

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA/CENTRAL VALLEY HOMELESS ROUNDTABLE

WEST SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY CENTER  
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

- 9:00 a.m.      Gathering and Networking**
- 9:30            Welcome & Introductions**
- 10:00          Criminal Record Expungement**  
Oliver Ehlinger, Legal Services of Northern California
- 10:45          Break**
- 11:00          California’s Free ID and Birth Certificate Law**  
Joe Boniwell, Housing California  
Yvette McShan, Victorious Black Women
- 11:45          HUD Updates**  
Larry Wuerstle & John Burke
- 11:55          CoC Roll Call**
- 12:25          Lunch**
- 1:25            Announcements, Funding Roundtable**
- 1:30            HCD Updates**  
Cindy Cavanaugh, HCD
- 1:45            Legislative and Budget Updates and Actions**
- Federal Updates: HomeBase
  - State Updates: Joe Boniwell, Housing California
- 2:15            Open & Closed HMIS Systems: Data Sharing in a Coordinated Entry Environment**
- 3:00            Adjourn**

# Northern California/Central Valley Homeless Roundtable History

(If no location is noted, the meeting was held in Sacramento/West Sacramento)

- **How to Develop Local Homeless Policy**, hosted by Placer Consortium on Homelessness and Affordable Housing (PCOH), in Roseville, CA, on April 29, 2004
- **The Housing First Model**, hosted by Yolo County Homeless Coalition, in Woodland, CA, on July 29, 2004
- **Discharge Planning to Prevent Homelessness**, hosted by Sacramento County & Cities Board on Homelessness, in Sacramento, CA, on Oct. 26, 2004
- **Local Corrections Systems**, hosted by HUD Sacramento Field Office and California HCD, in Sacramento, CA, on Feb. 24, 2005
- **Housing First Model, 10 Year Plans, Prop 63**, hosted by Butte CoC, in Oroville, CA, on May 5, 2005
- **Homeless Counts; Engaging Law Enforcement**, Merced Continuum of Care Collaborative, in Merced, CA, on July 28, 2005
- **Interacting with Media, MHSA, Medical Care**, hosted by City of Redding & Shasta CoC, in Redding CA, on Oct. 21, 2005
- **Advocacy Issues; Paul Boden & Megan Schatz**, hosted by Stanislaus Housing and Supportive Services Collaborative, in Modesto, CA, on Feb. 23, 2006
- **HMIS Best Practices & Input on 10 Year Plan**, hosted by San Joaquin Continuum of Care, in Stockton, CA, on July 27, 2006
- **Role & Enhancement of Roundtable Infrastructure**, Planning Committee Retreat, in Sacramento, CA, on Aug. 24, 2006
- **Housing Models & Their Application in Member CoC**, hosted by Kings/Tulare CoC, in Visalia, CA, on Oct. 19, 2006
- **10-Year Strategic Planning, Extreme Weather Preparedness**, hosted by Yolo County Homeless Coalition on Feb. 15, 2007
- **Continuum Improvement & Development**, hosted by Chico/Paradise/Butte Continuum of Care on May 17, 2007
- **Advocacy; Federal, State & Local Levels**, hosted by Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care on Aug. 16, 2007
- **Hospital Discharge Planning**, hosted by Redding/Shasta County Continuum of Care Council, in Redding, CA, on Nov. 15, 2007
- **SSI Advocacy**, hosted by HUD Sacramento Field Office, California HCD and HomeBase on Feb. 21, 2008
- **Housing Development 101: Focus on PSH**, hosted by Central Sierra CoC, in Jackson, CA, on May, 22, 2008
- **RRH for Families, Housing Operations 101**, hosted by HUD Sacramento Field Office, via Conference Call, on Aug. 28, 2008
- **Project Homeless Connect, Homeless Count**, hosted by Sacramento CoC on Dec. 4, 2008
- **Homeless Programs: Surviving and Thriving**, hosted by Yolo County Housing and Poverty Action Coalition on Feb. 26, 2009
- **How Do We Capitalize on What's Happening Now?**, hosted by Fresno-Madera CoC, in Fresno, CA, on May 28, 2009
- **HMIS Data Standards**, hosted by Roundtable Planning Committee, via Conference Call, on Aug. 27, 2009.
- **Regional Coordination**, hosted by Placer County Continuum of Care, on Nov. 19, 2009
- **HEARTH and Foundation Funding** on Feb. 25, 2010
- **Roundtable Retreat** on March 16, 2010
- **HMIS as a Planning Tool** on May 27, 2010
- **Federal Strategic Plans and CoC Coordination with Federal Mainstream Systems of Care** on August 26, 2010
- **Community-wide Performance Measurements** on December 2, 2010
- **Connecting Homeless Persons to Employment** on February 24, 2011
- **Targeting - How do we best match need to service?** on May 26, 2011
- **Food Security, 100,000 Homes, Corrections Realignment, and Healthcare Reform** on August 11, 2011
- **Linking Homeless Veterans to Housing and Services** on November 4, 2011
- **Serving Homeless Youth; Innovations in SSI Advocacy** on February 23, 2012
- **Coordinated/Centralized Assessment; Working with PHAs** on May 24, 2012
- **Interim Continuum of Care Regulations** on August 23, 2012
- **Opening Doors Revisited; Bringing Law Enforcement to the Table** on December 6, 2012
- **Implementing 211, Coordinating with ESG** on February 28, 2013
- **Definition of Rural, RHSP regulations** on May 23, 2013
- **Federal agencies responding to Homelessness; Serving vehicularly housed** on August 22, 2013
- **Adapting Transitional Housing; Rural Data; Extreme Weather** on December 5, 2013
- **Emergency Shelters: Increased Use and Decreased Funding** on March 27, 2014
- **Using Medi-Cal for Services in Supportive Housing** on May 22, 2014
- **Then and Now: Homelessness in Our Communities from 2004-2014** on August 28, 2014
- **Homelessness Crisis Response System** on December 4, 2014
- **Promoting Landlord Partnerships to Overcome Housing Attainment Barriers** on February 26, 2015
- **Building Positive Relationships with Law Enforcement** on May 28, 2015
- **Fair Housing & Alternative Housing Models** on September 3, 2015
- **Ending Veteran Homelessness: Progress & Strategies** on December 3, 2015
- **Building CoC Capacity** on February 25, 2016



