

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENDA AND NOTICE

OF MEETING OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 7th, 2019, 8:30 AM

West Covina Council Chambers Meeting Room
1444 W Garvey Ave S, West Covina, CA 91790



HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Chair

Becky Shevlin
City of Monrovia

Vice-Chair

Margaret Clark
City of Rosemead

MEMBERS

Alhambra
Baldwin Park
Claremont
Duarte
Glendora
Monrovia
Pomona
Rosemead
West Covina
LA County
Supervisorial
District #1

EX OFFICIO

J. Lyons
W. Huang

Thank you for participating in today’s meeting. The Homelessness Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

MEETINGS: *Regular Meetings of the Homelessness Committee are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 AM at the West Covina Council Chambers Meeting Room (1444 W. Garvey Avenue S., West Covina, CA 91790).* The Meeting agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government’s (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Suite 10210, Alhambra, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. Copies are available via email upon request (sgv@sgvskog.org). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Your participation is welcomed and invited at all Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Board. SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane or disruptive remarks.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. **The Committee may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda.**

AGENDA ITEMS: The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment (*If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all comments*)
4. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to the next regular meeting (*It is anticipated the Committee may take action*)

CONSENT CALENDAR

(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)

5. Homeless Committee Meeting Minutes – 7/3/2019, Page 3
Recommended Action: Approve

PRESENTATIONS

(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)

6. County and Continuum of Care Administration of State Funds - Elizabeth Ben-Ishai, SPA 3 Representative, LA County CEO-HI and Alexander Visotzky, Legislative Affairs Manager, LAHSA
Recommended Action: For information only.
7. Homelessness Prevention Strategies - Alex Devin, Manager, Problem-Solving, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)
Recommended Action: For information only.

STAFF REPORTS

(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)

8. RHTF Working Group
Recommended Action: For information only.

CHAIR'S REPORT

(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)

9. Solicitation of presentation topics.
Recommended Action: For discussion.

ADJOURN



SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Approved Minutes

Date: July 3, 2019

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: West Covina Council Chambers Meeting Room; 1444 W. Garvey Avenue
South, West Covina, California 91790

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM
2. Roll Call

Homeless Committee Members Present

J. Leone, Claremont
 T. Paras-Caracci, Duarte
 K. Davis, Glendora
 F. Briones, LA County District 1
 B. Shevlin, Monrovia
 B. DeFrank, Pomona
 L. Johnson, West Covina

Homeless Committee Members Absent

A. Andreade-Stadler, Alhambra
 Y. Ruizesparza, Baldwin Park
 M. Ortiz, Irwindale
 M. Clark, Rosemead

Ex Officio Members Present

B. Huang, Pasadena

Ex Officio Members Absent

J. Lyons, SGV Consortium on Homelessness

Guests

Victoria Rocha, Duarte
 Armando Hegdahl, Irwindale
 Leticia Colchado, LA County HI
 Taylor Valmores, Assm. Blanca Rubio
 Ann Garcia, San Dimas
 Danika Mendoza, Sen. Susan Rubio
 Scott Chamberlain, SGV Consortium
 Anne Miskey, Union Station Homeless Svcs.

Sandra Maravilla, Supervisor K. Barger
 Debbie Lopez, Glendora
 Daniella Alcedo, LAHSA
 Cruz Baca, LA Voice
 Rene Romero, Assm. Ed Chau
 Dominic Lopez, W LA VA Outreach, SPA3
 Lee Kane, SGV Consortium
 Linda Logan, Field of Valor, Covina Rotary

SGVCOG Staff

J. Cicco

K. Ward

3. Public Comment: Scott Chamberlain thanked attendees for participating in the Consortium’s Homelessness Summit and noted that the next meeting of the Consortium will take place on Wednesday, July 10th. Jed Leano noted that there were 900 hits on the Consortium’s tweeter feed. Daniella Alcedo announced that LAHSA is working on homeless count data adjustments.
4. Changes to Agenda Order: There were no changes to the agenda order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Homelessness Meeting Minutes
There was a motion to approve consent calendar item 5 (M/S: K. Davis/ J. Leano)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Claremont, Glendora, Monrovia, Pomona,
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	Duarte, Supervisorial District 1, West Covina
ABSENT:	Alhambra, Baldwin Park, Irwindale, Rosemead

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. SB 1045 (Weiner, Stern) - Conservatorship: Serious Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders
 Connie Draxler, Deputy Director, Office of the Public Guardian, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health provided information on this measure before the State Legislature. The law establishes a procedure, for the County of Los Angeles, the County of San Diego, and the City and County of San Francisco, to appointment a conservator for a person who is incapable of caring for the person’s own health and well-being due to a serious mental illness and substance use disorder. Although initially intended to allow cities piloting AB 1275 to help more people with serious mental illnesses through conservatorships, the bill has been so encumbered with restrictions that it fails in this effort.

PRESENTATIONS

7. Veteran Homelessness and Solutions
 Dominic Lopez, Community Care Outreach, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System; Linda Logan, West Covina Rotary Field of Valor Project; and Joe Leal, Founder, Vet Hunters Project provided information on resources available for successful outreach to homeless and at-risk veterans and their families. The speakers demonstrated ways in which the VA, the West Covina Rotary and Vet Hunters work together to identify need and provide appropriate interventions with minimal “red tape” to veterans and their families. The presenters embodied an example of how a government agency, a community service group and a nonprofit agency can work together to fulfill their mutual missions and serve those in need.

ACTION ITEMS

8. AB 1275 (Santiago) – Mental Health Services: County Pilot Program
 Staff provided information about this bill, which requires County action for implementation. AB 1275 was set to be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on July 8, 2019. This bill goes hand-in-glove with SB 40: Conservatorship: Serious mental illness and substance use disorder, which was amended by the author and re-referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The amended language gathers data to make the case for excessive use of conservatorship under this measure and prejudicial use of this chapter for certain demographics of the population. Further, numerous reporting requirements with tight timeframes may result in a denial of conservatorship. San Francisco estimates that measure may result 50 people in that city receiving conservator protections. It is unknown whether it may be possible to translate that estimate proportionately communities with larger populations homeless people in the other demonstration Counties. Appropriation for implementation has been removed from this measure.

There was a motion to recommend a letter of support for AB 1275 with subsequent appropriation from the SGVCOG Governing Board (M/S: K. Davis/ L. Johnson)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Claremont, Duarte, Glendora, Supervisorial District 1, Monrovia, Pomona, West Covina
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Alhambra, Baldwin Park, Irwindale, Rosemead

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS

9. RHTF Working Group

Due to time constraints, the Working Group will submit its report in writing to the Homelessness Committee at a future date.

