

Action Plan for California Homeless Families

PRIORITY ONE: Recognizing a stable environment is critical to child development, permanent housing is the primary intervention to prevent and end family homelessness.						
Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager¹	Implementer²	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
Strategy 1.1 <i>Recognize that the majority of families are homeless because market rate rental housing is not affordable.</i>	Action 1.1.1 <i>Coordinate efforts to maintain and expand the supply of federal housing vouchers and foster the provision of public housing authority (PHA) units to housing families and children.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development			
	Action 1.1.2 <i>Provide incentives and state resources to support time limited shallow rent subsidies and local jurisdictions in the development of affordable housing for families and children.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flexibility on use of federal, state and other funds. ▪ Identification of resources for rental assistance. 		
	Action 1.1.3 <i>Target a percentage of state housing resources to very low-income families with children.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preservation of Proposition 46 funds targeted to low-income housing. 		
	Action 1.1.4 <i>Identify permanent sources of funding to increase supply of affordable housing and supportive services for families with children.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development			
Strategy 1.2 <i>Preserve existing supply of affordable housing units.</i>	Action 1.2.1 <i>Preserve existing regulated affordable housing units for families with children.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development and California Housing Finance Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retain current MHP program. 		
	Action 1.2.2 <i>Develop compendium of housing models that meet the needs of homeless families.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development			

<p>Strategy 1.3 <i>Preserve and develop housing units through effective land use policies.</i></p>	<p>Action 1.3.1 <i>Fulfill and enforce Housing Element requirements to provide adequate sites for affordable housing.</i></p>	<p>California Department of Housing and Community Development</p>	<p>California Department of Housing and Community Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification of enforcement issues. 		
	<p>Action 1.3.2 <i>Actively support administrative and legislative efforts to reform the housing element law to incentivize and reward jurisdictions that accept and meet their fair share allocations and ensure that adequate sites are zoned for homeless shelters, transitional housing, and affordable service enhanced housing.</i></p>	<p>California Department of Housing and Community Development</p>	<p>California Department of Housing and Community Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support programs that provide financial incentives to those jurisdictions that approve building permits in excess of their RHNA numbers. 		
	<p>Action 1.3.3 <i>Actively support administrative and legislative efforts that ensure adequate sites are zoned for homeless shelters, transitional housing, and service enhanced housing.</i></p>	<p>California Department of Housing and Community Development</p>	<p>California Department of Housing and Community Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support programs that provide priority points for state housing programs to local governments whose housing elements zone sites for shelters and/or supportive housing for the chronically homeless. 		

Strategy 1.4 <i>Review competency of state and local policy and modify as appropriate.</i>	Action 1.4.1 <i>Enforce existing fair housing regulations.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development			
	Action 1.4.2 <i>Build reasonable accommodation language into state policy.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	California Department of Housing and Community Development			
Progress to Date		Barriers and/or Situational Changes		Immediate Next Steps (including potential technical assistance needs)		

¹ The Manager is the individual responsible for coordinating each action.

² The Implementer is the individual (or entity) responsible for carrying-out each action.

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PRIORITY TWO: *Develop and sustain strong leadership at state and local levels to prevent and end homelessness.*

Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager	Implementer	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
<p>Strategy 2.1 <i>Develop and sustain state agency and departmental leadership on homelessness.</i></p>	<p>Action 2.1.1 <i>Establish State Interagency Council on Homelessness.</i></p>	<p>Office of the Governor</p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance coordination across mainstream systems of support to meet the needs of homeless families and children and those at-risk of homelessness. ▪ Identify and implement best practices that can be brought to scale at the state level. ▪ Determine and implement strategies to replicate across divergent communities. 		
	<p>Action 2.1.2 <i>Create state inter-agency staff level teams to improve access to mainstream services and coordinate state activities and resources.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create “Barrier Busters” interagency team. ▪ Improve cross-system coordination in the care of families and children with multiple service needs, e.g. Proposition 46 and 63 coordination of funding for supportive housing. ▪ Identify barriers for service delivery organizations, e.g. 		

				<p>faith-based organizations, shelters, transitional housing, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify additional coordination efforts between mental health and alcohol/other drug services systems. 		
	<p>Action 2.1.3 <i>Recognizing that a significant percentage of homeless are families with children, develop a public education campaign that conveys the fiscal and social impacts of homeless families and children.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and highlight best practices that are cost effective and impact specific populations. 		

