



**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
Listening Session**

March 18, 2026, 1:00 pm-2:50 pm

San Luis Obispo Veterans Memorial Hall, 801 Grand Avenue  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

The Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC) will be holding a public listening session on funding priorities and the San Luis Obispo Five-Year Plan to Address Homelessness on Wednesday, March 18 from 1:00-2:50 PM at the San Luis Obispo Veterans Memorial Hall.

Following the listening session, the HSOC's March business meeting will take place at the same location from 3:00 PM to approximately 4:15 PM.

**Agenda**

- I. Welcome
- II. Update on Implementation of the County's Five-Year Plan to Address Homelessness
- III. Current Funding and Future Outlook
- IV. Breakout Groups
- V. Dot Voting Exercise
- VI. Wrap-Up and Discussion of Next Steps

# CoC Annual Listening Session

HHAP Funding Priorities — Participant Handout

## About This Exercise

The Continuum of Care (CoC) receives flexible state funding through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program. Unlike some other grants, HHAP funds can support a range of housing and services activities. Today, the CoC Board will vote on funding priorities for two active HHAP rounds:

### HHAP Round 5 (2nd Disbursement)

Supplemental funding from the second half of Round 5, focused on sustaining existing investments and prioritizing permanent housing solutions.

### HHAP Round 6 (1st Disbursement)

New round focused on preventing unsheltered homelessness, sustaining interim housing, and supporting permanent housing solutions.

Your input today will help inform the CoC's vote this afternoon. Both rounds share the same core eligible activities, listed in the table below.

### Dot Exercise Question:

Looking at the HHAP-eligible activities listed on this handout, which do you believe should be the CoC's highest funding priorities this year?

## Dot Exercise: Vote for Your Priorities

- After your small group discussion, you will each receive a sheet of dots.
- Place your dots next to the activities you most want the CoC to prioritize with HHAP funding.
- You may place multiple dots on a single activity if you feel strongly about it.

## HHAP-Eligible Activities

Both HHAP-5 and HHAP-6 fund the same core activity categories below. All funded activities must comply with Housing First principles and include a pathway to permanent housing.

#	Activity	Description	Notes
	<b>PERMANENT HOUSING SOLUTIONS</b>		
1	<b>Rental Subsidies &amp; Rapid Rehousing</b>	Short- or longer-term rental assistance, move-in costs, and landlord incentives to place people in permanent housing, including CARE Act support.	
2	<b>Operating Subsidies — Permanent Housing</b>	Ongoing operational funding for affordable or supportive housing units (e.g., Homekey properties) serving people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.	

#	Activity	Description	Notes
3	<b>Services in Permanent Housing</b>	Case management, mental health coordination, tenancy support, employment services, and other wraparound services to help people remain stably housed.	
4	<b>Capital for Permanent Housing</b>	Acquisition, construction, or conversion of buildings into permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness.	
<b>HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION</b>			
5	<b>Prevention &amp; Diversion</b>	Keeping at-risk households (incomes ≤30% AMI) stably housed, and diverting people from entering shelters or unsheltered homelessness.	
<b>INTERIM HOUSING SOLUTIONS</b>			
6	<b>Shelter Operations</b>	Operating costs for existing congregate and non-congregate shelters, navigation centers, transitional housing, and hotel/motel vouchers.	
7	<b>Services in Interim/Shelter Housing</b>	Case management, housing navigation, substance use/mental health connections, and other supportive services for people in shelter.	
8	<b>Improvements to Existing Interim Housing</b>	Renovations to lower barriers, increase privacy, or improve living conditions in existing shelter facilities.	
<b>NON-HOUSING / OUTREACH SOLUTIONS</b>			
9	<b>Street Outreach &amp; Services for Unsheltered Individuals</b>	Engagement, harm reduction, hygiene services, case management, and housing navigation for people living unsheltered or in encampments. [HHAP-5 only]	

**Note:** Administrative costs (up to 7% of allocation) and HMIS system costs (up to 1%) are also eligible uses but are not included here as they are not subject to community prioritization.

