HOMELESS EMERGENCY AID PROGRAM:

California’s Newest Strategy to Address Youth Homelessness

Thursday, September 6, 2018
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Presenters

• Amy Lemley, John Burton Advocates for Youth

• Ginny Puddefoot, California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council

• Eric Hubbard, Jovenes, Inc.

• Sharon Rapport, Corporation for Supportive Housing

• Q & A
Information to Participate

Call-in number is (415) 655-0052 and access code is 183-856-886.

Presentation materials and audio will be posted at http://www.jbaforyouth.org/ under Research & Training / Training Archive.

To submit live questions, click on the “Questions” panel, type your question, and click “Send.”
Agenda

• Information about HEAP
• Rapid Rehousing
• Permanent Supportive Housing
• Steps to get started
• Q & A
Thank you for your leadership!

Senate Bill 850, signed by Governor Brown on June 27, 2018

Thank you to the bill’s primary authors:

• Senator Scott Wiener
• Assemblymember Phil Ting
• Senator Jim Beall
• Senator Nancy Skinner
What Public Entity is Administering the Homeless Emergency Aid Aid Program?

California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency

- Established by SB 1380 (Mitchell) in 2016
- Up to 19 member body; 7 appointed by the Governor
- SB 850 (2018) made significant changes:
  - Moved Council from Department of Housing & Community Development to Business, Consumer Services & Housing Agency (BCSH)
  - Designated Secretary of BCSH as Chair, provided permanent staff
  - Added formerly homeless youth as Council member
- Meets quarterly; subscribe to email list at: [http://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc/webapps/subscribe.php](http://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc/webapps/subscribe.php)
- Next meeting: October 9 in Los Angeles
HEAP Funding Is Divided into Three Categories

• SB 850 also established the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP), a $500 M one-time flexible block grant program.

• Funds are to be allocated to local communities to address their immediate homelessness challenges.

$100 million
Allocated to Continuums of Care (CoCs) based on share of the total homeless population in 2017 point-in-time count.

$150 million
Allocated to cities with a population of 330,000 or more as of January 1, 2018 based on the proportionate share of the homeless population.

$250 million
Allocated to CoCs based on total number of homeless individuals in 2017 point in-time count.
What are the cities with populations over 330,000?

- Sacramento
- Fresno
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- San Diego
- Los Angeles

- Santa Ana
- Anaheim
- Bakersfield
- Oakland
- Long Beach
Two Separation Applications

- Notice of Funding Availability and Applications issued on September 5
- Available on Council website – [www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc](http://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc)
- Applications received beginning September 5, will be processed on a rolling basis

**Large Cities (11)**
- $150 million

**Continuums of Care (43)**
- $100 million
- $250 million
Shelter Crisis Declaration Required for Cities and Counties to Participate

Resolution that must be adopted by the governing body of a jurisdiction or jurisdictions within a Continuum of Care or Large City

- Not all jurisdictions must declare a shelter crisis for a CoC to submit an application
- However, cities and counties that do not declare a shelter crisis may not receive any HEAP funds

Sample provided by HCFC

Continuums of Care with fewer than 1,000 homeless people are exempt
Applicants Must Demonstrate Collaborative Process

• CoCs and large cities must engage in collaborative process prior to submitting application.

• Collaboration is required to determine how HEAP funds will be allocated within the CoC or large city.

• Collaborative may include public meetings, regional homeless task force meetings, letters of support, an adopted homelessness plan.
Allowable Uses of HEAP Funding

- Intended to provide immediate emergency assistance to people who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.
- Program parameters intentionally broad to allow communities to be creative and craft programs that meet local needs.
- Broad categories of uses include services, rental assistance, and capital improvements.
- At least 5% of funds must be used to address the needs of homeless youth.
- No more than 5% of programs funds may be used for administrative costs.
- Program funds may not be used for overhead or planning activities.
## HEAP Has An Expedited Application and Distribution Process

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 1</th>
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<th>Round 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOFA Release</td>
<td>September 5, 2018</td>
<td>February 15, 2019</td>
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<td>Early Applications Reviews Start***</td>
<td>Starting in September 2018</td>
<td>Starting in February 2019</td>
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<td>Early Applications Awarded</td>
<td>Starting in September 2018</td>
<td>Starting in February 2019</td>
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<td>Early Distribution of Funds Begins</td>
<td>Starting in late October 2018</td>
<td>Starting in late March 2019</td>
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<td>Round 1 Application Cut-off Date</td>
<td>No later than December 31, 2018</td>
<td>No later than April 30, 2019</td>
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<td>Standard Applications Awarded</td>
<td>No later than January 2019</td>
<td>No later than May 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standard Distribution of Funds Begins</td>
<td>April 2019</td>
<td>July 2019</td>
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Report due to Agency on contract expenditures, the number of homeless individuals served by program funds, and progress toward state and local homelessness goals.

