



**AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
(SGVCOG) HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 – 8:30 A.M.
SGVCOG Office**

1333 S. Mayflower Avenue, Suite 360, Monrovia, CA 91016

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

Chair
Becky Shevlin
City of Monrovia
Vice-Chair
Margaret Clark
City of Rosemead

Members
Arcadia
Azusa
Baldwin Park
Claremont
Duarte
El Monte
Glendora
Irwindale
Monrovia
Montebello
Pasadena
Pomona
Rosemead
South El Monte
South Pasadena
LA County
Supervisorial District
#1

MEETINGS: *Regular Meetings of the Homelessness Committee are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 AM at the SGVCOG Monrovia Office (1333 South Mayflower Avenue, Suite 360, Monrovia, CA 91016).* The agenda packet is available at the SGVCOG's Office, 1333 S. Mayflower Avenue, Suite 360, Monrovia, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. Copies are available via email upon request (sgv@sgvcog.org). A copy of the agenda is also posted for public viewing at the entrance of the SGVCOG Monrovia Office Building. Any additional agenda documents that are distributed to a majority of the Board after the posting of the agenda will be available for review in the SGVCOG office during normal business hours and on the SGVCOG website noted above.

PUBLIC 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 meeting refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane, or disruptive remarks. A person who continues to disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting, after being warned by the Committee Chair or designee to cease the disruption, may be precluded from further participation in the meeting.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment: (i) on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the SGVCOG that is not on the agenda during the public comment period at the beginning of the agenda; (ii) on any item(s) that is on the Consent Calendar prior to action taken on the Consent Calendar; and (iii) on any other agenda item prior to the time it is considered by the Board or Committee. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public are requested to state their name prior to speaking. Comments are limited to a maximum of three minutes per person. The Committee Chair may impose additional time limits if comments become repetitious, an individual member of the public seeks to speak on numerous items, or a large number of members of the public seek to speak on an item. Except in limited situations, the Committee may not take action on items not appearing on the agenda and/or discuss them at length.

If you would like to provide a public comment during a Committee meeting, please see "Instructions for Public Comments" below.

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.



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 or via email to sgv@sgvcog.org. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



CONSENT CALENDAR: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Committee takes action on the balance of the Consent Calendar.

TELECONFERENCE LOCATIONS: State law allows Committee Members to teleconference from remote locations as long as certain conditions are met, including listing the teleconference locations in the agenda. The following location is hereby noticed as a teleconference location, which is accessible to the public for the purposes of observing this meeting.

<p>Claremont City Hall 207 Harvard Ave. Claremont, CA 91711</p>
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Instructions for Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items, but within the SGVCOG's subject matter jurisdiction, you may submit written comments via email or provide a verbal comment.

- **Written Comments (Email):** If you wish to submit written public comments to be distributed to the Committee Members at the meeting, please submit these materials via email to Victoria Urenia at vurenia@sgvcog.org at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. Please indicate in the "Subject" line of the email "FOR PUBLIC COMMENT" and the agenda item number to which the public comment is addressed. Written public comments may include, but are not limited to letters, reports, and presentations.
- **Verbal Comments (In Person):** If you would like to make a public comment at the Homelessness Committee meeting location, please fill out a public comment card. Comment cards will be made available to you by staff at the entrance to the meeting room. If you are attending the meeting at a noticed teleconference location and would like to make a public comment, please raise your hand when the item upon which you wish to speak comes up on the agenda.
- **Verbal Comments (Zoom):** If you would like to participate by teleconference from a private location, please email Victoria Urenia (vurenia@sgvcog.org) to request an attendee Zoom link. Through Zoom, you may provide a verbal comment by using the web interface "Raise Hand" feature when the agenda item upon which you wish to speak is to be considered. You will then be called upon to provide your verbal comments.

For questions related to accessing the available teleconference locations, please contact Victoria Urenia (vurenia@sgvcog.org) or (626) 255-2598.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

5 MINUTES

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

5 MINUTES

6. Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes – 11/6/2024 – [Page 1](#)
Recommended Action: Approve.
7. SGVCOG Fall Housing and Homelessness Report – [Page 4](#)
Recommended Action: Receive and file.

PRESENTATION

45 MINUTES

8. Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Housing Plan – Elan Shultz, Chief of Policy & Strategy, LA County Department of Mental Health – [Page 8](#)
Recommended Action: For information only.
9. FY 2023-2024 Housing Solutions Fund Update – [Page 11](#)
Recommended Action: For information only.

DISCUSSION

30 MINUTES

10. Comment Letter to Executive Committee for Regional Homeless Alignment (ECHRA) – [Page 21](#)
Recommended Action: Discuss and Provide Direction to Staff.

UPDATE ITEMS

5 MINUTES

11. Chair's Report
12. Executive Committee for Regional Homeless Alignment (ECRHA)

LIAISON REPORTS

5 MINUTES

13. San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust
14. San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness
15. Union Station Homeless Services – [Page 26](#)
16. LA County Homeless Initiative
17. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

ADJOURN



SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Meeting
November 6, 2024
8:30 AM
1333 S. Mayflower Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
B. Shevlin called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
M. Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Members Present:

A. Verlato, Arcadia
M. Carillo, Baldwin Park
J. Leano, Claremont
K. Davis, Glendora
B. Shevlin, Monrovia
D. Holley, Pomona
M. Clark, Rosemead
R. Salas, South El Monte
M. Cacciotti, South Pasadena
R. Serrano, LA County Dist. 1

Members Absent:

R. Gonzales, Azusa
V. Truong, Duarte
V. Sedano, El Monte
M. Ortiz, Irwindale
Vacant, Montebello
W. Huang, Pasadena

SGVCOG Staff:

R. Alimoren
N. Arreaga
M. Bolger
R. Choi
M. Creter
D. Dalan
T. Lott
Z. Mapes
P. Meija
S. Pedersen
S. Piedra
B. Salazar
C. Sims
J. Talla
V. Urenia
K. Ward

4. Public Comment
There were no public comments.

5. Changes to Agenda Order:
There were no changes to the agenda order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes – 9/4/2024
Action: Approve.
7. FY2025 - FY2026 Homelessness Committee Legislative Platform
Action: Recommend the Governing Board adopt a resolution approving the FY 2025 - FY 2026 Homelessness Committee Legislative Platform.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar. (M/S: K. Davis, M. Cacciotti)

[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Glendora, Monrovia, Pomona, Rosemead, South El Monte, South Pasadena
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE RECORDED:	LA County Dist. 1
ABSENT:	Azusa, Duarte, El Monte, Irwindale, Montebello, Pomona

PRESENTATION

8. State Legislative Update – Townsend Public Affairs
C. Shelby, Senior Associate at Townsend Public Affairs, presented on this item.

