

## Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Round 3 Funds

### I. Summary

#### A. Agency Information

Agency Legal Name: Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency

Agency Address: 818 South Main Street, Yreka, CA 96097

Primary Contact: Maddelyn Bryan Title: Housing Coordinator

Telephone Number: 530-841-2748 Email Address: mcbryan@co.siskiyou.ca.us

Tax Identification #: 94-6000537 DUNS Number: N8QZLJTK1R13

Preparer Name: Maddelyn Bryan Title: Housing Coordinator

#### B. Project Component

Check the HHAP-eligible component that this project will address:

- Rapid Rehousing
- Operating Subsidies and Reserves
- Street outreach
- Service Coordination
- Systems Support
- Delivery of Permanent Housing
- Prevention & Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing
- Interim Sheltering       Improvements to existing Emergency Shelters

Is the Target Population for this project categorized as homeless youth (Youth-Set Aside)?

Yes       No

Total Amount Requested \$222,896.63

Number of Individuals estimated to be served 36

Funding Application County of Service: Siskiyou

- CoC HHAP Funded       Pass-Through of CoC Funding
- County HHAP Funded:       Pass-Through of County Funds

**C. Project Summary**

Provide a description of the project and what specific outcome goals the project will be targeting.

Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) intends to use HHAP-3 funds to continue and expand on a current program that provides housing services to individuals or families with an acute medical condition. HHS will broaden the target population to also include individuals of 55 years or older who do not meet the criteria for other current housing services. This program will fulfill a critical component of the homeless response system by serving the most vulnerable members of the homeless population. The program will provide direct financial assistance with housing interventions as well as case management, supportive services, and linkage to other resources. Housing interventions will include interim shelter, prevention and diversion, and rapid rehousing. Services will be provided using evidenced-based practices such as Housing First policies, harm reduction strategies, and trauma-informed care. HHS will collaborate with other providers through the CoC to conduct outreach for the program and ensure information is available to local partners that have an established rapport with people experiencing homelessness, particularly those that are medically indigent. The program will intentionally target the following Local Homeless Action Plan Goals:

Outcome Goal #1a: Reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness.  
Outcome Goal #1b: Reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness on a daily basis  
Outcome Goal #2: Reducing the number of persons who become homeless for the first time.  
Outcome Goal #3: Increasing the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.

Of the above mentioned goals, HHS will most specifically target Outcome Goal #1b: reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness on a daily basis. HHS believes the program will have the greatest impact on addressing unsheltered homelessness. Customer data and outcomes will be tracked and evaluated utilizing the Homeless Management Information System. Customers will be connected to permanent housing options through HHS and other providers through the Coordinated Entry System.

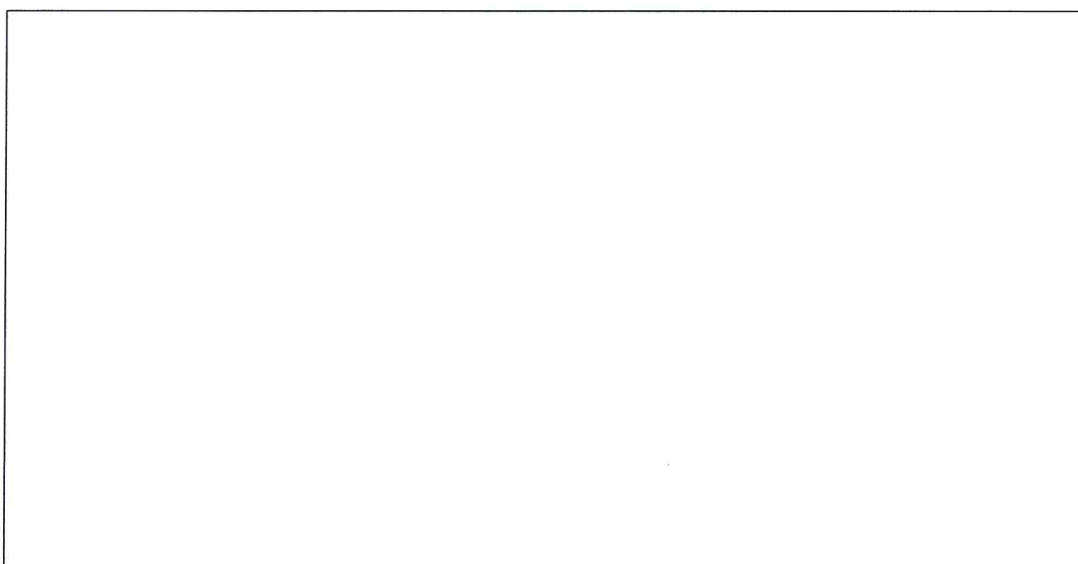
HHS would also like to direct \$31,989.29 of County pass-through funds to Youth Empowerment Siskiyou (YES). These funds are not included in the amount requested above. YES is a youth-focused provider who is currently offering case management services to homeless, unaccompanied youth. YES is in the final stages of preparing to open a shelter for this population. Ultimately, YES is planning to provide a full range of housing interventions such as rapid rehousing and prevention.