Not less than 50 percent of program funds must be contractually obligated.

One hundred percent of program funds must be spent.

Any funds not expended by that date shall be returned to the agency and revert to the General Fund.
How does HEAP address youth homelessness?

- “No less than five percent of the total of each applicant’s allocation shall be used to establish or expand services meeting the needs of homeless youth or youth at risk of homelessness.”

  - Five percent is a floor, not a ceiling
  - Funding may not be used to supplant existing funding: establish or expand
  - Funding may be used to meet the needs of homeless youth or youth at-risk of homelessness
Why use HEAP for Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing?

- Comply with Housing First requirement of SB 1380
- Well-developed, well-documented models ready to be operationalized
- Evidence that they reduce homelessness
- Are approaches that are funded by HUD
What is Rapid Rehousing?

- Housing Identification
- Rent and Move-In Assistance
- Case Management & Services
“We help youth go from Invisible to Invincible”

- **We are leaders** among LA’s homeless youth agencies, now covering all of Southeast LA

- **A proven track record** of programmatic success, innovation, and compassionate care for our youth

- In the last five years, we have:
  - Quadrupled the number of housing units
  - Become a leading agency in LA’s Coordinated Entry System for Youth
  - Implemented best practices, invested in evaluation
Moving Youth Off Our Streets & Into a New Life

We offer a variety of housing options for homeless youth:

- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Affordable Housing
- Rapid Re-Housing (rental subsidies)
- Family Reconnection
- Domestic Violence Shelter at LAC + USC Medical Center in partnership with East
- LA Women’s Center

“I became homeless at 18. Since finding Jovenes, I have been able to focus on my education and graduate from high school. I am now studying to be an architect at East LA College.”

-Leo

183 Unduplicated Youth Housed Last Year
CRISIS OF COLLEGE STUDENT HOMELESSNESS

**Nationwide** - 12% of community college students nationwide experience homelessness*

**In CA** - Only 2-11% of former foster youth in CA graduate from community college.

**In LA** - 1 in 5 of LA’s Community College students experiences homelessness*

*source: Wisconsin HOPE Lab*
THE TRUE COST OF EDUCATION
(Actual Jovenes Community College Student)

Tuition & Books + Room & Board (62%) + Personal Expenses

=$19,121

Financial Aid
Pell Grants + Work Study + Fee Waiver

=$11,971

Unmet need = $7,150
[The College Success Initiative Meets This Need]
### One Approach: College-Focused Rapid Rehousing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rapid Rehousing</th>
<th>College-Focused Rapid Rehousing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assists with housing identification &amp; landlord recruitment</td>
<td>Assists with housing identification &amp; landlord recruitment</td>
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<td>✓ Provides rental subsidies</td>
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<td>✓ Provides case management</td>
<td>✓ Provides case management</td>
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<td>✓ Utilizes Housing First approach</td>
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<td>✓ Is time-limited</td>
<td>Is time-limited with flexibility</td>
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<td>+ Utilizes Peer Navigators</td>
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<td>+ Provides academic case management (in addition to “traditional” CM)</td>
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<td>+ Partners with colleges</td>
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College-Focused Rapid Rehousing: Core Elements

- **Provide rental subsidies & supportive services** to homeless students so they can live on their own and continue their education.
- **Partner with** colleges, guardian scholar programs, and nonprofits to make the college campus the primary center of service delivery.
- **Provide a Peer Navigator** to conduct outreach and assessment, and connect youth with housing.
- **Provide academic case management** to students.
Network of Partners to Address Housing Insecurity

**RHC’s On Campus Partners:**
- Student Life and Leadership
- Associated Students
- Student Equity
- Guardian Scholars
- Student Health and Psychological Services
- Food Insecurity Taskforce

**Off Campus/Community Partners:**
- Jovenes Peer Navigator & Coordinated Entry Representative
- L.A. County Department of Social Services (CalFresh)
- Food Finders, Food Forward, Heart of Compassion
- 1st and 4th County Supervisorial Districts
Peer Navigators - Students helping Students

