



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

HHAP Round 5 Application

Part 1: Regional Identification and Contracting Information

Steps to complete this section:

1. Select the CoC Region.
2. Indicate which of the Eligible Applicants are participating in this HHAP-5 application.
3. For each participating Eligible Applicant, you will also be prompted to indicate whether and how the Eligible Applicant intends to contract with the state (i.e., indicate the Administrative Entity for that eligible applicant's HHAP-5 Allocation).

Please select the Continuum of Care region

Merced City & County CoC

Application Participation Guidance:

Cal ICH encourages eligible applicants to apply in collaboration with all eligible applicants in their CoC Region and submit a single Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan. Applicants may apply together and still receive funds separately.

- *Large Cities **must** apply as part of the regional application with the County and CoC.*
- *Counties **must** apply as part of a regional application with the CoC and any overlapping Large Cities.*
 - *In a multi-county CoC: Counties **are strongly encouraged to** apply in collaboration with other counties that are served by the same CoC.*
- *A CoC that serves a single county **must** apply as part of the regional application with the County and any overlapping Large Cities.*
- *A CoC that serves multiple counties **must either:***

- *Apply as part of a regional application with multiple Counties and any overlapping Large Cities; and/or*
- *Participate in the regional application of **each** overlapping County and the Large Cities therein.*

Contracting Guidance:

Each Eligible Applicant (Large City, County, and CoC) has the discretion to receive their base allocation directly or may designate an Eligible Applicant in their region to serve as their Administrative Entity. This selection will indicate to Cal ICH which Eligible Applicant will enter into contract with the state to receive and administer each Eligible Applicant's HHAP-5 allocation.

The Administrative Entity is responsible for HHAP funds and meeting the terms and conditions of the contract. Broadly speaking, this means administering funds, contracting (when necessary) with sub-recipients, and reporting on HHAP-5 dollars and activities to Cal ICH.

- *If you plan to contract with the state to receive and administer **only** your (single) HHAP-5 allocation, select: "Will enter into contract with the state to receive and administer their HHAP-5 allocation individually" under the contracting selection.*
- *If you **do not plan to contract with the state** and instead plan to identify another participating Eligible Applicant in the region to enter into contract with the state to receive and administer your HHAP-5 allocation, select: "Identify another participating Eligible Applicant in their region to enter into contract with the state to receive and administer their HHAP-5 allocation" under the contracting selection. You will then be prompted to designate the Administrative Entity from a list of eligible applicants in the region.*
- *If you plan to contract with the state to **receive and administer multiple HHAP-5 allocations** within your region, select "Will enter into contract with the state to receive and administer their HHAP-5 allocation and allocation(s) from other Eligible Applicants in the region" under the contracting selection.*

Merced County CoC Region

Merced County CoC

CA-520 Participation

Is participating in this single collaborative application with the regional partner(s) listed.

CA-520 Contracting

Will enter into contract with the state to receive and administer their HHAP-5 allocation individually

Contact Title

Deputy Director

Name

John Ceccoli

Email

Phone

John.Ceccoli@countyofmerced.com

(209) 385-3000 x5880

Merced County

Merced County Participation

Is participating in this single collaborative application with the regional partner(s) listed.

Merced County Contracting

Will enter into contract with the state to receive and administer their HHAP-5 allocation individually

Contact Title

Fiscal Manager

Name

Ruby Awesome

Email

Ruby.Awesome@countyofmerced.com

Phone

(209) 385-3000 x5060

Number of Contracts

2

Part 2. Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan

Participating Jurisdictions' Roles and Responsibilities

Steps to complete this section:

1. Identify and describe the specific roles and responsibilities of **each participating Eligible Applicant** in the region regarding:
 - o Outreach and site coordination;
 - o Siting and use of available land;
 - o Development of interim and permanent housing options; and
 - o Coordination and connection to the delivery of services for individuals experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness within the region.
2. Describe and explain how all Participating Jurisdictions are coordinating in each area.

Optional: You may also include roles and responsibilities of small jurisdictions in the region that elect to engage and collaborate on the plan.

Guidance:

Each Eligible Applicant must identify and describe their role in the region for **each** table.

To add additional jurisdictions, click "Add a Participating Jurisdiction" near the bottom of each table.

Outreach & Site Coordination

Participating Jurisdictions	Roles & Responsibilities
Merced CoC	Each incorporated city within the Merced CoC geographical area will be responsible for encampment outreach for the unsheltered populations within their jurisdiction as well as coordination to ensure no duplication of services.
Merced County	Merced County will be responsible for encampment outreach for the unsheltered population within the unincorporated areas of the county as well as coordination to ensure no duplication of services.

Given the individual roles and responsibilities identified above, describe and explain how all participating jurisdictions are or will begin to coordinate these efforts to ensure comprehensive outreach and site coordination to individuals experiencing and at-risk of experiencing homelessness in the region.

Regional Coordination Narrative - Outreach & Site Coordination

The Merced CoC currently has an active Outreach committee, comprised of approximately 30 individuals from various organizations throughout the Merced CoC geographical area, which encompasses the County of Merced. The committee's efforts are currently designed to ensure collaboration between all outreach workers in the CoC and County. This collaboration includes processes for ensuring no duplication of benefits exists among outreach as well as standardized systematic processes used across the board for enhanced service delivery to individuals experiencing and at risk of homelessness.

Land Use & Development

Participating Jurisdictions	Roles & Responsibilities
Merced CoC	Each incorporated city within the Merced CoC geographical area will be responsible for working with their appropriate departments to use available land for housing options within their jurisdiction.
Merced County	Merced County will be responsible for working with their appropriate departments to use available land for housing options within their jurisdiction.

Given the individual roles and responsibilities identified above, describe and explain how all participating jurisdictions are or will begin to coordinate these efforts to use and develop available land to address and end homelessness in the region.

Regional Coordination Narrative - Land Use & Development

Merced County has applied for and been awarded Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funds to be used for the development of low-barrier interim housing. These funds have been awarded, through competitive bid processes, to an independent sector community provider. With these funds, the community provider will secure at least 5 mini-navigation centers for the shelter and case management of

approximately 30 people experiencing homelessness in the unincorporated areas of the County. The City of Merced has also opened one new permanent supportive housing Homekey project and expects to open another one within the next six months for, these projects also include case management. Over 100 units will be available through these projects. In addition, Merced CoC has provided rapid rehousing funding to support the operations of the first Homekey project. The Merced CoC Board has prioritized funding to support permanent housing projects.

Development of Interim and Permanent Housing Options

Participating Jurisdictions	Roles & Responsibilities
Merced CoC	Each incorporated city within the Merced CoC geographical area will be responsible for working with their appropriate departments to use available land for housing options within their jurisdiction. This includes non-congregate and congregate emergency shelters for the unsheltered population within their jurisdiction. The number of shelter beds needed shall be determined by the concentration of homelessness in each incorporated jurisdiction.
Merced County	Merced County will be responsible for working with their appropriate departments to use available land for housing options within their jurisdiction. This includes non-congregate and congregate emergency shelters for the unsheltered population within their jurisdiction. The number of shelter beds needed shall be determined by the concentration of homelessness in each incorporated jurisdiction.

Given the individual roles and responsibilities identified above, describe and explain how all participating jurisdictions are or will begin to coordinate these efforts to develop adequate interim and permanent housing options to address and end homelessness in the region.

