

**BAKERSFIELD/KERN COUNTY (COC CA-604)'S YOUTH HOMELESSNESS  
DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM (YHDP) COORDINATED COMMUNITY PLAN (CCP)  
FOR ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS**

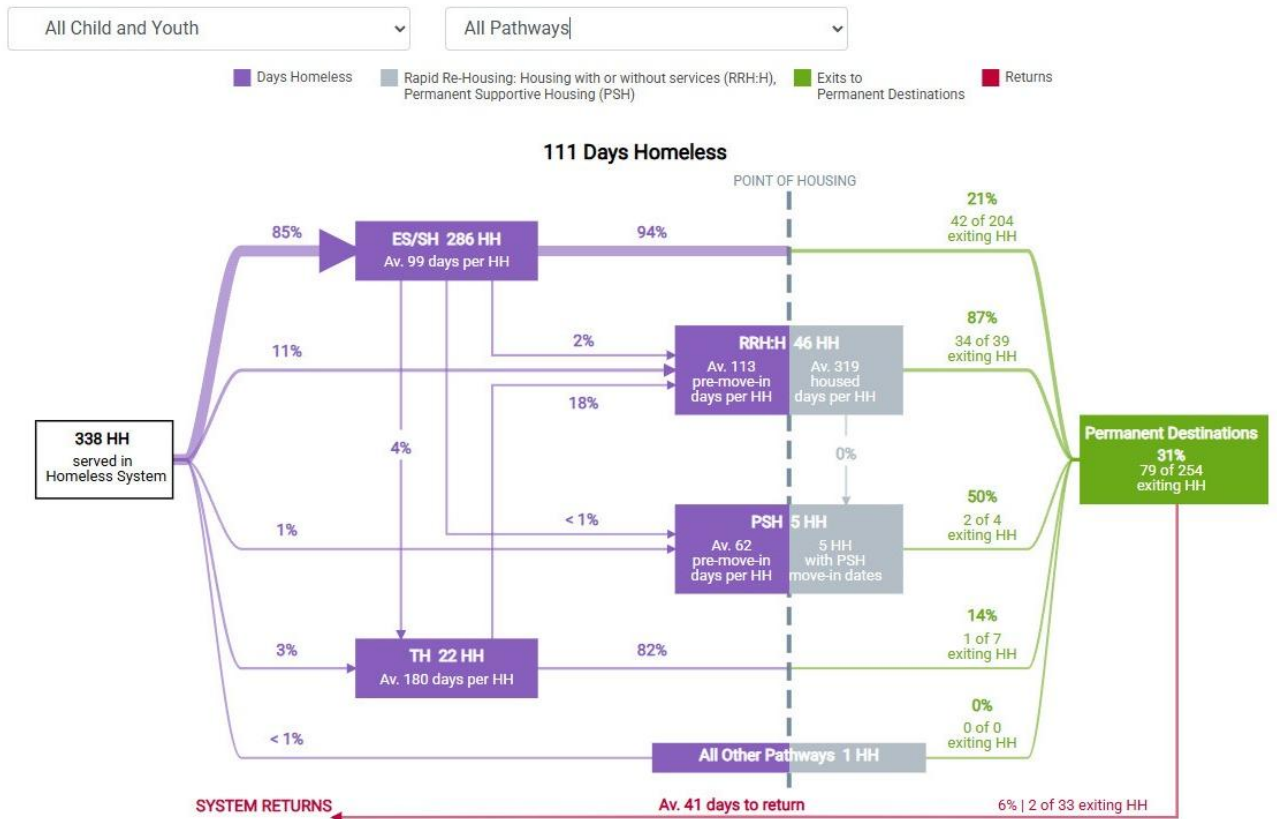
Submitted to Housing & Urban Development (HUD) by Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless  
Collaborative (BKRHC), CA-604 CoC's Collaborative Applicant

