# Application Narrative for CoC Allocation San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care (CA-614)

# 1. SUMMARY OF HOMELESSNESS IN THE COC, LARGE CITY, OR COUNTY

**A**. **B**.

Completed HUD Longitudinal System Assessment (LSA) from October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018

- September 30, 2016			
LS	SA data submitted		
LSA data summary			
1.	Total number of hou	useholds served in:	
	a563 (1) E	mergency Shelter, Safe Haven and	
	Transitional Housing,		
	b 347 (2) Re	apid Rehousing, and	
	c115 (3) P	ermanent Supportive Housing.	
2.	<u>391</u> Total nu	umber of disabled households served across	
	all interventions.		
3.	<u>90</u> Total num	90 Total number of households experiencing chronic	
	homelessness serve	d across all interventions.	
4.	247 Total n	_247 Total number of 55+ households served across all	
	interventions.		
5.	43 Total nu	mber of unaccompanied youth served	
	across all intervention	ons.	
6.	157 Total nu	umber of veteran households served across	
	all interventions.		
7.	Number of individuo	als served across all interventions who were:	
	a481	(1) Female	
	b572		
	c1	(3) Transgender	
		(4) Gender Non-Conforming.	
Ω	Total number individuals served across all interventions who		
Ο.	were:		
		(1) White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino (only)	
		(2) White, Hispanic/Latino (only)	
		(3) Black or African American (only)	
	d4		
		(5a) American Indian or Alaska Native	
	(only),	(ca) / interior interior / itaska rianivo	
		_(5b) Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	
	(only)	_, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	g42	_ (6) Multiple races	

### 2. DEMONSTRATION OF REGIONAL COORDINATION

To successfully complete this section, applicants must provide:

#### A. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Information

### For CoC applicants:

- 1. Describe how your CES functions, including:
  - a. What entity is responsible for operating your CES?

The Community Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO) is the lead Coordinated Entry System agency. CAPSLO subcontracts with the El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO), which provides Coordinated Entry services in the northern region of the county, and the 5Cities (sic) Homeless Coalition (5CHC), which provides Coordinated Entry services in the southern region of the county. CAPSLO serves the central region of the county, including the largest city within the county.

The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services manages the Coordinated Entry Permanent Housing Prioritization list and the monthly Coordinated Entry case managers meeting.

b. What is the process for assessment and identification of housing needs for individuals and families that are experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness in your community?

Persons presenting at Coordinated Entry locations are first assessed using a prevention/diversion screening tool. If homelessness may be prevented or if the household may be diverted, they receive assistance or referrals to prevention/diversion resources.

Households that are not chronically homeless are then assisted using a light touch approach. Households that cannot find housing with a light touch approach are assessed using the Vulnerability Index-Services Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). Scores from the VI-SPDAT,

combined with data from Coordinated Entry intake is used to determine initial referrals to housing assistance and the anticipated level of housing assistance needed. Households who are chronically homeless are assessed with the VI-SPDAT without first being referred to the light touch approach.

#### c. How are people referred to available housing through CES?

Persons are referred to available housing after being assessed. Persons in need of Rapid Rehousing are referred to Rapid Rehousing programs. Persons who are in need of Permanent Supportive Housing are referred to the CoC's Housing Prioritization List. A combination of VI-SPDAT scores, length of time homeless, public health and safety resource utilization, and case conferencing are used to prioritize the most vulnerable persons for PSH, as well as to identify other resources, such as housing funded under the Mental Health Services Act, that may be available to a household.

Persons belonging to certain populations may be eligible for additional referrals during Coordinated Entry intake. For example, veterans are offered referrals to the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program and the HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program as well as to the Housing Prioritization list. Former foster youth aged 18-24 may be referred to housing programs for former foster youth.

#### 2. How do you promote the utilization of your CES? Specifically:

a. What outreach do you conduct to ensure all individuals experiencing homelessness, including those with multiple barriers, are aware of the CES assessment and referral process?

