



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE AGENDA
March 7, 2023 at 3pm
Residences at East Hills-Community Room
3345 Bernard St.
Bakersfield, CA 93306

RED ITEMS INDICATE ACTION REQUIRED. BLUE ITEMS INDICATE CARRY OVER ITEMS.

MEETING INFORMATION

BKRHC- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee
 Residences at East Hills-Community Room
 3345 Bernard St.
 Bakersfield, CA 93306

COMMITTEE CONTACT INFO

Chair: Vanessa Webster, CVAF – vanessa.webster@cavaf.org
Co-Chair: Mary Scott, BKRHC- mary.scott@bkrhc.org
Community Outreach Advisor: Will Triplett, ODN- wtriplett@opendoorhelps.org

AGENDA

Welcome – Vanessa Webster		
• Housekeeping		Vanessa Webster
• Introduction / call to order		Vanessa Webster
• Quorum – all COC voting organizations		Mary Scott
• Public comment for good of the order		Vanessa Webster
• Approval of agenda	ACTION	Vanessa Webster
Old Business		
• Approval of minutes from August-February meeting	ACTION	Vanessa Webster
• SMARTIE GOAL- Language Line Removing Equity Barrier Funding		Mary Scott
• SMARTIE GOAL- CoC University Reminder		Will Triplett
New Business		
• HHAP Racial Disparity Measurements		Nina Carter/Amanda Ruiz
Session 2 – Disclaimer/Inclusive Dialogue (30 minutes or longer, time permitting)		
Disclaimer presented on creating a safe space for having difficult conversations regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion topics.		
• Table Discussion for April Meeting		TBD

Next meeting: April 4, 2023 at 3pm, location TBD.

MEETING INFORMATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Tuesday, August 10, 2022 @ 3:00pm
1921 19th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301

COMMITTEE CONTACT INFO

Chair: Vanessa Williams, CVAF – vanessa.williams@cavaf.org
Co-Chair: Mary Scott, BHC/AAFVSA – mscott@bakhc.org
Community Outreach Advisor: Will Triplett– wtriplett@bakhc.org

MINUTES

Attendees: Vanessa Williams (CVAF), Mary Scott, Sabrina Heinze and Will Triplett (TODN), April Hernandez (GBLA), Yury Galvez (KCSOS), Karen Monsma (Flood) and Andy Miskiewicz (Bitwise)

Welcome – Vanessa Williams

- Housekeeping
- Introduction / call to order
 - Vanessa called the meeting to order at 3:12 pm.
- Quorum – all COC voting organizations
 - Quorum was met.
 - Motioned: Mary/second: Rosario, no discussion
- Approval of agenda
 - Motioned: Mary/second: Karen, no discussion
- Approval of Minutes
 - There was a correction made to the minutes for the misspelling of Gennessa name. Motioned: Karen/second: Mary, Andy abstain
- Public comment for good of the order
 - Vanessa – Informed the DEI participants that the Veteran Stand Down will be held on October 13th. Any Veteran needing assistance with homeless court can register now through October.

Old Business

- **SMARTIE GOAL-** CSH Speak Up! Leadership Course for Lived Experience
 - CSH Speak Up Lived Experience: Nationwide technical assistance partnered emphasis on lived experience Veteran, Chronic Homeless and Homeless Youth. There were three people identified Dre Watts, Andy Miskiewicz and Gennessa Fisher. April suggested that we identify alternate lived experience participants individuals as a backup.
 - Ethnic Media Nationwide Briefing interview was done for Bakersfield, California, Columbus, Ohio and Houston Texas for 3 Emerging Cities Ending Homelessness. Mary Scott was interviewed on a panel with fellow service providers from different states speaking about their journey to reduce homelessness on 7/25/22. The link was sent out to the DEI Committee to review.
 - **SMARTIE GOAL-** DEI Training Scheduled for September. Traco Matthews and Dr. Aliya Khizer are working on a curriculum that covers an array of topics into 4 sessions about Diversity Equity and Inclusion for the Committee and Collaborative Members.
 - **SMARTIE GOAL-** BKRHC Strategic Action Steering Committee are looking at the homeless response in Kern

County NOFO's and DEI coming down the pipe line. The City and County are involved in the HUD CoC Training. It was brought up that there is not a lived experience person in the executive team and will there be a lived experience candidate in the future. People in the community seeking shelter and how emergency beds are being updated in real time and how beds are distributed. April suggested there should be a multi-disciplinary team for the shelters handling the bed counts and Andy suggested that the bed counts should be updated daily and submitted to the collaborative for a real time bed count report, COVID-19 and monkey pox updates. There will be an action follow up for the suggestions.

- **BFZ Update-** Will presented the BFZ Indicators and he informed us that other states in the nation have stopped using the VI-SPDAT's due to biased questions in the ranking. **Shelters** are currently using triage assessments without racial biases to assess and rank clients for housing.

New Business

- None

Session 2

- Disclaimer presented on creating a brave space for having difficult conversations regarding racial equity.
- The DEI committee will use Session 2 to discuss various topics surround racial equity. There was no official topic for this month's meeting. The discussion outlined was the designation of shelter beds and lived experience assisting with the creation of shelter guidelines.

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Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 3:00 PM at The Open Door Network 1921 19th Street in the Group Room.

MEETING INFORMATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Tuesday, September 6, 2022 @ 3:00pm
The Open Door Network
1921 19th St.
Bakersfield, CA 93301

COMMITTEE CONTACT INFO

Chair: Vanessa Webster, CVAF – vanessa.webster@cavaf.org
Co-Chair: Mary Scott, ODN – msscott@opendoorhelps.org
Community Outreach Advisor: Will Triplett, ODN– wtriplett@opendoorhelps.org

MINUTES

Attendees: Vanessa Webster (CVAF), Mary Scott, Will Triplett, Jessica Maretich, Kat Gomez and Aubrey Alvarado (ODN), Yury Galvez (KCSOS), Brian Johnson (KCSOS) and Genessa Fisher (KCSOS) and Ryan R (AOUON)

Welcome – Vanessa Williams

- Housekeeping
- Introduction / call to order
 - Vanessa called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm.
- Quorum – all COC voting organizations
 - Quorum was not met.
 - Public Comment for the good:
 - Vanessa- CVAF will be hosting the Veteran Stand Down on October 13, 2022, vendors interested in participating can contact CVAF.
 - Will- Milestone will be hosting an outreach event with the Homeless Outreach Committee on September 15th from 9am to 1pm at the Union Ave site. Vendors are welcome to participate and the event is open to the community.

Old Business

- Approval of minutes from August meeting
 - Motioned: Quorum was not met Genessa and Bryan Abstained.
- **SMARTIE GOAL-** CSH Speak Up! Leadership Course Lived Experience
- Vanessa- The representation for the Leadership course is the City, County, TODN, Mission of Kern County, KBRHS, BKRHC and other reps from the collaborative from the executive teams. Michael Dobbs presented a presentation on the Measure N funds for the Task Force of Park Rangers who will be hired to clear the homeless people. DEI Committee was inquiring if there will be data done on the homeless population to capture age, gender, ethnicity and race to see who the homeless population is and where they will be relocated. Will there be a home based technical assistance for those the homeless who come encounter with the park rangers?
- **SMARTIE GOAL-** HUD/CoC DEI Training Update
 - Mary- the Homeless Collaborative will be hosting a BKRHC University Training in January. The Diversity Equity and Inclusion training will be a part of the training process facilitated by Dr. Aliya Valera and Traco Matthews.
 - **SMARTIE GOAL-** BKRHC Strategic Action Steering Committee Risk Ramos was not present to give an update will revisit.