CHAIR’S REPORT

10. Solicitation of presentation topics

B. Shevlin noted the success of the Summit. The Committee wants to connect and bringing everyone together. She noted that it is important to be able to pick up the phone and get help. W. Huang requested a report from the County and the Continuum of Care on the Homeless Aid Planning and Shelter Program. Staff was directed to send out a doodle poll to determine if there will be an August meeting. J. Leano requested a future meeting on tenant protection measures. Members requested a presentation from Everyone In. Supervisorial District 1 will follow-up on the requested Everyone In presentation. The San Gabriel Valley Tribune article regarding \$5,200,000 in State funds that will come to the San Gabriel Valley through Senator Rubio’s budget advocacy was noted. Senator Rubio will be at the Azusa library on July 13th for a community talk.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM

REPORT

DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: SGVCOG Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: State Funds

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information and discussion.

BACKGROUND

The 2018 and 2019 State budgets dedicated significant new funding to local governments and agencies to combat homelessness. County and Continuum of Care (CoC) decision makers are determining how to incorporate these new funds into the County Homeless Initiative and the Coordinated Entry System (CES) to address homelessness across Los Angeles County. Three key programs are the California Emergency Solutions and Housing program; the Homeless Emergency Aid Program and the Homeless Aid for Planning and Shelter Program:

- **California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH):** These funds may be used for rental assistance, housing relocation and stabilizations services, operating subsidies, a flexible housing subsidy fund, emergency housing interventions, system support for the Coordinated Entry System (CES), the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and for planning. Funding awards are made to agencies that are designated by the Continuum of Care to administer CESH funds, which in Los Angeles County is LAHSA. Funding is awarded based upon the Point-in-Time count, the number of extremely low-income households paying more than 50% of their household income on rent, and the percentage of households living below the federal poverty level.

Funding awards for the CESH program can be found below:

Agency	2018	2019
LAHSA	\$10,394,917	\$5,627,034

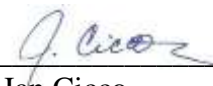
- **Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP):** These funds may be used for homeless prevention, criminal justice diversion for homeless persons with mental health needs, meeting the needs of homeless youth, and emergency aid. HEAP is a block grant program that provides direct assistance to cities, counties and CoCs where a shelter crisis declaration has been adopted. All funds must be obligated through contract by January 1, 2020 and fully expended by June 30, 2021.

Funding awards for HEAP can be found below:

Agency	Funding
LA CoC (LAHSA)	\$81,099,808
Long Beach CoC	\$9,387,420
Pasadena CoC	\$1,428,216
Glendale CoC	\$631,071
City of Los Angeles	\$85,013,607
City of Long Beach	\$2,869,833

- **Homeless Aid for Planning and Shelter Program (HAPP):** This funding provides grants to communities to expand or develop emergency shelters, navigation centers, and supportive housing. It is part of the Governor’s comprehensive approach to addressing housing affordability and a disproportionate homeless population. This program provides \$300 million in one-time general funds for communities that develop regional plans with neighboring cities and counties to coordinate their efforts to address homelessness. Of this amount, \$100 million is set aside for the 11 most populous cities in the state, including Los Angeles and Long Beach, and the remaining funding would be available for CoCs, including the LA CoC and the Pasadena CoC.

Elizabeth Ben-Ishai, SPA 3 Representative for the LA County CEO and Alexander Visotzky, Legislative Affairs Manager will provide the Committee with information on the County and Continuum of Care’s administration of CESH, HEAP and HEPP funds.

Prepared by: 
Jan Cicco
Regional Homelessness Coordinator

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1: 2019 CESH Applications
- Attachment 2: HEAP Community Input Report



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 2019 California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH)
 NOFA Date: March 21, 2019 and as amended on April 8 and June 10, 2019
 Applications Received: June 28, 2019

Attachment 1

Information below has been provided by the applicant. HCD has NOT verified data.