**D. Collaborative Partnerships**

Describe how your agency will collaborate with other agencies in the scope of this project.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the respondent to describe how their agency will collaborate with other agencies in the scope of the project.

Describe any other collaborative agreements that exist between your agency and other agencies that are serving homeless individuals.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the respondent to describe any other collaborative agreements that exist between their agency and other agencies serving homeless individuals.

## II. Project Detail

### A. Project Design

Describe the project design, include how the project is intended to target the outcome goals for HHAP 3. Include any history your organization has of operating similar project types.

HHSA will use HHAP-3 to provide housing services to two homeless subpopulations, individuals with an acute medical condition and individuals over 55 years of age. HHSA has decided to focus on these populations as particularly vulnerable to health deterioration under the stress of homelessness. In order to qualify under medical need, HHSA will ask individuals to supply a letter from a medical professional to verify their acute condition. Individuals aged 55 and older will be prioritized for the program if ineligible for other programs that specifically serve elderly homeless populations (i.e. Home Safe). In addition to the usual referral processes, HHSA will particularly cultivate partnerships with local hospitals to refer individuals in need of respite shelter.

HHSA has operated a housing program for individuals with an acute medical concern for over two years and is familiar with the needs of this population. Through this program, staff have assisted customers with shelter that was critical to their immediate health as well as transitioned some individuals into permanent housing. Similarly, staff have experience delivering housing services to the elderly population, particularly through the Home Safe program for homeless and at risk individuals in the Adult Protective Services system. Staff have learned from past experiences that this population typically requires a higher level care than the general homeless population. Due to this history and limited staff capacity, the agency will enroll up to six customers in the program at any time. Exceptions to this limit will require prior approval from the Housing Social Worker Supervisor or other management-level housing staff.

The program will strive to meet individuals where they are at, providing a housing intervention that meets the unique requirements of the customer. Depending on the individual's specific housing crisis, staff will offer shelter, rapid rehousing, or prevention and diversion interventions. HHSA intends for shelter services to target Outcome Goal #1b: reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness on a daily basis. Unsheltered homelessness is an untenable situation for individuals in need of respite care and will likely constitute a significant portion of customers. HHSA plans for rapid rehousing services to contribute to both Outcome Goal #1a: reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness and Outcome Goal #3: increasing the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing. Prevention interventions will target Outcome Goal #2: reducing the number of persons who become homeless for the first time. Customers of the program will also receive a range of voluntary supportive services, including intensive case management, transportation, and assistance obtaining key documents. Social Workers will connect customers to available permanent housing resources, conduct housing searches, and mediate with potential landlord partners.



**B. Use of Evidence Based Practices**

Describe your agency's use of evidence-based practices for this project.

HHSA currently uses myriad best practices and evidenced-based techniques in operating this program. The program takes a housing-first approach that prioritizes housing stability over therapeutic goals. The program provides intensive case management to assist individuals to reach their housing goals and address other challenges if desired by the customer. Staff receive training in other evidenced based practices such as trauma-informed care and motivational interviewing. The agency incorporates harm reduction practices by engaging in nonjudgmental education that emphasizes safety. Services are provided through an equity framework that evaluates the impact of services on different populations and strives to adjust accordingly. The agency has a cultural competency committee that regularly reviews and makes recommendations for engaging with diverse populations.

Describe how your agency has incorporated evidence-based practices in prior projects.

The evidence-based practices described above are standard models for HHSA's housing programs which the agency has operated for several years. The only exception is that case management levels vary across programs depending on the target population. Programs that focus on populations who typically have a lower level of need may not require intensive case management. However, all of the programs offer some level of case management.

