Application Narrative Template

This section of the toolkit is to assist jurisdictions in thoroughly completing their application narrative document. Below you will find the questions that HHAP program staff will be ensuring are answered in each jurisdiction's narrative document. Applications will not be deemed complete if all the below questions are not addressed in a jurisdiction's narrative attachment. More information on these areas can be found in the HHAP program guidance.

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

To successfully complete this section, applicants must:

Attached.

B. Use the LSA data to provide (as defined by HUD):

LSA reports sometimes include HoH and Adults in household for requested counts, therefore adjustments have been made by HUD approved extrapolation techniques when number of households was requested and there were other adults included in LSA dataset. Screenshots of LSA demographic data has been included in attachments.

- 1. Total number of households served in:
 - a. (1) Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven and Transitional Housing 1567
 - b. (2) Rapid Rehousing 287
 - c. (3) Permanent Supportive Housing 267
- 2. Total number of disabled households served across all interventions. 1354
- 3. Total number of households experiencing chronic homelessness served across all interventions. **663**
- 4. Total number of 55+ households served across all interventions. 633
- 5. Total number of unaccompanied youth served across all interventions. 124
- 6. Total number of veteran households served across all interventions. 238
- 7. Number of individuals served across all interventions who were: As LSA reports do not include the information for dependent children we have answered two ways with all adults and with children included based on the number of children reported in LSA and gender percentages applied from sheltered PIT data in the same year.

Adults only

- (1) Female 787
- (2) Male **1221**
- (3) Transgender, or (Gender Non-Conforming **3**<u>Adults with Children</u> LSA Youth (gender extrapolated from PIT Sheltered data)
- (1) Female -787 + 258 = 1,045

- (2) Male 1221 + 300 = 1,521
- (3) Transgender, or Gender Non-Conforming 3
- 8. Total number individuals served across all interventions who were:
 As LSA reports do not include the information for dependent children we have answered two ways with all adults and with children included based on the number of children reported in LSA with parent race distribution.
 Adults Only
 - (1) White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino (only) 965
 - (2) White, Hispanic/Latino (only) 636
 - (3) Black or African American (only) 163
 - (4) Asian (only) 24
 - (5) American Indian / Alaska Native (only) 65
 - (6) Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander (only) 13
 - (7) Multiple races 104

Adults with Children

- (1) White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino (only) 965 + 117 = 1,082
- (2) White, Hispanic/Latino (only) 636 + 298 = **934**
- (3) Black or African American (only) 163 + 4 = 167
- (4) Asian (only) 24 + 1 = 25
- (5) American Indian /Alaska Native (only) 65 +1= 66
- (6) Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (only) 13 + 1 = 14
- (7) Multiple races 104 + 78 = 182

1. 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 County of Santa Barbara holds a grant agreement with United Way of Northern Santa Barbara County (United Way of NSBC). Northern Santa Barbara County United Way/Home For Good Santa Barbara County supports the Coordinated Entry System, a no-wrong door, countywide system that engages and connects individuals and families experiencing homelessness to the optimal resources for their needs.

Grant funds provide support for system coordination and Coordinated Outreach Teams in designated areas of the county and regional coordination of outreach efforts to persons experiencing homelessness in order to enhance the homeless Coordinated Entry System (CES). Key United Way of NSBC staff, including the Director of Community Engagement and Lead Outreach Workers (North, South, and Mid-County focused) are largely responsible for the success of the Coordinated Outreach of the CES project including its day-to-day activities, oversight, and evaluation, and management.

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?

The Home For Good Santa Barbara County Coordinated Entry System, a network of 27+ agencies, connects individuals and families currently experiencing homelessness with housing and supportive service programs throughout Santa Barbara County. Coordinated entry is an important process through which people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness can access the crisis response system in a streamlined way, have their strengths and needs quickly assessed, and quickly connect to appropriate, tailored housing and mainstream services within the community or designated region. The standardized assessment tools and practices used within our local coordinated assessment process considers the unique needs of children and their families as well as youth. Individuals and families who sleep in a place not meant for human habitation (including on the street), in shelter, or in a transitional housing program, or who are fleeing domestic/dating violence or human trafficking, are all eligible. When possible, the local assessment provides the ability for households to gain access to the best options to address their needs, incorporating participants' choice, rather than being evaluated for a single program within the system. These processes are intended to help our community prioritize people who are most in need of assistance. All referrals to CES, including screening for program eligibility and prioritization, occur according to Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures set by our local providers and approved by the Continuum of Care based on community needs identified through local data analysis.

Assessment phases may include: Screening for diversion or prevention; Assessing shelter and other emergency and mainstream service needs; Identifying housing resources and barriers; and Evaluating vulnerability in order to prioritize for assistance.

The network of providers participating in the Coordinated Entry System join in countywide case conferencing and regional outreach coordination meetings each week. Providers also attend ad hoc meetings and sector events in order to sustain awareness of opportunities for housing placements. During the case conferencing meetings, the list of individuals active in HMIS (including name and client ID) is reviewed for progress, updates, and potential housing placement.

Individuals and families are prioritized for a full continuum of housing and service interventions according to Santa Maria / Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care's CoC and ESG Written Standards, which prioritize those with the most urgent and severe needs, as defined in 25 CCR § 8409. The CoC uses the Coordinated Entry process to prioritize homeless persons within the CoC's geographic area for access to housing and supportive services.

The Coordinated Entry prioritization process combines the individual person's assessment results with the CoC's prioritization policies and procedures to determine that person's level of vulnerability. The person's assessed vulnerability will establish their level of priority for resources in the homeless system and lead to identification of vacancies at housing and supportive services projects that the person can be referred to.