CoC Name	Administrative Entity	Projected Admin Costs	Rental Assistance, Housing Relocation, and Stabilization Services	Operating Subsidies	Flexible Housing Subsidy Funds	Operating Support for Emergency Housing Interventions	System Support	Develop or Update a CES	Development of an Action Plan Within CoC Service Area	Total Requested Amount
Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties CoC	Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency	\$15,878	\$75,840	\$0	\$0	\$75,841	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$317,559
Bakersfield/Kern County CoC	United Way of Kern County	\$34,022	\$409,227	\$0	\$237,196	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$680,445
Chico/Paradise/Butte County CoC	Butte County	\$28,257	\$125,000	\$0	\$0	\$226,060	\$185,834	\$0	\$0	\$565,151
Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Counties CoC	Glenn County Community Action Department	\$8,600	\$312,736	\$0	\$0	\$60,669	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$422,005
Daly/San Mateo County CoC	San Mateo County Department of Housing	\$17,644	\$0	\$335,226	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$352,870
Davis/Woodland/Yolo County CoC	County of Yolo	\$25,293	\$0	\$288,341	\$0	\$192,227	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$505,861
El Dorado County CoC	County of El Dorado, Health and Human Services Agency	\$13,862	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$100,000	\$79,762	\$0	\$53,613	\$277,237
Fresno/Madera County CoC	County of Fresno	\$43,964	\$735,317	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$879,281
Glendale CoC	City of Glendale, Glendale Housing Authority	\$22,163	\$155,139	\$0	\$0	\$177,301	\$88,650	\$0	\$0	\$443,253
Humboldt County CoC	County of Humboldt	\$26,638	\$0	\$0	\$303,673	\$202,448	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$532,759
Imperial County CoC	County of Imperial	\$31,376	\$156,302	\$0	\$0	\$251,000	\$114,000	\$64,844	\$10,000	\$627,522
Inyo, Mono, Alpine Counties CoC	Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc. (IMACA)	\$12,269	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$45,000	\$18,117	\$0	\$0	\$245,386
Lake County CoC	Lake County Behavioral Health Services	\$0	\$415,170	\$0	\$28,011	\$5,000	\$112,046	\$0	\$0	\$560,227
Long Beach CoC	City of Long Beach	\$34,643	\$658,215	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$692,858
Los Angeles City & County CoC	Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)	\$281,352	\$1,200,000	\$2,250,000	\$1,895,682	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,627,034
Marin County CoC	Marin County	\$14,485	\$165,129	\$0	\$0	\$110,086	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$289,700
Mendocino County CoC	Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency	\$24,730	\$286,322	\$0	\$0	\$84,613	\$98,916	\$0	\$0	\$494,581
Merced City & County CoC	Merced, County of Human Services Agency	\$29,612	\$195,437	\$0	\$88,835	\$278,349	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$592,233
Napa City & County CoC	Napa County - Housing & Homeless Services Division	\$10,876	\$206,643	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$217,519
Oakland/Alameda County CoC	County of Alameda	\$45,591	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$364,725	\$501,498	\$0	\$0	\$911,814
Oxnard/San Buenaventura/Ventura County CoC	County of Ventura County Executive Office	\$20,355	\$0	\$0	\$236,735	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$407,090
Pasadena CoC	City of Pasadena	\$20,980	\$169,000	\$0	\$0	\$149,614	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$419,594
Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC	Shasta County Housing and Community Action Agency	\$25,655	\$236,267	\$32,721	\$36,052	\$84,913	\$77,488	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$513,096
Richmond/Contra Costa County CoC	Contra Costa Health Services	\$25,969	\$0	\$0	\$270,050	\$197,397	\$25,969	\$0	\$0	\$519,385
Riverside City & County CoC	County of Riverside, Dept. of Public Social Services (DPSS)	\$37,386	\$355,165	\$0	\$355,165	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$747,716
Roseville/Rocklin/Placer, Nevada Counties CoC	Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras	\$15,499	\$96,712	\$0	\$44,326	\$123,990	\$29,448	\$0	\$0	\$309,975
Sacramento City & County CoC	Sacramento Steps Forward	\$45,337	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$680,048	\$181,346	\$0	\$906,731
Salinas/Monterey, San Benito Counties CoC	City of Salinas	\$28,114	\$154,626	\$0	\$154,626	\$224,910	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$562,276
San Bernardino City & County CoC	County of San Bernardino	\$41,786	\$100,000	\$0	\$326,783	\$200,000	\$167,142	\$0	\$0	\$835,711
San Diego City and County CoC	County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency	\$70,136	\$444,197	\$0	\$444,197	\$444,197	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,402,727
San Francisco CoC	San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing	\$45,410	\$835,553	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$27,246	\$0	\$908,209
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC	County of Santa Clara by and through Office of Supportive Housing	\$46,041	\$874,781	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$920,822
San Luis Obispo County CoC	County of San Luis Obispo	\$20,643	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$392,218	\$0	\$0	\$412,861
Santa Ana/Anaheim/Orange County CoC	County of Orange	\$55,823	\$615,640	\$0	\$0	\$445,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,116,463
Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC	County of Santa Barbara Housing and Community Development Division	\$25,429	\$0	\$0	\$229,761	\$203,400	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$508,590
Santa Rosa/Petaluma/Sonoma County CoC	Sonoma County Community Development Commission	\$24,072	\$151,180	\$0	\$0	\$151,180	\$125,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$481,432



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 2019 California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH)
 NOFA Date: March 21, 2019 and as amended on April 8 and June 10, 2019
 Applications Received: June 28, 2019

Stockton/San Joaquin County CoC	San Joaquin County Community Development Department	\$29,220	\$0	\$0	\$321,423	\$233,761	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$584,404
Tehama County CoC	Empower Tehama	\$24,226	\$218,040	\$0	\$0	\$193,814	\$48,455	\$0	\$0	\$484,535
Turlock/Modesto/Stanislaus County CoC	County of Stanislaus (Department of Planning and Community Development)	\$27,527	\$48,173	\$48,173	\$48,173	\$220,220	\$48,173	\$110,110	\$0	\$550,549
Vallejo/Solano County CoC	Community Action Partnership Solano, Joint Powers Authority	\$19,473	\$214,207	\$0	\$0	\$155,787	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$389,467
Visalia, Kings, Tulare Counties CoC	Kings/Tulare Continuum of Care on Homelessness	\$35,419	\$166,523	\$0	\$131,105	\$258,499	\$116,825	\$0	\$0	\$708,371
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC	County of Santa Cruz (County Administrative Office)	\$25,557	\$102,229	\$0	\$102,229	\$204,457	\$76,671	\$0	\$0	\$511,143
Yuba City & County/Sutter County CoC	Sutter Yuba Homeless Consortium	\$22,936	\$174,315	\$0	\$0	\$174,315	\$87,158	\$0	\$0	\$458,724
Total Requested		\$1,454,248	\$10,103,085	\$3,014,461	\$5,344,022	\$5,988,773	\$3,418,418	\$403,546	\$168,613	\$29,895,166

Total Applications Received: 43

CoC Allocation Available: \$29,895,166



LAHSA Community Input Summary Report on State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)

September 2018

Introduction

The following report summarizes community input received by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) in August 2018 at a series of public input sessions regarding a new allocation of state funding. The entirety of comments delivered at public input sessions and on the online survey can be read by [clicking here](#).

As a result of the FY 18-19 budget surplus, the State of California set aside \$500 million in one-time funding for homelessness. The FY 18-19 budget legislation established the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) to distribute this funding to large cities and continuums of care (CoCs) around the state with the intention of giving funding recipients flexibility to determine the most appropriate uses for their respective jurisdictions. The legislation to establish HEAP lists homelessness prevention, criminal justice diversion, and emergency aid as eligible uses, among other uses.

The state will make allocations of funding available to the largest 11 cities in the state by population, along with every CoC in the state, with funding allotments based on formulas that consider the 2017 Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count) results. Based on this methodology, the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) expects to receive an allocation of \$81 million; other CoCs in Los Angeles County expect to receive smaller amounts, including the Long Beach CoC (\$9 million), the Pasadena CoC (\$1.5 million), and the Glendale CoC (\$625,000).

HEAP funding has several requirements that CoCs must abide by. These requirements include:

- At least 5% of funding must be expended on youth experiencing homelessness
- No more than 5% of funding can be expended on administrative costs
- A collaborative process must be undertaken to establish uses
- A total of 50% of funding must be obligated by January 1, 2020, and the entirety of funding must be expended by June 30, 2021
- In order for a jurisdiction (such as a city) to be a direct recipient of HEAP funding, or in order for HEAP funds to be expended on capital uses in that jurisdiction by the city or the CoC, a shelter crisis must be declared in that jurisdiction. In addition, in order for project-based rental assistance to be expended in a jurisdiction, a shelter crisis must be declared in that jurisdiction.