# CALIFORNIA'S 58 COUNTIES

**PACIFIC OCEAN**

**MEXICO**

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

MAY 26, 2016

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a collection of funding opportunities that HomeBase has seen become available recently. These may not be appropriate for all applicants, and any summaries may not be fully accurate. Please refer to the original grant materials or original source for additional information.

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## HEALTHY HOMES TECHNICAL STUDIES GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

**Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Description:** HUD is funding studies to improve HUD's and the public's knowledge of lead-based paint hazards and other housing-related health and safety hazards, and to improve or develop new hazard assessment and control methods, with a focus on key residential health and safety hazards.

The overall purpose of both the Lead and the Healthy Homes Technical Studies programs is to gain knowledge to improve the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of methods for evaluation and control of lead-based paint and other housing-related health and safety hazards. This also supports HUD's Strategic Goal to Strengthen Communities and the associated policy priority to Improve Our Nation's Communities by improving the environmental health and safety of families living in public and privately owned housing.

**Eligibility:** The 2015 General Section identifies threshold requirements that must be met for an organization to receive an award. If your organization received an award under the FY2014 Healthy Homes Technical Studies Grant Program cycle, you are not eligible to apply unless you apply with a different Principal Investigator (PI). Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible to compete for, or receive, awards made under this announcement.

Includes: Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments); Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; City or township governments; State governments; Small businesses; For profit organizations other than small businesses; Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; County governments; Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized); Private institutions of higher education; Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification); Special district governments; Independent school districts; Public and State controlled institutions of higher education

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$2,000,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$700,000

**Award Floor:** \$300,000

**Due:** June 1, 2016

**Link:** [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa16/hhts](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa16/hhts)

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## RESEARCH AND EVALUATION, DEMONSTRATION, AND DATA ANALYSIS AND UTILIZATION

**Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Description:** In support of HUD's objectives, awardees may be asked to undertake a variety of research and evaluation activities, from articulating research questions to conducting the research itself and culminating in communicating research findings. Eligible activities include research design and work plan development, data collection, and data analysis.