DISCUSSION ITEM

9. Good Neighbor Pledge
C. Sims, Local Programs Manager, and Onnie Williams, Principal Analyst from Los Angeles CEO-Homeless Initiative, presented the Good Neighbor Pledge, an approach to homelessness initiated after the Johnson v. Grants Pass Supreme Court decision that emphasizes regional collaboration. M. Clark emphasized the pressing need for policy and programs to treat those who may be mentally ill and suffering from drug addictions. R. Serrano emphasized the need for more housing and beds for the homeless, highlighting that the homeless are not a monolith.

UPDATE ITEMS

10. Chair’s Report
Chair B. Shevlin provided a verbal report.
11. Inaugural Executive Committee for Regional Homeless Alignment (ECRHA)
Chair B. Shevlin provided a verbal report.

LIAISON REPORTS

12. San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust
J. Leano provided an update on this item.
13. San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness
S. Chamberlain provided an update on this item.
14. Union Station Homeless Services
S. Morrissey provided an update on this item.

15. LA County Homeless Initiative
M. Santana, LA County CEO-HI Principal Analyst, provided an update on this item.
16. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 AM.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS REPORT



FALL 2024

This quarterly report is a summary of present work and recent outcomes and accomplishments of the SGVCOG's Measure H-funded programs. Cities and providers provide SGVCOG staff with necessary data to develop this report and is only reflective of Measure H-funded projects and programs.

MEASURE H - FUNDED PROGRAMS



Services to Supplement Existing Homeless Services Program

The Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse (L.A. CADA) provides additional outreach and services for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to supplement services that currently exist in the region.



High Acuity and SUD - Focused Outreach & Services for Persons Experiencing Homelessness

LA CADA provided targeted outreach and engagement to PEH who may suffer from substance use disorders, mental health disorders, or need the greatest support and services to end their homelessness.



Housing Solutions Fund

The Housing Solutions Fund provides additional assistance to cities and service providers with direct costs related to housing, rehousing, and stabilizing clients who are either at-risk or experiencing homelessness in the San Gabriel Valley.



Innovative Local Projects

4 cities/cohorts chose to opt out of regional programming to receive funding that supports the implementation of projects that serve people experiencing homelessness in their cities.



Regional Coordination

The SGVCOG supports the region's regional response to homelessness by supporting member cities' projects, providing program data and information on best practices, continuing the Village 143 program, and helping to encourage community support.

In September, these 2 programs were combined, creating the Regional Outreach and Supportive Services Program.

PROGRAM METRICS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

April - August 2024

SERVICES TO SUPPLEMENT EXISTING HOMELESS SERVICES PROGRAM

1,552

People engaged through outreach

565

Resources provided

78

Interim housing linkages

9

Permanent housing linkages

HIGH ACUITY AND SUD FOCUSED OUTREACH AND SERVICES FOR PEH

202

First-time encounters

456

Follow-up encounters

163

Resources provided

37

Interim housing linkages

HOUSING SOLUTIONS FUND

218

Clients served

13

Entities awarded flexible funds

INNOVATIVE LOCAL PROJECTS

FY 2023-24

Alhambra Homeless Outreach Mental Evaluation (HOME) Team

This program built the City's capacity to sustain the work of the HOME Team Program which focuses on serving those persons experiencing homelessness (PEH) in the City that are experiencing substance use disorder (SUD) or mental health challenges, and those that need the most support to be housed.



150

Clients served

35

Clients referred to interim housing

Arcadia Housing Solutions Funds

The City is building its capacity to serve people experiencing homelessness (PEH) by utilizing the housing solutions fund. These funds are specifically for direct costs associated with housing, rehousing, or stabilizing clients.



16

Clients served

88%

Clients served that have retained housing and/or secured permanent housing following intervention

Glendora Housing Solutions Funds

The City is utilizing funding to provide an additional resource for clients experiencing homelessness or those at-risk of homelessness.



57

Clients served

Pomona/Claremont HOPE for Home Program

The City of Pomona, in partnership with the City of Claremont, is administering a program that supports the Hope for Home Access Center and funds three Hope for Home Crisis housing beds.



59

Clients engaged

3

Clients placed in permanent housing

REGIONAL COORDINATION

VILLAGE 143

HABITAT ADU BUILD

In July, SGVCOG and SGVRHT staff assisted San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity volunteers in building the first of 14 Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) funded by the SGVRHT Housing Innovation Program. SGV Habitat received a \$1.8 million grant from the SGVRHT to develop a Revolving Loan Fund for ADU development. Their ADU program provides an opportunity for low-income homeowners to gain additional financial stability through rental income and provides low income renters with a below market rate rental option.



REPORT

DATE: December 4, 2024

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (LACDMH) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (BHSA) HOUSING PLAN**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

In March 2024, voters passed Proposition 1, the State Behavioral Health Services Program and Bond Measure. The Proposition included two parts: a \$6.4 billion Behavioral Health Bond for community infrastructure and housing with and services and the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). The BHSA replaces the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), a law that California voters passed in 2004 that established a 1% income tax on personal income of more than \$1 million to provide increased funding for mental health services. Revenue from the MHSA accounts for nearly one-third of county behavioral health services funding, making it an important funding source for California’s behavioral health system. In FY 24-25, approximately one-third of the LA County Department of Mental Health’s (LACDMH) funding (\$1.32B) came from the MHSA.¹

Since its passage, MHSA funding has been required to be used for mental health services, programs, and activities for all populations, including transition-age youth, adults, older adults, families, and the underserved. The State retained 5% of MHSA funding, and the remaining 95% of collected MHSA funding was distributed to counties to provide mental health services for all populations. The MHSA established 3 funding categories, as outlined in the table below, and the percentage of MHSA revenue that counties were required to allocate to each of the funding categories.

