



**Meeting Agenda  
Continuum of Care (CoC) Board  
Wednesday, September 12, 2018  
1:00pm-2:30pm**

Ventura County Office of Education,  
5189 Verdugo Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Simi Room  
Camarillo, CA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of Governance Board held Wednesday August 8, 2018.
3. Board/Staff Comments
4. Public Comments: For items not related to agenda items below

Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

5. Receive and File a Self-Assessment Completed by the HMIS Lead Agency, Ventura County Human Services Agency in Preparation for Board Closed Session Review on October 10, 2018.
6. Receive and File 2018-19 Oxnard Emergency Solutions Grant Awards from the City of Oxnard.
7. Receive and File a draft of the “Ventura County Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness” as required for multiple State funding sources with formal input at the October 10, 2018 CoC Board meeting.
8. Notification of Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Los Angeles, Ventura County Center Agency Closure and authorization for CoC staff to Request a New Service Provider to Assume the CoC Rapid Re-Housing Grant of \$42,990 with grant term of September 1, 2018-August 30, 2019.
9. Approval of Ventura County Continuum of Care’s Written Policies and Procedures including an addition of a policy and protocol for request of an emergency transfer of housing unit for persons fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking as required by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the CoC Program regulations.
10. Approval and Authorization CoC Staff to Post FY18 CoC Consolidated Application for Public comment and submit no later than September 17, 2018.
11. Receive a presentation on Master Leasing for Supportive Housing.
12. Approval of the Recommendations of the CoC Data Committee and Regional Priority Workshop for priority uses of the Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP) funding and authorization for staff to release a request for proposals.
13. Approval of and Authorization for CoC staff to release a request for proposals for California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program



**Meeting Minutes  
Continuum of Care (CoC) Board  
Wednesday, August 8, 2018  
1:00pm-2:30pm**

Ventura County Office of Education  
5189 Verdugo Way, Simi Room  
Camarillo, CA 93012

1. Call to Order. CoC Board Chair, Mike Taigman, called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

Attendees:

Board members: Carolyn Briggs, Dawn Dyer, Susan Englund, Pam Marshall, Manuel Minjares, Michael Nigh, Drew Powers, Mike Powers, Carmen Ramirez, Nancy Wharfield

Staff: Tara Carruth, Amy Duganne, Jennifer Harkey, Christy Madden

Absent: Kevin Clerici (excused)

Public Attendees: Don Aguilar (Thousand Oaks Police Department), Mark Alvarado (City of Oxnard), Nick Birck (HACSB), David Courtland (VC Reporter), Rebecca Evans (HSA), Ingrid Hardy (City of Thousand Oaks), Marissa Mach (HSA), Cathi Nye (VCOE), Sandra Troxell (Salvation Army)

2. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of Governance Board held June 13, 2018. Minutes unanimously approved. Motion by Manuel Minjares, seconded by Drew Powers.
3. Board/Staff Comments: Christy Madden spoke to Board of Supervisors' authorization of a homeless cost study soliciting an additional \$40,000 to fund total costs of approximately \$120,000. CEO's office is funding \$40,000 and \$40,000 from Social Finance.

County Executive Officer, Mike Powers, announced that the City Managers have reviewed and provided feedback on the Homeless MOU. He suggested an overview of upcoming State funding be provided by the CoC at the next VCOG meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Dawn Dyer thanked all of those who participated and supported the Housing Trust Fund at the recent fundraising event in July 2018.

4. Public Comments: Ventura County Office of Education Homeless Liaison, Cathi Nye, has just assumed the new position for this school year 2018-19 and will be working closely with the CoC and Youth Collaborative. She also announced that a Housing Issues Forum will take place on Tuesday, August 14 at 8am at Camarillo Library.

## Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

### 5. Unscheduled vacancy of Sommer Barwick.

Per staff, Sommer did not indicate any suggestions for her replacement. Discussion regarding upholding Board representation from East County (Simi Valley/Moorpark), and solicitation and submission of nominations via CoC Alliance.

### 6. Approval of 2-1-1's continued participation as a point of entry to Pathways to Home coordinated entry system and authorization for staff to use \$40,000 of CoC Planning grant funding to support 2-1-1 efforts and send letters of support to other counties considering partnering.

Staff provided an overview of 2-1-1's participation in Pathways to Home and recommended development of a shared funding structure for Interface Children and Family Services 2-1-1 to continue servicing as a 24/7 point of entry for the County's coordinated entry system.

Mike Nigh moved to approve, seconded by Nancy Wharfield. Manuel Minjares abstained due to conflict of serving on the Interface board.

### 7. Approval of recommendations from CoC Data Performance & Evaluation Committee on reallocation for FY2018 CoC NOFA, ranking of renewal projects and bonus projects to be included in the FY18 CoC Consolidated Application and direction to staff to notify applicants of final ranking and score including recommendations for improving future scores.

Staff discussed meeting of the Data Committee on August 1, 2018 to review projects/applications. Committee recommendations included: Transitioning Community Action of Ventura County's (CAVC) CoC Permanent Supportive Housing grant to Salvation Army due to CAVC's challenges with grant compliance and their desired relinquishment of the project; Funding Interface Children and Family Services and Housing Authority City of San Buenaventura for Domestic Violence bonus projects noting Interface's history and experience with domestic violence services; Funding Interface's 2-1-1 program for coordinated entry with CoC Bonus funds noting Interface's application's inclusion of outreach services with expansion of assessments. Discussion included recommendation to hold all applications for potential future state funding, and to support Proposition 41 for Veterans.

Susan England moved to approve funding recommendations, and Nancy Wharfield seconded. Abstained Manuel Minjares and Mike Powers.

Drew Powers moved to direct staff to notify applicants of final ranking and score including recommendations for improvement and to keep applications on file for potential additional funding opportunities, seconded by Dawn Dyer. Abstained Manuel Minjares and Mike Powers.

### 8. Received a report on various State of California funding opportunities to address homeless crisis and affordable housing needs.

Staff provided information on the Homeless Emergency Aid Program intended to provide flexible grants for homeless prevention, emergency housing vouchers, rapid re-housing, and navigation centers. Information also was provided regarding Senate Bill 2 (SB2) Building Jobs and Homes Act, as well as the No Place Like Home Act (AB1827) through the Mental Health Services Act.

9. Authorization of staff to schedule a regional workshop to be facilitated by Dr. Joe Colletti with Urban Initiatives for the development of a data-driven regional plan to address homelessness in Ventura County.

Staff and Board members discussed the need for workshop participation from service providers, educators, law enforcement, housing providers, community members and advocates, among other stakeholders. Dawn Dyer discussed need for data with geographic areas highlighted. Pam Marshall mentioned the upcoming September 6<sup>th</sup> faith-based homelessness workshop in Ventura. Carmen Ramirez recommended inclusion of faith-based community at the workshop and the need for preemptive public meetings to inform the communities of the workshop and to solicit participation. CoC Board members stressed the need for resident participation and also a separate community forum (non-governmental presentation). Mike Taigman offered WebEx services for those unable to attend the workshop, and recommended distribution of surveys as an online option to participate. Mike also discussed that integer data would be helpful to evaluate performance over time. Discussion included direction to staff to follow up on state funding that will move through the CoC.

Manuel Minjares moved to authorize staff to schedule the workshop, Pam Marshall seconding the motion. Unanimous approval.

10. Received a report on racial disparities in homelessness in Ventura County.

Staff provided a racial disparities assessment in response to the FY18 CoC NOFA's inquiry into whether the CoC has assessed racial disparities in local homeless assistance programs. Such an assessment is needed to receive maximum points for the NOFA. CoC staff have collected demographic data from the Homeless Management Information System, the Human Services Agency public assistance programs, the 2018 Point-In-Time Homeless Count, the Coordinated Entry System (Pathways to Home), and local data from the U.S. Census. Board member discussion and input included hardships associated with evictions, mediation as homeless prevention, the potential need for discrimination and bias training/evaluation, and gaps in data collection.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting on September 12th at 1:00pm at Ventura County Office of Education (Simi Room), 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, CA 93012.

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Receive and File the Ventura County Continuum of Care HMIS Lead Agency Self-Assessment in Preparation of closed session Board Review October 2018.

