

# Strategy B

## Subsidize Housing



*Almost all homeless families and individuals lack sufficient income to pay rent on an ongoing basis, particularly given the extremely high cost of market-rate housing in Los Angeles County. In this context, subsidizing rent and related housing costs is key to enabling homeless families and individuals to secure and retain permanent housing and to preventing families and individuals from becoming homeless. Given the scarcity of both federal and local funding for housing subsidies, it is critical that available subsidies be matched effectively to the needs of a particular family or individual.*

Los Angeles County  
Homeless Initiative

Strategy B1 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

PHASE 1

Related to Strategy Brief 3.2

## Provide Subsidized Housing to Homeless Disabled Individuals Pursuing SSI

### POPULATION IMPACT



ALL

FAMILIES

TAY

SINGLE ADULT

VETERAN

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

### RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Departments of Public Social Services and Health Services to work together to maximize both the number of disabled homeless individuals applying for SSI who are placed in subsidized housing and the recovery of those rental subsidy costs through Interim Assistance Reimbursement for individuals approved for SSI.

### DESCRIPTION

Research has demonstrated that providing housing for homeless disabled individuals greatly increases the likelihood that they will qualify for SSI. For individuals approved for SSI, housing subsidies are recouped through Interim Assistance Reimbursement (IAR), and the recouped funding can be used to provide a housing subsidy for an additional homeless disabled individual pursuing SSI.

Housing could be provided in three ways:

- A. Target current housing resources to individuals served through the proposed Countywide SSI Advocacy Program.
- B. Expand the number of GR Housing subsidies in the General Relief Housing Subsidy and Case Management Program (HSCMP) - Many of the individuals who will be helped by the proposed Countywide SSI Advocacy Program will be on GR.
- C. Expand the populations served through existing homeless housing programs such as the Single Adult Model (SAM) or Housing for Health programs to include as a targeted population disabled homeless individuals applying for SSI.

The goal would be to place individuals pursuing SSI in housing which they could sustain without a subsidy upon approval for SSI. For individuals not approved for SSI, case management staff would assist in developing a transition plan for housing support through other available resources.

### LEAD AGENCIES

Health Services  
Public Social Services

### COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
Mental Health  
Military and Veterans Affairs  
Probation



## POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS

Housing subsidies could be provided to some or all of the individuals who are served by the proposed Countywide SSI Advocacy Program, including older adults. These individuals will likely have severe chronic health and mental health conditions, such that they may be among the most vulnerable and persistently homeless.

## POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

Number of disabled individuals pursuing SSI who are placed in housing

Number of individuals who maintain housing during the SSI application period

Percent of individuals approved for SSI who retain permanent housing 6, 12, and 24 months after SSI approval

Number of SSI applications filed

Number of successful SSI applications at each stage (initial, reconsideration, appeal)

Amount and percentage of rental subsidy costs recovered through IAR for individuals approved for SSI

## FUNDING

\$3.75 million in one-time HPI funding

\$4 million in one-time AB 109 funding

\$1 million in one-time SB 678 funding

Interim Assistance Reimbursement (IAR) from the Social Security Administration (SSA) for housing subsidies provided to individuals who are subsequently approved for SSI. The amount reimbursed by SSA would be reinvested in housing subsidies for additional homeless disabled individuals pursuing SSI.

## CONNECTION TO CITIES

SAME

**3** COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities could implement this strategy in a complementary manner by providing funding to support subsidies for homeless disabled individuals pursuing SSI in their jurisdiction. For individuals approved for SSI, cities could recover the cost of the rental subsidies through Interim Assistance Reimbursement.

Strategy B2 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

Related to Strategy Brief 3.4

# Expand Interim Assistance Reimbursement (IAR) to additional County Departments and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

POPULATION IMPACT

✓ ALL

FAMILIES

TAY

SINGLE ADULT

VETERAN

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

## RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Chief Executive Office to work with the California Department of Social Services to amend the existing Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Social Services to expand the ability to collect Interim Assistance Reimbursement (IAR) to additional County Departments and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority.

## DESCRIPTION

IAR can be collected on behalf of homeless individuals and families who receive assistance in meeting their basic needs during the months their Supplemental Security Income (SSI) application is pending or during the months SSI is suspended. Agencies that provide basic needs for eligible participants using non-federal dollars are eligible to collect IAR if the individual is subsequently approved for SSI. Basic needs include shelter, interim housing, recuperative care, and rental subsidies.

