

Bridging Boundaries Action Lab: Parole, Probation, and Homeless System Partnerships

Call for Applications

Homebase's Criminal Legal System Initiative invites leaders from homelessness response systems and parole and probation agencies to jointly apply to our new action lab series: Bridging Boundaries. The Bridging Boundaries Action Lab is open to co-applicant pairs of leaders who are interested in increasing housing stability for individuals experiencing homelessness while on probation or parole.

Homebase is a technical assistance provider dedicated to building community capacity to prevent and end homelessness, reduce poverty, and foster thriving, inclusive communities. For over three decades, we have worked alongside our partners in our home state of California and in communities across the country to identify and analyze the root causes of homelessness and develop effective systems and solutions.

Formerly incarcerated people are at least ten times more likely to experience homelessness than members of the general population. Further, people experiencing homelessness often have frequent contacts with law enforcement. The Bridging Boundaries Action Lab seeks to disrupt the cyclical relationship of these systems.

Homebase's Criminal Legal System Initiative (CLSI) develops effective partnerships between leaders in homeless systems and the criminal legal system to meet the crucial housing needs of this shared population. We have helped communities establish stronger partnerships, shared language and understanding, and mutual support for meaningful strategies to address housing and public safety goals. More information about the CLSI, including samples of our written resources and recordings of past convenings and trainings, is available at <https://www.homebaseccc.org/clsi>.

The Bridging Boundaries Action Lab will include three virtual workshops of up to two hours. There will be one workshop per month in each of October, November, and December 2023. Individual technical assistance to assist with implementation of Action Lab commitments will be provided in early 2024 at mutually convenient virtual meeting times. There is no cost to participate in this series, and a commitment to implementation is required.



Submission Deadline:

[Via online application](#) on September 15, 2023 by 5pm PST

Selection Notification:

September 25, 2023 by 5pm PST

Participant Acceptance:

September 29, 2023 by 5pm PST

**Action Lab Workshop Dates
(all three required):**

October 25, 2023 from 9am-11am PST

November 15, 2023 from 9am-11am PST

December 13, 2023 from 9am-11am PST

Monthly technical assistance meetings:

TBD January through March 2024



Questions?

Email actionlab@homebaseccc.org

About the Bridging Boundaries Action Lab

Co-applicant teams should include one partner from the homelessness response system and one partner from the probation and/or parole system. Co-applicant pairs must submit a joint application. Up to six pairs will be selected for participation. Pairs must commit to attend all three sessions, without staff substitutions, to maintain the flow of the series.

The specific topic of the series will be selected based on feedback collected during the application process. Topics may include:

- Collaborative case management
- Systems mapping from discharge to housing, and/or
- Establishing designated housing resources

Depending on interest and demand, the series will either focus on a single topic for all pairs, or two parallel topic tracks with cross-learning components.

Sessions will include topic-related presentations, peer group idea exchanges, and breakout rooms with facilitated space for each pair to engage in practical planning and goal setting. Opportunities for implementation of strategies and practices in between sessions, or “homework,” will be required. By the end of the three-part series, participants will: (a) develop a strategy in the topic area; (b) clarify roles and responsibilities of each partner in the team; (c) take initial steps towards implementation of the strategy; and (d) determine next steps for technical assistance and progress in 2024.

Criteria for Co-Applicant Pairs

Co-applicant pairs, to include partners from the homeless system of care and probation and/or parole, should have a basic working relationship. Each member of the team should have some decision-making authority within their organization. Team members should be committed to reducing homelessness for people exiting incarceration within one of the potential topic areas, including a willingness and ability to implement any needed policy change.

To be considered for the Action Labs, co-applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Overlapping jurisdiction in the geographic area in which the change is sought
2. An existing working relationship between co-applicant partners
3. Commitment to attend all three of the virtual workshops, with no staff substitutions
4. Ability and willingness to dedicate approximately ten hours a month to move the desired action forward (outreach to colleagues, reflection, data gathering, research)
5. Commitment to implementation, including participation in technical assistance in 2024

Application Process

Joint co-applicant pairs of homeless system and parole and probation leaders interested in participating in this Action Lab series must complete the [online application](#) form by September 15, 2023 at 5:00 pm PST. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please HOLD the virtual training dates in your calendars so conflicts do not arise after selection for participation. Technical assistance dates will be determined based on participant schedules in the new year.