A Homeless Outreach Team conducts street outreach, with a special focus on homeless persons with moderate to severe mental illness. Additionally, new Coordinated Entry System (CES) outreach services recently began that are being funded with a California Emergency Solutions and Housing grant.

In addition to street outreach, CES agencies work with public health care providers – including hospitals, health clinics, County Behavioral and Mental Health Services, and the Psychiatric Health Facility – as well as law enforcement teams that work with homeless persons. CES agencies also advertise CES services to local educational agencies, park rangers, public works staff, and others likely to encounter unsheltered homeless individuals and families. Each CES site also has at least one bilingual staff person.

#### b. What is the grievance or appeal process for customers?

Customers first file an appeal with the CES agency. If that is denied, customers may file a grievance with the CoC.

# c. How do you provide culturally responsive services to people experiencing homelessness?

The CES seeks to ensure intake workers are culturally sensitive and CES agencies have provided trainings for their staff on a variety of topics, including working with LGBTQQIA clients.

# 3. What, if any, are the current challenges preventing successful CES operation in your jurisdiction, and how do you plan to address these challenges?

The geographic size of the county and large caseloads make it more challenging to reach people in all regions of the county. In addition, insufficient affordable housing and permanent supportive housing resources make it more difficult to help clients exit to permanent housing. There is also no supportive housing set-aside for homeless youth, who typically do not score as high on the VI-SPDAT and thus have more difficulty ranking high enough on the Housing Priority List to be prioritized for available PSH. There is also a need for other types of housing models for homeless youth who do not need PSH.

The CoC is using California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) funds to expand Coordinated Entry outreach to unsheltered persons around the County. The CoC will also be using HHAP funds to connect homeless persons in underserved regions of the County to CES and housing

resources. The CoC is also working with the County to use HEAP and HHAP funding to create more permanent supportive housing, including units for homeless youth. The CoC and the County will also use HHAP funding to create Host Homes or alternative housing models with case management services for homeless youth.

#### **B.** Prioritization Criteria

# 1. What are the criteria used to prioritize assistance for people experiencing homelessness in your jurisdiction?

People experiencing homelessness are prioritized for permanent supportive housing (PSH) assistance based on a person's score on the Vulnerability Index-Services Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT), combined with length of time homeless, use of public health and safety resources, and whether the person meets the eligibility criteria for the available programs (e.g. to be eligible for PSH funded by the HUD Continuum of Care program, a person must meet HUD's definition of chronic homelessness).

Rapid rehousing program referrals are prioritized based on VI-SPDAT score and housing opportunities. Coordinated Entry sites seek to address emergency housing needs as they present and as shelter is available.

# 2. How is CES, pursuant to 24 CFR 578.8(a)(8) used for this process?

Coordinated Entry sites assess homeless persons. The sites first seek to prevent or divert people from homelessness but if that is not possible, they seek to assess housing barriers and vulnerability. Individuals and families who are chronically homeless or who have significant housing barriers are referred to the Housing Prioritization Master List and to other programs for which they may be eligible.

#### C. Coordination of Regional Needs

1. How have you coordinated with your partnering CoC, large city (if applicable), and/or county to identify your share of the regional need to address homelessness?

In the first half of 2018, the Homeless Services Oversight Council, the advisory body for the CoC, conducted an analysis of regional needs. This analysis was presented to the County Board of Supervisors on May 15, 2018. In order to determine priorities for the HEAP grant, the County and the CoC also sought additional public input the Fall of 2018 to identify regional needs. This process included public meetings with stakeholder groups, a focus group with formerly homeless youth, two regional public forums, meetings with City Managers, and an online public survey. These needs were summarized for the CoC as it planned for HEAP.

Based on these identified needs, the County and the CoC in consultation with the city managers of all incorporated cities in the County and CoC, developed joint recommendations for how the HHAP funding should be prioritized. The CoC approved the priorities in December 2019 and the County Board of Supervisors approved the priorities in January 2020. The County will serve as the Administrative Entity for both County and CoC funds and the CoC and County have agreed that the County will issue a single Request for Proposals (RFP) that will cover both HHAP allocations. The RFP has not yet been issued, but the joint funding priorities agreed to by the CoC and the County will be used to inform the HHAP funding decisions as that process moves forward.