**BACKGROUND:** The CoC governance charter states in section 10.07 that the Governance Board will conduct and document an annual review of the Infrastructure Organization(s) (CoC Lead/Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead) capacity to fulfill HUD mandated functions and fiscal accountability. If the review is unsatisfactory, the organization will provide the Board a written corrective action plan within 30 days. The Governance Board will conduct a subsequent review 90 days following the original unsatisfactory annual review to determine if the corrective action plan is being followed and that performance is improving. If the Governance Board determines the Infrastructure Organization's performance continues to be unsatisfactory, the Governance Board may remove the underperforming Infrastructure Organization by a two-third's vote.

**DISCUSSION:** The attached self-assessment completed by the HMIS Lead Agency staff is for the Board to review prior to the closed session item on October 10, 2018.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Receive HMIS Lead Agency Self-Assessment in preparation of Board annual review.

**CITY OF OXNARD**  
**2018 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (AAP)**  
**APPROVED FUNDING AWARDS**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)**

**CDBG AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

FY 2018-19 HUD Allocation	\$	2,502,719
Program Income	\$	100,000
Reprogram PY Resources	\$	131,000
<b><u>TOTAL CDBG GRANT RESOURCES</u></b>		<b>\$ 2,733,719</b>

**CDBG EXPENDITURES**

**RECIPIENT DEPT/DIV-ORGANIZATION**      **PROGRAM NAME**

**ADMINISTRATION-20%**

Housing Department-Grants Management	CDBG Administration & Planning	<b>\$546,744</b>
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**PUBLIC SERVICES- not more than 15%**

Oxnard Housing Department - Fair Housing	Fair Housing Program	\$89,071
Community Action of Ventura County	Oxnard Transition Center for the Homeless	\$42,900
Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurses Association	Subsidized Care	\$27,300
Oxnard Recreation Department	Colonia Gym	\$43,800
Oxnard Recreation Department	Colonia Boxing Gym	\$20,000
Oxnard Recreation Department	Police Activities League	\$40,500
American Diabetes Association	Diabetes Prevention Program for Children-Project Power Up	\$18,500
Boys and Girls Club	After School Program at Pleasant Valley Village Community Center	\$18,500
Oxnard Recreation Department	Senior Technology	\$21,800
County of Ventura- HSA	RAIN TLC Bridges To Home	\$22,700
El Centrito Family Learning Centers	Literacy- Integrated After School & Summer STEAM Academy	\$15,000
Ventura County Community Development Corp.	Changing Lives Through Homeownership	\$15,000
<b><i>Total Public Services Projects</i></b>		<b><i>\$375,071</i></b>

**DIRECT BENEFITS**

Oxnard Development Service Department	Code Compliance	\$200,000
Oxnard Fire Department	Enhanced Medical Services	\$170,000
Oxnard Fire Department	Operations Chief Mobile Command Vehicle	\$120,000
Oxnard Fire Department	Fire Station Generators	\$150,000
Oxnard Housing Department-AHRD	Housing Services	\$230,000
Oxnard Housing Department	Homeless Shelter Building Improvements	\$200,000
Oxnard Housing Department	1450 S Rose Ave Building Improvements	\$149,669
Oxnard Park Department	Community Center East Park Improvement	\$450,000
Oxnard Public Works	Colonia Road Improvement	\$107,248
Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation	Etting Road Off-site Improvements	\$34,987
<b><i>Total Direct Benefits Projects</i></b>		<b><i>\$1,811,904</i></b>

<b>TOTAL CDBG GRANT EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$2,733,719</b>
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## HEARTH EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (HESG)

<u>RECIPIENT DEPT/DIV-ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PROGRAM NAME</u>	
Housing Department-Grants Management	ESG Administration & Planning (7.5%)	\$14,741
Community Action of Ventura County	Street Outreach	\$29,075
County of Ventura Human Services Agency	Homeless Prevention	\$14,459
County of Ventura Human Services Agency	Rapid Re-Housing	\$20,490
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	Street Outreach	\$10,000
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	Rapid Re-Housing	\$14,465
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	Homeless Prevention	\$14,465
The Kingdom Center	Oxnard Emergency Shelter	\$30,000
Turning Point Foundation	Mentally Ill Emergency Shelter	\$48,854
<b>TOTAL ESG GRANT EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$196,549</b>

## HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME)

### HOME AVAILABLE RESOURCES

FY 2018-19 HUD Allocation	\$791,219
Program Income	\$125,000
Reprogram PY Resources	\$0
<b>TOTAL HOME GRANT RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$916,219</b>

Housing Department-Grants Management	HOME Administration & Planning (10%)	\$91,622
Oxnard Housing Department AHRD	Affordable Housing	\$465,461
Community Housing Development Organization	Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation*	\$359,136
<b>TOTAL HOME GRANT EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$916,219</b>

**ENTITLEMENTS GRAND TOTAL** **\$3,846,487**

\*Note: Funding would be conditioned upon the developer meeting all HOME program requirements and reaching specific milestones, including but not limited to: completion of NEPA Environmental Review; receiving commitments of all other necessary financing; and starting and completing construction within HUD's required timeframe.

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Receive and File 2018-19 Oxnard Emergency Solutions Grant Awards from the City of Oxnard.

**DISCUSSION:** The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program Interim Rule, published on December 5, 2011, establishes requirements for ESG recipients, related to consultation with community partners and Continuums of Care (CoCs) in their plans for spending ESG funds, in including the development of Substantial Amendments, Annual Action Plans and 3-5 Year Consolidated Plans. Specifically, all ESG recipients (including State ESG recipients) must consult with all CoCs in their geographic area in preparing both their homeless strategy and plan for allocation of resources to address the needs of homeless individuals and families and persons at-risk of homelessness (24.CFR 91.110)

ESG recipients in Ventura County are the City of Oxnard and the County of Ventura. The CoC oversees the State ESG funding and County staff serve as the administrative entity by managing the State ESG funds.

All ESG recipients in Ventura County require ESG-funded programs to use HMIS, participate in the coordinated entry system and evaluate program performance based on CoC performance standards.

The City of Oxnard seeks the Continuum of Care Board's concurrence in recommending funding for the projects and activities delineated in the attached list.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Receive and File 2018-19 Oxnard Emergency Solutions Grant Awards from the City of Oxnard.



September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Receive and file a draft of the “Ventura County Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness as required for multiple State funding sources with formal input at the October 10, 2018 CoC Board meeting.

**DISCUSSION:** The Ventura County Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness expired in 2017. An updated plan is required for eligibility for State funding resources including the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program and the No Place Like Home initiative. An effective plan will articulate strategies for utilizing Federal, State and Local resources and set goals to assist with measuring progress and recalibrating plan annually.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Receive and File Draft Ventura County Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in advance of providing formal board input at October 10, 2018 CoC Board meeting.

## Ventura County Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

The Ventura County Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness was created by combining three primary activities:

- Establishing core requirements and core components to prevent and end local homelessness;
- Using core requirements and core components to shape recommendations to prevent and end local homelessness;
- Implementing the locally shaped recommendations with new and existing federal, state, and local funding opportunities.

### **A. Establishing core requirements and core components to prevent and end local homelessness**

#### Core Requirements

The Ventura County Continuum of Care has adopted the following core requirements for all publicly funded programs serving homeless individuals and families, which is consistent with federal and state legislative requirements:

#### 1. Participating in the Homeless Management Information System

The local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is the primary repository for client level data for consumers of homeless services in the County of Ventura. The HMIS allows the Continuum of Care to analyze data from within the homeless system and evaluate essential information related to the provision and assessment of services provided within all levels of the Continuum of Care, including outreach and prevention, emergency shelters, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing.

#### 2. Participating in the Coordinated Entry System

Pathways to Home is the Ventura County Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry System. This system allows individuals and families to access services needed to move them out of a state of homelessness as quickly as possible. Pathways to Home includes a client-focused approach to minimize the complexity and challenges associated with accessing multiple programs to avoid or exit homelessness. Service providers within the VC CoC work collaboratively to coordinate services and information with the intent to provide the most effective and efficient client services.

