



HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
Meeting Agenda

January 21, 2026, 1pm

Committee members must participate in person (except for just cause reasons or personal emergency reasons approved by the HSOC):

Room 101, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services,
3433 South Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

The public may participate in person or by Zoom video call:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87619565958?pwd=YWE8APvbWvUjDr2UcRt6sa400mlOEz.1>

Or dial in:

+1 669 444 9171

Meeting ID: 876 1956 5958

Passcode: 910500

Recusals will be required for the following items:

5.1.1 for all members standing for leadership positions

5.2.1 and 5.2.2 for all members and alternates with a financial interest in any of the agencies recommended for funding

1. Call to Order and Introductions (2 minutes*)
2. Recusals Notice (2 minutes*)
3. Public Comment (5 minutes*)
4. Consent: Approval of Minutes (1 minute*)
5. Action/Information/Discussion
 - 5.1. HSOC Administration

*All times are approximate



- 5.1.1. Action Item: HSOC Leadership Elections (20 minutes*)
 - 5.1.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.1.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.1.1.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.1.2. Discussion Item: Amending the HSOC Bylaws to allow the appointment of Vice Chairs for HSOC Committees (7 minutes*)
 - 5.1.2.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.1.2.2. Public Comment
 - 5.1.2.3. Committee Discussion
- 5.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4 - Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources
 - 5.2.1. Action Item: Recommend Allocation of Community Development Block Grant - Public Services funding (County allocation \$87,679), Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities (County allocation \$438,000), Home Investment Partnerships Program (\$100,000), Emergency Solutions Grant (\$135,681) and County General Fund Support (\$379,000), for county-wide homeless services programs as part of the 2026 Action Plan (30 minutes*)
 - 5.2.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.2.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.2.1.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
 - 5.2.2. Action Item: Recommend submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for Fiscal Year 2025 funding to renew existing Continuum of Care grants as funded in Fiscal Year 2024 (8 minutes*)

*All times are approximate



- 5.2.2.1. Committee Questions
- 5.2.2.2. Public Comment
- 5.2.2.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.2.3. Action Item: Approve Letter of Support for CAPSLO's Application to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Funding (5 minutes*)
 - 5.2.3.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.2.3.2. Public Comment
 - 5.2.3.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.2.4. Information Item: Federal and State Grant Updates (3 minutes*)
 - 5.2.4.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.2.4.2. Public Comment
 - 5.2.4.3. Committee Discussion
- 5.3. Information Item: 2026 Homeless Point in Time Count Update (7 minutes*)
 - 5.3.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.3.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.3.1.3. Committee Discussion
- 5.4. Information Item: Annual HSOC Listening Session in March (10 minutes*)
 - 5.4.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.4.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.4.1.3. Committee Discussion
- 5.5. Discussion Item: Committee Updates (12 minutes*)

*All times are approximate



- 5.5.1.1. Committee Questions
- 5.5.1.2. Public Comment
- 5.5.1.3. Committee Discussion
- 5.6. Discussion Item: Updates from County Staff (5 minutes*)
 - 5.6.1.1. Committee Questions
 - 5.6.1.2. Public Comment
 - 5.6.1.3. Committee Discussion
- 6. Future Discussion/Report Items, Updates and Requests for Information (3 minutes*)
- 7. Next Regular Meeting: March 18, 2026
- 8. Adjournment

The full agenda packet for this meeting is available on the SLO County HSOC web page:

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services/Homeless-Services-Oversight-Council-\(HSOC\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services/Homeless-Services-Oversight-Council-(HSOC).aspx)

*All times are approximate

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
MEETING MINUTES**

Date

November 19, 2025

Time

1:09 pm-2:58 pm

Location

Rm. 101, Dept of Social Services, 3433 S. Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Members Present

Abby Lassen
Amelia Grover
Bill Luffee
Brenda Mack
Daniela Garcia (alternate for Jessica Thomas)
Frank Warren (alternate for Star Graber)
Jack Lahey
Janna Nichols
Jeff Smith
Jimmy Paulding
Jules Tuggle
Kate Secrest
Kathy McClenathen
Kris Beal (alternate for Chris Bausch)
Linda Belch (alternate for Devin Drake)
Luke Dunn
Margaret Shepard-Moore
Marcia Guthrie
Marie Bolin
Mark Lamore
Michelle Pedigo
Michelle Shoresman
Raven Lopez
Rick Scott
Susan Funk
Wendy Blacker
Wendy Lewis

Members Absent

Hanan Azeem
Jim Dantona

Kathy McClenathen
Rick Gulino
Rochelle Sonza
Susan Lamont

Staff & Guests

Addison Gregory
Ashlee Hernandez
Chelsea Fredinburg
Cindy McCown
Daisy Wiberg
Damon Watkins
Devon McQuade
Erica Jaramillo
George Solis
Gerri Climes
Gus Chavez
Heidi Marks
Jeff Al-Mashat
Juanetta Perkins
Kari Howell
Kate Bourne
Katlynn Beatty
Kayla Wilburn
Kimberlee Booth
Kirsten Cahoon
Laurel Weir
Marge Castle
Merlie Livermore
Morgan Torell
Nicole Ramos
Ranel Porter
Raye Fleming
Rick Scott
Sister Theresa Harpin
Sophie Glazebrook
Tess Cueek
Trisha Raminha

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Michelle Shoresman called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm, and introductions were made by alternates and new attendees.

Kate Bourne, Systems Analyst at the Homeless Services Division, presented HMIS data for September 19–November 19, 2025. She reported that 93 new households (137 persons) were enrolled in projects, while 261 households (344 persons) exited, including 136 clients who moved to permanent housing.

2. Public Comments

Wendy Blacker shared that 805 Outreach is a Narcan-certified distributor in the County and encouraged those in need to contact her.

Jack Lahey reported that warming center capacity has increased from 40 to 60, with transportation provided from Morro Bay and Los Osos to the Prado Center and back.

Janna Nichols noted that the South County warming center at 1023 E. Grand, Arroyo Grande, is also open tonight, with signups via **info@5chc.org**.