# 2. What is your identified share of this need, and how will the requested funds help your jurisdiction meet it?

The County's and the CoC's jurisdictions are 100% overlapping, thus the County and the CoC have an equal share of need.

The three HHAP funding priorities identified by the County and the CoC were a) to bring Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)-funded projects to completion; b) shelter and case management projects on the North Coast; and c) projects that fill other critical gaps in the homeless services system, as identified during the needs assessment process noted in Question 1, above.

The 2019 Homeless Point in Time Count found that 79% of the population in the CoC were unsheltered. According to the 2019 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, this is the third highest percentage of unsheltered homelessness in the country among CoC's in the "Largely Suburban" category. The requested HHAP funds will help reduce the percentage of unsheltered homeless persons in our community by creating new beds and preventing homelessness in areas of the County/CoC where no beds currently exist.

The needs assessment conducted by the CoC also found that there is a significant need for more case managers to assist with housing placement. HHAP funding will pay for case management services to help prevent homelessness and connect homeless persons in the new shelter facilities to permanent housing and resources to help address housing barriers.

There is also a need for housing and services with a youth-specific focus. The HHAP funding will provide these services, building on the effort first begun by HEAP.

In addition, the CoC and County also identified a need for more permanent supportive housing. HHAP will provide funding for supportive services in newly constructed permanent supportive housing made possible by HEAP.

### D. Creating Sustainable, Long Term Housing Solutions

1. How is your jurisdiction involved in the efforts to create sustainable, long-term housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness across your region?

The County and the CoC have collaborated with each other and with regional housing developers, the local Housing Authority, and incorporated cities within our region to develop and implement strategies. This has included adoption of local funding to create additional affordable housing units, removing

barriers to development of Accessory Dwelling Units, and successfully partnering with the local Housing Authority to help them obtain additional Housing Vouchers for our community through programs such as HUD-VASH, the Family Unification Program, and the Mainstream Voucher program, which provides incremental vouchers to serve homeless persons with disabilities.

In addition, the County and CoC partnered with a local city and a nonprofit housing developer on Homeless Emergency Aid Program funding for the purpose of creating additional permanent supportive housing. The CoC and its Administrative Entity, the County, provided funding to a local nonprofit to help it purchase a property on which it will be building permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless persons. The City in which the property is located is also donating city funding to the project.

## 3. RESOURCES ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

To successfully complete this section, all applicants must answer the following questions:

## A. Existing Programs and Resources

1. Provide an exhaustive list of all funds (including the program and dollar amount) that your jurisdiction currently uses to provide housing and homeless services for homeless populations.

This list should include (where applicable), but not be limited to:

- a. Federal Funding (Examples: YHDP, ESG, CoC, CSBG, HOME-TBRA, CBDG)
- b. State Funding (Examples: <u>HEAP</u>, <u>CESH</u>, <u>CalWORKs HSP</u>, <u>NPLH</u>, <u>VHHP</u>, <u>PHLA</u>, <u>HHC</u>, <u>Whole Person Care</u>, <u>HDAP</u>, <u>BFH</u>)
- c. Local Funding

See the table at Appendix A for information on all funds received by the County. All funds received by the CoC are reflected in Appendix A, as the County is the Administrative Entity for CESH, HEAP, and state ESG funds, and the County is also the Collaborative Applicant for CoC funding.

In addition to the grants received by the CoC, certain other partners have grants that are important to efforts to address

homelessness. The Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo (HASLO) receives the following special vouchers:

- 225 HUD-VASH vouchers
- 60 Mainstream vouchers for non-elderly homeless persons with disabilities
- 35 Family Unification Program vouchers

HASLO has also set aside 60 Housing Choice Vouchers for the County's 70 Now PSH program for vulnerable, chronically homeless persons. The County pays for supportive services and other costs as needed for housing placement such as security deposits, move-in costs, and purchase of a bed. HASLO has also set aside an additional 84 vouchers for homeless persons.