**Eligibility:** Native American tribal governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, for profit organizations other than small businesses, city or township governments, small businesses, private institutes of higher education, state governments, county governments, nonprofits with 501(c)(3) status.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$500,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$500,000

**Award Floor:** \$300,000

**Due:** June 6, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?opId=282807>

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## SMART REENTRY: FOCUS ON EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESSFUL REENTRY FROM INCARCERATION TO COMMUNITYCHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANTS PROGRAM

**Agency:** Department of Justice: Bureau of Justice Assistance

**Description:** The goal of this program is to support jurisdictions to develop and implement comprehensive and collaborative strategies that address the challenges posed by reentry to increase public safety and reduce recidivism for individuals reentering communities from incarceration who are at medium to risk for recidivating. Within the context of this initiative, reentry is not envisioned to be a specific program, but rather a process that begins when the individual is first incarcerated (pre-release) and ends with his or her successful reduction in risk of recidivism and community reintegration (post-release). This process should provide the individual with appropriate evidence-based services including reentry planning that addresses individual criminogenic needs identified through information obtained from an empirically validated risk/needs assessment that also reflects the risk of recidivism for each individual. The reentry plan should reflect both specific and ongoing pre-release and post-release needs, and a strategy for ensuring that these needs are met throughout the duration of the reentry process.

**Eligibility:** City or township governments; state governments; county governments.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$6,000,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$1,000,000

**Award Floor:** \$0

**Due:** June 9, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?opId=282907>

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## JOBS PLUS INITIATIVE

**Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Description:** This Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announces the availability of funding of approximately \$15 million for the Jobs Plus program for Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) to develop locally-based approaches to increase earnings and advance employment outcomes for Public Housing residents. The NOFA will fund initiatives to improve employment and earnings outcomes for Public Housing residents through supports such as work readiness, employer linkages, job placement and financial literacy.

**Eligibility:** Conditions for Eligibility of Public Housing Authorities Eligible applicants are PHAs that operate one or more public housing developments (as designated for asset management purposes) that meet the criteria outlined in this NOFA. PHAs that received a Jobs Plus program grant in 2014 or 2015 are not eligible for 2016 grant funds. Criteria for Eligible Developments Size: Minimum development size of 200 non-elderly-only households. Non-elderly-only means households where at least one resident is under age 62. Unemployment: At least 50 percent of the households (excluding elderly-only households) contain no member showing earned income in PIC. Place: Because Jobs Plus is a place-based program, units to be served must be contiguous unless good cause can be shown that the program will be successful in non-contiguous developments. Performance: Developments that belong to a non-performing PHA may be eligible to participate provided HUD has determined the PHA has the capacity to implement and oversee the grant successfully.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$15,000,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$3,000,000

**Award Floor:** \$1,000,000

**Due:** June 13, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=282902>

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## ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

**Agency:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**Description:** This 4-year pilot program is intended to implement and evaluate new Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) programs and identify evidence-based practices in order to reduce the incidence and duration of psychiatric hospitalization, homelessness, incarcerations, and interactions with the criminal justice system while improving the health and social outcomes of individuals with a serious mental illness. Grants will be awarded to applicants who have no previously implemented AOT programs. AOT (also known as involuntary outpatient commitment, conditional release, and other terms) involves petitioning local courts to order individuals to enter and remain in treatment within the community for a specified period of time. AOT is intended to facilitate the delivery of community-based outpatient mental health treatment services to individuals with serious mental illness that are under court order as authorized by state mental health statute.

