



**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
Meeting Agenda**

May 17, 2023, 1pm

Committee members must participate in person (except for just cause reasons approved by the HSOC)

Room 101, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services,
3433 South Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

The public may participate in person or by Zoom video call:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88585412932?pwd=V3Q5Q3k4d2FiTEtkakVwS0hRSjBjdz09>

Or dial in:

+1 669 444 9171

Meeting ID: 885 8541 2932

Passcode: 995487

1. Call to Order and Introductions – 5 minutes*
2. Consent: Approval of Minutes – 2 minutes*
3. Action/Information/Discussion
 - 3.1. California State Association of Counties AT-HOME Plan to Address Homelessness
 - 3.1.1. Discussion Item: AT-HOME Presentation – 20 minutes*
 - 3.1.2. Action Item: Vote to Concur with the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors' Endorsement of AT-HOME Plan and Approve a Resolution in Support of the Plan – 10 minutes*
 - 3.1.2.1. Committee Questions
 - 3.1.2.2. Public Comment



3.1.2.3. Committee Discussion and Vote

4. Public Comment – 12 minutes*
5. Action/Information/Discussion
 - 5.1. Discussion Item: Report on May 2 Update to the Board – 12 minutes*
 - 5.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.1.3. Committee Discussion
 - 5.2. Action Item: Vote to Approve Just Cause Form to Allow Members to Participate Remotely in Accordance with AB 2449 - 5 minutes*
 - 5.2.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.2.2. Public Comment
 - 5.2.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
 - 5.3. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 3 – Improve and Expand Data Management Efforts Through HMIS and Coordinated Entry System to Strengthen Data-Driven Operational Guidance and Strategic Oversight
 - 5.3.1. Discussion Item: Update on HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) Vendor Selection Process – 5 minutes*
 - 5.3.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.3.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.3.1.3. Committee Discussion
 - 5.4. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4 – Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources



- 5.4.1. Action Item: Vote to Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care Homeless Services Oversight Council and the County of San Luis Obispo for Regional Coordination of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 4 (HHAP-4) – 10 minutes*
 - 5.4.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.4.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.4.1.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.4.2. Action Item: It is Requested That the HSOC 1) Express Support for an Application for the FY2022 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program grant; 2) Endorse CoC Staff's Efforts to Carry Out a Homeless Youth Needs Assessment in Coordination With Stakeholders Including Youth With Lived Experience; 3) Endorse CoC Staff's Effort to Form a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) for the Purposes of Providing Input on the YHDP Application and Any YHDP Funding Awarded; and 4) Direct the HSOC Executive Committee to Consider How to Integrate the YAB With the HSOC, Including Mechanisms for Receiving YAB Input Regarding Funding for Youth-Specific Grants and Grant Set-asides – 7 minutes*
 - 5.4.2.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.4.2.2. Public Comment
 - 5.4.2.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.5. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 5 – Strengthen Regional Collaboration
 - 5.5.1. Discussion Item: Updates from the Cities – 8 minutes*
 - 5.5.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.5.1.2. Public Comment



5.5.1.3. Committee Discussion

5.6. Discussion Item: Committee Updates – 15 minutes*

5.7. Discussion Item: Updates from County Staff

5.7.1. Discussion Item: Federal & State Grants Update – 5 minutes*

6. Future Discussion/Report Items – 5 minutes*

7. Updates and Requests for Information – 5 minutes*

8. Next Regular Meeting: July 19, 2023

9. Adjournment

The full agenda packet for this meeting is available on the SLO County HSOC web page:

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services/Homeless-Services-Oversight-Council-\(HSOC\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services/Homeless-Services-Oversight-Council-(HSOC).aspx)

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
MEETING MINUTES**

Date

March 15, 2023

Time

1pm-3pm

Location

Room 101, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services,
3433 South Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

Members of the public were able to participate via Zoom.

Members Present:

Allison Brandum

Amelia Grover

Anne Robin

Aurora William

Brenda Mack

Devin Drake

Elaine Archer

Garret Olson

Gary Petersen

Jack Lahey

Jessica Thomas

Kristen Barneich

Mark Lamore

Michelle Shoresman

Rick Gulino

Rick Scott

Rochelle Sonza

Shay Stewart

Steve Gregory

Susan Funk

Susan Lamont

Wendy Blacker
Wendy Lewis
Zara Landrum

Members Absent:

Anna Miller
Bettina Swigger
Dawn Ortiz-Legg
Janna Nichols
Jeff Smith
Jim Dantona
Kathy McClenathen
Marcia Guthrie
Nicole Bennett
William Crewe

Staff & Guests:

Abby Lassen
Austin Solheim
Daisy Wiberg
George Solis
Greg Weinmich
Jeff Al-Mashat
Joe Dzvonic
Kate Bourne
Krista Jeffries
Kristin Ventresca
Laurel Barton
Laurel Weir
Lauryn Searles
Morgan Torell
Russ Francis
Skylar Caldwell
Staci Dewitt
Suzie Freeman

Tim Waag
Yael Korin

1. Call to Order

Susan Funk called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

2. Introductions

New members introduced themselves.

3. Public Comment

Susan Funk explained that the meeting will involve grant recommendations. Per HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) guidelines, applicants are not allowed to participate in discussion during these items. Applicants are instead invited to speak on their applications during public comment.

Kristen shared that Arroyo Grande City Council is looking into a draft safe parking ordinance. Proposals are available online on the City Council's website. The City also set their priorities and homelessness is in the top 6.

Michelle shared that housing and homelessness will be one of the City of San Luis Obispo's major goals going forward. A plan and detailed budget will be produced by City staff in April.

Susan Funk shared that homelessness remains an action priority for the City of Atascadero. The Cities of Pismo Beach and Grover Beach, and the County Board of Supervisors, have also included it as a top priority.

Steve shared that the City of Paso Robles has homelessness at the top of its priority list, as it has for the last four years.

Austin from El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO) reported on the success ECHO has seen from previous grant funding for its shelter services, including serving meals and offering community shower programs, resulting in families returning to stable and permanent housing.

Jack reported on the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo's (CAPSLO) revised approach to get individuals document ready and housed, and how the funding CAPSLO has been recommended for will allow for a continuation of this.

Elaine reported that the Housing Authority of the City of San Luis Obispo (HASLO) applied for funding for Permanent Supportive Housing, and noted that previous rounds of funding have been critical in providing housing that didn't exist previously.

Aurora reported that LAGS Recovery applied for emergency shelter funding in North County. 115 unique individuals in Paso Robles have used the warming center in the last year.

Rick Gulino reported that People's Self-Help Housing (People's) also applied for funding. People's will be opening five new projects in the next year, which will include 100 units set aside for people experiencing homelessness. This will also include supportive services.

Susan Lamont reported that Lumina Alliance have requested funding to expand their Transitional Housing program to an additional property.

4. Consent: Approval of Minutes

The HSOC approved the minutes by roll call vote.

5. Action/Information/Discussion

5.1. HSOC Administration

5.1.1. Action Item: Vote to Recommend the Board of Supervisors Appoint Luke Dunn to Fill the At Large Seat on the HSOC that was Previously Held by Jennifer Deutsch

Kristin made a motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors appoint Luke Dunn to fill the At Large seat on the HSOC that was previously held by Jennifer Deutsch, seconded by Rick Gulino. The motion passed.

5.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 1 - Create Affordable and Appropriately Designed Housing Opportunities and Shelter Options for Underserved Populations

5.2.1. Action Item: Recommend Allocation of County Community Development Block Grant - Public Services funding (\$106,421), Emergency Solutions Grant (\$144,346), County General Fund Support (\$351,907), and Permanent Local Housing Allocation funds (\$522,335) for county-wide homeless services programs

Kristin Ventresca presented an overview of the 2023 Action Plan funding recommendations. The 5 Year Consolidated Plan, of which each annual Action Plan forms a part, is a requirement for the HUD entitlement grants, which include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG – 15% of which is allocated to public services) and the Federal Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Also under consideration in recommendations were the Permanent Local

Housing Allocation (PLHA) from the State (30% of which is allocated to supportive services), and County General Fund Support (GFS). The funding recommendations presented to the HSOC (summarized in the meeting but available in full in the agenda packet) were made by an ad hoc Grant Review Committee, which followed County purchasing guidelines. County staff have aimed to reduce the number of contracts, and therefore the administrative burden on subrecipients, by consolidating the recommended grant awards into fewer grant programs.

The next steps, following the HSOC meeting, are for the County to release draft recommendations for a 30 day public comment period, then for participating cities to consider and approve CDBG recommendations which are separate allocations to the County allocation. The recommendations will then be presented to the County Board of Supervisors in Spring, and then to HUD for final approval.

Kristin took questions and clarified that the Grant Review Committee members are anonymous, and that the process has complied with County Purchasing guidelines and regulations. The scoring criteria used by the Grant Review Committee consists of requirements set by HUD plus local priorities as decided by the HSOC.

Shay made a motion to recommend the 2023 Action Plan allocations from the Grant Review Committee to the Board of Supervisors, seconded by Allison. The motion passed by roll call. The HSOC also discussed reallocating some of the shelter funding, but this was not brought to a vote.

The HSOC discussed the level of information they receive regarding the funds they are expected to vote on, and recommended more information, including impact statements. Joe suggested that the methodology for scoring applications should be explored and where appropriate updated, with HSOC's guidance.

5.2.2. Action Item: Vote to Recommend \$1,456,820.92 in Grant Awards for the County and CoC (Continuum of Care) Allocations of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 2 (HHAP-2) Funding

George provided background on the second round of HHAP funding. A total award of \$1,456,820.92 is available for a broad

range of eligible activities. HSOC set priorities for HHAP 2 in January, consisting of homelessness prevention and operating subsidies for emergency shelter. 15 applications were received. An ad hoc Grant Review Committee met in March to review applications, scoring them against state requirements and local priorities. The proposed recommendations (available in the agenda packet) were in accordance with priorities identified by the HSOC. Kristen made a motion to recommend the HHAP 2 allocations from the Grant Review Committee to the Board of Supervisors, seconded by Garrett. The motion passed by roll call.

5.3. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2 - Focus Efforts to Reduce or Eliminate the Barriers to Housing Stability for Those Experiencing Homelessness or at Risk of Homelessness, Including Prevention, Diversion, Supportive Services, and Housing Navigation Efforts

5.3.1. Discussion Item: Behavioral Health Bridge Program

Morgan and Frank presented on a funding opportunity for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing. This funding is for people experiencing homelessness who have immediate needs and serious health conditions. Housing is provided for a period from 90 days to 2 years. Access to services is a priority. A minimum of 75% funding must be used for bridge housing. The remainder may be used for infrastructure, engagement and outreach.

5.4. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 3 – Improve and Expand Data Management Efforts Through HMIS and Coordinated Entry System to Strengthen Data-Driven Operational Guidance and Strategic Oversight

5.4.1. Discussion Item: Updates on Efforts to Improve the HMIS System

Joe reported on the County's efforts to improve HMIS, which will contribute to the Strategic Plan's Third Line of Effort (data management). The County's IT department are assisting in the process. The County is working to build consensus with service providers and ensure all needs are met. An RFP (Request for Proposals) will be released soon for the software platform. The current system achieves the baseline minimum standard as set out by HUD, but the new system will go beyond this in order to help

better understand the local situation. The HSOC discussed and voiced support for taking the proposal to the Board of Supervisors.

5.5. Discussion Item: Updates from County Staff

5.5.1. Discussion Item: Parking Village Sites, Tiny Home Villages, and Warming Centers

Joe reported that he made the decision to close the Oklahoma Avenue Safe Parking site, because the site operation was not successful as an effort to address homelessness. The site was set up initially in August 2021 as a response to an emergency situation. Because of the speed of the operation, no service provider was involved in the design of the program. Once the County had begun to organize the site, a request was put out to service providers to take care of the site, but no agency had the appetite to do so. Nothing has changed since this point, and the site has been beset by challenges, including recently, the food pantry's generator being sabotaged by residents. Next steps include a case conferencing process, to be developed by service providers and the County Department of Social Services, to look at each individual case and decide which agency has the best expertise to help people move to their next location. Despite local reporting, there is no timeline around this yet.

Jack recommended that the Services Coordinating Committee, which he chairs, include oversight of the drawdown as a discussion item.

Yael and Tim commented that they have been heavily involved with the site on a voluntary basis, and that residents have repeatedly said that they are doing better at the site than where they had been before, and that the problem with the site is that services and maintenance have not been provided.

5.6. Discussion Item: Committee Updates

Committee updates were included in the agenda packet.

6. Future Discussion/Report Items

None brought forward.

7. Updates and Requests for Information

None brought forward.

8. Next Regular Meeting: May 17, 2023

9. Adjournment

Susan adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm.



A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS



Homelessness is THE humanitarian crisis of our time. Despite significant investments by the state and local governments, California lacks a comprehensive plan to address it effectively and equitably. The current approach to helping those who are unhoused is fragmented and lacks clear lines of responsibility, accountability and sustainability. This must change.

To make meaningful progress in helping those who are unhoused, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) offers the 'AT HOME' Plan. Counties are determined to work with our federal, state and local partners, and in partnership with the Governor and the Legislature, to implement this comprehensive plan to help those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused in our communities.

A CCOUNTABILITY



Clear responsibilities aligned to authority, resources, and flexibility for all levels of government

No one level of government is solely responsible for the homelessness crisis. We need to develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan that includes all levels of government. The undertow of massive economic and systemic inequities, as well as a tangled web of decisions made by well-intentioned policies and programs built over decades, continues to stymie efforts to support those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

- Clearly define city and county roles for siting and supporting shelters, siting permanent supportive housing, encampment outreach, and encampment clean-up.
- Commit ongoing funding – one-time funding is neither sustainable nor conducive to maintaining programs.
- Work with the state and cities from start to finish, require the submission of countywide or regional plans with established, clear goals and responsibilities.
- Allocate funding commensurate with the responsibilities each entity has within the plan and provide for maximum local flexibility to be used in accordance with established goals and outcomes.

T RANSPARENCY



Integrate and expand data to improve program effectiveness

Current data systems and data sharing do not support an integrated case management approach to helping those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

- Integrate and expand data systems to enhance transparency and allow for data-driven decision making.
- Enhance existing health, social services and state and local criminal justice data systems to provide more robust data on the immediate and long-term needs of individuals and better manage institutional discharges.

H OUSING



Increase and maintain housing units across the spectrum

There is a significant shortage of housing in California, especially affordable housing to support aged, disabled and very low-income residents.

- Increase resources needed to acquire, build and operate housing solutions across the full housing continuum, especially permanent supportive housing for individuals with complex needs.
- Increase flexibility and streamlining to generate more affordable housing projects.
- Create flexible housing subsidies and modify federal Housing Choice Vouchers to help more individuals utilize rental assistance to maintain housing.

UTREACH



Develop sustainable outreach systems and increase workforce to support these systems

There is a significant shortage of Health and Human Services (HHS) workers to manage the programs and services that assist with addressing homelessness in California. In addition to identifying ways to support and build this workforce, new classifications that leverage lived experience and support housing navigation are also needed. To further strengthen and stabilize this system, federal funding should be obtained for many of these critical activities.

- Recruit, train and retain a robust HHS workforce and consider new certifications for workers in housing and other fields.
- Leverage additional federal funding for outreach and rapid response.
- Expand training and quality improvement incentives for law enforcement and probation responding to unhoused individuals.