The San Luis Obispo County Office of Education, which is not a County or CoC agency, also receives \$175,000 in McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth funding. Two local school districts also receive \$75,000 each in McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth grants.

# 2. How are these resources integrated or coordinated with applicants from overlapping jurisdictions (i.e. CoC, large city, and/or county)?

Because the County is the Collaborative Applicant for the CoC and the CoC governing board is an advisory body to the County Board of Supervisors, there is substantial coordination. Funding awarded to the CoC is administered by the County but the CoC is integrated into the decision-making process for how the funds will be used locally. The County issues the Request for Proposals and the CoC makes recommendations to the Board as to how the funding should be awarded. Funds the CoC receives include COC, HEAP, CESH, and HHAP.

Programs outside of the CoC still consult with the CoC and representatives often participate in CoC meetings. For example, the County Behavioral Health Director, who administers Mental Health Services Act funding, and Homeless Mentally III Outreach and Treatment Funding, serves as the Chair of the CoC's Homeless Services Coordinating Committee.

The Director of the County Department of Social Services, who administers CalWORKS HSP funds, Bringing Families Home (BFH) funding, and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) funding, holds a seat on the CoC. Staff from the CalWORKS HSP and BFH programs also participate in the monthly Coordinated Entry case managers meeting and make referrals to the Coordinated Entry Housing Prioritization list. The Coordinated Entry System determines who will be referred and prioritized for HDAP. HDAP and HSP also participate in HMIS.

The Housing Authority partners with the County through the 70 Now Program, making up to 60 Housing Choice Vouchers available to the most vulnerable, chronically homeless persons. The County provides funding for supportive services and housing placement costs for the 70 Now program. Clients are placed in 70 Now Housing from the Coordinated Entry Housing Prioritization list and 70 Now staff participate in monthly Coordinated Entry case managers meeting to discuss housing placement. The Housing Authority also provided set-aside vouchers to the Bringing Families Home program that works with homeless families involved in the child welfare system and now also provides vouchers under the Family Unification Program.

The Workforce Development Board also has an MOU with the CoC to provide cross-training to staff regarding programs and services to promote cross-referral and has agreed to make homeless persons a priority population. Workforce Development Board staff will also provide training on accessing the Workforce Development Board's online system so that clients can access the jobs database remotely from homeless services agencies.

Sheriff and local police Community Action Teams work closely with the Coordinated Entry System to make referrals and get assessments to place clients on the Housing Prioritization list. CAT officers also work closely with outreach teams funded under the Mental Health Services Act and staff from the Department of Social Services.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families Programs are co-located at Coordinated Entry sites and can conduct Coordinated Entry for homeless veterans at the veteran's discretion.

3. What gaps currently exist in housing and homeless services for homeless populations in your jurisdiction?

a. There is still a need for more emergency shelter, particularly year-round shelter. Our CoC has one of the highest rates of unsheltered homelessness among similar sized CoC's in the country, according to the most recent Annual Homeless Assessment Report published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

There are only two general population shelters in the county – a 50-bed shelter in the North County, and an 100-bed shelter in the central part of the county. Together, these shelters had a summer vacancy rate of 8% in 2019 and winter vacancy rate of 15%. The vacancy rates are due primarily to vacancies in family beds. Vacant family beds sometimes occur when the family sizes don't fully align with the number of beds in the family rooms. The shelters report frequently having to turn away persons seeking shelter, particularly single adults, whose beds are often at capacity.

The need for more shelter beds is also demonstrated by winter Warming Center data. In the winter, Warming Centers are opened in each of the four regions of the county (North, Central, South, and North Coast), but those Centers are strictly weather dependent, thus not available on all winter nights. They are also not available for most of the year. During the current winter, these Warming Centers have served a total of 243 unique individuals to date. The Warming Centers do not have a set capacity, as they do not have actual beds and most use mats on the floor, so there is no vacancy data available for the Warming Centers. Warming Centers report that clients have requested more year-round beds.

