



State of California
BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Lourdes M. Castro Ramírez, Secretary

July 31, 2020

Dear Partners:

The California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency and the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) are pleased to provide this new guidance document, ***Guide to Strategic Uses of Key State and Federal Funds to Reduce Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic***.

The Guide is designed to advance our collective efforts to protect the immediate health and well-being concerns, and to address the permanent housing needs, of people experiencing homelessness during this public health crisis. We hope that you will find the Guide, prepared with the assistance of consultants Matthew Doherty and Katharine Gale, helpful with informing decisions on the most strategic uses of a range of new and existing Federal and State resources to address homelessness during COVID-19.

As you use this Guide in your local planning and decision-making, I especially encourage you to focus on the important priorities of addressing racial inequities and supporting people experiencing homelessness - through access to safe shelter options and by connecting them to permanent housing.

- Homelessness and COVID-19 have had starkly disproportionate impacts on people of color, particularly in Black, Latinx, and Native American communities. As you plan for the use of funds described within this Guide, the needs and voices of historically marginalized communities must be prioritized in determining strategies, implementing activities, and evaluating impact.
- As Governor Newsom has said, “Shelters solve sleep. Housing and supportive services solve homelessness.” As we continue to respond to the intersecting crises of homelessness and COVID-19, it is essential that we complement our work to provide safe emergency sheltering options with expanded and urgent efforts to permanently rehouse people out of emergency settings and unsheltered homelessness.

If you would like to discuss the Guide and how State programs and resources can best support your efforts, please contact us at HCFC@bcsh.ca.gov. Thank you for all you are doing to keep families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness safe during this pandemic and for your urgent focus on rehousing efforts. We are proud to be partners with you!

Respectfully,



Lourdes M. Castro Ramírez, Secretary
Chair, Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council

915 Capitol Mall, Suite 350A, Sacramento, California 95814 (916) 653-4090 www.bcsh.ca.gov

**Guide to Strategic Uses of
Key State and Federal Funds
to Reduce Homelessness
During the COVID-19 Pandemic**



Updated:
September 2020



Guide to Strategic Uses of Key State and Federal Funds to Reduce Homelessness During the COVID 19 Pandemic Updated: September 2020

Purpose of this Document

This document is intended to help local governments and Continuums of Care in California understand the range of immediately available resources to address homelessness during COVID-19 and plan strategic ways to use these resources to effectively prevent and reduce homelessness.

Table 1 provides information on nine (9) key Federal and State resources that communities can tap now for strategic approaches to reduce homelessness during COVID-19, including recommendations for priority uses.

Table 2 is an easy reference format for the eligible and preferred uses for the nine (9) key programs and a larger set of federal and State resources.

Table 3 provides a Sample Investment Plan showing how a community can prioritize, order and invest the resources in four critical program areas based on local needs and opportunities.

Table 4 is a template communities can use to complete a Local Investment Plan with priority uses for each resource.

A Critical Time to Act

The life-threatening challenge of COVID-19 for people who are homeless makes this the time to act swiftly and strategically to comprehensively address homelessness. The influx of one-time resources offers a unique and time-sensitive opportunity to grow and pivot the homeless response system to provide safe alternatives to the street and expand permanent solutions.

Local governments face significant budget challenges, and the long-term impacts of COVID are still unknown. However, a concerted effort now to make a lasting reduction in homelessness will relieve local governments of the ongoing human and financial costs of continuing to try to manage unsheltered homelessness, and reduce the health impacts of the continuing COVID crisis.

The State of California encourages communities to engage in a rapid and coordinated strategic investment planning process that centers equity and focuses on expanded rehousing efforts and continued emergency sheltering, as needed, consistent with public health guidance. Use this opportunity to be creative – many of the resources available currently are extremely flexible. Communities are encouraged to explore the potential for new program models such as non-congregate interim housing and longer-term shallow rental subsidies.

Centering Equity within Efforts and Investments

Both homelessness and COVID-19 have had hugely disproportionate impacts on communities of color, particularly Black, Latinx, and Native American communities. As localities create their approach to reducing homelessness, the needs and voices of these communities must be central to developing an effective approach, including in designing, implementing, and evaluating impact. Use this opportunity to expand the reach of funding to underserved and marginalized communities and non-traditional providers who can reach and serve disproportionately-impacted communities.