Los Angeles County already has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) which allows for the collection of IAR by County Departments. The agreement signed by the County of Los Angeles and CDSS may be modified in writing at any time by mutual consent and will not require any further action. The current Board letter and agreement allows for DPSS and DMH to collect IAR. The collection of IAR by additional County Departments and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) will support the provision of assistance to additional homeless families/individuals as IAR collected could be reinvested.

The current monthly SSI grant is \$889. For individuals who receive GR while their SSI application is pending, the County already recovers IAR for the \$221 monthly GR grant. Additionally, for GR participants receiving a GR rental subsidy, the County recovers \$400 per month for that subsidy. Therefore, for individuals receiving GR, with no GR rental subsidy, the monthly maximum additional IAR is \$661, while it is \$889 for individuals not receiving GR. For GR participants receiving a GR rental subsidy, the additional available IAR is \$261 per month.

## LEAD AGENCY

Chief Executive Office

## COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Children and Family Services  
Community and Senior Services  
Health Services  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
Mental Health  
Probation  
Public Health  
Public Social Services



## POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS

The collection of IAR should be expanded to the Departments of Health Services, Public Health, and Children and Family Services, the Probation Department and LAHSA.

## POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

The amount of funding recouped through the IAR Program each year, by department

## FUNDING

There is no cost to the County to implement this strategy.

## CONNECTION TO CITIES

SAME

**3** COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities who fund rental subsidies for disabled homeless individuals pursuing SSI could also recover the cost of the rental subsidies through Interim Assistance Reimbursement.



Strategy B3 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

PHASE 1

Related to Strategy Briefs 7.3 and 9.5

## Partner with Cities to Expand Rapid Re-Housing

### POPULATION IMPACT

ALL

✓ FAMILIES

✓ TAY

✓ SINGLE ADULT

✓ VETERAN

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

### RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Department of Health Services and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to partner with cities and expand the availability of rapid re-housing, as described per the description.

### DESCRIPTION

The purpose of rapid re-housing is to help homeless families/individuals/youth with low-to-moderate housing barriers to be quickly re-housed and stabilized in permanent housing. Rapid re-housing connects homeless individuals and families, as well as vulnerable sub-populations such as older adults, to permanent housing through the provision of time-limited financial assistance, case management and targeted supportive services, and housing identification/navigation supports:

- Financial assistance includes short-term and medium-term rental assistance and move-in assistance, such as payment for rental application fees, security deposits, and utility deposits. Financial assistance can come in the form of a full subsidy, covering the full rent for a period of time, or a shallow subsidy, covering a portion of the rent with gradual decreases in the subsidy over time.
- Case management and targeted supportive services can include, but are not limited to: money management; life skills; job training; education; assistance securing/retaining employment; child care and early education; benefits advocacy; legal advice; health; mental health; substance use disorder treatment; community integration; and recreation.
- Housing Identification/navigation supports address barriers for individuals and families to return to housing, which includes identifying a range of safe and affordable rental units, as well as recruiting landlords willing to rent to homeless individuals and families. Landlord incentives can include items such as a repair fund and/or recognition at relevant landlord events. Housing navigation staff should assist

### LEAD AGENCIES

Health Services  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

### COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Children and Family Services  
Community Development Commission  
Community and Senior Services  
Community-based organizations and housing providers  
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles  
Housing and Community Investment Department  
Mental Health  
Probation  
Public Health  
Public Social Services  
Sheriff

**DESCRIPTION** continued

clients in housing search, assistance with completing and submitting rental applications, and understanding the terms of the lease.

Rapid re-housing is the most effective and efficient intervention for more than 50 percent of homeless individuals and families based on available data. The success rate for permanent placement is higher and recidivism rates are lower than other forms of housing interventions. However, it is not the best intervention for those who have been chronically homeless and/or face high barriers that impact housing placement, and is not the most effective intervention for all victims of domestic violence, human trafficking victims, and youth.

Rapid re-housing is generally categorized as a short-term housing resource lasting 6-12 months, but in some cases up to 24 months, if steady, but slow improvements are made by recipients in making the transition to self-sufficiency.

**CONNECTION TO CITIES**

SAME

**3 COMPLEMENTARY**

NO CITY ROLE

Cities could contribute funding for homeless families, single adults, and youth within each city who are likely to succeed through rapid re-housing. Cities that receive Housing and Urban Development Emergency Solutions Grant funds could potentially utilize that funding source, among others.

**POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS**

Homeless families, single adults and youth who are not chronically homeless and would benefit from a short to intermediate housing intervention and supportive services to regain housing stability.

**POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS**

Number/percent of families/individuals/TAY who can sustain unsubsidized housing upon program exit

Number/percent of individuals, families, and TAY with permanent housing placement within 90 days

Number/percent of returns to homelessness within 24 months of placement in permanent housing

Number/percent with increased income from all potential sources at program exit

**FUNDING**

\$8 million in one-time HPI funds, in addition to the \$10 million for rapid re-housing for single adults approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 13, 2015. Of this \$8 million, \$5 million is earmarked to serve families through the Homeless Families Solutions System and \$2 million is earmarked for TAY.

\$11 million in one-time SB 678 funding.

\$7 million in one-time AB 109 funding.

Cities who want their homeless residents to access this program will be asked to contribute \$500/month per family/individual, which is approximately 50 percent of the actual rent subsidy cost. The County will fund the remainder of the rental subsidy and the full cost of the associated services, up to each city's share of the countywide homeless population based on the most recent homeless count. The average duration of rapid re-housing is 6-12 months per family/individual, so the total city cost would be \$3,000-

## Partner with Cities to Expand Rapid Re-Housing continued

### FUNDING continued

\$6,000 per family/individual who is permanently housed. Cities that choose to partner with the County would have the opportunity to collaborate with the County in identifying the families/individuals/youth who should have the highest priority for a slot in the program.

Additional funding may be available from certain County departments on a per slot basis for specific populations, including the Department of Public Social Services, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Health Services, and the Department of Mental Health.





## Facilitate Utilization of Federal Housing Subsidies

### POPULATION IMPACT



ALL

FAMILIES

TAY

SINGLE ADULT

VETERAN

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

### RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) to develop the following temporary, two-year programs to encourage landlord acceptance of subsidized tenants with a Housing and Urban Development voucher issued by HACoLA:

1. Damage Mitigation/Property Compliance Fund;
2. Vacancy payments to hold units; and
3. Security Deposit Assistance.

### DESCRIPTION

Federal housing subsidies play a critical role in combatting homelessness; however, the current very low vacancy rate in the rental housing market makes it very difficult for families and individuals with a federal subsidy to secure housing. To mitigate this problem, for two years, the County could provide the following incentives for landlords to accept subsidized tenants:

- Damage Mitigation/Property Compliance Fund. This program should be similar to Oregon's Housing Choice Landlord Guarantee Program, which provides financial assistance to landlords to mitigate damage caused by tenants during their occupancy under the HUD Housing Choice Voucher Program, Family Unification Program, and Shelter Plus Care/Continuum. In addition, the program should provide landlords with modest financial assistance to repair and/or modify their property to comply with HUD Quality Housing Standards, if property non-compliance is the only barrier to accepting a subsidized tenant.
- Vacancy payments to hold units. Develop a program to provide landlords vacancy payments to hold a rental unit for 1-2 months once a tenant with a subsidy has been accepted by the landlord, while the landlord is going through the HUD approval process. This program is needed on a temporary basis, due to the current, exceptionally low rental housing vacancy rate in Los Angeles County. The County is already implementing such a program under the Department of Health Service's Housing for Health Program and the Veterans Administration Supportive Housing Program.
- Security Deposit Assistance. Develop a

### LEAD AGENCY

Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles

### COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Health Services  
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
Other Public Housing Authorities

**DESCRIPTION** continued

program to provide security deposit assistance to homeless individuals and families by either covering the amount of the security deposit or having the County guarantee the deposit. The latter could be modeled after Monterey County's Security Deposit Guarantee Program which allows low-income households to spread out the security deposit over a period of time. The County would sign an agreement with the landlord that guarantees them the full amount of the deposit while allowing the tenant to make monthly payments with no interest. If tenant defaults, the County would be responsible for paying the difference owed to the landlord.

**POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS**

All homeless populations.

**POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS**

Increased number of landlords willing to accept homeless households with housing subsidies

**FUNDING**

\$2 million in one-time HPI funds for the three recommended programs, with no more than \$750,000 for the Security Deposit Assistance Program.