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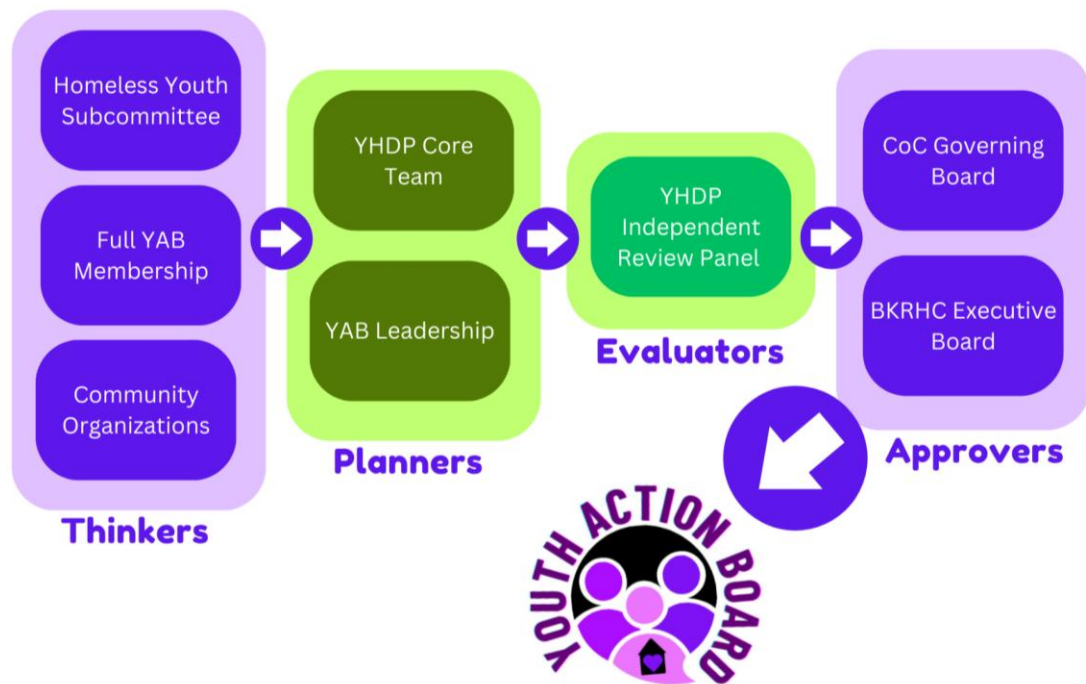
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## SYSTEM MAPPING

Kern County's current youth homelessness system is demonstrated by the Stella System Performance Map below. The below map represents the youth homelessness system for the date range for FY23-FY24. This Stella P Map was used for system mapping, to fulfill the YHDP CCP requirement:



## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



**Note:** The Youth Action Board is purposely embedded at each step of our YHDP governance structure to ensure its members' voices are heard and they understand when granting the final approval. If anyone has questions, comments, concerns, or ideas, they can reach out to the YAB directly.

### THINKERS:

#### **Community Organizations-**

**Who:** Any stakeholder in youth homelessness, regardless of membership to Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC).

**Role Within YHDP:** Provides insight to YHDP Core Team regarding how to serve Kern's unhoused youth population better & gaps recognized within the current homeless system.

#### **CoC Homeless Youth Subcommittee-**

**Who:** The CoC Homeless Youth Subcommittee is a formal subcommittee of the CoC Governing Board. The subcommittee strategizes and works on action steps to engage, count, and serve homeless youth 24 years and younger in Kern County. The subcommittee focuses on both HUD-defined transitional-aged youth and McKinney-Vento-defined homeless students. The subcommittee collaborates with youth agencies, school personnel, child welfare, CoC Youth Action Board, and other agencies committed to ending youth homelessness in Kern.

**Role Within YHDP:** Provides feedback to YHDP Core Team regarding what is and what is not working within the current youth homeless system in Kern & provides support to YAB when needed.

#### **Full YAB Membership-**

**Who:** The CoC Youth Action Board (YAB) is a formal subcommittee of the CoC Governing Board. Full YAB

membership includes 10 transitional aged youth who have lived experience of homelessness.

**Role Within YHDP:** All YAB members provide feedback to the YAB Leadership (YAB Chair & Co-Chair) regarding what policies, best practices, and projects they would like to see within YHDP.

#### **PLANNERS:**

##### **YHDP Core Team-**

**Who:** HUD-assigned YHDP TAs alongside YAB Leadership, YAB Advisors, and BKRHC Representative.

**Role Within YHDP:** Takes the feedback and insight from the “thinkers” to create the Coordinated Community Plan. Facilitates YHDP convenings, community meetings & ensures decisions are data driven.

##### **YAB Leadership-**

**Who:** YAB Chair and Co-Chair

**Role Within YHDP:** To ensure that YAB views, ideas, and beliefs are being communicated at every step of YHDP. YAB Chair & Co-Chair are the voice of YAB within the YHDP Core Team.

#### **EVALUATORS:**

##### **YHDP Independent Review Panel-**

**Who:** At least 50% of the IRP consists of YAB members. Other panelists include representatives from organizations that have no conflict of interest.

**Role Within YHDP:** Score and rank YHDP project applications. The YHDP Independent Review Panel will follow the BKRHC ranking policy.

#### **APPROVERS:**

##### **CoC Governing Board-**

**Who:** The work of the Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative is maintained and conducted by a twenty-one-member Governing Board authorized by the Voting Members of the collaborative to perform the work and structure defined in BKRHC’s Governance Charter. The Governing Board directs the work of BKRHC, conducts hands-on work, and facilitates committees and task groups necessary for the proper and efficient functioning of BKRHC, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) program (Bakersfield/Kern County CA-604) and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program support.