For more information on planning work and centering equity, see the HCFC resources page with [Equity Resources for Homelessness Providers](#).

Interventions Described

This Guide lays out how the available resources can be used, separately and together, to support four different categories of programs and interventions that are critical at this time:


1. **Interim Housing** means any program whose primary purpose is to provide a temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness in general or for specific populations, and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.
 - a. **Non-congregate shelter (NCS)** is a type of interim housing recommended under public health guidance to provide places for people to stay during the COVID-19 crisis. NCS provides individual rooms or spaces, such as motel rooms or trailers, where guests have private baths and do not share communal eating space. These include Isolation and Quarantine (I/Q) spaces for those infected with or exposed to COVID-19, as well as non-congregate spaces for persons at risk of severe health impacts should they become infected with the virus to shelter safely shelter in place. It also may include other temporary accommodations such as safe parking, which provide immediate, safe alternatives to the outdoors, designed in coordination with the local public health department.
 - b. **Other interim housing programs** can include congregate shelter, bridge housing, temporary scattered-site arrangements, and transitional housing programs, among others. During the COVID-19 public health crisis such programs and settings should follow public health guidance for appropriate distancing.
2. **Rental Assistance:** Rental assistance programs provide subsidies that help people experiencing homelessness rent housing in the marketplace. Rental assistance typically pays a portion of the total rent and can be temporary or permanent and offered in a variety of program types.
 - a. **Short-term and Rapid Rehousing:** Time-limited rental assistance which can last anywhere from three to 24 months, can be structured to decline or vary over that time, and is usually coupled with housing search, case management, tenancy supports, and connections to other services including employment support. Programs' financial, tenancy, and service supports are geared toward supporting a household's successful transition to paying full rent.
 - b. **Longer-term and Permanent Rental Subsidies:** Longer-term rental assistance can last for more than two years, and in some cases indefinitely. These programs are intended for households who need ongoing financial assistance to afford rent, and are sometimes partnered with ongoing supportive services. These programs include "deep" subsidies such as Housing Choice Vouchers, as well as newer models such as "shallow" subsidies which provide more limited monthly amounts but over longer periods of time than Rapid Rehousing.
3. **Permanent Housing Plus Services:** Rental housing, whether scattered in the community or in a designated building, that has no limit on the length of stay, in which residents have the rights and responsibilities of tenancy, are able to access supportive services, and is typically subsidized to make it affordable to people based on their incomes.
 - a. **Supportive Housing:** Supportive housing (often abbreviated as PSH, with the P indicating "permanent") is permanent housing for a specific target population—generally people with disabilities/special needs and long histories of homelessness—that is linked to onsite or offsite services that assist the resident to retain the housing, improve their health status, and maximize their ability to live and, when possible, work in the community.
 - b. **Service-Enriched Affordable Housing:** Housing that is affordable to low-income households, not necessarily targeted to those who are at risk or with special needs, but nevertheless able to monitor and support the needs of its more vulnerable residents. The services in service-enriched housing are typically less intensive than those offered in Supportive Housing and vary depending on the population. For example, service-enriched housing for seniors may provide a variety of services that support health, independent living, and

socializing, while service-enriched housing for families may include childcare and other children’s services and a focus on supporting employment.

4. **Diversion and Homelessness Prevention:** Programs that seek to prevent people from losing current housing or to prevent the need for services from the homelessness response system through a rapid return to housing, usually without expectation of ongoing support.
 - a. **Diversion / Problem Solving:** Programs that work with people at the time they are seeking shelter or help from the homelessness response system by helping them identify immediate, safe alternate housing arrangements and, if needed, providing them with case management, financial assistance, and connections to mainstream benefits and services. Diversion / problem solving approaches support a wide range of potential resolutions, including remaining or going to live with family and friends temporarily or permanently, or other shared arrangements.
 - b. **Homelessness Prevention:** Programs that provide services and short-term assistance to households at imminent risk of becoming homeless to help them regain stability in current housing or move and achieve stability in a new housing location. Homelessness prevention may include, but is not limited to, providing support to prevent evictions. Research shows that homelessness prevention is more effective the closer it is offered to actual homelessness and the more deeply it is targeted to the people who are at immediate risk. Eviction prevention demand is likely to be high; however, research does not demonstrate a strong connection between eviction prevention and reductions in people experiencing homelessness. Most people who do become homeless live in more informal situations, such as doubled up with others—situations which traditional eviction prevention programs do not serve. It is important for homelessness prevention programs to ensure they are highly targeted to the people who are *most likely* to experience homelessness if they do not receive assistance. For more information on implementing equitable homelessness prevention activities, see [Homeless System Response: Prevention to Promote Equity](#) prepared by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) technical assistance providers.

