FACT SHEET
Homekey Awards
Announced October 23, 2020
$81.4 million awarded to five jurisdictions for six projects (430 units)

The COVID-19 pandemic has put people experiencing homelessness at great risk and has disproportionately affected certain communities that could fall into homelessness. To address this, Project Roomkey, a state-led effort to acquire hotel rooms for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and who are at highest risk of COVID-19, was created. It has served more than 12,000 people.

Building off the success of Project Roomkey, Homekey is California’s innovative $600 million program to purchase and rehabilitate housing, including hotels, motels, vacant apartment buildings and other properties, and convert them into permanent, long-term housing for people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development, additional awards are expected weekly until all $600 million has been awarded.

Housing in Los Angeles County will include services to help residents achieve stability

Location: Los Angeles County
Region: Los Angeles
Applicant: County of Los Angeles
Project name: County of Los Angeles: Homekey 10
Award amount: $24,140,067

About the project: This project will create 135 units of interim housing with the goal of permanently housing people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Residents will receive supportive services.

Highlights: These homes will enable Los Angeles County to fulfill its commitment to address homelessness by expanding access to the most crucial resource for ending homelessness and mitigating the impact of COVID-19 — permanent housing.
Lifting up Oakland’s most vulnerable in housing near transit, health centers, and healthy food

Location: Oakland  
Region: Bay Area  
Applicant: City of Oakland  
Project name: Oakland: Homekey 3  
Award amount: $13,836,194

About the project: The city of Oakland will convert a recently rehabilitated hotel into 82 units for some of Alameda County’s most-vulnerable residents.

Highlights: The project is conveniently located within walking distance of transit, libraries, pharmacies/health centers, and grocery stores.

Bringing veterans home:  
Permanent, affordable housing for those who served our country

Location: Oakland  
Region: Bay Area  
Applicant: City of Oakland  
Project name: Oakland: Homekey 4  
Award amount: $3,654,000

About the project: Because of the high housing prices in the Bay Area, many residents who have tenant-based vouchers still struggle to find an affordable place to live. The city of Oakland will provide 21 units of permanent housing with supportive services for residents currently experiencing homelessness or significantly at-risk of homelessness. Units will be marketed to people who have tenant-based housing vouchers, with a special prioritization for veterans with Veterans Affairs Housing Vouchers. The project will include a common room with a fully functional cooking and dining space for all residents to share.

Highlights: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Veterans Affairs authorized local veterans service providers to place unsheltered veterans in hotels; however, this program is currently scheduled to sunset at the end of 2020. The city will be well positioned to offer Homekey units to veterans who have Veterans Affairs Housing Vouchers just as their hotel stays expire, transitioning them to permanent housing.
Stabilizing lives in San Francisco through safe, affordable homes

Location: San Francisco  
Region: Bay Area  
Applicant: City and County of San Francisco  
Project name: San Francisco: Homekey 2  
Award amount: $29,120,000  

About the project: Will convert a 130-room property into permanent housing with supportive services. Residents will immediately begin receiving supportive services to create more stability in their lives.  

Highlights: The project is within walking distance of public transit, grocery stores, medical facilities, and a pharmacy.

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Santa Clara County creating housing with supportive services to protect those in need

Location: Santa Clara County  
Region: Bay Area  
Applicant: Santa Clara County  
Project name: Santa Clara County: Homekey 2  
Award amount: $9,557,333  

About the project: The 54-unit property will continue to serve as permanent housing and interim housing, both with supportive services for people who previously experienced homelessness. Eventually the property will develop 110-units of new permanent supportive housing and remain affordable at least 55 years.  

Highlights: All residents will receive supportive services, regardless of whether they are living in the permanent supportive housing or interim housing.
Converting short-term vacation rentals to permanent homes for elderly individuals with disabilities

Location: San Bernardino County
Region: Southern California
Applicant: Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino County
Project name: San Bernardino County: Homekey 3
Award amount: $1,101,678

About the project: Eight short-term vacation rentals will become permanent homes for families and individuals experiencing homelessness, with priority given to elderly individuals with disabilities who are at-risk of health complications from COVID-19.

Highlights: The project is within walking distance of a lake, parks, business district, public transportation, and a school.