To fulfill the collaborative process requirement established by HEAP, LAHSA launched a series of meetings in late July to receive input from CoC members including service providers, people with lived experience of homelessness, and other partners. LAHSA presented a draft expenditure plan for HEAP funding at:

- Eight LA CoC Quarterly Community Meetings, with one in each Service Planning Area (SPA)
- Meetings of LAHSA's Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles (HYFLA) and the Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB)
- Meetings of the LA CoC governing and coordination bodies, including the Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC), the LA CoC Board, and the LAHSA Commission

- Homelessness policy bodies of the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles
- United Way of Greater Los Angeles’ Home for Good Funders Collaborative

Over 350 people attended the LA CoC quarterly meetings and gave input on proposed uses for HEAP funding. In addition, an online survey was circulated from August 16-31 which generated 97 responses on HEAP funding.¹ This memo summarizes the input and feedback received at these sessions and on the online survey, along with an explanation of the changes made to the draft plan following the compilation of feedback.

LAHSA Proposed Plan and Categories of Funding

Throughout the year, staff from LAHSA regularly engages with service providers, people with current or former experience of homelessness, and experts on homelessness to determine what is working well, where modifications to existing services are needed, and what additional resources are needed to enhance the LA CoC’s efforts to house people experiencing homelessness. Given these ongoing conversations, LAHSA staff developed a set of draft uses to be presented to the public for input and revision. These draft uses reflected several considerations, including:

- One-time nature of funding, which must be expended entirely by June 30, 2021
- A 5% administrative cost cap, which limits system-wide capacity to erect infrastructure for new programs and new, untested interventions
 - Services funded by HEAP that are in alignment with existing County-approved strategies to combat homelessness may be eligible for additional administrative funding through Measure H
- System-wide needs as identified by service providers, people experiencing homelessness, and LAHSA staff’s observations during the course of ongoing service delivery
- A recognition that the LA CoC has spent the last two years, through the development of coordinated homeless strategies, the Measure H planning and implementation process, and other ongoing funding processes, developing models for service delivery and mechanisms for allocating funding to priority uses

Given these considerations, LAHSA proposed to the continuum funding within four categories, all of which align with existing services being funded through Measure H. LAHSA proposed allocating funding to the following uses:

Use of Funding	Amount of HEAP Funding	Percentage of HEAP Funding
Preventing and Rapid Resolving Homelessness	\$16,000,000	20%
Rapid Re-Housing Enhancements	\$12,000,000	15%
Access to the Coordinated Entry System	\$8,000,000	10%
Interim Housing Enhancements	\$45,000,000	55%

In addition, LAHSA proposed allocating \$3 million in funding to cities across Los Angeles County to implement programs in alignment with the four uses listed above. The following sections outline what specific uses LAHSA staff proposed, input and feedback received from the public, and LAHSA’s recommended allocation plan, which incorporates feedback from public input sessions.

¹ For additional details on input sessions, please refer to Appendix A.

Summary of Public Comment Received on Draft HEAP Proposal

Preventing and Rapidly Resolving Homelessness

LAHSA Draft Proposal:

The number of persons entering homelessness for the first time continues to rise, with over 9,300 people reporting that they were homeless for the first time in the 2018 Homeless Count. System-wide diversion, or assisted rapid resolution, is a proven client-focused strategy for reducing system inflow and assisting households with quickly exiting homelessness, while continuing to preserve more scarce resources for the most vulnerable persons. As such, LAHSA staff proposed the following uses:

- Creating a pool of flexible funds for prevention/diversion staff to assist with mediation, reconnections with family and friends, or other uses that divert people from entering homelessness or quickly resolve their homelessness.
- Place staff trained in assisted rapid resolution at sites where inflow of homeless persons is heaviest and the opportunity for diversion and rapid resolution is greatest.

Input from Public:

Flexible Funding: Many participants supported additional flexible funding assistance and recommended greater flexibility in accessing and distributing emergency assistance. Suggested uses for flexible funds include emergency rental and utility assistance - particularly for seniors and TAY - and assistance for expenses that can compromise housing and employment stability (e.g. child care, minor automotive repair). There was also support for extending the length of assistance provided, and robust support for flexible funds for DV survivors.

Diversion Activities: There was strong support for additional legal services to support housing stability for clients. This includes landlord mediation training, tenants' rights education, on-site legal services staff at access centers, and eviction defense. Other diversion activities supported by participants include mental health support, job training programs, and family reconnection support.

Targeted Prevention/Diversion Outreach

Targeted Populations/Inflow Sites: Participants identified numerous points of inflow into the homeless services system. The most commonly identified include Family Source Centers, DPSS and DCFS offices, hospitals and community health centers, homeless service providers, and legal service providers. Participants also highlighted the need for deploying diversion and prevention resources at secondary and post-secondary institutions, senior centers, public libraries, faith-based institutions, and city offices.

Similarly, participants recommended targeted outreach to low-income households, seniors, individuals who are formerly incarcerated, and undocumented households, recognizing that the challenges these populations face in accessing prevention services. In addition, participants recommended partnering with community-based organizations to identify inflow points and share information.

There was considerable support for diversion resources for transition-aged youth (TAY) to reduce the risk of chronic homelessness in the population. Diversion strategies include targeted outreach, resources at youth drop-in centers, mental health and legal services for youth, emergency rental assistance for TAY in the Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) program, and youth-appropriate assessment tools and training for staff.

Provider Training and Resources

Diversification Training and Staffing: Several participants recommended staff training in diversion practices, including trauma-informed care, motivational interviewing, mediation, and cultural competency to effectively assess and assist clients at-risk of homelessness. Also emphasized was the need for additional diversion-trained staff to reduce the high volume of caseloads providers currently face. In addition, many recognized the need for greater staff expertise in the homeless services system, and awareness of available prevention and diversion services.

Assessment: Some emphasized the need for more robust screening tools to assist providers in assessing risk and identifying resources appropriate client needs (i.e. identifying “light touch” cases; youth engagement). Some supported more flexible eligibility criteria for diversion and prevention services.

LAHSA Response:

LAHSA recommends allocating \$16 million to prevention and diversion activities, with two uses prioritized: 1) Create a pool of flexible funds to assist with mediation, reconnections with family and friends, or other uses that divert people from entering homelessness or quickly resolve their homelessness, and 2) Place staff trained in assisted rapid resolution at locations that have opportunities to divert persons before and at their point of entry to the homeless system to prevent their homelessness. LAHSA proposes to continue to work with stakeholders from across the LA CoC to identify optimal locations for placement of these diversion staff and appreciates the suggestions put forth through the survey and at public input sessions. In addition, LAHSA proposes to seek program design that ensures diversion resources can be accessed throughout LA County CES. Finally, LAHSA recommends using the Centralized Training Academy (CTA) to offer training to agencies undertaking diversion work, using resources available through Measure H.