**Role Within YHDP:** Votes to approve the CCP & YHDP project ranking list, presented by the Independent Review Panel.

##### **BKRHC Executive Board-**

**Who:** The BKRHC’s nine-member Executive Board includes two representatives each from the County of Kern and the City of Bakersfield, four subject matter experts, and one at-large member appointed by the Governing Board. The BKRHC Executive Board is responsible for appointing and overseeing the Executive Director, BKRHC finances, contracts, and media relations to end homelessness in Kern County’s communities.

**Role Within YHDP:** Votes to approve any contracts or finances related to YHDP that are directly connected to BKRHC as the CoC Fiscal Agent, including approving payments made to YAB members for YHDP planning work.

#### **FINAL APPROVER:**

### CoC Youth Action Board

**Who:** The CoC Youth Action Board (YAB) is a formal subcommittee of the CoC Governing Board. Full YAB membership includes 10 transitional aged youth who have lived experience of homelessness.

**Role Within YHDP:** Youth Action Board approves final YHDP project list and signs off on CCP. YAB utilizes a formal voting system. To pass a motion to approve an action item, YAB must receive approval of 50% + 1 members via this voting system.

## PARTNERS LIST

Partners	Organization(s)
Youth Action Board	BKRHC Youth Action Board
Public Child Welfare Agency	Kern County Department of Human Services
CoC Program Recipients	Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative; Flood Bakersfield Ministries; The Open Door Network; The Housing Authority of the County of Kern; Community Action Partnership of Kern; Kern Health Systems
ESG Program Recipients	The Mission at Kern County; Flood Bakersfield Ministries; The Open Door Network; Be Finally Free
Local and State Government	City of Bakersfield; County of Kern
Tribal Governments	No
Tribally Designated Housing Entities	N/A
Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Providers	N/A

Regarding ESG Program Recipients: Bakersfield/Kern County's CoC does not currently receive ESG funds. The ESG recipients listed above are ESG recipients through the County of Kern and the City of Bakersfield, who partnered on this YHDP CCP.

## YOUTH RECRUITMENT & INTEGRATION

### YAB RECRUITMENT STRATEGY:

Youth Action Board (YAB) recognizes the importance of continuous recruitment in order to make sure the 10 BKRHC YAB spots are always filled with youth who have lived experience of homelessness. When a spot is open on the YAB, new YAB members are recruited in the following ways:

1. YAB members who are part-time or full-time employees of BKRHC member agencies are permitted to outreach to potential YAB members during their work shifts. They may do outreach

using methods such as: in-person outreach, word-of-mouth, use of flyers, YAB events, and the YAB Instagram page.

2. The YAB has a strategic selection process when there is an open spot on YAB. All current YAB members must meet the potential members and vote on the YAB members gaining membership.

Most members of YAB qualify for Dream Center services (a one-stop resource center for current and former foster youth), as many clients of the Dream Center are youth with lived experience of homelessness. Through the methods listed above, however, consistent outreach will be conducted to youth with lived experience of homelessness who do not qualify for Dream Center services.

#### **YAB COMPENSATION:**

Youth Action Board (YAB) member input is critical to the development and implementation of the YHDP CCP. In Kern County, multiple BKRHC member agencies have hired YAB members to their teams as full or part time employees. As a part of these job duties, they are permitted to work on all aspects of the YHDP CCP, including but not limited to, development, implementation & project selection. To ensure YAB members are compensated for their YHDP work after the YHDP Planning Grant ends, YAB members will continue to be employed by multiple BKRHC member agencies. BKRHC will also continue to recommend to BKRHC member agencies that they hire youth with lived experience, including YAB members, to their staff.

If a YAB member, who is an employee of a BKRHC member agency, is working on elements of the YHDP CCP during work hours, they will continue to receive their normal salary/ hourly pay for being an employee.

If one of those employed YAB members works on YHDP CCP elements outside of work hours, they are provided a stipend at \$20/hour for their work. YAB members who work on YHDP CCP elements that are not employed by a BKRHC member agency are also paid a \$20/hour stipend for their work. Additionally, YAB members receive \$45 for attending their single regular monthly YAB meeting. YAB members do not receive the \$20/hour stipend when they receive the \$45 once/month stipend. All stipends are paid from the YHDP Planning Grant dollars. Once Planning Grant dollars end, stipends may be paid from other housing funding sources. (Examples include the State of California's Homeless Housing, Assistance & Prevention/HHAP funding or other local/state grants.)

#### **NEW YHDP PROJECTS LIST**

##### **JOINT TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/RAPID REHOUSING (TH/RRH)**

<b>PROJECT PURPOSE &amp; TARGET POPULATION</b>	<p>This project combines the activities of a Transitional Housing (TH) project with those of a Rapid Rehousing (RRH) project. TH/RRH projects provide a safe place for youth to stay at (TH) while receiving supportive services to help them move into permanent housing via RRH as quickly as possible.</p> <p>Projects must provide both components of the TH/RRH model- (1) TH units to youth</p>
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	<p>and then followed by (2) tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component. Youth must exit TH into PH-RRH. Youth may not exit TH into ES or TH.</p> <p>Projects may choose to utilize motels as short-term TH. (This is a special YHDP activity, which allows for motels to be used as TH for up to 3 months). TH units may be master leased units or scattered sites. RRH will offer housing either with the youth as the lease holder or with the agency as the lease holder in a master lease. TH/RRH services can be project-based or scattered site housing.</p> <p>While youth are in TH/ RRH, they receive supportive services, including case management services.</p> <p>Youth with the highest needs will be prioritized for the program through CES. Youth that fall under HUD-defined homeless categories 1, 2 &amp; 4 are eligible. Youth are defined as 24 years old and younger.</p>
<b>NUMBER OF YOUTH TO BE SERVED ANNUALLY</b>	19 youth in TH & 40 youth in RRH (59 total)
<b>SPECIAL YHDP ACTIVITIES</b>	<p><b><u>Requires NOTICE to Deputy Assistant Secretary:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I.C.1.a.(1) YHDP housing projects may have leases for a minimum term of 1 month under rental assistance budget line items</li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(2) YHDP recipients may use leasing, sponsor-based rental assistance, and project-based rental assistance in Rapid Rehousing projects</li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(7) YHDP recipients may employ youth who are receiving services, including housing, from the recipient organization. Recipients that utilize this special YHDP activity must maintain documentation that discloses the nature of work that the youth does, and that the youth is not in a position that creates a conflict of interest.</li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(8) YHDP recipients may use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.403(c) rather than Housing Quality Standards in 24 CFR 578.75 for short or medium term (up to 24 months) housing assistance. Recipients implementing this special YHDP activity must keep documentation of which standards are applied to the units and proof that the units complied with the standards before assistance is provided for every unit funded by YHDP.</li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(9) YHDP recipients may provide moving expenses more than one time to a program participant.</li> </ul>



- I.C.1.a.(13) YHDP grant funds may be used for the following if they are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing. Recipients and subrecipients must maintain records establishing how it was determined paying the costs was necessary for the program participant to obtain and retain housing and must also conduct an annual assessment of the needs of the program participants and adjust costs accordingly.
  - Security deposits for units in an amount not to exceed 2 months of rent
  - The costs to pay for any damage to housing due to the action of a program participant, which may be paid while the youth continues to reside in the unit. The total costs paid for damage per program participant may not exceed the cost of two months' rent.
  - The costs of providing household cleaning supplies to clients.
  - Housing start-up expenses for program participants, including furniture, pots and pans, linens, toiletries, and other household goods, not to exceed \$300 in value per program participant.
  - Payment of rental arrears consisting of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.
  - Payment of utility arrears of up to 6 months per service.
  - Up to three months of utilities for a program participant, based on the utility costs schedule for the unit size and location.
  - In addition to transportation costs eligible in 24 CFR 578.53(e)(15), a recipient may pay gas and mileage costs for a program participant's personal vehicle for trips to and from medical care, employment, childcare, or other services eligible under 24 CFR 578.53(e).
  
- I.C.1.a.(14) Recipients may use YHDP funds to pay for owner incentive and retention payments for RRH, TH, TH-RRH, and PSH projects before occupancy of the unit, or at any point thereafter, provided that the overall amount paid with program funds per unit does not exceed three times the monthly rent charged for the unit and the incentive and/or retention payment results in the unit being occupied by a program participant. Recipients that utilize this special YHDP activity must maintain documentation that the incentive and/or retention payment resulted in the unit being occupied by a program participant and that incentive and/or retention payment did not create a conflict of interest. These payments may include signing bonuses (a payment offered to an owner as an incentive for leasing a unit to be occupied by a program participant), repairs to bring a unit that failed inspection into compliance with program requirements., or holding fees to reserve a unit for an individual or family experiencing homelessness.

**Requires APPROVAL from Deputy Assistant Secretary:**

- I.C.1.b.(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of
  1. how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP

	<p>project and</p> <p>2. how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.C.1.b.(5) Rental assistance may be combined with leasing or operating funds in the same unit, provided that the recipient submits a project plan that includes safeguards to ensure that no unit receives a double-subsidy, defined as rent in excess of the pro-rata reasonable rent for the unit.</li> <li>• I.C.1.b.(7) YHDP recipients may pay for short-term (up to three months) emergency lodging in motels or shelters as the transitional housing component in a Joint transitional housing-rapid rehousing (TH-RRH) project, provided that the recipient can demonstrate that use of the hotel or motel room is accessible to supportive services.</li> </ul>
<b>STAFFING</b>	<p>Projects should have adequate staffing, including case management and/or peer navigation. Peer Staff supporting youth in SSO projects should be a minimum of 1:12. Staff to client ratio should be a minimum of 1:12 for TH and 1:15-20 for RRH. Staffing will be 3.5 FTE and will cost approximately \$660,000/year.</p>
<b>TARGETED NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS &amp; ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 8 1-bedroom and 11 2-bedroom TH units</li> <li>• Approximately 20 1-bedroom and 10 2-bedroom RRH units</li> <li>• Leasing/rental assistance will last between 3-24 months for TH &amp; 12-24 months for RRH, depending on the needs of the youth.</li> </ul>
<b>GEOGRAPHIC AREA COVERED</b>	<p>Can be in all of Kern County, CA or in only the Bakersfield, CA area</p>
<b>PROJECTED COST</b>	<p>\$1,108,000 (Rental Assistance)</p> <p>+ \$587,500 (Leasing)</p> <p>+ \$262,750 (Operating Costs)</p> <p>+ \$660,000 (Supportive Services)</p> <p>+ \$11,500 (HMIS)</p> <p>+ \$104,970 (Admin)</p> <p><b>TOTAL: \$2,734,720</b></p>

## JOINT TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/RAPID REHOUSING (TH/RRH) - RURAL

<b>PROJECT PURPOSE &amp; TARGET POPULATION</b>	<p>This subset of TH/RRH funds is meant to address the lack of current housing resources for rural areas in Kern County. This project must only serve youth in rural area(s) of Kern County.</p> <p>This project combines the activities of a Transitional Housing (TH) project with those of a Rapid Rehousing (RRH) project. TH/RRH projects provide a safe place for youth to stay at (TH) while receiving supportive services to help them move into permanent housing via RRH as quickly as possible.</p> <p>Projects must provide both components of the TH/RRH model- (1) TH units to youth and then followed by (2) tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component. Youth must exit TH into PH-RRH. Youth may not exit TH into ES or TH.</p> <p>Projects may choose to utilize motels as short-term TH. (This is a special YHDP activity, which allows for motels to be used as TH for up to 3 months). TH units may be master leased units or scattered sites. RRH will offer housing either with the youth as the lease holder or with the agency as the lease holder in a master lease. TH/RRH services can be project-based or scattered site housing.</p> <p>While youth are in TH/ RRH, they receive supportive services, including case management services.</p> <p>Youth with the highest needs will be prioritized for the program through CES. Youth that fall under HUD-defined homeless categories 1, 2 &amp; 4 are eligible. Youth are defined as 24 years old and younger.</p>
<b>NUMBER OF YOUTH TO BE SERVED ANNUALLY</b>	<p>12 youth in TH &amp; 24 youth in RRH (36 total)</p>
<b>SPECIAL YHDP ACTIVITIES</b>	<p><b><u>Requires NOTICE to Deputy Assistant Secretary:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.C.1.a.(1) YHDP housing projects may have leases for a minimum term of 1 month under rental assistance budget line items</li> <li>• I.C.1.a.(2) YHDP recipients may use leasing, sponsor-based rental assistance, and project-based rental assistance in Rapid Rehousing projects</li> <li>• I.C.1.a.(7) YHDP recipients may employ youth who are receiving services, including housing, from the recipient organization. Recipients that utilize this special YHDP activity must maintain documentation that discloses the nature of work that the youth does, and that the youth is not in a position that creates a conflict of interest.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I.C.1.a.(8) YHDP recipients may use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.403(c) rather than Housing Quality Standards in 24 CFR 578.75 for short or medium term (up to 24 months) housing assistance. Recipients implementing this special YHDP activity must keep documentation of which standards are applied to the units and proof that the units complied with the standards before assistance is provided for every unit funded by YHDP.</li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(9) YHDP recipients may provide moving expenses more than one time to a program participant.</li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(13) YHDP grant funds may be used for the following if they are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing. Recipients and subrecipients must maintain records establishing how it was determined paying the costs was necessary for the program participant to obtain and retain housing and must also conduct an annual assessment of the needs of the program participants and adjust costs accordingly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Security deposits for units in an amount not to exceed 2 months of rent</li> <li>○ The costs to pay for any damage to housing due to the action of a program participant, which may be paid while the youth continues to reside in the unit. The total costs paid for damage per program participant may not exceed the cost of two months' rent.</li> <li>○ The costs of providing household cleaning supplies to clients.</li> <li>○ Housing start-up expenses for program participants, including furniture, pots and pans, linens, toiletries, and other household goods, not to exceed \$300 in value per program participant.</li> <li>○ Payment of rental arrears consisting of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.</li> <li>○ Payment of utility arrears of up to 6 months per service.</li> <li>○ Up to three months of utilities for a program participant, based on the utility costs schedule for the unit size and location.</li> <li>○ In addition to transportation costs eligible in 24 CFR 578.53(e)(15), a recipient may pay gas and mileage costs for a program participant's personal vehicle for trips to and from medical care, employment, childcare, or other services eligible under 24 CFR 578.53(e).</li> <li>○ Legal fees, including court fees, bail bonds, and required courses and equipment.</li> <li>○ Program participant's past driving fines and fees that are blocking a young person from being able to obtain or renew a driver's license and impacting their ability to obtain or maintain housing. Additionally, recipients may pay for program participants' costs for insurance and registration for personal vehicles if the personal vehicle is necessary to reach medical care, employment, childcare, or other services eligible under this section.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● I.C.1.a.(14) Recipients may use YHDP funds to pay for owner incentive and</li> </ul>
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	<p>retention payments for RRH, TH, TH-RRH, and PSH projects before occupancy of the unit, or at any point thereafter, provided that the overall amount paid with program funds per unit does not exceed three times the monthly rent charged for the unit and the incentive and/or retention payment results in the unit being occupied by a program participant. Recipients that utilize this special YHDP activity must maintain documentation that the incentive and/or retention payment resulted in the unit being occupied by a program participant and that incentive and/or retention payment did not create a conflict of interest. These payments may include signing bonuses (a payment offered to an owner as an incentive for leasing a unit to be occupied by a program participant), repairs to bring a unit that failed inspection into compliance with program requirements., or holding fees to reserve a unit for an individual or family experiencing homelessness.</p> <p><b><u>Requires APPROVAL from Deputy Assistant Secretary:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.C.1.b.(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and</li> <li>4. how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources</li> </ol> </li> <li>• I.C.1.b.(5) Rental assistance may be combined with leasing or operating funds in the same unit, provided that the recipient submits a project plan that includes safeguards to ensure that no unit receives a double-subsidy, defined as rent in excess of the pro-rata reasonable rent for the unit.</li> <li>• I.C.1.b.(7) YHDP recipients may pay for short-term (up to three months) emergency lodging in motels or shelters as the transitional housing component in a Joint transitional housing-rapid rehousing (TH-RRH) project, provided that the recipient can demonstrate that use of the hotel or motel room is accessible to supportive services.</li> </ul>
<b>STAFFING</b>	<p>Projects should have adequate staffing, including case management and/or peer navigation. Peer Staff supporting youth in SSO projects should be a minimum of 1:12. Staff to client ratio should be a minimum of 1:12 for TH and 1:15-20 for RRH. Staffing will be 2 FTE and will cost approximately \$360,000/year.</p>
<b>TARGETED NUMBER OF HOUSING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 12 1-bedroom TH units</li> <li>• Approximately 16 1-bedroom and 8 2-bedroom RRH units</li> </ul>

