

# **HEAP/HHAP: Spring 2020 Progress Update**

In the 2018 and 2019 State Budgets the Big City mayors worked closely with Governor Brown, Governor Newsom and the State Legislature to create the Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP) and the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program. Collectively, these two programs have provided a total of \$1.15 billion in funding to local governments to address California's homelessness crisis, including \$425 million directly to the largest 13 cities in the state.

The Big City Mayors are committed to transparency and accountability as they put this funding to work on their streets. To that end, we are pleased to present the following survey data showing how cities are effectively and efficiently utilizing these grants to fund solutions to homelessness.

## This survey found that:

- Cities have obligated **91 percent of their HEAP grants** 15 months ahead of the state's obligation deadline.
- Cities have only used **3 percent of their funding for administrative expenses**, a level far below the law's allowance of five percent.
- State funding will support **5573 new shelter and bridge housing beds** across California.

## **HEAP - Homeless Emergency Aid Program**

In the fall of 2018, a total of \$177,660,060.20<sup>1</sup> in HEAP grants were made available to the 11 largest cities in the state. In order to ensure this funding was spent quickly, the legislature mandated that cities obligate 50 percent of this funding by January 1, 2020.

As of February, 2020, these **cities had obligated 91 percent, or \$161,481,944.39**, of this funding to projects addressing homelessness, nearly 15 months ahead of the law's June 2021 deadline to obligate all funding. Seven cities have obligated 100 percent of their funding.

Cities are putting this funding to work in several ways, including:

- **51.6 percent -- \$92 million** has been designated for capital improvements for projects that address homelessness, including new bridge housing and permanent supportive housing.
- **29 percent -- \$52 million** has been designated for services funding, including operating expenses and street outreach.
- **11.2 percent -- \$20 million** has been designated for rental assistance and subsidies.

Critically, cities have only used **3 percent of their funding for administrative expenses**, a level far below the law's allowance of five percent.

# **HHAP - Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program**

Applications for the HHAP program closed on February 15, 2020, and the Big Cities were eligible for a total of over \$280 million<sup>2</sup> in funding. Cities were required to provide a five year expenditure plan allocating funding amongst several categories of eligible uses, including rental assistance, operating subsidies, prevention, new navigation centers and shelters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> \$150 million was designated for cities. Two cities, San Francisco and Long Beach, received additional allocations due to also being Continuums of Care. This number also includes earned interest on grant amounts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> \$275 million was designated for cities. BCSH retained 5% of program funds for administration and San Francisco and Long Beach received additional County and CoC allocations.

According to survey data from the HHAP applications, if approved by BCSH, cities plan to allocate their HHAP grants as follows:

Category	Total	Percentage
Operating Subsidies and Reserves	\$9,823,306.04	3.50%
Landlord Incentives	\$1,191,423.89	0.40%
Outreach and Coordination (including employment)	\$23,164,972.65	8.20%
Systems Support to Create Regional Partnerships	\$784,602.65	0.30%
Delivery of Permanent Housing	\$7,884,942.62	2.80%
Prevention and Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing	\$34,114,469.37	12.10%
New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters	\$134,969,952.58	47.90%
Innovative Solutions	\$11,139,450.05	4.00%
Infrastructure Development CES or HMIS (up to 5%)	\$2,479,894.96	0.90%
Strategic Homelessness Planning (up to 5%)	\$2,865,912.36	1.00%
Youth Set-Aside (no less than 8%)	\$22,682,139.11	8.00%
Administrative (up to 7%)	\$19,033,424.92	6.80%
Total	\$281,882,286.85	100.00%

#### Outcomes

As a result of the swift action of the state government to provide these resources, cities have been able to make immediate investments in projects that are getting homeless Californians off the streets and into safe environments.

So far state investments have resulted in the following measurable investments in our 13 largest cities:

- 3,796 bridge housing and shelter beds have already been obligated funding, with an additional 1777 in the pipeline for a total of 5573 beds across California.
- Nearly **700 new rapid rehousing slots.**
- Investments in navigation centers, outreach and housing will lead to
  6,358 individuals moved into permanent housing over the next three years.

## **City Narratives**

## <u>San Jose</u>



San Jose constructed its first tiny home community, or "Bridge Housing Community," with HEAP funding. The community includes 40 tiny homes, onsite supportive services along with shared community space, bathrooms, showers and kitchen. The site is owned by Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and being leased to the City for \$1. The ongoing

funding needed to continue providing the onsite supportive services is \$1.5 million annually.

Results: Santa Clara County has created a new Homeless Prevention System, using HEAP and HHAP funds. The City of San Jose's contributed \$4 million in HEAP funds. Lily is the mother of three teenage boys. She's a survivor of domestic violence and has a restraining order against her abusive husband. When her husband left home, Lily had a hard time keeping up with the rent without her husband's income, and she soon fell behind on rent, receiving an eviction notice.