According to the official 2018 Longitudinal Systems Analysis submission to HUD, the rate of exits from shelters to permanent housing in the CoC from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018 was 10%. It should be noted, however, that this does not reflect changes that were made to the shelter system in late 2018. A new, 24-hour Housing Navigation Center replaced the previous, 12-hour emergency shelter. The new Navigation Center has onsite services including case management and health care, that were not previously available at the old, 12-hour shelter. It is anticipated that the change will increase the percentage of persons exiting from shelter to permanent housing.

- b. There are insufficient Coordinated Entry intake and case management resources countywide.
- c. The North Coast region of the county has no overnight shelter or day services and does not have a physical Coordinated Entry site. There is also very limited public transit to this region, making it hard for homeless persons in this region to access homeless services in other regions.
- d. There is a significant need for more permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless persons, and affordable housing for homeless persons and persons at risk, including low-income seniors on fixed incomes.
- e. There is a significant need for outreach, engagement, host homes, supportive housing, and services of all types for homeless youth.
- f. There is a need for more treatment, housing, and services for homeless persons with addictions disorders.
- g. There is a need for more homelessness prevention.

## **B.** HHAP Funding Plans

1. Explain, in detail, how your jurisdiction plans to use the full amount of HHAP funds (including the youth set-aside) and how it will complement existing funds to close the identified gaps in housing and homeless services for the homeless population in your jurisdiction.

The County and CoC have not yet released the local Request for Proposals, but three priorities have been identified for HHAP funding: a) bring Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)-funded projects to completion; b) shelter and case management projects on the North Coast; and c) projects that fill other critical gaps in the homeless services system.

Below is a description of the types of projects anticipated to be funded with HHAP funding, including a description of the project and how it will collaborate with existing programs and resources, as well as total funding allocated to each project and the HHAP funding category

into which it would fall. HHAP funding categories for each project were determined by staff review of the statute and guidance, in consideration of the proposed project activities. When an RFP is issued later this year, all projects will be reviewed and classified into the appropriate project category by the Administrative Entity after rereviewing the statute and guidance and consulting with state HHAP staff.

#### **CoC HHAP Allocation**

Based on the priorities listed above and the priorities of the grant, it is anticipated that CoC HHAP funds will be used to complement HEAP funding to help create a North County Housing Navigation Center and to fund a project for homeless youth. Both projects would work to connect clients to housing through assessment of housing barriers, case management, referrals to available housing and referrals and assistance designed to increase income needed for housing.

The North County First Step Housing Navigation Center, which would fall under the category of New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters, would provide 35 low-barrier, emergency shelter beds as well case management and Coordinated Entry services. There is a significant need for more shelter and Housing Navigation services in North County, as well as for more Coordinated Entry resources and the Housing Navigation Center will help begin to address those needs. The Navigation Center will be located in a city that currently has no shelter or day services for homeless persons but, according to the most recent Homeless Point in Time Count, has the largest number of homeless persons in the North County.

The land on which the Navigation Center will be built was donated by a local city and, as noted above, the County will use HEAP funds towards the development as well. HHAP funding will be used for development costs, as well for a case manager who will work to connect clients to housing. As part of its plan to connect clients to permanent housing, the project will work to address housing barriers, partnering with local employers to create job opportunities for clients who are able to work, helping clients who are unable to work to access income supports, and strengthening relationships with local landlords. The project is anticipated to be completed in 2021. Total HHAP costs for the project is anticipated to be approximately \$1,484,934.

The CoC HHAP Allocation will also fund a project for homeless youth under the HHAP Youth set-aside category. The project will provide outreach and engagement services, combined with transitional housing and Host Homes opportunities. It is anticipated the project will master lease two, 2-bedroom units to use for transitional housing for four homeless youth, and also will provide Host Home housing to three youth over 18 months. Host Home families will receive a monthly family stipend to help cover the costs of hosting the youth. A case manager will provide services to the youth and work to the connect the youth to permanent housing. A Youth Advisory Board will be convened and meet monthly to advise the project.