Current MHSA Funding Category	Types of Services/Activities	MHSA Revenue Allocation
Community Services & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full-Service Partnerships (FSPs)• Outpatient Treatment• Crisis Intervention• Wellness Centers• Housing Services• Capital Facilities	76%

¹ In FY24-25, LACDMH’s funding comes predominantly from the following sources: 44% State/Federal Med-Cal (\$1.81B), 32% MHSA (\$1.32B); 13% Realignment Funds (\$512.8M); 10% grants/other revenues (\$394.5M).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce and Training 	
Prevention and Early Intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-Based Services • Outreach to Older Adults • Suicide Prevention 	19%
Innovation Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Integration • Holistic Care 	5%

Proposition 1 will change the MHSA into the BHSAs, which will make treatment for substance use disorders an eligible service under the BHSAs. Proposition 1 also made changes to the funding categories and the revenue allocations between these funding categories. The State will retain 10% of BHSAs funding, with funding for a statewide behavioral health workforce development initiative and to prevent mental illness and for programs to prevent mental illness, drug, and/or alcohol addiction. Proposition 1 did not change the tax rate, so the way that funds are allocated will change but the amount of funding will not.

The BHSAs funding categories and allocations can be found below:

BHSAs Funding Category	Types of Services/Activities	BHSAs Revenue Allocation
Housing Interventions for those living with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Subsidies • Operating Subsidies • Shared & family housing • Capital 	30% ²
Full Service Partnership (FSP) Programs	<p>Must include the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health services, supportive services, and substance use disorder services • Assertive Community Treatment/Forensic Assertive Community Treatment that includes supported employment and high-fidelity wraparound services³ 	35%
Behavioral Health Services & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention • Outreach and Engagement • Workforce Education and Training • Capital Facilities 	35% ⁴

² 50% of this allocation is prioritized for housing interventions for the chronically homeless with behavioral health challenges.

³ High fidelity wraparound services include individualized care plans, family-driven care, access to support services, culturally competent care, and are outcome based.

⁴ A majority of this amount must be used for early intervention. A majority of those early intervention services and supports must be for people aged 25 years and younger.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological Needs • All other eligible behavioral health programs 	
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Counties have some flexibility to move up to 7% of funding from one funding category to another, for a maximum of 14% more added into any one category, based on data and community input, during the three-year plan cycle, and with approval from the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). These BHSA allocations become effective on July 1, 2026.

The most significant change with the BHSA and associated allocations is that 30% of BHSA funding is to be used for housing interventions for children and families, adults, and older adults living with a serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance (SMI/SED) and/or substance use disorder (SUD) who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. 50% of that funding is prioritized for housing interventions for the chronically homeless with behavioral health challenges.

In preparation for the implementation of the BHSA beginning on July 1, 2026, each mental health agency is required to develop an “Integrated Plan” that will outline its BHSA programs. LACDMH is expected to begin that planning process in early 2025.

Elan Shultz, Chief of Policy & Strategy, LA County Department of Mental Health will provide an update on Los Angeles County BHSA implementation, with a particular focus on the LACDMH’s housing programs, during the meeting.

Prepared by: Victoria Urenia
 Victoria Urenia
 Local Programs Liaison

Approved by: Marisa Creter
 Marisa Creter
 Executive Director

DATE: December 4, 2024

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: FY 2023-2024 HOUSING SOLUTIONS FUND UPDATE

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

For information only.

BACKGROUND

On March 16, 2023, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) received authorization from the Governing Board to submit the final FY 2023-24 Local Solutions Fund (LSF) application to the Los Angeles County Homelessness Initiative (HI) for approval. Measure H funding through the LSF was allocated to each subregion in Los Angeles County based on the average 2020/2022 point-in-time (PIT) count, including a ten percent loss measure that would ensure that no subregion's allocation would be reduced by more than ten percent due to the PIT count. Using this metric, the SGVCOG received a total allocation for the region of \$3,722,500.

One of the tasks that the SGVCOG included in its LSF proposal was the Housing Solutions Fund (HSF). The Housing Solutions Fund (HSF) was designed to prevent persons from falling into homelessness and housing unhoused individuals and families within the region with these flexible funds. HSF funding was designed to provide re-housing resources for service providers and cities in the San Gabriel Valley. This program was intended to provide financial resources that service providers and cities can access and administer to support clients. Flexible funds were intended to assist with costs such as, but not limited to, motel vouchers, security deposits, rental assistance, move-in costs, furnishing, and other items necessary to obtain housing.

The SGVCOG developed HSF program guidelines and an application process through which eligible cities and service providers could easily apply, access and administer flexible funds. Cities and service providers are required to meet the minimum financial and service qualifications (see Appendix E).

When selected to administer flexible funds, all participating entities must begin assisting households with problem-solving conversations that is designed to identify the households existing supports, strengths, and needs in order to identify creative solutions to resolve their housing crisis. Participating entities are required to designate specific staff to administer and implement the program's problem-solving framework. There are five main outcomes that can be achieved through the problem-solving framework which are as follows:

1. Permanently moving in with family or friends;
2. Returning to their own residence;
3. Temporarily moving in with family and friends as they seek new housing;

4. Relocating permanently to a safe location out of town where they have social supports of friends or family;
5. Finding a new residence of their own.

To that end, service providers are required to embed the problem-solving framework into their work to ensure that the household remains housed even after any financial intervention ends. Service provider staff are required to collaborate with the household to develop a housing stabilization plan that will include long- and short-term goals that outline the steps a household will take to achieve permanent housing and stability.

Participating entities utilize flexible funds towards several eligible expenditures that fall under two general categories – housing/rehousing and prevention. The objective of these eligible expenditures is to assist households with a goal established in the housing stabilization plan.

Housing/Rehousing

This program is focused on providing targeted resources for eligible clients to help them move into permanent housing. Each entity focuses on connecting clients to sustainable interventions and to help clients move them into permanent housing that they can retain. Expenditure types include the following:

- Identification
- Transportation
- Security Deposit
- First Month's Rent
- Furniture
- Motel/Hotel Vouchers
- Miscellaneous Expenditures (i.e. storage unit, hygiene goods, etc.)

Prevention

This program is focused on providing targeted resources eligible clients to prevent them from falling into homelessness and will allow for them to retain their housing. Expenditure types include:

- Documentation
- Transportation
- Security Deposit
- Rental Assistance
- Rental Arrears
- Host Household Assistance

The SGVCOG requires that all entities who assist clients with expenditures greater than \$500, the entity must complete the Housing Solutions Fund Pre-Approval Expenditure Request Form. The City or Service Provider staff must specify the type and amount of expenditure and confirm there is an established client housing stability plan. Staff must write a justification statement explaining the reason for funding for the expenditure request. The SGVCOG requires staff to confirm and agree that it is the City or Service Provider's responsibility to ensure that expenditures are eligible

per the expenditure limits and consistent with program requirements. Given the fact that the majority of these requests are time sensitive, the SGVCOG receives and assesses the submission and approves the requests as quickly as practicable, typically within the same day it is received or within 1 to 2 business days.