Rapid Re-Housing Enhancements

LAHSA Draft Proposal:

Rapid re-housing (RRH) is a service model that offers people experiencing homelessness quick reconnection to permanent housing using time-limited financial assistance, individualized supportive services, and connection to mainstream resources. While RRH programs have proven effective at housing thousands of people across Los Angeles County, there are several ways to strengthen existing efforts. Proposed uses included adding staffing support to RRH programs in the family system and increasing RRH resources for young adults. In addition, RRH participants of all populations can experience delays moving into housing as program staff encounter barriers securing housing units; landlords often prefer to rent to unsubsidized tenants who they can process more quickly or tenants with permanent subsidies who have access to holding fees. As such, LAHSA staff proposed the following uses:

- Funding for additional case management staff to reduce high caseload ratios within the family system and improve services;
- Additional RRH capacity to move youth from interim housing and unsheltered situations quickly into permanent housing;
- Holding fees so that the CES Housing Location Program funded through Measure H can hold high priority housing units for RRH households.

Input from Public:

Participants expressed robust support for increasing the capacity of the family Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) system to reduce the number of caseloads that most case managers face and thereby improve the services that each family receives. In addition, participants strongly supported additional RRH for youth populations. There was some support for holding fees for landlords to increase the effectiveness of RRH, although some participants urged caution out of concern that landlords may begin to expect large deposits as a baseline as well as concerns around potential for fraud and abuse. In general, many participants urged spending more funding on Rapid Re-Housing and emphasized that there are not enough resources to serve the populations that are best-suited to use RRH.

Populations Served

A very large portion of session attendees and survey respondents highlighted the need for more resources to serve families and youth. Several participants highlighted the need for additional resources to serve survivors of domestic violence with new RRH funds, while others also highlighted the needs of seniors and older adults that are facing homelessness who may have unique characteristics, such as being on fixed incomes, which may require program design modifications. Several participants also highlighted the need to serve non-English speaking populations that are less likely to access the homeless services system. Finally, in alignment with LAHSA's draft plan, many participants highlighted the need for additional resources for youth, including gap financial assistance as they await funding from other programs, such as the Department of Children and Family Services' Supervised Independent Living Placement program (SILP).

Services

Many participants emphasized the need for additional, more responsive services to be provided through RRH. These potential services include:

Trauma-Informed Supportive Services: Several participants mentioned that trauma-informed supportive services should be provided in a more robust way, especially for survivors of domestic and interpersonal violence (DV/IPV) participating in RRH programs. Participants also illustrated the need for funding to be flexible to serve this population's needs. Finally, participants voiced that, especially if RRH is used to target populations with more acute needs, such as DV/IPV populations or those who have been victims of human trafficking, having intensive case management with lower staff/client ratios is essential.

Services that Remove Barriers to Stability: Several participants highlighted different services that RRH participants need in order to achieve stability and increase income. Participants' recommendations included assistance with transportation, including funding for vehicle registration, credit score and financial planning assistance, flexible child care services, support for obtaining needed documentation and identification, and health care services. Many participants also discussed the need for more linkages to the workforce, and services that better enable workforce participation and employment. Finally, several participants highlighted peer supports or mentorship as a potentially valuable service to help guide RRH participants.

Operation and Administration of RRH

Administration of the Program: Some participants suggested that individual cities should be able to administer RRH and added that cities providing their own RRH funding should be able to require that RRH funding be used within their city boundaries. In addition, some participants suggested increasing

the time horizon that participants are able to use RRH housing funding, while also suggesting that LAHSA reduce the 2-year time lapse between periods of when a RRH participant can access funds.

Streamlining Referral Process: Several participants offered recommendations for the referral process, including allowing providers to send one referral to multiple agencies simultaneously to increase the likelihood of placement.

Landlord Incentives: A number of participants highlighted the need for additional landlord incentives to increase the number of units that RRH providers can access. Some participants suggested incentives should be modeled after the Homeless Incentive Program (HIP), while others suggested a mitigation fund for landlords to assist with repairs. In addition, several participants recommended the need for additional marketing and advertising of the program for both landlords and participants and noted that local neighborhood institutions, such as churches, could be a valuable resource. Finally, some participants highlighted the need to ensure landlord holding fees are used properly and ensure they do not create perverse incentives and as such, these participants suggested regulations for use of landlord fees.

LAHSA Response:

On account of strong support for LAHSA's proposed uses in this category, LAHSA recommends providing funding for the following uses: 1) Additional RRH capacity for the family system, which continues to experience high caseloads, 2) Additional RRH capacity to move youth from interim housing and unsheltered situations quickly into permanent housing, and 3) Holding fees to allow the CES Housing Location Program funded through Measure H to hold high priority housing units, which will benefit RRH and other participants. In addition, LAHSA program staff will review feedback related to services that can be provided through RRH and incorporate this feedback into program design and procedures as appropriate.

Access to the Coordinated Entry System

LAHSA Draft Proposal:

There are several ways in which the Coordinated Entry System (CES) can be strengthened to more effectively move people from homelessness into housing. At present, there are eight access centers throughout the Continuum for adults, which are too few; moreover, those that do exist are not adequately funded to carry out assessment and diversion of all individuals entering homelessness. Additional funding for access centers will bring diversion and assessment to more points in the Continuum and decrease inflow of people into homelessness. Additional peer and housing navigators can help to fill a known gap within CES capacity and increase the system's ability to provide care coordination to people awaiting permanent housing resources, as well as expedite housing placement once matched to a resource. LAHSA staff proposed the following uses for funding:

- Increase the number of access centers
- Augment the range of activities and services that access centers can perform
- Make basic capital improvements to access centers
- Additional peer and housing navigators

Input from Public:

Facilities

Sites: Participants expressed strong interest in increasing access points across the continuum, particularly in areas of high demand and service areas that are geographically dispersed or present transportation constraints. Models include co-located intake staff at heavily-trafficked locations and mobile access points, in lieu of physical access centers. Participants emphasized the importance of engaging with local jurisdictions in determining appropriate sites for access points. Others recommended CES access points in civic spaces, including public parks and libraries, faith-based institutions, and health centers. There was strong support for greater CES engagement with school districts and community colleges, as well as additional youth drop-in centers “hot-spots.”

Capital Improvements: Several participants supported additional office space in existing facilities to accommodate new staff and expanded services, as well as hygiene facilities, on-site kitchens, storage and laundry facilities for client use. There was also some support for spaces designed for children.

Services

Participants expressed some support for expanded peer and housing navigation services for those awaiting housing placement. Some emphasized the importance of peer support, particularly for re-entry populations or those with histories of systems involvement, and consistent client engagement during the housing navigation process. Several participants supported added services for DV survivors. Many participants recommended on-site mental health and substance use services at access sites. Additional suggestions for on-site services include legal assistance, education, and employment training.