**Sources:** HHAP Round 5 NOFA (Cal ICH, Sept. 2023) and HHAP Round 6 NOFA (HCD, Feb. 2025).



**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
Meeting Agenda**

March 18, 2026, 3 pm

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

Veterans Memorial Building  
801 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82333027287?pwd=5Y6d8pTlmtU2kYR6HkaPkyvLsDYY6b.1>

Or dial in:

+1 669 444 9171

Meeting ID: 823 3302 7287

Passcode: 910969

**Recusals will be required for the following item:**

**5.2.1 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

5.1.1. Action Item: Amending the HSOC Bylaws to create a process for the appointment of Vice Chairs for HSOC Standing Committees (10 minutes\*)

\*All times are approximate



- 5.1.1.1. Committee Questions
  - 5.1.1.2. Public Comment
  - 5.1.1.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4 - Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources
- 5.2.1. Action Item: Recommend funding allocations of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP)- Round 4 (\$464,470) to support Prevention and Shelter Diversion services (15 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: Vote to recommend a) the Homeless Housing, Assistance Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 5 (2<sup>nd</sup> Disbursement) funding priorities that were approved by the HSOC for the submission of the HHAP-5 application; b) the Homeless Housing, Assistance Prevention Program Round 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Disbursement) funding priorities that were approved by the HSOC for the submission of the HHAP-6 application; and c) Vote to recommend the 40% of the FY2025 State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding be prioritized for Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies and 60% for Operating Costs/ Supportive Services in existing interim shelters. (30 minutes\*)
    - 5.2.2.1. Committee Questions
    - 5.2.2.2. Public Comment
    - 5.2.2.3. Committee Discussion and Vote
- 5.3. Information Item: 2026 Homeless Point in Time Count Update (10 minutes\*)

\*All times are approximate



- 5.3.1. Committee Questions
- 5.3.2. Public Comment
- 5.3.3. Committee Discussion
- 5.4. Discussion Item: Committee Updates (12 minutes\*)
  - 5.4.1. Committee Questions
  - 5.4.2. Public Comment
  - 5.4.3. Committee Discussion
- 6. Future Discussion/Report Items, Updates and Requests for Information (3 minutes\*)
- 7. Next Regular Meeting: May 20, 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**

January 21, 2026

**Time**

1:05 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  
Bao Xiong  
Bill Luffee  
Brenda Mack  
Daniel Suttles  
Devon McQuade  
Jessica Thomas  
Frank Warren  
Jack Lahey  
Juanetta Perkins  
Jules Tuggle  
Kate Secrest  
Kathy McClenathen  
Kirsten Cahoon  
Linda Belch (alternate for Devin Drake)  
Luke Dunn  
Marcia Guthrie  
Marie Bolin  
Mark Lamore  
Michelle Pedigo  
Michelle Shoresman  
Raven Lopez  
Rick Gulino  
Rick Scott  
Sally Morrison (alternate for Hanan Azeem)  
Susan Funk  
Wendy Lewis

**Members Absent**

Chris Bausch

Jim Dantona  
Supervisor Jimmy Paulding  
Rosie Ojeda  
Susan Lamont  
Wendy Blacker

**Staff & Guests**

Ariana Long  
Ashlee Hernandez  
Chelsea Fredinburg  
Cindy McCown  
Damon Watkins  
Devon McQuade  
Erica Jaramillo  
Gabby Djuarna  
George Solis  
Heidi Marks  
Jeff Al-Mashat  
Jonathan Quake  
Kari Howell  
Kate Bourne  
Katlynn Beatty  
Kayla Wilburn  
Kimberlee Booth  
Lawren Ramos  
Laurel Weir  
Luke Payne  
Merlie Livermore  
Mirriam Vargas  
Ranel Porter  
Raye Fleming  
Star Graber

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson Michelle Shoresman called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM, and new attendees introduced themselves.