Youth served by the program will be helped to obtain public benefits, such as CalFresh and Medi-Cal, for which they are eligible. The program is expected to partner with local K-12 school districts' Homeless Education Liaison for referral of eligible youth to the project as well as providing school-based services for which the youth are eligible. The project will also receive referrals from the Sheriff's Community Action Team, which conducts outreach to homeless youth. Youth in the project will be connected to Workforce Development Board employment services for youth. Should the project encounter any youth who were formerly involved in the foster care system, they may be connected with housing resources such as the Transitional Housing Program Plus or the Family Unification Program.

Total HHAP CoC funding allocated to the project is anticipated to be approximately \$139,758.

#### County HHAP Allocation

County HHAP funds are expected to support 19 new, permanent supportive housing (PSH) units for adults and five PSH units for youth. The property on which the units will be built was purchased with HEAP and affordable housing funds from the city in which it is located, and the developer will also be seeking Low-Income Housing tax credits to help with development costs. HHAP funding will provide supportive services to the clients in the housing. The project will work with the Coordinated Entry System and will place clients into housing from the Coordinated Entry Housing Prioritization list. Total County HHAP allocation funding for the project is anticipated to be approximately \$364,476, under the category of Delivery of Permanent Housing.

HHAP funding is also expected support development of seasonal, lowbarrier emergency shelter beds with year-round case management, meals, and hygiene services for a project on the North Coast. A portion of this project is anticipated to fall under the category of New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters. While a request for proposals has not yet been issued, it is anticipated that this project will complement California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) funding that provides Coordinated Entry outreach and engagement services. A case manager will make referrals to social services and employment services for which the clients may be eligible and will seek to increase client incomes and address other housing barriers while working to place clients into housing. A portion of the project is also proposed under the Prevention and Shelter Diversion category. This funding would be used to prevent or divert persons from homelessness on the North Coast. Total costs for the project are anticipated to be approximately \$961,209.

HHAP funding may also be used under the Prevention and Shelter Diversion category for homeless persons in the South County. There is no shelter currently available in the South County. HEAP funding has purchased a building to provide services to connect clients to housing and other resources. HHAP funding may be used by the services location to prevent homelessness in a region of the County that has no emergency shelters resources. Total costs for the project are anticipated to be approximately \$50,000.

The County HHAP Allocation will also fund a project for homeless youth under the HHAP Youth set-aside category. The project is expected to provide outreach and engagement services, combined with transitional housing and Host Homes opportunities. It is anticipated the project will master lease two, 2-bedroom units to use for transitional housing for four homeless youth, and also will provide Host Home housing to three youth over 18 months. Host Home families will receive a monthly family stipend to help cover the costs of hosting the youth. A case manager will provide services to the youth and work to the connect the youth to permanent housing. A Youth Advisory Board will be convened and meet monthly to advise the project.

Youth served by the program will be helped to obtain public benefits, such as CalFresh and Medi-Cal, for which they are eligible. The program is expected to partner with local K-12 school districts' Homeless Education Liaison for referral of eligible youth to the project as well as providing school-based services for which the youth are eligible. The project will also receive referrals from the Sheriff's

Community Action Team, which conducts outreach to homeless youth. Youth in the project will be connected to Workforce Development Board employment services for youth. Should the project encounter any youth who were formerly involved in the foster care system, they may be connected with housing resources such as the Transitional Housing Program Plus or the Family Unification Program.

Total HHAP County funding allocated to the project is anticipated to be approximately \$129,476.

2. How will you ensure that HHAP funded projects will align and comply with the core components of Housing First as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8255(b)?

All projects will be required by contract to comply with the core components of Housing First. New projects also will be required to participate in a training on Housing First prior to start up and technical assistance and monitoring will be provided to help ensure programs are in compliance.

### 4. PARTNERS ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

To successfully complete this section, all applicants must answer the following questions:

#### A. Collaborating Partner Efforts

Please note: per <u>Program Guidance</u>, page 9, collaborative partners, at a minimum, should include representatives of local homeless service providers, homeless youth programs, law enforcement, behavioral health, county welfare departments, city and county public officials, educators, workforce development, community clinics, health care providers, public housing authorities, and people with lived experience. If any of these partnerships are not currently active in your jurisdiction, please address in question #3 below.