Kris Beal, Paso Robles City Council member, expressed interest in accessing data resources to better address the unhoused population in their jurisdiction.

Wendy Lewis added that the ECHO warming center in Paso Robles, with 10 beds, is open tonight. She also reported on last week's walkthrough of the Atascadero family wing build-out, which will add 30 beds for families with children.

3. Consent: Approval of Minutes

Janna Nichols moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Jack Lahey. The motion passed by voice vote.

4. Action/Information/Discussion

4.1. HSOC Administration

4.1.1. Action Item: Vote to recommend eleven persons to fill expiring seats and three persons to fill vacant seats on the Homeless Services Oversight Council

The recommended candidates were asked to leave the room before Laurel Weir presented the roster for expiring and vacant seats. Supervisor Jimmy Paulding moved to approve the slate, and Susan Funk seconded the motion. Brenda Mack voted against the motion, Janna Nichols abstained, and the motion passed by majority vote.

4.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 3: Improve and expand data management efforts through HMIS and coordinated entry system to strengthen data-driven operational guidance and strategic oversight.

4.2.1. Action Item: Recommend funding allocations of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP)– Round 4 (\$1,270,298), and HHAP Program – Round 5

(\$1,985,629), Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) – Pismo Beach allocation (\$65,804), State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (\$203,245), and Supplemental County General Fund Support (\$2,315,351) and approve release of Request for Proposals for \$464,470 to support Prevention and Diversion funded through Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program – Round 4

Members and alternates with a financial interest in agencies recommended for funding were asked to leave the room prior to George Solis's presentation. Marie Bolin moved to approve the recommendations, and Susan Funk seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

4.3. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4: Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources

4.3.1. Information Item: Presentation on Results of 2025 Action Plan Community Development Needs Assessment

Homeless Services Division Program Manager Marge Castle outlined the Community Development Needs Assessment process, which focuses on identifying local needs through data collection, priority setting, strategic planning, and public input. Community input was gathered through an online Needs Assessment Survey, written public comments submitted by email, and a public hearing at the County Board of Supervisors meeting.

This year, 126 survey responses were received, representing an 86% decrease from the prior year. It is worth noting that the reduction in responses is due to the County budget cut which eliminated the Communications Program Manager position in HSD, losing the full capacity for social media and community outreach this year. Despite the lower participation, the survey identified the following top community priorities: housing facilities, public services, and housing services.

Key survey insights included:

- Housing affordability: 60% of respondents reported a high housing cost burden.
- Housing insecurity: Nearly half of respondents who searched for housing had difficulty securing it, primarily due to affordability, competition, and income or credit requirements.
- Demographic reach: Responses were received from all regions of the county.
- Diverse participation: 58% of respondents identified as community members, with additional input from nonprofit organizations, local government staff, and elected officials.

Based on these findings, staff recommended establishing the following priorities for the 2026 Action Plan:

1. Housing Facilities: Affordable rental housing, single-family housing, and senior housing
2. Public Services: Health care, mental health, and homeless services

3. Housing Services: Homelessness prevention, rental assistance, and emergency shelters

4.3.2. Information Item: Federal, State and County Budget Updates

Laurel Weir, a Principal Administrative Manager in the Homeless Services Division, provided a brief update on the federal budgeting process.

4.3.3. Information Item: Update on Continuum of Care Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Laurel Weir presented an overview of the 2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition, noting that the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released on November 13, 2025. She highlighted several significant changes from the 2024 competition.

Under the new guidelines, only 30% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) may be allocated to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects. In 2024, 70% of SLO County CoC funds (\$1,140,581) supported PSH beds; however, in 2025, only \$454,619—representing 30% of ARD in Tier 1—is protected from competition, compared to 90% or more in prior years. As a result, a significantly smaller portion of PSH funding is guaranteed.

Additionally, the competition's point structure has been substantially revised, and new threshold requirements have been introduced. These include language stating that HUD may reduce or reject applications if there is evidence that a project has engaged in illegal discrimination, including activities that subsidize racial preferences or rely on a definition of sex other than binary in humans.

Laurel also reviewed the application timelines for the HUD Continuum of Care process and the local Request for Proposals (RFP).

For the HUD submission, CoCs must finalize applications by January 12, 2026, for submission to HUD by January 14, 2026. Funding recommendations must be made, and applicants notified no later than December 15, 2025.

For the local RFP process, an informational session was held on November 17, followed by publication of the Notice of Interest on November 18. Local applications are due December 4, the Grant Review Committee will meet on December 8, and the HSOC Executive Committee will vote on recommendations on December 15. Applicants must enter and complete their applications in HUD's online system between now and January 8.

4.4. Discussion Item: Committee Updates

Wendy Lewis reported that the Services Coordinating Committee met last month and received presentations from the Workforce Development Board. Due to the holidays, the next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2026.

Janna Nichols shared that the Data & Performance Committee's most recent meeting focused on data corrections, errors, and data-sharing limitations.

Jack Lahey reported no updates from the Coordinated Entry Committee.

4.5. Information Item: Updates from County Staff

Linda Belch of the Homeless Services Division introduced new staff members Chelsea Fredinburg and Sophie Glazebrook.

Kari Howell, HMIS Program Manager, provided an update on the Point-in-Time Count, noting that the survey tool and volunteer registration are still in development. She also reported that seven Cal Poly interns will support the PIT Count planning and implementation efforts this year.

Luke Dunn led an acknowledgment of Janna Nichols in recognition of her retirement and dedicated service with the 5Cities Homeless Coalition.

Laurel Weir announced that an Executive Committee emergency meeting will be held on December 15 to make funding recommendations and rankings for the FY2025 Continuum of Care Competition.

5. Future Discussion, Report Items, Updates and Requests for Information

None reported.

6. Next Meeting: January 21, 2026

7. Adjournment

Chairperson Michelle Shoresman adjourned the meeting at 2:58 pm.

HSOC Committee Descriptions

The **HSOC Executive Committee** is comprised of the HSOC officers. The Executive Committee meets in alternate months from the meetings of the full HSOC, or otherwise as determined by the Chair. The Executive Committee coordinates the preparation of annual work plans for HSOC. The Executive Committee assists the Chair and County staff in the preparation of meeting agendas.