### 3. Implementing a Housing First Approach

Housing First is a low barrier approach that consists of the following elements:

- people experiencing homelessness can achieve stability in permanent housing, regardless of their service needs or challenges, if provided with appropriate levels of services;
- barriers are removed that have hindered homeless persons from **obtaining** housing which include
  - too little income or no income;
  - active or history of substance use;
  - criminal record, with exceptions for state-mandated restrictions; and
  - history of having been or currently a victim of domestic violence (e.g., lack of a protective order, period of separation from abuser, or law enforcement involvement).
- barriers are removed that have hindered homeless persons from **maintaining** housing which include
  - Failure to participate in supportive services;
  - Failure to make progress on a service plan;
  - Loss of income or failure to improve income; and
  - Fleeing domestic violence.

All privately funded programs are encouraged to adopt the core requirements.

#### Core Components

Core components are based upon a range of evidence-based, best, and promising practices that have been used to help solve local homelessness in other communities.

- **Evidence-based practices** are founded on the integration of research results with clinical expertise, which helps professionals make decisions on proven results and not on personal experience or anecdote as has all too often been the case in homelessness service provision.
  - Examples include **permanent supportive housing** and **Housing First**, which are described below.

- **Best practices** are methods or techniques that have been generally accepted as superior to any alternatives because they produce results which are superior to those achieved by other means. These practices are not considered evidence-based because not enough rigorous research has shown them to be effective, which may yet happen.
  - Examples include **street outreach and engagement, housing navigation, and rapid rehousing**, which are described below.
  
- **Promising practices** are methods or techniques that have the potential to effectively address issues of concern in a community. They are solutions or approaches that are new, innovative and “startup” in nature and may not have been sufficiently tested, but still hold promise and potential. These practices can warrant additional research and testing to eventually become best practices.
  - Examples include **coordinated entry system, low barrier shelter, and housing search**, which are described below.

Core components include:

#### 1. Street Outreach and Engagement

- **Outreach** with those individuals identified as in a Housing Crisis, begins the initial steps that lead to engagements which includes building a personal connection with the individuals, assessing their immediate needs with a basic field needs assessment, and working to identify barriers that the individual must address and overcome to improve health status, social support network and address their housing crisis. Outreach to the community can also serve as a means of educating the community about what the components of a Housing Crisis are, ways in which to support our community members living on the streets and the programs that serve those individuals.
  
- **Engagement** is continued multiple contacts with the individuals living on the street, continued attempts in those contacts to develop and establish a rapport and trust that leads to a trusting relationship that can facilitate the development of a Housing goal and plan as well as addressing the individuals medical, mental health and service needs. The process begins after the initial street outreach contact, which identifies individuals in a Housing Crisis. Engagement periods can be as little as one or two short contacts to years of hundreds of contacts. Staff who provide the engagement services are aware that refusals for any kind of contacts can rapidly shift and that initial rejections of their contacts can eventually lead to acceptance of services and development of a housing goal and plan. It is important that the community, agency’s or government policies and resources recognize the length of time this can take and allow for this deep time consuming regular and persistent contact.

## 2. Housing Search

Housing search involves Housing Locators, who with support from a wide-range of community members, focus on finding various housing options for street outreach workers to engage homeless persons. Engaging a wide-range of community representatives in housing search activities with the leadership of Housing Locators results in an increase of affordable housing opportunities. This allows street outreach workers to concentrate on developing relationships that will help the worker motivate homeless persons to pursue an appropriate affordable housing opportunity and work with a housing navigator to obtain and maintain the housing.

## 3. Housing Navigation

Housing Navigation focuses on helping homeless households with developing a housing plan, addressing the barriers identified during the plan or during regular navigation activities, and assisting the household with acquiring documentation and completing forms required for housing. Navigation includes attending property owner meetings and setting appointments and assisting with completing paperwork needed around housing applications. Navigation also involves the securing of housing through inspections, utility startups and actual move in into housing. Each housing navigator provides services until a linkage with an assigned long-term case manager occurs once the individual is residing in their housing. Thus, navigation differs from active case management in that the primary focus is assisting the individual with obtaining their housing whereas case management is long term and ongoing and helps the household maintain their housing once achieved.

## 4. Low Barrier Shelter

Low barrier shelter is temporary housing that is in contrast to shelters and transitional housing programs that have “housing-ready models” in which residents must address various issues (e.g., substance abuse) that led to their episode(s) of homelessness prior to entering permanent housing. Thus, treatment and compliance is required in exchange for help with obtaining permanent housing.

In low barrier shelter, however, there are no preconditions such as sobriety. A Housing First approach is embraced and anyone facing a housing crisis is offered immediate and low barrier access. Residents work with housing navigators to move into permanent housing as quickly as possible and receive home-based supportive services including substance abuse services if agreed upon and needed.

## 5. Rapid Rehousing

Rapid Re-Housing is an intervention that connects families and individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance that may include the use of time-limited financial assistance and targeted supportive services. Rapid Re-Housing programs assist individuals and families living on the streets or in emergency shelters solve the practical and immediate challenges to obtaining permanent housing. The primary focus of the program is to help a household find housing as quickly as possible. This is a trauma-informed approach that supports households in their own housing which can allow children to remain in school, adults can maintain or more easily obtain employment and families can easily stay together.

## 6. Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent supportive housing is an evidence-based housing intervention for persons who have a disabling condition and in need of subsidized housing for which they pay no more than 30% of their adjusted monthly income. Services are provided on-site and off-site. The type of services depends on the needs and the will of the residents. Services may be short-term, sporadic, or ongoing indefinitely. Supportive services may include education, emergency assistance, employment, health care, mental health care, substance use counseling and treatment, and trauma care.

## 7. Home-based Case Management

Home-based case management focuses on helping persons with maintaining their housing after obtaining their housing by providing a balanced approach that helps clients receive necessary on-site and off-site supportive services but does not evict clients for failure to participate in supportive services; failure to make progress on a service plan; or loss of income or failure to improve income which is consistent with a Housing First approach.

## **B. Using core requirements and core components to shape recommendations to prevent and end local homelessness**

Recommendations shaped by core requirements and components include:

### **1. Implementing a homeless prevention approach that will help ensure that those individuals and families most likely to become homeless do not become homeless.**

The approach focuses on providing limited cash assistance and a wide-range of free or low cost supportive services and supplies to those households most likely to become homeless. The approach also focuses on providing a wide-range of free and low cost supportive services and supplies to those households less likely to become homeless but in need of such services and supplies.

## **Households Most Likely to Become Homeless**

Households most likely to become homeless will receive appropriate cash assistance. Such assistance includes

- rental and utility assistance;
- utility deposits;
- security deposits;
- move-in costs;
- legal fees;
- transportation; and
- credit repair costs.

A wide-range of free or low cost supportive services and supplies include:

- clothing;
- educational assistance;
- employment services;
- food;
- health care;
- household equipment and furniture;
- household supplies;
- hygienic supplies;
- mental health care;
- public assistance;
- school supplies; and
- substance use counseling and treatment.

Households most likely to become homeless will be identified by using the characteristics of the local sheltered population as the criteria for determining if a household is likely to become homeless and should receive prevention assistance. Such information is available through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Characteristics will likely include:

- history of homelessness including number of, and length of, previous homeless episodes;
- very low income household;
- disabilities in household;
- employment status of adults.

Households less likely to become homeless will receive the wide-range of free or low cost services and supplies noted above when needed.

## **2. Expanding street outreach and engagement**

Expand street outreach and engagement to all areas of the county will help ensure that outreach workers will engage persons living in highly visible homeless encampments. Such visible persons are often the most vulnerable who have been languishing on the streets and prone to injury and death.

Outreach workers will be full-time and dedicated solely to outreach and engagement. Outreach includes building a personal connection with the individuals, assessing their immediate needs with a basic field needs assessment, and working to identify barriers that the individual must address and overcome to improve health status, social support network and address their housing crisis. Engagement involves multiple contacts with individuals living on the street.

Outreach and engagement also involves collaborating with outreach workers who may not be full-time and dedicated solely to outreach and engagement. Collaboration will also include cross-training.

Outreach and engagement also includes responding to community requests for street outreach intervention from local government including law enforcement, businesses, civic groups, service groups, and neighbors.

## **3. Promoting Housing Search**

Hire Housing Locators, who with support from a wide-range of community members, will focus on finding various housing options for street outreach workers to engage homeless persons. Housing Locators engaging a wide-range of community representatives in housing search activities will result in an increase of affordable housing opportunities. This will allow street outreach workers to concentrate on developing relationships with homeless persons, and in particular chronically homeless persons, based on appropriate affordable housing opportunities and to work with a housing navigator to obtain and maintain the housing.