MITIGATION



Strengthen safety net programs

Counties run or administer most health and human services programs on behalf of the state. These programs serve as the safety net in California, and we must strengthen these programs to prevent individuals from becoming homeless.

- Provide adequate funding for county administration of safety net programs to ensure eligible individuals can be enrolled and receive the services they need timely.
- Increase the availability of and access to programs and services that provide screening, treatment, and recovery services for substance use disorder.
- Increase flexibility for county behavioral health funding to maximize federal Medi-Cal funds and expand the reach of county behavioral health investments for the unsheltered population.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Create employment and education pathways, as well as supports for basic needs

Specialized education and career programs and services are needed to support the economic opportunity and long-term self-sufficiency of those who are formerly homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness, including justice-involved individuals, veterans, older Californians, and former foster youth.

- Update local workforce development and investment boards to address employment for unhoused populations and work with California Community Colleges to develop programs that support the formerly unhoused.
- Increase accessible programs for justice-involved individuals to receive training and overcome employment barriers.
- Continue and expand efforts to assist more qualifying aged, blind, and disabled persons to obtain SSI/SSP benefits and expand subsidized housing placements for these populations.

3/10/23

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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California State Association of Counties



A ACCOUNTABILITY



Clear responsibilities aligned to authority, resources, and flexibility for all levels of government

Counties and cities across California are leading and collaborating to provide solutions to homelessness. Many counties and cities have already forged countywide plans that bring together cities, tribal governments, continuums of care, housing authorities, managed care plans, and community based organizations. To effectively address homelessness statewide and increase accountability, partnerships and plans are necessary. This will involve cities and counties coming together with clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and actions needed to address homelessness.

The state can support local governments by aligning fiscal incentives in a way that supports defined responsibilities and collaboration. The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants have been an important flexible funding source to support local efforts to address homelessness and recent distributions have encouraged the submission of joint plans for overlapping jurisdictions. More state actions that further local coordination are warranted.

In order to build a comprehensive and accountable system, not only must there be plans with clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and actions, but there also must be ongoing funding from the state. Local governments have made significant investments to address homelessness. However, counties and cities are not able to make long-term commitments to a comprehensive system of care with one-time state funding and will not be able to maintain the level of services temporarily supported by the federal COVID-19 related funding and HHAP funding. Sustained state funding, paired with local flexibility and technical assistance, is necessary to achieve continued and sustained progress on homelessness and to meet measurable goals aligned to investments and authority.

Current state and federal funding streams that support homelessness efforts are fraught with complexity and support a patchwork of programs administered by different governmental entities. This has often resulted in actions by different entities that are not aligned and accountable to measurable goals. The current funding structure has led to fractured decision making and administrative convolution that hinder progress in addressing homelessness.

TO IMPROVE ACCOUNTABILITY, THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED:

- Consolidate HHAP grant and reporting countywide or within a multi-county region to support a countywide or regional plan with one fiscal agent. In some instances, such as large counties with big cities, a countywide plan with multiple fiscal agents may be accommodated. Allocations through the fiscal agent will be determined by the agreed upon plan and commensurate with the level of roles and responsibilities that each county and city has within the plan. Continuums of care would also be allocated funding through the fiscal agent consistent with assigned responsibilities under the countywide plan. It is critical that these plans are built and approved by counties and cities that are ultimately responsible and accountable to constituents for the implementation of the plan and have unique authority to site required infrastructure.

- Provide HHAP funding ongoing to support one countywide or regional plan to address homelessness.
- As a condition of receiving HHAP funding, counties and cities must agree to a defined set of roles and responsibilities related to homelessness that shall minimally include, unless otherwise determined:
 - Counties have the responsibility for health and social safety net programs on behalf of the state and administer these services in a manner that reaches individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness.
 - Counties have the responsibility to provide specialty mental health and substance use disorder services to low-income persons and administer these services in a manner that reaches individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness.
 - Cities shall be responsible for siting, funding, and supporting shelters for the unsheltered population within their jurisdiction. Counties shall be responsible for siting, funding, and supporting shelters for the unsheltered population within the unincorporated areas of the county. Shelter beds needed shall be determined by the concentration of homelessness in each incorporated and unincorporated jurisdiction.
 - Cities shall be responsible for siting permanent supportive housing within their jurisdiction. Counties shall be responsible for siting permanent supportive housing within the unincorporated areas of the county.
 - Cities shall be responsible for clean-up and sanitation of encampments within their jurisdiction. Counties shall be responsible for clean-up and sanitation of encampments in unincorporated areas of the county. These responsibilities are done with an understanding of state and federal responsibility for clean-up and sanitation of encampments on state-owned properties and federal lands, respectively.
 - Clearly define responsibilities for cities and counties related to encampment outreach.
- Funded entities must submit a local homelessness action plan that includes clear outcome goals on a range of metrics, including how the plan addresses equity. Funded entities can be held accountable to these goals only to the extent that the state provides sufficient funding for the reasonable costs of the interventions identified to achieve those goals.
- Maximize local flexibility for uses of this funding in order that funded entities have the ability to best utilize this funding at the local level to achieve the goals of the homelessness action plan. Improve flexibility and understanding of diverse local conditions in designing requirements for local plans.
- Provide enhanced technical assistance, especially to those jurisdictions with limited resources, staffing, and community partners.
- Provide performance-based funding for countywide plans that meet metrics in reducing homelessness. Funded entities should be rewarded for aggressive goals and achieving success.
- Establish a minimum county amount to ensure that smaller counties can sufficiently support staffing and programs. Relying on Point-in-Time (PIT) counts solely for allocations can negatively impact counties with severe winter weather. Minimum allocations are a consistent feature of many health and human services programs.
- Consider consolidating or redesigning other related programs and funding streams that support homelessness efforts, such as rental assistance and encampment resolution, to further simplify and streamline funding.

3/10/23

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T RANSPARENCY



Integrate and expand data to improve program effectiveness

An accountable system to address homelessness requires transparency. Current data systems and data sharing are fragmented and do not support case management-type approaches for addressing homelessness. Improved data systems are important to improve effectiveness of countywide systems. Some counties have used temporary federal and state funds to support new data systems to better serve the unhoused population.

In addition, there is currently considerable inefficiency in delivering services to homeless individuals who are in and out of institutional settings. One new opportunity for improvement is the Data Exchange Framework (DxF) under the California Health and Human Service Agency, which requires certain health care entities, and encourages county health, public health, and social services, to participate in better data sharing across health and human services to serve the needs of the whole person.

Without meaningful data systems it will be challenging for the state and local governments to demonstrate transparency about progress and improve outcomes, especially given the myriad of entities that support local efforts to reduce homelessness.

TO IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY, THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED:

- Provide funding and technical assistance to support more robust data systems with case management and secure data sharing capabilities, including the infrastructure needed to integrate to the DxF.
- Standardize data collection and planning around institutional discharge.
- Pursue enhancements to existing health, social services, and state and local criminal justice data systems to provide more robust data on the immediate and long-term housing needs of individuals.
- Increase the number of users with Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) access in each local jurisdiction and support expanded users county-wide that can input into local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

3/10/23

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H HOUSING



Increase and maintain housing units across the spectrum

There is a significant housing shortage across the full housing continuum in California and the supply of permanent, affordable housing continues to be a considerable challenge to addressing homelessness. This is especially true for affordable housing to support Californians who are aged, disabled, justice involved, and/or have significant mental health or substance use disorder needs. Many jurisdictions also lack the infrastructure needed to provide basic shelter or interim housing to the unhoused population. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, significant temporary federal and state funds were invested to increase capacity and provide housing and income protections to very low-income Californians, but many of those sources have expired or are expiring.

Siting shelters and supportive housing often draws significant resistance from community members, and counties and cities must continue to work to remove these barriers and identify and support the development of infrastructure needed to address homelessness. However, local governments do not have the tools and funding needed to develop these units to scale. Low-income housing projects are most often financed with a combination of tax-exempt bonds, federal and state tax credits, as well as other local funding sources. The state and federal sources of funding are significantly oversubscribed, which is limiting the number of projects that can go forward, especially in areas of the state that do not have large contributions from philanthropy for this purpose. Local governments have all too often seen projects stalled when local communities object to new housing, particularly for the most vulnerable populations.

TO ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING AND SHELTERS NEEDED TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS AND HELP INDIVIDUALS MAINTAIN THEIR HOUSING, THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED:

- Advocate for more federal and state support to build and maintain housing for low-income Californians and develop creative financing models to increase the feasibility of more projects.
- Increase the development and operational support of permanent supportive housing and other housing tailored to support individuals with complex/high needs, including individuals with behavioral health needs, or justice involvement, including recovery residences.
- Create and fund flexible housing subsidies to supplement existing rental assistance efforts that could be targeted toward specific populations, such as older adults, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with behavioral health conditions.
- Increase the value, portability, and number of federal Housing Choice Vouchers. This could also include flexibility to serve individuals with unique challenges including behavioral health conditions. This could be achieved through a California or multi-state demonstration project or other action by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or Congress.
- Provide separate and sufficient funding for housing for CARE Act participants.

- Provide alternate funding mechanisms to reduce local development and construction fees, such as the state’s Infill Infrastructure Grant Program.
- Address significant barriers of well-intentioned tools and processes being used to block projects or create local challenges to growth.
- Categorically exempt all permanent supportive housing, shelters, and transitional housing that meet specified criteria from CEQA review.
- Combine and streamline the variety of existing state housing programs to focus these resources on creating permanent affordable housing. For example, the Department of Housing and Community Development has approximately 20 active state housing-related grant programs in 12 categories. Consolidating existing programs and adjusting statutory eligibility requirements can help focus these streams of funding to address the most critical aspects needed to construct permanent housing to address and prevent homelessness.
- Streamline a variety of existing development and construction-related statutes and codes to reduce the complexity of planning, permitting, and constructing affordable housing. This should focus on ensuring statutory requirements in Government, Public Resources, Health and Safety Codes as well as the Building Standards Code regulations work coherently to incentivize and streamline the delivery of affordable, equitable and safe housing.
- Pursue policies that allow additional temporary safe parking, gathering sites, and other non-traditional, innovative housing options.
- Remove additional state requirements for non-entitlement jurisdictions for HOME Investments Partnerships Program (HOME) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funding.
- Advocate for flexibility in county social safety net programs to support housing stability and prevent homelessness.
- Advocate for several policy changes at the federal level:
 - Restore the 12.5 percent federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits that expired at the end of 2021.
 - Lower the 50 percent test to 25 percent to decrease the amount of private activity bonds needed to access the housing tax credit.
 - Increase the statutory cap of Project-Based Vouchers (PBVs) from 20 percent to 50 percent.
 - Replace Fair Market Rental formulas with reasonable rate rental formulas.

3/10/23

UTREACH



Develop sustainable outreach systems and increase workforce to support these systems

Addressing homeless encampments shifted considerably after the *Martin v. City of Boise* decision and during the COVID-19 pandemic with public health guidance issued by both the federal and state governments. Working to connect individuals living in homeless encampments with services and housing requires considerable efforts by counties, cities, and other partners. However, outreach and casework around encampments are not covered activities under any of the state and federal entitlement programs, including Medi-Cal. Many successful local efforts have been implemented using one-time state and federal funding to coordinate the outreach and casework needed to transition persons living in encampments into housing, and continuing those efforts is critical.

County governments and other levels of government are currently facing the most difficult labor market in decades. There are significant and well documented challenges to recruiting, training, and retaining qualified staff especially in behavioral health and social worker classifications. These types of workers, as well as leveraging lived experience and creating new trained classifications, are necessary to expand the service and provider network sufficiently to support comprehensive homelessness services, especially to support housing navigation.

THE FOLLOWING ARE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS TO IMPROVE OUTREACH AND RESOLUTION TO HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS:

- Develop statewide street outreach through a new pre-approved Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Plan and structure to maximize federal reimbursement for these activities, as well as pursue other avenues for federal funding for outreach, rapid response, follow up, and individual retention activities.
- Expand training incentives for law enforcement and probation related to responding to individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Identify the specific skills that are needed for a homeless response system workforce and develop training, coaching, and support programs. This includes leveraging lived experience and developing skills that are needed to help individuals navigate the housing landscape.
- Consider creation of certification for workers in the housing field and homelessness navigator field. Professionalizing work on housing and homelessness would help highlight the specialized knowledge required to be effective practitioners helping individuals with housing issues. This could be achieved through a state, community college, local government, and health plan partnership.
- Support the integration of the new community health worker benefit through the managed care plans with the homelessness outreach system and county behavioral health.
- Provide support for regional hubs for training and workforce resources statewide.

3/10/23

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Danielle Bradley
CSAC Legislative Analyst for Health, Human Services and Homelessness
dbradley@counties.org

MITIGATION



Strengthen safety net programs

Counties run or administer eligibility for most health and human services programs on behalf of the state and federal governments. The major programs include CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, mental health and substance use disorder services, In-Home Supportive Services, Child Welfare Services, Adult Protective Services, and CalFresh. Counties also are responsible for administering a General Assistance program for indigent individuals who are not eligible for the state CalWORKs program. Successful implementation of these core health and social services programs are the front lines of preventing homelessness. This is the safety net in California.

State supports and initiatives are essential for effective health and human services programs. However, funding is often prescriptive and not aligned to the cost of service delivery through a skilled and trained workforce or reflective of actual county costs. Furthermore, the infrastructure grants and other state grant opportunities are often complex and challenging for counties to maximize, especially smaller counties. The state should make efforts to maximize federal resources through Medi-Cal that can be deployed to support serving individuals experiencing homelessness. The state should also consider streamlining reporting and providing additional flexibility when allocating funding to counties to allow for additional local efforts that will focus on preventing homelessness across the programs administered by the counties. Ensuring counties have sufficient resources to administer these key programs will help individuals maintain their health, self-sufficiency, and housing.

THE FOLLOWING ARE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS TO IMPROVE MITIGATION EFFORTS FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AND TO PREVENT INDIVIDUALS FROM BECOMING HOMELESS:

- Increase flexibility for county behavioral health funding to maximize federal Medi-Cal funds and expand the reach of county behavioral health investments for the unsheltered population.
- Ensure adequate funding and resources for county administration of key safety net programs to ensure eligible individuals can be enrolled and receive the services they need timely.
- Pursue opportunities to obtain matching federal funds including Medi-Cal Administrative Activities and claiming for social services, health, and behavioral health activities to help stretch investments.
- Continue support and partnership on the California Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum Demonstration federal waiver request (Institutions for Mental Disease or IMD) to increase reimbursement for short-term inpatient costs.
- Leverage funding and coordination opportunities with the recent approval of the federal Medicaid 1115 demonstration waiver that will establish a coordinated community reentry process and provide for a targeted set of Medi-Cal services to youth and adults in state prisons, county jails, and youth correctional facilities for up to 90 days prior to release.

- Provide state funding for county conservatorship activities, which are currently underfunded. There is a growing demand for these services and resources must also be provided for any expanded duties or increased populations served.
- Increase opportunities for counties to participate in California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) for homelessness supports.
- Seek federal approval to make housing support services a guaranteed Medi-Cal benefit that managed care plans must offer within CalAIM.
- Increase the payment levels for individuals with a mental health condition residing in board and care facilities and other applicable facilities.
- Increase state funding to expand availability of and access to programs and residential treatment that provide recovery services for substance use disorder.