The **Coordinated Entry Committee** oversees the development of the policies, guidance, and procedures of the four components of the Coordinated Entry System (CES): access, assessment, prioritization, and referral. The Committee also ensures that the guidance and procedures developed by CES workgroups are in alignment with the principles of the CES policies.

The **Data & Performance Committee** (formerly the Finance & Data Committee) functions as the governing body for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The Committee provides oversight to the HMIS implementation and ensures compliance with the CoC Program Interim Rule and any HMIS requirements prescribed by HUD. The Committee reviews and approves HMIS Policies and Procedures, annual data reports to HUD including the Point in Time Count and Systems Performance Measures, and evaluates and makes recommendations to improve data quality.

The **Services Coordinating Committee** identifies and discusses service needs in the community. The Committee provides opportunities for provider agencies to collaborate and share information on specific issues, including coordination of services within and across systems.

Slate of Candidates* for HSOC Leadership in CY2026

Chair – Michelle Shoresman

Vice Chair – Kate Secrest

Data and Performance Committee Chair – Mark Lamore

Services Coordinating Committee Chair – Wendy Lewis

Coordinated Entry Committee Chair – Jack Lahey

Representative with Lived Experience – Brenda Mack

*Members of the Executive Committee are elected on an annual basis at the January meeting of the full HSOC. The Nominating Committee develops initial recommendations to provide to the Executive Committee for its December meeting. The Executive Committee votes on the recommendations in December. The slate of candidates approved by the Executive Committee are presented to the full HSOC at its annual January meeting. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the HSOC January meeting and the full HSOC will conduct the elections at that meeting to appoint members to the Leadership positions.

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
ACTION ITEM
January 21, 2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.2.1

ACTION ITEM: Recommend Allocation of Community Development Block Grant

- Public Services funding (County allocation \$87,679), Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities (County allocation \$438,000), Home Investment Partnerships Program (\$100,000) Emergency Solutions Grant (\$135,681), and County General Fund Support (\$379,000) for county-wide homeless services programs as part of the 2026 Action Plan.

ACTION REQUIRED: Vote to establish the 2026 homeless services projects funding recommendations, to be presented at the Board of Supervisors, in April 2026 as part of the 2026 HUD Action Plan.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

Background

Allocation Determinations

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

The County of San Luis Obispo receives annual entitlement allocations of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These funds are awarded to states and other eligible jurisdictions to support community development and create more resilient communities. The County of San Luis Obispo and six participating cities (Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Pismo Beach, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles) make up the Urban County of San Luis Obispo. HUD defines an urban county as a county that has a population of 200,000 or more with a preponderance of persons of low and moderate income.

Both CDBG, HOME, and ESG program funds are governed by the Urban County's five-year 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan (Con Plan). The Con Plan identifies the Urban County's goals and priorities which could be addressed through the award of the annual entitlement funds over a five-year period. The five annual Action Plans prioritize specific activities to achieve the goals established in the Con Plan.

2026 HUD Entitlement funding estimates are established by averaging the last 3 years' allocations and reducing that average by 5%. Final funding allocation amounts are typically

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announced in the spring by HUD prior to the start of the upcoming Program Year. Funding recommendations will be allocated proportionately upwards or downwards based on the final HUD allocations.

On December 09, 2025, the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors approved the 2026 Action Plan funding priorities from the community development needs identified from the 2026 Community Development Needs Assessment Survey:

Housing Facilities

1. Affordable rental housing
2. Single family housing
3. Senior housing

Public Services

1. Health care services
2. Mental health services
3. Homeless services

Housing Services

1. Homelessness prevention
2. Rental assistance
3. Emergency shelters

General Fund Support

A total of \$379,000 in County General Fund Support (GFS) is estimated for homeless services operating costs, including warming centers and safe parking activities. All GFS awards are contingent on budget approval by the Board of Supervisors in June 2026 as part of the County's FY 2026-27 Annual Budgeting process.

Summary of Estimated Funding Sources – Table 1

Funding Source	Estimated Amount
CDBG – Public Services	\$255,949
HOME - TBRA	\$100,000
ESG	\$135,681
County General Fund Support	\$379,000

Applications Received

The 2026 Action Plan Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was released to potential applicants on September 11, 2025. A total of 13 applications were received for Public Services

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projects totaling \$1.1 million in requests. Per the funding estimates in the 2026 Action Plan NOFA, \$870,630 was available for applications for Public Services projects.

A list of all project application narratives are included in Attachment #A.

Grant Review Committee Process

A non-conflicted grant review committee was convened to review and score project applications. This process incorporated the grant application performance criteria approved by the HSOC Executive Committee on February 19, 2025, and approved by the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors on April 8th, 2025.

All performance data for service related projects was provided from the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or an HMIS-compliant database. The metrics measured performance over the prior grant period.

To equitably distribute emergency shelter funding based on service scale and outcomes, staff applied a performance-based allocation model using the following weighted criteria:

- **Total Clients Served** – 40%
- **% Chronically Homeless Clients Served** – 30%
- **% Exits to Permanent Housing** – 30%

This allocation reflects a balanced approach that rewards both service volume and housing outcomes, while recognizing shelters that serve chronically homeless populations. The model ensures transparency and alignment with system-wide goals for emergency shelter performance.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

A maximum of 15% of annual CDBG funding can be used for public services activities. The six cities in the Urban County collectively have \$168,269 of CDBG funding to allocate for Public Services and the County has \$87,680 for a combined total of \$255,949 available to award. There were six applications for the CDBG Public Services projects, totaling \$341,038 in requests. The participating cities in the Urban County approve their city allocation projects. HSOC only reviews and recommends the County's CDBG allocation. All CDBG public services recommendations are included for reference only to demonstrate the larger funding landscape (table 2).