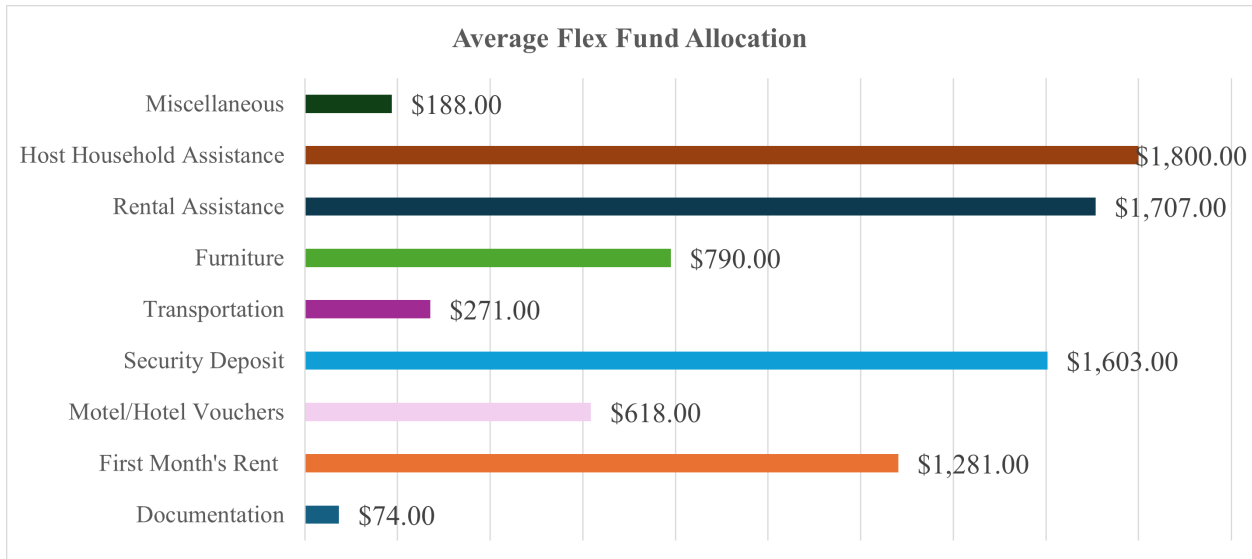
DISCUSSION

Participating entities provide SGVCOG staff with monthly household data on clients served. SGVCOG staff synthesizes this data and submits it to the County of Los Angeles to comply with the terms of its funding. SGVCOG is also able to use the submitted data to evaluate the impact of the program and document how each entity maximizes and leverages these resources to support both individuals and families to resolve their housing crisis. Data that is collected includes demographics (e.g. race, ethnicity, gender identity, age), expenditure type, household type (i.e. individual v. family), and household location at the time of making contact with the participating entity.

Key fiscal program data collected are highlighted below:

- 147 households were served and of that total, 37 were individuals and 110 were families
 - Out of the total number of households, 86 were assisted by cities and 61 were assisted by service providers (see Appendix B)
- Over 30 households were provided rental assistance to prevent them from falling into homelessness
- 110 family households were assisted; Housing Solutions Fund program filled in the gap of available resources to assist families experiencing
- 13 households were assisted with miscellaneous expenditures allowing for personal storage units to be compensated for and hygiene products to be provided for
- Provided flexibility to 10 households who were connected to a housing subsidy program (i.e. TLS) or Section 8 voucher and were in need of immediate move-in assistance such as a security deposit
- Assisted 16 households with transportation needs which included public transportation costs so households could attend job interviews and unit viewings, as well as the purchase of bus tickets for family reunification

There were several cities that benefited from the allocation of flexible funds providing insight on the level of impact allocations had throughout the region and what type of expenditures were households in need of assistance with (see Appendices A and D). The chart below displays the average allocation of those expenditures per month for households.



SGVCOG also collected demographic data (see Appendix C). The purpose of collecting demographic data is to proactively engage with cities and service providers to ensure inclusivity and access to critical resources that tackles the complexities of homelessness, which includes racial disparities and unique challenges related to specific subpopulations (e.g. undocumented status, multi-generational households, single parent households with minor children, etc.). SGVCOG staff took steps to collaborate with service providers that are outside the usual Coordinated Entry System (CES) providing services to people experiencing homelessness. Partnering with smaller service providers has immensely helped with building and maintaining relationships with property owners across the region and has contributed to the success of moving unhoused individuals and families into housing placements.

SGVCOG staff has also attributed ongoing communication to the program's success. Success has been defined as building and sustaining city and service provider relationships through the following processes and actions:

- Quick Pre-Approval Expenditure Request turnaround – SGVCOG requires that all proposed expenditures above \$500 receive pre-approval. All participating entities complete a request form to receive approval from SGVCOG staff. SGVCOG staff has aimed to review and approve the requests the same day or within 1 to 2 business days in comparison to the general problem-solving fund, where approval can take between 7 to 14 business days.
- Requirement to develop a Housing Stabilization Plan with the household prior to the allocation of flexible funds – While the pre-approval process is rather flexible and quick, SGVCOG staff conducts their due diligence by requiring requests include a Housing Stabilization Plan to ensure there is a pathway to permanent housing and the ability to maintain it after program intervention.
- Rapid connections to housing placements – All 147 households served were connected to either an interim or permanent housing placement within 90 to 120 days along with supportive services (i.e. medical care, mental health treatment, substance use treatment, childcare, financial resources, legal aid, etc.)
- Emphasis on funding prevention

REPORT

- Follow up with participating clients – Participating entities follow up with households 1 month after program intervention. Follow ups are reported in the Monthly Client Report Form.

In FY 2023-24, there were a total of 13 entities awarded, and all 13 confirmed they wanted to continue administering the program in FY 2024-25. SGVCOG staff has been engaging with new cities and providers and to date, there has been 3 new providers who will be administering flexible funds, increasing the total to 16 active participating entities. SGVCOG staff recognize the positive impact the program has had assisting households and aims to continue integrating the framework into the overall approach to addressing homelessness in the San Gabriel Valley as well as consider how to use the data that is collected to expand homeless prevention programs.

A presentation on FY 2023-24 Housing Solutions Fund program and updates will be presented by SGVCOG staff during this meeting.