Since her HSOC term has expired, Star Graber introduced herself as a member of the public and announced her retirement as Director of the San Luis Obispo County Behavioral Health Department after 39 years of service

## **2. Recusals Notice**

Recusals were 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

## **3. Public Comments**

Kate Bourne, Systems Analyst at the Homeless Services Division, presented data from the reporting period 12/01/2025–1/21/2026, showing the inflow and outflow of households in the local homeless Continuum of Care, as recorded in the San Luis Obispo Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This includes entries and exits across all projects and providers. During this period, 96 new households (134 persons) were enrolled, and 121 households (202 persons) exited the system.

## **4. Consent: Approval of Minutes**

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

## **5. Action/Information/Discussion**

### **5.1. HSOC Administration**

#### **5.1.1. Action Item: HSOC Leadership Elections**

The recommended candidates left the room before Laurel presented the members standing for leadership positions.

It was requested that the Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC) approve the nominations of Michelle Shoresman as Chair, Kate Secrest as Vice Chair, Mark Lamore as Data & Performance Committee Chair, Jack Lahey as Coordinated Entry Committee Chair, Wendy Lewis as Services Coordinating Committee Chair, Brenda Mack as Lived Experience Representative, and Michelle Pedigo as Housing Authority Representative, and appoint them to the HSOC Executive Committee of the Homeless Services Oversight Council for Calendar Year 2026.

Susan Funk moved to approve the nomination, Bill Luffee seconded, and the motion passed on a roll call vote.

#### **5.1.2. Discussion Item: Amending the HSOC Bylaws to allow the appointment of Vice Chairs for HSOC Committees**

Laurel Weir opened the discussion by explaining the proposed amendment. The recommendation is to allow Committee Chairs the option of appointing Vice Chairs. Vice Chairs would lead committee meetings when the Chair is unavailable and assist with other committee responsibilities.

This proposal is supported by the Executive Committee, and County Counsel recommended amending the HSOC Bylaws accordingly. The amendment was presented to members today to gather feedback.

Members expressed full support for establishing Vice-Chair positions for committees, as endorsed by the Executive Committee. Members also noted that individuals serving as Vice-Chairs should demonstrate interest in cultivating leadership and must be members of the HSOC.

## **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**

After George Solis presented a summary of the funding allocations for the 2026 HUD Action Plan, members and alternates with a financial interest in any of the agencies recommended for funding were asked to leave the room.

Jessica Thomas moved to approve the recommendations, and Marcia Guthrie seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call 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**

After Laurel Weir provided background information, members and alternates representing agencies that were recipients of the Continuum of Care grants recused themselves. Devon McQuade moved to approve the motion, and Susan Funk seconded it. The motion passed by roll call 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**

CAPSLO representatives recused themselves. Marie Bolin moved to approve the provided Letter of Support, and Linda Belch seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

### **5.2.4. Information Item: Federal and State Grant Updates**

Laurel Weir provided a short update stating the Congress is currently working on appropriations bills, and to continue funding for the HUD CoC programs. More information should be available in the coming weeks.

**5.3. Information Item: 2026 Homeless Point in Time Count Update**

Kari Howell provided an overview of the upcoming Point-in-Time Count, scheduled for January 27. She reported that the volunteer recruitment goal has been exceeded, with 263 volunteers currently registered. She thanked members for sharing the opportunity with their families, friends, networks, and listservs, and for supporting the effort leading up to the event. She also outlined the data timeline that will follow the event.

**5.4. Information Item: Annual HSOC Listening Session in March**

Laurel Weir shared that the Listening Session is intended to review funding priorities and gather public input. She noted that a Doodle poll will be sent to determine the meeting time, either a morning or afternoon session. Members are encouraged to attend committee meetings to help develop goals. Feedback from the Listening Session will be brought back to the HSOC.

**5.5. Discussion Item: Committee Updates**

Mark Lamore reported that the Data & performance met yesterday and the primary focus of discussion was the upcoming Point-in-Time Count event.

Wendy Lewis shared that Services and Coordinating Committee had informational session regarding the upcoming changes to eligibility requirements in MediCal and CalFresh.

Jack Lahey reported that at the last meeting of the Coordinated Entry System Committee, members had an extensive discussion on Emergency Housing Vouchers. They are also reviewing prioritization referrals and Welcome Home Village matching guidance.

