****

**HOMELESS COORDINATING AND FINANCING COUNCIL**

**September 2019**

Council Goals

Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Chapter 6.5, added by Senate Bill (SB) 1380 (Chapter 847, Statutes of 2016), identified specific goals for the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (Council). SB 918 (Chapter 841, Statutes of 2018) added a specific focus on youth homelessness to the Council’s goals.

The Council goals as defined in statute are to:

1. Oversee implementation of Housing First guidelines and regulations by state agencies and departments administering state programs[[1]](#footnote-2) for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
2. Identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California.
3. Create partnerships among state agencies and departments, local government agencies, participants in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care program, federal agencies, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, nonprofit entities working to end homelessness, homeless service providers, and the private sector, to identify, develop, and implement strategies to end homelessness.
4. Promote systems integration to increase efficiency and effectiveness while focusing on designing systems to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied youth under the age of 25.
5. Coordinate existing funding and applications for competitive funding (without restructuring or changing any existing allocations or allocation formulas).
6. Make policy and procedural recommendations to legislators and other governmental entities.
7. Identify and seek funding opportunities for state entities that have programs to end homelessness, including federal and philanthropic funding opportunities, and facilitate and coordinate state entities’ efforts to obtain that funding.
8. Broker agreements between state agencies and departments and between state agencies, departments and local jurisdictions to align and coordinate resources, reduce administrative burdens of accessing existing resources, and foster common applications for services, operating and capital funding.
9. Serve as a statewide facilitator, coordinator, and policy development resource on ending homelessness in California.
10. Report to the Governor, federal Cabinet members, and the Legislature on homelessness and work to reduce homelessness.
11. Ensure accountability and results in meeting the strategies and goals of the Council.
12. Identify and implement strategies to fight homelessness in small communities and rural areas.
13. Create a statewide data system or warehouse that collects data through Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS), with the ultimate goal of matching data on homelessness to programs impacting homeless recipients of state programs, such as Medi-Cal and CalWORKS.
14. Set goals to prevent and end homelessness among California’s youth.
15. Work to improve the safety, health, and welfare of young people experiencing homelessness in the state.
16. Increase system integration and coordinating efforts to prevent homelessness among youth who are currently or formerly involved in the child welfare system or the juvenile justice system.
17. Lead efforts to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy, and practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness.
18. Identify best practices to ensure homeless minors who may have experienced maltreatment are appropriately referred to, or have the ability to self-refer to, the child welfare system.

Council Members

The Council is comprised of up to 19 members.

The Governor appoints up to 17 members from different state agencies and departments, representatives of the community, stakeholder organizations, advocates or other members of the public, including the following:

1. The Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, or his or her designee, serves as Chair of the Council.
2. A representative from the Department of Housing and Community Development
3. A representative from the Department of Social Services
4. A representative from the California Housing Finance Authority
5. A representative from the Department of Health Care Services
6. A representative from the Department of Veterans Affairs
7. A representative from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
8. A representative from the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee
9. A representative from the Victim Services Program in the Division of Grants Management within the Office of Emergency Services
10. A representative from the Department of Transportation
11. A person with lived experience who resides in California
12. A person with lived experience as a youth who resides in California
13. Two representatives from local agencies or organizations that participate in the HUD Continuum of Care program
14. State advocates or other members of the public or state agencies, at the Governor’s discretion

The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly each appoint a representative from a stakeholder organization.

1. State programs are defined as any programs a California state agency or department funds, implements, or administers for the purpose of providing housing or housing-based services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, with the exception of federally funded programs with requirements inconsistent with Housing First or programs that fund emergency shelters. (Health & Safety Code section 8255(e)). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)