Prepared by: *Samantha Piedra*
Samantha Piedra
Senior Management Analyst

Approved by: *Marisa Creter*
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

Appendix A – Awarded Entities and Cities Served

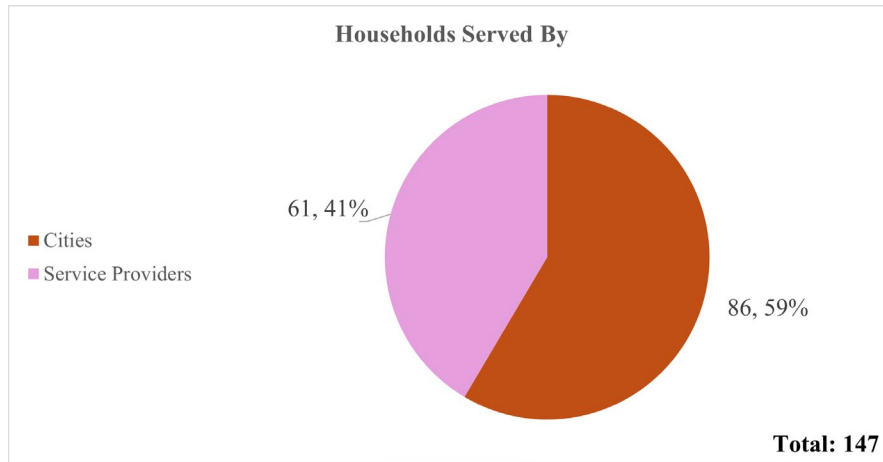
During FY 2023-24, the following cities and service providers were awarded flexible funds:

- City of Baldwin Park
- City of Duarte
- City of Glendora
- City of Monterey Park
- City of San Dimas
- City Net
- Family Promise of San Gabriel Valley
- Foothill Unity Center
- God's Pantry
- Support Solutions
- Sycamores

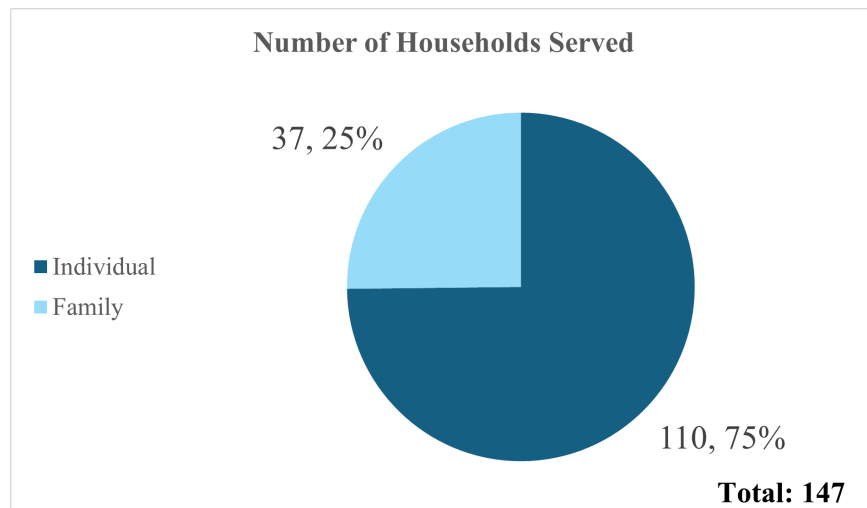
All participating entities were able to assist households residing in various cities in the region, which included:

- Arcadia
- Azusa
- Baldwin Park
- Duarte
- El Monte
- Glendora
- La Puente
- Monrovia
- Monterey Park
- Pasadena
- Pomona
- San Dimas
- Temple City
- West Covina

Appendix B – Total Households Served

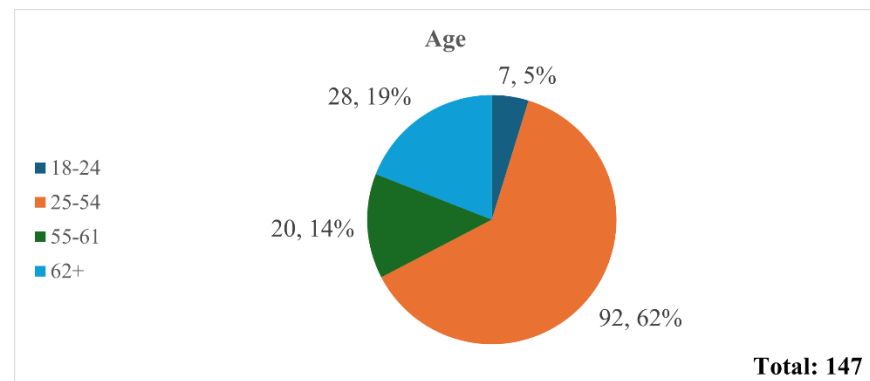
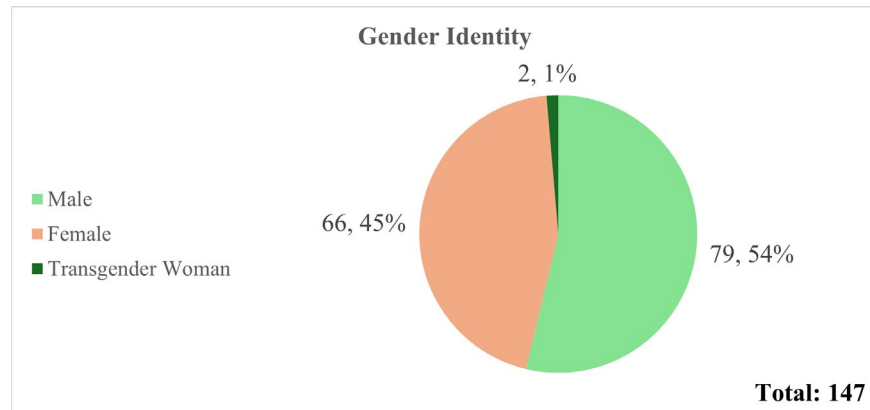
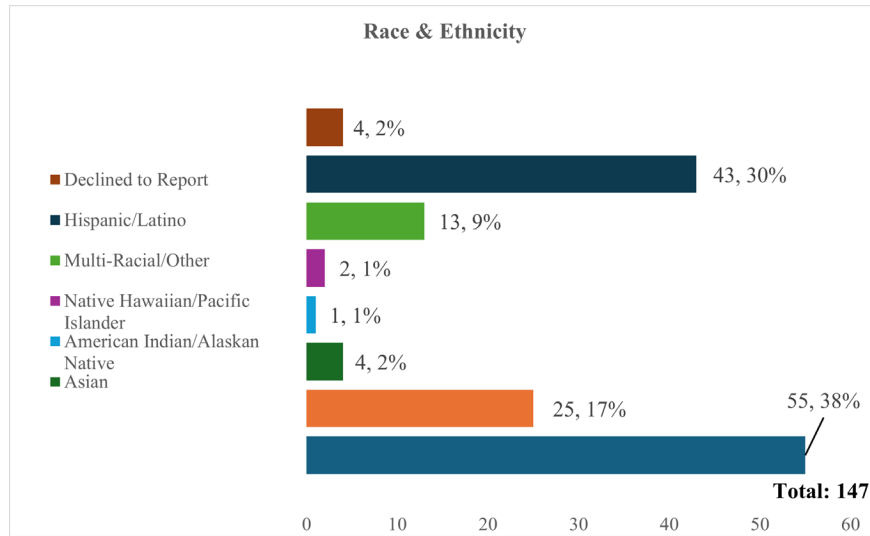


Households Served By – The chart represents the number of households assisted either by a participating city or service provider.