**Eligibility:** States, counties, cities, mental health systems (including state mental health authorities), mental health courts, or any other entity with authority under the law of the state in which the applicant grantee is located to implement, monitor, and oversee AOT programs. Applicants must operate in jurisdictions that have in place an existing, sufficient array of services for people with serious mental illness such as ACT, mobile crisis teams, supportive housing, supported employment, peer supports, case management, outpatient psychotherapy services, medication management, and trauma informed care.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$13,250,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$1,000,000 per year

**Award Floor:** \$0

**Due:** June 16, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-16-011>

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## FAIR HOUSING INITIATIVE PROGRAMS

**Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Description:** The Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) provides funding to fair housing organizations and other non-profits that assist individuals who believe that they have been victims of housing discrimination. Currently FHIP provides funds to eligible organizations through competitive grants under three initiatives to carry out enforcement activities to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices and inform individuals of their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act. The Initiatives are: the Fair Housing Organization Initiative (FHOI), Private Enforcement Initiative (PEI) and the Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI).

However, for FY2016, funding for each initiative is listed under a separate NOFA. Applicants must apply under the correct NOFA to be considered for funding. Additionally, if an applicant is eligible and applying for funding under separate initiatives and/or components, the applicant must submit a separate application under the correct NOFA for each component the applicant applies.

**Eligibility:** Depending on the component, eligible applicants may be Qualified Fair Housing Enforcement Organizations (QFHOs) and Fair Housing Enforcement Organizations (FHOs), public or private not-for-profit organizations or institutions, and other public or private entities that are formulating or carrying out programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices; agencies of State or local governments; and agencies that participate in the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP).

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** Estimated Total Program Funding: \$9,142,458

1. Fair Housing Organization Initiative (FHOI) - \$500,000
2. Private Enforcement Initiative (PEI) - \$7,897,458
  - a. Multi-Year Funding Component (PEI-MYFC): Total PEI Multi-Year Funding (PEI-MYFC) is \$29,375,000 minus \$22,452,542 already reserved for FY 2014 and FY 2015 Multi-year grantees), therefore making \$6,922,458 available for FY2016 new awardees
  - b. Lending Component (PEI-L) - Applicants may apply for funding under each FHIP NOFA as long as the applicant meets the specific eligibility requirements for each Initiative/Component, and in accordance with the funding restrictions listed in each NOFA. There is \$975,000 available for these grants.
3. Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI)--\$7,450,000

- a. National-Based Programs
  - i. National Media Campaign Component (EOI-NMCC) - \$1,250,000
- b. Regional/Local/Community Based Program
  - i. General Component (EOI-G) - \$5,950,000
  - ii. Tester Coordinator Training (EOI-TC) - \$250,000

**Award Ceiling:** Not stated

**Award Floor:** \$0

**Due:** June 23, 2016

**Link:** [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa16/fhip](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa16/fhip)

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## CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANTS PROGRAM

**Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Description:** Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants support the implementation of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans that are expected to achieve the following three core goals:

1. Housing: Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;
2. People: Improve educational outcomes and intergenerational mobility for youth with services and supports delivered directly to youth and their families; and
3. Neighborhood: Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families' choices about their community.

**Eligibility:** Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), local governments, tribal entities, nonprofits, and for-profit developers that apply jointly with a public entity. In addition to being an eligible applicant, the application must also demonstrate that the proposal targets an eligible housing project and is located in an eligible neighborhood.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$120,000,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$30,000,000

**Award Floor:** \$0

**Due:** June 28, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=282659>

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## STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

**Description:** The purpose of the Street Outreach Program (SOP) is to conduct outreach services designed to build relationships between grantee staff and runaway, homeless, and street youth with the



ultimate goal being to keep youth safe and help them leave the streets. This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) and other discretionary spending this fiscal year are designed to ensure that effective interventions are in place to build skills and capacities that contribute to the healthy, positive, and productive functioning of children and youth into adulthood. SOP grantees provide support services that aim to move youth into stable housing and prepare them for independence. The program's ultimate goal is to prevent the sexual abuse or exploitation of young people living on the streets or in unstable housing.

Every day, in communities across the country, young people run from or are asked to leave homes characterized by abuse, neglect, or parental drug and alcohol abuse. Since 1996, projects funded by the SOP have provided services to youth living on the streets and in unstable situations by reaching out to them. These projects aim to increase young people's safety, well-being, and self-sufficiency, and to help them build permanent connections with caring adults, with the goal of getting them off the streets.