**CONNECTION TO CITIES**

**3** SAME

COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities which have their own Public Housing Authorities could implement the same or similar programs to facilitate utilization of the housing subsidies which they issue. All cities could fund vacancy payments to facilitate rapid re-housing for their homeless residents.

## Strategy B5 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

Related to Strategy Brief 9.6

# Expand General Relief Housing Subsidies

## POPULATION IMPACT

ALL

FAMILIES

✓ TAY

✓ SINGLE ADULT

✓ VETERAN

✓ CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

## RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Department of Public Social Services to enhance and expand the General Relief Housing Subsidy and Case Management Program (GRHSCMP) by:

- Increasing the maximum rent subsidy from \$400 to \$475 per month;
- Incorporating a Rapid Re-housing model which includes housing location assistance and housing-related case management; and
- Increasing the number of available subsidies for disabled homeless GR participants pursuing Supplemental Security Insurance (SSI), through the utilization of the additional recommended funding described herein.

## DESCRIPTION

The County could allocate additional funding to expand the General Relief Housing Subsidy and Case Management Project (GRHSCMP). Additionally, the GRHSCMP could be enhanced to align with a Rapid Re-housing model, which includes housing location assistance and housing-related case management, in addition to the housing subsidy. It is also recommended that the subsidy under the enhanced GRHSCMP be increased from the current \$400/month to \$475 per month.

The County will provide \$475, which supplements \$100 provided by the GR recipient for a total of \$575/month available for housing. Modestly increasing the subsidy amount by \$75/month will enhance both the homeless individual's ability to locate housing and the likelihood that the housing located will be permanent housing in which the individual can remain without a subsidy, upon SSI approval or employment.

## LEAD AGENCY

Public Social Services

## COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Community and Senior Services  
Health Services  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
Mental Health  
Public Health

Currently, approximately 75% of GRHSCMP subsidies are allocated to disabled GR participants pursuing SSI, while the remaining 25% are allocated to employable GR participants. It is recommended that 100% of any increased funding for this program be utilized for disabled GR participants pursuing SSI.

For GRHSCMP participants who secure SSI, the County recovers the full amount of the rental subsidy from the participant's retroactive SSI benefit, though the Interim Assistance Reimbursement process. Implementation of a Countywide SSI Advocacy Program, as recommended in Strategy C6, should increase the number of GRHSCMP participants who qualify for SSI and thereby increase the share of GRHSCMP expenditures which are recovered and available to provide a subsidy to an additional homeless, disabled GR participant pursuing SSI.



## POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS

The target population for the program is homeless GR participants, including older adults, who are living on the streets or in shelters, and are either employable or potentially eligible to SSI. The expansion population will be limited to homeless disabled GR participants who are potentially eligible to SSI; however, a small percentage of homeless employable GR participants will continue to be served by the base funding for this program.

## POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

Percent of program participants who secure SSI

Amount and percentage of housing subsidy payments recovered through Interim Assistance Reimbursement following SSI approval

Percent of employable recipients who exit GR with employment (This metric only applies to employable recipients served through the base funding for this program; however, those employable recipients will be impacted by the recommended changes to the program, including the increase in the rental subsidy from \$400 to \$475/month.)

Percent of program participants who retain employment 6, 12, and 24 months after exiting this program

## FUNDING

Redirection of whatever portion of the \$5.8 million in ongoing annual NCC currently allocated for the General Relief Mandatory Substance Use Disorder Recovery Program (MSUDRP becomes available, as MSUDRP services become billable to Medi-Cal through implementation of the Drug Medi-Cal-Organized Delivery System waiver.

Interim Assistance Reimbursement of GR rental subsidy payments for individuals who are approved for SSI.

## CONNECTION TO CITIES

SAME

**3** COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities could implement this strategy in a complementary manner by providing funding to support subsidies for homeless, disabled GR participants in their jurisdiction. For individuals approved for SSI, cities could recover the cost of the rental subsidies through Interim Assistance Reimbursement.



## Strategy B6 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

Related to Strategy Brief 9.7

# Family Reunification Housing Subsidy

## POPULATION IMPACT

ALL

✓ FAMILIES

TAY

SINGLE ADULT

VETERAN

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

## RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Department of Children and Family Services and Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to provide rapid re-housing and case management services to families in the child welfare system where the parent(s)' homelessness is the sole barrier to the return of the child(ren), and the family meets the following criteria:

1. The child(ren) are currently placed in out-of-home care (including relative caregivers);
2. The parent(s) have complied with or are in substantial compliance with all court orders for the return of their children;
3. Homelessness is the sole barrier to the return of the child(ren) to their care; and
4. The family is a good candidate for rapid re-housing, rather than a longer-term housing subsidy.