Each "Priority Group" represents a group of people who are considered to be of roughly the same priority. Priority Group 1 is the highest priority group. Programs participating in Coordinated Entry are required to attempt to fill each housing opportunity with eligible clients from the highest remaining priority group unless (a) there are no such clients, or (b) the potential placement of that client would create an unsafe environment for all of the clients in that priority group because it lacks the appropriate supportive services. Programs participating in Coordinated Entry are then encouraged to fill each housing opportunity in priority order based on the secondary criteria, with clients who have a longer length of time homeless being housed before clients with a shorter length of time homeless, and case workers have discretion to override the secondary criteria based on subjective criteria such as suitability, client choice, and the relative difficulty of finding and preparing a particular client to enter housing.

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

The Home For Good Santa Barbara County Coordinated Entry System connects individuals and families currently experiencing homelessness with housing and supportive service programs throughout Santa Barbara County. Entry points screen, assess, and refer individuals and families to appropriate housing and services. Regional Entry Points are open at designated days and times and post Fair Housing Notices. Individuals and families who sleep in a place not meant for human habitation (including on the street), in shelter, or in a transitional housing program, or who are fleeing domestic/dating violence or human trafficking, are all eligible. Participants' choices in Coordinated Entry process decisions, such as location and type of housing, level and type of services, and other program characteristics, are accommodated to the fullest extent possible

given overriding health and safety concerns and compliance with outstanding legal requirements. Unfortunately, there is not sufficient housing for all applicants that will seek placement. The lack of affordable housing in Santa Barbara County is the largest challenge to the Coordinated Entry System and the population at large. However, Resource Connect Santa Barbara County works to connect all participants with housing and supportive services according to their needs.

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?

Santa Maria / Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry System links to street outreach efforts so that people sleeping on the streets are prioritized for assistance in the same manner as any other person assessed through the Coordinated Entry process. The Coordinated Entry System is also publicized through a website, flyers, and palm cards that are distributed to community-based organizations. The Home For Good Santa Barbara County Staff: organizes Pop-Up Day Center and Resource Connect Events in different parts of the County; meets with Service Providers who are not currently part of the Coordinated Entry System to share about CES and answer questions; participates in community meetings and panels addressing housing and homelessness; and provides community meetings on "Homelessness 101."

In many instances, persons experiencing homelessness do not access services by approaching a provider. Consistent outreach and engagement are an essential component to coordinated entry into services for unsheltered homeless persons. Street engagement focused on linking participants to housing interventions is a best practice. Many agencies have contact with persons experiencing homelessness and a high degree of coordination improves efficiency and the effectiveness in housing of unsheltered homeless persons. Providers conduct outreach and engagement and regional coordination of the engagement efforts in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara (including unincorporated areas), Goleta, Isla Vista, Buellton/Santa Ynez (South County) and Lompoc and Santa Maria (including unincorporated areas) (North County).

Coordinated Outreach Teams include, but are not limited to: United Way Home For Good, County Behavioral Wellness, County Public Health, and AmeriCorps. These teams:

 Focus on working with individuals and families not working with other CES Partner Agencies, with a primary focus on unsheltered families or

- individuals. Outreach teams may serve families or individuals living in emergency shelters not yet participating in CES.
- Lead weekly Coordinated Outreach Teams to identify individuals and families experiencing homelessness who are most in need of services (as defined by the CES process).
- Conduct regular site visits to places know to have persons experiencing homelessness including but not limited to 20 regular outreach or in-reach sites, conducting assessments on eligible persons.
- Assist CES participants to obtain all required documentation for placement in permanent or temporary housing.
- Record contacts in the Homeless Management Information System.
- Each participant moving into housing shall be connected with case management and/or appropriate community-based services to maintain their housing, improve their quality of life, and if possible gain employment.

On a regular basis, networks of providers convene meetings with regional stakeholders including, but not limited to: county and city staff, mental health providers, homeless services providers, churches, law enforcement, and business associations. These meetings discuss local and systemic issues that contribute to homelessness and strategies for reducing homelessness and its impacts on the regional community.

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

Client concerns and grievances should be resolved promptly and fairly. Grievances about experience(s) with homeless housing programs should be directed to the program/agency first and follow the grievance policies and procedures of that organization. Agencies should have a clear point of contact determined and should maintain internal documentation of all complaints received. If an agency does not have a formal policy or procedure related to complaints/grievances, clients should be directed to the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (contact information available on the County's webpage). Grievances about CES policies and procedures or a participating program's screening or program participation practices which appear to have a discriminatory impact should be directed to the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care. A first-person written and/or documented complaint will be considered a complaint. Each situation will be treated seriously and with sensitivity, and will be documented for the record with date, time, program name, and nature of the complaint, as well as with any action taken towards resolution. All complaints or grievances involving children or adults with disabilities will be immediately referred to the appropriate authorities as determined by mandated reporting.

The Discrimination and Complaint process are part of the VI-SPDAT/CES Process Training that all staff completes prior to providing Coordinated Entry services.

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

All persons administering assessments are trained to use culturally and linguistically competent practices. Assessments include trauma-informed, culturally and linguistically competent questions for special subpopulations, including immigrants, refugees, and other first-generation subpopulations; youth; persons fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, human trafficking or stalking; and LGBT+ persons. Santa Maria / Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care offers regular training to participating projects that receive referrals in culturally and linguistically competent practices so that appropriate resources available to participants are as comprehensive as possible. Intake and assessment tools are translated in to Spanish to be administered by bilingual staff. Trainings are provided to Coordinated Entry Staff and Partner Agencies on a variety of topics, including domestic violence interventions, landlord engagement, fair housing, adult protective services, rapid resolutions, and other subjects critical to providers serving people experiencing homelessness. Other Trainings offered by our Santa Barbara County Behavioral Wellness and Partner Agencies are also shared.