**Eligibility:** Public and nonprofit private agencies are eligible for awards under this funding opportunity, in accordance with section 351 of the RHY Act.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$7,454,335

**Award Ceiling:** \$200,00 per budget period

**Award Floor:** \$90,000 per budget period

**Average Projected Award Amount:** \$162,051 per budget period

**Due:** July 5, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=283514>

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## BASIC CENTER PROGRAM

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

**Description:** The purpose of the Basic Center Program (BCP) is to provide an alternative for runaway and homeless youth who might otherwise end up with law enforcement or in the child welfare, mental health, or juvenile justice systems. The Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) is committed to facilitating healing and recovery, and promoting the social and emotional well-being of children, youth, and families that have experienced maltreatment, exposure to violence, and/or trauma. This funding opportunity announcement and other discretionary spending this fiscal year are designed to ensure that effective interventions are in place to build skills and capacities that contribute to the healthy, positive, and productive functioning of children and youth into adulthood.

The BCP works to establish or strengthen community-based programs that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth, youth at risk of running away, and their families. The programs provide youth up to age 18 with emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for health care and other appropriate services. Most basic centers can provide up to 21 days of shelter for a maximum of 20 youth at a time. Basic centers seek to reunite young people with their families, whenever possible, or to locate appropriate alternative safe placements.

**Eligibility:** Public and nonprofit private agencies are eligible for awards under this funding opportunity, in accordance with section 351 of the RHY Act. They may include: State governments; County governments; City or township governments; Independent school districts; Private nonprofit institutions

of higher education; Special district governments; Public and state controlled institutions of higher education; Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; Native American tribal governments (federally recognized); Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments); Non-profit having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Non-profit without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education.

**Anticipated Total Program Funding:** \$2,000,000

**Award Ceiling:** \$200,000 per budget period

**Award Floor:** \$50,000 per budget period

**Average Projected Award Amount:** \$146,428 per budget period

**Due:** July 5, 2016

**Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=283567>

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## **PUBLIC & INDIAN HOUSING FAMILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM AND FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY DEMONSTRATION (FUP-FSS)**

**Agency:** US Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Description:** A demonstration program where Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) have the opportunity to test the effectiveness of combining housing choice vouchers for eligible youth lacking adequate housing under the Family Unification Program (FUP) with assistance under the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) program. The purpose is to increase opportunities for housing youth with support to achieve self-sufficiency. The demonstration extends the 18-month time limit to match the length of the FSS contract, typically five years.

**Eligibility:** Public Housing Authorities who currently administer both FUP and an FSS program

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** not available

**Length of Project:** PHAs must continue to accept participants for the demonstration until notified by HUD.

**Due:** July 15, 2016

**Link:** <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=pih2016-01.pdf>.

# FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MAY 26, 2016

## FEDERAL BUDGET

On February 9, 2016, President Obama released his Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Request. The budget request includes nearly \$6 billion in targeted homelessness assistance across federal agencies, an 11% increase over last year's budget, along with an additional \$11 billion over 10 years in mandatory funding targeted for homeless families.

The \$11 billion in mandatory funding would fund short- and long-term rental assistance for 550,000 families with children over the next ten years. On the discretionary side of the budget, the President requested \$414 million in CoC/ESG funds, which would fund 25,500 permanent supportive housing units for chronically homeless households, and also includes \$24 million in rapid re-housing for youth and \$25 million to expand the youth homelessness demonstration program started in FY 2016. The discretionary funds also include a \$6 million increase over the FY 2016 enacted level in HHS' Runaway and Homeless Youth program for tailored housing and services interventions for youth, including over \$2 million in prevention pilots. The discretionary budget as proposed would continue to support HUD-VASH and SSVF at current levels, and includes a \$12 million increase in funding to the Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.

The Senate passed S. 2844, its Transportation/HUD appropriations bill, on May 19. This bill will hold funds steady for many HUD programs during FY 2017. This bill would keep the HOME program at \$950 million and SHOP at \$10 million, would increase Section 202 and voucher funds, and would decrease amounts for homelessness programs and Native American housing.

The Administration has threatened a veto of the Senate bill, listing numerous objections including the funding levels for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance and for Homeless Assistance Grants. The House version of the bill, H.R. 2577, contains less funding for tenant-based rental assistance and Healthy Homes and lead hazard control, but more funding for Native American Housing Block Grants, Homeless Assistance grants, and housing counseling. The House subcommittee approved it on May 18.