## DESCRIPTION

DCFS has oversight of thousands of children in out-of-home care throughout Los Angeles County. Families on CalWORKs whose child(ren) are removed lose eligibility to their CalWORKs cash grant, if there is no minor child remaining the home; therefore, the removal of the child(ren) can itself result in the family becoming homeless. Moreover, since homeless parent(s) without physical custody of a child are not eligible to receive a CalWORKs grant which could be used to pay for housing, children can remain in foster care for extended periods of time. A significant number of children in out-of-home placement could be reunited with their parents, if their parents were able to obtain and sustain suitable housing.

Rapid re-housing is the most effective and efficient intervention for more than 50 percent of homeless individuals and families based on available data. The success rate for permanent placement is higher and recidivism rates are lower than for other forms of housing intervention. However, notwithstanding the value of rapid re-housing, some families who initially appear to be well-suited to rapid re-housing may ultimately need a permanent housing subsidy. Such families should be granted priority access to a permanent, federally-funded housing subsidy. This is consistent with the current approach in the Homeless Families Solutions System administered by the LAHSA.

## LEAD AGENCIES

Children and Family Services (DCFS)  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

## COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Community Development Commission  
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles  
Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles  
Probation  
Public Social Services



## POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS

Homeless families with DCFS involvement, where the family's homelessness is the sole barrier to the return of the child(ren) from out-of-home placement.

## POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

- Number of families placed in housing
- Number and percentage of families who have retained housing after 12 months by service planning area
- Number and percent with increased income from all potential sources at program exit
- Number of families with no DCFS jurisdiction at program exit
- Number and percent of families who successfully transition to unsubsidized housing

## FUNDING

DCFS funding that would otherwise be used for out-of-home placement, absent reunification, will be used to fund participation in this program by families which include an adult who is eligible to participate in the CalWORKs welfare-to-work program, including subsidized employment. An initial commitment of \$2 million from DCFS will enable the program to be implemented. Out-of-home placement cost savings will be tracked, based on an assumption that the child(ren) would have otherwise remained in placement for 12 additional months, and the savings will be reinvested to sustain the program on an ongoing basis. If savings exceed the cost of sustaining the program for families which include a CalWORKs parent who is welfare-to-work eligible, the "surplus savings" could be used for rapid re-housing for other families who meet the eligibility criteria for this program.

\$1 million in one-time HPI funding for families who meet the eligibility criteria for this program, but do not include a parent who is eligible to participate in the CalWORKs welfare-to-work program.

CalWORKs Single Allocation funding, including family reunification services for families who were receiving CalWORKs at the time that the child(ren) were removed.

Housing Choice Vouchers, particularly from the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) and the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA), for families who ultimately need an ongoing housing subsidy at the end of the rapid re-housing program.

Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers from HACLA and HACoLA.

## CONNECTION TO CITIES

SAME

**3** COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities which operate public housing authorities could commit Housing Choice Vouchers for families who participate in this program, but ultimately need an ongoing housing subsidy.

## Strategy B7 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

## PHASE 1

Related to Strategy Brief 8.2

## Interim/Bridge Housing for those Exiting Institutions

## POPULATION IMPACT



ALL

FAMILIES

TAY

SINGLE ADULT

VETERAN

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

## RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, in collaboration with the Department of Health Services (DHS), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Probation Department, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and Sheriff (LASD) to develop and implement a plan to increase the interim/bridge housing stock across the County, including identification of funding that can be used to support the increase.

## DESCRIPTION

The following housing types should be available for individuals exiting institutions:

- Shelter beds
- Stabilization beds
- Shared recovery housing (can be used for interim or permanent housing)
- Recuperative care beds
- Board and care (can be used for interim or permanent housing)

All of the above housing types are available in most jurisdictions throughout the United States. They are viewed as standards of care for most HUD Continuum of Care. Many shelter models are funded by HUD under the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Recuperative care is less prevalent; however, in some jurisdictions, health plans and/or hospitals pay for these services privately. Shared Recovery Housing is a SAMHSA evidence-based best practice. None of these programs are billable to regular Medi-Cal, though health plans/providers may be able to use the capitated Medi-Cal funding they receive to pay for bridge housing for their Medi-Cal patients.