Regional Coordination Narrative - Shelter, Interim, and PH Options

Merced CoC with the support of Merced County has created a robust homeless prevention system to identify those most likely to become homeless and ensure they receive necessary resources to prevent homelessness, created a shelter diversion system to divert households from entering emergency shelter through rapid rehousing, enhanced community partnerships. Strategic efforts have been made to create the necessary emergency shelter beds needed. Merced County has established a 76-bed low-barrier, 24/7 congregate Navigation Center that includes case management and housing navigation planning services. The Merced CoC has established a 50-bed low-barrier, 24/7 congregate shelter that includes case management and housing navigation planning services. Merced County and Merced CoC have bridge housing homes, that a low barrier, mini navigation center non-congregate homes with a total of 96 shelter beds.

Coordination of & Connection to Service Delivery

Participating Jurisdictions	Roles & Responsibilities
Merced CoC	All providers within the Merced CoC utilize the same standardized assessment tool to evaluate all individuals experiencing homelessness for data entry into the homeless management information system. These assessment tools will match individuals to their needed services within the homeless response system. Merced CoC's coordinated entry system (CES) is responsible for referring clients to eligible wrap around

services delivered by community-based organizations within the Merced CoC.

Merced County

Merced County is responsible for administering health and social safety net programs on behalf of the state and for providing these services in a manner that reaches individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Merced County is responsible for providing specialty mental health and substance use disorder services to low-income persons and providing these services in a manner that reaches individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Given the individual roles and responsibilities identified above, describe how all participating jurisdictions are or will begin to coordinate to provide the full array of services, shelter, and permanent housing solutions to people experiencing and at-risk of experiencing homelessness in the region.

Regional Coordination Narrative - Coordination & Connection to Service Delivery

Merced County currently offers a wide array of mainstream non-cash services and cash benefits including CalWORKs, CalFresh, and Medi-Cal to the community. The Merced Managed Care Plan has contracted several local providers to provide Enhanced Care Management and Community Support services to those clients in need of housing and wrap around services. Merced County and Merced CoC have an established relationship with community-based organizations to refer clients to health and social safety net programs as well as specialty mental health and substance use disorder services.

System Performance Measures & Improvement Plan

Steps to complete this section:

1. Identify the most recent system performance measures for the region.
2. Describe the key action(s) the region intends to take to improve each system performance measure.

Guidance:

Cal ICH shall provide each region with system performance measures by CoC, with the exception of the LA region, which will receive data from all four CoCs within LA County. Applicants must enter that data in the corresponding measures fields in the application. Applicants should not adjust the data provided even if the geographic region of the data does not perfectly align with the participating applicant geography of this application.

*The application must include **at least one** key action for **each** system performance measure. All columns must be filled out for each action.*

For "Funding Type" select one of the options. If you select the blank field, you may type in a unique funding source type.

To add additional actions or racial equity measures, click the appropriate "Add" buttons near the bottom of

each table.

Note: While Cal ICH expects most of the disparities listed to be based on race or ethnicity, applicants may identify other populations that are also overrepresented among people experiencing homelessness in the region.

Definitions:

- **Key Actions** may include a brief description of a strategic initiative or step identified to address or improve the specific system performance measure. This can be a policy, program, partnership, target measure, or any other approach which reflects an improvement and delivers positive impact. Provide a clear description of the action and its intended outcome.
- **Lead Entity** should include the name of the regional Eligible Applicant responsible for managing the key action.
- **Collaborating Entity/ies** may include a group, organization, or jurisdiction within your region working to address or improve the system performance measure. This can be another participating jurisdiction, a system partner, or any organization actively participating in the key action.
- **Timeframe** should include a target date for completion of the key action.
- **Success Measurement Methods** may include a systematic approach or tool used to assess the effectiveness and impact of the key action on the system performance measure. This can be quantitative measures, qualitative feedback, or any combination that provides insight into the progress and outcomes pertaining to the key action. Provide a clear description of how you plan to track and report on the success of your key action.

SPM 1a: Number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness.

SPM 1a
3,286

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Homelessness Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CalAIM • CDBG • ESG • HSP • HomeSafe • SSVF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cal • AIM-State • CD • BG-Federal • ES • G- Federal 	Local Jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Non-profit Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMIS Data Reporting • Incorporate homelessness prevention services into the Merced CoC's

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HS P - State HomeSafe - State SS VF - Federal 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair Based Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated Entry System by the end of calendar year 2024. Increase the number of clients served by homelessness prevention services by 15% by the end of calendar year 2026.
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Improved HMIS Data Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CESH • HHAP • ESG • HHIP • CalAIM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CE • SH - State • HH • AP - State • ES • G - Federal • HHI • P - State • Cal • AIM - State 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced County Community Action Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Local Jurisdictions • Non-profit Organizations • Fair Based Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/31/2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMIS Data Quality Reporting • Implement HMIS Data Report Cards by the end of calendar year 2024. • Train all providers on the HMIS Data Report Cards and their mitigating factors (data completeness, accuracy, and timeliness) by the end of calendar year 2024. • Decrease missing information by 25% by the end of calendar year 2025. • Decrease data issues by 10% by the end of calendar year 2025.
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Rapid Re-Housing & Dedicated Affordable Housing Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG • HHAP • HOME • Homekey • PLHA • NHTF • MHP • REAP • HCV • EHV • HUD • VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD • BG – Federal • HH • AP - State • HO • ME - State • Ho • mekey - State • PL • HA - State • NH • TF - State • MH • P – State • RE • AP - State • HC • V - Federal • EH • V - Federal • HU • D VASH - Federal 	Local Jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Housing Authority • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2029 Housing Inventory Count and HMIS Service Data • Increase the number of dedicated affordable housing units under the payment assistance of Rapid Re-Housing dollars within the Merced CoC geographical area for individuals experiencing homelessness by the end of calendar year 2028.
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Case Management & Enhanced Care Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CESH • HHAP • CoC • ESG • HHIP • CalAIM • HSP • HDAP • Home Safe • BHBH • HUD • VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CE • SH - State • HH • Co • C - Federal • ES • G - Federal • HHI • P - State • Cal AIM – State • HS • P - State • HD • AP - State • Home Safe - State • BH 	Merced CoC & Managed Care Plans (MCP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed Care Plan • Local Jurisdictions • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and procedures. • Merced CoC approval of proposed case management training series. • Enhanced Case Management total enrollment data for the Merced CoC geographical region. • Develop and implement operational policies and
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BH - State •
 HU
 D VASH -
 Federal

procedures for case management services by the end of calendar year 2025.

- Create and implement a case management training series module by the end of calendar year 2026.
- Enroll 2,000 clients into enhanced care management services by the end of calendar year 2026.

SPM 7.1a: Racial and ethnic disparities among those accessing services who are experiencing homelessness.

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
American Indian or Alaska Native	119
Asian	53
Black or African American	570
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	22
White	2,296
Multiple Races	180
Unknown	46

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Racial Equity Improvement	• HHAP	• HH	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	• Impleme

Plan	AP – State	<p>nted racial and gender equity analysis tool.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service providers by May 2024. • Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.
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SPM 1b: Number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night (unsheltered PIT count)

SPM 1b
394

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Homelessness Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CalAIM • CDBG • ESG • HSP • HomeSafe • SSVF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cal • AIM-State • CD • BG-Federal • ES • G- Federal • HS • P - State • HomeSafe - State • SS • VF - Federal 	Local Jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMIS Data Reporting • Incorporate homelessness prevention services into the Merced CoC's Coordinated Entry System by the end of calendar year 2024. • Increase the number of clients served by homelessness prevention services by

15% by the end of calendar year 2026.