3/10/23

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**Danielle Bradley****CSAC Legislative Analyst for Health, Human Services and Homelessness****dbradley@counties.org****WWW.COUNTIES.ORG**

California State Association of Counties





A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS



E CONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Create employment and education pathways, as well as supports for basic needs

To address homelessness over the long-term, there must be a goal and focus on employment, self-sufficiency, and the ability to cover basic needs for formerly homeless individuals. Specialized education and career supports are needed for formerly homeless, including justice-involved individuals, veterans, and former foster youth, to help support economic stability and opportunity.

Counties need additional support to build these programs. These efforts should be in collaboration with the key entities that provide services to and employ individuals. Finally, programs must recognize the unique challenges individuals face and provide supports for their needs and help them maintain employment.

TO DEVELOP AND SCALE THESE PROGRAMS, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED:

- Require local workforce development/investment boards to update plans to address this population in coordination with counties and cities.
- Work with California Community Colleges to develop programs that support those who are currently or formerly unsheltered.
- Support accessible programs for formerly homeless justice-involved individuals to receive training and overcome employment barriers.
- Provide resources for supported education and employment model programs.
- Encourage investment in statewide peer support services and certification to employ individuals who are formerly homeless to assist in outreach, recovery, treatment, and case management.
- Support efforts that strive to create economic opportunities for all populations, including urban, suburban, rural, and disadvantaged communities.
- Continue and expand efforts to assist more qualifying aged, blind, and disabled persons obtain SSI/SSP benefits and expand subsidized housing placements for these populations.

3/10/23

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HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
ACTION ITEM
May 17, 2023

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3.1.2

ITEM: Vote to Concur with the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors' Endorsement of AT-HOME Plan and Approve a Resolution in Support of the Plan

ACTION REQUIRED: It is requested that the Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC) vote to concur with the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors' Endorsement of AT-HOME Plan and approve a Resolution in Support of the Plan.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) represents California's 58 counties before the California Legislature, administrative agencies, and the federal governance. CSAC seeks to educate the legislature and the public about common issues facing California's counties.

Despite recent investments and partnerships between the state and local governments, assisting those who are experiencing homelessness has been fragmented and lacks clear lines of responsibility, accountability, and sustainability. State programs such as the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program, the Homekey Program, the Encampment Resolution Funding Program, and the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) have provided important resources to local communities, but were intended to be one-time grants.

CSAC has developed a six pillar AT HOME Plan (Attachment 2) to make progress in helping those that are experiencing homelessness in California. CSAC's goal is to provide a comprehensive plan to address homelessness effectively and equitably. Each pillar includes suggested actions, broad goals, and specific policy proposals to ensure clear lines of responsibility and accountability for every level of government. The six pillars of the AT HOME plan are:

- A – Accountability: Clear responsibilities aligned to authority, resources, and flexibility for all levels of government
- T – Transparency: Integrate and expand data to improve program effectiveness
- H – Housing: Increase and maintain housing units across the spectrum
- O – Outreach: Develop sustainable outreach systems and increase workforce to support these systems
- M – Mitigation: Strengthen safety net programs

Agenda Item 3.1.2

- E – Economic Opportunity: Create employment and education pathways, as well as supports for basic needs

CSAC has asked the counties and other local partners to endorse the AT HOME comprehensive plan to help those that are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness 2022-2027, adopted by the HSOC on July 20, 2022, and by the County Board of Supervisors on August 9, 2022, supports the initiatives, and complements CSAC's AT HOME plan.

Additionally, the CSAC AT HOME plan aligns with the County's Legislative Platform. On April 18, 2023, the County Board of Supervisors voted to approve a resolution supporting CSAC's AT HOME plan.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no immediate financial impact from approval of this resolution. Should the state legislature decide to implement the components of the plan, it could ultimately result in a more steady source of ongoing funding for addressing homelessness, although the amount of that funding is undetermined at this time.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council
Resolution in Support of the CSAC "AT HOME" Plan
Attachment B: AT HOME Plan Summary

San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council Resolution in Support of the CSAC “AT HOME” Plan

WHEREAS, homelessness is an urgent humanitarian crisis with an estimated 172,000 unsheltered individuals across California; and

WHEREAS, in San Luis Obispo County, the most recent Homeless Point in Time Count identified 1,448 persons experiencing homelessness in the county in a single, 24-hour period; and

WHEREAS, unlike other areas of government such as education, child welfare, infrastructure and many other policy areas, California lacks a comprehensive plan to address those who are unhoused and at-risk of becoming unhoused effectively and equitably; and

WHEREAS, the current statewide approach to addressing homelessness is fragmented and lacks clear lines of responsibility, accountability and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the AT HOME plan includes six pillars that stand for Accountability, Transparency, Housing, Outreach, Mitigation, and Economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, AT HOME elevates homelessness as an important shared California priority, similar to how education, child welfare, infrastructure, etc. are prioritized; and

WHEREAS, the AT HOME plan includes broad goals and specific policy proposals to ensure clear lines of responsibility and accountability for every level of government and improve the way California collectively responds to those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused; and

WHEREAS, the goals and policies of the AT HOME plan align with the San Luis Obispo County Plan to Address Homelessness (2022-2027) approved by the Homeless Services Oversight Council on July 20, 2022 and the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors on August 9, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the AT HOME plan specifically allows for flexibility in the defined set of roles for counties and cities where otherwise determined, consistent with the San Luis Obispo County Plan to Address Homelessness (2022-2027); and

WHEREAS, the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors approved a resolution in support of the CSAC AT HOME Plan on April 18, 2023;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council supports the CSAC AT HOME Plan and hereby joins the AT HOME Coalition for Accountability;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council joins a growing coalition of local government, public safety, social justice, health, labor, housing, community and other organizations throughout the state seeking a comprehensive system to make material progress on homelessness in California.

We request staff to email a copy of this adopted resolution to the California State Association of Counties at fmcting@counties.org.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this day, 17th of May, 2023.

Susan Funk, Chair
San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council



A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS



Homelessness is THE humanitarian crisis of our time. Despite significant investments by the state and local governments, California lacks a comprehensive plan to address it effectively and equitably. The current approach to helping those who are unhoused is fragmented and lacks clear lines of responsibility, accountability and sustainability. This must change.

To make meaningful progress in helping those who are unhoused, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) offers the 'AT HOME' Plan. Counties are determined to work with our federal, state and local partners, and in partnership with the Governor and the Legislature, to implement this comprehensive plan to help those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused in our communities.

A CCOUNTABILITY



Clear responsibilities aligned to authority, resources, and flexibility for all levels of government

No one level of government is solely responsible for the homelessness crisis. We need to develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan that includes all levels of government. The undertow of massive economic and systemic inequities, as well as a tangled web of decisions made by well-intentioned policies and programs built over decades, continues to stymie efforts to support those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

- Clearly define city and county roles for siting and supporting shelters, siting permanent supportive housing, encampment outreach, and encampment clean-up.
- Commit ongoing funding – one-time funding is neither sustainable nor conducive to maintaining programs.
- Work with the state and cities from start to finish, require the submission of countywide or regional plans with established, clear goals and responsibilities.
- Allocate funding commensurate with the responsibilities each entity has within the plan and provide for maximum local flexibility to be used in accordance with established goals and outcomes.

T RANSPARENCY



Integrate and expand data to improve program effectiveness

Current data systems and data sharing do not support an integrated case management approach to helping those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

- Integrate and expand data systems to enhance transparency and allow for data-driven decision making.
- Enhance existing health, social services and state and local criminal justice data systems to provide more robust data on the immediate and long-term needs of individuals and better manage institutional discharges.

H OUSING



Increase and maintain housing units across the spectrum

There is a significant shortage of housing in California, especially affordable housing to support aged, disabled and very low-income residents.

- Increase resources needed to acquire, build and operate housing solutions across the full housing continuum, especially permanent supportive housing for individuals with complex needs.
- Increase flexibility and streamlining to generate more affordable housing projects.
- Create flexible housing subsidies and modify federal Housing Choice Vouchers to help more individuals utilize rental assistance to maintain housing.

UTREACH



Develop sustainable outreach systems and increase workforce to support these systems

There is a significant shortage of Health and Human Services (HHS) workers to manage the programs and services that assist with addressing homelessness in California. In addition to identifying ways to support and build this workforce, new classifications that leverage lived experience and support housing navigation are also needed. To further strengthen and stabilize this system, federal funding should be obtained for many of these critical activities.

- Recruit, train and retain a robust HHS workforce and consider new certifications for workers in housing and other fields.
- Leverage additional federal funding for outreach and rapid response.
- Expand training and quality improvement incentives for law enforcement and probation responding to unhoused individuals.

MITIGATION



Strengthen safety net programs

Counties run or administer most health and human services programs on behalf of the state. These programs serve as the safety net in California, and we must strengthen these programs to prevent individuals from becoming homeless.

- Provide adequate funding for county administration of safety net programs to ensure eligible individuals can be enrolled and receive the services they need timely.
- Increase the availability of and access to programs and services that provide screening, treatment, and recovery services for substance use disorder.
- Increase flexibility for county behavioral health funding to maximize federal Medi-Cal funds and expand the reach of county behavioral health investments for the unsheltered population.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Create employment and education pathways, as well as supports for basic needs

Specialized education and career programs and services are needed to support the economic opportunity and long-term self-sufficiency of those who are formerly homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness, including justice-involved individuals, veterans, older Californians, and former foster youth.

- Update local workforce development and investment boards to address employment for unhoused populations and work with California Community Colleges to develop programs that support the formerly unhoused.
- Increase accessible programs for justice-involved individuals to receive training and overcome employment barriers.
- Continue and expand efforts to assist more qualifying aged, blind, and disabled persons to obtain SSI/SSP benefits and expand subsidized housing placements for these populations.

3/10/23

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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California State Association of Counties





COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO





Update on the Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness, 2022-2027

May 2, 2023

Prepared by: Homeless Services Division



San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

- Plan Review
- Update on Progress of Countywide Plan Phased Priorities
- Analysis of County Funding for Homelessness
- Homeless Service Division Budget Augmentation Requests
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) update
- Oklahoma Safe Parking Update
- California State Association of Counties Homelessness Plan Overview
- Discussion



San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

Vision The San Luis Obispo region will reduce homelessness by ensuring that people at risk of losing housing can retain it, and those experiencing homelessness can equitably secure safe housing with appropriate supports, minimizing trauma to the individual, our community and our environment.

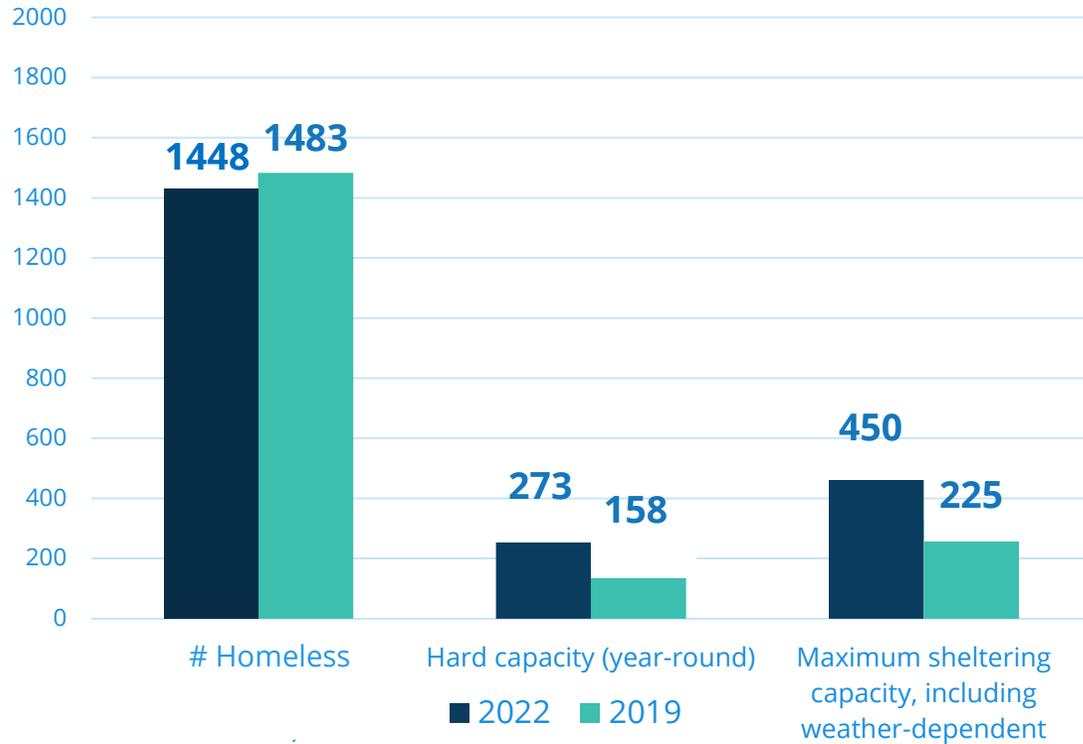
Goal With August 2022 as our starting point and baseline for this plan, we aim to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness countywide by 50%



San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

Capacity vs. Need

SLO County Homelessness vs Shelter Capacity*



- Year-round emergency capacity increased 73%
- Total maximum capacity doubled

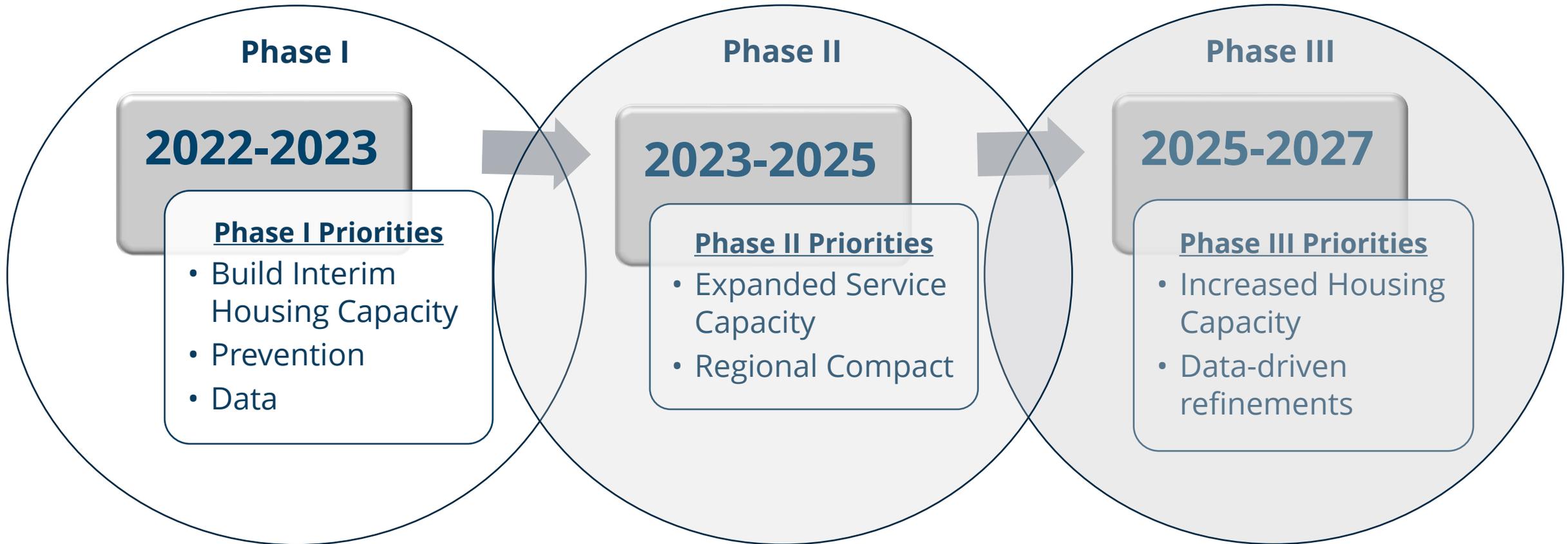
Despite capacity increases, on any given night, we have the capacity to shelter **only 20-30%** of the number of people observed as homeless in 2019 and 2022

