to divert people. The funds will be used for rental assistance, payment of rental arrears and security deposits, utility payments, moving costs, other activities to keep people housed. Services for youth will prioritize family reunification or support reunification as the initial intervention. People will be connect to wide array of needed social services.

4) Strategic Homeless Planning

Madera County is in the process of developing a formal process to bring together local organizations (both government and non-government), agencies, private sector business, community partners and community members with the purpose of reducing the negative effects of homelessness within Madera County.

Formation of this alliance of agencies and people will ensure efforts are coordinated to more effectively and efficiently categorize current resources and efforts focused on homelessness prevention and homelessness service, identify gaps in services, and seek resources to fill local needs or gaps. Funding from HHAP will be used to offset the costs of meeting space, document printing, and participant’s food when meetings are scheduled during the lunch hour. Lunch time meetings will help private sector attendance.

Youth Homelessness

Madera County will allocate at a minimum 8 percent of the total allocation on Youth Homelessness. The focus will be to move youth, including pregnant and parenting youth, experiencing homelessness to stable housing and opportunities for self-sufficiency. Outreach workers will specifically engage with youth at our two Wellness Centers during the Youth “only” times and engage with our schools to provide services to youth who are identified as homeless. Since Madera County does not have homeless housing specific for younger youth, we may seek services in Fresno County as part of the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care. Madera County will track the amount of funds being used specifically for youth.

2. How will you ensure that HHAP funded projects will align and comply with the core components of Housing First as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8255(b)?

As part of the F-M CofC and Street2Home Initiative Madera County commits to utilizing a Housing First approach. Utilizing this approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to program/housing entry, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements. Supportive services such as housing-focused case management are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry.

4. PARTNERS ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

To successfully complete this section, all applicants must answer the following questions:

A. Collaborating Partner Efforts

B. Please note: per [Program Guidance](#), page 9, collaborative partners, at a minimum, should include representatives of local homeless service providers, homeless youth programs, law enforcement, behavioral health, county welfare departments, city and county public officials, educators, workforce development, community clinics, health care providers, public housing authorities, and people with lived experience. If any of these partnerships are not currently active in your jurisdiction, please address in question #3 below.

Madera County has recently appointed a Coordinator of Homeless Planning and Policy tasked with bringing together the different groups focusing on homelessness issues with the goal of forming a strong Alliance to address the negative effects of homelessness in Madera County. The “tag line” of the Alliance is: We will unite, we will merge our efforts, we will cooperate, and we will support each’s work for our common cause to reduce the negative effects of homelessness.

The Homelessness Alliance will consist of representatives from:

- Homeless service providers,

- Homeless youth programs,
- Law enforcement,
- Behavioral health,
- County welfare departments,
- City and County Public Officials,
- Educators,
- Workforce development,
- Community clinics,
- Health care providers,
- Public housing authorities, and
- People with lived experience.

If any of these partnerships are not currently active in your jurisdiction, please address in question #3 below.

1. Describe, in detail, the collaborative partners who will be working with you on identified HHAP projects and how you will be partnering with them.

Outreach is the core service for HHAP funding. It is envisioned that the outreach worker(s) will be skilled at linking the people with services throughout our region. Thereby, coordinating with all available resources is paramount. Madera County has a group that meets monthly to connect homeless people with services. Service providers from a wide variety of programs attend these meetings. Cases are presented and connections to services are made. The outreach worker(s) funded by HHAP will be part of these connection meetings.

Who attends Connect meetings????

2. Describe any barriers that you experience in partnering, and how you plan to address them.

Madera County has had difficulty getting private sector business at our meetings. We know that if they join our partnership, it would benefit our efforts. Hopefully, it would provide job opportunities.

It is planned that members of the homeless alliance would reach out to our business community by conducting presentations at our local service club meetings as well as Chamber of Commerce meetings.

3. *If no collaborative partners have not been identified at time of application, describe the collaborative process of how you intend to include new and existing partners on HHAP projects.*

N/A

5. SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

To successfully complete this section:

Applicants that Submitted a Strategic Plan for CESH must:

- Identify the measurable goals set in your CESH Strategic Plan and explain, in detail, which of these goals HHAP funding will directly impact and by how much.

The Coordinated Entry System Committee was created to meet these goals and to develop an appropriate documented process for coordinated entry for Fresno Madera Continuum of Care. As part of this work, the Coordinated Entry System Committee reviewed the following:

Best practices research and promising practices from other homeless systems.

Assessment tools for service prioritization and diversion.

CES Goals:

- Minimize barriers faced by individuals who are homeless in accessing the most appropriate and effective housing services to address their needs.
- Incorporate a “housing first” philosophy in matching homeless individuals with services.
- Use Homeless Management Information System - ServicePoint to maximize existing resources and simplify implementation.