Housing Locators will help create and coordinate a Housing Search Task Force that will be made up of a wide-range of community representatives that are committed to identifying and recruiting potential providers of affordable housing for people who are experiencing homelessness. Task Force members will include representatives from:

- Civic groups;



- Faith communities;
- For-profit corporations;
- Local government;
- Non-profit agencies.

Together, Task Force representatives will identify and recruit potential providers of affordable housing for persons experiencing homelessness such as

- property owners;
- property managers;
- residential care providers,
- affordable housing developers;
- affordable housing operators;
- single room occupancy corporations; and
- permanent supportive housing providers.

Types of affordable housing for persons who are experiencing homelessness will include:

- Scattered site housing which includes individual apartment units throughout the community;
- Single-site housing which includes apartment buildings;
- Set-aside housing which includes a designated number or set of apartments within a larger apartment building;
- Shared housing that provides a household with a private bedroom and shared living space that includes bathrooms, kitchen, dining area, and other living spaces.

#### **4. Augmenting housing navigation**

Augmenting housing navigation will include hiring full-time Housing Navigators that are solely dedicated to housing navigation, which means focusing on helping homeless households with developing a housing plan, addressing the barriers identified during the plan or during regular navigation activities, and assisting the household with acquiring documentation and completing forms required for housing. Navigation will also include attending property owner meetings and setting appointments and assisting with completing paperwork needed around housing applications. Navigation will also involve the securing of housing through inspections, utility startups, and actual move in into housing.

#### **5. Increasing the number of low barrier emergency shelter beds**

Low barrier emergency shelter is temporary housing in contrast to shelters and transitional housing programs that have “housing-ready models” in which residents must address various issues (e.g., substance abuse) that led to their episode(s) of homelessness prior to obtaining permanent housing. Thus, treatment and compliance is required in exchange for help with obtaining permanent housing. In low barrier emergency shelter, however, there are no preconditions such as sobriety. Residents work with housing navigators (as noted below) to move into permanent housing as quickly as possible and receive home-based supportive services including substance abuse services if agreed upon and needed.

#### **6. Augmenting Rapid Rehousing assistance**

Augmenting Rapid Rehousing assistance will help more families and individuals who are not chronically homeless obtain permanent housing immediately and to stabilize themselves as soon as possible. Such households have not been living on the streets for years with physical disabling conditions such as serious mental illness, substance abuse disorders, and/or chronic physical illness. They have lived independently in permanent housing in the past and are in need of temporary assistance for several months instead of years. They may need short-term rental assistance (six months or less) and longer-term non-monetary assistance to prevent the loss of their housing such as free or low cost clothing, food, health care, household supplies, and transportation.

#### **7. Increasing the number of permanent supportive housing units**

More permanent supportive housing is needed for persons who have a disabling condition and in need of subsidized housing for which they pay no more than 30% of their adjusted monthly income. Services will be provided on-site and off-site. The type of services will depend on the needs and the will of the residents. Services may be short-term, sporadic, or ongoing indefinitely. Supportive services may include education, emergency assistance, employment, health care, mental health care, substance use counseling and treatment, and trauma care.

#### **8. Ensuring home-based case management**

Home-based case management helps ensure that previously homeless individuals and families receive case management after rapid rehousing assistance ends and ensure that there are enough case managers to provide case management for all households in permanent supportive housing units.

### **C. Implementing the locally shaped recommendations with new and existing federal, state, and local funding opportunities.**

Local recommendations will be shaped by integrating the core requirements and components described above into new and existing federal, state, and local funding opportunities.

Appendix A consists of multiple federal and state funding sources from the [Homelessness Task Force Report: Tools and Resources for Cities and Counties](#). Not all counties and cities are eligible for every funding source. Collaborating with eligible recipients, however, can help ensure the submission of competitive proposals.

There are several new state funding opportunities because of recently passed legislation. They include four opportunities that are described more fully in Appendix B.

The four state funding opportunities include:

State Funding Opportunity	Amount Available for Ventura	Eligible Activities
<a href="#">No Place Like Home Program</a>	\$1,566,826	Permanent supportive rental housing for people with serious mental illness, who are homeless, chronically homeless, or at-risk of chronic homelessness
<a href="#">Housing for a Healthy California</a>	Unknown at this time	Pay for the cost of permanently housing homeless individuals on Medi-Cal who receive services through the Whole Person Care pilot program, Health Homes, or some other county controlled funding source
<a href="#">Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)</a>	\$4,831,856	established for the purpose of providing localities with one-time flexible block grant funds to address their immediate and emergency homelessness challenges
<a href="#">California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program</a>	\$701,401	<b>Rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services</b> to ensure housing affordability to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Rental assistance provided pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed 48 months for each assisted household, and rent payments shall not exceed two times the current HUD fair market rent for the local area, as determined pursuant to Part 888 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**Operating subsidies** in the form of 15-year capitalized operating reserves for new and existing affordable permanent housing units for homeless individuals and families.

**Flexible housing subsidy funds** for local programs that establish or support the provision of rental subsidies in permanent housing to assist homeless individuals and families. Funds used for purposes of this paragraph may support rental assistance, bridge subsidies to property owners waiting for approval from another permanent rental subsidy source, vacancy payments, or project-based rent or operating reserves.

**Operating support for emergency housing interventions**, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) **Navigation centers** that provide temporary room and board and case managers who work to connect homeless individuals and families to income, public benefits, health services, permanent housing, or other shelter.

(B) **Street outreach services** to connect unsheltered homeless individuals and families to temporary or permanent housing.

(C) **Shelter diversion**, including, but not limited to, homelessness prevention activities, and other necessary service integration activities to connect individuals and families to alternate housing arrangements, services, and financial assistance.

## Appendix A

### Homelessness Task Force Report: Tools and Resources for Cities and Counties

Federal and State Funding Sources:

<b>Shelters and Prevention</b>	<b>Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):</b> ESG is a HUD program grant administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). ESG provides funding to help improve the quality of existing emergency shelters for the homeless, make additional shelters available, meet the costs of operating shelters and help prevent homelessness. The program also provides short-term homelessness prevention assistance to persons at imminent risk of losing their housing due to eviction, foreclosure or utility shutoffs. The State of California runs an Emergency Solutions Grant Program.	Metropolitan cities, urban counties, territories and state
<b>Housing</b>	<b>HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME):</b> HOME is a HUD program that provides formula grants to states and units of local government used by communities – often in partnership with local nonprofit groups – to fund a wide range of activities that build, buy and/or rehabilitate affordable housing for rent or homeownership or provide direct rental assistance to low-income people.	State and local and communities, including cities and counties
<b>Housing</b> <b>Case Management</b>	<b>HUD Continuum of Care Program:</b> This program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and state and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.	State and local governments, nonprofit organizations
<b>Housing</b>	<b>Community Development Block Grants (CDBG):</b> CDBG is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. Among these needs is housing.	Counties with fewer than 200,000 residents in unincorporated areas and cities with fewer than 50,000 residents that do not participate in the U.S. (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement program
<b>Housing, Families,</b>	<b>Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers:</b> This housing program targets low-income families, seniors and those with disabilities by	Local public housing agencies