**NOTE: These numbers are best-case scenario. They assume COVID-related restrictions are lifted and added services are still funded and staffed*



San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

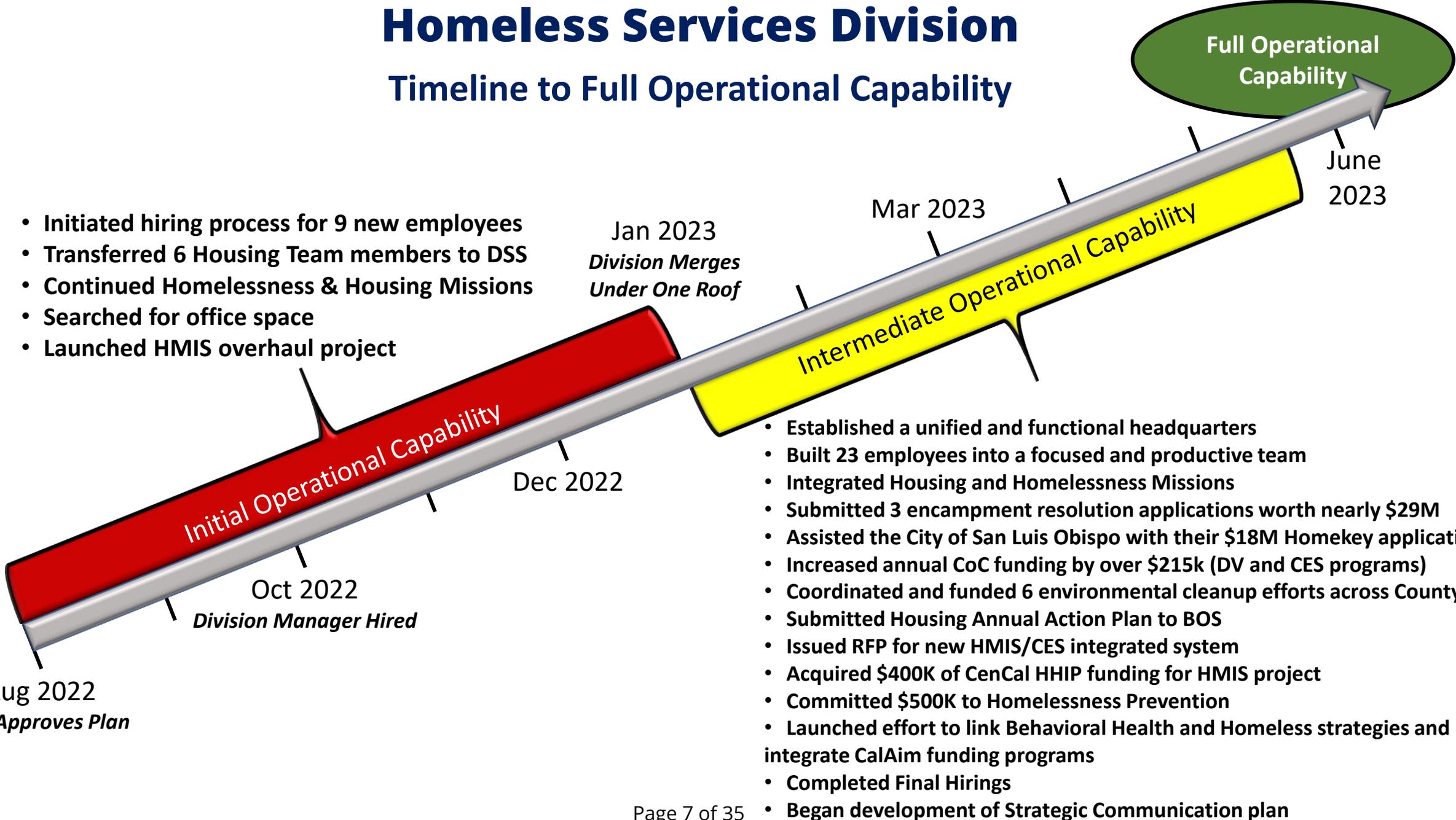
5-Year Strategic Plan (by Phase)



Homeless Services Division

Timeline to Full Operational Capability

- Initiated hiring process for 9 new employees
- Transferred 6 Housing Team members to DSS
- Continued Homelessness & Housing Missions
- Searched for office space
- Launched HMIS overhaul project



Aug 2022
BOS Approves Plan

Oct 2022
Division Manager Hired

Dec 2022

Jan 2023
Division Merges Under One Roof

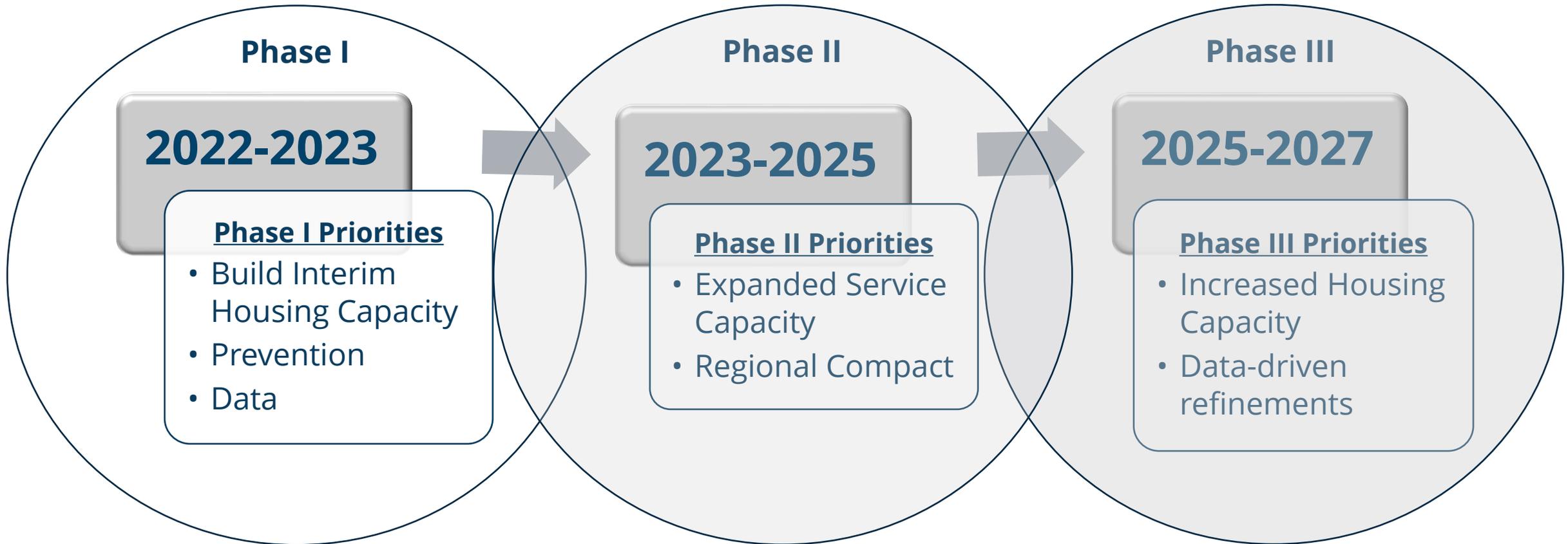
Mar 2023

June 2023

- Established a unified and functional headquarters
- Built 23 employees into a focused and productive team
- Integrated Housing and Homelessness Missions
- Submitted 3 encampment resolution applications worth nearly \$29M
- Assisted the City of San Luis Obispo with their \$18M Homekey application
- Increased annual CoC funding by over \$215k (DV and CES programs)
- Coordinated and funded 6 environmental cleanup efforts across County
- Submitted Housing Annual Action Plan to BOS
- Issued RFP for new HMIS/CES integrated system
- Acquired \$400K of CenCal HHIP funding for HMIS project
- Committed \$500K to Homelessness Prevention
- Launched effort to link Behavioral Health and Homeless strategies and integrate CalAim funding programs
- Completed Final Hirings
- Began development of Strategic Communication plan

San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

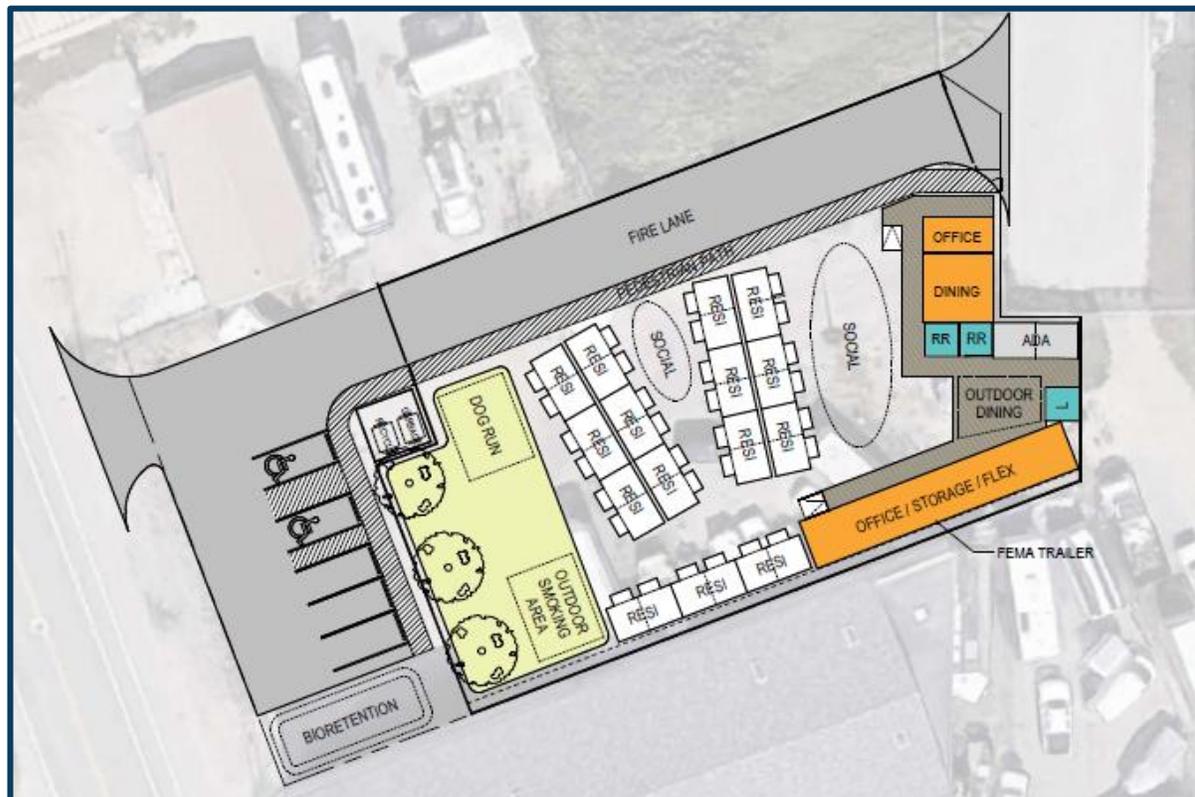
5-Year Strategic Plan (by Phase)



Phase I and II Priorities: Expanding Services while Building Interim Housing

Overview of 5CHC Barca project (ERF-2)

Overview



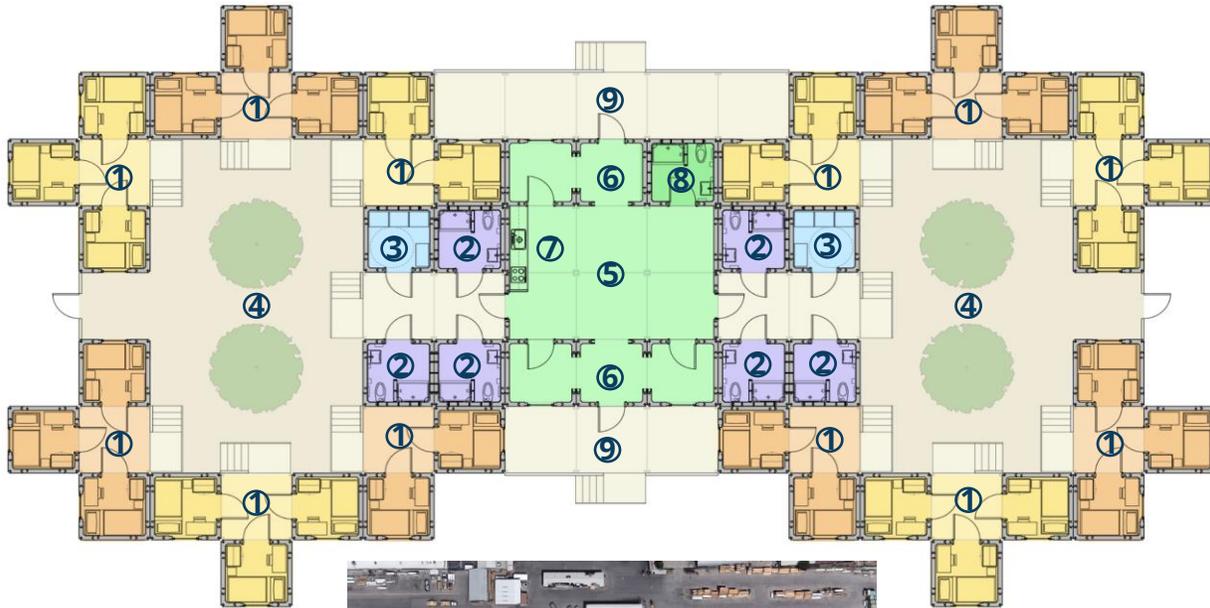
- \$6.5M Joint application: County, 5CHC and Dignity Moves
- Letters of Support from:
 - CA State Parks
 - Caltrans
 - Pismo Beach
 - Grover Beach
- Funding covers development and operations for 2 years
- 30 interim shelter beds (Boss Cubez)
- 90-Day program, Cabins for Change
- \$500K of Boss Cubez structures purchased by County
- City of Grover Beach provided \$400K to purchase land

Phase I and II Priorities: Expanding Services while Building Interim Housing

Overview of Paso Roble project (ERF-2)