Table 2 – CDBG Funding Recommendations

CDBG RECOMMENDATIONS								
CDBG	Arroyo Grande	Atascadero	Morro Bay	Paso Robles	Pismo Beach	San Luis Obispo	County	TOTAL CDBG
40 Prado Homeless Services Center (CAPSLO)			\$9,639			\$67,172	\$29,317	\$106,128
Adult Day Center (CAPSLO)				\$19,483				\$19,483
Atascadero & Paso Robles Shelter Services (ECHO)		\$11,437		\$19,484			\$33,363	\$64,284
Homelessness Prevention, South County (5CHC)	\$9,688				\$4,513			\$14,201
2026 Youth Scholarships (Atascadero)		\$15,000						\$15,000
Supportive Housing Program for Community Members at Risk of Homelessness (People's Self-Help Housing)						\$11,853	\$25,000	\$36,853
TOTAL CDBG	\$9,688	\$26,437	\$9,639	\$38,967	\$4,513	\$79,025	\$87,680	\$255,949

One application was received for the County's CDBG allocation for Public Facilities projects totaling \$438,000 in requests (table 3). The cities of Atascadero, Arroyo Grande, and Paso Robles recommended funding city projects in their respective jurisdictions.

Table 3 – County CDBG Public Facilities funding recommendations

CDBG Public Facilities	Requested	Recommended
Recuperative Care Shelter Expansion (5CHC)	\$438,000	\$438,000

Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

The HOME program provides funding for the development, purchase, or rehabilitation of affordable housing for rent or homeownership, and providing rental assistance to low-income households. A total of \$719,962 was available for application. Three applications were received for the development of affordable rental housing totaling \$2.6 million. There was one application for HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) totaling \$100,000. As HOME is the main program that funds the development of affordable housing, \$499,969 was recommended for affordable housing projects and \$100,000 was recommended for Tenant Based Rental Assistance. (table 4).

Table 4 – HOME TBRA funding recommendations

HOME-TBRA	Requested	Recommended
HOME TBRA Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (5CHC)	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

The ESG Program provides funding for Emergency Shelters, Street Outreach, Rapid Rehousing, Homelessness Prevention and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) activities. Total amount of ESG funds that may be used for street outreach and emergency shelter activities cannot exceed 60 percent of the total HUD ESG grant. A total of \$135,681 in ESG funding was available for application. Five applications were received totaling \$250,683 in requests (table 5).

Table 5 – HUD ESG funding recommendations

HUD-ESG	Requested	Recommended
South County Rapid Re-Housing (5CHC)	\$16,282	\$16,282
5CHC Outreach Program – South County	\$28,494	\$0
40 Prado Homeless Services Center (CAPSLO)*	\$135,680	\$88,009
ECHO Paso Robles & ECHO Atascadero (Shelter and Rapid Rehousing)	\$45,227	\$31,390
Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Survivors (Lumina Alliance)	\$25,000	\$0
TOTAL ESG	\$250,683	\$135,681

* The grant review committee recommends a conditional ESG funding recommendation for CAPSLO. No applications were submitted for Rapid Rehousing in the Central region of the county. As a result, CAPSLO will be asked to allocate a portion of its ESG award toward Rapid Rehousing to help individuals experiencing homelessness transition into permanent housing. This approach will also ensure compliance with ESG regulations by preventing the County from allocating more than 60% of the ESG award to shelter or street outreach activities.

County General Fund Support (GFS)

County GFS provides funding for emergency shelters, warming/cooling centers, overnight parking programs, street outreach, and other essential services for persons experiencing homelessness. A total of \$379,000 is estimated available for application. Six applications were received for a total of \$493,266 in requests (table 6).

Table 6 – County GFS funding recommendations

County GFS	Requested	Recommended
South County Inclement Weather Shelter (5CHC)	\$60,000	\$60,000
5CHC Outreach Program - South County	\$66,333	\$66,333
40 Prado Homeless Services Center (CAPSLO)	\$175,600	\$73,199
ECHO Paso Robles & ECHO Atascadero	\$126,333	\$124,468
No-Cook Bags for Residents Experiencing Homelessness (SLO Food Bank)	\$20,000	\$15,000
Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Survivors (Lumina Alliance)	\$45,000	\$40,000
GFS TOTAL	\$493,266	\$379,000

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A summary of all Public Services funding recommendations are included in (table 7):

Table 7 – 2026 Action Plan funding recommendations

Agency	Project Name	Total Requested	Total Recommendation
5Cities Homeless Coalition	Homelessness Prevention, South County	\$43,427	\$14,201
5Cities Homeless Coalition	South County Inclement Weather Shelter	\$60,000	\$60,000
5Cities Homeless Coalition	South County Street Outreach	\$94,827	\$66,333
5Cities Homeless Coalition	Rapid Rehousing, South County	\$16,282	\$16,282
5Cities Homeless Coalition	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (Countywide)	\$100,000	\$100,000
CAPSLO	40 Prado Homeless Services Center	\$429,261	\$267,336
CAPSLO	Adult Day Center	\$21,500	\$19,483
City of Atascadero	Youth Activities Scholarships	\$13,500	\$15,000
ECHO	ECHO Paso Robles & ECHO Atascadero (Shelter and Rapid Rehousing)	\$266,190	\$220,142
Lumina Alliance	Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Survivors	\$70,000	\$40,000
People's Self-Help Housing	Supportive Housing Program for Community Members at Risk of Homelessness	\$50,000	\$36,853
SLO Food Bank	No-Cook Bags for Homeless Residents	\$20,000	\$15,000
TOTAL		\$1,171,117	\$870,629

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The HSOC recommendations for these funds will go to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors as a public hearing item in April 2026 for final approval of the 2026 Action Plan to be submitted to HUD. This will have no financial impact on the HSOC. Should the Board approve the HSOC's recommendations, it will result in approximately \$870,629 being made available for public services and \$438,000 made available for public facilities through these funding sources.

STAFF COMMENTS:

The following steps outline the timeline for finalizing and implementing the 2026 Action Plan. These actions ensure compliance with HUD requirements and provide opportunities for public input before funds are made available for program activities.