<b>Seniors and Disabilities</b>	providing a direct housing subsidy to landlords, with the enrollee paying any difference in cost.	
<b>Veterans Case Management Housing</b>	<b>HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers:</b> This program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance with case management and clinical services provided by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA).	Local public housing agencies
<b>Veterans, Families and Prevention</b>	<b>U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs’ Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF):</b> This nationwide program is intended primarily to serve individuals experiencing crisis homelessness. It provides temporary financial assistance and a range of other flexible services geared toward preventing homelessness among those at risk and rapidly stabilizing in permanent housing those who do become homeless. It is important to note that, despite its name, the program serves both families with children and individual veterans.	Private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives who can provide supportive services to eligible populations
<b>Veterans Prevention Housing</b>	<b>Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program (VHHP):</b> The purpose of VHHP is the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation and preservation of affordable multifamily housing for veterans and their families to allow veterans to access and maintain housing stability.	Sponsors and borrowing entities may be organized on a for-profit or not for-profit basis. Any public agency or private entity capable of entering into a contract is eligible to apply.
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	<b>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grants:</b> These are federal block grant funds available through the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Center for Mental Health Services to support local programs for substance use disorders and mental illness.	County mental health plans
<b>Health</b>	<b>Medicaid/Medi-Cal:</b> Medi-Cal is California’s Medicaid program. Medi-Cal is a public health insurance program financed by the state and federal governments that provides health care services for low-income individuals, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families with children;</li> <li>• Seniors;</li> <li>• Persons with disabilities;</li> <li>• Foster youth;</li> <li>• Pregnant women; and</li> <li>• Low-income people with specific diseases such as tuberculosis, breast cancer or HIV/AIDS.</li> </ul> In California, counties have a unique perspective on the Medi-Cal program. County welfare departments determine eligibility for the Medi-Cal program, and county behavioral health departments act as the health plan provider for Medi-Cal. California counties do not, however, have a share of cost for the Medi-Cal program. Counties can leverage their unique position within the Medi-Cal program to conduct outreach to help eligible homeless individuals receive Medi-Cal services.	California Department of Health Care Services (administered by counties in California)

<b>Families Prevention Employment</b>	<b>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)/CalWORKs:</b> Operated by local county welfare departments, CalWORKs provides families in need with a combination of financial assistance and work opportunities to help them become more financially independent.	State and tribal agencies (administered by counties in California)
<b>Families Food</b>	<b>CalFRESH:</b> CalFRESH, formerly known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), is a federally mandated, state-supervised, and county-operated government program that provides monthly food benefits to help low-income households purchase the food they need to maintain adequate nutritional levels. While CalFresh benefits generally cannot be used to purchase hot or prepared food, the <b>CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program</b> allows homeless, disabled and adults age 60 and older to use their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) at select restaurants in some counties. Some individuals also qualify for SNAP employment and training benefits.	State and tribal agencies (administered by counties in California)
<b>Families</b>	<b>Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF):</b> Funded through Title IV-B funding, PSSF is a program to develop a coordinated and integrated service system that builds on the strengths of families and communities.	Child welfare agencies and eligible Indian tribes
<b>Families, Housing and Case Management</b>	<b>CalWORKs Housing Support Program:</b> This program targets CalWORKs homeless families or those at risk for homelessness. Major components include housing identification, rent and moving assistance, and case management and services.	Counties
<b>Seniors and Housing</b>	<b>Section 202: Supportive Housing for Elderly:</b> This program provides grants for supportive housing for the elderly who are very low-income and at least 62 years old.	Private nonprofit organizations and nonprofit consumer cooperatives
<b>Youth</b>	<b>McKinney-Vento grants:</b> The State of California receives a limited amount of federal funding to support efforts to address the needs of homeless students, which is sub-granted to local education agencies (LEAs) such as school districts and can support collaborative projects. Each school district is required to have a McKinney-Vento liaison. LEAs are also mandated to comply with objectives outlined in the <b>State of California's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan, <a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/">www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/</a>.</b>	Local education agencies
<b>Youth</b>	<b>Local Control Funding Formula/Local Control Accountability Plans (LCFF/LCAP):</b> The State of California's funding formula for local school districts to meet outlined objectives, particularly related to priority populations (i.e., English-language learners, foster youth and low-income youth) must now also specifically address the needs of homeless students. LCAPs are developed by school districts but may present opportunities for collaboration. Some school districts combine their objectives to serve homeless students with those designed to serve foster youth. LCAPs are available on school district websites.	School districts
<b>Youth and Food</b>	<b>CalFresh:</b> Homeless youth not living with parents/guardians or "under parental control" may be eligible for CalFresh benefits. There is no age requirement to apply for benefits, no need to supply a permanent address, and a school identification card is sufficient for identification requirements.	Individuals

Youth and Food	<b>USDA school nutrition programs:</b> These programs include school breakfast, school lunch, summer meals and after-school meal programs and provide free meals to students with income below the federal poverty level. Homeless students may be easily enrolled into the school lunch and breakfast programs through McKinney-Vento liaisons. In areas with significant numbers of homeless students and challenges getting to school, cities and counties can encourage school districts to implement or expand Breakfast in the Classroom or other Second Chance Breakfast programs. Summer meal and after-school meal programs are drop-in programs that present opportunities to avoid any stigma associated with accessing school meal programs. These programs also provide jobs to community members. Many high-poverty schools are eligible to participate in the <b>Community Eligibility Provision</b> , <a href="http://www.frac.org/community-eligibility">www.frac.org/community-eligibility</a> , which enables schools to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students without requiring household applications.	Individuals
Youth	<b>Homeless Youth and Exploitation Program:</b> This program, administered by the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, addresses the various needs of homeless youth including housing, outreach, signing up for available public benefits, employment training and educational support.	Nonprofit organizations
Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Housing	<b>Proposition 47 (Year):</b> Prop. 47 was a voter-approved initiative to enact the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act that is administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). The act includes a grant program aimed at supporting mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment and diversion programs for people in the criminal justice system, with an emphasis on programs that reduce recidivism of people convicted of less serious crimes.	Local public agencies
Law Enforcement Prevention Housing Behavioral Health	<b>Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Grant:</b> This \$15 million grant, administered by BSCC, allows law enforcement officers to redirect people suspected of committing low-level offenses to community-based services rather than to jail, addressing underlying factors that drive criminal justice contact. The program focuses on providing substance use and mental health treatment and housing.	Cities and counties
Law Enforcement	<b>AB 109 Funding:</b> Police officers may often serve as an initial point of contact with homeless individuals and families. Law enforcement agencies are implementing many new tools to help reduce incarceration of homeless individuals and connect them to services. Counties have used their AB 109 public safety realignment funding to help provide temporary and transitional housing for AB 109 offenders and individuals involved in the local criminal justice system. This typically is part of a comprehensive case management plan for the offender.	Counties
Case Management	<b>Medi-Cal Whole Person Care Pilots:</b> In 2016, Medi-Cal began funding 25 Whole Person Care Pilots designed to improve coordination of health, behavioral health and social services at the local level. The Whole Person Care Pilots are being conducted as part of the Medi-Cal 2020 Waiver, which will allow participating counties and the City of Sacramento to coordinate health, behavioral health	Counties and one city



<p>and social services in a patient-centered manner aiming to improve beneficiary health and well-being through a more effective and efficient use of resources. The pilots will work toward supporting the integration of care for a vulnerable group of Medi-Cal beneficiaries — who have been identified as high-frequency users of multiple systems and continue to have poor health outcomes — with the goal of providing comprehensive coordinated care for the beneficiary, leading to better health outcomes. Some counties view these pilots as a way to help more homeless individuals achieve better health outcomes.</p>	
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## Appendix B

### Summary of Selected California Legislation Providing Funding for Homelessness

#### Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)

1. Estimated funds for Ventura CoC: \$4,831,856
2. Administered by Administrative entity which means the CoC collaborative applicant pursuant to CoC Interim Rule Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations
3. purpose is to provide localities with flexible block grant funds to address their immediate and emergency homelessness challenges
4. Round 1 NOFA will be released by September 5 and applications due by the end of the year
  - Awards made no later than January, 2019
  - Not less than 50 percent of program funds shall be contractually obligated by January 1, 2020.
  - One hundred percent of program funds shall be contractually obligated by June 30, 2021. Any funds not expended by that date shall be returned to the agency and revert to the General Fund.
5. Round 2 NOFA will be released by February 15, 2019
  - Awards made by May 2019
6. Declaration of Emergency Shelter Crisis:
  - A county may only declare a shelter crisis in the unincorporated areas of the county.
  - Each city within a county must declare a shelter crisis within the geographic boundary of its jurisdiction to be eligible for funds.
  - The County acting as an administrative entity may **not** declare a blanket shelter crisis for the entire county and all its jurisdictions.

## California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program

The California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program was established recently by *California Senate Bill 850 Housing* (SB 850), which requires 50% of the funds collected under *Senate Bill 2 Building and Jobs Act* (SB 2) on and after January 1, 2018, and before December 31, 2018, to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program. Year 1 breakdown of funds from SB 2 includes \$57.5 million for the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program.