Madera County’s HHAP funding services will directly impact all three goals listed above. Our core services will be providing outreach workers who will have access to rapid rehousing and prevention funds as well as the current local programs and resources. The outreach worker(s) will use the Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT Version: 2 to prescreen or triage individuals to quickly assess and match them with the most appropriate

support and housing interventions that are available. The VI-SPDT is built into the HMIS.

Please note: Per HSC § 50219(a)(6), all applicants' measurable goals must include the number of individuals they intend to serve, and the number of individuals they intend to successfully place in permanent housing with HHAP funding.

Applicants that did not Submit a Strategic Plan for CESH must:

- **Identify clear, measurable goals that HHAP will be expected to achieve in your jurisdiction.**

Madera County plans to utilize the HHAP funds to provide local direct services and partner with our regional partners to help with gaps in our services. Madera County plans to use the HHAP funds to hire outreach worker(s), and make available rental assistance/rapid rehousing funds and prevention services funds for those people who are currently housed but need help to stay in their housing.

Madera County HHAP Measurable Goals

- Total Unsheltered Contacts = 500 per year
- Number of Individuals Rapid Rehoused = 10 per year
- Number of Individuals Placed in Permanent Housing = 12 per year

Examples:

- Decrease the percent of our jurisdiction's total homeless population that is unsheltered by 10 percentage points annually (baseline of 65% from 2018).
- Reduce the number of people who become homeless for the first time across our jurisdiction by 20% annually (baseline of 2,000 households from 2018)
- Increase the percent of successful shelter exits into permanent housing by 5 percentage points annually (baseline of 60%).

Please note: Per HSC § 50219(a)(6) all applicants' measurable goals must include the number of individuals they intend to serve, and the

number of individuals they intend to successfully place in permanent housing with HHAP funding.



**HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (HHAP)
ANNUAL BUDGET TEMPLATE**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

CoC / Large City / County Name:	Madera County	Receiving Redirected Funds? Y/N	No
Administrative Entity Name:	Behavioral Health Services	Total Redirected Funding	\$ -

HHAP FUNDING EXPENDITURE PLAN*

ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY	FY20/21	FY21/22	FY22/23	FY23/24	FY24/25	TOTAL
Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing	\$ 89,260.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89,260.00
Operating Subsidies and Reserves	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Landlord Incentives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Outreach and Coordination (including employment)	\$ 71,616.00	\$ 71,616.00	\$ 71,616.00	\$ 71,616.00	\$ -	\$ 286,464.00
Systems Support to Create Regional Partnerships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Delivery of Permanent Housing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Prevention and Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing	\$ 35,140.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,140.00
New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Strategic Homelessness Planning, Infrastructure Development, CES, and HMIS (up to 5%)	\$ 570.26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 570.26
Administrative (up to 7%)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATION						\$ 411,434.26
	FY20/21	FY21/22	FY22/23	FY23/24	FY24/25	TOTAL
Youth Set-Aside (at least 8%)	\$ 33,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,000.00

*Narrative should reflect details of HHAP funding plan

COMMENTS:

FINAL



February 4, 2020

California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
HCFC@BCSH.ca.gov

RE: Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP) Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:


With this letter the overlapping jurisdictions of the Counties of Fresno and Madera, the City of Fresno, and the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care acknowledge and agree to regionally coordinate, plan and partner, per California Health and Safety Code, section 50219(a)(1).

Our partnership represents a segment of the Street2Home (S2H) multi-disciplinary membership, serving as a collective impact structure for the Counties of Fresno and Madera. S2H reviews issues impacting communities as a result of increased homelessness (community safety, encampment clean-up, disease prevention, sanitation, trash, etc.) and impacting people experiencing homelessness (connection to services, service provider availability, housing, supportive housing, substance abuse services, access to health care, etc.).

As partners, since early-January 2020, we have met and created a Joint Service Plan using the HHAP funding allocations. The Plan will enhance coordination and develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges cross-jurisdictionally. Using the Plan, our partnership will braid services that support each partner and improve the continuum of services to transition persons experiencing homelessness to substance use disorder treatment, mental health treatment, back to their family, and/or permanent housing. Lastly, the Plan adds new triage beds regionally, necessary to bring more individuals into temporary housing while keeping them in their communities.

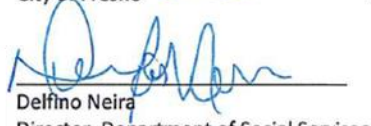
We agree to meet quarterly to discuss cross-jurisdictional issues and jointly plan and evaluate HHAP spending and projects to ensure our regional needs are addressed collectively.

Sincerely,


Jean M. Rousseau
County Administrative Officer
County of Fresno


Wilma Quan
City Manager
City of Fresno


Dennis Koch
Director, Department of Behavioral Health
County of Madera


Delfino Neira
Director, Department of Social Services
as Administrative Entity for the Fresno
Madera Continuum of Care