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 most recent evaluation of the Coordinated Entry System identified challenges and ideas/actions to address recommendations to improve case management meetings, system simplifications and flexibility, family-friendliness, increased provider participation performance targets, leadership sustainability, and future assessments. Current challenges to successful CES operation are being addressed through the evaluation recommendations. Examples include: improving messaging around the purpose of case management meetings through a clear agenda and discussion about prioritization and common goals; development of an easy-to-digest explanation of CES protocols and process; increased participation of family providers; increased visibility of regional outreach leads.

Current challenges in the overall homeless system are being addressed through the following strategies: increase Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) bed coverages; address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; re-house families with children within 30 days of becoming homeless; increase the rate at which individuals and families in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing; increase the rate at which individuals and families in permanent housing retain their housing or exit to other permanent housing; reduce returns to homelessness; increase access to employment, volunteerism, and community service; promote partnerships and access to employment opportunities with private employers and private employment organizations; increase non-employment cash income (mainstream benefits); increase access to other cash income/ SSDI and SSI.

Issues of lack of resources, including Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing, are being addressed through the Santa Barbara County Housing and Homelessness Action Plan that is currently in Phase II.

B. Prioritization Criteria

 What are the criteria used to prioritize assistance for people experiencing homelessness in your jurisdiction?
 Describe current prioritization scheme:

Permanent Supportive Housing for Individuals

Housing	Priority	Primary Criteria	Secondary		
PSH	1	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ Chronic Homelessness Tri-Morbidity (3+ HUD Disabling Conditions)	Length of Time Homeless		
PSH	2	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ Chronic Homelessness 2+ HUD Disabling Conditions	Length of Time Homeless		
PSH	3	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ Chronic Homelessness	Length of Time Homeless		
PSH	4	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ 1+ HUD Disabling Conditions	Length of Time Homeless		

Rapid Re-Housing and Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing for Individuals

Housing	Priority	Primary Criteria	Secondary
RRH	1	VI-SPDAT Score: 4+ 1 + HUD Disability Condition	Length of Time Homeless
RRH	2	VI-SPDAT Score: 5+	Length of Time Homeless
RRH	3	VI-SPDAT Score: 4	Length of Time Homeless

Permanent Supportive Housing for Youth

Housing	Priority	Primary Criteria	Secondary		
PSH	1	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ Chronic Homelessness Tri-Morbidity (3+ HUD Disabling Conditions)	Length of Time Homeless		
PSH	2	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ Chronic Homelessness 2+ HUD Disabling Conditions	Length of Time Homeless		
PSH	3	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ Chronic Homelessness	Length of Time Homeless		
PSH	4	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 8+ 1+ HUD Disabling Conditions	Length of Time Homeless		

Rapid Re-Housing and Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing for Youth

Housing	Priority	Primary Criteria	Secondary
RRH	1	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 7 1 + HUD Disability Condition	Length of Time Homeless
RRH	2	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 5+	Length of Time Homeless
RRH	3	TAY VI-SPDAT Score: 4	Length of Time Homeless

Permanent Supportive Housing for Families

Housing	Priority	Primary	Secondary
PSH	1	VI-SPDAT Score: 9+ Chronic Homelessness Tri-Morbidity (3+ HUD Disabling Conditions)	Length of Time Homeless
PSH	2	VI-SPDAT Score: 9+ Chronic Homelessness 2+ HUD Disabling Conditions	Length of Time Homeless
PSH	3	VI-SPDAT Score: 9+ Chronic Homelessness	Length of Time Homeless
PSH	4	VI-SPDAT Score: 9+ 1+ HUD Disabling Conditions	Length of Time Homeless

Rapid Re-Housing and Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing <u>for Families</u>

Housing	Priority	Primary Criteria	Secondary
RRH	1	VI-SPDAT Score: 5+ 1 + HUD Disability Conditioning	Length of Time Homeless
RRH	2	VI-SPDAT Score: 6+	Length of Time Homeless
RRH	3	VI-SPDAT Score: 5	Length of Time Homeless

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

The Home For Good Santa Barbara County Coordinated Entry System follows access, assessment, prioritization, matching and referral, and safety planning through pre-screening, emergency services, diversion, prevention, assessment, and referral steps pursuant to 24 CFR 578.7(a)(8). The CES connects individuals and families currently experiencing homelessness with housing and supportive service programs throughout Santa Barbara County. Coordinated entry is an important process through which people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness can access the crisis response system in a streamlined way, have their strengths and needs quickly assessed, and guickly connect to appropriate, tailored housing and mainstream services within the community or designated region. The standardized assessment tools and practices used within our local coordinated assessment process considers the unique needs of children and their families as well as youth. Individuals and families who sleep in a place not meant for human habitation (including on the street), in shelter, or in a transitional housing program, or who are fleeing domestic/dating violence or human trafficking, are all eligible. When possible, the local assessment provides the ability for households to gain access to the best options to address their needs, incorporating participants' choice, rather than being evaluated for a single program within the system. These processes are intended to help our community prioritize people who are most in need of assistance. All referrals to CES, including screening for program eligibility and prioritization, occur according to Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures set by our local providers based on community needs identified through local data analysis.

Assessment phases may include: Screening for diversion or prevention; Assessing shelter and other emergency and mainstream service needs; Identifying housing resources and barriers; and Evaluating vulnerability in order to prioritize for assistance.

The network of providers participating in the Coordinated Entry System join in countywide case conferencing and regional outreach coordination meetings each week. Providers also attend adhoc meetings and sector events in order to sustain awareness of opportunities for housing placements. During the case conferencing meetings, the list of individuals active in HMIS (including name and client ID) is reviewed for progress, updates, and potential housing placement.