**C. Compliance with Housing First**

Describe how the project will comply with the core components of Housing First as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code 8255(b)

The project will provide low-barrier enrollment for customers. Eligibility will not be contingent on sobriety, minimum income, lack of criminal record, rental history, credit score, completion of treatment, or other unnecessary conditions. Housing will not be viewed or used as a reward for achieving goals but as an essential component of helping a household stabilize and access other services. Staff will offer supportive services and referrals to other resources on a purely voluntary basis. Participation in supportive services will not be a precondition of receiving shelter and/or housing assistance. Customers will be connected to permanent housing opportunities as quickly as possible without contingencies based on notions of "housing readiness." Housing/services plans will be developed in partnership with the customer with highly customer-centered goals. The program will be informed by a harm-reduction approach that recognizes substance use may be a part of the customer's life. Staff will offer non-judgemental communication regarding safe use of substances and how to avoid risky behaviors.

Describe how your agency has used housing first practices in prior projects.

HHSA has several years of experiencing operating Housing First projects, ranging from shelter to permanent housing services. HHSA is extremely active in pursuing grants through state entities such as CalICH, HCD, DHCS and CDSS that consistently require a Housing First approach for housing funds. HHSA's current housing programs are designed to be low-barrier and remove unnecessary obstacles to accessing services and housing. Currently, HHSA offers four housing programs through CDSS and regularly engages in TA with the granting agency to further their understanding of Housing First practices. Staff have received training in Housing First through the Corporation for Supportive Housing Training Center as well as the California Interagency Council on Homelessness.

**D. Resources Addressing Homelessness**

Briefly describe your agency's existing programs and resources used to address homelessness.

The Social Services Division (SSD) of HHSA currently operates various housing programs. SSD operates the following programs through CDSS that each provide a flexible range of housing interventions:

1. Housing Support Program--serves CalWORKs recipient families.
2. Home Safe--serves adults in the Adult Protective Services system.
3. Bringing Families Home--serves households in the child welfare system.
4. Housing and Disability Advocacy Program--serves individuals who would likely be eligible for disability benefits.

SSD also operates the following programs through HCD, Cal ICH, and the CoC:

1. Housing Navigators Program-- provides housing navigation for young adults in foster care.
2. Transitional Housing Program-- provides housing services for young adults in foster care and probation.
3. HHAP Rapid Rehousing--provides rapid rehousing and limited shelter services for the general homeless population.
4. ESG-CV Shelter-- provides short-term, temporary shelter to persons meeting the HUD Category 1 definition of homeless.

The Behavioral Health Division (BHD) of HHSA uses Mental Health Services Act funding to assist some clients with housing, including, but not limited to, emergency shelter and rental assistance. All BHD clients experiencing or at risk of homelessness are offered Coordinated Entry services.

Describe the mechanism's your agency uses to provide people with lived experience of homelessness, to have meaningful and purposeful opportunities to inform and shape all levels of planning and implementation of your homeless programs. This can include employing people with lived experience.

HHSA discusses all major housing program decisions with the Siskiyou County CoC Advisory Board. The Board includes a voting membership for a Homeless Advocate with lived experience of homelessness. This member provides expertise and guidance in designing homeless programs. Frequently, other residents who are experiencing homelessness attend and share input for the Board's consideration as well. Additionally, HHSA often conducts ad hoc surveys and focus groups to collect feedback and suggestions from the homeless population. The agency seeks responses both from individuals who are and are not currently accessing housing services. Surveys and results are available for review upon request.



**III. PARTICIPATION INFORMATION**

**A. Household Served**

Number of Unduplicated Individuals projected to be served by the project during the grant period of approximately February 2023 to June 2026.

HHSA expects to serve thirty-six (36) unduplicated individuals.

If your project is not funding permanent housing interventions directly, please describe how you plan to connect people to permanent housing options through your project.

The HHAP-3 program will offer limited financial assistance for permanent housing. Social Workers will also connect customers to longer-term subsidies through Coordinated Entry and the Housing Authority. Staff will continue to cultivate relationships with landlords to increase permanent housing opportunities. When necessary, staff will braid funding sources to provide incentives and attract new property partners. For example, staff may utilize HHAP-3 to fund additional landlord incentives to move a customer into permanent housing more quickly while working on longer-term vouchers.



**IV. Project Budget**

Please complete the table below with your HHAP budget in the top Section and then please list all other sources of funding that will support the HHAP 3 project. Additional sources of funding should be listed separately for each funding source.

Eligible Use Category	FY22/23	FY23/24	FY24/25	FY 25/26	Total
Rapid Rehousing		5,834	5,833	5,833	
Operating Subsidies and Reserves					
Street outreach					
Service Coordination					
Systems Support					
Delivery of Permanent Housing					
Prevention and Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing		5,834	5,833	5,833	
Interim Sheltering		62,632.21	62,632.21	62,632.21	
Improvements to existing emergency shelters to lower barriers and increase privacy					
<b>Other Braided Funding Sources Besides HHAP 3</b>					
Source 1:					
Source 2:					
Source 3:					
Source 4:					

Source 5:					
-----------	--	--	--	--	--

Please describe your agencies accounting practices and the steps your agency will take to ensure that all HHAP funds are properly tracked and accounted for.