For More Information

This guide contains information and links related to various key State and Federal sources. For additional information on a coordinated approach to addressing homelessness, and for questions or requests for further technical assistance, please contact:

	Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC)	California Department of Social Services (CDSS)	Homekey / California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)
Website: 	www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/	www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/cdss-programs/housing-programs	www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/homekey.shtml
Email: 	HCFC@bcsh.ca.gov	Housing@dss.ca.gov	Homekey@hcd.ca.gov

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council wishes to thank consultants Matthew Doherty and Katharine Gale for their consultation and assistance in the preparation of this Guide.

Table 1: Using Major Federal and State Funding Resources Strategically

PART I: TIME LIMITED AND EMERGENCY FEDERAL AND STATE RESOURCES				
Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
<p>Emergency Solutions Grant Funding in CARES Act (ESG-CV) via U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)</p>	<p>Deadline for expenditures of September 30, 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Rehousing • Shelter operations and services including for non-congregate shelter sites • Street outreach • Homelessness prevention 	<p>First allocation of \$42 million provided to the State being awarded to eligible communities through a NOFA issued June 1, 2020, with open application window through July 20. NOFA information here.</p> <p>A second allocation of \$271.7 million was announced on June 10, 2020. This allocation is currently in the planning stages and is expected to be available later this summer. For information about this and other funding administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), please sign up for HCD’s email notifications here.</p> <p>In addition to the funds received by the State, 44 California cities and counties will receive more than \$634 million in direct entitlement ESG-CV funds in two rounds. Find local awards information here.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Use these resources to expand rehousing efforts and protect people from COVID-19. Rapid Rehousing is a strong use for ESG-CV and ESG is the best Federal source for this activity. The State encourages communities to plan a transition for those in Non-congregate shelter (NCS) sites to housing and use ESG to facilitate that plan. Both HUD and the State encourage a focus on Rapid Rehousing, but HUD Notice CPD-20-08, issued 9/1/20, caps the length of assistance to 12 months, with some exceptions, including if Action Plan Amendment was approved prior to release of Notice.</p> <p>Tip: ESG-CV can be used to provide Rapid Rehousing exits for individuals exiting Project Roomkey and for Homekey projects that are intended to be interim housing sites.</p> <p>Recommended Use: ESG-CV can be used to continue operations and services at NCS sites after FEMA has ended and/or for costs or clients that are not FEMA eligible for reimbursement (though it cannot be used to cover the 25% cost share).</p> <p>Other Eligible Uses: With the COVID crisis, homelessness prevention will be important, but communities should use other resources if possible to cover this assistance (see CDBG-CV, Coronavirus Relief Fund, HEAP, and HHAP.) While it is recommended to use ESG first for those already experiencing homelessness, if using ESG for homelessness prevention, target funds carefully to focus on those most at risk of homelessness and administer through organizations serving marginalized communities, or use to expand diversion and problem solving. See guidance for using ESG first for people experiencing homelessness and Five Things to Consider When Investing ESG in Homelessness Prevention.</p>