Street Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CalAIM• HHIP• ESG• CESH• HHAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cal• AIM - State• HHI• P - State• ES• G - Federal• CE• SH - State• HH• AP - State	Merced CoC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Jurisdictions• Non-profit Organizations• Faith Based Organizations	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Published street outreach and engagement review report to the Merced CoC Website.• System wide outline published to the Merced CoC website.• Street outreach and engagement operational hours.• Merced CoC approval of proposed street outreach training series.• Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and procedures.• Conduct a review of and publish to the Merced CoC website a street outreach and engagement access review report by the end calendar year 2026.• Develop and implement a system wide street outreach and engagement hotline by the end of calendar year 2026.
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- Support the increase of operational hours beyond 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday.
- Create and implement a street outreach and engagement training series module by the end of calendar year 2026.
- Develop and implement operational policies and procedures street outreach and engagement services by the end of calendar year 2026.

Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • • • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHIP • CalAIM • ESG • CESH • HHAP • CSBG • BHBH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHI • P - State • Cal • AIM - State • ES • G - Federal • CE • SH - State • HH • AP - State • CS • BG – State • BH • BH - State 	Local Jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2027 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) • Maintain the 352 total year-round emergency shelter beds represented in the 2024 HIC Report. • Increase the number of year-round emergency shelter and/or transitional housing beds by at least one bed by the end of calendar year 2026.
Rapid Re-	•	CDBG	•	Local	•	12/31/2028	• 2029

Housing & Dedicated Affordable Housing Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHAP • HOME • Homekey • PLHA • NHTF • MHP • REAP • HCV • EHV • HUD VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CD BG – Federal HH AP - State HO ME - State Ho mekey - State PL HA - State NH TF - State MH P – State RE AP - State HC V - Federal • EH V - Federal • HU D VASH - Federal 	Jurisdiction s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merced CoC • Housing Authority • Non-profit Organizations • Fair Housing Organizations 	Housing Inventory Count and HMIS Service Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of dedicated affordable housing units under the payment assistance of Rapid Re-Housing dollars within the Merced CoC geographical area for individuals experiencing homelessness by the end of calendar year 2028.
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SPM 7.1b: Racial and ethnic disparities among those experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
American Indian or Alaska Native	41
Asian	8
Black or African American	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
White	238
Multiple Races	77
Unknown Race	0

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
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achieve the action

Racial Equity Improvement Plan	•	HHAP	•	HH AP – State	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented racial and gender equity analysis tool. Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service providers by May 2024. Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.
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SPM 2: Number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness for the first time.

SPM 2
1,827

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Homelessness Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CalAIM CDBG ESG HSP HomeSafe SSVF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cal AIM-State CD BG-Federal ES G- Federal HS P - State HomeSafe - State SS VF - 	Local Jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merced CoC Non-profit Organizations Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HMIS Data Reporting Incorporate homelessness prevention services into the Merced CoC's Coordinated Entry System by the end of calendar year 2024. Increase the number of

Federal				clients served by homelessness prevention services by 15% by the end of calendar year 2026.	
Rapid Re-Housing & Dedicated Affordable Housing Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG • HHAP • HOME • Homekey • PLHA • NHTF • MHP • REAP • HCV • EHV • HUD • VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD • BG – Federal • HH • AP - State • HO • ME - State • Ho • mekey - State • PL • HA - State • NH • TF - State • MH • P – State • RE • AP - State • HC • V - Federal • EH • V - Federal • HU • D VASH - Federal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Jurisdictions • Merced CoC • Housing Authority • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/31/2028 • 2029 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Inventory Count and HMIS Service Data • Increase the number of dedicated affordable housing units under the payment assistance of Rapid Re-Housing dollars within the Merced CoC geographical area for individuals experiencing homelessness by the end of calendar year 2028.

SPM 7.2: Racial and ethnic disparities in the number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness for the first time

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
American Indian or Alaska Native	52
Asian	35
Black or African American	292
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	15

White	1,297
Multiple Races	99
Unknown Race	37

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Racial Equity Improvement Plan	• HHAP	• HH AP – State	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented racial and gender equity analysis tool. • Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service providers by May 2024. • Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.

SPM 3: Number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.

SPM 3
729

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Rapid Re-Housing & Dedicated Affordable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG • HHAP • HOME • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD BG – Federal • 	Local Jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • 	12/31/2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2029 Housing Inventory Count and HMIS

Housing Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homekey - State PLHA NHTF MHP REAP HCV EHV HUD VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HH HO ME - State Ho mekey - State PL HA - State NH TF - State MH P - State RE AP - State HC V - Federal EH V - Federal HU D VASH - Federal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Authority Non-profit Organizations Faith Based Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Data Increase the number of dedicated affordable housing units under the payment assistance of Rapid Re-Housing dollars within the Merced CoC geographical area for individuals experiencing homelessness by the end of calendar year 2028.
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Case Management & Enhanced Care Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CESH HHAP CoC ESG HHIP CalAIM HSP HDAP Home Safe BHBH HUD VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CE SH - State HH Co C - Federal ES G - Federal HHI P - State Cal AIM - State HS P - State HD AP - State Home Safe - State BH BH - State HU D VASH - Federal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merced CoC & Managed Care Plans (MCP) Local Jurisdictions Non-profit Organizations Faith Based Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12/31/2026 Managed Care Plan Local Jurisdictions Non-profit Organizations Faith Based Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and procedures. Merced CoC approval of proposed case management training series. Enhanced Case Management total enrollment data for the Merced CoC geographical region. Develop and implement operational policies and procedures for case management services by the
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- end of calendar year 2025.
- Create and implement a case management training series module by the end of calendar year 2026.
- Enroll 2,000 clients into enhanced care management services by the end of calendar year 2026.

SPM 7.3: Racial and ethnic disparities in the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
American Indian or Alaska Native	20
Asian	12
White	467
Multiple Races	31
Black or African American	177

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Racial Equity Improvement Plan	• HHAP	• HH AP – State	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	• Implemented racial and gender equity analysis tool. • Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service

providers by May 2024.

- Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.

SPM 4: Average length of time that people experienced homelessness while accessing services

SPM 4
220

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Street Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CalAIM • HHIP • ESG • CESH • HHAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cal • AIM - State • HHI • P - State • ES • G - Federal • CE • SH – State • HH • AP - State 	Merced CoC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Jurisdictions • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published street outreach and engagement review report to the Merced CoC Website. • System wide outline published to the Merced CoC website. • Street outreach and engagement operational hours. • Merced CoC approval of proposed street outreach training series. • Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and procedures.

- Conduct a review of and publish to the Merced CoC website a street outreach and engagement access review report by the end calendar year 2026.
- Develop and implement a system wide street outreach and engagement hotline by the end of calendar year 2026.
- Support the increase of operational hours beyond 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday.
- Create and implement a street outreach and engagement training series module by the end of calendar year 2026.
- Develop and implement operational policies and procedures street outreach and engagement services by the end of calendar year 2026.