New Business

- Shelter Bed Availability -
 - Will shared that he attended the BFZ Conference in Chicago last month. A couple communities in the nation stated that they are no longer using the VI-SPDAT due to it is racially bias and they are using other tools to prioritize the homeless population. Vanessa discussed that there were disparities found through a SWOT Analysis that CAPK administered for the CES. As a solution staff are encouraged to focus on motivational interviewing, putting bias to the side and being fair and only to all clients.
 - The DEI working group will work towards creating a community resource with additional services with focuses on DEI.
 - Ensure support for our Lived Experience Committee and encouraging more people to attend their meetings.

Session 2

- Disclaimer presented on creating a brave space for having difficult conversations regarding racial equity.
- The DEI committee will use Session 2 to discuss various topics surround racial equity. Questions were asked to staff about their thoughts on having lived experience people assist with the frame work of shelter policies and procedures to enhance the quality of service in the shelter setting and intake procedures. Staff agreed will be helpful and conversation flowed with ideas on how to incorporate their help.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm. Next meeting: Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 3:00 PM at The Open Door Network 1921 19th Street in the small conference room or via zoom TBA

MEETING INFORMATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Tuesday, November 1, 2022 @ 3:00pm
The Open Door Network
1921 19th St.
Bakersfield, CA 93301

COMMITTEE CONTACT INFO

Chair: Vanessa Williams, CVAF – vanessa.williams@cavaf.org
Co-Chair: Mary Scott, ODN – msscott@opendoorhelps.org
Community Outreach Advisor: Will Triplett, ODN – wtriplett@opendoorhelps.org

MINUTES

Attendees: Vanessa Webster (CVAF), Will Triplett (TODB), Ucedrah Osby (CI), April Hernandez (GBLA) and Leon Delouirl (CI)

Welcome – Vanessa Webster

- Housekeeping
- Introduction / call to order
 - Vanessa called the meeting to order at 3:16 pm.
- Quorum – all COC voting organizations
 - Quorum was not met.
 - Public Comment for the good:
 - Vanessa- Stated that 948 Baker St was doing a Thanksgiving Dinner on the 22nd of November from 10:00am-1:00pm
 - April- Stated there will be a youth event on December 10th. They are planning on serving 75 youths .

Old Business

- Approval of minutes from August, September & October meeting
 - Motioned: Quorum was not met.
- **SMARTIE GOAL**- CSH Speak Up! Leadership Course Lived Experience
- **SMARTIE GOAL**- HUD/CoC DEI Training Update
 - Mary- The Homeless Collaborative will be hosting a the BKRHC University Training in January. Everything is on track to start first class middle of January.
 - **SMARTIE GOAL**- BKRHC Strategic Action Steering Committee Risk Ramos was not present to give an update will revisit.

New Business

- Vanessa- Brought up the suggestion of having different agencies rotate with the driving to the SPEAK UP events.
 - Allyson informed the committee about Homeless Youth Month. Also Started there is a toy drive on the same.
- April- GBLA shared there has been much talk surrounding DEI and if it is being incorporated in agencies. Also mentions Maleeka Jiha CEO and co-founder of EMIC.
- Vanessa spoke about wanting to look into the youth BNL and the Veterans BNL for data.

Session 2

- Disclaimer presented on creating a brave space for having difficult conversations regarding racial equity.
- The DEI committee will use Session 2 to discuss various topics surround racial equity. Questions were asked to staff about their thoughts on having lived experience people assist with the frame work of shelter policies and procedures to enhance the quality of service in the shelter setting and intake procedures. Staff agreed will be Helpful and conversation flowed with ideas on how to incorporate their help.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm. Next meeting: Dark in December 2022. January 10th is the next meeting date and moved back due to the holidays.



MEETING INFORMATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Tuesday, January 10, 2023 @ 3:00pm
The Open Door Network
1921 19th St.
Bakersfield, CA 93301

COMMITTEE CONTACT INFO

Chair: Vanessa Webster, CVAF – vanessa.webster@cavaf.org
Co-Chair: Mary Scott, BKRHC- mary.scott@bkrhc.org
Community Outreach Advisor: Will Triplett, ODN– wtriplett@opendoorhelps.org

MINUTES

Attendees: Vanessa Webster (CVAF), Mary Scott (BKRHC), Will Triplett, Marc Casica, Enly Solis, Ilene Parra, Gina Jimenez and Yasmine Robles (TODN)

Welcome – Vanessa Webster

- Housekeeping
- Introduction / call to order
 - Vanessa called the meeting to order at 3:13 pm.
- Quorum – all COC voting organizations
 - Quorum was not met.
 - Public Comment for the good:
Enly- Human Trafficking Awareness month events: 1/10/23 Liberty Bell, Condors game benefitting Homan Trafficking awareness 1/14/23 hosted by DA Office, Wake up Fox Theater free movie event 1/17/23 at 6:00 pm, Anti-Human Trafficking Volley Ball Tournament 1/21/23, Light up the Night Free Event at the Gardens 1/25/23 and BJ's Restaurant 1/18/23 20% of the proceeds will go to the FJC.

Old Business

- Approval of minutes from August, September, October, November and December meeting tabled.
 - Motioned: Quorum was not met.
- **SMARTIE GOAL**- Language Line Removing Equity Barriers
- An email was sent to service provider to find out what services are being used the Deaf and hard of hearing and participants who do not speak English. BKRHC will see about providing financial support through removing barriers for organizations who do not have a system in place with contingency to apply for language assistance.
- **SMARTIE GOAL**- HUD/CoC DEI Training Update
 - Mary- The Homeless Collaborative will be hosting a the BKRHC University Training on January 19th. If you or anyone from your organization is interested in attending, please contact Steve Peterson at the Mission at Kern deadline to RSVP is 1/10/23.
 - **SMARTIE GOAL**- Vanessa will follow up with the HMIS Data Quality Committee. Race and ethnicity are tracked on a quarterly basis for prevention and homelessness for 95% of the clients served. Making adjustments for race is a topic that needs to be discussed based upon race.

New Business

- SWOT Analysis Review of Service Delivery to BIPOC and Rural Communities- The Homeless Outreach Team will start

administering the QRT process at all of their outreach events. These events are in Bakersfield and the rural communities. Daisy Torrez is the Chair of the HOC and she will start submitted QRT's to CAPK to ensure the BIPOC and Rural Communities are receiving homeless and prevention services. Enly informed the group that it should be suggested that outreach events are hosted and in collaboration with the churches in the BIPOC and rural communities due to there religion and the food bank that is ran by CAPK. DEI is currently in conversation to work collaboratively with Daisy to merge DEI and HOC to provide service to the rural and BIPOC Communities.

Session 2- Disclaimer/ Inclusive Dialogue (30 minutes longer or time permitting) Disclaimer presented on creating a brave space for having difficult conversations regarding diversity equity and inclusion.

- The DEI committee will use Session 2 to discuss various topics surround racial equity. Questions were asked to staff about their thoughts on having lived experience people assist with the framework of shelter policies and procedures to enhance the quality of service in the shelter setting and intake procedures. Staff agreed will be Helpful and conversation flowed with ideas on how to incorporate their help.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm. Next meeting: February 7th is the next meeting date, it was discussed to have meetings hosted at committee member's site.



RED ITEMS INDICATE ACTION REQUIRED. BLUE ITEMS INDICATE CARRY OVER ITEMS.