PART I: TIME LIMITED AND EMERGENCY FEDERAL AND STATE RESOURCES

Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
<p>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Public Assistance Program Category B</p>	<p>Subject to FEMA extensions</p>	<p>Many uses are eligible for up to 75% reimbursement, subject to FEMA authorizations and approval processes, including to support the operation of non-congregate sheltering sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimbursement can cover: cost of shelter operations, staffing needed to protect public health and safety, food, clothing, toiletries, and other supplies and infrastructure. • Reimbursement <u>cannot</u> cover: case management, mental health counseling, or other supportive services. 	<p>The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) received approval in March to seek reimbursement from FEMA Public Assistance Program Category B for a variety of costs of Project Roomkey non-congregate shelter sites.</p> <p>The State will continue to seek extensions on authorization to use for Project Roomkey sites as necessary and continues to provide technical assistance to communities to maximize their FEMA reimbursement ability.</p> <p>See more information in the FEMA Approval letter, landing page for Project Roomkey, and CDSS FEMA Reimbursement FAQs.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Maximize reimbursement for as many emergency response costs as possible while available, especially for leasing and operating non-congregate shelter and related wraparound support costs such as food, shelter management, cleaning, etc.</p> <p>When communities get reimbursed, depending on the source used initially, they may consider reinvesting the funds into other critical homeless-serving activities, such as those described below.</p>
<p>Community Development Block Grant funding in CARES Act (CDBG-CV) via HUD</p>	<p>Deadline for expenditures of September 30, 2022</p>	<p>Categories of activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing Units (Multi- and Single-Family) • Public Facilities Buildings and Improvements • Assistance to Businesses, Including Special Economic Development • Public Services • Planning, Capacity Building, and TA <p>Eligible activities include short-term emergency financial assistance for rent, mortgage, and utilities, legal support; and acquisition or operating costs of hotels and motels to address needs for social distancing and isolation.</p>	<p>First allocation of \$18.7 million provided to the State is being awarded through a NOFA issued June 5, 2020, with open application window through August 31, 2020. State CDBG funds are provided as grants to non-entitlement jurisdictions.</p> <p>A second allocation of \$113.3 million was announced on May 22, 2020. This allocation is currently in the planning stages and is expected to be available later this summer. For information about this and other funding administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), please sign up for HCD’s email notifications here.</p> <p>In addition to the funds received by the State, 183 California cities and counties received more than \$215.9 million in direct entitlement CDBG-CV (along with regular annual allocations of \$367 million). Find HUD’s local awards information here.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Use these resources first to support the timely acquisition of hotels and other housing sites in conjunction with Homekey, and to fund any needed improvements to make them useable as permanent or interim housing.</p> <p>Recommended Use: CDBG-CV can be used for homelessness prevention, and the State recommends using these funds rather than ESG-CV for this purpose. If using for homelessness prevention, target funds carefully to focus on those at highest risk of homelessness and administer through organizations that have reach into marginalized communities.</p> <p>Other Eligible Uses: Shelter operations and services and other homeless services are also eligible, but many other sources can be used for such activities, including HEAP, HHAP, ESG, and ESG-CV. CDBG resources can be used to pay the local 25% cost share for FEMA reimbursable costs, provided that the activities funded are otherwise eligible for CDBG assistance and comply with CDBG requirements.</p>

PART I: TIME LIMITED AND EMERGENCY FEDERAL AND STATE RESOURCES

Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
<p>Homekey – via California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)</p>	<p>Funding from CRF (\$550M) must be expended by December 30, 2020.</p> <p>Funding from General Funds (\$50M) must be expended by June 30, 2022.</p>	<p><u>\$550 million from Coronavirus Relief Fund:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition or rehabilitation of motels, hotels, or hostels. • Master leasing of properties. • Acquisition of other sites, including apartments, homes, care facilities, manufactured housing, other residential buildings that can be converted to permanent or interim housing. • Conversion of nonresidential units to residential in a structure such as a motel, hotel, or hostel. • Purchase of affordability covenants and restrictions for units. • Associated relocation costs <p><u>\$50 million General Fund:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalized operating subsidies for units purchased, converted, or altered with funds provided. 	<p>Apply for these funds through an over the counter application to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). NOFA issued July 16, 2020.</p> <p>Awards will be made on a rolling basis. Priority application period ends August 13, 2020; final application period ends September 29, 2020. <i>Prior to submitting an application, all applicants are required to engage in a pre-application consultation</i> with HCD and/or the California Department of General Services (DGS).</p> <p>See HCD Homekey landing page for more information.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Use these funds to acquire hotels/motels and other buildings and facilities to be used for permanent housing, and for housing that can be used as interim housing with eventual ability to convert to permanent housing.</p>
<p>Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) – via U.S. Department of the Treasury to Cities and Counties</p>	<p>Costs incurred between March 1 and December 30, 2020</p>	<p>Very broadly defined, including to cover “expenses for the care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.”</p>	<p>The California Department of Finance has made CRF funds available to cities and counties. See information on these State Allocations here.</p> <p>In addition to the funds provided to the State, eligible Cities and Counties received direct allocations of CRF funding; information about those allocations can be found at the US Department of the Treasury website.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Local CRF funds can also be used to acquire housing, and may be added to Homekey activities if needed to secure as many units as possible.</p> <p>Recommended Use: These funds can also be used to support rehousing strategies, such as deposits and short-term rent, and for back rent for people impacted by the economic crisis related to COVID, as long as expended by December 30, 2020.</p> <p>Tip: If using as part of an effort to cover past due rent for people at risk, use these funds first before other Federal funds, as they have the quickest spend down. Target prevention funds to those at highest risk of homelessness and administer through organizations that have reach into marginalized communities.</p>