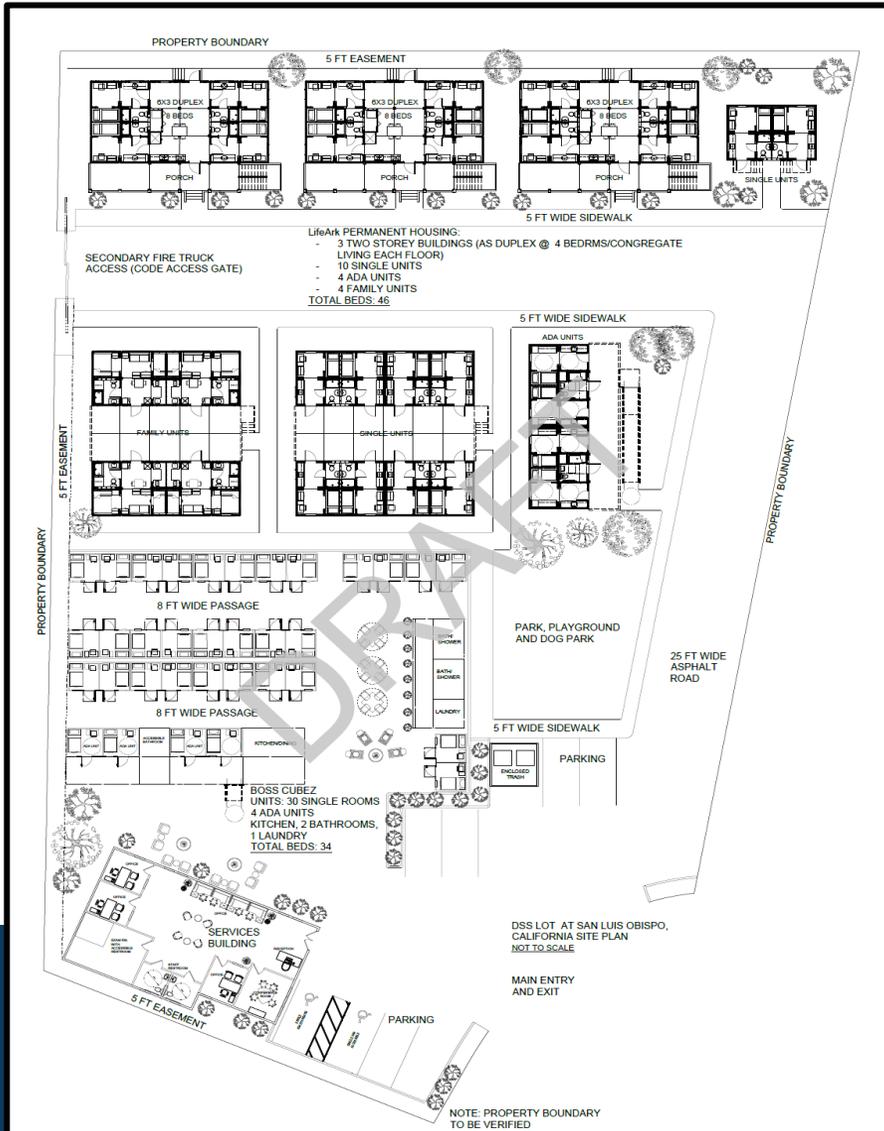
Overview

- \$7.5M Joint application: County, Paso Robles and CityNet
- Letters of Support from:
 - Representative Jimmy Panetta
 - Caltrans
 - SLOCOG
 - City of Paso Robles
- Funding covers development and operations for 2 years
- 20 interim shelter beds (LifeArk)
- 90-Day program managed by CityNet
- City of Paso Robles provided land at 624 Pine Street



Phase I and II Priorities: Expanding Services while Building Interim AND Permanent Supportive Housing

Overview of Higuera Street / DSS Lot "Welcome Home" Project (ERF-2)



Overview

- \$13.4M Joint application: County, City of San Luis Obispo, Good Samaritan Shelter and Dignity Moves
- Letters of Support from:
 - Caltrans
 - Balay Ko Foundation (gap funding)
 - City of San Luis Obispo
 - SLOCOG
 - County Health Agency and Behavioral Health
- Funding covers development and operations for 2 years
- 80 total beds
 - 34 interim shelter beds (LifeArk)
 - 46 permanent supportive housing beds (LifeArk)
- Land provided by the County

Phase I and II Priorities: Expanding Services while Building Interim AND Permanent Supportive Housing

Overview of Homestead Motel Conversion (Homekey-3)

Overview

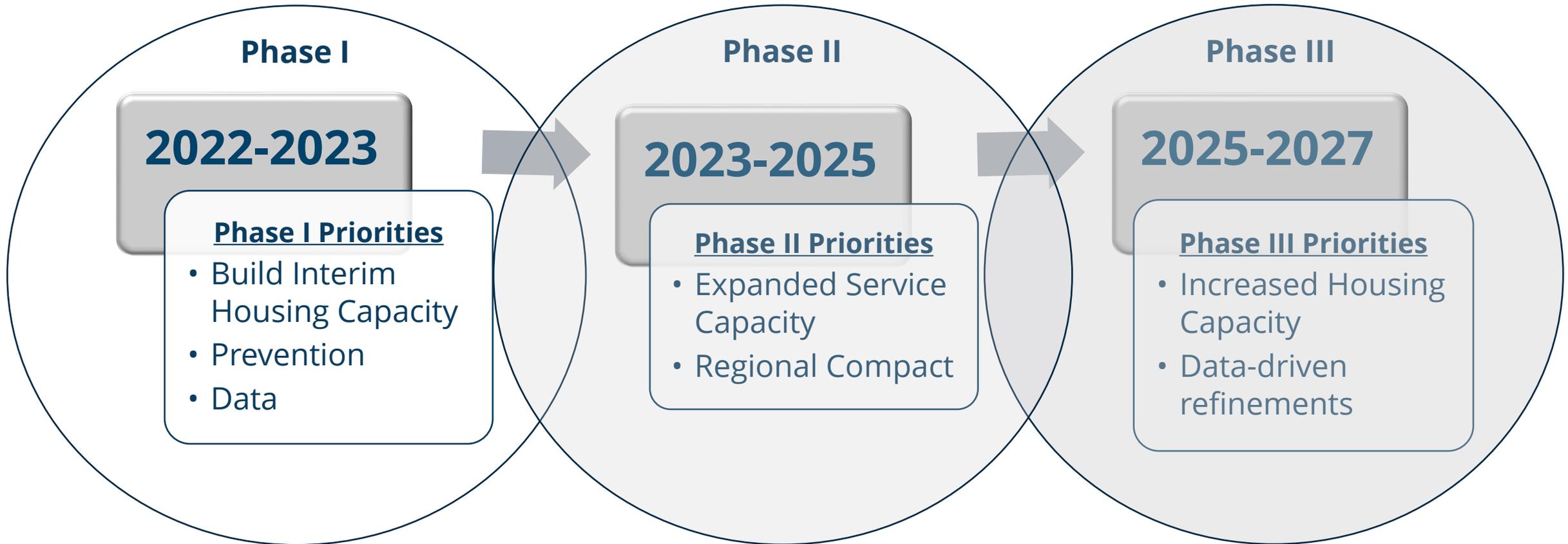
- **City of San Luis Obispo is the lead applicant**
- \$18M Joint application: City of SLO, PSSH, County, CAPSLO
- Letters of Support from:
 - County of San Luis Obispo (pending)
 - Balay Ko Foundation (gap funding)
- Funding covers development and operations for 2 (or 3) years
- 15 motel rooms converted to family PSH
- 15 interim shelter beds (Boss Cubez) in parking lot area



Yield	
studios	12
1 bedrooms	3
2 bedrooms	1
tiny homes	13
manager's	1
total	30
parking	25

San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

5-Year Strategic Plan (by Phase)



Phase I and II Priorities: Homelessness Prevention and Data Improvement

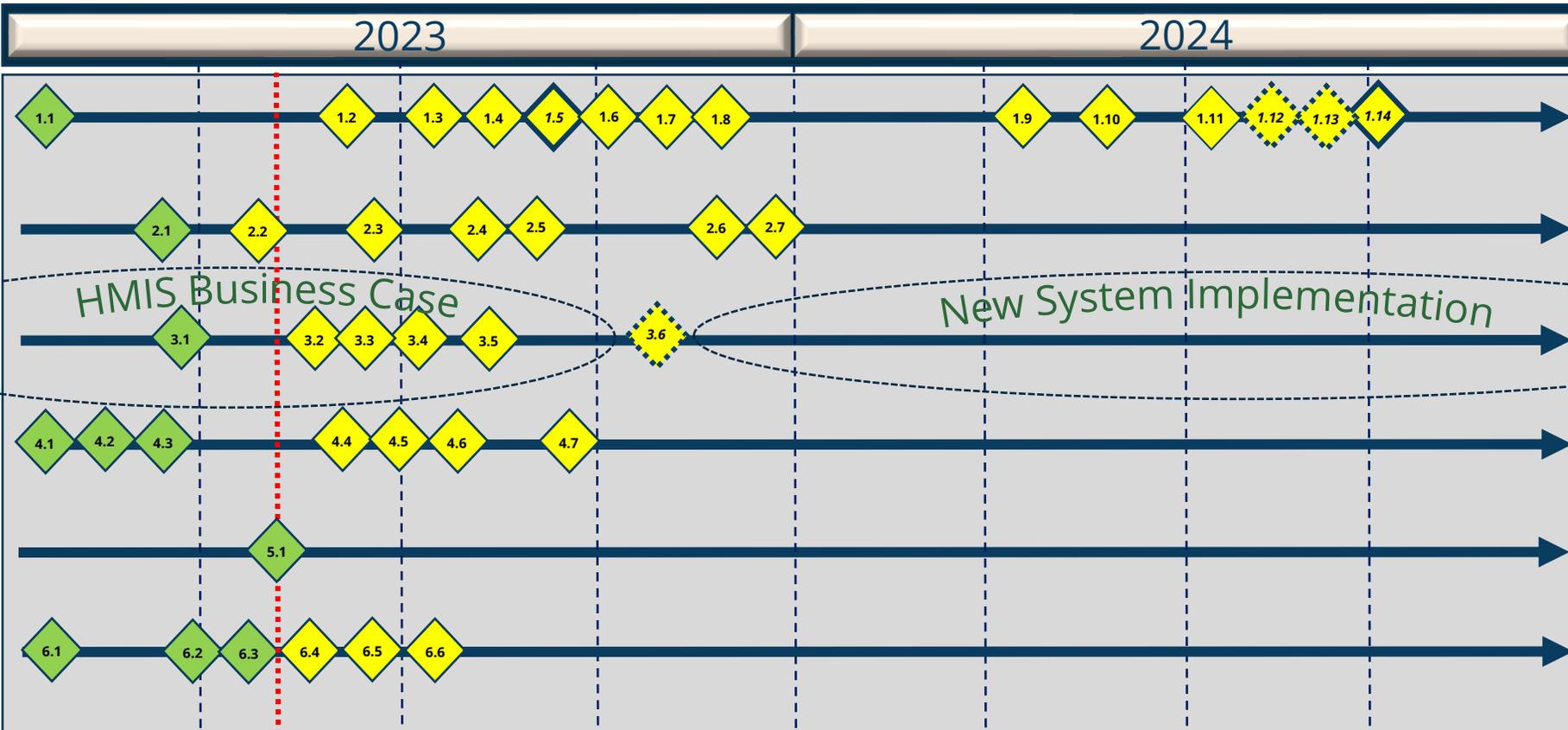
- Homelessness Prevention:
 - HHAP-2 Funding awarded \$500K to HP in March 2023
 - Intend to award another \$500K later this year
- Improving our Data System and Processes
 - HMIS Business Case



5-Year Operational Approach

Intent: Develop Countywide Regional Collaboration that: guides rapidly-expanding housing, service and navigation capacity; improves data and outreach systems; creates, identifies and streamlines funding while generating support from citizens through communication, education and accessible venues of action.

- Lines of Effort**
- LOE 1 (Main Effort):** Build Housing - Affordable and Appropriate
 - LOE 2 (SE1):** Expand Services
 - LOE 3 (SE2):** Improve Data Management
 - LOE 4 (SE3):** Streamline Funding
 - LOE 5 (SE4):** Strengthen Regional Collaboration
 - LOE 6 (SE5):** Build Public Engagement



- End State**
- LOE 1:** A mix of safe parking, transitional shelters, low-income, permanent supportive, and special-needs housing exist to reduce unsheltered living.
 - LOE 2:** BH, medical, financial assistance, identity-rebuilding, jail and hospital release services are robust.
 - LOE 3:** Standardized and efficient coordinated entry system employed by highly-trained and disciplined outreach workers feed an improved HMIS.
 - LOE 4:** Synchronized planning and funding for homelessness exists across the region.
 - LOE 5:** Community leaders are better informed and able to participate in addressing homeless issues.
 - LOE 6:** Citizens are better informed and willing to participate in addressing homeless issues.

LOE 1: Build Housing

- 1.1 Cabins for Change (20 interim shelter beds)
- 1.2 Broad Street Place (40 / 7 VLI / 12 ELI)
- 1.3 Templeton Place II (36 / 11 VLI / 7 ELI)
- 1.4 Morro Bay / Rockview (35/ 22 VLI / 4 ELI)
- 1.5 Paso Homekey (30 Renovated PSH)
- 1.6 Palm Street Studios (8 ELI)
- 1.7 Pismo Terrace (50 / 25 ELI)
- 1.8 The Apts at Toscano (38 / 23 VLI / 4 ELI)
- 1.9 Shell Beach Senior (26 / 22 VLI / 3 ELI)
- 1.10 Cal Manor II (76 / 15 VLI / 8 ELI)

- 1.11 Tiburon Place (68 / 10 VLI / 34 ELI)
 - 1.12 ERF2 and HK (100 ISB, 61 PSH)
 - 1.13 Bridge Street (T) (32 VLI and below)
 - 1.14 Anderson Hotel (68 Ren 59 VLI / 7 VLI)
- Low-Income Housing Summary**
 409 Total New Units by end of 2024
 162 LI / 142 VLI / 105 ELI
- 905 Additional New Units by Fall 2026

Completed Objectives

- LOE 2: Expand Services**
- 2.1 ERF-2 submissions
 - 2.2 Submit Bridge Housing Grant
 - 2.3 Award BH Strat Plan Contract
 - 2.4 Implement new EHR
 - 2.5 Expand Peer Support Services
 - 2.6 Mobile Crisis Expansion
 - 2.7 CalAIM ECM and CS

Projected Objectives

- LOE 3: Improve Data**
- 3.1 RFP for new vendor
 - 3.2 Receive proposals
 - 3.3 Explore mobile GIS app's
 - 3.4 Vendor Demonstrations
 - 3.5 Award Contract
 - 3.6 Implementation begins

- 4. Streamline/Increase Funding**
- 4.1 Homeless Svcs Div formed
 - 4.2 HHIP-HMIS MOU (\$400k)
 - 4.3 ERF-2 submissions (\$20.5M)
 - 4.4 HHIP SP submissions (up to \$1.6M)
 - 4.5 Establish HSD status quo budget
 - 4.6 Unify HSU and Housing grants processes and timelines
 - 4.7 Services Funding Conference

- 5. Regional Collaboration**
- 5.1 Spring 2023 BOS Update
 - 5.2
 - 5.3
 - 5.4
 - 5.5
 - 5.6
 - 5.7
 - 5.8

6. Public Engagement

- 6.1 2nd CHAC meeting
- 6.2 Communications PM hired
- 6.3 3rd CHAC meeting
- 6.4 Website & Communications Strategy development begins
- 6.5 New website released
- 6.6 Comms strategy completed

***County Funding for Homelessness
and the
Homeless Services Division Budget for Service Programs***



SLO County Funding Towards Homelessness FY22-23

In FY22-23, SLO County

- Administered \$191M
- Through 23 Programs
- Across 3 Departments (DSS, HA, SO)
- 2.4% of these funds passed through HSD

Of this \$191M, \$180M administered to programs not exclusively homelessness related nor administered or tracked by the HSD:

- \$112M Health Agency programs
 - o BH: MHSA, Justice Services, PHF, Drug & Alcohol
 - o PH: Medically Indigent, Family Health, Health Promotion & Emergency Med Services
- \$68M DSS nondiscretionary programs
 - o CalWORKs, CalFresh, General Assistance
 - o Medi-Cal, Workforce Innovation & Opportunity

Of the \$11.3M administered to “Direct Support”