MEETING INFORMATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Tuesday, February 7, 2023 @ 3:00pm
The Open Door Network
1921 19th St.
Bakersfield, CA 93301

COMMITTEE CONTACT INFO

Chair: Vanessa Webster, CVAF – vanessa.webster@cavaf.org
Co-Chair: Mary Scott, BKRHC- mary.scott@bkrhc.org
Community Outreach Advisor: Will Triplett, ODN– wtriplett@opendoorhelps.org

MINUTES

Attendees: Mary Scott (BKRHC), Will Triplett (TODN), Marlene Ruiz (CAPK), Dee Slade (AANKC), Karen Monsma (Flood), Trisha Carter (AANKC).

Welcome – Mary Scott

- Housekeeping
- Introduction / call to order
 - Mary called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm.
- Quorum – all COC voting organizations
 - Quorum was **not met**.
 - Public Comment for the good:
 - Approval of agenda: Quorum not met.

Old Business

- Approval of minutes from August, September, October, November, December and January meeting tabled.
- Motioned: Quorum was not met.
- **SMARTIE GOAL-** Language Line Removing Equity Barriers
 - Mary inquired if any of the agencies are using the language line.
 - Mary explained the difference between language line options.
- **SMARTIE GOAL-** Racial Equity Data- Will spoke about the BFZ Race to Zero Reports needing to be submitted on time and consistently.
- **SMARTIE GOAL-** HUD/CoC DEI Training Update
 - Will spoke about the previous COC university presentation and the new date and shared there is room **for** more people

New Business

- SWOT Analysis Review- Mary shared key points about the recent SWOT analysis that was conducted.

Session 2- Disclaimer/ Inclusive Dialogue (30 minutes longer or time permitting) Disclaimer presented on creating a brave space for having difficult conversations regarding diversity equity and inclusion.

- Guest speaker Dee Slade presented about Black History month and some of the Black History around Kern County.
- Mrs. Slade spoke about the original name of Kern County and how the name Bakersfield came about.
- Mrs. Slade spoke about Colonel Baker and Mr. William Pickney.

- Mrs. Slade ended her presentation with brochures and her business cards.
- Mary inquired at the end of the meeting to the group about pet resources.

Helpful and conversation flowed with ideas on how to incorporate their help.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 3:48 pm. Next meeting: March 7th, 2023 is the next meeting date, it was discussed to have meetings hosted at various committee members' sites.



AB-799 Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program: Homelessness Accountability Act. (202

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Date Published: 02/13/2023 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2023–2024 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 799

**Introduced by Assembly Members Luz Rivas, Friedman, Ward, and Wilson
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Wendy Carrillo, Gabriel, Garcia, Kalra, and Schiavo)
(Coauthor: Senator Blakespear)**

February 13, 2023

An act to amend Sections 50216, 50217, and 50218.5 of, and to add Section 50224, 50224.1, 50224.2, 50224.3, 50224.4, and 50224.5 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to housing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 799, as introduced, Luz Rivas. Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program: Homelessness Accountability Act.

Existing law establishes the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program for the purpose of providing jurisdictions with one-time grant funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their 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. Existing law provides for the allocation of funding under the program among continuums of care, cities, and counties in 4 rounds, the first of which is administered by the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, and the others are administered by the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council.

This bill, the Homelessness Accountability Act, would instead specify that the purpose of the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program is to provide ongoing grant funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges informed by best-practices and to solve homelessness using evidence-based or, where no evidence exists, a data-informed and promising framework, as provided. The bill would require the council, in collaboration with eligible applicants and other stakeholders, to establish and update statewide goals based on data needed for solutions to homelessness and what is ambitious and achievable with state investment.

The bill would revise and recast various program requirements for moneys allocated under existing rounds, including that the council additionally maintain and make available to the public on its internet website each application or a summary of the application, a list of awards to subrecipients provided by each applicant receiving funds, and the specific uses of the grant funds, as specified. The bill would also require the council to provide technical support to any applicant who requests assistance in completing an application for funding under the program.

The bill would require the council, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to implement a 5th round of the program, and would specify additional program requirements for moneys appropriated in the 5th round of funding and for any moneys appropriated to the program thereafter. The bill would require an applicant to provide, among other things, local landscape data and analysis that assesses the current number of people experiencing homelessness and outcome goals that are specific, ambitious, achievable, and quantifiable to prevent and reduce homelessness from the date of the application through 3 years from the grant award. The bill would require the council to make specified allocations from the moneys appropriated, and would require additional moneys after those allocations to be set aside for awarding performance bonus funds and regional collaboration

bonus funds. The bill would require the council to determine whether a recipient of an allocation has met its outcome goals, and if a portion of the goals have not been met, would require the council to place the recipient on a corrective action plan. If, following the one-year corrective action plan, the recipient has not met specified benchmarks, the bill would require the remainder of the recipient's allocation for that grant cycle to be reallocated to an alternative recipient to provide services in that jurisdiction. The bill would require all program funds, including bonus funds, to be expended within 5 years of the grant agreement date. The bill would require recipients from the 5th round, and from any round thereafter, to submit a report to the council by January 1 of the year following receipt of the funds and annually thereafter, and would require the council to publicly report that information, as provided.

Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Homelessness Accountability Act.

SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(a) California has the largest number of residents experiencing homelessness, with over 171,000 people experiencing homelessness on a given night, almost 30 percent of the nation's number, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report.

(b) The vast majority of people experiencing homelessness in California are from California or lived in California for years before becoming homeless.

(c) A disproportionate number of Black and Indigenous Californians experience homelessness, and recent homeless data shows rapid rises of homelessness among Latinx Californians. Forty-five percent of Californians experiencing homelessness report a disabling condition.

(d) Homelessness is solvable with sustained investments in proven solutions and accountability in solving homelessness to the people of the State of California.

(e) Accountability in reducing homelessness and the number of Californians living unsheltered must begin with long-term state planning that sets state-level goals, along with collaboration between state, local, and federal entities in achieving those goals.

(f) The federal government has set a goal in their federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, published by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in December 2022, to reduce homelessness by 25 percent by 2025.

(g) In determining whether recipients are using money effectively, the state must achieve transparency in how recipients are spending state funding and progress toward achieving state goals, through both annual reporting and making data publicly available on state spending and outcomes achieved.

(h) To achieve true accountability, the state and recipients must ensure funding prioritizes evidence-based and data-informed solutions to homelessness, and that all uses of funds promote reductions in the number of Californians experiencing homelessness.

(i) Any recipient that is not achieving progress toward their share of advancing state goals should be given an opportunity to improve their homeless response, or lose their funds to another entity serving that jurisdiction's homeless population.

(j) Accountability must include ongoing funding for solutions to homelessness at a scale to meet the crisis, as it allows the state to hold local recipients accountable through withholding of future funding, builds capacity of local homeless response systems, and achieves greater efficiencies for both state and local agencies. Ongoing federal investment in rental subsidies and services has reduced homelessness among veterans by 55 percent over the last 12 years.

SEC. 3. Section 50216 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

50216. For purposes of this chapter:

(a) "Agency" means the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

(b) "Applicant" means a continuum of care, city, county, or tribe.

(c) "City" means a city or city and county that is legally incorporated to provide local government services to its population. A city can be organized either under the general laws of this state or under a charter adopted by the local voters.

(d) "Continuum of care" means the same as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development at Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(e) "~~Coordinated Entry System~~ *entry system*" means a centralized or coordinated process developed pursuant to Section 578.7 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as that section read on January 10, 2019, designed to coordinate homelessness program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referrals. In order to satisfy this subdivision, a centralized or coordinated assessment system shall cover the geographic area, be easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, be well advertised, and include a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.

(f) "Council" means the California Interagency Council on Homelessness, formerly known as the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council created pursuant to Section 8257 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(g) "Emergency shelter" has the same meaning as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 50801.

(h) "Harm-reduction" means a set of strategies, policies, and practices aimed at saving lives while improving the physical, mental and social well-being of people served, mitigating the negative social and physical consequences associated with various human behaviors, including, but not limited to, substance use, and not relying on punitive measures to gain program compliance.

~~(h)~~

(i) "Homeless" has the same meaning as defined in Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as that section read on January 10, 2019.

~~(i)~~

(j) "Homeless Management Information System" means the information system designated by a continuum of care to comply with federal reporting requirements as defined in Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The term "Homeless Management Information System" also includes the use of a comparable database by a victim services provider or legal services provider that is permitted by the federal government under Part 576 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

~~(j)~~

(k) (1) "Homeless point-in-time count" means the 2019 homeless point-in-time count pursuant to Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations. A jurisdiction may elect to instead use their 2017 point-in-time count if they can demonstrate that a significant methodology change occurred between the 2017 and 2019 point-in-time counts that was based on an attempt to more closely align the count with HUD best practices and undertaken in consultation with HUD representatives. A jurisdiction shall submit documentation of this to the agency by the date by which HUD's certification of the 2019 homeless point-in-time count is finalized. The agency shall review and approve or deny a request described in the previous sentence along with a jurisdiction's application for homeless funding.

(2) For purposes of round 4 of the program described in Section 50218.7, "homeless point-in-time count" means the most recent point-in-time count that requires a sheltered and unsheltered count pursuant to Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations completed by all applicants.

~~(k)~~

(l) "Homeless youth" means an unaccompanied youth between 12 and 24 years of age, inclusive, who is experiencing homelessness, as defined in subsection (2) of Section 725 of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11434a(2)). "Homeless youth" includes unaccompanied youth who are pregnant or parenting.

~~(l)~~

(m) "Housing First" has the same meaning as in Section 8255 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, including all of the core components listed therein.

~~(m)~~

(n) "Jurisdiction" means a city, city that is also a county, county, continuum of care, or tribe, as defined in this section.

~~(n)~~

(o) "Navigation center" means a Housing First, low-barrier, service-enriched shelter focused on moving homeless individuals and families into permanent housing that provides temporary living facilities while case managers connect individuals experiencing homelessness to income, public benefits, health services, shelter, and housing.

~~(o)~~

(p) "Program" means the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program established pursuant to this chapter.

(1) "Round 1" of the program means the funding allocated under the program with moneys appropriated during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2019.

(2) "Round 2" of the program means the funding allocated under the program with moneys appropriated during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2020.

(3) "Round 3" of the program means the funding allocated under the program with moneys appropriated during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2021.

(4) "Round 4" of the program means the funding allocated under the program with moneys appropriated during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2022.

(5)

(5) "Round 5" of the program means the funding allocated under the program with moneys appropriated during the during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023, and thereafter.

(q) "Program allocation" means the portion of program funds available to expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges.

(r)

(r) "Recipient" means a jurisdiction that receives funds from the council for the purposes of the program.

(s)

(s) "Tribe" or "tribal applicant" means a federally recognized tribal government pursuant to Section 4103 of Title 25 of the United States Code.

SEC. 4. Section 50217 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

50217. (a) The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program is hereby established for the purpose of providing jurisdictions with ~~one-time~~ *on-going* grant funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges informed by ~~a~~ best-practices *and to solve homelessness using evidence-based or, where no evidence exists, a data-informed and promising* 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.

(b) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the council shall distribute the following amounts in accordance with this chapter:

(1) For round 1 of the program, six hundred fifty million dollars (\$650,000,000) in the 2019–20 fiscal year.

(2) For round 2 of the program, three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) in the 2020–21 fiscal year.

(3) For round 3 of the program, one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) in the 2021–22 fiscal year.

(4) For round 4 of the program, one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) in the 2022–23 fiscal year.

(c) The council shall administer the program. The program shall provide grant funds to cities, counties, continuums of care, and tribes.

(d) The council's decision to approve or deny an application and the determination of the amount of funding to be provided shall be final.

(e) The council shall maintain and make available to the public on its internet website records of the following:

(1) The number of applications for program funding received by the ~~council~~ *council and each application or summary of each application*.

(2) The number of applications for program funding denied by the council.

(3) The name of each recipient of program funds.

(4) ~~Each~~ *A list of awards to subrecipients provided by each* applicant receiving funds pursuant to this ~~chapter shall provide a list of all awards to subrecipients.~~ *chapter.*

(5) *The specific uses of the grant funds and how much money each recipient will dedicate to each specific use.*

(5)

(6) Annual reports filed by recipients pursuant to ~~Sections 50221, 50222, and 50223.~~ *Section 50224.5.*

(f) In administering this chapter, the council shall not be subject to the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

SEC. 5. Section 50218.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

50218.5. (a) (1) With respect to the moneys made available pursuant to ~~this section,~~ *the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program,* it is the intent of the Legislature that:

(A) These moneys build on regional coordination developed through previous rounds of funding of the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 50210)), the program established under this chapter, and COVID-19 funding to reduce homelessness.

(B) These moneys continue to build regional collaboration between continuums of care, counties, and cities in a given region, regardless of population, and ultimately be used to develop a unified regional response to homelessness.

(C) These moneys be paired strategically with other local, state, and federal funds provided to address homelessness in order to achieve maximum impact.

(D) These moneys be deployed with the goal of reducing the number of homeless individuals in a given region through investing in long-term solutions, such as permanent housing, and that the state be an integral partner through the provision of technical assistance, sharing of best practices, and implementing an accountability framework to guide the structure of current and future state investments.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that additional state funds for homelessness, if provided in future budget years, increase permanent housing exits, further evidence-based solutions for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, consider outcomes from prior funding awards in making future allocations, and include strong accountability measures.

(b) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) of the funds administered pursuant to this chapter shall be available for implementing round 2 of the program, as follows:

(1) Ninety million dollars (\$90,000,000) of the funding available pursuant to this section shall be available for continuums of care. The council shall calculate these allocations to a continuum of care based on each continuum of care's proportionate share of the state's total homeless population, based on the 2019 homeless point-in-time count. The council shall award no more than 40 percent of the allocation made pursuant to this section and no less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to an applicant that is a continuum of care.

(2) One hundred thirty millions dollars (\$130,000,000) of the funding available pursuant to this section shall be available to each city, or city that is also a county, that has a population of 300,000 or more, as of January 1, 2020, according to data published on the Department of Finance's internet website. The council shall calculate the allocation to a city based on the city's proportionate share of the total homeless population of the region served by the continuum of care within which the city is located, based on the 2019 homeless point-in-time count. The agency shall not award more than 45 percent of the program allocation to a city. If more than one recipient within the continuum of care meets the requirements of this paragraph, the proportionate share of funds shall be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

(3) Eighty million dollars (\$80,000,000) of the funding available pursuant to this section shall be available to each county. The council shall calculate the allocation to a county based on the county's proportionate share of the total homeless population of the region served by the continuum of care within which the county is located, based on the 2019 homeless point-in-time count. The agency shall not award more than 40 percent of the allocation made pursuant to this section to a county.

(4) A city, city and county, single continuum of care, or county may apply jointly with a counterpart entity or entities.

(c) Program applicants applying for round 2 grant funds pursuant to this section shall comply with the requirements set forth in Section 50220.5.

(d) Of the amount made available pursuant to subdivision ~~(b)~~, (b), for round 2, 5 percent shall be set aside for the program administration, including state operations expenditures and technical assistance.

(e) A program recipient for round 2 shall not use funding from the program allocated under this section to supplant existing local funds for homeless housing, assistance, or prevention.

(f) A program recipient for round 2 shall use at least 8 percent of the funds allocated under this section for services for homeless youth populations.

(g) Moneys allocated pursuant to this ~~section~~ chapter shall be expended in compliance with ~~Housing First~~: *the core components of Housing First, as identified in Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 8255) of Division 8 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.*

SEC. 6. Section 50224 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

50224. (a) In collaboration with eligible applicants and other stakeholders, the council shall establish and update, at intervals the council deems appropriate and at least every three years, statewide goals based on data needed for solutions to homelessness and what is ambitious and achievable with state investment. The goals shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

- (1) Reducing the number of Californians experiencing homelessness.
- (2) Reducing the number of Californians who become homeless for the first time.
- (3) Increasing the number of Californians exiting homelessness into permanent housing.
- (4) Reducing the length of time Californians remain homeless.
- (5) Reducing the number of Californians who return to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing.

(6) Reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness living unsheltered and increasing the number of successful referrals into permanent housing from street outreach or interim settings.

(7) Eliminating racial, ethnic, nationality, and gender disparities in Californians experiencing homelessness, receiving services, and the outcomes of housing programs, services, or shelters intended to serve Californians experiencing homelessness.

(8) Specific reductions in the number of Californians leaving state-funded settings, including prisons, hospitals, and child welfare settings, to homelessness.

(9) Any other statewide goals the council sets.

(b) In setting outcome goals for grant applicants under this chapter, the council shall align or coordinate statewide goals with applicant goals as directed in Section 50224.2.

(c) The council shall compile and post on its internet website a statewide report that aggregates each applicant's outcome goals and measures progress toward the statewide set of metrics.

SEC. 7. Section 50224.1 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

50224.1. Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the council shall implement round 5, and any future rounds of the program, as follows:

(a) For up to and including the first one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000), not more than 70 percent, of the funding available in that round shall be available to applicants that are cities, counties, continuums of care, and tribes as follows:

(1) Twenty-eight percent of the funding available pursuant in that round shall be available for continuums of care. The council shall calculate these allocations to a continuum of care based on each continuum of care's proportionate share of the state's total homeless population, based on the homeless point-in-time count. The council shall award no less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to an applicant that is a continuum of care under this provision.

(2) Forty-two percent of the funding available in that round shall be available to cities, or a city that is also a county, that has a population of 300,000 or more, according to data published on the Department of Finance's internet website. The council shall calculate the allocation to a city based on the city's proportionate share of the total homeless population of the region served by the continuum of care within which the city is located, based on the homeless point-in-time count. If more than one recipient within the continuum of care meets the requirements of this paragraph, the proportionate share of funds shall be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

(3) Twenty-eight percent of the funding available in that round shall be available to each county. The council shall calculate the allocation to a county based on the county's proportionate share of the total homeless population of region served by the continuum of care within which the county is located, based on the homeless point-in-time count. The council shall award no less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to a single county.

(4) Two percent of the funding available in that round shall be available to all tribal applicants.

(b) For all funding over one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000), allocated in any single year as follows:

(1) Twenty-eight percent of the funding available in that round shall be available for continuums of care. The council shall calculate these allocations to a continuum of care based on each continuum of care's proportionate share of the state's total homeless population, based on the homeless point-in-time count. The council shall award no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to a continuum of care under this provision.

(2) Twenty-eight percent of the funding available in that round shall be available to cities, or a city that is also a county, that has a population of 300,000 or more, as of January 1, 2019, according to data published on the Department of Finance's internet website. The council shall calculate the allocation to a city based on the city's proportionate share of the total homeless population of the region served by the continuum of care within which the city is located, based on the homeless point-in-time count. If more than one recipient within the continuum of care meets the requirements of this paragraph, the proportionate share of funds shall be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

(3) Forty-two percent of the funding available in that round shall be available to counties. The council shall calculate the allocation to a county based on the county's proportionate share of the total homeless population of region served by the continuum of care within which the county is located, based on the homeless point-in-time count. The council shall award no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to a single county.

(4) Two percent of the funding available in that round shall be available to tribal applicants in California.

SEC. 8. Section 50224.2 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

50224.2. (a) (1) Of the amount remaining after funding allocations identified in Section 50224.1, additional allocations shall be set aside for awarding bonus funds pursuant to subdivision (b). Sixty-six percent of bonus funds shall be set aside for awarding performance bonus funds, and 34 percent of bonus funds shall be set aside for awarding regional collaboration bonus funds.

(2) The council shall determine bonus award allocations based on the proportionate share of the homeless population for each continuum of care, city, county, and tribal applicant based on the homeless point-in-time count, of each jurisdiction that is

eligible for bonus funding pursuant to subdivision (b) relative to the total homeless population of all jurisdictions eligible for bonus funding, and using other factors necessary, so that the award allocation is equitable and reasonable for the mix of jurisdictions eligible for bonus funding.

(3) The council shall report to the chairs of the relevant fiscal and policy committees of both houses of the Legislature on the methodology used to determine the allocation of bonus funding within 30 days of making a determination on funding allocations. A report required to be submitted pursuant to this subparagraph shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(4) The council shall set minimum performance goals for recipients, based on consultation with applicants, informed by Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) data, and in coordination with the statewide goals identified pursuant to Section 50224. Applicants shall identify goals in their applications pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 50224.3 that meet or exceed the minimum performance goals for recipients set by the council.

(5) In determining whether a recipient has met goals, the council shall consider factors outside of the recipient's control that may curtail the recipient's ability to meet and exceed performance goals, such as natural disasters or public health emergencies, changes in statewide or local market construction costs, or restrictions imposed by state and federal law.

(b) (1) (A) If, within three years of a grant agreement, a recipient has met a minimum of half of its performance goals, as approved by the council, in the recipient's application pursuant to Section 50224.3, that recipient shall be eligible for bonus funding in proportion to the number of goals met.

(B) The council shall determine whether a recipient has met its outcome goals, as approved by the council in the recipient's application pursuant to Section 50224.3. The council shall award bonus funding pursuant to this section as soon as data becomes available, but no later than three months after the recipient's deadline.

(C) If a recipient has failed to meet half of its goals following the three-year grant period, the council shall place the recipient on a one-year corrective action plan.

(D) The corrective action plan shall be developed by the council and shall contain benchmarks for system improvements for a recipient to meet in order to adhere to the terms of the corrective action plan.

(E) If, following the one-year corrective action plan, the recipient has not met the benchmarks detailed by the council in the corrective action plan, the remainder of the recipient's award for that grant cycle shall be reallocated to an alternative recipient to provide services in that jurisdiction. The alternative recipient shall be an existing recipient which has overlapping jurisdiction with the primary recipient.

(F) The council shall develop a requalification eligibility process for recipients that have had funding reallocated. The requalification process shall detail benchmarks for further system improvement for a recipient to meet in order to regain eligibility for funding for the next grant cycle.

(G) The recipient must meet benchmarks of the requalification process over a two-year span to regain eligibility for funding in a subsequent cycle. If a recipient fails to meet these benchmarks, funding shall continue to be allocated to alternative recipients that provide services within the same jurisdiction.

(2) The council may provide exceptions to the requirement to meet performance goals pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) if the recipient demonstrates hardship by a disaster for which a state of emergency is proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(c) (1) Thirty-four percent of bonus funds shall be awarded as regional collaboration bonus funds, available to recipients that demonstrate plans for strong collaboration with other recipients with overlapping jurisdictions.

(2) (A) The council shall develop a methodology for determining differing levels of regional collaboration, and award regional collaboration bonus funding in proportion to the level of collaboration demonstrated.

(B) Types of regional collaboration may include, but are not limited to, agreements between cities and counties detailing clear and complementary roles for different recipients to provide capital funding, services, and rental assistance funding at individual sites, joint collaborative efforts to increase pay, benefits, and other efforts to strengthen the homeless services workforce, and other forms of collaboration, as specified by the council.

(3) Regional collaboration bonus funding shall be made available to recipients the council deems eligible at the beginning of the three-year grant agreement at the same time of the initial award.

(4) Any portion of regional collaboration bonus funding that is not awarded in the beginning of the grant period shall be reallocated to the pot of performance bonus funding.

(d) All program funds, including bonus funds, shall be expended within five years of the grant agreement date.

SEC. 9. Section 50224.3 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

50224.3. (a) (1) To receive a program allocation, an applicant shall submit an application to the council every three years. The council shall make an application for allocations for round 5 and future round program allocations available no later than December 31 of each application year.

(2) If an eligible applicant fails to apply for available grant funds during the first year of a grant cycle, it may apply by September 30 of the following year and be awarded a smaller amount of funds, so long as the applicant meets the requirements of this and subsequent sections.

(3) Applications shall be due to the council no later than 60 days from the date the council makes applications available pursuant to paragraph (1).

(4) Within 30 days of receiving an application pursuant to paragraph (3), the council shall either approve the application or return it to the applicant with written, detailed comments and request one or more of the following specific amendments to the application:

(A) Greater detail on any aspect of the application so that the council can ensure fidelity with the applicant's proposed use of funds and stated performance goals.

(B) Modifications or provision of additional information on the applicant's proposed funding plan to ensure alignment with evidence-based solutions to reduce homelessness.

(C) Any other modifications or provision of information that would allow the council to better monitor and evaluate the applicant's ability to meet objective performance standards in accordance with Section 50224.5.

(5) (A) An applicant whose application has been returned pursuant to paragraph (4) shall respond to the council's requested amendments and submit a revised application within 30 days. Where the revised application differs from the council's requests, the applicant shall include an explanation of the differences and the rationale for departing from the council's requested amendments.

(B) The council shall have 30 days within which to approve the application if, as amended, it addressed the council's concerns, or to provide the recipient with additional guidance and a deadline for further amending to fully address the council's concerns.

(b) A complete application submitted pursuant to this section shall provide the following information, in the form and manner prescribed by the council:

(1) A plan that includes the following:

(A) Local landscape data and analysis that assesses the current number of people experiencing homelessness, using any relevant and available data from the Homeless Data Integration System, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's homeless point-in-time count, continuum of care housing inventory count, longitudinal systems analysis, and Stella tools, as well as any recently conducted local needs assessments.

(B) Demographic subpopulations that are underserved relative to their proportion of individuals experiencing homelessness in the jurisdiction, consistent with data submitted in reports required under Section 50224.5.

(C) (i) New outcome goals that are specific, ambitious, achievable, and quantifiable to prevent and reduce homelessness from the date of the application through three years from the grant award, informed by the findings from the local landscape analysis described in subparagraph (A) and how the applicant's goals contribute to the state goals identified in Section 50224 of this chapter. The outcome goals shall be based on the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's System Performance Measures plus metrics on reducing racial and ethnic disparities, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(I) Reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness.

(II) Reducing the number of persons who become homeless for the first time.

(III) Increasing the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.

(IV) Reducing the length of time persons remain homeless.

(V) Reducing the number of persons who return to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing.

(VI) Reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness living unsheltered and increasing the number of successful referrals into permanent housing from street outreach and interim housing.

(VII) Eliminating racial, ethnic, nationality, and gender disparities in Californians experiencing homelessness, receiving services, and the outcomes of housing, services, or shelter intended to serve Californians experiencing homelessness.

(VIII) Reducing racial disparities among the number of persons who become homeless for the first time.

(IX) Reducing racial disparities among the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.

(X) Reducing racial disparities among length of time people remain homeless.

(XI) Reducing racial disparities among the returns to homelessness of people who have exited homelessness to permanent housing.

(XII) Reducing racial disparities among the number of successful permanent housing placements from street outreach.

(ii) A plan to use Homeless Management Information System trackable data goals related to the outcome goals listed above as they apply to underserved populations and populations disproportionately impacted by homelessness.

(iii) Each applicant shall determine its outcome goals that build upon prior allocation goals in consultation with the council, and shall not submit its final outcome goals before consulting with the council.

(iv) The council shall assess outcome goals in the application based on the information provided in the plan to use program funds, and the applicant's baseline data on the performance metrics described in this paragraph and determine whether the outcome goals adequately further the objectives of reducing and preventing homelessness pursuant to this paragraph and the state goals developed pursuant to Section 50224. The council may request additional documentation, information, or revisions to the outcome goals.

(v) Initial outcome goals should be met no later than three years after the grant award, and outcome goals shall be updated regularly, as funding continues.

(2) A narrative that includes all of the following:

(A) An outline of proposed uses of funds requested and an explanation of how the proposed use of funds will complement existing local, state, and federal funds and equitably allow people to exit homelessness as quickly as possible.

(B) A description of specific actions the applicant will take to address racial, ethnic, and gender disparities in the applicant's local homeless response system and meet outcome goals related to racial equity, including, but not limited to:

(i) Specific actions to eliminate disparities in service delivery, housing referrals and placements, and housing retention outcomes.

(ii) Planned changes to procurement, contracting, or local administrative procedures to ensure subgrantees with cultural competency in serving racial and ethnic groups that are overrepresented among residents experiencing homelessness have equitable access to funding opportunities.

(iii) Planned changes to hiring practices for frontline, administrative, middle management, and senior management staff at both recipient and subrecipient organizations to ensure that the homeless services workforce is reflective of the population it is serving, and skills and experience such as lived experience of homelessness is adequately valued and compensated in hiring for key positions.

(iv) Planned changes for recipient and subrecipient organizations to conduct pay equity audits to determine pay equity by race, gender, ethnicity, and other factors.

(v) Efforts to evaluate assessment tools such as the Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance (VI-SPDAT) or other tools to replace the VI-SPDAT.

(vi) Planned changes to center people with lived experience of homelessness in policymaking, program design, and implementation, with description of how these individuals are compensated for their efforts, and how recipients ensure work with these individuals is conducted in a trauma-informed manner.

(C) A demonstration of how the jurisdiction has coordinated, and will continue to coordinate, with other jurisdictions, including the specific role of each applicant in relation to other applicants in the region. Applicants seeking regional collaboration bonus funding shall demonstrate ways in which the applicants intend to seek additional collaboration during the upcoming grant period.

(D) An explanation of how people will receive referrals to housing or interim housing through the local homeless coordinated entry system.

(E) An agreement to participate in a statewide Homeless Data Integration System, and to enter individuals served by this funding into the local Homeless Management Information System, in accordance with local protocols.

(F) A demonstration of the applicant's partnership with, or plans to use funding to increase partnership with people with lived experiences of homelessness, and how people with lived experience of homelessness are incorporated into policymaking, program design, and program implementation.

(G) A demonstration of how the applicant received public input on its expenditure plans to meet its performance goals, and how input was solicited from people with lived experience of homelessness, homeless services providers, advocates, community-based organizations that work with people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, and other members of the public.

(H) A description of how the applicant will make progress in preventing exits to homelessness from institutional settings, including plans to leverage funding from mainstream systems for evidence-based housing and housing-based solutions to homelessness.

(I) Specific and quantifiable system improvements that the applicant will take to improve the delivery of housing and services to people experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness, including the following:

(i) Capacity building and workforce development for service providers within the jurisdiction, including removing barriers to contracting with culturally specific service providers, removing hiring barriers for people with lived experience and criminal record barriers to employment, conducting pay equity audits to ensure equitable compensation across race and gender, and training and technical assistance for provider staff to provide services that are trauma-informed and culturally specific.

(ii) Strengthening the data quality of the recipient's Homeless Management Information System.

(iii) Increasing capacity for pooling and aligning housing and services funding from existing, mainstream, and new funding.

(iv) Improving homeless point-in-time counts.

(v) Improving coordinated entry systems to eliminate racial bias or to create youth-specific or justice-system coordinated entry systems.

(J) Strategies to meet outcome goals.

(3) For city, county, and continuum of care applicants, an application pursuant to this subdivision shall be placed on the agenda at a regular meeting by the governing body, including receiving public comment, before being submitted to the council.

(c) The council may request additional documentation and information from the applicant during consultation.

(d) (1) Within 30 days of receiving the final applications pursuant to subdivision (b), the council shall either approve the application and issue the notice of award to disburse 50 percent of an applicant's funding or return it to the applicant with written, detailed comments and request one or more of the following specific amendments to the application:

(A) Greater detail on any aspect of the application so that the council can ensure fidelity with the applicant's proposed use of funds and agreed upon measurable outcome goals.

(B) Modifications or provision of additional information on the applicant's proposed funding plan to ensure alignment with the applicant's stated measurable outcome goals and with evidence-based solutions to reduce homelessness.

(C) Any other modifications or provision of information that would allow the council to better monitor and evaluate the applicant's ability to meet objective outcome standards.

(2) Upon approval of an application pursuant to this section, the council shall disburse 50 percent of an eligible city's, county's, continuum of care's, or tribal applicant's total allocation.

(e) A recipient of funding shall expend funds on the following evidence-based solutions that solve and prevent homelessness:

(1) Permanent housing, to include any of the following:

(A) Rental subsidies.

(B) Landlord incentives, such as security deposits, holding fees, funding for needed repairs, and recruitment and relationship management costs.

(C) Move-in expenses.

(D) Operating subsidies in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units serving people experiencing homelessness. Operating subsidies may include operating reserves.

(E) Homelessness prevention through rental assistance, rapid-rehousing, and other programs, so long as they prioritize households with incomes at or below 30 percent of the area median income, who pay more than 50 percent of their income in housing costs, and who meet criteria for being at highest risk of homelessness through data-informed criteria adopted by the council.

(F) Problem-solving and diversion support programs that prevent people at risk of or recently experiencing homelessness from entering unsheltered or sheltered homelessness.

(G) Services for people in permanent housing, so long as the services are trauma-informed and practice harm reduction, to include intensive case management services, assertive community treatment services, critical time intervention services, other tenancy support services, evidence-based employment services, coordinating mental health, substance use, and primary care treatment, or other evidence-based supportive services to increase housing retention.

(H) Capital for permanent housing that serves people experiencing homelessness, including conversion of underutilized buildings or existing interim or transitional housing into permanent housing.

(2) Interim housing or navigation centers that are low barrier, as defined in Sections 65660 and 65662 of the Government Code, to include any of the following:

- (A) Operating expenses in existing congregate shelter sites.
- (B) Operating expenses in new or existing noncongregate shelter sites and transitional housing for youth.
- (C) Motel or hotel vouchers.
- (D) Services provided to people in interim housing, to include trauma-informed and evidence-based intensive case management services, housing navigation, connecting people to substance use or mental health treatment, public benefits advocacy, and other supportive services to promote stability and referral into permanent housing.
- (E) Capital funding to build new noncongregate shelter sites, including for construction, rehabilitation, and capital improvements to convert existing congregate sites into noncongregate sites.
- (F) Capital funding for clinically enhanced congregate or noncongregate shelter sites.
- (G) Youth-focused services in transitional housing.

(3) Services for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including street outreach and evidence-based engagement services, intensive case management services, assertive community treatment, housing navigation, harm reduction services, coordination with street-based health care services, and hygiene services for people living in encampments and unsheltered individuals.

(4) Systems support for activities necessary to create regional partnerships and build capacity in local homeless services and housing delivery systems, including all of the following:

- (A) Building and fostering regional partnerships among cities, counties, continuums of care, and tribal governments.
- (B) Creating partnerships and collaborative protocols with health care, behavioral health, criminal justice, child welfare, and social service systems to prevent people from exiting those systems into homelessness.
- (C) Developing and maintaining the Homelessness Management Information System and coordinated entry system infrastructure, including integration efforts with other complementary public information systems and efforts to address racial equity gaps in assessments and housing referrals in coordinated entry systems.
- (D) Conducting reviews of service provider contracts to evaluate existing payment rates and determine full costs of service provision.
- (E) Training and capacity-building for service providers and partner agencies.
- (F) Growing and retaining the homeless services sector workforce, including pay increases, retention and hiring bonuses, employee benefits, professional development training, sectoral workforce planning, and establishment of career pathways to promote employment in homeless response workforce, including strategies specific to support people with lived experience of homelessness.
- (G) Resources to advance racial equity in local homeless response systems, including, but not limited to, training and technical assistance to conduct and implement racial equity impact assessments of current programs, policies, and procedures, payment to people with lived expertise of homelessness to advise on system policies and program design, and changes to procurement and contracting to ensure inclusion of culturally responsive neighborhood-based organizations that are led by and serve people from the demographic groups most impacted by homelessness.

(f) (1) In funding interventions eligible under subdivision (e), a grant recipient must match any funding for interim housing beds with funding for permanent housing interventions, ensuring that the recipient is creating at least three permanent housing interventions for each one interim housing intervention funded under this chapter.

(2) The council shall ensure all applicants use program funds to create three permanent housing interventions for every interim intervention. A recipient may show locally generated funding dedicated to eligible permanent housing interventions to meet all or a portion of the permanent housing slots necessary to meet the ratio of three permanent housing interventions for each one interim housing intervention. Any locally generated funding dedicated to eligible permanent housing interventions that is being utilized to meet the ratio must be allocated to a permanent housing intervention in that calendar year and must be specific to meeting the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

(g) (1) The applicant shall not use more than 10 percent of program allocation for administrative costs incurred by the city, county, continuum of care, or tribal recipient to administer its program allocation. For purposes of this subdivision, "administrative costs" does not include staff or other costs directly related to implementing activities funded by the program allocation and does not include administrative costs incurred by subrecipients.

(2) The council shall provide guidance to recipients on adequate administrative and program support for subrecipients.

(h) Notwithstanding Section 27011 of the Government Code, or any other statute governing the deposit of funds in the county treasury, a county may accept or deposit into the county treasury, funds from any source for the purpose of administering a

project, proposal, or program under this chapter.

(i) For purposes of Section 1090 of the Government Code, a representative of a county serving on a board, committee, or body with the primary purpose of administering funds or making funding recommendations for applications pursuant to this chapter shall have no financial interest in any contract, program, or project voted on by the board, committee, or body on the basis of the receipt of compensation for holding public office or public employment as a representative of the county.

(j) The council shall post submitted final, approved applications on its internet website within 30 days of disbursement to applicants.

(k) (1) A recipient shall contractually obligate at least 75 percent, and shall expend at least 50 percent, of the initial program allocations no later than three years from the date of the grant award letter.

(2) Upon a recipient city's, county's, continuum of care's, or tribal recipient's demonstration that it has complied with contractually obligating and expending initial program allocations, pursuant to paragraph (1), the council shall disburse to that recipient the remaining 50 percent of its total allocation, pursuant to Section 50224.2.

(3) If a recipient has obligated less than 75 percent of a recipient's initial program allocation, or has expended less than 50 percent of that amount within the time period pursuant to paragraph (1), the recipient shall not contractually obligate or expend any remaining portion of its initial program allocations, and the council shall not allocate to the recipient the remaining 50 percent of its total allocation, unless both of the following occur:

(A) On or before the deadline in paragraph (1), the recipient submits an alternative disbursement plan that includes an explanation for the delay.

(B) The council approves the alternative disbursement plan submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A).

(4) On or before four years following the date of the grant award letter, a recipient shall return to the council any funds that have not been expended pursuant to an alternative disbursement plan approved pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3), to be allocated as bonus awards by the council to eligible recipients in accordance with Section 50224.2.

(5) Recipients that do not meet the requirements of paragraph (1) shall not be eligible for performance bonus funding awarded pursuant to Section 50224.2.

(l) (1) No later than three years after the grant award letter, recipients shall demonstrate whether they have successfully met their outcome goals.

(2) Jurisdictions that meet their outcome goals shall be eligible for performance bonus funding, as provided in Section 50224.2.

(3) Jurisdictions that have not met 50 percent of their outcome goals shall not be eligible for performance bonus funding and shall accept technical assistance from council staff. Additionally, jurisdictions that have not met their outcome goals may also be required to limit the allowable uses of these program funds, as determined by the council.

(m) The council may request additional information from applicants, as needed, to meet other applicable reporting or audit requirements.

(n) In addition to requirements in Section 50224.5, the council may monitor the expenditures and programmatic activities of an applicant, as the council deems necessary, to ensure compliance with program requirements and adequate progress towards meeting outcome goals.

(o) The council may, as it deems appropriate or necessary, request the repayment of program funds from a grant recipient, or pursue any other remedies available to it by law, for failure to comply with program requirements.

(p) Any remaining amounts of program allocation funds, including bonus funds, not expended within five years of the grant award letter shall revert to, and be paid and deposited in, the bonus fund.

(q) (1) A city or cities, city and county, single or multiple continuums of care, county or multiple counties, or tribal applicant may apply jointly with a counterpart entity or entities across a region and may be eligible for regional collaboration bonus funding, pursuant to Section 50224.2.

(2) A joint application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall include, at minimum, evidence of collaboration between the jointly applying applicants and an explanation of how the jointly applying applicants will administer the funds allocated to them pursuant to this section, and meet the joint outcome goals stated in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

SEC. 10. Section 50224.4 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

50224.4. The council shall provide technical assistance to any applicant who requests assistance in completing an application. Technical assistance should include the following, upon informal request by an applicant:

(a) Assisting applicants with coordination with other potential applicants.

(b) Completing any portion of the application.

(c) Capacity building and workforce development for service providers within the jurisdiction.

(d) Using funding to reform housing models to Housing First programs and evidence-based services for people experiencing homelessness.

(e) Advancing racial equity through changes to hiring practices, contracting, coordination between entities that interact with people that are at risk of or experiencing homelessness, or other changes.

SEC. 11. Section 50224.5 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

50224.5. (a) After receiving program funds from rounds 5 and thereafter, a recipient, by January 1 of the year following receipt of the funds and annually on that date thereafter until all funds have been expended, shall submit a report to the council in a form and manner provided by the council, through a data collection, reporting, performance monitoring, and accountability framework, as established by the council, that includes all of the following, as well as any additional information the council deems appropriate and necessary:

(1) Information regarding individuals and families served, including demographic information.

(2) Specific expenditures for each eligible use the recipient funded and the number of people or households receiving each funded eligible activity.

(3) Outcome data, to the extent it is available, among participants by each of the eligible uses funded through this chapter by race and ethnicity, including all of the following:

(A) The number of participants who returned to homelessness.

(B) The number of participants admitted to institutional settings.

(C) The number of participants who exited homelessness to permanent housing.

(D) The number of participants who died after participating.

(4) Progress in regional collaboration among recipients.

(5) Progress in meeting specific metrics or outcomes, including all of the following:

(A) The number of individual exits to permanent housing, as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, from unsheltered environments and interim housing resulting from this funding.

(B) Racial equity outcomes the council and recipients identified in their applications.

(C) Changes made to local policy, procedures, or technical assistance offered to enhance equity and capacity of the local homeless response system, including data reporting the number of subrecipients that are led by people with lived experience at the executive level and the number of subrecipients for whom at least 25 percent of their workforce are people with lived experience.

(D) Any other metrics the council deems appropriate.

(b) If the recipient has not made sufficient progress toward meeting 50 percent of their outcome goals, the recipient shall do all of the following:

(1) Submit in the report a description of barriers and possible solutions to those barriers.

(2) Collaborate with the council to receive technical assistance to address the barriers to meeting the outcome goals.

(3) Accept limitations in the types of eligible uses for program funds, as the council deems appropriate.

(4) Report on progress on their outcome goals in their reports.

(c) Recipients shall submit to the council an annual fiscal report of program funds expended and obligated in each allowable budget category approved in their application for program funds.

(d) Data collection and reporting requirements shall support the efficient and effective administration of the program and enable the monitoring of jurisdiction performance and program outcomes.

(e) The council shall report publicly to the Senate Budget Committee, Assembly Budget Committee, Senate Housing Committee, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, and other appropriate Committees on performance goals that have been set at the beginning of the grant period, as well as at the conclusion of three years, and provide information on which recipients have met their performance goals, and which recipients have been placed in corrective action plans. At the conclusion of the year following the three-year cycle, the council shall report to these committees and publicly on their internet website on which recipients successfully completed their corrective action plans and which recipients' funding is being reallocated.

(f) No later than six years after the award grant for recipients of round 5 and later rounds, each recipient or regional joint recipients shall submit to the council a final report in a format provided by the council, and detailed uses of all program funds.

(g) The council shall post reported annual information on its internet website within 30 days of receipt and provide notice to the Senate Budget Committee, Assembly Budget Committee, Senate Housing Committee, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, and other appropriate Committees.

(h) Data collection and data sharing pursuant to this chapter shall be conducted and maintained in accordance with all applicable state and federal privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations.

(i) The client information and records of services provided pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to the requirements of Section 10850 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and shall be exempt from inspection under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code).

(j) Notwithstanding any other law, recipients shall capture data through Homeless Management Information System data standards set forth by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and by any other means specified by the council, and may be shared with other programs to maximize the efficient and effective provision of public benefits and services, and to evaluate this chapter or its impact on other public benefit and services programs.

SEC. 12. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation that would dedicate ongoing funding to pay for the costs of meeting state goals identified in this act.

SEC. 13. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 11 of this act, which adds Section 50224.5 to the Health and Safety Code, imposes a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

In order to protect the privacy of individuals' information, it is necessary to hold any data elements collected in reporting requirements pursuant to Section 50224.5 of the Health and Safety Code confidential.