PART I: TIME LIMITED AND EMERGENCY FEDERAL AND STATE RESOURCES				
Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding – via California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) and California Department of Social Services (CDSS)	Funds must be encumbered by June 30, 2020 and fully expended by June 30, 2022.	<p><u>\$100 million via HCFC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolation Capacity Emergency Shelter Operations Shelter Capacity Street Outreach Transportation Staffing for infectious disease preparedness and case management for clients. Prevention/Diversion <p><u>\$50 million via CDSS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-congregate sheltering 	<p>The \$100 million has been distributed to counties, CoCs, and California’s 13 largest cities according to HHAP allocation calculation. See more information on allocations and FAQs.</p> <p>Also included \$50 million to purchase travel trailers and lease rooms in hotels, motels, and other facilities in partnership with counties and cities for Project Roomkey to provide immediate isolation placements throughout the state for homeless individuals.</p>	<p>Recommend Use: Priority for use in non-congregate shelters in accordance with public health guidance.</p> <p>Other Eligible Uses: \$100 million may also be used for street outreach, diversion and prevention efforts that protect individuals experiencing homelessness from COVID-19; however, these activities are also eligible under other State and Federal sources.</p>

PART II: OTHER ESSENTIAL STATE PROGRAMS				
Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) – via HCFC	50% had to be obligated by Jan 1, 2020; Must be fully expended by June 30, 2021	<p>\$500 million appropriated for broad range of potential uses including:</p> <p>Services: Street outreach, health and safety education, criminal justice diversion programs, homelessness prevention activities, and other service activities.</p> <p>Capital improvements: Emergency shelter, navigation centers, transitional housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, small/tiny houses, and improvements to current structures that serve homeless individuals and families.</p> <p>Rental assistance or subsidies: Housing voucher, Rapid Rehousing programs, flexible housing subsidy funds, and eviction prevention strategies. <i>At least 5% must be for programs serving youth. See HEAP landing page for more information.</i></p>	<p>Cities and Continuums of Care have already received approval for use of HEAP funds; however, many have unallocated or unexpended funds.</p> <p><i>HCFC strongly encourages communities to review the status of these funds, including those that are obligated, to determine if there are more strategic and expeditious uses for the funding now in light of COVID-19 priorities and resources, and with the expenditure deadline approaching.</i></p> <p>HCFC will consider and grant changes to prior approved HEAP Plans. See information on the HEAP Change Request Process.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Continue to support non-congregate shelter sites in accordance with public health guidance. HEAP expenditures may be reimbursed when used for 75% share of FEMA costs and may be used for the local 25% share, provided that the activities funded are otherwise eligible for HEAP assistance and comply with HEAP requirements.</p> <p>Recommended Use: Use in conjunction with Homekey to quickly acquire buildings/units.</p> <p>Other Eligible Uses: HEAP is extremely flexible. Given spend down requirements, communities should use HEAP to fill immediate gaps in their system and provide housing and supportive services to people who are currently homeless and particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. Examples include rehousing that can be completed by June 2021, and other services and operations.</p>