- \$4.7M passed through HSD (42%)*
- \$6.7M administered by other agencies in DSS, HA or SO
 - o DSS: Housing Support Program, HDAP, ARCH & Bringing Families Home
 - o SO: CAT team and BH support to SLO, PR and AT
 - o BH: 40 Prado, THMA

Source of Funding	Estimated/Approximate Funding in FY 2022-23
Direct Support to Homelessness Countywide:	\$ 11,300,291
Estimated County General Fund	\$ 2,799,601
Estimated State/Federal	\$ 7,960,184
Other Related Health and Human Services Countywide:	\$ 180,159,984
Estimated County General Fund	\$ 30,947,411
Estimated State/Federal/Other	\$ 149,212,573
Total	\$ 191,460,275
Estimated County General Fund	\$ 33,747,012
Estimated State/Federal	\$ 157,172,757



SLO County Funding Towards Homelessness FY23-24

In FY23-24, SLO County plans to:

- Administer \$195M
- Through 23 Programs
- Across 3 Departments (DSS, HA, SO)
- 4.6% of these funds will pass through HSD

Of this \$195M, \$178M administered to programs not exclusively homelessness related nor administered or tracked by the HSD:

- \$103M Health Agency programs
 - o BH: MHSA, Justice Services, PHF, Drug & Alcohol
 - o PH: Medically Indigent, Family Health, Health Promotion & Emergency Med Services
- \$75M DSS nondiscretionary programs
 - o CalWORKs, CalFresh, General Assistance
 - o Medi-Cal, Workforce Innovation & Opportunity

Of the \$16.7M administered to “Direct Support”

- \$9M will pass through HSD (54%)*
- \$7.7M administered by other agencies in DSS, HA or SO
 - o DSS: Housing Support Program, HDAP, ARCH & Bringing Families Home
 - o SO: CAT team and BH support to SLO, PR and AT
 - o BH: 40 Prado, THMA

Source of Funding	Estimated/Approximate Funding in FY 2023-24
Direct Support to Homelessness Countywide:	\$ 16,716,777
Estimated County General Fund	\$ 7,555,334
Estimated State/Federal	\$ 9,236,832
Other Related Health and Human Services Countywide:	\$ 178,141,083
Estimated County General Fund	\$ 28,912,526
Estimated State/Federal/Other	\$ 149,228,557
Total	\$ 194,857,860
Estimated County General Fund	\$ 36,467,860
Estimated State/Federal	\$ 158,465,389



Homeless Services Division FY23-24 \$1.8M Budget Augmentation Request Intent

The Homeless Services Division would direct:

Line of Effort

- \$1M RFP focused solely on increasing street outreach

- Service provider recruitment and retention efforts need support
- Street outreach is the foundation of Countywide Plan success
- Social workers should be doing Street Outreach, not police/deputies and fireman

Improve Data &
Expand Services

- \$500K into Homelessness Prevention program

Expand Services

- \$341K to extend 3 LT grant writing position extensions

Streamline
Funding



Homeless Services Division

FY23-24 \$1.8M Budget Augmentation Request Intent

- Not a one-time request but will submit a BAR each year as plan develops and needs are identified
- Aligns with CA State Association of Counties (CSAC) - “Accountability”
 - Homeless Services Division is the sole accountable agency within the County structure on homelessness and should have funds to operationalize plan.
 - Funding stability and predictability are needed to support new operations
- Targets and amounts of these BARs will change from year to year as the Countywide plan develops and needs are identified



HMIS Business Case



Update on Homelessness Trends in SLO County FY22-2023 (July 1st 2022 through February 28, 2023)

Homelessness Prevention

220 households (499 people) were prevented or diverted from homelessness

Number of People Getting Help

961 households (1,516 people) reached out to service providers for some type of support

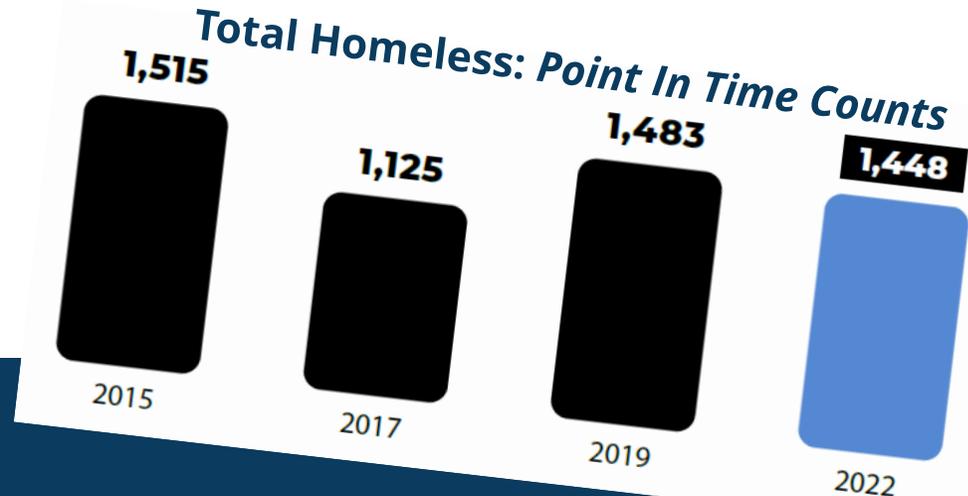
People Who Exited Homelessness

255 households (461 people) exited from homelessness to permanent housing

People Who Entered Homelessness

1,029 people

Problem: WE DON'T KNOW



HMIS Business Case – Purpose, Goals and Outcomes

Purpose and Goals

Purpose

Form recommendation on the technology investment necessary to improve homelessness data quality in support of the Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness.

Goals

- The Homeless Services Division has sufficient technology and data to support the SLO Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness.
- Technology supports County and participating agency program staff in service delivery.
- Reporting and analysis tools support County, city and participating organization needs for operational insights and decision making.

Outcomes

- Blueprint for the future with deployment timeline
- Operating model for homeless data management
 - *Define the roles and responsibilities of all participants*
 - *Identify policies and procedures to be created or updated*
- Key stakeholders participate and commit to operating model and fulfillment of their roles and responsibilities
- Identify potential levels of investment
- Recommend process for selection
- Recommend process and technology changes that will support homelessness data quality and analytics capability



Who was involved? Countywide, Cross Organizational Team

Homelessness Data Steering Committee

- Wade Horton, CAO
- Devin Drake, Director of Social Services
- Daniel Milei, Director of Information Technology
- Nick Drews, Health Agency
- CAPSLO - Lawren Ramos
- Citizens' Committee - Helene Finger
- ECHO - Wendy Lewis
- 5CHC - Janna Nichols
- HSOC - Susan Funk
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- DSS HSD - Laurel Weir
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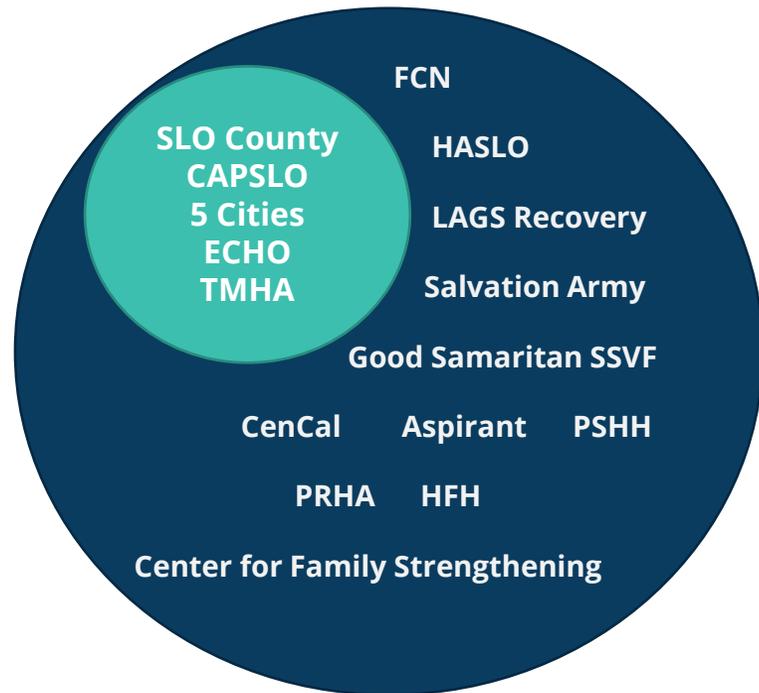
Recommendation

“Select and implement a new Homeless Management Information System”

- Provide quality data analytics
- Unify Coordinated Entry System into HMIS
- Support service providers in their delivery of services and capturing metrics
- Expansion of data sources:
 - Increase our list of participating agencies beyond our current 5
 - Increase our user base from approximately 100 to 220 users and beyond as we grow
- Support 18 service delivery workflows from “first contact” to a housing solution
- Assist CAPSLO with data extracts to address their operational needs



Expands Service Provider Participation and Service Delivery Functions



Expanded Functions	Current System	Future System
Data Analytics	x	✓
Coordinated Entry	x	✓
Collaboration and Alerts	x	✓
Electronic ROI	✓	✓
HUD Data Collection Requirements	✓	✓
Referrals	x	✓
Street Outreach	x	✓
Electronic Storage of Client Documents	x	✓
Integration Capability	x	✓

How does a new HMIS help reduce homelessness?

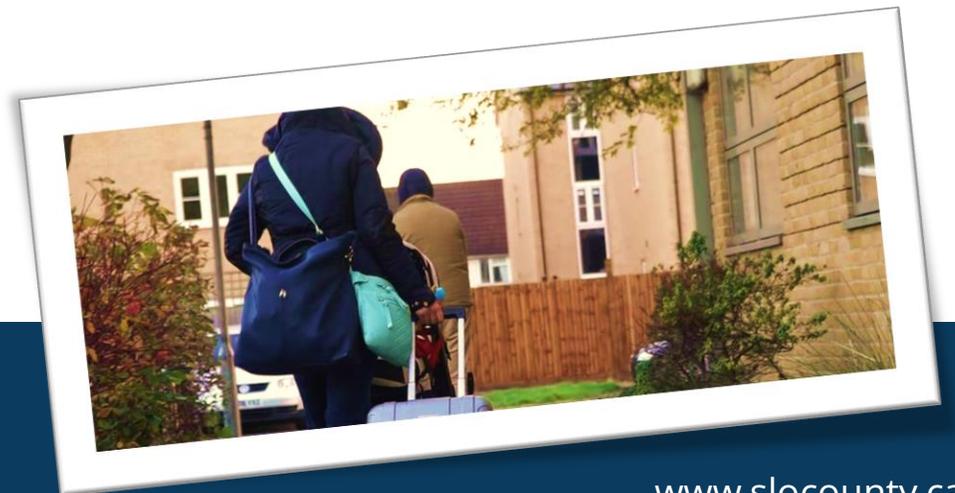


NOW

- Not clear which programs are effective
 - *We don't have data analysis tools*
- Coordinating care and tracking progress is very difficult
- Service providers spend time entering data multiple times
- Service providers have difficulty sharing information

FUTURE

- Leaders have insight into program success to allocate resources
- Attain more funding - have data to support grant applications
- Street Outreach, Diversion, Prevention efforts captured
- Providers coordinate care seeing a clear view of an individual's progress and status
- Street outreach workers can see participants at a location, needs and coordinate efforts
- Case managers can match participants with resources based on availability and eligibility
- More people move toward housing faster



Alignment with the Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

The San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness 2022-2027

- Implements Line of Effort 3:
Improve and expand data management...
- Supports all other 5 Lines of Effort in the plan

Line of Effort 3: Improve and expand data management efforts through HMIS and coordinated entry system to strengthen data-driven operational guidance and strategic oversight.

Focus: Improve homeless system data quality and reporting, increase data sharing, and analyze and share data to drive improvements in homeless system performance.

Metrics:

- HMIS access provided to all participating agencies for shared clients to the extent allowed by federal and state laws governing HMIS and privacy.
- Law enforcement, healthcare organizations, government agencies and nonprofit organizations may make referrals to coordinated entry.
- Mechanism exists to analyze aggregate data when individualized data cannot be shared due to privacy laws, regulations, or guidance.

Summary of Timing:

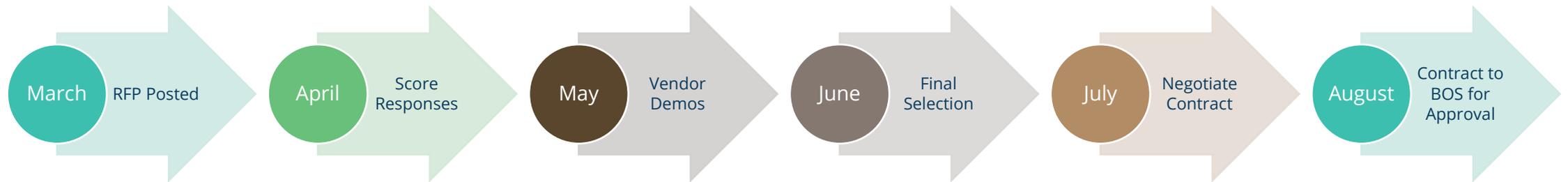
- **Year 1:** Create single HMIS database, data analysis and reporting to the community
- **Years 2-3:** Establish analytics and systematic reporting
- **Years 4-5:** Data driven refinements in strategy and services

The full details of this line of effort can be found in the full document here: [SLOCountywidePlantoAddressHomelessness.pdf \(ca.gov\)](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/files/countywide-plan-to-address-homelessness.pdf)



RFP Timeline

- Single RFP for Software and Services
- Vendors may submit proposal for one or both: software and services
- We will have an estimated implementation timeline after contract negotiation



Oklahoma Parking Site Drawdown



Oklahoma Parking Site Drawdown

- Originally intended as a 180-day pilot program
 - Not intended, and therefore not resourced, for a long-term “stay” by any one individual or family
- Some success has been realized, but not in the numbers and timelines envisioned
- No new participants are being accepted, but current participants are not being asked to leave
- Services on site (i.e., food pantry, showers, toilets) will remain until drawdown is complete
- County has limited resources, will direct funding and effort to other strategy mechanisms
- Employing “Case Conferencing” approach for participants remaining at Oklahoma Safe Parking
 - Coordinating a surged and combined effort by CAPSLO, 5CHC, ECHO, THMA, LAGS and DSS APS



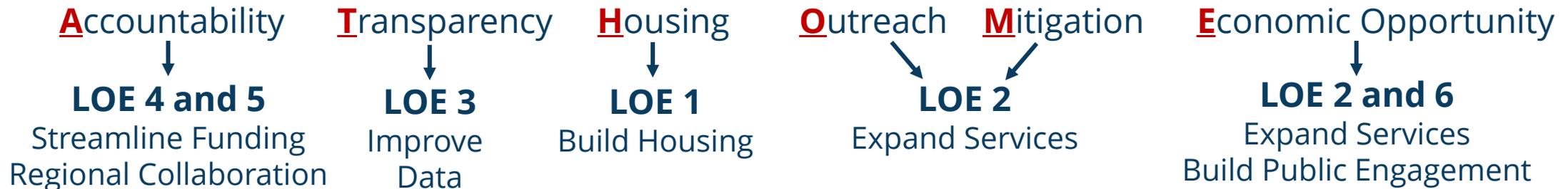
***County State Association of Counties (CSAC)
AT HOME plan***



CSAC "AT HOME" Plan Overview and Alignment with the *Countywide Plan*

- Create a Statewide strategy that:
 - Clearly delineates the homelessness responsibilities of the State, Counties and Cities
 - Aligns the authorities and resources to those same echelons (State, Counties and Cities)
 - Ensures authority is linked to accountability
 - Intends to establish sustained and flexible funding directed to those accountable
 - This plan aligns with the SLO Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

Has six "pillar" concepts very closely linked with our Countywide Plan's six "Lines of Effort"



San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

Today, we ask this Board to provide direction (as necessary) on:

1. The progress in pursuing the phased priorities of the Countywide Plan
2. The update on the HMIS business case
3. The update on the Oklahoma Avenue parking operation
4. The overview of county homelessness funding and the upcoming FY23-24 budget augmentation requests from the Homeless Services Division



San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness

Comments and Questions



Encampment Resolution Fund – applications

The Barca Project in Grover Beach is a joint application for ERF-2 funding led by the County of San Luis Obispo, in conjunction with the 5Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC) as the service provider, Dignity Moves as the developer, with letters of support provided by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Caltrans, and the Cities of Pismo Beach and Grover Beach. It is a \$6.5M application that, if approved, will provide 30 interim shelter beds in a 90-day program operated similarly as 5CHC’s Cabins for Change program. The modular shelters used for this project will be \$560,000 worth of Boss Cubez modules purchased by the County using recouped ESG-CV funding in January 2023. The land for this project was provided by an initial \$400,000 investment by the City of Grover Beach. The \$6.5M of ERF-2 state funding will cover development costs (minus the modular structures already purchased) and operational costs for 2 years. The overall intent of this project is to resolve the “El Camino Real homeless encampment” that exists in residential neighborhoods along the El Camino Real and both sides of North 4th Street in Grover Beach and Pismo Beach as well as California State Parks and Department of Transportation properties.