Operations

Staffing and Training: Participants indicated a high need for additional staff at access centers and in CES agencies to address the current backlog of service requests, including navigators, case managers, and intake staff. Participants also supported additional training for CES staff in areas including data entry, trauma-informed care, and cultural competency for more effective intake and assessment. Some highlighted the need for improvements to the existing intake process to account for barriers including language constraints and disability access.

Flexibility in Access: Participants recommended greater flexibility in service delivery and intake. There was some support for an automated and/or simplified assessment process for intakes, permitting clients to self-administer assessments for system entry. Additionally, some supported extending access center service hours to include nights and weekends to accommodate more clients in need.

LAHSA Response:

On account of strong and widespread demand for better services for access centers and funding for sites that currently function as effective “access points” despite not being funded as such, LAHSA recommends HEAP funding for the following uses: 1) Provide funding for sites that currently function as “access points,” but may not receive sufficient funding to carry out access-related activities, 2) Supplement funding to existing access to ensure they can meet current demand and 3) Funding basic capital improvements to existing access centers. In response to public input, LAHSA will also make these funds available to cities and encourage partnership with service providers.

Interim Housing Enhancements

LAHSA Draft Proposal:

Approximately 75% of homeless persons in the LA CoC are unsheltered. Additional interim housing is needed to provide for the immediate health and safety of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. In addition, interim housing sites can provide a key touchpoint for people experiencing homelessness to meet with case management staff and develop connections to services that can link them to permanent housing. Numerous jurisdictions in Los Angeles County are seeking to add interim housing capacity, including many local cities that may pursue interim housing through their local city homeless plans as well as through the City of Los Angeles' A Bridge Home program. As such, LAHSA staff proposed the following uses of HEAP funding:

- Operations of new interim housing beds throughout Los Angeles County.
- Capital funding for new interim housing.

Input from Public:

Participants expressed strong support for additional interim housing beds and facilities, as well as capital improvements for existing locations. Feedback reflected strong interest in interim housing in each of the eight Service Planning Areas, with a focus on areas of highest need as well as facilities targeted for subpopulations with additional service considerations.

Programming

Services and Accommodation: Several participants emphasized the need for service considerations for individuals with mental and physical disabilities in interim housing. Services included expanded shelter access and accommodations for those with disabilities and accessibility needs, older adults, people with children who have disabilities, and people with pets. In a similar vein, many highlighted the need for services and delivery models that are culturally-competent and sensitive to the diverse needs of subpopulations, including seniors, LGBT individuals, women, TAY, DV survivors, the re-entry population, human trafficking survivors, and individuals with high acuity needs.

Extended Stays: Given limitations in the supply of appropriate housing alternatives, some recognized the need for flexibility in extending stays beyond the current 90-day threshold, particularly for high-barrier clients or others who require additional service supports.

Operations

Target Populations: Participants expressed the need for interim housing options for many populations, with special attention to families (including TAY families, women with children, and single men with children), youth (including those aging out of foster care and the juvenile justice systems), and special needs populations (including seniors, women, LGBT individuals, DV survivors, undocumented individuals, those with high acuity needs, and human trafficking survivors).

Provider Training: Participants requested training in trauma-informed care and harm reduction for interim housing staff. Several echoed an interest in exploring trauma-informed models of care for use across the shelter system, including trauma-informed design and crisis counseling.

Resources and Access: Some participants requested additional resources to support client referrals to interim housing, such as tools for providers to monitor real-time bed availability. There was support for additional 24-hour interim housing, more year-round interim housing, and winter interim housing

options for families. Finally, several participants suggested increasing the funding allocated per bed to meet the needs of particularly vulnerable subpopulations.

Alternative Interim Housing Models and Community Engagement

Alternative Models: Some participants recommended alternative models for those who may be reluctant to enter interim housing. Suggestions include shared housing models, expanded master leasing opportunities, motel vouchers, Safe Parking programs, and dedicated spaces for recreational vehicles modeled after Safe Parking.

Engagement: Some participants recommended greater investment in community engagement with regards to shelter siting, recognizing the challenges that emerge when siting new interim housing and the need for broader public education around homelessness issues.

LAHSA Response:

On account of broad support, LAHSA recommends allocating HEAP funding for the following uses: 1) Funding for operations of new interim housing beds throughout the LA CoC, 2) Funding for interim housing capital and improvements, and 3) Safe parking programs. In addition, in response to community input, LAHSA will also make these funds available to cities and encourage partnership with service providers.

Funding for Cities and Other Recommended Uses

Members of the public were invited to share strategies and general suggestions for funding uses outside of LAHSA's four proposed funding categories. Staff received input on recommended uses at LAHSA public convenings and through the online questionnaire.

Supporting Cities: Several participants recommended additional funding for cities to augment local strategies to address homelessness, implement strategies identified in County homelessness plans, and develop local capacity to serve residents in need. This includes funding for local homeless coordinators, matching homelessness prevention funds, and rental assistance. Some participants recommended that cities be able to access funds to directly administer Rapid Re-Housing programs.

LAHSA Response:

LAHSA encourages cities throughout the LA CoC to partner and participate in advancing solutions to end homelessness. While cities are always welcome to apply to any LAHSA Request for Proposal (RFP), LAHSA will especially encourage cities to apply for uses within the following categories:

- Access to the Coordinated Entry System
- Interim Housing Enhancements

LAHSA proposes to make at least \$3 million available to cities that apply for these uses. Under LAHSA's proposal, cities would be encouraged to partner with community-based service providers and would be required to adopt a shelter crisis declaration as mandated by the state, in addition to being required to have adopted a County-approved plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness.

Other Uses

Input from the Public:

Participants in public input sessions recommended a range of other uses for HEAP funding outside of the four primary categories that LAHSA staff proposed, including:

- Field-based supportive services, including mobile case management
- Training for public agencies in engaging with individuals with serious mental health conditions
- Additional resources for youth, including transitional housing and financial empowerment trainings
- Permanent supportive housing (PSH), especially located in areas other than the City of Los Angeles
- Co-located trauma services within homeless and domestic violence services
- Shallow subsidies for seniors and other populations, including those using Rapid Re-Housing
- Emergency transportation and meal vouchers

Response from LAHSA:

LAHSA will consider these uses for other sources of flexible funding, such as the California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (CESH). As LAHSA is seeking to align with existing Measure H-funded programs to minimize the burden of a low administrative cost allowance, new programming is less feasible.