Case Management & Enhanced Care Management

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AP - State

Merced CoC & Managed Care Plans (MCP)

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Ma
naged Care
Plan

12/31/2026

Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and

• CalAIM	Co	Loc	procedures.
• HSP	C - Federal	al	• Merced
• HDAP	•	Jurisdiction	CoC approval of
• Home	ES	s	proposed case
Safe	G - Federal	•	management
• BHBH	•	Non	training series.
• HUD	HHI	-profit	•
VASH	P - State •	Organizatio	Enhanc
	Cal	ns	ed Case
	AIM – State	•	Management
	•	Fait	total enrollment
	HS	h Based	data for the
	P - State •	Organizatio	Merced CoC
	HD	ns	geographical
	AP - State •		region.
	Ho		• Develop
	me Safe -		and implement
	State •		operational
	BH		policies and
	BH - State •		procedures for
	HU		case
	D VASH -		management
	Federal		services by the
			end of calendar
			year 2025.
			• Create
			and implement
			a case
			management
			training series
			module by the
			end of calendar
			year 2026.
			• Enroll
			2,000 clients
			into enhanced
			care
			management
			services by the
			end of calendar
			year 2026.

SPM 7.4: Racial and ethnic disparities in the average length of time that people experienced homelessness while accessing services.

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
American Indian or Alaska Native	288
Asian	192

Black or African American	243
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	131
White	206
Multiple Races	320
Unknown Race	159

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Racial Equity Improvement Plan	• HHAP	• HH AP – State	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented racial and gender equity analysis tool. • Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service providers by May 2024. • Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.

SPM 5: Percent of people who return to homelessness within 6 months of exiting homelessness response system to permanent housing.

SPM 5
9.00%

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
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action

Case Management & Enhanced Care Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CESH • HHAP • CoC • ESG • HHIP • CalAIM • HSP • HDAP • Home Safe • BHBH • HUD VASH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CE • SH - State • HH • AP - State • Co • C - Federal • ES • G - Federal • HHI • P - State • Cal • AIM – State • HS • P - State • HD • AP - State • Home Safe - State • BH • BH - State • HU • D VASH - Federal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC & Managed Care Plans (MCP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed Care Plan • Local Jurisdictions • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and procedures. • Merced CoC approval of proposed case management training series. • Enhanced Case Management total enrollment data for the Merced CoC geographical region. • Develop and implement operational policies and procedures for case management services by the end of calendar year 2025. • Create and implement a case management training series module by the end of calendar year 2026. • Enroll 2,000 clients into enhanced care management services by the end of calendar year 2026.
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SPM 7.5: Racial and ethnic disparities in the percent of people who return to homelessness within 6 months of exiting homelessness response system to permanent housing.

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
American Indian or Alaska Native	29.00%
Asian	0.00%
Black or African American	11.00%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.00%
White	8.00%
Multiple Races	14.00%
Unknown Race	0.00%

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Racial Equity Improvement Plan	• HHAP	• HH AP – State	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented racial and gender equity analysis tool. Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service providers by May 2024. Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.

SPM 6: Number of people with successful placements from street outreach projects.

SPM 6
36

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding	Funding	Lead	Collaborating	Target	Success
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	Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Type	Entity	ng Entity/ies	Date for Completion	Measurement Method
Street Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CalAIM • HHIP • ESG • CESH • HHAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cal AIM - State • HHI P - State • ES G - Federal • CE SH – State • HH AP - State 	Merced CoC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Jurisdictions • Non-profit Organizations • Faith Based Organizations 	12/31/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published street outreach and engagement review report to the Merced CoC Website. • System wide outline published to the Merced CoC website. • Street outreach and engagement operational hours. • Merced CoC approval of proposed street outreach training series. • Merced CoC approval of proposed operational policies and procedures. • Conduct a review of and publish to the Merced CoC website a street outreach and engagement access review report by the end calendar year 2026. • Develop and implement a system wide street outreach and engagement hotline by the end of calendar

year 2026.

- Support the increase of operational hours beyond 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday.

- Create and implement a street outreach and engagement training series module by the end of calendar year 2026.

- Develop and implement operational policies and procedures street outreach and engagement services by the end of calendar year 2026.

Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing

- HHIP
 - CalAIM
 - ESG
 - CESH
 - HHAP
 - CSBG
 - BHBH
- HHI
 - P - State
 - Cal
 - AIM - State
 - ES
 - G - Federal
 - CE
 - SH - State
 - HH
 - AP - State
 - CS
 - BG - State
 - BH
 - BH - State

Local Jurisdictions

- Merced CoC
- Non-profit Organizations
- Faith Based Organizations

12/31/2026

- 2027 Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
- Maintain the 352 total year-round emergency shelter beds represented in the 2024 HIC Report.
- Increase the number of year-round emergency shelter and/or transitional housing beds by at least one bed by the end of calendar year 2026.

SPM 7.6: Racial and ethnic disparities in the number of people with successful placements from street outreach projects.

Racial/Ethnic Group	Measure
White	22

Key Actions PM 1

Key Action	Funding Source(s) the region intends to use to achieve the action	Funding Type	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies	Target Date for Completion	Success Measurement Method
Racial Equity Improvement Plan	• HHAP	• HH AP – State	Merced CoC	Merced County	12/31/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented racial and gender equity analysis tool. • Create a racial and gender equity analysis tool for use by service providers by May 2024. • Train service providers to use the tool by the end of calendar year 2024.

Equity Improvement Plan

Steps to Complete this Section:

1. Identify and describe the key actions the region will take to ensure racial and gender equity in:
 - Service delivery;
 - Housing placements;
 - Housing retention; and
 - Identify any changes to procurement or other means to affirm equitable access to housing

and services for groups overrepresented among residents experiencing homelessness.

2. Identify if place-based encampment resolution is occurring in the region and if so, the CoC must describe and provide evidence of collaboration with the cities or counties providing encampment resolution services that addresses how people served through encampment resolution have or will be prioritized for permanent housing within the Coordinated Entry System.

Optional: upload any evidence the region would like to provide regarding collaboration and/or prioritization as it relates to question 2.

Guidance:

Of the four tables below, the first three must include at a minimum one key action to address racial equity and one key action to address gender equity. The fourth and final table must include at least one key action.

To add additional actions, click "Add an Action" at the bottom of the table.

Definitions:

- **Key Actions** may include a brief description of a strategic initiative or step identified to address or improve the inequity. This can be a policy, program, partnership, target metric, or any other approach which reflects an improvement and delivers positive impact. Provide a clear description of the action and its intended outcome.
- **Lead Entity** should include the name of the regional Eligible Applicant responsible for managing the key action.
- **Collaborating Entity/ies** may include a group, organization, or jurisdiction within your region working to address or improve the inequity. This can be another participating jurisdiction, a system partner, or any organization actively participating in the key action.