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<p>Strategy 2.2 <i>Appoint a statewide leader on homelessness to develop and cultivate relationships to prevent homelessness and enhance access to mainstream services for homeless families and children.</i></p>	<p>Action 2.2.1 <i>Identify leaders at both the state and local levels to build political momentum at all levels to develop and implement a multi-year plan.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>Statewide Leader</p>				
	<p>Action 2.2.2 <i>Build knowledge on homelessness for elected officials.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>Statewide Leader</p>				
	<p>Action 2.2.3 <i>Identify and develop private and other supports (e.g. foundations) to sponsor statewide forums for sharing best practices and aligning programs and policies.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>Statewide Leader</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support peer- to-peer learning across communities on core issues. 			
Progress to Date		Barriers and/or Situational Changes			Immediate Next Steps (including potential technical assistance needs)		

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PRIORITY THREE: Recognizing the parallel efforts to combat family homelessness, integration of systems and supports will foster coordinated success statewide.

Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager	Implementer	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
<p>Strategy 3.1 <i>Coordinate state and local activities to align efforts and resources on homelessness and prevention of homelessness.</i></p>	<p>Action 3.1.1 <i>Identify core issues confronting state and local efforts to end family homelessness and facilitate dialogue with local practitioners.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness staff</p>			
	<p>Action 3.1.2 <i>Identify and replicate new program approaches to enhance access to mainstream services at shelters and transitional/permanent housing sites.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>				
	<p>Action 3.1.3 <i>Develop guidelines for consistent discharge and medication protocols.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>California Department of Mental Health, Department of Health Services, Department of Social Services, Alcohol and Drug Programs</p>			
<p>Strategy 3.2 <i>Support clearinghouse of information and knowledge on local and regional best practices.</i></p>	<p>Action 3.2.1 <i>Conduct ongoing research, develop measures of outcomes and accountability, and integrate needed improvements to facilitate access to mainstream services for families and children.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify measurable outcomes of improved state coordination and integration of programs. ▪ Coordinate data collection with Homeless Management Systems (HMIS) and maximize the use of existing systems. ▪ Ensure that future grants and contracts with service providers 		

				include research, data collection, and evaluation components.		
	Action 3.2.2 <i>Identify services including childcare parenting classes, after school programs, jobs training/placement, mental health, AOD services access to benefits.</i>	State Interagency Council on Homelessness	Department of Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Programs, Department of Social Services			
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PRIORITY FOUR: PREVENT FUTURE FAMILY HOMELESSNESS RECOGNIZING THAT THERE ARE PREDICTORS OR PREDICATE FACTORS LEADING TO FAMILY HOMELESSNES AND THAT EARLY INTERVENTION IS SOCIALLY AND FISCALLY SOUND, ACT TO PREVENT FAMILY HOMELESSNES.

Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager	Implementer	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
<p>Strategy 4.1 <i>Promote and adopt effective interventions that focus on specific populations at risk of becoming homeless.</i></p>	<p>Action 4.1.1 <i>Identify interventions focused on the needs of specific populations, e.g. emancipating foster youth, population re-entering from the criminal justice system, domestic violence victims, and other at-risk populations, and effective interventions.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Department of Social Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs</p>			
	<p>Action 4.1.2 <i>Provide technical assistance to local service providers on targeted services for specific populations.</i></p>	<p>State Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Department of Social Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs</p>			
	<p>Action 4.1.3 <i>Research and identify effective interventions and prevention strategies towards at-risk youth.</i></p>					
<p>Strategy 4.2 <i>Promote and adopt effective interventions that are culturally competent.</i></p>	<p>Action 4.2.1 <i>Provide technical assistance to service providers on culturally appropriate and targeted services for sub-populations.</i></p>					
<p>Strategy 4.3 <i>Identify and promote best practices and effective interventions in schools.</i></p>	<p>Action 4.3.1 <i>Identify federal and state resources necessary to support effective interventions.</i></p>					
	<p>Action 4.3.2 <i>Examine compliance issues associated with federal</i></p>					

	<i>requirements concerning homeless children, e.g. homelessness coordinator in each district and records transfers protocols.</i>					
	<i>Action 4.3.3 School to school transfer programs (consider Orange County Model program and tap the National Resource Center).</i>					
<i>Strategy 4.4 Strengthen the capacity of Independent Living Programs (ILP) to prevent homelessness and identify effective strategies targeted to emancipating foster youth and others outside the child welfare system.</i>	<i>Action 4.4.1 Evaluate adopting a housing plan as part of ILP.</i>					
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