**5.6. Information Item: Updates from County Staff**

No reports were presented.

**6. Future Discussion, Report Items, Updates and Requests for Information**

No reports were submitted.

**7. Next Meeting:** March 18, 2026

**8. Adjournment**

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

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
ACTION ITEM  
March 18, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.2.1**

**ACTION ITEM:** Recommend funding allocations of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP)- Round 4 (\$464,470) to support Prevention and Shelter Diversion services.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

Vote to:

1. Recommend funding allocations of HHAP Program - Round 4 (\$464,470) to support Prevention and Shelter Diversion services.

**SUMMARY NARRATIVE:**

On January 20, 2026, the County released a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals for homeless prevention and shelter diversion services. The RFP was developed in alignment with funding priorities previously approved by HSOC. A total of five (5) applications were submitted, requesting \$813,319 in funding. However, \$464,470 in funding was available through HHAP-Round 4.

**HHAP-4**

The County of San Luis Obispo and the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care (CoC) were eligible to receive a total of \$3.7 million in HHAP funding through Round 4. These funds are disbursed in two phases, with the second disbursement contingent on meeting specific expenditure and obligation benchmarks. On July 16, 2025, the HSOC approved priorities for HHAP-4 (2<sup>nd</sup> disbursement) that align with the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness, including \$464,470 allocated for prevention and shelter diversion activities. On August 7, 2025, HHAP-4 priorities were included in the released August 2025 Request for Proposals, however, no applications were received for prevention and shelter diversion.

On November 19, 2025, HSOC approved staff's recommendation to release a new RFP to ensure these funds are distributed in alignment with HSOC's priorities. On January 20, 2026, a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) was released.

The objectives of the HHAP-4 Prevention and Shelter Diversion program are to assist households at risk of eviction through financial support and advocacy; provide comprehensive case management services to address underlying issues such as financial instability, mental health, substance use, and

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employment; support households with transitional assistance to re-stabilize and reconnect to permanent housing if eviction has occurred; and foster long-term housing stability through access to job training, literacy, and other life skills development.

A total of five (5) applications were received for HHAP-4 with a total request of \$813,319 (table 1).

**Table 1: HHAP-4 Applications Received**

<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
5Cities Homeless Coalition	South County Homeless Prevention	\$154,823
Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.	Prado Homeless Services Center	\$154,823
El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO)	ECHO Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing program	\$154,823
Family Care Network Inc.	Pathways to Stability: Homeless Prevention and Shelter Diversion for Transitional Age Youth	\$298,850
Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA)	TMHA Assistance & Stabilization Program	\$50,000
<b>Total Funding Request</b>		<b>\$813,319</b>

A list of all project application narratives is included in Exhibit A.

**GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE PROCESS**

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

Evaluations were scored on, but not limited to, the following criteria (table 2):

**Table 2: Selection Criteria**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Points Available</b>
<b>Performance Outcomes and Improved Capacity</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Applicant's Demonstrated Expertise and Understanding</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Understanding of scope of work</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Cost Effectiveness</b>	<b>10</b>

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<b>Project Feasibility</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Financial Feasibility and Long-Term Sustainability</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Alignment with the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Points Available Per Application</b>	<b>100</b>

Performance data for service related projects was provided from the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The Grant Review Committee considered several core performance indicators from the previous year:

- **Number of persons or households served in homelessness prevention programs**  
Reflects the overall scale and reach of homeless prevention services.
- **Percentage of exits to positive housing destinations**  
Measures the effectiveness in helping people or households transition to stable, positive housing destinations.

If an applicant had not previously been approved for a similar project in HMIS, their project design, financial and organizational capacity, and overall completeness of their application were weighed more heavily. No applicants shared client input in their application.

### **FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Grant Review Committee (GRC) recommended funding for 5Cities Homeless Coalition, El Camino Homeless Organization, and Family Care Network, Inc., through HHAP-4 (table 3).

The GRC took into consideration three main indicators from each application:

1. **Application Score** (quality of proposal),
2. **Exits to Positive Housing Destinations** (effectiveness), and
3. **Total Households to be served**, (capacity).