<b>UNITS &amp; ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leasing/rental assistance will last between 3-24 months for TH &amp; 12-24 months for RRH, depending on the needs of the youth.</li> </ul>
<b>GEOGRAPHIC AREA COVERED</b>	Rural areas of Kern County, CA only (so use in Bakersfield, CA is not allowable)
<b>PROJECTED COST</b>	<p>\$674,112 (Rental Assistance)</p> <p>+ \$84,565 (Leasing)</p> <p>+ \$46,480 (Operating Costs)</p> <p>+ \$360,000 (Supportive Services)</p> <p>+ \$5,750 (HMIS)</p> <p>+ \$45,217 (Admin)</p> <p><b>TOTAL: \$1,216,124</b></p>

#### **SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**

<b>PROJECT PURPOSE &amp; TARGET POPULATION</b>	<p>Supportive services may be provided through coaching, peer support, education/ employment/ systems navigation, and/or host homes.</p> <p>Supportive services should focus on consistency, longevity, and continuity of care. Projects should focus on increasing income of youth (both earned and unearned) and youth exiting projects into permanent housing (with or without subsidy, including utilizing natural supports/ family reunification).</p> <p>Projects may focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational opportunities as a pathway out of homelessness</li> <li>Employment training/ placement as a means of increasing income</li> <li>Support around applying/ receiving unearned income for youth unable to work</li> <li>Host homes to diversify housing options for youth</li> <li>Peer support services</li> <li>Systems navigation</li> <li>Connection to critical supports depending on the needs of youth (examples: mental health/ substance abuse treatment, domestic violence support, etc.)</li> <li>Outreach</li> </ul> <p>Youth with the highest needs will be prioritized for the program through CES. Youth that fall under HUD-defined homeless categories 1, 2 &amp; 4 are eligible. Youth are defined as 24 years old and younger.</p>
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<b>NUMBER OF YOUTH TO BE SERVED ANNUALLY</b>	100-120 youth across 2-3 programs
<b>SPECIAL YHDP ACTIVITIES</b>	<p><b><u>Requires NOTICE to Deputy Assistant Secretary:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.C.1.a.(5) In addition to the eligible costs listed in 24 CFR 578.59(a), YHDP recipients may use project administrative funds to support costs associated with involving youth with lived experience in project implementation, execution, and improvement.</li> <li>• I.C.1.a.(7) YHDP recipients may employ youth who are receiving services, including housing, from the recipient organization. Recipients that utilize this special YHDP activity must maintain documentation that discloses the nature of work that the youth does, and that the youth is not in a position that creates a conflict of interest.</li> <li>• I.C.1.a.(10) YHDP recipients may provide payments of up to \$500 per month for families that provide housing under a host home and kinship care model in order to offset the increased costs associated with having youth housed in the unit.</li> <li>• I.C.1.a.(11) YHDP recipients may continue providing supportive services to program participants for up to 12 months after the program participant exits homelessness, transitional housing or after the end of housing assistance.</li> <li>• I.C.1.a.(13) YHDP grant funds may be used for the following if they are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing. Recipients and subrecipients must maintain records establishing how it was determined paying the costs was necessary for the program participant to obtain and retain housing and must also conduct an annual assessment of the needs of the program participants and adjust costs accordingly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The costs of providing household cleaning supplies to clients.</li> <li>○ Housing start-up expenses for program participants, including furniture, pots and pans, linens, toiletries, and other household goods, not to exceed \$300 in value per program participant.</li> <li>○ In addition to transportation costs eligible in 24 CFR 578.53(e)(15), a recipient may pay gas and mileage costs for a program participant's personal vehicle for trips to and from medical care, employment, childcare, or other services eligible under 24 CFR 578.53(e).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Requires APPROVAL from Deputy Assistant Secretary:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.C.1.b.(4) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient does not have other currently active CoC or YHDP grants. If permitted by future Appropriations Acts, HUD will continue the match exemption for the YHDP grant funded under this NOFO under the first and second renewal or</li> </ul>

	<p>replacement of the project under the Continuum of Care competition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I.C.1.b.(6) YHDP recipients may provide payments of up to \$1000 per month for families that provide housing under a host home and kinship care model, provided that the recipient can show that the additional cost is necessary to recruit hosts to the program.</li> <li>● I.C.1.b.(8) In addition to the specific activities authorized above or in 24 CFR part 578, other innovative activities to reduce youth homelessness may be carried out using YHDP funds, provided that the recipient can demonstrate that the activity meets the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The activity is supported by both the Youth Action Board and the Continuum of Care, as evidenced by letters of support from each organization;</li> <li>○ The activity will be testing or likely to achieve a positive outcome in at least one of the four core outcomes for youth experiencing homelessness (stable housing, permanent connections, education/employment, and well-being);</li> <li>○ The activity is cost effective; and</li> <li>○ The activity is not in conflict with fair housing, civil rights, or environmental regulations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>STAFFING</b>	Staff to client ratio should be a minimum of 1:25-30 for SSO projects. Peer Staff supporting youth in SSO projects should be a minimum of 1:12. Staffing will be 4 FTE and will cost approximately \$380,000/year.
<b>GEOGRAPHIC AREA COVERED</b>	Can be in all of Kern County, CA or in only the Bakersfield, CA area
<b>PROJECTED COST</b>	<p>\$910,000 (Supportive Services)</p> <p>+ \$14,000 (HMIS)</p> <p>+ \$29,684 (Admin)</p> <p><b>TOTAL: \$953,684</b></p>

## YHDP MISSION

To create youth-led solutions to strengthen and uplift homeless youth by providing resources and support, creating environments where young people can discover their potential, access safe housing, and become leaders in their communities, ensuring that homelessness among youth is a thing of the past.



## YHDP VISION

We envision a future where youth homelessness is a distant memory, replaced by vibrant communities where every young person has a safe and stable home. In this community, youth homelessness is eradicated, and all youth are strengthened with the resources to foster a future where everyone has a place to call home and the tools to shape their destinies. We aspire to create a society where every young individual is equipped to chase their dreams, cultivate their potential, and contribute positively to their communities, ensuring no young person is left behind on their journey to a brighter future.

## GOALS, OBJECTIVES & ACTION STEPS

### GOAL #1: Strengthen & Enhance Supports for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

- **Objective #1:** Increase access to effective and youth-friendly supportive services.
- **Objective #2:** Ensure youth voices are heard when implementing and/or evaluating projects.
  - **Action step #1:** Establish youth-focused, innovative supportive service projects that aim to create stable young adults.
  - **Action step #2:** Utilize feedback from the Youth Action Board when implementing and evaluating projects for continuous quality improvement.
  - **Action step #3:** Employ Peer Support Specialists/ Peer Navigators within HUD funded programs.