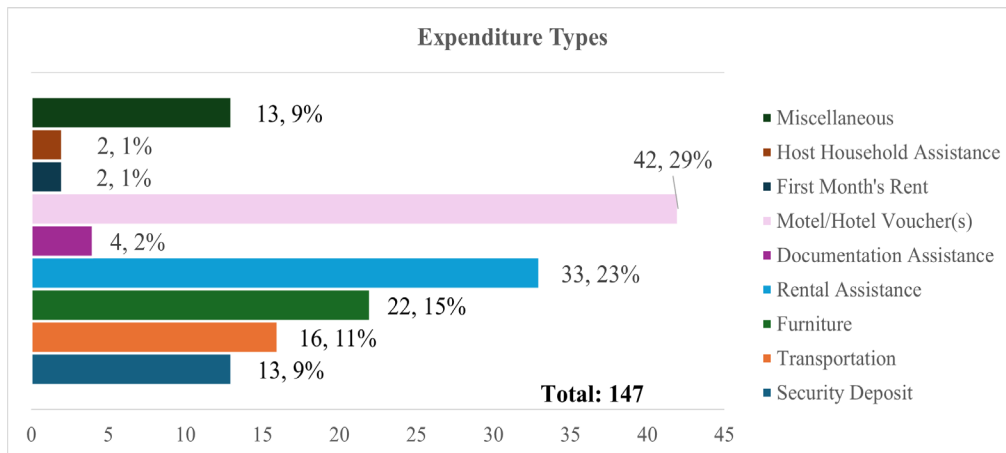
Number of Households Served – The chart represents the total number of households served. Out of the total number of households, 37 were individuals and 110 were families.

Appendix C – Demographics

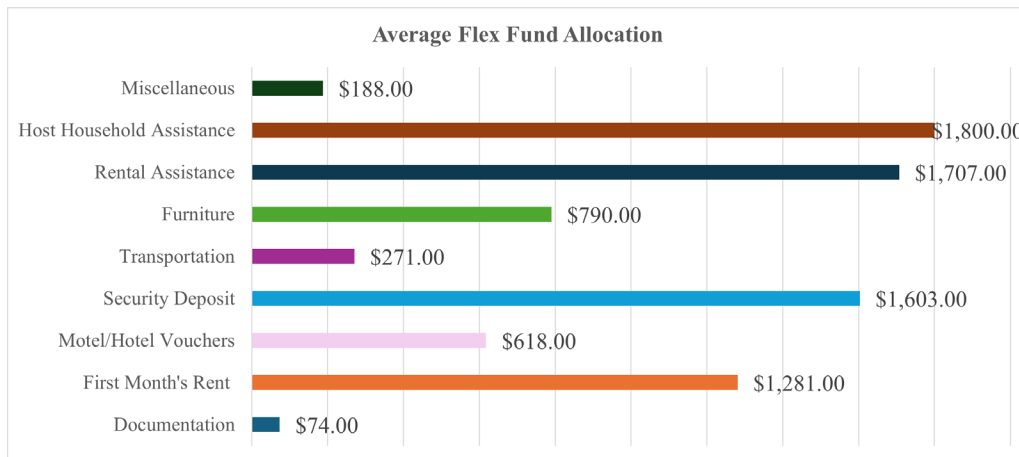


Between December 2023 through June 2024, Race & Ethnicity, Gender Identity and Age of the Head of Household were collected to provide insight as to who flex funds were reaching within the San Gabriel Valley region.

Appendix D – Expenditure Types and Allocations



Expenditure Types – In FY 2023-24, motel/hotel vouchers, rental assistance, furniture, were the most utilized expenditure types to assist households experiencing, or at-risk of, homelessness.



Average Flex Fund Allocation – The chart represents the average allocation per eligible expenditure per household.

Appendix E – Program Financial and Services Qualifications

Cities and service providers are required to meet the following minimum financial and service qualifications:

- Must have at least 2 years of experience providing homeless and/or housing assistance services in Los Angeles County
- Must be in good standing in the State of California
- Must have at least 1 designated, trained staff administering the program for the duration of the grant
- Must have suitable accounting, financial, and administrative systems for documenting grants and contracts, including a system of internal controls
- Must have adequate financial resources to perform the contract
- Must have an established system of collecting and managing client data in a way that meets all client privacy and security requirements
- Comply with all subcontractor terms of the SGVCOG's agreement with Los Angeles County

DATE: December 4, 2024

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **COMMENT LETTER TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESS REALIGNMENT (ECHRA)**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discuss and provide direction to staff.

BACKGROUND

In August 2023, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (LACBOS) established the Executive Committee on Regional Homeless Alignment (ECRHA) to improve and oversee the regional governance structure for homeless services. It was established as part of the implementation of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness (BRCH)¹, which identified establishing an “Executive-Level Action Team” to coordinate the region’s homelessness response as an action item. ECRHA was tasked with establishing a single plan for homelessness and then supporting the implementation of this single plan across the region. ECRHA’s work was to be supported by the “Leadership Table” – a body of representatives from regional governments, people with lived expertise, private funders, business leaders, faith leaders, and civic/advocacy groups – which would provide guidance and support in identifying the most effective strategies, scale solutions, align private and public funding, and communicate the vision County-wide. The list of ECRHA members can be found as Attachment A. Monrovia Mayor Becky Shevlin serves as the San Gabriel Valley Sector’s representative on ECRHA.