Key Actions the Region Will Take to Ensure Racial and Gender Equity in Service Delivery

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
The Merced CoC has partnered with Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) to develop racial equity goals for the California Racial Equity Action Lab (CA REAL).	Merced CoC	Merced County
Merced CoC provides consulting services to Central California Alliance for Health at biweekly planning meetings with lived experience and equity consultant Homebase and supports Homebase during these meeting in their execution of a formal racial equity analysis for the Merced CoC geographical area.	Merced CoC	Homebase

Key Actions the Region Will Take to Ensure Racial and Gender Equity in Housing Placements

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
Merced CoC provides annual racial and gender equity and equal access for housing to all services providers for housing placement.	Merced CoC	Community Based Organizations
Homeless service providers within the Merced CoC will utilize the standardized racial equity tool to identify racial, ethnic, and gender disparities in service delivery to help improve housing placements.	Merced CoC	Community Based Organizations

Key Actions the Region Will Take to Ensure Racial and Gender Equity in Housing Retention

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
Merced CoC provides annual racial and gender equity and equal access for housing to all services providers for housing retention.	Merced CoC	Community Based Organizations
Homeless service providers within the Merced CoC will utilize the standardized racial equity tool to identify racial, ethnic, and gender disparities in service delivery to help improve housing retention.	Merced CoC	Community Based Organizations

Key Actions the Region Will Take to Change Procurement or Other Means to Affirm Equitable Access to Housing and Services for Overrepresented Groups Among People Experiencing Homelessness in the Region

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
Racial Equity Improvement Plan	Merced CoC	Merced County

Is place-based encampment resolution occurring within the region?

Yes

The CoC must describe and provide evidence of collaboration with the cities or counties providing encampment resolution services that addresses how people served through encampment resolution have or will be prioritized for permanent housing within the Coordinated Entry System.

Narrative for place-based encampment resolution

Merced CoC applied for the Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 to address encampments within the City of Atwater. This proposal resulted in the collaboration between the City of Atwater, Merced CoC,

Merced County, and Caltrans. This proposal sought to prioritize 27 unsheltered individuals for permanent housing placement within the CES. This proposal was not awarded funding, so the Merced CoC is pursuing an application under the Encampment Resolution Round 3. This new proposal will also prioritize unsheltered individuals within the City of Atwater for permanent housing placement within the CES. The Merced CoC has also established the Outreach Committee which has had at least 22 participants from 11 different organizations. This has included, but is not limited to, Domestic Violence service providers, Merced Police Department, APS, ECM Providers, homeless service providers, etc. This collaboration has resulted in major improvements to standardizing approaches for systemwide outreach responses to unsheltered individuals within encampments and others hard to reach areas. Merced County has also formed a service collaborative initiative called the DART Team. This is a group comprised of Police Department staff, Social Workers, and Mental Health workers aims to provide a wholistic approach to addressing quality of life issues for individuals within our community.

Optional Upload: Evidence of Collaboration and/or Prioritization

City of Atwater Letter of Acknowledgement.pdf

Plan to Reduce the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Upon Exiting an Institutional Setting

Steps to Complete this Section:

1. Identify and describe the key actions **each participating Eligible Applicant** will take to reduce the number of people falling into homelessness as they exit institutional settings including:
 - o Jails
 - o Prisons
 - o Hospitals:
 - o Other Institutional Settings (such as foster care, behavioral health facilities, etc. as applicable in the region)

Guidance:

At a minimum, if an institutional setting is present in an Eligible Applicant's jurisdiction, the Eligible Applicant must identify their role.

To add additional actions, click "Add an Action" at the bottom of the table.

If an institution is not present in a jurisdiction, type N/A.

Definitions:

- **Key Actions** may include a brief description of a strategic initiative or step identified to address or improve the specific performance measure. This can be a policy, program, partnership, target measure, or any other approach which reflects an improvement and delivers positive impact. Provide a clear description of the action and its intended outcome.

- **Lead Entity** should include the name of the regional Eligible Applicant responsible for managing the key action.
- **Collaborating Entity** may include a group, organization, or jurisdiction within your region working to address or improve the performance measure. This can be another participating jurisdiction, a system partner, or any organization actively participating in the key action.

Key Actions to Reduce the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Upon Exiting a Jail

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
Homeless Court Program - The Homeless Court Program seeks to provide individuals experiencing homelessness access to justice and address the legal barriers that prevent them from achieving self-sufficiency, while addressing the underlying cause(s) of their homelessness. Prior to being seen at the Homeless Court Program participants work with homeless supportive services organizations to identify goals to overcome the causes of their homelessness, and are therefore in a stronger position to successfully comply with court orders. The Homeless Court Program combines a progressive plea bargain system, alternative sentencing structure, assurances of no custody, and proof of program activities to address criminal offenses. The Homeless Court Program is designed for efficiency; the majority of cases are heard and resolved in one hearing.	Mission Merced Inc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Merced County • Superior Court of Merced County • Public Defender's Office • District Attorney's Office
Merced County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services - connects directly with the court system in Merced County and offers a wide variety of programs that assist justice involved individuals and help them improve quality of life through their collaborative Mental Health Court.	Merced County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superior Court of Merced County • Public Defender's Office • District Attorney's Office
Pathway to Wellness Program – 16 transitional housing beds dedicated to homeless individuals exiting jails and prisons funded through prop 47 grant.	Mission Merced Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Merced County Probation

Central California Alliance for Health, Merced County's Managed Care Plan (MCP) currently provides through the CalAIM initiative Short Term Post Hospitalization (STPH) to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. This is one of the 14 identified Community Supports provided through CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) that are discharged from institutional settings. Resident that have high medical or behavioral health needs with the opportunity to continue their medical/psychiatric/substance use disorder recovery immediately after exiting an inpatient hospital (either acute or psychiatric or Chemical Dependency and Recovery hospital), residential substance use disorder treatment or recovery facility, residential mental health treatment facility, correctional facility, nursing facility, or recuperative care and avoid further utilization of State plan services. Merced County is working with the MCP and ECM providers to transition five currently operating bridging homes, which provide 25 transitional housing beds, to support this activity. The MCP has also provided a \$2.5 million grant to an ECM provider in an effort to create 32 additional STPH housing beds.

Central California Alliance for Health

- Merced CoC
- Merced County
- Enhanced Care
- Management and Community Supports Providers

Housing Services

The Merced County Rescue Mission provides transitional housing and/or Sober Living Environment (SLC) to individuals who have been released from state prison, county jail, Iris Garrett Juvenile Justice Correctional Complex, and/or are participating in a pre-trial diversion program/Pathways to Wellness. The Merced County Rescue Mission provides four thousand five hundred (4,500) bed days per year for up to seventy-seven (77) individuals. In addition to providing safe and stable housing, the Merced County Rescue Mission provides education services, employment services, peer navigation, case management, and cognitive

Merced County Probation Department

- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)
- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)-Subcommittee
- Local Advisory Committee (LAC)
- Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)
- Executive Community Corrections Partnership (ECCP)
- Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission

behavioral interventions to help individuals transform their lives.

Regarding the implementation of Cal-AIM, all stakeholders, including Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, participate in monthly meetings to identify operational gaps and identify opportunities to improve or modify existing suspension processes and pre-release enrollment to align with best practices. The goal is to provide targeted Medi-Cal services to youth/families within the 90-days before release. Intensive care management/care coordination, consultation services, psychotropic medications, and Medication Assistance Treatment (MAT) are in-reach services projected to be used.

Breaking Barriers

Breaking Barriers is a Merced County westside community neighborhood service center where system-involved individuals and their families as well as community members access needed services, resources, and support to help them thrive in their community. Services include employment support, mental health and substance use services, legal services, reentry services, case management services, linkages and referrals, parenting classes, trauma-informed care, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Pathways to Success

The Pathways to Success Program uses a multiagency collaborative approach to work with youth and their families needing different levels of care, services, and support. This center offers wrap-around reentry support to youth returning from Iris Garrett Juvenile Justice Correctional Complex. Services include employment support, reentry services, case management, linkages and referrals, parenting classes, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Adult Services

The Merced County Probation Department is responsible for the supervision of offenders released from county jail on mandatory supervision or released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on Post Release Community Supervision. Probation Officers refer clients to a multitude of services designed to reduce recidivism and crime, along with enforcing terms and conditions of release. Probation Officers conduct home visits, prepare revocation reports, write new law violation reports, drug tests, and monitor progress in treatment during the length of supervision. Services offered include housing support, employment and education support, case management, cognitive behavioral therapy, linkages and referrals, mental health and substance use services, and trauma-informed care.