All HHAP-3 expenditures will be charged to an individual fund specifically set up for HHAP-3 at the County Auditor's Office. All invoices (Not just HHAP) are tracked at the department level through an Excel spreadsheet. Each month, the tracker is reconciled against our funds. If any discrepancies are found, research is conducted to verify the correction needed to bring the tracker and funds into balance.

## V. Threshold Requirements

All applicants **must meet** the local and HUD defined threshold requirements as detailed below. If a request/application does not demonstrate that the proposed project meets these threshold requirements, the Applicant will be advised that its request will not be considered for funding.

- The Applicant must be a public agency or private nonprofit agency, requesting HHAP funds to provide direct services to homeless persons or persons at-risk of becoming homeless.
- The costs and activities for which funding is being requested must be eligible.
- All proposed projects are required to demonstrate evidence of direct collaboration with other agencies.
- Applicants must have been selected by their respective CoC Advisory board as an HHAP eligible project through a collaborative process. See **Attachment D** for the form.
- All applicants must obtain a HMIS/CE Participation Certification signed by the NorCal CoC HMIS Administrator showing active participation **and utilization** in HMIS in fiscal year 2022-23. See **Attachment B** for the Form.
- All applicants must obtain a Point In Time Certification signed by the CoC Local Advisory Board Chair. See **Attachment C** for the Form.

- All Applicants must have a CoC Local Advisory Board Approval certification, certifying the agency is an active member of the local CoC advisory board. See **Attachment D** for the Form.
  
- Participating County CoC Contract of Participation agreement must be in good standing with the Shasta County Housing & Community Action Agency; the contract must be fully executed and paid.
  
- All eligible activities must be provided in a manner consistent with the Housing First practices described in California Code of Regulations, title 25, section 8409, subdivision (b)(1)-(6). Under the Housing First model, services offered are as needed and requested on a voluntary basis and that do not make housing contingent on participation in services. See **Attachment E** for the Form.
  
- All eligible activities must be informed by a best-practices framework focused on moving individuals and families experiencing homelessness into permanent housing per Health and Safety Code Section 50217(a).
  
- All agencies receiving funds awarded through HHAP, must use the NorCal CoC Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to record client level data. In addition, the NorCal CoC Coordinated Entry System must be used to identify potential clients using VI-SPDAT scoring and collaboration with other entities within the county of operation.
  
- Applicants must be registered under the System of Awards (SAM). Visit [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) for more information. Proof of registration **must be** included with the application.



**V. CERTIFICATION**

I certify that:

1. To the best of my knowledge and belief, that information in this application is true and correct.
2. The undersigned is an authorized certifying official of the organization here represented and is authorized to submit this application on their behalf.
3. The organization responsible for carrying out the project activities under this proposal will comply with all applicable local and federal laws and regulations.

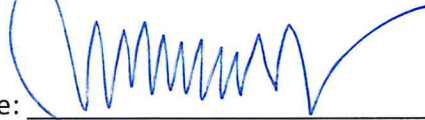
Organization Name: Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency

Project Name: Whole Person Care

Project Address: 818 South Main Street, Yreka, CA

Certifying Official: Sarah Collard, Ph.D.

Title: HHSA Director

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 3/16/2023



**HOUSING FIRST COMPLIANCE AND TRAINING CERTIFICATION**

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to persons who are experiencing homelessness. This approach is guided by the understanding that people need necessities like food and shelter before being required to gain employment, pursue life skills courses, or attend substance use education. Housing First does not require persons experiencing homelessness to address behavioral health issues or to graduate through a series of programs before accessing safe, stable housing.

Health and Safety Code section 50220.7(g) mandates that all recipients of round 3 program allocation shall comply with Housing First as provided in Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 8255) of Division 8 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. Under the Housing First model, services offered are as needed and requested on a voluntary basis and that do not make housing contingent on participation in services. Agencies must participate in annual Housing First training and utilize Housing First practices.

By signing this document, I certify that Siskiyou Co. HHS understands that  
(agency) HHAP-3  
housing is the foundation for life improvement and if awarded ~~ESC CV~~ funds will:

1. Adhere to Housing First principles
2. Participate in annual mandatory Housing First training

Name Sarah Collard

Title HHSA Director

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

Agency HHSA

Date 3/13/23