1. Estimated funds for Ventura CoC: \$701,401

Round 1: non-competitive: AE (CoC) applies - NOFA in August

Round 2: competitive for remaining dollars not awarded in Round 1 - NOFA in early 2019

Requirements include:

2. Applicant needs to be an administrative entity designated by the Continuum of Care;
3. Qualified subrecipients need to carry out eligible activities (project selection process must avoid conflicts of interest);
4. Prioritized assistance to homeless households over households at risk of homelessness is required;
5. Emergency housing interventions are limited to no more than 40 percent of funds;
6. Operational Coordinated Entry System (CES) is required;
7. Operational Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is required;
8. Commitment to Housing First is required;
9. Numeric goals and performance measures must be described in application to HCD;
10. Action plan not required but encouraged (funds may be used to develop plan);
11. Funds may only be requested for eligible activities (as listed below);
12. Project selection process must be documented;
13. Funding request to HCD must be based on an assigned allocation (as quoted below);
14. Match is not a requirement.

Funds can be used for one or more of the following eligible activities:

(1) Rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services to ensure housing affordability to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Rental assistance provided pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed 48 months for each assisted household, and rent payments shall not exceed two times the current HUD fair market rent for the local area, as determined pursuant to Part 888 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) Operating subsidies in the form of 15-year capitalized operating reserves for new and existing affordable permanent housing units for homeless individuals and families.

(3) Flexible housing subsidy funds for local programs that establish or support the provision of rental subsidies in permanent housing to assist homeless individuals and families. Funds used for purposes of this paragraph may support rental assistance, bridge subsidies to property owners waiting for approval from another permanent rental subsidy source, vacancy payments, or project-based rent or operating reserves.

(4) Operating support for emergency housing interventions, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) Navigation centers that provide temporary room and board and case managers who work to connect homeless individuals and families to income, public benefits, health services, permanent housing, or other shelter.

(B) Street outreach services to connect unsheltered homeless individuals and families to temporary or permanent housing.

(C) Shelter diversion, including, but not limited to, homelessness prevention activities, and other necessary service integration activities to connect individuals and families to alternate housing arrangements, services, and financial assistance.

(5) Systems support for activities necessary to maintain a comprehensive homeless services and housing delivery system, including CES, data, and HMIS reporting, and homelessness planning activities.

(6) To develop or update a CES system pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 50490.3, or to develop a plan addressing actions to be taken within the Continuum of Care service area to address homelessness pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 50490.3.

Administrative entities cannot “use more than 40 percent of any funds . . . in a fiscal year for operating support for emergency housing interventions as described in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a), as noted in 50490.4 (6f). Paragraph (4) states

“Operating support for emergency housing interventions, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) Navigation centers that provide temporary room and board and case managers who work to connect homeless individuals and families to income, public benefits, health services, permanent housing, or other shelter.

(B) Street outreach services to connect unsheltered homeless individuals and families to temporary or permanent housing.

(C) Shelter diversion, including, but not limited to, homelessness prevention activities, and other necessary service integration activities to connect individuals and families to alternate housing arrangements, services, and financial assistance.”

## No Place Like Home Program

1. An initial Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be issued by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) prior to November and will make awards by the end of the calendar year depending on voter approval of [AB 1827, Committee on Budget. No Place Like Home Act of 2018](#).
2. The initial NOFA will provide \$200 million through a noncompetitive over-the-counter process.
  - Non-competitive estimated amount for ventura County: \$1,566,826
3. Background Information
  - a. Last fall, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed a package of bills referred to as the [2017 Legislative Housing Package](#) that will provide hundreds of millions of dollars during the next several months for various activities to help prevent and end homelessness in California. It is anticipated that an additional \$2 billion for permanent supportive housing for persons living with serious mental illness will be distributed by the end of the year pending voter approval.
  - b. [AB 1827, Committee on Budget. No Place Like Home Act of 2018](#), which was approved by the Governor on June 27, 2018, submits the No Place Like Home Act of 2018 to the voters for the November 6, 2018 statewide general election.
4. Eligible activities
  - a. Page 1 of AB 1827, as did SB 1206, notes that the No Place Like Home Program will provide “finance capital costs, including, but not limited to, acquisition, design, construction, rehabilitation, or preservation, and to capitalize operating reserves, of permanent supportive housing for persons living with a severe mental illness.”
  - b. As noted on page 53 in the [California State Budget 2018-19 budget](#),

“The Budget places the No Place Like Home program on the November 2018 ballot (Proposition 2) to accelerate the issuance of \$2 billion in bond funds. The bonds will help provide housing for individuals experiencing mental illness who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and will be repaid from the Mental Health Services Fund.”

## Housing for a Healthy California Program

*-Counties must tie rental subsidies to health care services-*

1. Assembly Bill 74 (AB 74) Housing required the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to establish the Housing for a Healthy California Program (HHC Program) on or before January 1, 2019. Funding for the program was made available through California Senate Bill 850 Housing (SB 850).
2. SB 850 requires 50% of the funds collected under *Senate Bill 2 Building and Jobs Act* (SB 2) on and after January 1, 2018, and before December 31, 2018, to HCD for the HHC Program. Year 1 breakdown of funds from SB 2 includes \$57.5 million for the program.
3. The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be released during the spring, 2019.
4. Funds must be used to address the problem of high costs incurred by health system for homeless persons while living on the streets. Funds must be used to implement a solution that ties rental subsidies to health care service funds included in the final 1115 Medicaid Waiver, which includes the Whole Person Care pilot program and the Health Home Program.
5. Requirements

In order to be eligible for program funding, a county must meet all of the following requirements outlined in AB 74 Section 53592:

“(a) Has identified a source of funding for providing intensive services promoting housing stability. Funding for these services may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

(1) County general funds.

(2) Whole Person Care pilot program funds, to the extent those funds are available or the Whole Person Care program has been renewed.

(3) The Health Home Program.

(4) Other county-controlled funding to provide these services to eligible participants.

(b) Has agreed to contribute funding for projects assisted through federal Housing Trust Fund grants. This assistance may include preferences or set-asides for federally funded, locally administered rental subsidies.

(c) Has designated a process for administering grant funds through agencies administering housing programs.

(d) Agrees to collect and report data, as described in Section 53593, to the department.”

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Notification of Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Los Angeles, Ventura County Center Agency Closure as of September 30, 2018 and Authorization for CoC Staff to Request a New Service Provider to Assume the CoC Rapid Re-Housing Grant of \$42,990 with grant term of September 1, 2018-August 31, 2019.

**BACKGROUND:** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Los Angeles (SVDPLA) has operated a Ventura County Center and served as an integral community partner in addressing homelessness in Ventura County. SVDPLA operated the Winter Warming Shelter in West County up until 2015 when they changed their focus to providing outreach, case management and rapid rehousing assistance. SVDPLA has successfully administered a CoC funded Rapid Re-Housing program serving families primarily in Oxnard. They also receive HUD funding from the City of Oxnard to support their efforts to serve individuals and families in the community.

**DISCUSSION:** On Wednesday August 29<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Director of SVDPLA, David Fields sent official notification that SVDPLA in Ventura County will close its doors on October 1, 2018. Mr. Field's email indicates the organization could not generate enough funding to operate the center. CoC Staff has been in close communication with Mr. Fields and SVDPLA staff and will continue to work them on a smooth transition.

SVDPLA has managed a CoC Rapid Re-Housing grant for the past two years. The most recent grant term ended on August 31, 2018. The grant has been renewed for a new grant term beginning on September 1, 2018 and a renewal application is part of the FY18 CoC Consolidated Application. Notification of SVDPLA's closure was too late in the CoC funding process to make a change to the applicant. SVDPLA is the subrecipient of the County Executive Office. In order to transfer the grant to a new subrecipient, the County Executive Office requests authorization from the CoC Board, working with the Los Angeles regional HUD field office, to request a grant amendment transferring the grant to a new subrecipient.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Authorization for CoC Staff (County Executive Office) to pursue a new service provider (subrecipient) to assume the CoC Rapid Re-Housing grant of \$42,990 with a grant term

of September 1, 2018-August 31, 2018 and pursue a grant amendment with the Los Angeles regional field office.