- Draft release and public notice of funding recommendations
- 30-day public comment period
- City council approvals for CDBG allocations
- Board of Supervisors hearing (April 2026)
- Action Plan submission to HUD (May 2026)
- Funding available July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 (Pending HUD approval)

Additional funding opportunities for homeless services and affordable housing will be released in 2026, complementing the 2026 Action Plan and addressing identified gaps (table 8):

Table 8: Estimated funding to be released for applications in 2026

Program	Estimated Amount
HHAP-4 (Prevention and Diversion)	\$464,470
HHAP-5 (2nd Disbursement)	\$1,985,629
HHAP-6 (1st Disbursement)	\$1,275,469
FY25 HCD ESG	\$190,390
TOTAL	\$3,915,958

2026 Action Plan Project Application

Narratives

APPLICANT NAME: 5Cities Homeless Coalition

PROJECT NAME: South County Inclement Weather Shelter (Warming Center)

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$60,000 (GFS)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: 5Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC) operates an inclement weather warming center, which provides emergency shelter, meals, and case management services. 5CHC case managers, on site during guest hours, work with guests to conduct a coordinated entry assessment and initial action case plan development for long-term housing stability, while providing for their immediate needs. The primary goal of the warming center is to keep people from falling ill due to seasonal elements. That said, the Coalition's goals are far broader, in that we endeavor, as with all of our programs, to assist those who are experiencing homelessness to achieve housing stability, self-sufficiency, and improved health by providing resources, supportive services and programs. 5CHC plans for approximately 40 nights of operation during the winter season, with a capacity of 34 beds per night. Additionally, 5CHC recently installed two travel trailers (FEMA trailers donated by the County) to accommodate families for emergency shelter as well. Families have been allowed at the Warming Center previously, but the addition of trailers allows for greater privacy and family comfort.

APPLICANT NAME: 5Cities Homeless Coalition

PROJECT NAME: 5CHC Street Outreach, South County

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$94,827 (ESG \$28,494, GFS \$66,333)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: 5CHC seeks continued funding for its highly successful Outreach Program, serving the southern portion of San Luis Obispo County (including the Santa Maria Riverbed). People living in unsheltered homelessness are much more likely to suffer severe health conditions due to an unsanitary environment, poverty, and lack of health education. There is increased prevalence of substance use in the population, which further adds to the concern of poor treatment outcomes. Poverty, lack of access to jobs and education, and low food supplies add to mental stress and burden. This can lead to poor immunity, worsening health conditions in unhygienic conditions. 5CHC utilizes a

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strengths-based approach to help clients overcome systemic fear and complex housing barriers by providing basic necessities and progressive engagement.

APPLICANT NAME: 5Cities Homeless Coalition

PROJECT NAME: Rapid Re-Housing South County

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$16,282 (ESG)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This application is for Rapid Re-Housing Services in South County. Utilizing a strengths-based approach, 5CHC's housing stabilization team works with the participant to focus on the household's resources and strengths that can be called upon to address their barriers to stable housing. A case plan is jointly developed for actions steps for housing stability. Each program participant is assisted with case management and education sessions offered by 5CHC staff and volunteers to address the breath of issues that can affect housing stability. An estimated 6 households, 12 people, will receive assistance through this grant. All funds, with the exception of 10% in indirect expenses, will be used for direct financial support for clients. All personnel expenses for this program will be funded through other sources.

APPLICANT NAME: 5Cities Homeless Coalition

PROJECT NAME: Homeless Prevention, South County

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$43,427 (CDBG)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: 5CHC seeks to continue its highly successful Homeless Prevention program to help families at-risk of homeless remain in their home. A change in this application is that 5CHC seeks to only provide services in South County (Avila to the Santa Barbara County Border). An anticipated 10 households (25 people) will receive assistance. 5CHC's track record has demonstrated that less than 5% of those served in the prior 24 months have fallen into homelessness after receiving assistance, this includes the highly vulnerable Transitional-Age Youth population.

APPLICANT NAME: 5Cities Homeless Coalition

PROJECT NAME: Recuperative Care Shelter Expansion

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$438,000 (CDBG)

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION: 5CHC proposes to develop a site with 15 non-congregate cabins (including ensuite bathrooms) to serve people experiencing homelessness who are medically fragile. A full-suite of services will be provided under limited medical supervision to assist people in their recovery. Concurrently 5CHC will provide housing navigation services with the intent of exiting guest to permanent housing following their recovery.

While the site is already under a long-term lease, 5CHC is seeking assistance with this application for property purchase. 5CHC has the option to purchase the parcel upon death of the Trustor (current age 92), and the price has been pre-negotiated. Due to the timeline of this funding opportunity, we believe it very likely that this condition for sale will be met within the time needed to expend the funds. Development of the project is not contingent upon property purchase, however securing ownership of the property is a priority for the 5Cities Homeless Coalition Board, as it looks to future expenses associated with this project.

APPLICANT NAME: Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO)

PROJECT NAME: 40 Prado Homeless Services Center

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$429,261 (CDBG \$117,981, ESG \$135,680, GFS \$175,600)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The 40 Prado Homeless Services Center (Prado HSC) in SLO offers an Access Center and emergency shelter services, meals, showers, health screenings at the CHC on-site clinic, behavioral health services from the county's mobile van, services to dual-diagnosed individuals, recuperative care for those recently released from the hospital, a Warming/Cooling Center during inclement weather, a Safe Parking program, animal kennels, a community garden, laundry, internet access, and a mail and message center to facilitate job and housing searches. Case managers and staff assist clients in creating individualized housing plans with set goals and objectives to obtain housing and self-sufficiency.

CAPSLO operates the largest shelter program in SLO County, frequently providing shelter for 130-150 households per night through hoteling, shelter beds at Prado HSC, the Overflow, Safe Parking and Warming/Cooling Center Programs.

With its new Housing Focused Shelter Program (90-day program), CAPSLO was able to house 221 participants in the 24-25 fiscal year. We project that 250 will be housed, and 1,200 sheltered in 2026-2027.