- Our Peer Navigators are current Community College Students who have lived experience with homelessness
- They spend 20 hours per week on campus, conducting outreach and assessment
- Connect youth with our housing opportunities
- Housed at Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) and Financial Aid Offices
GOALS
Our Students Will Achieve:

- AA Degree
- Professional Certification
- Increased lifetime earnings
- Transfer to four year college

Community College grads earn $400,000 more than those with just High School degrees over their careers

Maintain relationship with Jovenes - our support continues!
Kyshawna's Story - Homes and Hope for Homeless Students
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp71FrYzfn4)
Progress So Far

- College Success Initiative (CSI) launched in August 2016
- 47 students housed
- 12 students have graduated or transferred to four-year institutions while in CSI
What is Supportive Housing?

- Affordable Rental Housing
- Culturally Competent Intensive Case Management
- Voluntary Participation in Services

JOHN BURTON ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH
Supportive housing should be one intervention in a continuum of care approach.
What is Supportive Housing?

Affordable
Permanent
Independent
Tenant-
Centered
Flexible
Voluntary
“Three Legs of the Stool”

Rental/operating assistance: HEAP, CESH, Section 8, federal Continuum of Care funds

Services: HEAP, CESH, Mental Health Services Act, RHYA grants

Capital: HEAP, Local Capital Dollars, No Place Like Home
Key Principles: Housing First

1. Centered on Consumer choice
2. Quick access to housing
3. Robust support services with assertive engagement
4. Tenancy is not dependent on participation in services
5. Embrace a harm-reduction approach
6. Provide leases and tenant protections
Taking out the Housing Ready “stuff”

- Connect with the potential tenant
- Get the tenant housed!
- Wraparound services

- Are you sober?
- Taking medication?
- Poor credit history?
Step 1: Make contact with your local Continuum of Care & large city (if applicable)

- Entities in California that apply for and receive $5.4 billion in HUD funding annually
- Also used to distribute funding from California Department of Housing and Community Development.
- There are 43 Continuums of Care in California
- Keep calling and keep asking questions!

*Visit HEAP webpage at [www.jbaforyouth.org](http://www.jbaforyouth.org) to find a contact for your local Continuum of Care
Step 2: Find out how many unaccompanied youth were homeless in your 2017 Point in Time Count

Unaccompanied youth under 18 + Unaccompanied youth 18 to 24 = Total Homeless Persons

1,648 + 13,809 = 15,458
132,278

% of homeless count that are unaccompanied youth

12%

*Visit HEAP webpage at www.jbaforyouth.org to see what percentage of homeless individuals are unaccompanied youth for your Continuum of Care.
Step 3: Calculate the minimum allocation your administrative entity has for homeless youth

*Visit HEAP webpage at www.jbaforyouth.org to see the minimum allocation for homeless youth for your Continuum of Care*
Step 4: Consider partnering with organizations that are active in your Continuum of Care

- Timeline is very short.
- Pressure to get money out quickly.
- Existing contracts and relationships facilitate issuing funds.
- Don’t let the best be the enemy of the good.
Step 5: Review the NOFA; Issued yesterday!

• Subscribe to receive notices at HCFC website

• Visit JBAY web page on HEAP implementation:
  • Fact sheet
  • FAQ
  • Continuum of Care contacts
  • Funding by CoC
  • % of homeless who are unaccompanied youth
  • SB 850 language
Senate Bill 918 (Wiener, Rubio): Homeless Youth Act of 2018

Requires the Homeless Coordinating & Financing Council (HCFC) to:

- set specific, measurable goals aimed at preventing and ending youth homelessness
- define outcome measures and gather data related to those goals
- coordinate with stakeholders
- provide technical assistance and program development support to the extent that funding is made available


in order to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy and practices efforts related to homeless youth
Question & Answer

Enter your questions on your screen now by clicking the “question and answer” arrow, typing your question, and clicking “send.”

Questions and comments can be directed to:

Amy Lemley, amy@jbay.org
Sharon Rapport, sharon.rapport@csh.org
Eric Hubbard, ehubbard@jovenesinc.org
HCFC: hcfc@bcsh.ca.gov.

*Visit HEAP webpage at http://www.jbaforyouth.org/homeless-emergency-aid-program/ for resources