1. Describe, in detail, the collaborative partners who will be working with you on identified HHAP projects and how you will be partnering with them.

Collaborative partners working with all projects will include:

 The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services (DSS) (the County's welfare department) will act

- as the Administrative Entity. DSS will also provide information and assistance to homeless youth projects regarding public benefits available to unaccompanied youth; and will assist in screening former foster youth for eligibility for housing programs for former foster youth.
- All three Coordinated Entry sites El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO), the 5Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC), and the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO) – as well as DSS, which manages the Coordinated Entry Housing Prioritization List. The Coordinated Entry agencies will work to partner clients at projects in their community with their Coordinated Entry program. DSS will work with HHAP-funded permanent supportive housing to set up a referral process by which people will be referred from the Coordinated Entry Master List. DSS will also work to establish a specialized Coordinated Entry Master List for homeless youth for the youth PSH.
- The local homeless youth program, education and social services agencies staff (5CHC, County Office of Education, and DSS). 5CHC will be a source of referrals for the youth PSH and can also advise Housing Navigation Center and other emergency services projects and receive referrals. County Office of Education will assist with identification of homeless youth and will also provide information to HHAP projects on school homeless liaisons for their districts and provide information about educational rights of homeless youth and school resources for homeless. DSS will coordinate assistance for former foster youth aged 16-24 who are homeless and eligible for programs such as extended foster care, transitional housing programs, and the Transitional Age Youth Financial Assistance Program (TAY-FAP).
- Law Enforcement Community Action Teams from Sheriff's Office and, if one exists, the incorporated city where the project will be located will make referrals to programs.
- County Behavioral Health. Will be part of CoC/County HHAP planning group. The Homeless Outreach Team that focuses on serving homeless persons with moderate to severe mental illness will also refer persons to the new Housing Navigation services and to other programs for which they are eligible.

- City and County officials will participate in planning meetings and at meetings of the full CoC governing body. The CoC governing body includes a representative from the County Board of Supervisors and from each of the incorporated cities in the County. All of the city managers in the county were also consulted regarding HHAP funding priorities prior to the adoption of those priorities by the CoC and the County.
- Community clinics and health care providers. A
  representative of health care providers serves on the CoC
  board and will be involved in planning for HHAP. The
  Community Health Centers (CHC) of the Central Coast
  has clinics in each of the regions where projects will be
  carried out. Clients will be referred to CHC clinics for
  medical care if onsite assistance is not possible.
- The local Public Housing Authority the Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo (HASLO) has set aside 144 Housing Choice Vouchers for homeless persons (not including 225 HUD-VASH vouchers; 60 Mainstream Vouchers; and 35 Family Unification Vouchers) in the county. Sixty are reserved for chronically homeless persons assessed by Coordinated Entry as the most vulnerable, and 84 are available to both chronically and non-chronically homeless persons. While most of the set aside vouchers a for homeless persons are utilized, turnover of these vouchers will create a small but important source of housing funding for persons who will be assisted by HHAP-funded emergency shelter/Housing Navigation projects.
- Workforce Development. There is an MOU already in place between the CoC and the WDB providing for the WDB to train homeless services agencies on WDB programs and to teach staff at local homeless services agencies on how to access WDB resources remotely if a project is not located in the same city as the America's Job Center location.
- Persons with lived experience. Formerly homeless youth were consulted when considering designs of youth programs and what was needed. Persons with lived experience will be consulted as new projects are being designed.
- 2. Describe any barriers that you experience in partnering, and how you plan to address them.

Examples could include: lack of key stakeholders or service providers, political bureaucracy, approval methods, lack of community input, etc.

It is more difficult to get persons with lived experience to attend meetings. The CoC will consider bringing a meeting to a homeless shelter to obtain feedback. The CoC will also ask grantees to hold meetings with persons with lived experience.

3. If no collaborative partners have not been identified at time of application, describe the collaborative process of how you intend to include new and existing partners on HHAP projects.

N/A.