The GRC prioritized proposals that combined strong application scores with high exit rates, while recognizing capacity. In practice, applications with high scores and strong exit rates rose to the top; capacity confirmed those programs could translate strong practice into impact. These inputs led the GRC to fully fund the top two proposals: 5Cities Homeless Coalition and El Camino Homeless Organization. The remaining balance was allocated to the Transitional Age Youth (TAY)-only program Family Care Network, which had the highest application score.

**Note on population focus:** This recommendation explicitly acknowledges that FCN serves only TAY (a subset of the overall population). The GRC recommendation is to fully fund the top two

performers and then direct the remaining funding to the TAY-only program to ensure youth services are supported.

**Table 3: HHAP-4 Funding Recommendations**

Agency	Project Name	Application Score	Funding Requested	Funding Recommendation
Family Care Network, Inc.	Pathways to Stability: Homeless Prevention and Shelter Diversion for Transitional Age Youth	91.7	\$298,850	\$154,823
5Cities Homeless Coalition	South County Homeless Prevention	88.7	\$154,823	\$154,823
El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO)	ECHO Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing program	83.2	\$154,823	\$154,823
Transitions-Mental Health Association	TMHA Assistance & Stabilization Program	82.8	\$50,000	\$0
Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County	Prado Homeless Services Center	78.5	\$154,823	\$0
<b>Total Funding Recommendation</b>				<b>\$464,470</b>

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The HSOC recommendations for these funds will go to the Board of Supervisors (Board) as a consent agenda item in April 2026. This will have no financial impact on the HSOC. Should the Board approve the HSOC’s recommendations, it will result in approximately \$464,470 being made available for prevention and shelter diversion services through HHAP-4 funding.

These funding recommendations align with the priorities established by HSOC and the Board and support the implementation of the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness, specifically:

## Agenda Item 5.2.1

- Line of Effort 2: Focus efforts to reduce or eliminate barriers to housing stability for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including prevention, diversion, supportive services, and housing navigation.

### **STAFF COMMENTS:**

On March 19, 2025, HSOC hosted a public listening session to gather input on funding priorities and the Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness. The proposed funding recommendations for HHAP-4 align with the funding priorities identified from the HSOC Listening Session.

**EXHIBIT A**

**JANUARY 2026 RFP PROJECT APPLICATION NARRATIVES**

**HHAP-4**

**APPLICANT NAME:** 5Cities Homeless Coalition

**PROJECT NAME:** South County Homeless Prevention

**FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$ 154,823

**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 14 households (35 people) will receive assistance.

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**APPLICANT NAME:** Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.

**PROJECT NAME:** Prado Homeless Services Center

**FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$ 154,823

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The focus of this application is Prevention and Shelter Diversion activities and services at Prado Homeless Services Center (HSC), which is part of the existing Housing Stabilization & Prevention Case Management program. Homelessness Prevention services provides immediate financial assistance to eligible individuals and families to prevent them from falling into homelessness by avoiding eviction, or assist them out of homelessness and into stable housing with first month's rent and/or a security deposit, and targeted ongoing support based on individual needs to stabilize them in housing. Shelter Diversion involves problem-solving with an individual or family to determine an alternative to the shelter, which could be bus or train fare back to welcoming family or friends, or a repair to a vehicle to get them back on the road.

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**APPLICANT NAME:** El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO)

**PROJECT NAME:** ECHO Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program

**FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$ 154,823

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project will support eviction prevention services and will be used to prevent evictions, provide case management, rapidly reconnect residents to

housing, and foster long-term stability by providing comprehensive supportive services to North County and North Coast households at imminent risk of homelessness. Services will include rental assistance, case management, legal referrals, housing stabilization, crisis intervention, resource coordination, and program evaluation. At least 50 households will benefit from these services to stabilize housing.

Case managers at ECHO's two navigation centers, ECHO Atascadero and ECHO Paso Robles, will identify eligible clients in need of financial assistance that meet the Category 2 definition of "imminent risk of homelessness." They will then respond rapidly to prevent worsening situations and evictions or to reconnect households to permanent housing if eviction has already occurred. Case managers will provide comprehensive case management services alongside financial assistance, working with clients on their most critical needs to improve stability such as employment, benefits, health care, credit repair, and debt reduction.

