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California Awarded Approximately \$150 Million to Prevent Homelessness from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act

Workshop to Be Held This Week to Assist Applicants Interested In This Federal Funding

Sacramento – The federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department announced Friday that it approved the California Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) application for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). HCD will hold its first application workshop about the program this week.

HPRP, a component of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009, or ARRA, was signed into law on February 17, 2009 by President Obama. It is an unprecedented response to the increased number of families facing homelessness throughout California and the United States. HUD announced it will award \$1.2 billion for 400 communities nationwide for the program. California received approximately \$150 million for 70 communities, plus HCD. HCD will administer \$44.5 million to jurisdictions throughout the state.

HCD's application, which is a requirement for federal funding, has been officially approved by HUD. Wednesday's workshop is open to any entity that plans to apply for funds from HCD's allocation. The day-long session is designed to answer stakeholders' questions about the program and application process.

"The Schwarzenegger Administration is working around the clock to bring Recovery Act funding into the California economy as quickly, effectively and responsibly as possible. This funding was federally designated for homelessness and will go a long way in helping the homeless – and those on the verge of homelessness – receive the support and services they need in California," said Lynn L. Jacobs, Director of HCD.

As designated federally, funds from this program must be used for short- or medium-term rental assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services including housing search, mediation or outreach to property owners, credit repair, security or utility deposits, utility payments, rental assistance for a final month, moving cost assistance and other homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing activities.

For more information, visit www.hcd.ca.gov/econrecov or www.hud.gov/news.

HCD provides leadership, policies and programs to preserve and expand safe and affordable housing opportunities and promote strong communities for all Californians. The Department also supports increasing the supply of housing, especially affordable housing and works to

improve the state's housing conditions and the health and safety of its residents. As the lead housing department, HCD is part of the state Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

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