**From:** [David Fields](#)  
**To:** [Russell, Chris](#); [Madden, Christy](#); [Cynder Sinclair](#); [Daniel Cosio](#); [Boyd, James](#); [Jason Meek](#); [kari.lawson@oxnard.org](#); [Kevin Baysinger](#); [Mach, Marissa](#); [mark.alvarado](#); [Powers, Michael](#); [Surber, Michele](#); [Mike Lennon](#); [mike@mikelennon.com](#); [Neal Andrews](#); [Roel Briones](#); [Suzanne West](#); [Carruth, Tara](#)  
**Cc:** [David Garcia](#); [Susana Santana](#); [Njambi Kingori](#)  
**Subject:** Ventura Center, St. Vincent de Paul  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 29, 2018 9:36:29 AM  
**Attachments:** [image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)  
[image012.png](#)

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I regret to inform you that the St. Vincent de Paul Ventura County Center in Oxnard will close its doors Oct. 1, 2018.

The center's homeless program served all of Ventura County, preventing homelessness for families in need or finding housing for the homeless since 2013. St. Vincent de Paul could not generate enough funding to operate the center.

The Center is closing but our service to the poor and homeless of Ventura County continues. We still have a full-time Vincentian Services Coordinator in Ventura County to serve the needy, and our Conferences of Charity volunteer groups based in 18 Catholic Churches in the county, will still serve the poor and homeless.

These Conferences of Charity gave away \$1,772,000 – over a million and a half dollars - to Ventura County disadvantaged individuals and families last year, assisting over 14,384 people with food, clothing, furniture, appliances, utilities, rent, or general financial assistance.

We regret having to close the center. We will be working vigorously to hopefully transfer all existing cases to other organizations. We would also like the support of the community to help us place our 4 employees in comparable lines of work.

Feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.

We appreciate our partnerships with you, and your support for those in need.

Sincerely,

**David R. Fields** | Executive Director |  
St. Vincent de Paul of Los Angeles | 210 North Avenue 21, Los Angeles, CA 90031 |  
Office: 323-224-6289 | Fax: 323-225-4997 | Cell: 626-260-1870 |



[www.SVDPLA.org](http://www.SVDPLA.org)



*For free pickup by truck of your donations: [800.974.3571](tel:800.974.3571)*



September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Ventura County Continuum of Care's Written Policies and Procedures including an addition of a policy and protocol for request of an emergency transfer of housing unit for persons fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking as required by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the CoC Program regulations.

**BACKGROUND:** Under the Violence Against Women Act, HUD and HUD funded programs are required to adopt the Model Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking (HUD Form 5381).

**DISCUSSION:** An update to the Ventura County Continuum of Care's adopted written standards/policies and procedures was completed to incorporate the Emergency Transfer Plan and guidance for service providers. Changes to the Policies and Procedures document may be found on pages 12, 22 and Attachment C (pg 75-96). The full Policies and Procedures document is found attached to this staff report.

A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking is eligible for an emergency transfer if the following requirements are met:

- 1) Tenant is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking;
- 2) Tenant expressly requests the emergency transfer;
- 3) Tenant believes he/she is threatened with imminent harm from further violence if tenant remains in current unit
- 4) Tenant is a victim of sexual assault and assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before tenant requests a transfer.

CoC staff with assistance from consultant, Dr. Joe Colletti updated the VC CoC Policies and Procedures for compliance. Staff will work to incorporate this information into CoC systems training to provide training to all system service providers.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approve Ventura County CoC Written Policies and Procedures to incorporate protocol for Emergency Transfer requests.

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Approval and Authorization for CoC Staff to Post FY18 CoC Consolidated Application for Public Comment and Submit Application no later than September 17, 2018.

**BACKGROUND:** The FY18 US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was opened on June 20, 2018 and the full Consolidated Application is due to HUD on September 18, 2018.

**DISCUSSION:** The County of Ventura County Executive Office serves as the Collaborative Applicant for CoC and leads the efforts of completing the 23 individual applications including 19 renewal applications, 4 new applications and the Planning Grant. The CoC Board approved the ranking of projects as recommended by the CoC Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee on August 8, 2018. Applicants were notified, and the Collaborative Applicant staff worked with each applicant to edit individual applications. The Consolidated Application was completed by the Collaborative Applicant with input from key stakeholders and service providers including the HMIS Lead Agency.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Authorization for CoC Staff (County Executive Office) to post FY18 CoC Consolidated Application for public comment and submit the full application no later than September 18, 2018.

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Receive a presentation on Master Leasing for Supportive Housing and utilization of supportive housing vouchers including VASH.

**BACKGROUND:** Perhaps the biggest challenge to ending veteran homelessness is the lack of extremely affordable housing. With average Ventura County monthly rent for a one-bedroom apartment at \$1,671<sup>1</sup>, voucher payment standards below average (see table below), rental vacancies less than three percent (3%), and disability income (if available) of not more than \$900 per month, it is virtually impossible to find appropriate housing for our homeless residents. In fact, there are 60 unutilized Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers that are coupled with supportive services currently available countywide, with four vouchers assigned to veterans actively seeking housing. Given time limitations to utilize VASH vouchers, these veterans may need to request an extension if housing cannot be found. Those holding the housing vouchers have also been unable to find a willing landlord to accept their vouchers for housing.

Housing Authority 1 Bedroom Payment Standard	
Area Housing Authority	\$1,317
San Buenaventura Housing Authority	\$1,334
Oxnard Housing Authority	\$1,308

Extensive research and consultation with local and regional partners confirms that master leasing programs have the potential to expand the number of landlords willing to lease to homeless residents more quickly than new construction or conversion of properties to residential use. While the design of models researched by staff vary (San Francisco, Contra Costa, San Jose and Los Angeles), master leasing involves a sponsor who leases and then subleases units to eligible tenants, taking responsibility for ensuring that tenants comply with lease terms, filling vacancies, and promoting client stability. Master leasing incentivizes landlords by reducing risk exposure for lost income as the sponsor ensures rent payment even if a unit is empty because it can take up to 90 days to evict a tenant.

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<sup>1</sup> Dyer Sheehan Rental Market Update, January 2018

**DISCUSSION:** The experience of other programs and literature research<sup>2</sup> indicate that the best outcomes involve the delivery of supportive services to tenants coupled with property management support. In consultation with our local Housing Authorities that administer the VASH program, they report that while these vouchers do provide limited supportive services, local Veterans Affairs staff have caseloads of over one hundred individuals, providing minimal support to promote client success once housed. Providing property management support in the form of 24-hour hotlines, risk mitigation funds to pay for extraordinary repairs, and vetting of residents to save on background and credit checks is an additional benefit to landlords participating in these programs.

A survey of local providers<sup>3</sup> suggest that the average cost for supplemental supportive services and property management services would be about \$130 per housing unit per month. Augmenting these 60 housing vouchers with supplemental supportive services and property management, coupled with a cushion to cover rare limited vacancies in master leased units, may cost as much as \$100,000 per year initially with potential for reduced costs in the future as tenants become stabilized in housing.

Staff is aware of the following considerations that will need to be addressed as the program is developed in consultation with the selected provider:

- Duration of program and related subsidies
- Opportunity to transfer leases to tenants as they develop self-sufficiency
- Funding sources that may include CDBG public service and new homeless funding from the State

It is suggested that the Ventura County CoC follow the lead of other communities who have established flexible housing subsidy pools for master lessor(s) to access the funding necessary for program implementation. Use of the flexible housing subsidy pool rather than compensating per housing unit provides compensation commensurate with actual costs per client served so that low-barrier clients are not targeted to the exclusion of those with more complex housing needs.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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<sup>2</sup> [CSH Supportive Housing and Affordable Housing Model 2015, Landlord Engagement & Recruitment, May 2015](#)

<sup>3</sup> Many Mansions, People's Self-Help Housing and Goldcoast Commercial Investment Real Estate Company

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the Recommendations of the CoC Data Committee and Regional Priority Workshop for priority uses of the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding and authorization for staff to release a request for proposals with approved local timeline for funding.

**BACKGROUND:** The California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) announced a \$500 million block grant program designed to provide direct assistance to cities, counties and Continuums of Care to address the homelessness crisis throughout California. HEAP is authorized by SB850 which was signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. on June 27, 2018. The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for HEAP was released on September 5, 2018. Applications for the first round of funding will be accepted by the State through December 31, 2018. The Ventura County CoC (CA-611) is eligible to apply for up to \$4,857,921.63 in HEAP funds. 5% or \$242,286 must be allocated to serve homeless youth.