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**APPLICANT NAME:** Family Care Network

**PROJECT NAME:** Pathways to Stability: Homelessness Prevention and Shelter Diversion for Transitional Age Youth

**FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$ 298,850

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Pathways to Stability project will provide eviction prevention and shelter diversion services for transitional age youth (ages 18–24) who are at imminent risk of homelessness and otherwise ineligible for existing housing programs. By intervening early, the project aims to prevent first-time homelessness and ensure that youth do not fall through the cracks at this critical stage of development.

The program will deliver rapid response to housing crises, including short-term financial support to resolve eviction-related arrears, landlord mediation, and intensive housing stabilization services to address underlying barriers to stability.

Intervention at this critical age is essential to reducing chronic homelessness and system involvement into adulthood. Without services, youth are at heightened risk for long-term negative outcomes including disengagement from education, employment and worsening health. This project prioritizes early, low-barrier intervention to interrupt that trajectory.

Projected outcomes include prevention of eviction, diversion from shelter entry, and housing stability upon exit. This project will support youth safety, prevent long-term consequences of early homelessness, and reduce reliance on crisis systems.

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**APPLICANT NAME:** Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA)

**PROJECT NAME:** TMHA Assistance & Stabilization Program

**FUNDING REQUESTED:** \$ 50,000

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** TMHA is requesting an HHAP grant of \$50,000. The proposed project will implement a Housing Assistance & Stabilization Program designed to prevent homelessness by providing short-term rental assistance and emergency security deposit assistance to households at imminent risk of eviction due to nonpayment of rent. The program will prioritize low-income households who would otherwise lose housing without immediate financial intervention.

The project anticipates serving approximately 40–50 households over the grant period. Participants will receive flexible financial assistance to resolve rental arrears, cover emergency security deposits when relocation is necessary to maintain housing stability and address immediate barriers to retaining or securing permanent housing. Financial assistance will be paired with housing stabilization services, including landlord engagement, tenancy support, and coordination with community resources to promote long-term housing retention.

By providing timely, targeted financial assistance and stabilization support, the project will help households remain housed and support San Luis Obispo County's broader efforts to prevent homelessness and reduce system inflow.

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**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
ACTION ITEM  
March 18, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5.2.2**

**ACTION ITEM: VOTE TO RECOMMEND FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR THE HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM ROUND 5 (2<sup>ND</sup> DISBURSEMENT) AND ROUND 6 (1<sup>ST</sup> DISBURSEMENT) AND FY2025 STATE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

1. Vote to recommend the Homeless Housing, Assistance Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 5 (2<sup>nd</sup> Disbursement) funding priorities that were approved for the submission of the HHAP-5 application:
  - a. Permanent Housing Solutions – 71%
    - i. Delivery of Permanent Housing and Innovative Housing Solutions – 41%
    - ii. Operating costs/ supportive services in Permanent Supportive Housing units (PSH)- 21%
    - iii. Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies – 9%
  - b. Interim Housing – 21%
    - i. Operating costs/ supportive services in existing interim shelters – 21%
2. Vote to recommend the Homeless Housing, Assistance Prevention Program Round 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Disbursement) funding priorities that were approved for the submission of the HHAP-6 application:
  - a. Permanent Housing Solutions – 31%
    - i. Capital for Permanent Supportive Housing that serves people experiencing homelessness, including development and renovation of Permanent Housing – 7%
    - ii. Supportive services and services coordination in Permanent Supportive Housing units (PSH) – 8%
    - iii. Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies – 15%
  - b. Interim Housing – 61%
    - i. Operating costs/ supportive services in existing interim shelters – 61%
3. Vote to recommend the FY2025 State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding be prioritized for:
  - a. Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies – 40%
  - b. Operating costs/ supportive services in existing interim shelters – 60%

**SUMMARY NARRATIVE:**

## **HHAP-5**

The State of California has established the HHAP-5 program pursuant to Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 50230) of Part 1 of Division 31 of the HSC. (Amended by Stats. 2023, Ch. 40, Sec 17 (AB 129) effective July 10, 2023). HHAP-5 provides flexible block grant funds to Continuums of Care, large cities (population of 300,000+) and counties to build on the regional coordination created through previous Cal ICH grant funding and support local jurisdictions in their unified regional responses to reduce and end homelessness.