Key Actions to Reduce the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Upon Exiting a Prison

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
Homeless Court Program - The Homeless Court Program seeks to provide individuals experiencing homelessness access to justice and address the legal barriers that prevent them from achieving self-sufficiency, while addressing the underlying cause(s) of their homelessness. Prior to being seen at the Homeless Court Program participants work with homeless supportive services organizations to identify goals to overcome the causes of their homelessness, and are therefore in a stronger position to successfully comply with court orders. The Homeless Court Program combines a progressive plea bargain system, alternative sentencing structure, assurances of no custody, and proof of program activities to address	Mission Merced Inc	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Merced CoC• Merced County Superior Court of Merced County• Public Defender's Office• District Attorney's Office

criminal offenses. The Homeless Court Program is designed for efficiency; the majority of cases are heard and resolved in one hearing.

Merced County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services - connects directly with the court system in Merced County and offers a wide variety of programs that assist justice involved individuals and help them improve quality of life.

Merced County

- Superior Court of Merced County
- Public Defender's Office
- District Attorney's Office

Pathway to Wellness Program – 16 beds dedicated to homeless individuals exiting jails and prisons funded through prop 47.

Mission Merced Inc.

- Merced CoC
- Merced County Probation

Central California Alliance for Health, Merced County's Managed Care Plan (MCP) currently provides through the CalAIM initiative Short Term Post Hospitalization (STPH) to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. This is one of the 14 identified Community Supports provided through CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) that are discharged from institutional settings. Resident that have high medical or behavioral health needs with the opportunity to continue their medical/psychiatric/substance use disorder recovery immediately after exiting an inpatient hospital (either acute or psychiatric or Chemical Dependency and Recovery hospital), residential substance use disorder treatment or recovery facility, residential mental health treatment facility, correctional facility, nursing facility, or recuperative care and avoid further utilization of State plan services. Merced County is working with the MCP and ECM providers to transition five currently operating bridging homes to support this activity. The MCP has also provided a \$2.5 million grant to an ECM provider in an effort to create 32 additional STPH housing beds.

Central California Alliance for Health

- Merced CoC
- Merced County
- Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports Providers

The purpose of this is to collect information on how correctional

agencies intend to use PATH Round 3 funding to support planning and implementation of processes that are necessary to effectuate the provision of targeted pre-release Medi-Cal services to individuals in state prisons, county jails, and youth correctional facilities who meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in the CalAIM Section 1115 Demonstration approval.

Housing Services

The Merced County Rescue Mission provides transitional housing and/or Sober Living Environment (SLC) to individuals who have been released from state prison, county jail, Iris Garrett Juvenile Justice Correctional Complex, and/or are participating in a pre-trial diversion program/Pathways to Wellness. The Merced County Rescue Mission provides four thousand five hundred (4,500) bed days per year for up to seventy-seven (77) individuals. In addition to providing safe and stable housing, the Merced County Rescue Mission provides education services, employment services, peer navigation, case management, and cognitive behavioral interventions to help individuals transform their lives. Regarding the implementation of Cal- AIM, all stakeholders, including Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, participate in monthly meetings to identify operational gaps and identify opportunities to improve or modify existing suspension processes and pre-release enrollment to align with best practices. The goal is to provide targeted Medi-Cal services to youth/families within the 90-days before release. Intensive care management/care coordination, consultation services, psychotropic medications, and Medication Assistance Treatment (MAT) are in-reach services projected to be used.

Breaking Barriers

Breaking Barriers is a Merced County

Merced County Probation Department

- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)
- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)-Subcommittee
- Local Advisory Committee (LAC)
- Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)
- Executive Community Corrections Partnership (ECCP)
- Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission

westside community neighborhood service center where system-involved individuals and their families as well as community members access needed services, resources, and support to help them thrive in their community. Services include employment support, mental health and substance use services, legal services, reentry services, case management services, linkages and referrals, parenting classes, trauma-informed care, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Pathways to Success

The Pathways to Success Program uses a multiagency collaborative approach to work with youth and their families needing different levels of care, services, and support. This center offers wrap-around reentry support to youth returning from Iris Garrett Juvenile Justice Correctional Complex. Services include employment support, reentry services, case management, linkages and referrals, parenting classes, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Adult Services

The Merced County Probation Department is responsible for the supervision of offenders released from county jail on mandatory supervision or released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on Post Release Community Supervision. Probation Officers refer clients to a multitude of services designed to reduce recidivism and crime, along with enforcing terms and conditions of release. Probation Officers conduct home visits, prepare revocation reports, write new law violation reports, drug tests, and monitor progress in treatment during the length of supervision. Services offered include housing support, employment and education support, case management, cognitive behavioral therapy, linkages and referrals, mental

health and substance use services,
and trauma-informed care.

Key Actions to Reduce the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Upon Exiting a Hospital

Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
<p>Central California Alliance for Health, Merced County's Managed Care Plan (MCP) currently provides through the CalAIM initiative Respite Care Community Support to Medi-Cal beneficiaries discharging from the hospital. This one of the 14 identified Community Supports provided through CalAIM Initiative for those that are discharged from hospitals.</p> <p>Hope Respite Care – 32 beds that offer participants access to the full suite of comprehensive health care services as well as case management, transportation services, mail pick up, housing navigation, access to supportive services.</p>	Mission Merced Inc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced County • Merced CoC • Mercy Medical Center Merced • Sutter Memorial Hospital Los Banos • Central California Alliance for Health • Golden Valley Health Centers • Stanislaus State University.
<p>Bridge Homes - 8 beds in Los Banos that offer participants access to the full suite of comprehensive health care services as well as case management, transportation services, mail pick up, housing navigation, access to supportive services.</p>	Mission Merced Inc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced County • Merced CoC • Sutter Memorial Hospital Los Banos • Central California Alliance for Health (MCP) • Stanislaus State University.
<p>Central California Alliance for Health, Merced County's Managed Care Plan (MCP) currently provides through the CalAIM initiative Short Term Post Hospitalization (STPHH) Community Support (CS) to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. This is one of the 14 identified Community Supports provided through CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) that are discharged from institutional settings. Resident that have high medical or behavioral health needs with the opportunity to continue their medical/psychiatric/substance use disorder recovery immediately after</p>	Central California Alliance for Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merced CoC • Merced County • Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports Providers

exiting an inpatient hospital (either acute or psychiatric or Chemical Dependency and Recovery hospital), residential substance use disorder treatment or recovery facility, residential mental health treatment facility, correctional facility, nursing facility, or recuperative care and avoid further utilization of State plan services. Merced County is working with the MCP and ECM providers to transition five currently operating bridging homes to support this activity. The MCP has also provided a \$2.5 million grant to an ECM/CS provider in an effort to create 32 additional STPH housing beds.

The purpose of this to collect information on how correctional agencies intend to use PATH Round 3 funding to support planning and implementation of processes that are necessary to effectuate the provision of targeted pre-release Medi-Cal services to individuals in state prisons, county jails, and youth correctional facilities who meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in the CalAIM Section 1115 Demonstration approval.