PART II: OTHER ESSENTIAL STATE PROGRAMS

Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
<p>Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) – via HCFC</p>	<p>Round 1: \$650 million; All funds must be obligated by May 31, 2023; Must be fully expended by June 30, 2025</p> <p>Round 2: \$300 million; 50% of funds must be obligated by May 31, 2023; Must be fully expended by June 30, 2026</p>	<p>Broad range of potential uses including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Rehousing • Operating Subsidies and Reserves • Street outreach • Services coordination • Systems Support to create regional partnerships • Delivery of Permanent Housing • Innovative solutions including motel/hotel conversion • Prevention and shelter diversion to permanent housing • New navigation centers and emergency shelters, with requirement to demonstrate need (Note: during COVID-19, shelters should be consistent with public health directives and non-congregate whenever possible.) <p><i>At least 8% must be for programs serving youth. See HHAP landing page for more information.</i></p>	<p>Applications for Round 2 HHAP funds will be available by November 30, 2020. Funds will be distributed by formula with an approved Plan.</p> <p><i>The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) encourages communities to strategically plan for Round 2 in conjunction with other resources, using the priority recommendations in this document and with consideration for improving racial equity.</i></p> <p>HCFC has already distributed Round 1 HHAP funds to Counties, cities, and Continuums of Care; however, most Round 1 funding is yet unobligated and very little has been spent.</p> <p><i>HCFC strongly encourages communities to review the status of Round 1 funds, including those that are obligated, to determine if there are more strategic uses for the funding now in light of COVID-19 priorities and resources.</i></p> <p>HCFC will consider and grant changes to jurisdictions’ approved HHAP plans.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Use in conjunction with Homekey to quickly acquire buildings/units and operate them.</p> <p>Recommended Use: Allocate HHAP to align with Project Roomkey and continue to support non-congregate shelter sites and other interim housing operating in accordance with public health guidance. HHAP expenditures may be reimbursed when used for 75% share of FEMA costs and may be used for the local 25% share, provided that the activities funded are otherwise eligible for HHAP assistance and comply with HHAP requirements.</p> <p>Other Eligible Uses: HHAP is very flexible and may be used for a variety of homeless program and services including Rapid Rehousing and homelessness prevention. Any investments in prevention should be well-targeted and administered as much as possible by organizations that have reach into marginalized communities. <i>Use for prevention only after rehousing needs are fully covered.</i></p>
<p>CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) – \$95 million annual via CDSS</p>	<p>Awarded annually, per state budget act.</p>	<p>Provides short- to medium-term rental assistance program for families in the CalWORKs program who are experiencing homelessness. Funds can be used for:</p> <p>Financial Assistance: Rental assistance security deposits, utility payments, moving costs, interim housing including hotel and motel vouchers.</p> <p>Supportive services: Including but not limited to landlord recruitment, case management, housing outreach and placement, legal services, and credit repair.</p> <p>More information can be found on the CDSS HSP landing page.</p>	<p>The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) administers the Housing Support Program and provides funding to County Social Service Agencies in 53 counties.</p> <p>See specific COVID-19 guidance for HSP and other CDSS programs.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Use HSP to rapidly rehouse families in the CalWORKs program experiencing homelessness. Consider longer periods of assistance or deeper subsidies if necessary to maintain housing stability or link to higher levels of housing intervention (e.g., housing choice vouchers or permanent supportive housing for families with the highest needs).</p> <p>Tip: Using HSP for families can allow other resources such as ESG-CV and HEAP or HHAP to be focused on other populations for whom fewer resources are available and to provide assistance to more people overall.</p>

PART II: OTHER ESSENTIAL STATE PROGRAMS

Program	Time Constraints	Eligible Activities	State Actions to Date	Strategic Guidance for Local Use of Funds
<p>Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) – \$25 million annual; \$3 million set aside for federally recognized tribal governments via CDSS</p>	<p>Awarded annually, per state budget act.</p>	<p>Assist individuals who are experiencing homelessness to apply for disability benefit programs while also providing housing assistance. Funds can be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach • Case management • Disability advocacy • Housing assistance <p>All four components must be offered to recipients. Requires a 100% local match.</p> <p>More information can be found on the CDSS HDAP landing page.</p>	<p>The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) administers the Housing Disability and Advocacy Programs and provides funding to 39 counties. Federally recognized tribes may also apply.</p> <p>See specific COVID-19 guidance for HDAP and other CDSS programs.</p>	<p>Recommended Use: Use HDAP to provide housing assistance to individuals who are likely eligible for disability benefits programs. Prioritize qualifying individuals in Non-Congregate Shelters, congregate shelters, and living outside or in vehicles, who are at risk for COVID-19.</p> <p>Other Eligible Uses: HDAP can be used for temporary housing/shelter for HDAP participants as well as for outreach.</p> <p>Tip: Using HDAP for qualifying individuals who are also at risk of severe health impacts from COVID-19 can allow other resources such as ESG-CV and HEAP or HHAP to be focused on other populations for whom fewer resources are available and to provide assistance to more people overall.</p>