## 5. SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Identify clear, measurable goals that HHAP will be expected to achieve in your jurisdiction.

- Decrease the percent of our jurisdiction's total homeless population that is unsheltered by a cumulative total of 7 percentage points from 2019 (baseline of 79% from 2019) to 2022.
- Decrease the number of unsheltered Transitional Age Youth (18-24) by a cumulative total of 8 percentage points from 2019 (baseline of 96%) to 2025.
- Serve at least 171 persons, placing at least 67 into permanent housing.
- Serve at least 20 homeless youth, placing at least two into Transitional Housing and at least 4 into PH.

**Please note:** Per HSC § 50219(a)(6) all applicants' measurable goals must include the number of individuals they intend to serve, and the number of individuals they intend to successfully place in permanent housing with HHAP funding.



# HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (HHAP) ANNUAL BUDGET TEMPLATE

#### **APPLICANT INFORMATION** CoC / Large City / County Name: San Luis Obispo County CoC Receiving Redirected Funds? Y/N No **Administrative Entity Name: County of San Luis Obispo Total Redirected Funding HHAP FUNDING EXPENDITURE PLAN\* ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY** FY20/21 FY21/22 FY22/23 FY23/24 FY24/25 TOTAL Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing 93,172.36 \$ 46,586.18 \$ 139,758.54 \$ Operating Subsidies and Reserves Landlord Incentives Outreach and Coordination (including employment) Systems Support to Create Regional Partnerships Delivery of Permanent Housing Prevention and Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing **New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters** 773,038.47 382,430.05 109,822.00 109,822.00 109,822.00 1,484,934.52 Strategic Homelessness Planning, Infrastructure Development, CES, and HMIS (up to 5%) Administrative (up to 7%) 10,000.00 112,288.72 122,288.72 **TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATION** 1,746,981.78 FY20/21 FY21/22 FY22/23 FY23/24 TOTAL FY24/25 46,586.18 \$ Youth Set-Aside (at least 8%) 93,172.36 \$ 139,758.54 \*Narrative should reflect details of HHAP funding plan COMMENTS: FINAL



# COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**Department Head** Devin Drake

February 14, 2020

Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency 915 Capitol Mall, Suite 350A Sacramento, CA 95814

To Whom It May Concern,

I write this letter on behalf of the County of San Luis Obispo in support of the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care's (CoC's) application for Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program funding allocated to Continuums of Care. The County is the Administrative Entity for the HHAP CoC allocation.

The County acknowledges and agrees to regional coordination and partnership with the CoC, per Health and Safety Code 50219(a)(1). The County has an extended history of close collaboration with the CoC. The Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC) is the CoC advisory body for the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care (CA-614) and the County is the Collaborative Applicant for the CoC grant.

The County and the HSOC have worked together over the past two years to identify homeless assistance needs and to develop recommendations for addressing these needs. Based on this work and in consultation with local incorporated cities, the County and the HSOC have agreed upon joint priorities for expenditure of HHAP funds. The San Luis Obispo County CoC covers the entirety of the county and the joint priorities will address both jurisdictions' share of the regional need.

The County and the CoC will continue to work together to jointly plan and evaluate HHAP spending and projects. Representatives from the County and the CoC will meet at least bimonthly. Representatives from the County will include Administrative Entity staff responsible for administering the grant and County Behavioral Health staff. Representatives from the CoC will include the CoC Chair, Vice Chair, and a representative from the CoC's Finance and Data Committee.

The County and the CoC will also release a joint Request for Proposals and the CoC will make recommendations on awards for both the County and the CoC HHAP funding. As

implementation moves forward, the County will provide at least bi-annual updates to the CoC on HHAP expenditures and will continue to work with the CoC in the bi-monthly meetings and CoC Committee meetings to evaluate progress towards meeting the identified goals for each grant.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email at <a href="mailto:lweir@co.slo.ca.us">lweir@co.slo.ca.us</a> or by phone at 805-781-1833.

Sincerely, Laurel Weir

Laurel Weir

Administrative Services Manager

Department of Social Services