Measure A was an ordinance on the November 2024 ballot to repeal the existing Measure H one-quarter cent sales tax for homelessness services and replace it with a half-cent sales tax, with no sunset, for homelessness services and affordable housing. It passed and will become effective on April 1, 2025. The tax measure is expected to generate approximately \$1 billion annually. The Measure A Ordinance specifically designated how these funds would be allocated:

- 60% of funds allocated to the County of Los Angeles for “Core Comprehensive Homelessness Services”;
 - At least 15% of these funds would be allocated to a Local Solutions Fund dedicated to all cities – including the cities of Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Glendale – and

¹ The BRCH was established by the LACBOS in July 2021 – with one representative appointment by each LACBOS Office, two representatives appointed by the councils of governments (COGs), and a representative appointed by the Contract Cities Association – to conduct a comprehensive study of the governance structure of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and to identify and analyze challenges in the existing homeless services system. It ultimately approved a final report that outlined seven recommendations to improve the homeless services system in the County.

councils of governments based on the point-in-time (PIT) count (or another similar measure).

- 35.75% of funds allocated to the newly-formed L.A. County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSAs) for affordable housing and prevention²
 - As established by the LACAHSAs-enabling legislation, a portion of these funds would be provided to “eligible jurisdictions” for “Housing Creation, Preservation, and Ownership,” “Countywide Renter Protection and Support,” and “Technical Assistance” programs, using a specific formula outlined in the LACAHSAs-enabling legislation.
- 3% of funds allocated to the Los Angeles Community Development Authority (LACDA) for local housing production
- 1.25% of funds allocated to the County of Los Angeles for accountability, data, and research activities

The Measure A Ordinance also gave the following specific oversight and implementation responsibilities to ECRHA, with input from the Leadership Table:

- Develop best practices for standardization of care for connections to behavioral and mental health, medical care, and other services and establish guidance and key performance indicators for contractors and recipients of Measure A funds to ensure that these best practices are being implemented.
- By April 1, 2025, establish baseline and target metrics to be met by December 31, 2030, for the 3 of the 5 goals identified in the Measure A Ordinance, to be included in the County-adopted Regional Plan:
 - Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness;
 - Reduce the number of people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who experience homelessness; and
 - Increase the number of people permanently leaving homelessness.
- Evaluate and report publicly on the progress towards the above-listed Measure A goals (based on progress towards ECRHA-established target metrics and on the Measure A-established “key performance indicators”), the effectiveness of the implemented programs, and how the Ordinance’s goals might be better achieved.
- Make recommendations to the LACBOS and LACAHSAs to redirect funds to or away from specific programs for each goal for which the target metric has not been achieved by December 31, 2030. The Measure A Ordinance establishes limits on the percentage of

² LACAHSAs was formed via state legislation (SB 679), adopted in September 2022, as a regional organization to increase the supply of affordable housing in the Los Angeles County by enhancing funding and technical assistance for renter protections, affordable housing preservation, and new affordable housing production. It is governed by a twenty-one member board with representation from the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, each of the four subregional sectors, and experts in affordable housing production, affordable housing preservation, and renter support and protection. The LACAHSAs-enabling legislation requires that LACAHSAs’s budget be allocated towards “Housing Creation, Preservation, and Ownership” (40%), “Countywide Renter Protection and Support Programs” (30%), “Designated Annual Priorities” (15%), and “Technical Assistance, Research, & Policy Development” (5%). The legislation also requires that the majority (70%) of LACAHSAs’s funding in most of these categories be allocated to “eligible jurisdictions” – which include the County’s four largest cities, the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, and the County’s councils of governments (COGs) – based on each eligible jurisdiction’s pro-rata share of lower income housing need.

funding that can be reallocated to or away from a Program, and it establishes that the percentage of funding going to LACAHSAs cannot be less than 33.3%.

- By October 1, 2031, formulate new baseline and target metrics for the above-listed goals and, at least every five years thereafter, evaluate and make recommendations to the LACBOS and LACAHSAs to redirect funds to or from specific programs.
- Oversee and make recommendations on the expenditure of funds allocated to the County and LACDA to inform the County’s oversight and evaluation requirements.

ECRHA will clearly play an important role in the homeless services system and in the implementation of Measure A. In October 2023, the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG) and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) submitted a letter to ECRHA highlighting their urgent recommendations in order to address barriers to “effective, coordinated, and fair regional and local strategies” as Measure A – and/or any other potential new funding and policies – were advanced (Attachment B). The letter highlighted the following needs:

- Use widely accepted mechanisms to count the homeless population in each city, COG region, and across the County that doesn’t rely solely on the point-in-time (PIT) count;
- Establish a transparent process leveraging data coordinators from across municipalities, agencies, and service providers to better understand data;
- Undertake Coordinated Entry System (CES) reform to ensure that regional access centers and shelters and City-funded investments are all integrated into the system and referral processes.
- Better integrate and coordinate mental health services; and
- Establish a mechanism for ongoing, transparent information sharing of successes, failures, and lessons learned.

The letter also included several Measure A-specific recommendations and requests:

- Utilize a rolling 3-year average homeless count for funding formulas;
- Ensure that cities/COGs are eligible for reimbursement for services provided, even for city resident-only shelters;
- Establish terms for cities/COGs to access a defined portion of the “Core Homeless Services/Countywide services” funding allocated to the County of Los Angeles under Measure A;
- Confirm and clarify that cities/COGs will receive guaranteed minimum allocations for the Local Solutions Fund and the LACAHSAs programs (specifically those for “Housing Creation, Preservation, and Ownership” and “Countywide Renter Protection and Support,” and “Technical Assistance;”
- Clarify which Measure A funds can be directly to cities, COGs, and/or a Housing Trust.


The letter also requested some additional letter to the LACAHSAs board to ensure that cities and COGs were also integrated into that funding and expenditure decision-making process.

With the passage of Measure A, it is important to ensure that the San Gabriel Valley is participating in any regional discussions occurring at ECRHA meetings and that its interests are represented. To that end, staff is seeking feedback from the Committee on the SGVCOG’s approach.

SGVCOG staff has reviewed the GCCOG/SBCCOG letter and, based on its experience with Measure H and ongoing feedback from member cities, concurs with many of the points identified.

- PIT Count: SGVCOG staff has heard from many participating cities that the PIT count is not an accurate depiction of the level of homelessness in a city, and many cities have had to undertake their own homeless censuses to better understand the population of persons experiencing homelessness within their jurisdictions.
- Data Coordination: SGVCOG staff has found that there is rarely transparent data available from the County or the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). Front-line staff at several cities have tried but not been able to gain access to the County’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and have had to create their own separate systems in order to best serve clients.
- CES Reform: SGVCOG staff has experienced and heard from cities’ staff that key components of CES – including the regional outreach teams; referral processes for resources such as time limited subsidies (TLS) and Housing Navigation; effectiveness of the Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal (LA-HOP) – are extremely difficult to access. The SGVCOG – and service providers serving interim housing sites that are not funded directly through CES – have also had extreme difficulties in accessing CES resources like TLS and Housing Navigation.
- Mental Health Services: SGVCOG staff has consistently heard from its member cities that mental health services are extremely limited in the region and that there needs to be more support integrated into the homeless outreach.
- Information Sharing: SGVCOG staff has found limited venues to hear true feedback on the successes and challenges of implementing progress and services for PEH.

Given ECRHA’s important role moving forward, it would likely be beneficial for the SGVCOG to consider supporting any letters and/or actions that were in the best interest of the SGVCOG in Measure A implementation. As such, staff is seeking feedback and direction from the Committee on how to proceed.

Prepared by: 
 Caitlin Sims
 Manager of Local Programs

Approved by: 
 Marisa Creter
 Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A – ECRHA Membership
- Attachment B – GCCOG/SBCCOG Letter

Attachment A

- 2 members from the LABOS
 - Supervisor Kathryn Barger (LA County Supervisorial District 5)
 - Supervisor Lindsey Horvath (LA County Supervisorial District 3)
- The Mayor of Los Angeles
 - Mayor Karen Bass
- Representative of the Los Angeles City Council
 - Councilmember Nithya Raman
- Representative of the California Governor
 - Hafsa Kaka, Senior Advisor of Homelessness
- Representative from each Subregional Sector:
 - North County/San Fernando Valley: Richard Loa (Mayor Pro Tem, City of Palmdale)
 - San Gabriel Valley: Becky Shevlin (Mayor, City of Monrovia)
 - Southwest Corridor: Paige Kaluderovic (Mayor Pro Tem, City of Redondo Beach)
 - Southeast/Long Beach: No representative (pending confirmation by City Selection Committee)

SGVCOG Liaison Report
Union Station Homeless Services – December 2024

1. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Regional Coordination Provider Meetings

- a. **Upcoming** Regional Coordination Meetings:
 - i. Adult System - 4th Tuesday each Month 2:30-3:30pm (Virtual)
 - ii. Family System - Every 1st Wednesday of the month from 10:30 am-11:30 am (Virtual)
 - iii. DV System - 3rd Monday in First Month of Every Quarter 10-1130am (Virtual)
 - iv. Faith-Based Coordination - 2nd Wednesday Every Month 4-5pm (Virtual)
 - v. SPA 3 Employer Partners Meeting - 2nd Tuesday Every Month 2-3pm (Virtual)
- b. **Upcoming** Outreach Coordination meetings:
 - i. Monthly All SPA Outreach Coordinators Meeting - 2nd Thursday of every month 1-2 pm (Virtual)
 - ii. Quarterly In-Person Outreach Coordinators Meeting - 2nd Thursday of the third month 1-2 pm
 - iii. Pasadena Street Outreach Collaborative - 4th Thursday 9-10:30 at the Pasadena Housing Department

2. USHS Programs

- a. **Outreach and Engagement**
 - i. DHS-funded Multidisciplinary Outreach Teams (MDT) + Public Spaces + Harm reduction team continues full regional outreach, 7 days per week during business hours including primary care services
 - ii. City of Pasadena Funded Outreach Programs - HOPE Team liaison, PORT Team, ERF, Safe Haven. Monday-Friday, Business hours
 - iii. DHS-Funded METRO DHS MDT continues to perform outreach services on the Metro A line from South Pasadena Station through APU/Citrus station(including Metro Properties). Mon-Fri 6:30 AM - 2:30PM
 - iv. For outreach to a person, referrals can be submitted through LA-HOP: LA-hop.org and/or email singleadultreferrals@unionstationhs.org
- b. **Interim Housing**
 - i. USHS continues to offer shelter through *Adult Center and Family Center in Pasadena, Iris Project HomeKey in El Monte, Tiny Homes Eagle Rock, PHK Huntington Villas and Casa Luna in El Sereno, and Pathway Home Santa Fe in El Monte (please refer through LA-HOP and Clarity CES Providers)*
 - ii. Safe Haven—12 open slots for participants to receive housing navigation and a safe place to sleep at All Saints Church, referrals can be sent to Erin Butler at ebutler@unionstationhs.org
- c. **Permanent Housing & Supportive Services**
 - i. USHS Housing Location team conducts intensive landlord outreach in the SGV region and utilizes an internal web-based portal to coordinate unit viewings with case managers. Email housinglocation@unionstationhs.org
 - ii. Intensive Case Management Services with Scattered Site and Project Based Permanent Supportive Housing *with Housing for Health, LACDA CoC, Holly Street Housing, Centennial Place, Heritage Square South, Marv's Place,*

- Euclid Villa.*
- iii. Employment Services Team - Current programs are connected to our Time Limited Subsidy clients in SPA 3. Referrals go through TLS Providers.
 - 1. Team also coordinates Expungement Clinics with LA County Public Defender's Office and linkages to our partner with Hope Credit Repair program.
 - iv. Housing Navigation and Time Limited Subsidy - Rental Assistance Programs - Referrals go through Encampment Resolution IH, Regular IH, or Access Center El Monte VOALA for HN and/or TLS program slots.
- d. **Family Services**
- i. All services above but tailored for families with minor children experiencing homelessness, submit referrals to fscreferral@unionstationhs.org
 - ii. Additional services and coordination for DV system providers and persons experiencing homelessness and DV.
- e. **New Projects**
- i. Mirador Altadena 35 Units of PSH for seniors (USHS Service Provider)
 - ii. Agave Altadena 58 units of mixed use including PSH (USHS Service Provider)

3. ***Capacity Building Highlights and Opportunities.** Please contact [Shawn Morrissey](#) for:

- a. Upcoming **Changing the Narrative Podcast** Season 3 (TBD)
- b. **H.O.U.S.E Internship Program** coming Spring/Summer 2025
- c. Information on Union Station's **Lived Expertise Advisory Panel**
- d. **Capacity Building Trainings** for your group or agency
- e. Union Station continues to provide our **Naloxone Distribution and Drug Education Program** as a free offering to all interested Partners and Cities.

*Contact [Shawn Morrissey smorrissey@unionstationhs.org](mailto:smorrissey@unionstationhs.org) (626-375-4010) for more info.

4. **Dinner in the Park:** For more information: volunteer@unionstationhs.org or [626.240.0720](tel:626.240.0720)