Table 2: Crosswalk of Eligible and Recommended Uses of Major Federal and State Funding Programs with Essential Homelessness Investment Needs

Note: This table provides guidance regarding eligible and recommended uses of each funding source. It should not be read to indicate that all of the funding sources can be used together for the same activities or projects. See Key at bottom of table.

Federal or State Funding Program	Non Congregate Shelter / Interim Housing (Capital / Operations / Services)	Rental Assistance (Short Term to Permanent)	Permanent Supportive and Service Enriched Housing (Capital / Operations / Services)	Diversion and Homelessness Prevention
Emergency Solutions Grant – CV (ESG-CV) [HUD INFO] [HCD INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use (Up to 12 mos, some exceptions)	Not Eligible	Eligible, But Not Prioritized, Use
Community Development Block Grant – CV (CDBG-CV) [HCD INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use (Up to 3 months)	Eligible Use	Eligible Use
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) [US TREASURY INFO]	Eligible Use (Only through 12/30/20)	Eligible Use (Only through 12/30/20)	Eligible Use (Only through 12/30/20)	Eligible Use
FEMA – Public Assistance Program Category B [FEMA INFO] [DSS INFO]	Eligible Use (Subject to FEMA approvals)	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
Major State Homelessness and Housing Funding Sources				
Homekey [HCD INFO]	Capital Uses Eligible; Operations Eligible with Some Limitations	Not Eligible	Capital Use Eligible; Operations Eligible with Some Limitations	Not Eligible
COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding [BCSH INFO]	Supplies and Equipment; Operating and Services	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	Eligible, But Not Prioritized, Use (HCFC funding only)
Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) [HCFC INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use	Eligible Use	Eligible, But Not Prioritized, Use
Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) [HCFC INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use	Eligible Use (Only through 6/30/21)	Eligible, But Not Prioritized, Use
CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) [DSS INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use	Services Eligible with Some Limitations	Not Eligible
Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) [DSS INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use	Eligible Use with Some Limitations	Not Eligible
No Place Like Home Program [HCD INFO]	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	Capital Uses and Operating Reserves Eligible; Not Services	Not Eligible
Multifamily Housing Program [HCD INFO]	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	Capital Uses and Operating Reserves Eligible; Some Services	Not Eligible
Other Frequently Used Federal Funding Sources				
Continuum of Care Program (CoC) [HUD INFO]	Not Eligible	Eligible Use	Eligible Use	Diversion
Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) [HUD INFO] [HCD INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use (Up to 24 months)	Not Eligible	Eligible, But Not Prioritized, Use
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) [HUD INFO] [HCD INFO]	Eligible Use	Eligible Use (Up to 3 months)	Eligible Use	Eligible Use
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) [HUD INFO] [HCD INFO]	Not Eligible	Eligible Use (TBRA up to 24 months, renewable)	Capital; Not Operations or Services	Not Eligible
Housing Choice Vouchers [HUD INFO]	Not Eligible	Permanent	Operating Subsidies; Not Capital or Services	Can Prioritize At-Risk Households
HUD-VA Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH) [HUD INFO] [VA INFO]	Not Eligible	Permanent	Operating Subsidies & VA Services; Not Capital	Can Serve At-Risk Veterans
Family Unification Program Vouchers (FUP) [HUD INFO]	Not Eligible	Up to 36 months for youth; permanent for families	Operating Subsidies; Not Capital or Services	Can Serve At-Risk Families & Youth
Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program (SSVF) [VA INFO]	Eligible Use (Emergency Housing Assistance)	Eligible Use, including 2-Year Shallow Subsidies in Some Places	Not Eligible	Eligible Use
KEY: = highly recommended use = recommended use = not a recommended use = not an eligible use				

Table 3: Sample Local Investment Plan

The table below shows an example of how a community can use the information above to prioritize and order the use of funds for an effective Investment Plan.