Individuals and families are prioritized for a full continuum of housing and service interventions according to Santa Maria / Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care's CoC and ESG Written Standards, which prioritize those with the most urgent and severe needs, as defined in 25 CCR § 8409. The CoC uses the Coordinated Entry process to prioritize homeless persons within the CoC's geographic area for access to housing and supportive services.

The Coordinated Entry prioritization process combines the individual person's assessment results with the CoC's prioritization policies and procedures to determine that person's level of vulnerability. The person's assessed vulnerability will establish their level of priority for resources in the homeless system and lead to identification of vacancies at housing and supportive services projects that the person can be referred to.

Each "Priority Group" represents a group of people who are considered to be of roughly the same priority. Priority Group 1 is the highest priority group. Programs participating in Coordinated Entry are required to attempt to fill each housing opportunity with eligible clients from the highest remaining priority group unless (a) there are no such clients, or (b) the placement of a client creates an unsafe environment for all of the clients in that priority group because it lacks the appropriate supportive services. Programs participating in Coordinated Entry are then encouraged to fill each housing opportunity in priority order based on the secondary criteria, with clients who have a longer length of time homeless being housed before clients with a shorter length of time homeless, but case workers have discretion to override the secondary criteria based on subjective criteria such as suitability, client choice, and the relative difficulty of finding and preparing a particular client to enter housing.

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?

The Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care and the County of Santa Barbara geographically overlap completely, so no share was calculated. The County and the CoC partnered in an effort to bring much-needed resources to address homelessness through the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program. The County of Santa Barbara serves as the Administrative Entity (AE) and Lead Agency for the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC). This existing structure provides regional coordination across the County's geographic area which is contiguous with the CoC service area.

Upon release of the FY 2019-20 California State Budget, the CoC and County began preparing to apply for the HHAP funding. The CoC and County have been in the process of developing Phase II of a regional plan to address homelessness, which includes many of the elements advised in the HHAP program guidance for coordination and identifying the best use of the funding to address critical gaps in the homelessness response system.

The Phase I Community Action Plan to Address Homelessness was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 18, 2019. This report identified five key strategies to address homelessness: Increase access to safe, affordable housing; Use best practices to deliver tailored support services; Build a collective action plan; Strengthen support system to obtain and maintain housing; and Build provider capacity to address complex needs.

In 2019, the County's Housing and Community Development (HCD) Division of the Community Services Department, with support from LeSar Development Consultants, convened multiple meetings with stakeholders and community members to gather information regarding unmet needs, and solicited input on funding priorities for HHAP and the Regional Plan to Address Homelessness. Well-attended community meetings were conducted in diverse areas of the region where over 400 residents were presented valuable data on the homeless response system and given the opportunity to share concerns, needs, and comment on the current system. Stakeholder meetings and interviews were also conducted with: elected leaders, healthcare and homeless service providers, persons with lived experience, public officials from all cities within the County; County department and division heads including Behavioral Health, Public Health, Social Services, Planning and Development, Probation, and the District Attorney's office; and the County Homeless Inter-Agency Policy Council (HIAPC).

Staff gathered funding amounts for housing and services dedicated to homelessness from all regional jurisdictions in Santa Barbara County for a 12-month period and analyzed recent state and federal investments to address homelessness.

The housing and shelter needs identified were based on a gaps analysis conducted which included system modeling using data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the Coordinated Entry System (CES), Point in Time (PIT) Count and other data sources. Gaps identified included (but were not limited to) need for additional rental assistance and rapid rehousing; incentives for landlords; shelter beds; and assistance for Transitional Aged Youth.

County HCD presented HHAP information and system data to the CoC Planning committee and Board, as well as at HIAPC and elected leaders' meetings to inform the decision-making process, provide updates, and to receive feedback.

On February 6, 2020, the CoC Board affirmed use of the County HHAP funding to include support of the development of a Crisis Respite Navigation Center located in South County and for outreach and coordination for vulnerable persons to access and retain housing through a multi-disciplinary team led by the Behavioral Wellness department. In addition to supporting the County's use, the CoC will also dedicate part of the CoC HHAP allocation toward the development of the Crisis Respite Navigation Center. The County has dedicated their youth set-aside to be paired with the

Continuum of Care's youth set-aside allocation for a total of \$327,330 to be included in the CoC's local NOFA process to distribute HHAP funds. The 27-member CoC Board is comprised of a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from homeless service agencies, and others from the fields of behavioral health, health care, public health, law enforcement, education, youth, LGBT+, the faith community, public and private housing providers, local government, Veterans services, legal and disability services, domestic violence and victims assistance services, and formerly homeless individuals.

On February 11, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors approved applying for HHAP funds for both the CoC and the County of Santa Barbara allocations. The County agrees with and supports the proposed uses of HHAP funding by the CoC.

Both the County Board of Supervisors and CoC Board affirmed for HHAP funding for administrative costs and support for HMIS/CES in both applications.

The Housing and Community Development (HCD) Division of the Community Services Department will administer the funding for both the County and the Continuum of Care. All parties involved in HHAP implementation will meet monthly to coordinate and evaluate program components. In 2019, the County formed the Homelessness Inter-Agency Policy Council (HIAPC), which consists of County department heads from the CEO, Behavioral Wellness, Public Defender, Community Services, Public Health, Social Services Planning and Development, Sheriff departments. The HIAPC coordinates the County's response to regional homelessness. Regular HHAP status reports will be provided to both the HIAPC and the Continuum of Care Board.