Additional Questions or Concerns

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding HEAP funding and LAHSA's community input process to inform the LA CoC's HEAP allocation plan, please contact Jose Delgado, Associate Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs at idelgado@lahsa.org.

Appendix A: HEAP Funding Community Input Process

Public Meetings: August 2018

Throughout August 2018, LAHSA staff sought feedback on the draft expenditure plan at eight LA CoC Quarterly Community Meetings with one meeting in each Service Planning Area. In total, more than 350 community members attended the input sessions, located throughout Los Angeles County. Attendees represented a cross-section of stakeholders, including homeless service providers, County agencies, faith-based organizations, local advocates, and other community representatives.

In addition, staff presented the draft expenditure plan for comment at the August 2018 meetings of LAHSA's two (2) advisory bodies comprised of residents with lived experience of homelessness: the Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG) and the Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles (HYFLA).

At each convening, staff from LAHSA's Policy and Systems department introduced the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and the agency's draft expenditure plan, including a detailed review of currently-funded uses, proposed uses and the proposed allocation for each strategy. Each session concluded with a thirty-minute feedback portion, where participants were invited to provide feedback at each of the four stations designated by strategy. LAHSA staff was available throughout the portion to answer questions pertaining to the expenditure plan and guidelines on the HEAP allocation. The following guiding questions were included to facilitate discussion:

A1/A5: Prevention/Diversion:

- What are the key points of inflow (Family Source Centers, DPSS offices, etc.) into the homeless services system that would benefit from additional diversion staff?
- What additional training or skills do diversion staff need to be successful?
- What are the major gaps that you see in existing diversion work that this funding might help address?
- Are there changes or additional services LAHSA should consider to better execute prevention and diversion?

B3: Expand Rapid Re-Housing:

- Which of these three areas should be prioritized?
- What populations are in need of additional services and resources through RRH?
- What is working well with RRH services?
- What are the major gaps in RRH that this funding might address?
- Are there changes or additional services LAHSA should consider to better execute RRH?

E7: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System:

- Which of these proposed uses should be prioritized?
- What additional locations might be appropriate for new access centers?
- What capital improvements do existing access centers need?
- What additional services and staffing do access centers need to be successful?

E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System:

- What areas of the LA CoC are most in need of new interim housing?

- What populations should be prioritized in creating new interim housing beds?
- Are there changes or additional services LAHSA should consider to better execute this strategy?

In addition, the plan was presented at meetings of LAHSA's governing bodies, including the LA CoC Board, the LAHSA Commission, and the Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC), as well as the Homelessness and Poverty Committee of the Los Angeles City Council, the Homeless Deputies of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the Home for Good Funders Collaborative.

Online Survey: August 16 - 31, 2018

On August 16, LAHSA released an electronic survey on the proposed plan to LA CoC members, expanding opportunities for feedback. The two-week period for public comment closed on August 31, 2018. Roughly 100 respondents submitted comments through the online survey. As with the public meetings, the survey questionnaire included a set of guiding questions for each strategy and a space for funding suggestions outside of the proposed uses. Survey respondents included homeless services providers, individuals with lived experience of homelessness, government staff, among other community stakeholders.

In addition, LAHSA sought comment on potential uses for a funding allocation through the California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (CESH) through the online survey. LAHSA received 31 responses to a question about the best uses for CESH funding.

LA Continuum of Care Collaborative Process Meetings

Date	Meetings	Location
August 8	Continuum Input Session, SPA 3 Quarterly Meeting	Queen of the Valley Campus, West Covina
August 10	Continuum Input Session, SPA 6 Quarterly Meeting	First to Serve/St. Joseph's Center, Broadway Manchester Access Center, Los Angeles
August 14	Continuum Input Session, SPA 5 Quarterly Meeting	Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Santa Monica
August 15	Continuum Input Session, SPA 1 Quarterly Meeting	Antelope Valley Partners for Health, Lancaster
	Home for Good Funders Collaborative	United Way of Greater Los Angeles, Los Angeles
	Homelessness and Poverty Committee	Los Angeles City Hall, Los Angeles
August 17	Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles (HYFLA) Meeting	LAHSA, Los Angeles
August 21	Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) Meeting	LAHSA, Los Angeles
August 22	Continuum Input Session, SPA 2 Quarterly Meeting	Santa Clarita City Hall, Santa Clarita
	Continuum Input Session, SPA 8 Quarterly Meeting	Torrance Memorial Medical Hospital, Torrance
August 23	Continuum Input Session, SPA 4 Quarterly Meeting	Echo Park United Methodist Church, Los Angeles
	County of Los Angeles Homeless Deputies Meeting	Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles
August 24	Continuum Input Session, SPA 7 Quarterly Meeting	Council of Government Office, Paramount

Public Input on HEAP Funding Online Questionnaire

Q1. What best describes your work related to homelessness (check all that apply):

Q2. What part of the Los Angeles Continuum do you primarily live or work in?

Q3. Please provide your feedback on LAHSA's proposed uses of funding in alignment with County Strategy A1/A5: Prevention and Diversion (all answers a maximum of 1,000 characters).

LAHSA currently funds the following services in alignment with Measure H Strategy A1/A5:

- Financial assistance and supportive services
- Legal services
- These services are estimated to reach 1,400 individuals and 500 families in FY 18-19.

LAHSA is proposing the following uses for additional state funding in alignment with A1/A5:

- A pool of flexible funds to support diversion and rapid resolution across the system
- Additional diversion staff at key points of inflow into the homelessness system

Please consider the following questions:

- a. What are the key points of inflow (Family Source Centers, DPSS offices, etc.) into the homeless services system that would benefit from additional diversion staff?
- b. What additional training or skills do diversion staff need to be successful?
- c. What are the major gaps that you see in existing diversion work that this new funding might address?
- d. Are there changes or additional services LAHSA should consider to better execute prevention and diversion?
- e. Please provide any additional comments you may have on A1/A5 Prevention and Diversion:

Q4. Please provide your feedback on LAHSA's proposed uses of funding in alignment with County Strategy B3: Expand Rapid Re-Housing program bucket (all answers a maximum of 1,000 characters).

LAHSA currently funds the following services in alignment with Measure H Strategy B3:

- Rapid Re-Housing for families, youth, individuals, and domestic violence survivors (Rapid Re-Housing is time-limited financial assistance paired with supportive services to offer quick reconnection to housing for people experiencing homelessness).
- The shallow subsidy program (to launch in Spring 2019).

LAHSA is proposing the following uses for additional state funding in alignment with Strategy B3:

- Additional staff to reduce high caseload ratios in family Rapid Re-Housing
- Expand the number of youth served by Rapid Re-Housing
- Holding fees for the new CES housing location program to increase effectiveness of Rapid Re-Housing

Please consider the following questions:

- a. Which of these 3 areas should be prioritized?
- b. What populations are in need of additional service and resources through Rapid Re-Housing?
- c. What is working well with Rapid Re-Housing services?
- d. What are the major gaps in Rapid Re-Housing that this new funding might address?

- e. Are there changes or additional services LAHSA should consider to better execute Rapid Re-Housing?
- f. Please provide any additional comments you may have on B3: Expand Rapid Re-Housing:

Q5. Please provide your feedback on LAHSA's proposed uses of funding in alignment with County Strategy E7: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System (all answers a maximum of 1,000 characters).

LAHSA currently funds the following services in alignment with Measure H Strategy E7:

- Housing navigation
- Housing location
- Regional and system coordination
- Access centers
- Technical assistance and training
- Rep payee services
- Domestic violence services coordination
- Legal services

LAHSA is proposing the following uses for additional state funding in alignment with Strategy E7:

- Increasing the number of access centers
- Making capital improvements to existing access centers
- Enhancing services at access centers
- Providing additional peer and housing navigation for people awaiting housing placement.

Please consider the following questions:

- a. Which of these proposed uses should be prioritized?
- b. What additional locations might be appropriate for new access centers?
- c. What capital improvements do existing access centers need?
- d. What additional services and staffing do access centers need to be successful?
- e. Please provide any additional comments you may have on E7: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System:

Q6. Please provide your feedback on LAHSA's proposed uses of funding in alignment with County Strategy E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System (all answers a maximum of 1,000 characters).

LAHSA currently the funds the following services in alignment with Measure H Strategy E8:

- Operations and capital for interim housing beds
- Enhanced services at interim housing sites
- These services are estimated to reach 16,168 individuals in FY 18-19.

LAHSA is proposing the following uses for additional state funding in alignment with Strategy E8:

- Operating support for new interim housing
- Capital investments for new interim housing

Please consider the following questions:

- a. What areas of the LA CoC are most in need of new interim housing?
- b. What populations should be prioritized in creating new interim housing beds?
- c. Are there changes or additional services LAHSA should consider to better execute the strategy?

- d. Please provide any additional comments you may have on E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System:

Q7. Please provide comments on other strategies and uses of funding that LAHSA should consider (2,000 characters):

Q8. In addition to HEAP, the State will be allocating up to \$10 million to the LA CoC through a new program called the California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (CESH). Eligible activities under CESH include rental assistance, operating subsidies for permanent housing, flexible housing subsidy funds, operating support for interim housing, and systems support for homelessness services. Funding for CESH can be expended over a five-year period.

Which of the above funding uses identified as part of the HEAP proposal would most benefit from additional, longer-term funding available through the CESH program? How could LAHSA use CESH funding to further enhance the proposed activities funded through HEAP?

REPORT

DATE: August 7, 2019
TO: SGVCOG Homelessness Committee
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **Homeless Prevention**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information and discussion.

BACKGROUND

In Los Angeles County, people are becoming homeless faster than the current system and resources can house them. The 2019 Point-in-Time Homeless Count revealed that, despite housing nearly 22,000 homeless people, homelessness increased by 12 percent across the County. In the San Gabriel Valley, where there is a significant gap in homeless services and housing, homelessness increased nearly 25 percent. To help remediate this challenge, the County intends to strengthen homeless prevention measures.

Homeless Prevention includes a number of strategies linked to the type of population being assisted as well as at-risk life circumstances. Prevention strategies in the Homeless Initiative include strategies A 1 – 4: Homeless prevention program for families; discharge planning; the Housing Authority’s family reunification program; and discharges from foster care and juvenile probation.

Prevention activities may include housing relocation and stabilization services, short and medium-term rental assistance to prevent a family or individual from entering an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation, rental arrearages, rental application fees, security deposits, advance payment of the last month’s rental, utility deposits and payments, moving costs, housing search and placement, housing stability case management, mediation, tenant legal services, and credit repair.

LAHSA is ramping up its diversion program that uses problem-solving techniques that aim to decrease vulnerable persons from falling into homelessness.

LAHSA’S Manager, Problem Solving, Alex Devin, will provide the Committee with information on LAHSA’s Homeless Prevention programs including Problem Solving / Diversion.

Prepared by: 

Jan Cicco
Regional Homelessness Coordinator

Approved by: Marisa Creter
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

REPORT

DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: SGVCOG Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **Regional Housing Trust Fund Working Group**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information and discussion.

BACKGROUND


The Regional Housing Trust Fund (RHTF) Ad Hoc Working Group was created by the Homelessness Committee in February 2019 and it has been engaged in a fact-finding mission since March 2019. The Working Group is co-chaired by ex-officio members Bill Huang and Joe Lyons. Participating cities included Baldwin Park, Claremont, Duarte, El Monte, Monrovia, Pomona, and San Dimas. In addition to cities, a business foundation, nonprofit developer, nonprofit and several State and federal staff participated in the factfinding meetings.

These meetings have focused on the identifying the intended objectives and needs of the proposed RHTF, including identifying initial and continuing funding sources, the types of lending or grants that might be needed to facilitate the construction of low income, very low income and homeless housing, and the need for gap funding to help push a development over the finish line.

The group heard presentations from staff from existing Regional Housing Trusts in the State that demonstrate different models for a housing trust models – the Orange County Housing Finance Trust (OCHFT) and the Silicon Valley Housing Trust. The OCHFT is a joint powers authority that was authorized by State law in 2018 and is currently made up of 17 cities. The Silicon Valley Housing Trust has been in operation since 2000 and is a non-profit organization that receives both public and private funding to produce more affordable housing.

Speakers included Heather Stratman, Principal Strategic Advisors, who was a key player in the analytical work identifying need and structuring the bill proposal that resulted in the creation of the Orange County Housing Finance Trust (OCHFT). Ms. Stratman provided input on initial best practices, next steps, and decision points that should be considered for the potential San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust in order to have a solid operational structure. There was also a presentation from Dave Kiff, Interim Director of the OCHFT at the time of its formation and Interim City Manager of Huntington Beach, who provided an overview of how the OCHFT appealed to cities in Orange County to expand its membership. Finally, the group heard a presentation from Julie Quinn, Chief Development Officer for the Silicon Valley Housing Trust, who brought a vision of the future for a Trust.

COG staff is developing an implementation plan that will focus on the RHTF outreach, negotiations for the joint powers agreement, and stakeholder engagement. Staff will provide more information information on the work to date and looking forward.

Prepared by: 
Jan Cicco
Regional Homelessness Coordinator

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director