There will be a historic opportunity to increase the supply of bridge housing in 2016, when LAHSA will stop funding approximately 2000 transitional housing beds, per direction from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to shift funding away from transitional housing. LAHSA is currently in discussions with all impacted transitional housing providers regarding potential ways in which their facilities could be re-purposed, which includes the potential utilization of those facilities for bridge housing.

## LEAD AGENCY

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

COLLABORATING  
DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Children and Family Services  
Community and Senior Services  
Health Services  
Mental Health  
Probation  
Public Health  
Sheriff  
Cities  
LA Care  
Health Net  
Hospital Association of Southern California



## POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS

All homeless populations

## POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

Number of individuals being discharged from institutions needing interim/bridge housing

Number of individuals who are discharged from institutions to interim/bridge housing

Number of individuals who are discharged from institutions to interim/bridge housing who are connected to physical health, mental health, substance use disorder treatment and sources of income

Number of individuals who are discharged from institutions to interim/bridge housing who leave interim/bridge housing for permanent housing

Number of individuals who are discharged from institutions to interim/bridge housing who leave prior to being able to transition to permanent housing

## FUNDING

\$3,250,000 in one-time HPI funding

\$4,600,000 in one-time AB 109 funding

\$3,400,000 in one-time SB 678 funding

Additional funding could potentially come from DHS, DMH, LASD, DCFS, LAHSA, cities, managed care organizations (such as LA Care), and private hospitals.

## CONNECTION TO CITIES

SAME

3 COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities could contribute funding for bridge housing and/or facilitate the siting of bridge housing within their jurisdictions.

## Strategy B8 | SUBSIDIZE HOUSING

## PHASE 1

## Housing Choice Vouchers for Permanent Supportive Housing

## POPULATION IMPACT

ALL

FAMILIES

TAY

SINGLE ADULT

VETERAN



✓ CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

## RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) to dedicate Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) which become available through routine turnover to permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals through the following tiered approach:

- Tier 1: HCV waiting list preference for chronically homeless individuals referred by a Community Based Organization – HACoLA will commit 35% of turnover vouchers for FY 2016-17 to chronically homeless individuals. HACoLA will increase this commitment to 50% for FY 2017-18 and each subsequent fiscal year, subject to acceptable success rates in securing permanent housing for chronically homeless individuals issued a voucher under this preference.
- Tier 2: HCV waiting list preference for homeless already registered on HACoLA's waiting lists – There are currently 1,100 applicants identified as homeless on a waiting list, and the remainder of available turnover units will be dedicated to this population.
- Tier 3: Project-Based Vouchers – Turnover vouchers are dedicated to the annual Project-Based Vouchers Notice of Funding Availability, administered by the Community Development Commission, which offers bonus points for projects that assist the chronically homeless. Mandated coordination using the Coordinated Entry System ensures that chronically homeless individuals will be assisted.

## DESCRIPTION

Chronically homeless adults are the homeless population most in need of permanent supportive housing, which combines a permanent housing subsidy with case management, health, mental health, substance use disorder treatment and other services. The primary source of permanent housing subsidies is HCV (commonly known as Section 8), which are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Though the number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) has not grown in recent years, some vouchers become available each month through routine turnover, as current Housing Choice Voucher holders relinquish their vouchers. For the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA), approximately 700-800 Housing Choice Vouchers turnover each year. As part of their efforts to combat homelessness, various other jurisdictions across the country have dedicated 100% of their turnover HCV vouchers to homeless people or to one or more homeless sub-populations.

## LEAD AGENCY

Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles

COLLABORATING  
DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES

Community Development Commission  
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
Other Public Housing Authorities



## POPULATION(S) TARGETED & OTHER CATEGORIZATIONS

Chronically Homeless Adults

## POTENTIAL PERFORMANCE METRICS

Significant reduction in the number of chronically homeless individuals

## FUNDING

No local funding would be required for housing subsidies from HUD. The cost of services would be funded through a combination of Medi-Cal dollars, County General Fund, funding from other departments, and philanthropy.

## CONNECTION TO CITIES

3 SAME

COMPLEMENTARY

NO CITY ROLE

Cities which have their own Public Housing Authorities could dedicate a substantial percentage of available Housing Choice Vouchers for permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals.