



**ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, HOUSING, OUTREACH,  
MITIGATION & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

**A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS**

## **County Engineers Association of California**

***August 25, 2023***

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# CSAC Homelessness Efforts

- Complex issue requiring comprehensive response; historic investments by State and Local governments
- No real system to define who does what
- No accountability linked to State/Local authority, responsibilities, flexibility, and resources
- CSAC Homelessness Principles, other actions and direction

# Developing the AT HOME Plan

## Homelessness Inventory



All County Survey



Policy Recommendations

To make meaningful progress in helping those who are unhoused,  
**the California State Association of Counties offers:**



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# Accountability



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

- One countywide or regional plan
  - Clear and measurable outcomes
  - Funded through one fiscal agent
  - Counties and cities have unique authority and are ultimately responsible to constituents
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities
  - Cities – site and support shelters, site permanent supportive housing, and encampment clean-up in incorporated areas
  - Counties – site and support shelters, site permanent supportive housing, and encampment clean-up in unincorporated areas; HHS programs countywide
  - Cities/Counties – encampment outreach determined locally
- Ongoing funding
  - Allocated to entities commensurate with responsibilities identified in countywide plan
  - Maximize local flexibility
  - Performance-based funding for achieving success
  - Minimum county amount

# T ransparency



Integrate and expand data to improve program effectiveness

- Funding and technical assistance to support robust data systems with case management and secure data sharing
- Standardize data collection and planning around institutional discharge
- Pursue enhancements to existing HHS data systems to provide more robust data on housing needs

# Housing



Increase and maintain housing units across the spectrum

- More federal and state funding to build low-income housing, especially permanent supportive housing for persons with complex/high needs
- Create and fund flexible housing subsidies and expand and increase flexibility for the existing Housing Choice vouchers
- Reduce complexity of planning, permitting, and constructing affordable housing



# Outreach



Develop sustainable outreach systems and increase workforce to support these systems

- Maximize efforts to obtain federal funds to cover outreach, rapid response, and retention activities
- Expand training incentives for law enforcement and probation responding to unsheltered individuals
- Identify skills needed for a homeless response system workforce, including leveraging lived experience and creating new trained classifications



# Mitigation



Strengthen safety net programs

- Increase flexibility of county behavioral health funding to maximize federal Medi-Cal funds and expand the reach of investments for the unsheltered population
- Ensure counties have sufficient resources to administer core safety net programs
- Increase access to programs that provide treatment and recovery services for substance use disorder

# Economic Opportunity



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

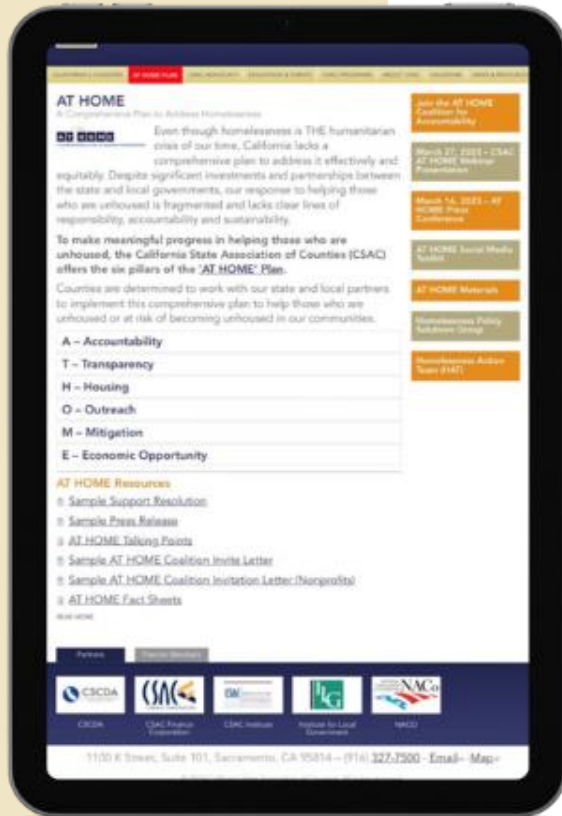
- Develop specialized education and job training programs to serve formerly homeless persons, including those who are justice-involved
- Work with local workforce development/investment boards and partner with community colleges
- Continue and expand efforts to assist more qualifying aged, blind, and disabled persons to obtain SSI/SSP benefits

# AB 129 – Homelessness Budget Trailer Bill

Signed by Governor on July 10, 2023

- Establishes Round 5 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Grant Program to be funded at \$1 billion in 2023-24.
- Does not include ongoing funding, but includes intent language to provide funding in 2024-25.
- Requires counties, big cities, and CoC's to apply for HHAP as one region, and to coordinate on the development and submission of a regional homelessness action plan.
  - Must include identification of roles and responsibilities for all participating jurisdictions regarding outreach, siting and use of land, the development of shelters, interim, and permanent housing, and connection to services.
- Counties, CoCs, and big cities within a region must sign an MOU. Small cities may sign and are encouraged to participate.

# What's Next?



Work with Governor, Legislature, Federal partners, cities, and stakeholders.

**Never ever stop fighting for counties and communities!**



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# Thank you! Questions?



Scan the QR code  
to access 'AT  
**HOME**' resources.

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