Key Actions to Reduce the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Upon Exiting Other Institutional Settings (such as foster care, behavioral health facilities, etc. as applicable in the region)

Institutional Setting	Key Action	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
Foster Care	Merced County has a team dedicated to serving individuals in the foster care system with cash benefits as well as shelter options. When the participant is aging out of the foster care system and is experiencing homelessness, referrals are made to the coordinated entry system, street outreach access point, Merced CoC, and all appropriate homeless	Merced County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Local Jurisdictions Central California Alliance for Health Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports Providers

service providers. Referrals include but are not limited to PHA, THP Plus, Job Corps, the Empowerment program for job training and placement, sober living facilities, and emergency shelters.

Behavioral Health Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Established key contacts and regular meetings between BHRS and local hospitals to ensure streamline referral process to out-patient BHRS services, participation in discharge planning, including addressing housing plans and connecting with available shelter/housing options. (Sutter Links in Los Banos) -Hold Post Hospitalization Clinic for clients within 7 days of facility exit -Hold weekly Interdisciplinary Team Meetings for Marie Green Psychiatric Center clients to review status updates, case coordination, and discharge planning, including addressing housing plans, and referral to Public Guardian/Public Conservator as appropriate -Assess housing needs as part of BHRS assessment -Provide case management and peer support services to assist clients with linkages to, navigation, and follow-up with available resources -BHRS Housing Support Team assists with homelessness verification and documentation readiness, housing search, housing navigation, education/training/stabilization services, landlord mitigation, linkage to community resources services -Seek available housing grant 	Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services	All Local Jurisdictions
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opportunities and partnerships with affordable housing developers to expand affordable housing options within the community, including contracting for specific units to serve individuals with serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorder (SUD), or co-occurring SMI/SUD.

- Participate actively in Continuum of Care, including Coordinated Entry System committee

- BHRS Housing Support staff co-located at Navigation Center

- Cultivate relationships with emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing providers; make referrals as appropriate

- Integration of housing support services in future CARE Act treatment program; currently in implementation stage/developing policy/procedure/workflow

Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services has recently executed a 41 bed agreement through the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program at a Project Homekey funded project. These beds will be utilized to support the implementation of the Care Court.

Plan to Utilize Local, State, and Federal Funds to End Homelessness

Steps to Complete this Section:

1. The plan must include the total amount of available funding, the amount prioritized for permanent housing solutions, and an explanation of how **each participating applicant** is utilizing local, state, and federal funding programs to end homelessness. These programs must include, but are not limited to:
 - The Homekey Program,
 - The No Place Like Home Program
 - The Multifamily Housing Program
 - The Housing for a Healthy California Program
 - The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program
 - Building Homes and Jobs Act
 - The California Emergency Solutions Grants Program
 - The National Housing Trust Fund established pursuant to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008
 - HOME Investment Partnerships Act
 - Parolee or probation programs that are intended to prevent homelessness upon release.

Guidance:

*All of the above programs **must** be included and fully explained in the table. Where the region has multiple awards for the same program that are administered by different entities, those may be listed on separate lines. For example, in a region with one county and one CoC who receive their HHAP awards separately, each Eligible Applicant may enter their HHAP awards in separate lines. Simply click "Add Funding Program, then select the program from the drop down list.*

If one of the ten required programs is not present in a region, type N/A under Local Fund Administrator.

In addition to the listed programs, participating Eligible Applicants should add any other funds and programs that are being utilized to address and end homelessness in the region. Simply click "Add Funding Program" then select the blank field and you may type in the name of the funding program.

To add additional funding programs, click "Add Funding Program" at the bottom of the table.

Definitions:

1. **Local Fund Administrator:** *The entity responsible for administering the given funding source.*
2. **Description of How Funds are/will be Utilized to End Homelessness in the Region:** *Comprehensive summary of how the funding program will be utilized in the region. Applicants should highlight whether, how, and to what extent the funds are being used for permanent housing.*
3. **Funding Amount:** *Amount of known dollars secured or available to spend within the HHAP-5 grant timeframe (FY 23-24 through FY 27-28)*
4. **Timeframe of Use:** *The date range the local fund administrator anticipates expending the*

identified program funds.

Funding Landscape

Funding Program	Funding Type	Local Fund Administrator	Description of How Funds are/will be Utilized to End Homelessness in the Region	Funding Amount	Amount Prioritized for permanent Housing Solutions	Timeframe of Use
The Homekey Program	State	City of Merced	Delivery of 117 total permanent housing units, two separate Homekey projects	\$28,444,054.00	\$28,444,054.00	03/14/2022 – 03/14/2027
The No Place Like Home Program	State	Merced County BHRS	Mercy Village	\$11,257,710.00	\$11,257,710.00	NOFA Released on 10/23/2020. Funding end date unknown.
The Multifamily Housing Program	State			\$0.00	\$0.00	
The Housing for a Healthy California Program	State			\$0.00	\$0.00	
The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program	State	Merced CoC	Providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness such as rapid rehousing for short- and long-term rental assistance with case management, street outreach to connect individuals that are hard to reach to services, operation subsidies for a 50-bed 24/7, low barrier, service enriched congregate emergency shelter as well as support to permanent housing projects.	\$3,101,645.86	\$400,000.00	04/30/2020 - 12/31/2027
Building Homes and Jobs Act	State	City of Merced	Administrative activities for the SB2 20 Year Plan, ADU Ordinance	\$310,000.00	\$0.00	01/20/2020 -

Update, Off the Shelf
ADU/Cottage Plans, Off
the Shelf Duplex/Triplex
Plans, Infill Overlay
Study, Tiny Home
Ordinance, and
Downtown Pre-
entitlement/Environment
al Review.

02/28/2022

The California Emergency Solutions Grants Program	State	Merced CoC	Providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness such as rapid rehousing for short- and long-term rental assistance with case management, street outreach to connect individuals that are hard to reach to services, operation subsidies for 24/7, low barrier, service enriched non-congregate a distributive homes.	\$1,637,863. 00	\$0.00	Annual funding allocation.
The National Housing Trust Fund established pursuant to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008	State			\$0.00	\$0.00	
HOME Investment Partnerships Act	Federal	City of Merced	First-Time Homebuyer Program and Owner- Occupied Rehabilitation Program.	\$700,000.0 0	\$700,000.0 0	Awarded from the 2020-2021 NOFA.
Parolee or probation programs that are intended to prevent homelessness upon release	State	Merced County	To house 32 justice involved individuals within the Transition to Hope program and 16 individuals within the Pathway to Wellness program. Program is funded by Prop 47 allocations.	\$6,945,666. 00	\$2,000,000. 00	September 1, 2022 to June 1, 2026 and from June 2016- August 2020
The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program	State	Merced County	Operational support of a 76-bed low barrier, 24/7, service enriched congregate emergency shelter.	\$2,882,502. 42	\$0.00	04/30/2020 - 12/31/2027