The parameters of the program are intentionally broad to give local flexibility and encourage CoCs to be creative and craft programs that meet the specific needs identified in their communities. Applicants must include in the application how the proposed activity is directly related to providing immediate emergency assistance to people experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness, and that those uses are aligned with California's Housing First policy. A shelter crisis must be declared for programs to be funded in a jurisdiction. Services may be provided within a jurisdiction that does not declare a crisis, but rental assistance funded by HEAP cannot be used in a jurisdiction that has not declared a crisis (attached is the current information on the status of each jurisdiction's crisis declaration in Ventura County)

Eligible uses include but are not limited to:

- Services: Street Outreach, prevention services, navigation services, and operating support for short-term or comprehensive homeless services.
- Rental Assistance or subsidies: Housing vouchers, rapid re-housing programs and eviction prevention strategies.
- Capital improvements: emergency shelter, non-traditional sheltering programs (tiny homes, etc.)

**DISCUSSION:** The CoC Housing and Services committee completed a full report submitted to the Board in June 2017 with recommendations for priority needs in the Ventura County CoC Homeless Services System. This information was updated and presented on August 28, 2018 during a Regional Priority Setting Workshop. The workshop was attended by a broad range of stakeholders including cities, county

service providers, nonprofit service providers, advocates, homeless and formerly homeless persons and funders. The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to suggest priorities and provide feedback on the priorities recommended by the CoC Housing and Services report.

Priorities established and endorsed by the stakeholders include:

- 1) Low barrier emergency shelter/Navigation Center
- 2) Coordinated Entry System full geographic coverage including:
  - a. Street Outreach (expanded hours with evening and weekend coverage)
  - b. 2-1-1
  - c. Housing Navigation—dedicated staff to work with homeless persons to gather eligibility documentation and apply for housing opportunities
  - d. Housing Locators—dedicated staff to build relationships with landlords and identify rental units
- 3) Homeless Prevention—flexible financial resources to prevent homelessness
- 4) Non-traditional shelter options including:
  - a. Safe Sleep—designated parking areas for persons residing in vehicles
  - b. Tiny Home shelter programs (i.e. River Haven model)
  - c. Motel Vouchers
- 5) Flexible housing subsidies/rental assistance including:
  - a. Master Leasing
  - b. Longer and deeper financial subsidies for vulnerable households

Stakeholders emphasized the needs of all priority populations including homeless families with children, youth including minor youth and transition-age-youth, people who are homeless and disabled or chronically homeless, veterans and single adults including seniors.

On September 6, 2018, the CoC Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee met to review the recommendations and provide any additional feedback. The committee endorsed the listing of priorities and emphasized the priority need of crisis beds and placements to bring people indoors and off the streets. In releasing the local funding competition, the committee recommends the following be considered:

- 1) Timeliness—applications will need to be ready to spend funds timely to meet the State deadlines;
- 2) Top priority need is for crisis beds and emergency placements;
- 3) Innovative applications should be considered with endorsement from sponsoring jurisdictions;
- 4) Plan for project sustainability or time-limited program with specific outcomes because of one-time HEAP funding;
- 5) Project proposal is aligned with CoC System Performance goals;
- 6) Project proposal has a clear nexus with shelter crisis



**Proposed Local Timeline for HEAP funding:**

CoC Board approve HEAP Priorities	September 12, 2018
CoC Release Requests for Proposals for HEAP	September 19, 2018
Applications due to CoC staff	October 17, 2018 at 5pm
CoC Data Committee Review of Applications	October 25, 2018
CoC Board approval	November 7, 2018
CoC submit application to State	November 9, 2018

Given the short time-frame for preparation and submittal of responses to the RFP, coupled with program flexibility, the RFP will be as streamlined as possible. The application will only request information necessary to evaluate proposals relative to priorities, community need, timeliness for expenditure of funds and organizational experience.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approval of priority uses of HEAP funding with CoC Board input;
2. Approval of local funding timeline;
3. Authorize staff to release RFP for HEAP funding

**Shelter Crisis Declarations**

County of Ventura	Scheduled September 11, 2018
City of Ventura	Scheduled September 24, 2018
City of Oxnard	Scheduled September 18, 2018
City of Santa Paula	Received. Completed September 5, 2018
City of Simi Valley	Scheduled September 17, 2018
City of Thousand Oaks	TBD—may be in October 2018
City of Fillmore	Scheduled September 11, 2018
City of Ojai	TBD
City of Moorpark	TBD
City of Port Hueneme	TBD
City of Camarillo	TBD

September 12, 2018

CoC Governance Board

**SUBJECT:** Approval and Authorization for CoC staff to release a request for proposals for California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) program.

**BACKGROUND:** The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has announced the availability of approximately 53 million in California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program. Program funding provides grants to administrative entities (CoCs) to assist persons who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Applications are due to the state on October 15, 2018. This is the first of two Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) and is funded from a portion of the first and second quarters of revenue deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Act Trust Fund created by the Building Homes and Jobs Act of 2017 and approximately \$25 million in unallocated California Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. A second NOFA, including revenues from the third and fourth quarters, is expected to be released in early 2019.

Eligible funding activities include the following:

- Rental Assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services;
- Operating subsidies in the form of 15 year capitalized operating reserves for affordable permanent housing;
- Flexible housing subsidy funds including bridge subsidies, vacancy payments or project based rental assistance;
- Operating support for emergency housing interventions including navigation centers or emergency shelter, street outreach, shelter diversion and prevention.

No more than 40% of any funds may be allocated for operating support for emergency housing interventions such as navigation centers or emergency shelters.

**DISCUSSION:** Total funding to be awarded to Ventura County in the first round of the CESH program is \$701,401 with %\$35,070 allocated for grant administration for the administrative entity. No more than \$266,532 (40%) may be allocated for operating support for emergency housing interventions. Based on the VC CoC Board recommendations during the 2018 HCD ESG NOFA cycle, \$199,982 has already been allocated to serving Navigation Centers and Street Outreach services and \$150,000 for rental assistance programs. The remaining CESH funding of \$316,349 is available to Ventura County for the eligible activities as mentioned above.

Recommended priorities were established for this Board’s review and approval through the same process as for the HEAP program. Eligible activities were reviewed and discussed during the Ventura County Regional Priority Setting Workshop with feedback solicited from the full CoC Alliance. The CoC Data Committee reviewed the recommended priorities and endorsed the following recommendations for the CESH Program:

- 1) Maximize 40% of funding for Emergency Housing Interventions including emergency shelter, navigation centers and street outreach;
- 2) Flexible housing subsidies including bridge subsidies, vacancy payments and rental assistance with deeper subsidies to serve households high barriers to housing

On September 6, 2018, the CoC Data committee recommended allowance of expansion applications of service providers who have been awarded CA ESG funding with recent awards in addition to soliciting new applications for remaining funds. Projects awarded funding through the CA ESG funding allocation are in the table below:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Total Funding Recommendation</b>
1. The Salvation Army	Rapid Re-Housing	Countywide	\$86,674	\$83,000*
2. Turning Point Foundation	Rapid Re-Housing	Countywide	\$67,000	\$67,000*
3. Turning Point Foundation	Our Place Safe Haven	Countywide	\$75,000	\$60,000*
4. The Salvation Army	Emergency Shelter / Street Outreach	Countywide	\$191,432	\$111,952*
5. Lutheran Social Services	Street Outreach	East County	\$50,000	\$28,030*
6. TBD – RFP in process				
7. TBD – RFP in process				
8. TBD – RFP in process				
	Administrative	-	-	\$35,070
	<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	<b>\$701,401</b>

\*The total recommended for operating support of emergency housing interventions may not exceed 40% of allocation or \$266,532

Proposed local timeline for CESH funding:

CoC Board approve CESH Priorities	September 12, 2018
CoC Release Requests for Proposals for CESH	September 13, 2018
Applications due to CoC Staff	October 3, 2018 at 12:00pm
CoC Data Committee Review	October 4, 2018
CoC Board Approval	October 10, 2018

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approval of priority uses of CESH funding with CoC Board input;
2. Approval of local funding timeline;
3. Authorize staff to release RFP for CESH funding