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APPLICANT NAME: Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO)

PROJECT NAME: Adult Day Center (ADC)

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$21,500 (CDBG)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: ADC, located by downtown Paso Robles, operates Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm and serves adults with cognitive impairments, such as Alzheimer's. It is the only non-profit adult day center in the county! ADC is very proud to provide a place where adults with cognitive disorders feel welcomed and valued. Participants are provided activities throughout the day, including exercise, games, social/outdoor activities, crafts, and musical performances. Attending ADC gives participants a purpose to get up in the morning, improves their self-esteem, reduces isolation, and prevents depression. The program keeps families together, helping participants remain in their home for as long as possible.

ADC also offers caregiver respite, along with educational retreats; needed resources and referrals; and conducts community outreach and education regarding Alzheimer's disease/dementia, aging, and caregiving issues.

APPLICANT NAME: City of Atascadero

PROJECT NAME: Youth Activities Scholarships

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$13,500.00 (CDBG)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Atascadero has established a youth scholarship fund designed to assist low income families to allow children to participate in organized recreation, social and cultural activities. The population served would be otherwise unable to afford the activity fees to participate in the activities of choice without the scholarship. The city applies the income guidelines published by HUD adjusted for family size, as qualifying criteria to decide scholarship awards.

APPLICANT NAME: El Camino Homeless Organization

PROJECT NAME: ECHO Paso Robles & ECHO Atascadero

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$266,190 (CDBG \$94,630, ESG \$45,227, GFS \$126,333)

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION: ECHO operates two Navigation Centers, ECHO Atascadero and ECHO Paso Robles, each with comprehensive services for San Luis Obispo County residents experiencing homelessness and those in danger of becoming homeless. ECHO also works to meet the needs of unsheltered residents who have not yet sought emergency shelter through street outreach services and the needs of residents who are housed but in danger of losing their housing through homeless prevention services. ECHO's Navigation Centers operate 90-Day Emergency Shelter programs that support clients in securing permanent housing; with this support, 60% of clients who participate for at least 30 days find a home.

Requested funds will support the operations of both Navigation Centers including shelter operations, shelter and outreach case management, shelter coordination, outreach services including shower and meal programs, rapid rehousing case management and housing assistance funds, volunteer coordination, staff supervision, and administration costs. With this support, 1,330 people per year are expected to access services. ECHO leverages volunteers, partners, and community support to serve and house a large number of people with a small operating budget.

APPLICANT NAME: Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County (SLO Food Bank)

PROJECT NAME: No-Cook Bags for Residents Experiencing Homelessness

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$20,000 (GFS)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: No-Cook Bags are bags of healthy, portable foods designed for the diverse homeless population of San Luis Obispo County. The name of the bags refers to the ability of their contents to be safely enjoyed without access to a stove, refrigerator, or kitchen equipment. Each No-Cook Bag is carefully curated to contain a full day's supply of foods that meet the unique nutritional and dental challenges experienced by homeless residents, including shelf-stable proteins, snack items, and nutritious drinks. These bags are distributed by community partners throughout San Luis Obispo County who work directly with people experiencing homelessness, including nonprofits and faith-based organizations, as well as County of San Luis Obispo law enforcement and social service departments.

Each No-Cook Bag contains one day's worth of food at a cost of \$4.80, enough for three meals and three snacks. We plan to distribute 2,600 bags per month in 2026-27 to meet the high level of demand from community partners and ensure that our unhoused neighbors have the food they need to survive.

APPLICANT NAME: Lumina Alliance

PROJECT NAME: Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Survivors

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$45,000 (GFS)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of SLO's GFS funding has supported Lumina Alliance's Emergency Shelter Program for more than a decade to provide SA/IPV survivors' countywide with emergency shelter and supportive services. Our agency operates two emergency shelters in safe, confidential locations in Atascadero and SLO for survivors fleeing SA/IPV. Shelter residents and their families are offered a variety of wraparound supportive services including a 24-hour crisis and information line, clinical therapy, self-sufficiency planning, referrals, advocacy, and accompaniment services. We project the following outcomes through anonymous client surveys after receiving services: 100 survivors and their families will receive emergency shelter and supportive services during the grant period, 80% of clients report increased self-sufficiency, 80% of clients report increased self-esteem, 80% of clients report increased sense of safety, and 80% of clients report that services were culturally-appropriate.

APPLICANT NAME: Lumina Alliance

PROJECT NAME: Emergency Shelter and Homelessness Prevention for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Survivors

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$25,000 (ESG)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of SLO has supported Lumina Alliance's Emergency Shelter Program for more than a decade, including through recent ESG funds. Our agency operates two emergency shelters in safe, confidential locations in Atascadero and SLO for survivors fleeing SA/IPV. Shelter residents and their families are offered a variety of wraparound supportive services including a 24-hour crisis and information line, clinical therapy, self-sufficiency planning, referrals, advocacy, and accompaniment services. Lumina Alliance also provides homelessness prevention through housing relocation and stabilization services, such as covering hotel or motel stays and short- or medium-term rental assistance to help survivors remain in or obtain safe housing. We project the following outcomes through anonymous client surveys after receiving services: 50 survivors and their families will receive emergency shelter and services or homelessness prevention assistance during the grant period, 80% of clients report increased self-

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sufficiency, 80% of clients report increased self-esteem, 80% of clients report increased sense of safety, and 80% of clients report that services were culturally-appropriate.

APPLICANT NAME: People's Self-Help Housing

PROJECT NAME: Supportive Housing Program for Community Members at Risk of Homelessness

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$50,000 (CDBG)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Supportive Housing Program provides clinical case management through licensed and associate clinical social workers serving residents across 30 County affordable rental properties. Services are free, confidential, voluntary, and provided in English and Spanish with bilingual staff serving a predominantly Latinx population (80% of clients), with residents never placed on waiting lists for immediate access to support. Social workers deliver crisis intervention, financial assistance coordination, healthcare navigation, behavioral health support, and proactive outreach to residents facing eviction risk. Strategic partnerships with CenCal Health Enhanced Care Management, County Behavioral Health, and emergency assistance providers enable comprehensive coordinated care for individuals with complex needs. The program is expanding with a new property opening in the City of San Luis Obispo and, while not part of this CDBG project, one additional property in Grover Beach to serve growing demand countywide. The program will serve approximately 1,400 persons and 500 households annually, maintaining near-zero eviction rates among extremely vulnerable populations (57% extremely low-income, 27% very low-income) through clinical intervention.

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
ACTION ITEM
January 21, 2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.2.2

ITEM: Recommend submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Fiscal Year 2025 funding to renew existing Continuum of Care grants up to the amount of \$1,624,294, as awarded by HUD in Fiscal Year 2024.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Recommend submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 funding to renew existing Continuum of Care (CoC) grants as funded in Fiscal Year 2024.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is an annual or biannual, competitive grant designed to promote a community-wide effort to address homelessness by funding for efforts by nonprofit organizations, state governments, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments to re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth, increase coordination, minimize the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by people experiencing homelessness; and optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness. The CoC Program is authorized by subtitle C of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (42 U.S.C. 11381–11389) (the Act), and the CoC Program rule found in 24 CFR part 578.

HUD's Continuum of Care (CoC) program provides funding for certain types of homeless assistance and related services, including permanent supportive housing, Coordinated Entry and HMIS. Continuum of Care applicants apply for grant funding for use within their CoC region. In San Luis Obispo County, the CoC covers the geographic region of the County.

Grant funds are awarded to local CoCs organized in accordance with the requirements of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act). The County of San Luis Obispo serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the San Luis Obispo County CoC.

As part of the annual competition, CoCs may gain, lose or maintain funding, depending on how the CoC scores in the competition in relation to other applicants. Gains are generally limited to a fixed percentage of the total dollar amount that it would take to renew existing CoC contracts within a given Calendar Year. This renewal amount is referred to as the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). The amount of funding that a CoC may lose in a given year is generally limited to the % of ARD that HUD determines must be part of the national competition. In previous years, this was set at 10% or less of a CoC's ARD.

2024-2025 Two Year Notice of Funding Opportunity

On July 31, 2024, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the FY2024 CoC Program Funding Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO). While previous rounds of the CoC grant had been for one year only, federal appropriations legislation for FY2024 authorized the CoC grant to be issued as a two-year process for the first time. According to the NOFO, projects funded in FY2024 would be eligible for a renewal without having to compete in the national competition.

The San Luis Obispo County CoC submitted an application in the competition and was awarded \$1,624,394 in CoC funds, including \$1,137,581 for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and \$312,597 for Coordinated Entry. Funding for PSH was awarded for leasing and supportive services costs for projects operated by Transitions Mental Health Association and People's Self-Help Housing.

In the Summer of 2025, HUD announced that it would not be honoring the two-year NOFO and would instead issue a new NOFO with new priorities, eligible activities, and conditions.

November 2025 NOFO

On November 13, 2025, HUD issued the new, FY025 NOFO, that contained significant changes from the 2024-25 NOFO. Under the terms of the November 13 NOFO, the amount of funding that a CoC could use for permanent housing (PH) activities would be capped at 30% of a CoC's funding. In the 2024 CoC competition, 70% of the total funds awarded to the San Luis Obispo County CoC were awarded PH activities. Additionally, 70% of the ARD funding for which the CoC was eligible would be part of the national competition and could potentially be lost. The point structure for the competition was also substantially different than the 2024-2025 NOFO. With regard to the limitation on PH funding, this would have capped the San Luis Obispo County CoC grant funding for PH at \$454,619, a 60% reduction.

Local Competition

The County Department of Social Services announced the local competition on November 14, 2025, held an informational session on November 18, 2025, and released a local call for proposals for project applications on November 21, 2025. A total of eight (8) applications were received: four renewal projects (including one HMIS renewal project), three bonus projects, and one Domestic Violence bonus project. Staff reviewed all applications to ensure they met the minimum threshold requirements. A non-conflicted Ad Hoc Grant Review Committee met on December 8 and 10, 2025, to discuss and rank the applications. Submitted applications were ranked in accordance with a scoring rubric based upon guidelines presented in HUD's FY2025 CoC NOFO and local priorities. On December 15, 2025, the Executive Committee met and approved rankings of the project applications.

Litigation

Following publication of the November 2025 NOFO, two separate lawsuits¹ challenging the legality of the NOFO were brought in U.S. District Court. The lawsuits were consolidated for judicial review. In response to the lawsuit, on December 19, 2025, HUD issued a revised NOFO, which still maintained the 30% cap on funding for PH and other terms that differed from the 2024-25 NOFO. On December 23, 2025, the judge for the case granted a motion for a Preliminary Injunction and Preliminary Relief. The ruling preliminarily enjoined HUD from proceeding with the 2025 NOFOs and ordered HUD to take steps to preliminarily reinstate the 2024-25 NOFO funding framework, begin preparing for renewals under the 2024-25 NOFO, and within 14 days of the order, notify CoCs of what actions would be needed to take to renew the grants awarded in the 2024-2025 competition.

On January 14, 2026, plaintiffs filed a motion for Summary Judgment. The response from the defendants is due January 28, 2026, and a ruling from the judge is expected sometime in mid-to-late February.

January 2026 NOFO

On January 8, 2026, HUD issued a new NOFO using the framework of the original 2024-2025 NOFO, with applications due by February 9, 2026. This NOFO would allow CoCs to request to renew existing contracts that were awarded in the 2024-25 NOFO, provided that CoCs requested renewals without reallocations to new projects.

¹ ***State of Washington, et al. v. HUD*** (Case No. 1:25-cv-00626); and ***National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), et al. v. HUD*** (Case No. 1:25-cv-00636) filed in U.S. District Court.

The updated NOFO does not contain caps on the amount of funding that may be used for Permanent Housing, does not require that 70% of a CoC's Annual Renewal Demand funding be put into the national competition, and maintains the point structure and grant terms and conditions of the 2024-25 NOFO.

CoCs have the option of either 1) requesting to renew existing contracts awarded under the 2024-25 NOFO, or 2) requesting to reallocate some of its existing renewal funding away from currently funded projects and to new projects. If the CoC chooses to request funding for current projects without requesting to reallocate funding, existing projects will not need to submit new applications to HUD for the FY2025 grants. If the CoC chooses to reallocate all or a portion of the funding, applications will be needed from new projects and the CoC will be required to make determinations on the applications and notify new projects no later than January 26, 2026.

Should the CoC choose to request renewal of existing projects without reallocation, renewal requests would be submitted for the following projects:

- Transitions Mental Health Association: \$875,990 for permanent housing leasing and services costs
- Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo: \$312,597 for Coordinated Entry Services
- The County of San Luis Obispo: \$65,220 for Homeless Management Information System services
- The County of San Luis Obispo: \$108,996 for CoC Planning

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval by the HSOC and the Board of Supervisors of this item would result in \$1,362,803 in funding being awarded in the FY2025 round for the projects listed above, provided that the court order is not vacated.

STAFF COMMENTS:

The January 2026 NOFO does allow CoCs to propose new projects by reallocating funding away from existing projects, but requires that they select those projects and notify the applicants no later than January 26, 2026. Reallocation may be done if existing projects are performing poorly, or if the CoC chooses to change priorities, e.g. if the CoC no longer wanted to prioritize permanent housing and wanted to take funding from existing

permanent housing to create new transitional housing. No current projects are performing poorly, so reallocations based on performance are not recommended.

With regard to priorities, the 2024 CoC competitive funding was awarded to three project types: Permanent Housing – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Supportive Services Only-Coordinated Entry (CE), and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). CE and HMIS activities are required as a condition of the grant. Current CoC permanent supportive housing funds are allocated for ongoing leasing and services costs, thus reprogramming funding away from PSH likely would cause loss of housing for some people currently assisted.

For these reasons and out of consideration for the short turn-around time a competition for reallocation would require, staff recommend proceeding with applying to renew existing applications.

In addition to the projects noted above, People's Self-Help Housing also received a CoC grant award in the FY2024 cycle. This grant will provide \$261,591 for supportive services for permanent supportive housing operated by PSHH. Because PSHH elected to have an 18-month term in the initial contract, that contract will not expire in FY2026 and thus will not be eligible for renewal application in the current year, but may be applied for in the FY2026 round expected to be published later this year.

Agenda Item 5.2.3

Date

VA Grant and Per Diem Office
10770 N. 46th Street, Suite C-200
Tampa, Florida 33617

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC), I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County's (CAPSLO) application for Grant and Per Diem funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for Low Demand Transitional Housing beds. HSOC serves as the oversight body for the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care (CA-614).

CAPSLO is actively involved in the Continuum of Care, serving as the lead Coordinated Entry agency, and operates the largest shelter and multi-services day center in the CoC's jurisdiction. They also operate one of only two Supportive Services for Veterans Families programs in the CoC and have worked closely with the CoC and other partners to reduce the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the CoC over the past 14 years.

There are currently no GPD-funded beds in the San Luis Obispo County CoC. Funding CAPSLO's application would fill an important gap by ensuring the availability of emergency shelter beds for homeless veterans and allowing them to connect with onsite resources, including substance use and mental health services.

Sincerely,

Michelle Shoresman
Chair
San Luis Obispo County Homeless Services Oversight Council
CoC CA-614

Proposed CAPSLO GPD Service – Prepared by CAPSLO

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Homeless Providers Grant Per Diem (GPD) National Program Office will be funding programs that will increase housing stability for Veterans by providing supportive housing services to facilitate Veteran engagement in permanent housing. One of the funding opportunities available is transitional supportive housing, which allows grantees five bed models to choose from. Shelter bed services must be provided along with support services and service connections that will help stabilize the Veteran (and their family) allowing them to successfully exit into permanent housing.

CAPSLO would like to submit an application proposing to provide Low Demand (LD) transitional beds for homeless Veterans and Veteran families. There would be a total of 10 beds available (8 for adults; 2 for minors) and we are estimating to serve 10 to 20 Veterans and their family members a year. The beds will be located at the 40 Prado Homeless Services Center and will be guaranteed on a nightly basis. These beds will be separate from the regular male/female congregate living areas, allowing for privacy. If minor dependents are being served, the family rooms will be utilized. If none are available, cots can be placed in the classroom which has its own private bathroom, or, depending on funding, temporary hotel stay may be provided until a family room becomes available at the shelter.

The LD model is designed for Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness who suffer from substance use disorders, mental health diagnoses, or who struggle with maintaining sobriety. Also, Veterans with multiple treatment failures, who may not have received treatment services, or who may not have been successful in traditional housing programs are eligible. These Veterans may not have fully committed to sobriety and treatment. LD housing is a program design using a low-demand, harm-reduction model to better accommodate Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness and Veterans who were unsuccessful in traditional treatment settings. Programming does not require sobriety or compliance with mental health treatment as a condition of admission or continued stay. Overall, demands are kept to a minimum. However, services are made widely available and are actively promoted by program staff as needed. The goal is to establish permanent housing in the community, while providing for the safety of staff and residents.

The length of Stay at the CAPSLO Homeless Service Center is individually determined but is expected to take on average 6-12 months and not to exceed 24. Services will include case management and substance use and mental health treatment. The substance use and mental health treatment will be provided through CAPSLO's existing SLO-HUB program. Other referrals for benefits are made available as Veterans engage.

40 Prado Homeless Services Center is eligible/qualified to provide the Low Demand model as it already operates as a Low Barrier shelter and provides substance abuse and mental health services. Ten designated beds will be guaranteed each night for Veteran clients and their family members. Outreach, case management, referral services will be provided on site by CAPSLO's Veteran Assistance Program staff. All other LD model

requirement are already met: must be able to have 24 hours per day 7 days a week, paid, appropriately trained, on-site staffing at the same location as the location of the participants; have a method to monitor participants' and guests' comings and goings; have a system in place for managing the introduction of contraband; be willing to retain Veterans who commit minor infractions of rules and who cannot or will not stop drinking or using legal or illegal substances; be committed to keeping the Veterans housed; staying continuously engaged with each Veteran and providing services as needed; and having procedures to ensure safety of staff and residents.

Funding is anticipated to be for three years from 10/1/2026 – 9/30/2029. Funding is disbursed as services are delivered with the maximum per diem rate of \$82.73 for transitional housing.