Demonstrated need for new navigation centers and emergency shelters based on the following:

- The number of available shelter beds in the jurisdiction: 552
- The shelter vacancy rate in the summer and winter months Summer 20%, Winter 7%
- The percentage of exits from emergency shelters to permanent housing solutions - 25% of all exits to PH, 16% of singles, 54% of families
- A plan to connect residents to permanent housing. Shelters in Santa Barbara County have plans/paths in place to connect residents to permanent housing. These plans include screening for diversion, VISPDAT, case management and document readiness, connections with RRH programs, housing applications, and plans to increase income; these plans are individualized based on client goals.
- 2. What is your identified share of this need, and how will the requested funds help your jurisdiction meet it?

The CoC and County geographically overlap completely, so no share was calculated. The steps listed above assisted both the CoC and County in identifying eligible uses and meeting threshold criteria for the CoC and County to apply for the HHAP funds.

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?

Homelessness is traumatic for those who experience it and has significant impact on one's overall well-being. Homelessness significantly impacts community: law enforcement, healthcare, business, tourism, and neighborhoods. Homelessness is a top concern among diverse stakeholders across the region, including the general public. Efforts to address homelessness have been building: Bringing Our Community Home [10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness (2006)]; Enhanced governance structure of the Continuum of Care (CoC); Fully implemented a Coordinated Entry System (CES); Expanded formal and informal cross-sector collaboration within the system of care; Network of partners – County, Cities, governmental agencies, homeless services providers, faith-based providers, healthcare, and others are more engaged and working together than ever before.

As previously noted, The Phase I Plan to Address Homelessness was a collaborative engagement process that identified needs and set 5 overarching goals:

- 1. Increase Access to Safe, Affordable Housing
- 2. Use Best Practices to Deliver Tailored Supportive Services to Meet Individual Needs
- 3. Build a Collective Action Plan; Improve Data Sharing
- 4. Strengthen Support System Available to Help Residents Obtain and Maintain Housing
- 5. Build Provider Capacity to Address the Needs of Specific Populations

Phase II, currently in progress, consisted of a review and analysis of Santa Barbara County's persons served annually in homeless programs, housing interventions, homeless hosing inventory trends, funding dedicated to homelessness, and homeless system analysis (system performance measures and data-informed observations and recommendations). The Phase II planning process involves collective buy-in for regional impact; common vision and guiding principles; data to identify specific homeless intervention needs; draft goals, strategies, priorities, and action steps. This process will inform and determine an action plan, governance model, and performance measurements. While still in progress, draft vision and guiding principles, as well as immediate, short-term, and long-term goals to create sustainable, long-term housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness across our region, have been presented to key stakeholder groups and decision-makers for feedback. These groups intend to commit to key goals:

- Prioritize ending/dramatically reducing homelessness for specific populations. Starting with ending homelessness among Veterans.
- Increase housing inventory (units and beds) dedicated to homelessness and affordability.
- Reduce the number of people who become homeless for the first time by creating a culture of diversion and prevention across the homeless response system.
- Improve overall homeless system performance.

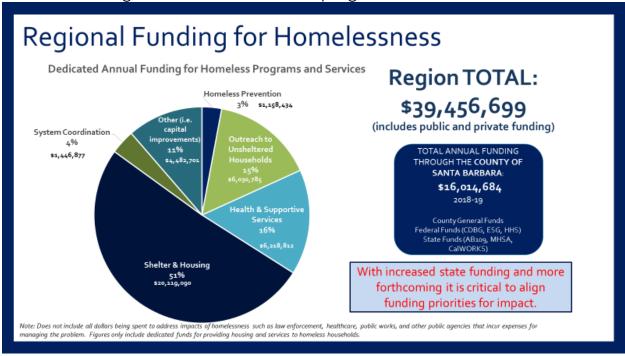
2. RESOURCES ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

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.

A complete, detailed list is <u>attached separately</u>. This graph is a snapshot of funding dedicated to homeless programs and services:



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

The CoC and County geographically overlap completely; the resources listed include funding dedicated to homeless programs and services in our region (Santa Barbara County).

In anticipation of the HHAP requirements, staff gathered funding amounts for housing and services dedicated to homelessness in regional jurisdictions in Santa Barbara County, including the County, for a 12-month period and analyzed recent state and federal investments to address homelessness. This involved outreach to over 100 (one hundred) leaders of agencies providing services to people experiencing homelessness. Agencies were asked to detail all funding in the geographic area being used to provide housing and homelessness services targeting homeless populations including federal, state and local funding. The goal was to identify all funding dedicated to homelessness on an annual basis, aligning funding sources with areas of investment: prevention, outreach, health and supportive services, shelter and housing, coordinated systems, and capital improvements/development of housing. Agency reports were compared and de-duplicated with federal and state filings and reports from funding agencies, such as state grants and local foundations. This process, combined with other data sources and gaps analysis, informed funding plans.

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

The housing and shelter needs identified were based on a gaps analysis conducted which included system modeling using data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the Coordinated Entry System (CES), Point in Time (PIT) Count and other data sources. Gaps identified included (but were not limited to) need for additional rental assistance and rapid rehousing; incentives for landlords; shelter beds; and assistance for Transitional Aged Youth.

Housing 8	Shelte	er Gaps A	na	alysis	
New Permanent Housing	Total Need	Amount In Syste Available Annual		New Ho	using Needed
Rapid Re-Housing	1,215	162		1,053 slo	ots/vouchers
Permanent Supportive Housing	898	63		83	5 units
Long-Term Subsidy/Rental Asst.	631	100		531 uni	ts/vouchers
New Temporary Housing	Total Need	Amount in System Available Annually		al People Still eeding a Bed	Total Beds Needed At current turnover rate
Shelter and TH Beds	2,780	1603		1,177	563 beds

Temporary Beds Needed by Re	Temporary Beds Needed by Region				
Region	Number of New Beds Needed				
SOUTH COUNTY Goleta, IV, Montecito, Carpinteria, Summerland, City of Santa Barbara	369				
MID-COUNTY Lompoc, Santa Ynez Valley	61				
NORTH COUNTY Santa Maria, Orcutt, Guadalupe	133				
TOTAL	563				
	Based on % of unsheltered PIT number				

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.