The Pine Street Project in Paso Robles is a joint application for ERF-2 funding led by the County of San Luis Obispo, in conjunction with the CityNet as the service provider and developer, the El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO) as a joint provider, with letters of support provided by Caltrans and the City of Paso Robles. It is a \$10M application that, if approved, will provide 20 interim shelter beds in a 90-day program operated similarly as 5CHC’s Cabins for Change program. The modular shelters used for this project will be LifeArk modules. The land for this project was donated by the City of Paso Robles and consists of a portion of the North County Transportation parking lot along Pine Street in downtown Paso Robles. The \$10M of ERF-2 state funding will cover development and operational costs for 2 years. The overall intent of this project is to resolve the “Salinas Riverbed homeless encampment” that exists along the riverbed in the City of Paso Robles.

The Higuera Street “Welcome Home” project in the City of San Luis Obispo is a joint application for ERF-2 funding led by the County of San Luis Obispo in conjunction with Good Samaritan Shelter as the service provider, Dignity Moves as the developer with letters of support from Caltrans, the Balay Ko Foundation, the City of San Luis Obispo, the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG), the San Luis Obispo County Health Agency and Department of Behavioral Health. It is a \$13.4M application that, if approved, will provide 80 total beds consisting of 34 interim shelter beds and 46 permanent supportive housing (PSH) beds using LifeArk modules. The land for this project is provided by the County of San Luis Obispo and will be constructed in the gravel lot behind the County of San Luis Obispo’s DSS headquarters along Higuera Street. The \$13.4M of ERF-2 state funding will cover development and operational costs for 2 years. The overall intent of this project is to resolve the “Bob Jones Trail homeless encampment” that exists along the Bob Jones trail in the City of San Luis Obispo.

For the full staff report given to the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors at its May 2 meeting, please see:

<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/16203>

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
ACTION ITEM
May 17, 2023

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.2

ITEM: Vote to Approve Just Cause Form to Allow Members to Participate Remotely in Accordance with AB 2449

ACTION REQUIRED: It is requested that the Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC) approve the Just Cause Form to allow members to participate remotely in accordance with AB 2449

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

Background

The Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC), an advisory body to the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors, is governed by the rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the "Brown Act"). The Brown Act guarantees the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies. Under the Brown Act, legislative bodies must conduct their business in open, public, and noticed meetings. Under the provisions of the Brown Act, members and the public are allowed to participate in meetings from a remote location, provided that the public is given notice and can attend from that same location.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency in California as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, provided certain requirements were met and followed. These provisions allowed for public meetings governed by the Brown Act to be held entirely remotely, without the need for the legislative body to provide a physical meeting location. Following this, the HSOC and its committees conducted meetings entirely on a remote basis without a physical meeting location. On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21 that clarified the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, and further provided that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021.

On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361, allowing legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue meeting by teleconference if the legislative body determined that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further required that certain findings be made by the legislative body every

30 days. Under AB 361, only the full HSOC could make the determination, and its committees were obliged to meet within each 30-day period following a decision by the full HSOC if they wanted to meet remotely, or to return to in-person meetings outside of each 30-day period.

AB 2449

The provisions of AB 361 remained in effect until California's COVID State of Emergency ended on February 28, 2023. On September 13, 2022, Governor Newsom signed AB 2449, allowing the legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the traditional Brown Act teleconferencing rules or the modified AB 361 rules in certain circumstances. AB 2449 came into effect from January 1, 2023.

AB 2449 states that the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing without noticing each teleconference location or making them publicly accessible, provided at least a quorum of the body participates in person at a single physical location that is identified on the agenda, open to the public, and within the boundaries of the agency, and provided that other requirements regarding accessibility are met. Additionally, the legislative body must comply with the following:

1. Provide a two-way audio-visual platform or a two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting by which the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting as well as remotely address the legislative body;
2. Give notice of the means for the public to access the meeting and offer public comment in each instance the legislative body notices the meeting or posts the agenda;
3. Identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend and address the legislative body directly via a call-in or internet-based service option, and at the in-person location of the meeting; and
4. Provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time.

Furthermore, an individual member of the legislative body may participate remotely only in one of two circumstances: Just Cause or Emergency Circumstances.

Just Cause and Emergency Circumstances

For Just Cause reasons, a member may participate remotely after giving notice as soon as possible. AB 2449 defines "Just Cause" as one of the following:

1. A family childcare or caregiving need;
2. A contagious illness;
3. A need related to a physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated; or
4. Travel while in official business of the legislative body.

Agenda Item 5.2

“Emergency Circumstances” is defined as a physical or family emergency that prevents the member from attending in person. In such circumstances, the member can participate remotely by requesting approval to do so from the legislative body. The legislative body may take action on the request as soon as possible, including at the beginning of the meeting, even if there was not sufficient time to place the request formally on the agenda.

For either of the above to apply, the member in question must give a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely, but need not disclose any medical diagnosis, disability, or other confidential medical information.

AB 2449 also provides that a member cannot participate solely by teleconference under the new teleconference framework for more than three consecutive months or more than 20 percent of the agency’s regular meetings (more than two meetings if the agency meets fewer than 10 times per year).

When the conditions described above are met, the member must also publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member’s relationship with any such individuals. The member is required to participate through both audio and visual technology.

The new statute enacted by AB 2449 will sunset on January 1, 2026 absent additional legislation.

Recommendation

The attached Application for Member to Participate Remotely in Full HSOC or Committee Meeting (“Just Cause Form” – Attachment A) has been designed for HSOC members to give notification to County staff that they are intending to participate remotely in an upcoming full HSOC or HSOC committee meeting, under one of the Just Cause reasons defined by AB 2449. For remote participation in a meeting under one of the Just Cause reasons, the member does not need the consent of the full HSOC or HSOC committee. A vote at the beginning of the meeting will only be taken for members who wish to participate for Emergency Circumstances as defined by AB 2449.

Staff recommends that members wishing to participate remotely for Just Cause reasons complete the Just Cause Form and submit it to County staff at SS.HomelessServices@co.slo.ca.us. County staff will review the form and respond to members prior to the meeting they wish to participate in remotely.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Just Cause Form.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT

No current fiscal impact is anticipated.

STAFF COMMENTS:

It is recommended that the Homeless Services Oversight Council approve this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Just Cause Form

Homeless Services Oversight Council

Application for Member to Participate Remotely in Full HSOC or Committee Meeting

The provisions of AB 361, which amended the Brown Act to allow public meetings to be conducted remotely, ended on February 28, 2023. From that date, the traditional provisions of the Brown Act have applied, including the traditional teleconferencing rules, with exceptions as provided by AB 2449. These exceptions allow individual members of legislative bodies to participate remotely in emergency circumstances, or for 'just cause' reasons, defined as: a family childcare or caregiving need; a contagious illness; a need related to a physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated; or travel while on official business that is related to the work of the legislative body. This form allows for members of the full HSOC and its committees to apply to participate remotely in meetings.

Member Name:

Email Address:

Just Cause Reason:

Family Childcare or Caregiving Need

Contagious Illness

Need Related to Physical or Mental Disability Not Otherwise Accommodated

Travel While on Official HSOC Business

HSOC Meeting – you can select more than one. Please also provide the date(s) of meeting(s):

Full HSOC

Executive Committee

Finance & Data Committee

Housing Committee

Services Coordinating Committee

Please Confirm You Understand the Requirements Under AB 2449 by Checking the Boxes Below:

Per AB 2449, a member cannot participate solely by teleconference for more than three consecutive meetings, or for more than 20% of regular meetings in a year.

Per AB 2449, members participating remotely must state, prior to any action being taken in a meeting, whether any other individuals (aged 18 and older) are present in the room at the remote location, and the general nature of the member's relationship with such individuals.

Per AB 2449, members participating remotely must participate through both audio and visual technology.

Please return form to SS_HomelessServices@co.slo.ca.us

What Happens Next:

County staff will review your form and respond via the email address you have provided above, prior to the meeting(s) you have indicated above.



Unified Homeless Services Information Management System



HMIS Business Case



Update on Homelessness Trends in SLO County FY22-2023 (July 1st 2022 through February 28, 2023)

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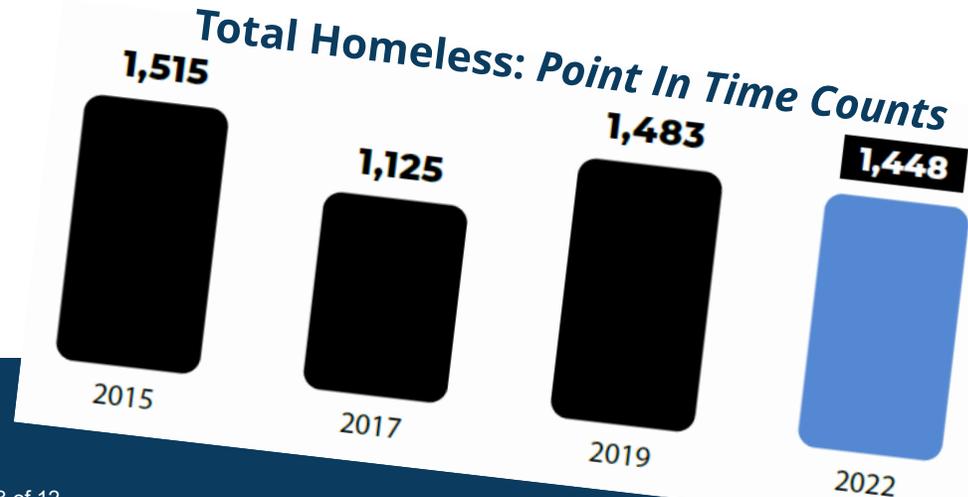
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HMIS Business Case – Purpose, Goals and Outcomes

Purpose and Goals

Purpose

Form recommendation on the technology investment necessary to improve homelessness data quality in support of the Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness.

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- Technology supports County and participating agency program staff in service delivery.
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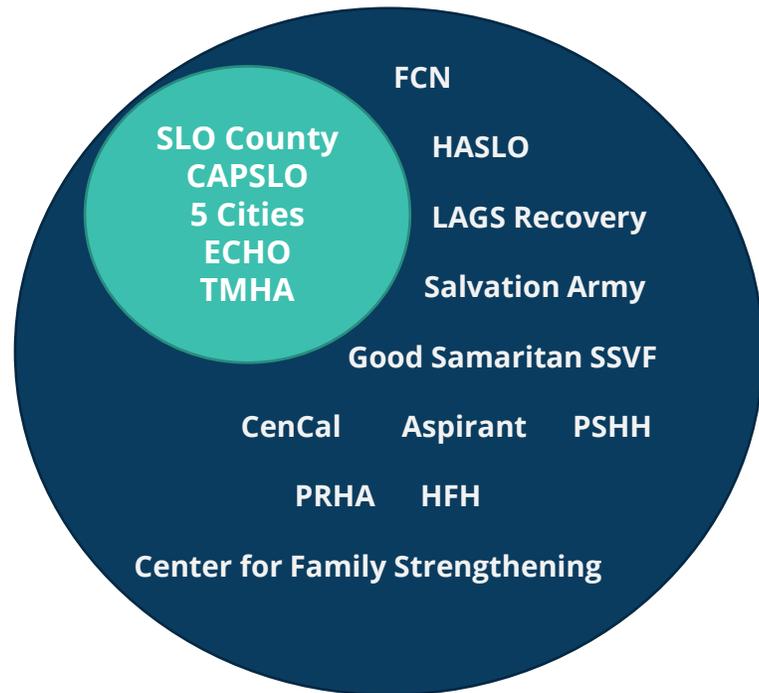
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How does a new HMIS help reduce homelessness?