Part 1: Summary of Investment Plan			
1. Purchase hotels or other buildings (X buildings / XXX units) for use as permanent or interim housing by December 30, 2020, and improve them as needed.			
2. After the end of the public health emergency, retain approx. (one-third) of the non-congregate shelter (NCS) stock to continue to serve as interim housing for as long as needed.			
3. Put in place resources and a plan to rehouse (all) individuals and households currently staying in NCS sites and up to (one-half) of people in congregate shelters (XXX people).			
4. Provide well-targeted homelessness prevention assistance to at least (XXX) people/households who are most likely to become homeless.			
Part 2: Priority and Order of Use of Funding Sources			
Non Congregate Shelter / Interim Housing (Capital / Operations / Services)	Rental Assistance (Short Term to Permanent)	Permanent Supportive and Service Enriched Housing (Capital / Operations / Services)	Diversion and Homelessness Prevention
<p>Maximize FEMA reimbursement to cover up to 75% of NCS hotels and trailer operations costs during COVID-19 crisis for as long as available.</p> <p>Use first any remaining HEAP, then HHAP and/or CDBG funds for operations 25% share to receive 75% FEMA reimbursement. (ESG not eligible to use for cost share.)</p> <p>Use Homekey to purchase hotels to continue to provide Interim Housing (including NCS shelter) with a coordinated exit strategy for all residents and/or plans to convert to permanent housing after the public health crisis is over.</p> <p>Use any remaining HEAP and then HHAP to continue operations of other forms of non-congregate shelter including trailers and RV Safe Parking.</p>	<p>Use most or all of ESG-CV and ESG funds to rapidly rehouse households from NCS and congregate shelters, including Homekey sites being developed as interim housing, to housing in the community. Focus ESG as needed on adults and ensure using HSP to cover eligible families. Use HDAP to support persons who are likely to qualify for SSI/disability at a later date.</p> <p>Use remaining HEAP and then HHAP as needed for additional Rapid Rehousing if ESG is insufficient.</p> <p>Use unallocated HOME funds for tenant-based rental assistance for households that need 24 months financial assistance but fewer supportive services.</p> <p>Use HHAP for long-term shallow subsidies (up to five years) and tenant-based Housing Choice Vouchers to provide permanent assistance to very low-income individuals and families experiencing homelessness that do not need Permanent Supportive Housing.</p>	<p>Use Homekey to purchase hotels/motels for conversion to permanent affordable and Permanent Supportive Housing.</p> <p>Use Coronavirus Relief Funds to support purchase of hotels if Homekey is insufficient and to purchase other housing properties if available.</p> <p>Use CDBG-CV and HHAP to support acquisition if needed and to cover any needed rehab or improvements to make useable as permanent housing.</p> <p>Project-base as many Housing Choice Vouchers as possible to cover operating costs for Permanent Supportive Housing.</p> <p>Use HHAP for additional supportive services if unable to cover from Housing Choice Vouchers and supportive service resources such as Medi-Cal and MHSA.</p>	<p>Use Coronavirus Relief Fund to provide eviction prevention and cover back rent for those unable to pay rent due to economic impacts of COVID-19 before December 30, 2020.</p> <p>Use CDBG-CV after CRF funds are exhausted, to provide well-targeted homelessness prevention assistance.</p> <p>Use remaining ESG-CV and ESG funds (if not needed for NCS shelters/ Interim Housing operations) to create or expand diversion / problem solving, especially to cover rental payments and case management.</p> <p>Use HHAP to expand diversion / problem solving, especially for flexible costs that Federal funds can't cover.</p> <p>Target tenant-based Housing Choice Vouchers to prevent homelessness for high-risk households.</p>

Table 4: Template for Local Investment Plan

Use this Table to complete a Local Investment Plan.

Part 1: Summary of Investment Plan			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
Part 2: Priority and Order of Use of Funding Sources			
Non Congregate Shelter / Interim Housing (Capital / Operations / Services)	Rental Assistance (Short Term to Permanent)	Permanent Supportive and Service Enriched Housing (Capital / Operations / Services)	Diversion and Homelessness Prevention