After careful review and analysis of persons served annually in homeless programs, current housing interventions, housing inventory trends, funding dedicated to homelessness in our region, homeless system analysis (system performance measures and data observations), the County and CoC have determined the following eligible uses will address critical gaps in the homeless response system and strengthen current investments to address homelessness:

Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care HHAP Funding Application

Eligible Activity	Rec	juest Amount
Rental assistance and rapid rehousing	\$	760,807.25
Incentives for Landlords	\$	299,154.00
	Ψ	
Support for Crisis Respite Navigation Center	\$	699,999.00
Administrative Costs (7%)	\$	148,676.04
System Support Costs (5%)	\$	106,197.17
Youth Set Aside* (8%)	\$	169,915.48
Total CoC HHAP Application	\$	2,123,943.46

*Detail of Combined Youth Set Aside (both CoC and County Allocations)

Eligible Activity	Re	equest Amount
Rental assistance and rapid rehousing	\$	218,220
Outreach and coordination to assist vulnerable populations in accessing permanent housing and to promote housing stability in supportive housing	\$	109,110
Total HHAP Dedicated to Youth Homelessness	\$	327,330

On behalf of the CoC, the County will apply for HHAP funding to provide Rental assistance and rapid rehousing (RRH), as it was determined to be one of the largest unmet needs in the conducted gaps analysis. Rental assistance and rapid rehousing generally are used with a private market housing unit and will be paired with incentives for landlords to dedicate units to rental assistance and rapid rehousing participants referred through the Coordinated Entry System. Incentives to landlords include rental deposits and protections from other potential losses from vacancies. Santa Barbara County has a large unsheltered population, many of whom have chronic illnesses. The County is in the process of identifying a suitable site for a Crisis Respite Navigation Center in South County, which will provide 30-40 needed temporary beds for this identified gap in the homeless

response system. The CoC has opted to designate \$700,000 of their HHAP funding allocation to support the Crisis Respite Navigation Center.

The County will apply for HHAP funding to provide outreach and coordination to assist vulnerable populations in accessing permanent housing and to promote housing stability in supportive housing. A multi-disciplinary team proposed to be formed with the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding awarded to the County by the CoC is still pending Board of Supervisors approval. The proposed team would include staff from Behavioral Wellness, the Public Defender's Office and Public Health. The HHAP funding would allow the team to continue after the HEAP funding ends on June 30, 2021. As stated, the County is in the process of identifying a suitable site for a Crisis Respite Navigation Center in South County to provide temporary beds to persons experiencing homelessness.

Both applications include funding to address youth homelessness, which is defined as unaccompanied youth between the ages of 12 and 24 who are experiencing homelessness. An unaccompanied youth can be pregnant or parenting. HHAP requires a minimum of 8% of funding to be used to address youth homelessness. The County and CoC have combined their allocations to maximize the impact of the youth set-aside funds.

Both applications include funding requests for administrative and system support costs. System support costs provide for software user fees and staff support of the HMIS and CES administered by the County's Housing and Community Development Division of the Community Services department (HCD/CSD). The State of California will be integrating the collection of HMIS data into new funding stream reporting requirements.

County of Santa Barbara & Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care HHAP Funding Application

Eligible Activity	Reque	st Amount	Measurable Goal
Rental assistance and rapid rehousing (RRH)	\$	918,221.78	Permanently place at least 50 households experiencing homelessness.
Incentives to Landlords	\$	299,154.00	Secure at least 100 units dedicated to households experiencing homelessness referred by the Coordinated Entry System.
incomitées to Editatoras	_Ψ	277,101.00	,
Support for Crisis Respite Navigation Center	\$	1,699,999	Increase bed inventory and decrease unsheltered population by 7% by developing 30-40 respite care beds with supportive services.
Outreach and coordination to assist vulnerable populations in accessing permanent housing and to promote housing stability	\$	683,255.32	Provide access to permanent housing and promote housing stability for at least 75 households.
	т		
Administrative Costs	\$	286,413.75	Community Services to provide grant administration, compliance, and recipient monitoring.
System Support Costs	\$	204,581.25	Community Services to provide HMIS and CES support to providers and systems, including detailed data analysis of grant outcomes.
.,	Т		5.5
COMBINED Youth Dedication* (included above)	\$	327,330.01	Assist 46 youth household experiencing homelessness.
Total Combined HHAP			
Applications	\$	4,091,625.10	

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)?

As a threshold requirement, recipients and applicants will be asked to describe how the proposed activity aligns with California's Housing First Policy. All projects must align with CCR Title 25 8409(b) and housing projects must also align with the Welfare and Institution Code Div. 8 Ch. 6.5 Sec. 8255 (b). All practices and components must be addressed.

3. 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.

As noted previously, HHAP funding to provide outreach and coordination to assist vulnerable populations in accessing permanent housing and to promote housing stability in supportive housing would include staff from County Behavioral Wellness, the Public Defender's Office and Public Health.