The general purpose of the Program is to (1) reduce homelessness by expanding or developing local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges informed by a best-practices framework focused on moving homeless individuals and families into permanent housing and supporting the efforts of those individuals and families to maintain their permanent housing; and (2) continue to build on regional coordination developed through previous rounds of HHAP funding (see HSC section 50230 et seq.).

Under HHAP-5, the County of San Luis Obispo was eligible to receive \$2,113,584 and the San Luis Obispo County CoC was eligible to receive \$2,203,001.

On March 20, 2024, the HSOC voted to approve the HHAP-5 Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that were required for application submittal.

On October 17, 2024, the County received a HHAP-5 award in the amount of \$4,316,585.

HHAP-5 will also be provided in two disbursements. The initial disbursement was 50% of the total HHAP-5 base allocation. The remainder of the disbursement will be disbursed upon confirmation of having contractually obligated 75% AND expended 50% of the funds already received (the first disbursement) by June 30, 2026.

At least 10% of the total funds must be spent on homeless youth populations and no more than 7% of the total funds may be used by the County to administer the HHAP-5 program. 1% of the HHAP-5 allocation will be utilized by the County for the administration of HMIS.

\$2,242,628 of the 2nd disbursement of HHAP-5 is available for project applications.

### **State Priorities for HHAP-5**

Pursuant to HSC section 50236, HHAP-5 is intended to sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services. To achieve this, applicants shall develop data-driven plans which fund the state's priorities to:

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- Sustain existing investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services; and
- Prioritize permanent housing solutions.

### **HHAP-5 Eligible Uses**

While the eligible uses for HHAP-5 remain largely unchanged from previous rounds, the HHAP-5 statute reorganizes eligible uses into three main buckets:

- Costs that support permanent housing:
  - Delivery of permanent housing and innovative housing solutions when costs support the provision of permanent housing
  - Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies
  - Prevention and shelter diversion
  - Operating subsidies-permanent housing
- Costs that support interim housing:
  - Operating subsidies-interim housing
  - Interim Housing when costs support the provision of interim housing
  - Improvements to existing interim housing
- Costs that support service provision and systems support:
  - Street outreach, when costs support Outreach programs
  - Services coordination, when costs support wrap-around services not directly provided through another project
  - Systems support, when the cost supports homelessness services system infrastructure, regional coordination, and/or improves accessibility and outcomes generally, as opposed to specific client(s),

On March 20, 2024, the HSOC approved the following funding priorities for submittal of the HHAP-5 Application:

- Delivery of Permanent Housing and Innovative Housing Solutions
- Operating costs/ supportive services in existing interim shelters
- Operating costs/ supportive services in Permanent Supportive Housing units (PSH)
- Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies

### **HHAP-6**

HHAP-6 is a \$1 billion grant program authorized by Section 13 of AB 166 (Chapter 48, Statutes of 2024; Health & Safety Code (HSC) Section 50239, et seq.), which was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 2, 2024.

Under HHAP-6, the County of San Luis Obispo was eligible to receive \$1,340,780 and the San Luis Obispo County CoC was eligible to receive \$1,431,977 for a combined allocation of \$2,772,757.

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On July 16, 2025, the HSOC voted to approve the HHAP-6 Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that were required for application submittal.

On January 30, 2026, the County received a HHAP-6 award in the amount of \$2,772,757.

HHAP-6 will also be provided in two disbursements. The initial disbursement was 50% of the total HHAP-6 base allocation. The remainder of the disbursement will be disbursed upon confirmation of having contractually obligated 75% AND expended 50% of the funds already received (the first disbursement) by June 30, 2027.

At least 10% of the total funds must be spent on homeless youth populations and no more than 7% of the total funds may be used by the County to administer the HHAP-6 program. 1% of the HHAP-6 allocation will be utilized by the County for the administration of HMIS.

