



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

ONE-TIME HOUSING FUNDS FOR WHOLE PERSON CARE PILOTS

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Overview

The 2019-20 Governor’s Budget invests \$100 million State General Fund (one-time with multi-year spending authority through June 30, 2025) for active Whole Person Care (WPC) Pilot programs that provide housing services. The WPC Pilot program coordinates health, behavioral health and social services in a patient-centered manner with the goal of improved beneficiary health and well-being. Many of these pilot programs target individuals who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness, and have a demonstrated medical need for housing and/or supportive services.

This funding is available for the costs of long-term and short-term housing, such as hotel vouchers and rental subsidies, as well as capital investment for housing projects for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness, or are at risk of homelessness. This funding may be used to match local county investments and shall not supplant existing funding for these services. This funding allocation does not require local matching funding.

Pilots have the flexibility in determining the scope of their projects as well as the number of mentally ill homeless or at risk of homelessness mentally ill individuals that will be served with this funding. Through an application process, Pilots must also demonstrate how this funding will complement existing housing services provided by the pilot and will not supplant existing funding, as well as the pilot’s ability to serve the mentally ill homeless or those at risk of homelessness within their jurisdiction. Funding is not available for housing case management services, such as housing navigation services and tenancy sustaining services, or additional housing transition services, such as security deposit, first month coverage of utilities, etc. Further, services provided with this funding must comply with all applicable “Housing First” principles as defined in California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 8255-8256.

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) developed the included funding allocation methodology that considers prevalence of individuals who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness using the Point in Time Count (PIT); geographical cost of living using Fair Market Rent (FMR); and WPC pilot performance.

Letter of Interest

Each WPC Pilot must delegate the single organization that will serve as the primary contact. This entity must submit a *Letter of Interest* that will serve as your application, to DHCS indicating that the Pilot intends to use the funds for the purpose outlined in the Overview. An assurance that services provided with this funding will comply with all applicable “Housing First” principles as defined in California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 8255-8256 must be included in the *Letter of Interest*. A signed Board of Supervisors resolution will serve as the final agreement as outlined in Step 4 below.

Operational Guidelines

The Request for Information review process and timing is as follows:

Deliverable/Activity	Date
1. DHCS releases notification and application for one-time funds	07/22/2019
2. Applications due to DHCS	09/23/2019
3. DHCS notifies applicants of the selection final decisions	09/30/2019
4. Written formal acceptance is submitted to DHCS	10/07/2019
5. Funding fully processed and released to approved applicants	12/30/2019
6. Evaluation and Summary Report Due to DHCS	90 days after full fund expenditure
7. Final date of funding availability for encumbrance or expenditure	06/30/2025

Evaluation and Summary Report

Counties are required to submit an evaluation and summary report within 90 days after the full expenditure of funding. The report shall include the disposition of funds, the services provided, and the number of individuals who received services.

Methodology

Governor’s Proposal: Provide \$100 million to WPC Pilot Counties to support housing and housing supportive services for Medi-Cal enrollees who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness, or who are at risk of homelessness. As specified in the Governor’s Budget Proposal, the allocation methodology takes into account prevalence of homelessness, cost of living, and pilot performance.

1. Prevalence of homelessness: 50 percent of the funding is allocated in proportion to the total number of people experiencing homelessness in the county as compared to the total for all WPC counties. The county's number of homeless people is from the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Point in Time (PIT) count numbers from 2017. The HUD web link is below. The query is by "Continuum of Care" (COC). Each pilot county generally has its own COC that is responsible for completion of the PIT count, though some exceptions are noted below.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-homeless-populations-and-subpopulations-reports/?filter Year=2017&filter Scope=CoC&filter State=CA&filter CoC=&program=CoC&group=PopSub>

DHCS used the 2017 PIT count because it may have more complete data as compared to the 2018 or 2019 counts. According to local methods in the various areas, certain pilot counties' PIT counts are combined with one or more surrounding counties. In these cases, DHCS estimated the Pilot county's PIT count by comparing its overall population to the other county(ies) in its COC.

All pilots have a county-specific PIT count except for the following:

- Sacramento County has a count but not the city.
- Kings County (pilot) is combined with Tulare County (not pilot).
- Long Beach and Pasadena have their own PIT counts, in addition to the Los Angeles County count.
- Monterey County (pilot) is combined with San Benito (pilot).
- Placer County (pilot) is combined with Nevada County (not pilot).
- Mariposa County (pilot) is combined with a few other non-pilot small counties.
- Shasta County (pilot) is combined with a few other non-pilot small counties.

In this category, DHCS set a minimum allocation at \$500,000 for each county. Some counties would have been below the \$500,000 minimum. For counties that were over the \$500,000 minimum, DHCS reduced their allocations, in a proportional manner, to raise the other counties up to the \$500,000 minimum.

2. Cost of living: 25 percent of the funding is allocated in proportion to the cost of living in the pilot county. DHCS used the federal HUD Fair Market Rent (FMR) Efficiency (i.e. studio apartment) amounts for each pilot area to assess cost of living, or more specifically the average cost of basic housing in the pilot county. The amounts reflect the average monthly rental cost of a studio apartment in each county. DHCS used the 2019 FMR. The web link is below.

https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr/fmrs/FY2019_code/select_Geography.odn

3. Prevalence of individuals who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness: 25 percent of the funding is allocated in proportion to the total number of individuals who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness in the county as compared to the total for all WPC counties. The county's number of individuals who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness is from the HUD PIT Severely Mentally Ill subpopulation count numbers from 2017.
4. Performance: DHCS will not accept applications from pilots that have unacceptable performance regarding their pilot housing supportive services for the homeless target population. DHCS is currently developing specific criteria.

Pilot Allocations

Pilot	Allocation
Alameda	\$4,647,159.90
Contra Costa	\$2,058,505.04
Kern	\$1,213,867.52
Kings	\$1,166,795.01
Los Angeles	\$36,139,682.34
Marin	\$2,522,162.80
Mariposa	\$1,033,636.00
Mendocino	\$1,137,158.69
Monterey	\$2,407,786.57
Napa	\$1,491,766.53
Orange	\$3,413,986.51
Placer	\$1,318,475.78
Riverside	\$1,999,856.42

Pilot	Allocation
City of Sacramento	\$3,059,351.17
San Benito	\$1,600,251.33
San Bernardino	\$1,646,279.96
San Diego	\$5,327,990.32
San Francisco	\$8,130,059.30
San Joaquin	\$1,366,774.54
San Mateo	\$2,340,849.14
Santa Clara	\$5,680,408.35
Santa Cruz	\$2,642,337.19
Shasta	\$1,198,355.90
Solano	\$1,603,827.17
Sonoma	\$3,284,476.48
Ventura	\$1,568,200.04
Total	\$100,000,000.00