FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Russ Heimerich
(916) 651-1385

Vendor Selected to Create Homeless Data Integration System

Contract Signed November 6, 2020, System to be Fully Operational by Spring 2021

Will Give California Its First-Ever Unified Statewide Homeless Data System

SACRAMENTO – Plante Moran has been selected to build the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) which will allow the state to access and compile standardized data from California's 44 Continuums of Care (CoCs) into the state's first-ever unified homeless data warehouse. With consistent data, California will be able to enhance its understanding of the challenges impacting individuals experiencing homelessness and make data-driven policy decisions aimed at preventing and ending homelessness in California.

"We are one step closer to establishing a comprehensive homeless data warehouse to capture local information, better understand the services being provided to individuals experiencing homelessness, and measure our progress." said Business, Consumer Services and Housing (BCSH) Agency Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez, who also chairs the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council. "We are thankful to all 44 California Continuums of Care for signing on to be part of this effort."

All California CoCs have executed data-use agreements with BCSH to share their local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data. CoCs are local agencies established to administer federal homelessness programs under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

HDIS will allow a more accurate estimate of the number of people in California who have experienced homelessness and received services, identify service-use trends, and lift up promising practices. It will also allow the state and CoCs to gain valuable insight into the gaps and needs in our homeless support systems and will aid the state in answering key questions, including what interventions are the most effective, where could greater focus of state and/or local resources create more positive outcomes, and where, at a more granular level, are we falling short in providing housing and services.

Plante Moran, the awarded vendor, will be responsible for delivering an end-to-end system, including standing up the data warehouse; obtaining and deidentifying data from 44 CoCs; and creating a secure method to view the data. Over a dozen experts from state entities and CoCs contributed to the planning, procurement, and proof of concept phase, including representatives from: Business and Consumer and Service and Housing Agency, California Department of Technology, California Government Operations Agency, including their Office of Digital Innovation, and from HUD's regional technical service leads.

"Competent and reliable data has proved to be the indispensable driver of accuracy," said California Chief Information Officer and Department of Technology Director Amy Tong. "HDIS will be a pivotal step toward realizing California's efforts to develop technologies that will help the state understand the occurrence and duration of homelessness across the state."

HDIS is expected to be fully operational by Spring 2021.

The base contract in the amount of $3.99 million is drawn from a 3-year service agreement.

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The Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency protects consumers by licensing and regulating California professionals and businesses; promotes and funds safe, affordable and dignified rental and homeownership opportunities; guards the civil rights of all Californians from acts of hate violence and unlawful discrimination; and partners with local communities to prevent and end homelessness. For more information, visit www.bcsh.ca.gov.

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council oversees the implementation of "Housing First" policies, guidelines and regulations, and identifies resources, benefits and services to prevent and work toward ending homelessness in California. For more information, visit www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc.

Plante Moran is among the nation's largest accounting, tax and consulting firms and provides a full line of analytics and data management services to public and private sector organizations. Plante Moran has a staff of more than 3,000 professionals throughout the United States with international offices in Shanghai, China; Monterrey, Mexico; Mumbai, India; and Tokyo, Japan. Plante Moran has been recognized by a number of organizations, including FORTUNE Magazine as one of the country's best places to work. For more information, visit plantemoran.com.
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