Partners in these efforts will include members of the Homeless Inter-Agency Policy Council (HIAPC), which includes the following departments: County CEO, Behavioral Wellness, Public Defender, Community Services, Public Health, Social Services, Planning and Development, Long Range Planning, Sheriff, First 5, and CoC Board and committee members, comprised of a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from homeless service agencies, and others from the fields of behavioral health, health care, public health, law enforcement, education, youth, LGBT+, the faith community, public and private housing providers, local government, Veterans services, legal and disability services, domestic violence and victims assistance services, and formerly homeless individuals. Further partners will also be identified and engaged and identified through the NOFA process. Once HHAP funds are awarded by the State, County HCD will issue Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) to solicit applications for HHAP Program funds

available for proposed eligible uses. The NOFAs and application will be published on County HCD's website and disseminated by e-mail to homeless assistance providers and other stakeholders and community members throughout Santa Barbara County.

Stakeholder groups and collaborative partners will continue to engage in various roles and responsibilities: leadership, political will, commitment, education, advocacy, increasing community-wide buy-in, implementation of the Phase II Action Plan, planning how strategies are going to be implemented, funding, working with stakeholders, measuring and regularly reporting progress, implementation of various strategies, Coordinated Entry, HMIS, federal and state funding decisions, promoting best practices, providing training opportunities, system and project level monitoring and evaluation.

2. Describe any barriers that you experience in partnering, and how you plan to address them.

Key themes identified through community engagement include some challenges; there is a need for the following: collective action, improved communication, maximizing funding and resources, developing and expanding partnerships, building service provider capacity, and creating a culture of best practices. These barriers will be addressed as the Phase II Action Plan is implemented, aligned with an agreed-upon regional vision and guiding principles.

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.

Collaborative partners are identified in 3.A.1. In early March 2020, the CoC Rank and Review committee will meet to align the general Rank and Review Policies with funder/HHAP requirements, and will draft scoring tools accordingly. In early April, the CoC Board will review and approve NOFA guidance and Rank and Review recommendations.

Once HHAP funds are awarded by the State, County HCD will issue Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) to solicit applications for HHAP Program funds available for proposed eligible uses. The NOFAs and application will be published on County HCD's website and disseminated by e-mail to homeless assistance providers and other stakeholders and community members throughout Santa Barbara County.

In late April, a Bidders Workshop will be held to guide through the application process; the local application will be due mid-May. In late May, the Rank and Review committee will meet to rank and review applications submitted,

and will make recommendations to the CoC Board. The CoC Board will review the recommendations for approval in early June.

As noted previously, further partners will be identified and engaged and identified through the NOFA process.

4. SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Per Health and Safety Code Section 50219(a)(6), A list of measurable goals including but not limited to:

County of Santa Barbara & Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care HHAP

- Based on the measurable goals, the number of individuals served:
 50 households (RRH)
 - + 100 units (via landlord incentives)
 - + 46 youth households
 - = **196** total
 - + 75 households (outreach re permanent housing placements)

*there will be some crossover between outreach and landlord incentives as individuals are placed in permanent housing

- The percentage of individuals successfully placed in permanent housing:
 50 households (RRH)
 - + 100 units (via landlord incentives)
 - + 46 youth households
 - = 196 subtotal
 - + 35 (est. 30-40) respite care beds
 - + 75 households (outreach re permanent housing placements)
 - = 110 subtotal
 - = 296 total

196/296 = 66%

To successfully complete this section:

Applicants that did not Submit a Strategic Plan for CESH must:

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

After careful review and analysis of persons served annually in homeless programs, current housing interventions, housing inventory trends, funding dedicated to homelessness in our region, homeless system analysis (system performance measures and data observations), the County and CoC have determined the following eligible uses will address critical gaps in the homeless response system and strengthen current investments to address homelessness:

County of Santa Barbara & Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care HHAP Funding Application

Eligible Activity	Reque	st Amount	Measurable Goal
Rental assistance and rapid rehousing (RRH)	\$	918,221.78	Permanently place at least 50 households experiencing homelessness.
Incentives to Landlords	\$	299,154.00	Secure at least 100 units dedicated to households experiencing homelessness referred by the Coordinated Entry System.
incernives to Editatoras	Ψ	277,134.00	System.
Support for Crisis Respite Navigation Center	\$	1,699,999	Increase bed inventory and decrease unsheltered population by 7% by developing 30-40 respite care beds with supportive services.
Outreach and coordination to assist vulnerable populations in accessing permanent housing and to promote housing stability	\$	683,255.32	Provide access to permanent housing and promote housing stability for at least 75 households.
	т		,
Administrative Costs	\$	286,413.75	Community Services to provide grant administration, compliance, and recipient monitoring.
System Support Costs	\$	204,581.25	Community Services to provide HMIS and CES support to providers and systems, including detailed data analysis of grant outcomes.
2,5.6 5588511 55813	<u> </u>	20 1,001.20	acta diraijaa er grann eeneemes.
COMBINED Youth Dedication* (included above)	\$	327,330.01	Assist 46 youth household experiencing homelessness.
Total Combined HHAP			
Applications	\$	4,091,625.10	

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

CoC / Large City / County Name:												
	COC-603						Receiving Redirected Funds? Y/N					No
Administrative Entity Name:						1	Total Redirected Funding					\$ -
						J				•	L	
HHAP FUNDING EXPENDITURE PLAN*												
ELIGIBLE USE CA	TEGORY	_	FY20/21		FY21/22		FY22/23	F	Y23/24	FY24/25	_	TOTAL
Rental Assistance and Ra	pid Rehousing	\$	253,602.41	\$	253,602.41	\$	253,602.43	\$	-	\$ -		\$ 760,807.2
Operating Subsidies at	nd Reserves	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -		\$ -
Landlord Incen	tives	\$	99,718.00	\$	99,718.00	\$	99,718.00	\$	-	\$ -	1	\$ 299,154.0
Outreach and Coordination (inc	cluding employment)	\$	36,370.00	\$	36,370.00	\$	36,370.00	\$	-	\$ -		\$ 109,110.0
Systems Support to Create Re	Systems Support to Create Regional Partnerships		-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	1	\$ -
Delivery of Permanent Housing		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	1	\$ -
Prevention and Shelter Diversion	to Permanent Housing	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	1	\$ -
New Navigation Centers and E	Emergency Shelters	\$	233,333.00	\$	233,333.00	\$	233,333.00	\$	-	\$ -		\$ 699,999.0
Strategic Homelessness Planning, Infrastructure D	Development, CES, and HMIS (up to 5%)	\$	26,549.29	\$	26,549.29	\$	26,549.29	\$	26,549.30	\$ -] [\$ 106,197.1
Administrative (up	o to 7%)	\$	37,169.01	\$	37,169.01	\$	37,169.01	\$	37,169.01	\$ -]	\$ 148,676.0
							TOTAL F	UND	ING ALLO	OCATION		\$ 2,123,943.4
			FY20/21		FY21/22		FY22/23	F'	Y23/24	FY24/25	L	TOTAL
Youth Set-Aside (at	least 8%)	\$	56,638.49	\$	56,638.49	\$	56,638.50	\$	-	\$ -] [\$ 169,915.4
*Narrative should reflect details of HHAP func	ding plan	<u>-</u>										
COMMENTS:												



George Chapjian, Director, Community Services
Sarah York Rubin, Executive Director, Office of Arts & Culture
Ryder Bailey, CPA, Chief Financial Officer, Community Services
Dinah Lockhart, Deputy Director, Housing & Community Development
Jeff Lindgren, Superintendent, Parks Division
Ashley Watkins, Division Chief, Sustainability Division



February 12, 2020

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

Subject:

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Letter of Support for the County of Santa Barbara Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The County of Santa Barbara is pleased to partner with the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC) to bring much-needed resources to address homelessness through the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program. The County of Santa Barbara serves as the Administrative Entity (AE) and Lead Agency for the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC). This existing structure provides regional coordination across the County's geographic area which is contiguous with the CoC service area. The Housing and Community Development (HCD) Division of the Community Services Department will administer the funding for both the County and the Continuum of Care. All parties involved in HHAP implementation will meet monthly to coordinate and evaluate program components. In 2019, the County formed the Homelessness Inter-Agency Policy Council (HIAPC), which consists of County department heads from the CEO, Behavioral Wellness, Public Defender, Community Services, Public Health, Social Services Planning and Development, Sheriff departments. The HIAPC coordinates the County's response to regional homelessness. Regular HHAP status reports will be provided to both the HIAPC and the Continuum of Care Board.

On February 11, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors approved applying for HHAP funds for both the CoC and the County of Santa Barbara allocations. The County agrees with and supports the proposed uses of HHAP funding by the CoC as outlined here:

Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care HHAP Funding Application							
Eligible Activity	Request Amount						
Rapid Re-Housing /Rental Assistance	\$	700,000					
Incentives for Landlords	\$	299,154					
Support for Crisis Respite Navigation Center	\$	700,000					
Administrative Costs	\$	148,676					
System Support Costs	\$	106,197					
Youth Set Aside*	\$	169,915					
Total CoC HHAP Application	\$	2,123,942					

Upon release of the FY 2019-20 California State Budget, the CoC and County began preparing to apply for the HHAP funding. The CoC and County have been in the process of developing a regional plan to address homelessness, which includes many of the elements advised in the HHAP program guidance for coordination and identifying the best use of the funding to address critical gaps in the homelessness response system. In 2019, HCD, with support from LeSar Development Consultants, convened multiple meetings with stakeholders and community members to gather information regarding unmet needs and solicited input on funding priorities for HHAP and the Regional Plan to Address Homelessness. Well-attended community meetings were conducted in diverse areas of the region where over 400 residents were presented valuable data on the homeless response system and given the opportunity to share concerns, needs, and comment on the current system. Stakeholder meetings and interviews were also conducted with: elected leaders, healthcare and homeless service providers, persons with lived experience, public officials from all cities within the County; County department and division heads including Behavioral Health, Public Health, Social Services, Planning and Development, Probation, and the District Attorney's office; and the County HIAPC. County HCD presented HHAP information and system data at CoC and HIAPC meetings to inform the decision-making process, provide updates, and to receive feedback.

On February 6, 2020, the CoC Board affirmed use of the County HHAP funding to include support of the development of a Crisis Respite Navigation Center located in South County and for outreach and coordination for vulnerable persons to access and retain housing through a multi-disciplinary team led by the Behavioral Wellness department. In addition to supporting the County's use, the CoC will also dedicate part of the CoC HHAP allocation toward the development of the Crisis Respite Navigation Center. The County has dedicated their youth set-aside to be paired with the Continuum of Care's youth set-aside allocation for a total of \$327,330 to be included in the CoC's local NOFA process to distribute HHAP funds. The 27-member CoC Board is comprised of a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from homeless service agencies, and others from the fields of behavioral health, health care, public health, law enforcement, education, youth, LGBT+, the faith community, public and private housing providers, local government, Veterans services, legal and disability services, domestic violence and victims assistance services, and formerly homeless individuals.

Both the County Board of Supervisors and CoC Board affirmed for HHAP funding for administrative costs and support for HMIS/CES in both applications.

Once HHAP funds are awarded by the State, County HCD will issue Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) to solicit applications for HHAP Program funds available for proposed eligible uses. The NOFAs and application will be published on County HCD's website and disseminated by e-mail to homeless assistance providers and other stakeholders and community members throughout Santa Barbara County.

Sincerely,

George Chapjian

Director, Community Services Department

County of Santa Barbara