### GOAL #2: Improve Economic Security for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

- **Objective #1:** Increase the amount of employment income earned.
- **Objective #2:** Increase the amount of youth receiving unearned income.
  - **Action step #1:** Have youth participate in employment training programs (including CTE programs, vocational programs, job readiness training, internships, etc).
  - **Action step #2:** Connect youth to postsecondary educational opportunities to receive a certificate/degree that will assist them in receiving employment that comes with higher salaries.
  - **Action step #3:** Connect youth with employment opportunities that do not require job training.
  - **Action step #4:** Connect youth with disabilities to agencies that can assist them applying for SSI/SSDI and/or General Assistance.
  - **Action step #5:** Connect youth to agencies that can assist them applying for CalWORKs, CalFresh, and any other aid they may qualify for.

### GOAL #3: Increase Outflow of Youth from the Homeless System

- **Objective #1:** Increase the number of Rapid Rehousing beds for youth.
- **Objective #2:** Increase the number of youth exiting the homeless system into permanent housing.
  - **Action step #1:** Utilize YHDP funding to create new Joint TH/RRH projects for youth in both the metropolitan and rural areas of Kern County.
  - **Action step #2:** Increase youths' income, so they are able to secure permanent housing without a subsidy.

April 7, 2025

US Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC, 20410

RE: Bakersfield/Kern County's Continuum of Care (CoC) & the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) to End Youth Homelessness in Kern County

In October 2024, HUD announced that the Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) (representing CA CoC-604) was awarded \$5,262,400 in YHDP funding to prevent and end youth homelessness. The BKRHC Youth Action Board (YAB) assisted with the original YHDP grant application. BKRHC YAB is composed of 10 transitional aged youth with lived experience of homelessness. YAB takes YHDP work very seriously.

YAB has been integral in the planning, development, and creation of the YHDP CCP. YAB is represented and included in all aspects of YHDP Governance, as YAB feedback and expertise is critical to the success of YHDP. YAB will continue to be apart of all YHDP leadership decisions and be incorporated in the continuous quality improvement of YHDP projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gennessa Fisher", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gennessa Fisher  
YAB Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Lira-Martinez", written in a cursive style.

Cynthia Lira-Martinez  
YAB Co-Chair



April 7, 2025

US Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC, 20410

RE: Bakersfield/Kern County's Continuum of Care (CoC) & the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) to End Youth Homelessness in Kern County

Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative is the Collaborative Applicant for the CA-604 CoC.

In October 2024, HUD announced that the Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) (representing CA CoC-604) was awarded \$5,262,400 in YHDP funding. This YHDP funding is critical to prevent and end youth homelessness in Kern.

Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) participated in the planning of the YHDP CCP & supports the YHDP CCP submission to HUD, as Bakersfield Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) is committed to ending youth homelessness in Bakersfield & Kern County. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to support the implementation of the CCP in Kern County with the goal of ending local youth homelessness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Destiny Reveles". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial 'D'.

Destiny Reveles  
Program Administrator

April 11, 2025

US Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC, 20410

RE: Bakersfield/Kern County's Continuum of Care (CoC) & the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) to End Youth Homelessness in Kern County

In October 2024, HUD announced that the Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) (representing CA CoC-604) was awarded \$5,262,400 in YHDP funding. This YHDP funding is critical to prevent and end youth homelessness in Kern.

Kern County Department of Human Services participated in the planning of the YHDP CCP & supports the YHDP CCP submission to HUD. The Department of Human Services is committed to ending youth homelessness in Bakersfield & Kern County. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to support the implementation of the CCP in Kern County with the goal of ending local youth homelessness.

Sincerely,



DIRECTOR  
LITO MORILLO  
KERN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



# BAKERSFIELD

THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

April 10, 2025

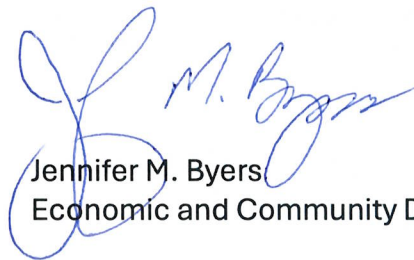
US Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC, 20410

RE: Bakersfield/Kern County's Continuum of Care (CoC) & the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) to End Youth Homelessness in Kern County

In October 2024, HUD announced that the Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) (representing CA CoC-604) was awarded \$5,262,400 in YHDP funding. This YHDP funding is critical to prevent and end youth homelessness in Kern.

City of Bakersfield staff participated in the planning of the YHDP CCP & supports the YHDP CCP submission to HUD, as City of Bakersfield is committed to ending youth homelessness in Bakersfield & Kern County. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to support the implementation of the CCP in Kern County with the goal of ending local youth homelessness.

Sincerely,



Jennifer M. Byers  
Economic and Community Development Director