The Homeless Prevention Program assisted Lily with past due rent and rental subsidies while she worked through the court process and secured child and spousal support. Her case manager also helped her apply for food stamps and SSI, and connected her and her children to other resources and supports for dealing with the trauma of the violence they experienced. Lily exited the program after 8 months with enough income to maintain her housing and provide for her three children.

## Los Angeles

Los Angeles has allocated over \$100 million in HEAP and HHAP funding to its A Bridge Home program, which will stand up 30 bridge housing sites across the City that will have 2,273 new interim housing beds.

The most recent A Bridge Home project to open is *Pacific Sunset* in Venice. In total, there are 1,015 individuals experiencing homelessness in Venice on any given night and 60 individuals sheltered. Built on a Metro owned property, this project will provide 100 beds for single adults—66 men and 34 women—and 54 beds for transitional aged youth—36 men



and 18 Women. The capital cost of the project is \$8,549,479. \$6,423,691 from HEAP and \$549,479 in from HHAP have been allocated to this project for capital and operating costs. On October 25, 2019 the Venice Stakeholders Association filed a lawsuit against the project. As a result of the passage of AB 1197, this lawsuit was dismissed.

In addition to the A Bridge Home Project, Los Angeles has used state fund to fund the "Bin" storage facility in Skid Row with 24/7 shower access, various mobile pit stops/hygiene centers, staffing for the Unified Homelessness Response Center, two multi-disciplinary teams, two Homeless Engagement Team's dedicated to Skid Row, and eight diversion/rapid rehousing specialists.

#### <u>Fresno</u>

The Golden State Triage Center (GSTC) has 37 emergency shelter beds and serves adults and their partners experiencing homelessness. Each program guest is allowed one dog on site with efforts made to find foster care for any other pets that might belong to the participants. The program is low barrier with no requirements regarding income, sobriety, or compliance with mental health treatment and minimal rules in place, with the majority of the rules pertaining to safety and security of guests. Guests may be absent for a maximum of 72 hours without contact and still retain their spot. GSTC has 24 hour staffing, 7 days a week, with intensive case management services provided that focus on helping participants develop a housing plan and overcome barriers to attaining permanent housing. Maximum length of stay is 90 days, subject to exceptions for documented situations.

Results: "Nancy" and her disabled adult son were homeless for more than two years when they arrived at Golden State Triage Center. "Nancy" worked hard to take care of her son and his special needs, as well as provide for her own needs. They had been sleeping on the streets and in motels when funds were available. On February 1, 2020, they exited shelter and went to permanent housing.

## <u>San Diego</u>

The City of San Diego allocated \$2,662,096 in HEAP funding to support the construction of a fourth Temporary Bridge Shelter. The new shelter opened in November 2019 and serves 128 individuals. The population at this shelter is flexible, based on need.



In addition to the creation of a new shelter, the City is utilizing HEAP youth set

aside funds to support the expansion of an existing single women and families shelter. The expanded shelter will have a capacity of 279 beds and a portion of these beds will be reserved specifically for Transitional-Aged-Youth.

As part of the City's HHAP application, San Diego has proposed the use of \$14,071,948 to support operations of three of the City's temporary bridge shelters. Across the three shelters, there are 731 beds available.

#### Anaheim



Since opening in February 2019, the Anaheim Emergency Shelter, a partnership of the City of Anaheim and The Salvation Army, has served more than 540 people. Nearly 100 have gone on to permanent supportive or other housing, while more than 20 have transitioned to drug recovery programs, mental healthcare and other

recuperative services. Currently, about 215 people are staying at the shelter and working on a pathway out of homelessness. The first phase of the

Anaheim Emergency Shelter cost \$13 million for construction and operation, funded in part by \$8 million in state aid.

The success of the Anaheim Emergency Shelter, now at 224 beds, has led Anaheim to expand the site by 101 beds for a total of 325. The expansion is set to open by June 2020. These projects are part of a long term strategy involving a comprehensive homeless care facility Anaheim is pursuing with partners at The Salvation Army. Known as the Center of Hope, it will offer everything from an emergency shelter to supportive housing, health services and job placement.

## Bakersfield

The Mission at Kern County (The Mission) will utilize HEAP funds from the City of Bakersfield to expand its current shelter facility to accommodate an additional 40 beds. The Mission will also utilize HEAP funds to furnish the space with the extra beds and other necessities (bedding, pillows, etc.).



Any remaining funds will enable The Mission to expand its current day center to accommodate the additional 40 clients. The City will utilize HHAP funds for operating costs associated with the additional clients and shelter beds at a cost of \$320,000 per year for three years.