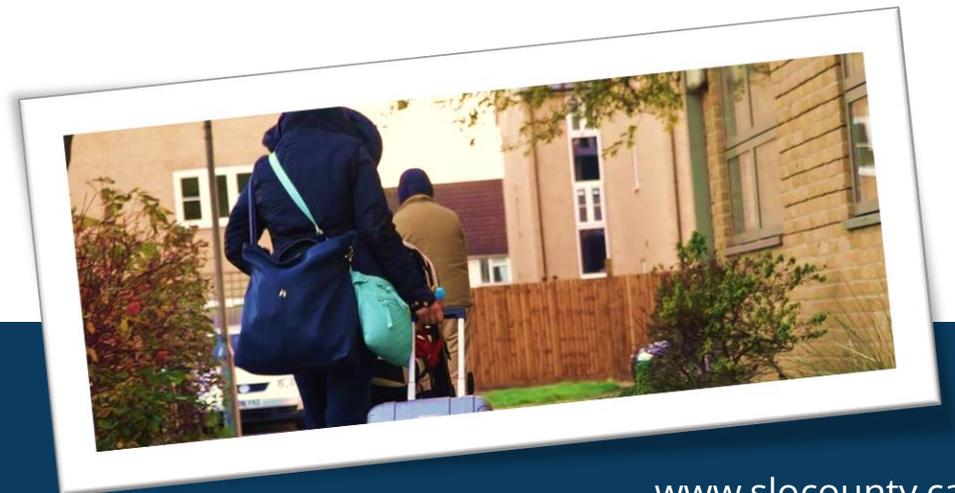


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- Supports all other 5 Lines of Effort in the plan

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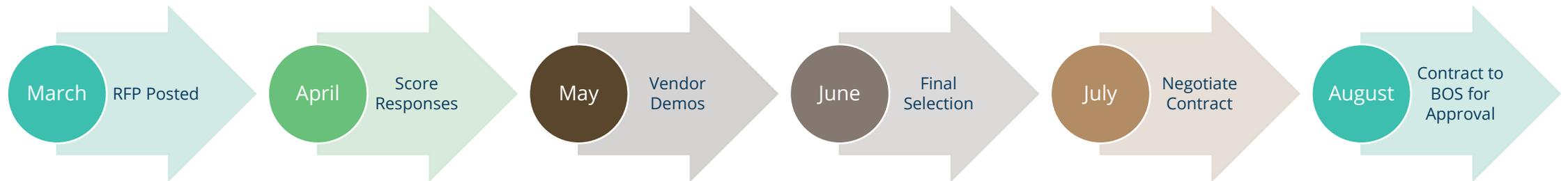
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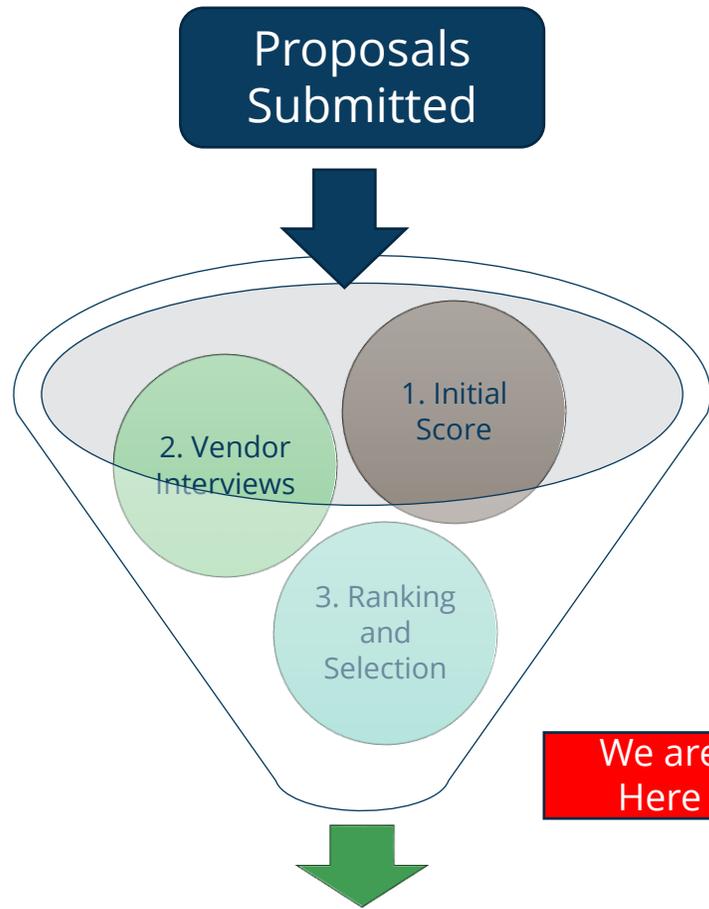


RFP Timeline

- Single RFP for Software and Services
- Vendors may submit proposal for one or both: software and services
- We will have an estimated implementation timeline after contract negotiation



Proposed Evaluation Plan



Contract Negotiation

Evaluation Plan

Software

1. Initial Score

- Score Requirements List
 - Score "Need" and "Nice"
 - 5 pts for Full "out of Box"
 - 3 pts Partially "out of box"
 - 1 pt Configuration
 - 1 pt Customization

Need points for custom or 3rd party?

Process:

- a. Deborah Score Responses
- b. Scores Shared with committee

SC - Confirm Vendors to Move Ahead or Next Steps

Services

1. Initial Score

- Meet Proposal Requirements
- Experience
- Approach to Services

Process:

- a. All committee score via Teams Survey.
- b. Scores shared with committee

SC - Confirm Vendors to Move Ahead or Next Steps

2. Vendor Interviews

- a. Vendor Proposal Overview
- b. Scripted Demos
- c. Technical Review
- d. Reference Checks

SC - Need Additional Info or Ready for Selection?

2. Vendor Interviews

- a. Vendor Proposal Overview
- b. Interview Questions
- c. Individual SC Scores
- d. Reference Checks

SC - Need Additional Info or Ready for Selection?

3. Final Score and Selection

SC - Need Additional Info or Ready for decision?

3. Final Score and Selection

SC - Need Additional Info or Ready for Decision?



Current Activities

- May 15 – 19 Vendor Demonstration Days
- May 25 Selection Committee Confers for Next Steps or Final Selection



**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
ACTION ITEM
May 17, 2023**

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.4.1

ITEM: Vote to Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care Homeless Services Oversight Council and the County of San Luis Obispo for Regional Coordination of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 4 (HHAP-4)

ACTION REQUIRED: It is requested that the Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC): vote to Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care Homeless Services Oversight Council and the County of San Luis Obispo for the Administration of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 4 (HHAP-4).

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

The State of California has established the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program Round 4 (“HHAP-4” or “Program”) pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 50216) of Part 1 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code. (Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 111, Sec. 4. (AB 140) Effective July 19, 2021.)

The Program is administered by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (“Cal ICH”) in the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (“Agency”). HHAP-4 provides flexible block grant funds to Continuums of Care, large cities (population of 300,000+) and counties to build on the regional coordination created through previous Cal ICH grant funding and support local jurisdictions in their unified regional responses to reduce and end homelessness.

On 11/29/22, the County of San Luis Obispo submitted a joint grant application for HHAP-4 on behalf of the County and the San Luis Obispo Continuum of Care (CoC). The County serves as the Administrative Entity for the CoC.

As part of the HHAP-4 application evaluation, Cal ICH instructed the County to submit and implement a MOU between the HSOC and the County that outlines the efforts that will be taken to increase regional coordination. The MOU is meant to clearly describe and delineate jurisdictional roles and responsibilities, joint coordination and collaborative funding efforts to achieve greater alignment.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT

The County of San Luis Obispo will receive a total HHAP-4 award in the amount of \$3,730,682.83.

STAFF COMMENTS:

It is recommended that the Homeless Services Oversight Council approve this item. Upon the HSOC's approval, staff will submit the executed MOU to Cal ICH by May 31, 2023.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - HHAP-4 Guidance
Attachment B - Memorandum



**California
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HHAP-4 GUIDANCE

Thank you for your partnership in the development of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 4 (HHAP-4) applications. Supporting robust goals that propose to reduce the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and increase the number of people placed in permanent housing is a top priority for the state. We must also ensure that HHAP resources and solutions are advancing equity by reaching organizations, neighborhoods, and communities that have been marginalized and under-resourced.

Commitment

In the spirit of partnership, your HHAP-4 plan will be objectively conditioned upon committing to further your HHAP-3 outcome goals by pursuing the following:

1. Establish outcome goals for 1B that result in a reduction in unsheltered homelessness and agree to adjust your existing HHAP-3 outcome goal for 1B to achieve a reduction in unsheltered homelessness pursuant to Health and Safety Code §50220.7. Additional technical assistance will be provided to help you establish these outcome goals during the HHAP-4 consultation and review process.
2. Submit and implement a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between relevant city, county and CoC, as applicable, outlining efforts you will undertake to increase regional coordination. This MOU should clearly describe and delineate jurisdictional roles and responsibilities, joint coordination and collaborative funding efforts to achieve greater alignment.
3. Implement as many of the best practices listed below as possible.

Best Practices

- 1) Enter into regional Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with detailed commitments that focus on coordinating and integrating interim and permanent housing resources (both capital and rental subsidies), supportive services, and outreach and engagement strategies.
- 2) Streamline Coordinated Entry System processes to ensure that housing resources are being effectively matched to people based on need so that the right housing interventions are being targeted to the right people at the right time.
- 3) Utilize available land slated for supportive housing development for interim housing solutions during the entitlement process, where feasible.



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- 4) Streamline multifamily affordable housing development, specifically housing Extremely Low and Very Low-Income housing, and further efforts to remove local barriers to development and accelerate the implementation of state laws that provide for streamlined approval of affordable housing.
- 5) Develop and strengthen relationships with local Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to increase voucher utilization and success rates, implement strategies to maximize emergency vouchers for households experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness; explore prioritization for special populations; work with landlords to increase participation; and pair PHA resources, including vouchers, with services and housing units to create permanent supportive housing opportunities.
- 6) Leverage funding sources, including, but not limited to, CalAIM, Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program, Behavioral Health Bridge Housing, Homekey, Mental Health Services Act, Emergency Solutions Grants or other locally funded rental assistance opportunities.
- 7) Establish cross-system partnerships to enhance person-centered and effective homelessness response system outcomes. Examples include partnerships with local jails and/or sheriff departments, child welfare agencies, and/or institutions of higher education.

During the HHAP-4 review process, you will be asked to provide a written narrative that describes which of the best practices above will be implemented or are already being implemented. If a specified best practice is not within your authority, or you are otherwise limited in implementing a specific best practice, you will be asked to specify that limitation during the HHAP-4 review process.

Cal ICH requests that a program designee attest to the foregoing commitment and transmit a signed copy to Cal ICH at HHAP@bcsh.ca.gov as soon as possible, but no later than November 29, 2022.

San Luis Obispo CoC

Authorized Signatory:  _____

This Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU" or "Memorandum"), is entered into on _____ (the "Effective Date"), by and between _____ (the "First Party"), and _____ (the "Second Party"). First Party and Second Party may be referred to individually as the "Party", or collectively, the "Parties".

1. MISSION

The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 4 (HHAP-4) grant on which the Parties are intending to collaborate, has the following intended mission in mind:

Increase funding and resources through new federal, state and private grant opportunities, restructure County funding to support this strategy, and align all funding available to address homelessness with community needs and priorities.

2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Parties intend for this Memorandum to provide the cornerstone and structure for any and all future contracts being considered by the Parties and which may be related to the HHAP-4 grant.

3. OBJECTIVES

The Parties shall endeavor to work together to develop and establish policies and procedures that will promote and sustain a market for the HHAP-4 grant, and intend to maintain a product and/or service that meets or exceeds all business and industry standards.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

Any Party may decide not to proceed with the HHAP-4 contemplated herein for any reason or no reason. A binding commitment with respect to the HHAP-4 described herein will result only from execution of definitive agreements, subject to the conditions contained herein. Notwithstanding the two preceding sentences of this paragraph, the provisions under the headings Governing Law and Confidentiality are agreed to be fully binding on, and enforceable, against the Parties.

The following are the individual services that the Parties are contemplating providing for the partnership.

- The County will release the local Request for Proposals;

- The HSOC and County will jointly agree upon the selection of subrecipients;
- The HSOC will provide funding recommendations to the County;
- The County will act as the fiscal agent for funding;
- The County will maintain HMIS system to collect data on the services provided and people assisted;
- The HSOC and the County will evaluate progress in achieving approved grant goals on at least an annual basis;
- The County will be responsible for providing reports to the state.

5. TERMS OF UNDERSTANDING

The term of this Memorandum shall be for a period of _____ from the Effective Date and maybe extended upon written mutual agreement of both parties.

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties will treat the terms of this MOU, and the documents submitted herewith, in the strictest of confidence, and that such terms will not be disclosed other than to those officers, representatives, advisors, directors and employees of any Party who need to know for the purpose of evaluating this MOU and who agree to keep such material confidential.

7. LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The Parties acknowledge and understand that they must be able to fulfill their responsibilities under this Memorandum in accordance with the provisions of the law and regulations that govern their activities. Nothing in the Memorandum is intended to negate or otherwise render ineffective any such provisions or operating procedures. The Parties assume full responsibility for their performance under the terms of this Memorandum.

If at any time either Party is unable to perform their duties or responsibilities under this Memorandum consistent with such Party's statutory and regulatory mandates, the affected Party shall immediately provide written notice to the other Party to establish a date for resolution of the matter.

8. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

No rights or limitation of rights shall arise or be assumed between the Parties as a result of the terms of this Memorandum.

9. AUTHORIZATION AND EXECUTION

The signing of this Memorandum does not constitute a formal undertaking, and as such it simply intends that the signatories shall strive to reach, to the best of their abilities, the goals and objectives stated in this MOU.

This Agreement shall be signed by _____ and _____
and shall be effective as of the date first written above.

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
ACTION ITEM
May 17, 2023**

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.4.2

ITEM: Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grant

ACTION REQUIRED: It is requested that the Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC): 1) express support for an application for the FY2022 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant; 2) endorse CoC staff's efforts to carry out a homeless youth needs assessment in coordination with stakeholders including youth with lived experience; 3) endorse CoC staff's effort to form a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) for the purposes of providing input on the YHDP application and any YHDP funding awarded; and 4) direct the HSOC Executive Committee to consider how to integrate the YAB with the HSOC, including mechanisms for receiving YAB input regarding funding for youth-specific grants and grant set-asides.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

The Youth Homeless Demonstration Program grant (YHDP), which is a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is designed to develop and implement a community-wide approach to addressing youth homelessness. The YHDP has a particular emphasis on involving youth with lived experience in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of projects developed from the grant. This is a highly competitive grant and it is expected that only 16-25 communities nationwide will be awarded in the current competition.

The grant competition is a two-part process. In the first part, communities will submit applications and HUD will select 16-25 communities based on need, capacity, and coordination with homeless and at-risk youth. The initial grant application is due June 27, 2023 and does not include requests for specific funding or for specific subrecipients.

After announcing awarded communities, HUD will then provide Technical Assistance to those communities. Awarded communities will have up to six months to develop a Coordinated Community Plan, which would include the development of projects. Following approval of the plan by HUD, communities will submit specific project applications consistent with the plan.

Eligible activities for YHDP funding include Rapid Rehousing, Host Homes, case management, and Transitional Housing.

Initial Application

To be competitive in the first round, applicants should establish a Youth Advisory Board and conduct, or have conducted in the last five years, a youth needs assessment. The YAB would be required to answer specific questions for the application and would be expected to weigh in on implementation of YHDP funding should the funding be awarded to our community. The YAB should represent the population of youth experiencing homelessness in our community, including youth of color, LGBTQ+ youth, and gender non-conforming youth. The YAB should also have a formal connection to the HSOC, either through the establishment of youth-specific seats on the HSOC or through another mechanism. In addition to advising on YHDP implementation, it is anticipated that the YAB would also provide recommendations to the HSOC regarding overall funding priorities for other, youth-specific grant opportunities that may arise in the future.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Should this grant be approved by HUD, there is an opportunity of a minimum amount of \$600,000 to be awarded over the course of two years. The funding would be expected to be received October 2024 and would be distributed through approximately September 2026.

The initial application does not require specific project proposals. However, if HUD approves the grant application, they will provide technical assistance to develop a Coordinated Community Plan, which would include proposed projects.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Applying for this grant, conducting a youth needs assessment and establishing a Youth Advisory Board would be first steps towards implementing objective H of Line of Effort 2 in the County's Five-Year Plan to Address Homelessness. Objective H focuses on reducing or eliminating barriers to housing stability, includes a specific goal of expanding services and housing targeted to Transitional Age Youth (ages 14-24). Applying for YHDP funding is also consistent with Line of Effort 4: Create, identify and streamline funding and resources.

County staff will be consulting with other communities that have received YHDP funding in prior years and already have established YABs to examine existing structures of the YABs and mechanisms for YAB coordination with CoCs. Staff will bring recommendations to the HSOC Executive Committee meeting in June for consideration and vote by the Executive Committee. If approved in June, the recommendations would be brought to the next full meeting of the HSOC, scheduled for July 19, 2023. For purposes of the initial YHDP

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application to be submitted in June, today's HSOC's vote to endorse the proposed staff activities would demonstrate the CoC's support for coordination with a YAB on implementation of a YHDP grant.

With regard to a needs assessment, staff have determined that one or more stakeholder organizations have recent data or have conducted recent assessments of the needs of homeless youth. Staff will assemble these assessments and provide a report to one or more HSOC committees in June.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity and related documents may be found at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347488>.