## LEGISLATION

### **H.R. 4888 Ending Homelessness Act of 2016**

H.R. 4888, an amendment to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, was introduced on 3/23/2016. This bill aims to make additional FY2017-FY2021 appropriations available for: 1) emergency relief grant to address the unmet needs of homeless populations in jurisdictions with the highest need; 2) rental assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937; and 3) homeless outreach and coordination services.

This bill will provide funding to HUD to expand the Healthcare and Housing Systems Integration Initiative by assisting states and localities in coordinating policies among Medicaid programs, behavioral health providers, housing providers, and financial support services for homeless programs. The bill was referred to the House Budget Committee and House Committee on Financial Services.

## FEDERAL UPDATES

### **RESOURCES FROM HUD**

HUD has recently released several resources, tools, and guidance documents to help Homeless Assistance Programs:

*Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Final Rule:* HUD posted guidance regarding affirmatively furthering fair housing and HUD's rule clarifies existing fair housing obligations with a streamlined process to analyze the local fair housing landscape and set fair housing priorities and goals through an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH). The AFFH final rule page includes AFFH Resource and Training Material, which contains tools, guidance, training, data and mapping, and other resources related to the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule. The trainings include webcasts from March and April 2016, which provide an overview of the Assessment of Fair Housing and User Interface training.

See more at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/affh/>

*Housing + Employment Works Webinar Series:* HUD, in partnership with the Department of Labor and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, is offering a series of webinars on strategies for effective partnerships between CoCs and local workforce organizations, including utilizing Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act resources, assessing consumers' employment-related needs and abilities in coordinated entry, and using systems performance measures to evaluate progress around employment and income. The second webinar in the series was held on April 21, 2016 and focused on Building System Capacity to Employ People Experiencing Homelessness. This webinar explores the

importance of collaborating with local Workforce Investment Boards and how to provide homeless job seekers with resources to find and retain employment. The third webinar in the series will be held on June 16, 2016 and will focus on Employment Assessment in Coordinated Entry Systems.

The second webinar can be found at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/news/housing-employment-works-webinar-series/>

*SNAPS in Focus: CoC Collaboration with Workforce Boards Under WIOA:*

<https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/SNAPS-In-Focus-CoC-Collaboration-with-Workforce-Boards-Under-WIOA.pdf>

*Understanding HOPWA Access to Care and Support Outcomes:*

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5025/understanding-hopwa-access-to-care-and-support-outcomes/>

## RESOURCES FROM FEDERAL PARTNERS

*Rapid Re-Housing Know How:* In April 2016, the National Alliance to End Homelessness released a series of full-length webinars exploring various topics related to rapid re-housing. These topics include rapid re-housing for high barrier households, tailoring rapid re-housing for serving single adults, spotlight communities, and many more. See more topics at:

<http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/rapid-re-housing-webinars>

*10 Strategies to End Chronic Homelessness:* On April 1, 2016, The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness released 10 strategies that communities can implement to assist in ending chronic homelessness. The document recognizes that supportive housing is the solution to combating chronic homelessness, but also that ending chronic homelessness takes political will, leadership, collaboration, and coordination among multiple state and local programs to align resources for housing and supportive services. To help with this challenging work, USICH compiled these 10 strategies to drive progress in communities across the nation. Each strategy includes links to tools that will further facilitate implementation of the strategies.

The strategies and tools can be found at:

[https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset\\_library/10\\_Strategies\\_to\\_End\\_Chronic\\_Homelessness.pdf](https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/10_Strategies_to_End_Chronic_Homelessness.pdf)

*Connecting People Returning from Incarceration with Housing and Homelessness Assistance:* In March 2016, The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness released a resource which provides practical tips for how

corrections agencies, reentry service providers, state and local governments, and community partners to connect people exiting the criminal justice system to available housing resources. This document provides 7 action steps along with guiding objectives to provide reentry services for people returning from incarceration.

The guide and links to additional resources can be found at:

[https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset\\_library/Reentry\\_Housing\\_Resource\\_Tipsheet\\_Final.pdf](https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/Reentry_Housing_Resource_Tipsheet_Final.pdf)

# DATA SHARING IN A COORDINATED ENTRY ENVIRONMENT

## OPEN AND CLOSED SYSTEMS

Is your HMIS an open or closed system? When we talk about open and closed systems, what we mean is whether data entered by an HMIS user from Agency A can be seen by users from Agencies A and B (open) or if only other users from Agency A can see that data (closed). If you're not sure what your CoC has, it may be helpful to think in terms of a spectrum instead of a binary. Many "closed" systems allow providers to occasionally share data. Most "open" systems still keep some data elements private.

### Discussion Questions:

- Does your data system share as much information as you would like?
- What information is shared? What is kept private?

## PRIVACY: THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

HUD does not require data sharing within HMIS, but has set up its data-sharing policies to encourage it. New HMIS guidelines are expected to be released soon, but until then, HMIS data sharing is governed by the 2004 Data and Technical Standards Notice. The goal of these standards is to protect personal information but still allow reasonable, responsible, and limited uses and disclosures of data.

The baseline for privacy under the 2004 Standards is to protect information that does or might identify a specific individual. Such information can only be used with notice (a description of how personal information is collected, stored, used and shared) and consent (the client's agreement to the use of his or her personal data.).

### Discussion Questions:

- Does your CoC have system-wide privacy policies in place?

## SHARING DATA IN A COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

Data management, including data sharing, is necessary for a functional Coordinated Entry System. There are many ways to share data—HMIS, another data management system,

through case conferencing and by-name lists—but there are advantages to using HMIS, particularly for geographically large CoCs or those with more limited resources.

The first advantage is that there is no additional cost for using HMIS. All CoC and ESG providers (except Domestic Violence agencies), as well as a variety of other federal programs, are already using HMIS. Using HMIS for Coordinated Entry keeps CoCs from having to pay for additional software. Second, because clients are already being entered into HMIS, the burden on providers is reduced by not having to enter data twice. Third, the privacy and security standards of an HMIS are already set to meet federal standards, while another system might not be.

On the other hand, HMIS requires providers to collect a minimum of 14 elements, which might be a disincentive for small or high-volume providers who aren't required to use HMIS. This is particularly true if a CoC is using 211 or a similar phone service for Coordinated Entry. HMIS is also not ideally set up for sharing information with non-homeless-specific providers such as healthcare and police. Depending on which HMIS a CoC uses, it might not have the functionality to do what a CoC would like, and hiring someone to provide custom programming could reduce the price benefits of HMIS over another system.

#### Discussion Questions:

- How does your community share or plan to share data for coordinated entry?
- What barriers to data sharing do you see? For example, specific populations such as Domestic Violence.

## HOW TO OPEN YOUR SYSTEM

If your CoC's system is currently on the closed end of the spectrum, you may have encountered some resistance to opening it. Providers are—not unreasonably!—very protective of their clients and recognize that much of the information being shared is highly sensitive. Because these are strong and valuable feelings, it is important to engage providers in the process of opening the HMIS rather than mandating it at a system level.

Ideally, all agencies participating in HMIS can be brought together to develop data-sharing principles and policies to allow all providers to share their concerns and end up with a system that satisfies everyone. Reluctant providers can help develop strong data protection policies and can be convinced of the advantages of data sharing. For example, being able to see project entries and exits is a fast way to document episodes of homelessness under HUD's new definition of chronic homelessness. Similarly, sharing Universal and Program Specific Data Elements can reduce time spent gathering redundant information.



One strategy for opening a system is to start with “safe” elements and expand from there. Going directly from sharing nothing to sharing mental health records is a big step, but starting with just name, social security number, and date of birth is enough to prevent system duplication. Depending on program requirements, you might only need a few additional elements—veteran status, chronically homeless status, assessment score—for coordinated entry.

Discussion Questions:

- What barriers are you finding to data sharing?
- If your CoC does share data, did you encounter resistance to doing so? How did you get around it?
- How are you dealing with data quality issues for shared data?