## <u>San Francisco</u>



San Francisco used HFAP resources to construct and operate the Embarcadero SAFE (Shelter Access for Everyone) Navigation Center. The SAFE Center opened with 200-beds in December of 2019, and serves as a temporary shelter connecting individuals to the social services and care they need. The SAFE Navigation Center includes temporary residential facilities, onsite support services, and

welcomes partners and pets, provides safe storage for belongings, 24/7 access, and trauma-informed care.

Results: The Rising Up Campaign is a public-private partnership to reduce youth homelessness in San Francisco by 50% by 2023. The initiative's goal is to house at least 500 homeless youth, while preventing homelessness for an additional 450 at-risk youth. HEAP funds provided \$9 million in rapid rehousing subsidies to the Rising Up Campaign, which has leveraged additional funding from the philanthropic community. After the death of her mother in 2010, Sara (not her real name) became chronically homeless. In spite of the many barriers she faced, Sara took the initiative to seek services from Larkin Street, where she was assessed for housing through its Youth Access Point and referred to the Rising Up program. Sara is working as a caregiver and carefully managing her Rising Up subsidy rental assistance (funded by HEAP) to ensure that she can sustain independent housing after her engagement with Rising Up is complete.

## <u>Long Beach</u>

Long Beach is using state funds to open the Year-Round Shelter, which will provide 125 additional beds that will address a significant gap need found in the Long Beach community. Currently, shelters in Long Beach have limited hours of access and limited capacity to accept individuals with high acuity needs. The Year-Round Shelter is designed to limit coordinated efforts with emergency responders seeking placement for vulnerable populations including disabled, elderly, those experiencing acute illnesses, those employed during swing or graveyard shift hours, those with mental health and/or substance use disorders, and those needing to access the shelter after admission cut off. The goal of this model is to create an environment where people can sleep safely, spend the day inside and are available and stable enough to allow providers to engage and build rapport with the objective of housing stability.

## <u>Riverside</u>

Hulen Campus 45 Long-term Emergency Shelter Cabins & 10 Short-Term Cabins. The Riverside City Council approved an emergency shelter cabin village in December 2019, in anticipation of receiving HHAP funding. The village will provide 36 new long-term shelter beds and 20 short-term shelter beds. In addition, the City of Riverside contracted 25 additional beds at

Emergency Shelter operated by Path of Life on the Hulen Campus. To date, an operator has been selected to provide case management and supportive services. All onsite improvements will be completed by mid-March with operations anticipated to begin by the third week of March. City staff is now in the process of working alongside the selected operator to identify the clients to be housed in the village. The Pallet



Shelters were selected as the optimal solution, as they are cost effective (\$5,760 per double occupancy unit), easy to deploy, can be collapsed and moved to various parts of the city and provide basic amenities like heating/air and electricity. Restroom and shower amenities are centralized..

## Oakland

HHAP funding will allow the City to maintain services and operations at 5 Community Cabins sites which were opened using State HEAP funds. Community Cabins are a geographically based intervention designed to reduce the impact of a large encampment on both unsheltered and housed residents. Sites are selected based on proximity to large street encampments. Each site typically has 20 two-person cabins, with a goal of serving 80 residents a year (40 for 6 months each). The program is extremely low barrier and 100% voluntary. All sites are managed by service providers who are on the premises 24-7.

Results: M is a 60 year old African American man from Oakland who had been homeless for several years. Since 2018, M had been frequenting a particular business corridor of Oakland where his aggressive behavior, due to mental health and substance use, caused a lot of concern among businesses, customers, and service providers. The City's outreach team spent several months providing intensive engagement to M and eventually he agreed to move into the Northgate Community Cabin (NCC) site. As a very low barrier site, the NCC staff were able to work with M over time, to link him to resources and services and decrease the symptoms of his mental illness. M

stabilized at the NCC for approximately 9 months. Then, through the Coordinated Entry process, he was matched to a bed at a transitional housing program that continued to work with M on his sobriety and his health. Recently, M moved into permanent housing.

#### Sacramento

Project Description: The City of Sacramento used the majority of its HEAP allocation to fund the capital costs and will use HHAP funding to fund 2 years of operations for the newly constructed Meadowview Navigation Center. The Meadowview Navigation Center is a low barrier navigation center located in South Sacramento that will serve adult women. The center will have beds for 100 women, providing outreach, navigation, case management, and re-housing services to unsheltered adult women. HHAP funding will allow operations of the center for approximately 2 years, focusing on shelter operations, outreach, navigation, case management and re-housing. Additional City funds will support community engagement efforts to support the surrounding community. The expectation is that the HHAP funding will serve 100 women at a point in time; up to 600 women over the 2 years of operational funding.