\$1,275,468 of the 1st disbursement is available for project applications.

### **State Priorities for HHAP-6**

Pursuant to HSC section 50243(a), HHAP-6 is intended to reflect the state's priorities to prevent and expeditiously reduce unsheltered homelessness through homelessness prevention activities and sustain existing interim housing solutions and permanent housing solutions, including long-term sustainability of permanent affordable housing.

### **HHAP-6 Eligible Uses**

- Permanent Housing Solutions that can prevent or serve those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including, but not limited to, persons experiencing homelessness coming from encampment sites:
  - Rapid rehousing/rental subsidies
  - Operating subsidies-permanent housing
  - Permanent housing services and services coordination
  - Capital for permanent housing that serves people experiencing homelessness, including conversion of underutilized buildings or existing interim or transitional housing into Permanent Housing.
- Homelessness Prevention Activities that can prevent or serve those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including, but not limited to, persons experiencing homelessness coming from encampment sites.
  - Prevention and diversion

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- Interim Housing Solutions that can prevent or serve those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including, but not limited to, persons experiencing homelessness coming from encampment sites.
  - Navigation Centers or other emergency shelters that are low barrier as defined in Sections 65660 and 65662 of the Government Code.
  - Motel/Hotel Vouchers for motels and hotels used as interim shelter for people experiencing homelessness, until they can be connected to Permanent Housing resources.
  - Operating expenses-interim housing, including interim housing services and services coordination, services provided to people in interim housing, so long as the services are trauma-informed and practice harm reduction. Improvements to existing interim housing
- Non-housing Solutions that can prevent or serve those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including, but not limited to, persons experiencing homelessness coming from encampment sites.
  - Services and services coordination for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

On July 16, 2025, the HSOC approved the following funding priorities for submittal of the HHAP-6 application:

- Capital for Permanent Supportive Housing
- Operating costs/ supportive services in existing interim shelters
- Operating costs/ supportive services in Permanent Supportive Housing units (PSH)
- Rapid Rehousing/ Rental Subsidies

### **FY2025 State ESG**

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) receives funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program and allocates funds to eligible Continuum of Care (CoC) service areas.

On December 31, 2024, HCD released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for FY2025 Emergency Solutions Grant funds for Continuums of Care and amended it on March 5, 2025. The San Luis Obispo County CoC was eligible for an allocation of \$189,765 in FY2025 ESG funding.

The HSOC has designated, and the State has approved, the County of San Luis Obispo to act as the Administrative Entity for the State ESG program funds in collaboration with the San Luis Obispo County CoC.

ESG funds may be used for five program components to address homelessness:

- Emergency Shelter
- Street Outreach

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- Homelessness Prevention
- Rapid Rehousing
- Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS)

The HCD NOFA requires that a minimum of 40% of the funds be used for Rapid Rehousing. A maximum of 10% may be used for Homelessness Prevention activities and will not be awarded as a standalone activity. Rental assistance payments provided as part of a Rapid Rehousing or Homeless Prevention activity under 24 C.F.R. § 576.106 cannot exceed HUD's Fair Market Rent (FMR) as provided under 24 C.F.R. Part 888 unless a waiver is granted by HUD and must comply with HUD's standard for rent reasonableness as established under 24 C.F.R. § 982.507. HCD will share 1% of federal funds for direct administrative costs.

### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Approval of this item would allow the County to solicit Requests for Proposals to allocate \$3.7 million to sustain operating costs / supportive services at existing interim shelters, to sustain operating costs / supportive services in existing Permanent Supportive Housing units (PSH), provide Capital for the development of Permanent Housing and Innovative Housing Solutions, that serves people experiencing homelessness, and provide rapid rehousing/ rental subsidies in support of the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness.

### **STAFF COMMENTS:**

The County will release a Request for Proposals for HHAP-5, HHAP-6, and FY2025 State ESG at the end of March. Staff will bring back funding recommendations to the HSOC at the May 2026 meeting. Final funding recommendations will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in June 2026.