Permanent Local Housing Allocation Formula Round 1-3	State	Merced County	Navigation Center operations-76 beds, kitchen and dining facilities, laundry, classroom, clinic, and office space for support service providers. low-barrier emergency sheltering option for individuals currently residing in public spaces, and other places not suitable for human habitation, providing a safe and service-rich temporary shelter with connections to onsite supportive services, to link to permanent supportive and affordable housing units as quickly as possible, while simultaneously working on barriers to sustainability such as lack of income and behavioral health challenges.	\$819,244.00	\$0.00	04/12/2021 – 06/30/2030
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Permanent Local Housing Allocation Competitive Round 1	State	Merced County	Mini Navigation Centers" for temporary housing utilizing rental homes. Low-barrier emergency sheltering option for individuals currently residing in public spaces, and other places not suitable for human habitation, providing a safe and service-rich temporary shelter with connections to onsite supportive services, to link to permanent supportive and affordable housing units as quickly as possible, while simultaneously working on barriers to sustainability such as lack of income and behavioral health	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	08/06/2021 – 06/30/2030
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challenges.						
Permanent Local Housing Allocation Competitive Round 2	State	Merced County	Case management, landlord incentives, application fees, security deposits, and rent to house homeless individuals and families.	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	06/08/2022 – 06/30/2031
CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) - via CDSS	State	Merced County	Housing First model, providing financial assistance and housing related wrap around supportive services. Chronic homelessness prioritized	\$25,049,771.00	\$25,049,771.00	2017-2023
Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) - via CDSS	State	Merced County	Housing First model, providing outreach, case management and benefits advocacy and housing support to individuals who are disabled or likely disabled and are experiencing homelessness. Chronic homelessness prioritized	\$3,164,073.00	\$3,164,073.00	2017-2023
Home Safe - via CDSS	State	Merced County	Assist APS clients experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness due to elder or dependent adult abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation.	\$1,494,160.00	\$1,494,160.00	2017-2023
American Rescue Plan	Federal	Merced County	Mini Navigation Centers- 10-30 beds and Navigation Center operations-75 beds, kitchen and dining facilities, laundry, classroom, clinic, and office space for support service providers. low-barrier emergency sheltering option for individuals currently residing in public spaces, and other places not	\$4,000,000.00	\$0.00	02/08/2022 – 12/31/2026

suitable for human habitation, providing a safe and service-rich temporary shelter with connections to onsite supportive services, to link to permanent supportive and affordable housing units as quickly as possible, while simultaneously working on barriers to sustainability such as lack of income and behavioral health challenges.

Mental Health Services Act	State	Merced County	<p>Responsible for coordinating and directing the County's Continuum of Care project and plan. Provide Administrative Support to the CoC Board, including subcontracting consultants as needed. Facilitate meetings for the CoC Board, general. Research potential grant opportunities, which may assist the CoC in addressing gaps in current homeless service delivery system. Perform and report HUD required Point in Time Count in accordance with HUD regulations and guidelines and report those findings. Assist CoC HUD grant applicants with the HUD Continuum of Care consolidated grant applications. Provide Conduct annual monitoring of HUD grant recipients. Including written reports to the CoC Board. Completion of all mandated HCD and HUD reports.</p> <p>6. Research potential</p>	\$160,000.0 0	\$0.00	07/01/2022 – 06/30/2025
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grant opportunities, which may assist the CoC in addressing gaps in the current homeless service delivery system. Perform and report HUD required Point in Time Count in accordance with HUD regulations and guidelines and report those findings. Assist CoC HUD grant applicants with the HUD Continuum of Care consolidated grant applications. Provide Conduct annual monitoring of HUD grant recipients. including written reports to the CoC Board. Completion of all mandated HCD and HUD reports.

CoC HUD Program	Federal	Merced CoC	CoC Planning Grants CES/HMIS Projects Home Start PSH Project Hope Westside PSH Project Sierra Saving Grace PSH Projects	\$954,874.00	\$648,567.00	Annual funding allocation
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HUD VASH	Federal	Public Housing Authority	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	On-going use
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Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV)	Federal	Public Housing Authority	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$3,008,880.00	\$3,008,880.00	On-going use. 315 HCV Set-Aside for individuals and families experiencing homelessness at 30% or below AMI.
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Encampment	State	City of	Supportive Housing	\$11,842,62	\$11,842,62	Award
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Resolution Funding Round 3	Los Banos	1.00	1.00	notice of 04/18/2024. 50 units of permanent housing.
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Total \$ Available to prevent and end homelessness:	Total Prioritized for Permanent Housing Solutions:
\$108,773,064.28	\$89,009,836.00

Plan to Connect People Experiencing Homelessness to All Eligible Benefit Programs

Steps to Complete this Section:

1. Explain how the region is connecting, or will connect, individuals to wrap-around services from all eligible federal, state, and local benefit programs, including, but not limited to, housing and homelessness services and supports that are integrated with the broader social services systems and supports. Benefit Programs include, but are not limited to:
 - o CalWORKs
 - o CalFresh
 - o Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Program (SSI/SSP) and disability benefits advocacy;
 - o In-home supportive services;
 - o Adult protective services;
 - o Child welfare;
 - o Child care; and
 - o Medi-Cal benefits through Managed Care Plans

Guidance:

All of the above benefit programs *must* be included and fully explained in the table. In addition to these benefit programs, participating eligible applicants should add other benefit programs that provide wrap-around services in the region.

To add additional benefit programs, click "Add Benefit Program" at the bottom of the table. If you select the blank field and you may type in the name of the benefit program.

Definitions:

- **Connection Strategy/ies means methods and actions that support client access and/or enrollment in eligible benefit programs.** This may be a method or action that supports connection between a benefit program and clients, between benefits programs, and/or between benefits programs and the homeless services system, so long as the method or action **supports client access and/or enrollment in the eligible benefit program.**
- **Lead Entity** should include the name of the regional Eligible Applicant responsible for managing the benefit program.
- **Collaborating Entity** may include a group, organization, or jurisdiction within your region working to provide the benefit. This can be another participating jurisdiction, a system partner, or any organization actively participating in providing the benefit.

Benefit Programs

Benefit Program	Connection Strategy/ies	Lead Entity	Collaborating Entity/ies
CalWORKs	Merced County works with the Department of Social Service with TANF regarding providing short-term housing assistance and adjusting benefit levels with variations in housing costs and food stamps	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions
CalFresh	Merced County also works with the Department of Social Service for access to food benefits.	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions
Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Program (SSI/SSP) and disability benefits advocacy	Merced County works with many programs that assist with access to non-employment cash sources, including SSA regarding SSI and SSDI which provides income, access to health care coverage, and workforce connections. Also, Merced County's Housing Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) provides SSA application assistance and processing through	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions

	in-depth case management.		
In-home supportive services	Merced County offers eligibility to individuals who need assistance to care for their daily living tasks. Merced County also conducts onboarding and screening for providers to provide in home services as well as nurses on staff to provide in home care plan services.	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions
Adult protective services	Merced County providers adult and aging programs such as Home Safe for adults who are in need of services and meet criteria. 24 hour hotline available with on-call staff to assist in emergencies.	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions
Child welfare	Merced County staffs social workers, clinicians, and mental health workers to ensure the that children who enter the child welfare system are provided and care for while attempting to reunite with their families or find suitable forever homes. 24-hour hotline available with on-call staff to assist in emergencies.	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions
Child care	Merced County offers childcare services to eligible households with prior or active CalWorks eligibility to allow households to search and attain employment.	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions
Medi-Cal benefits through Managed Care Plans	Merced County also works with the Department of Social	Merced County	All Local Jurisdictions

Service for access to healthcare eligibility to services such as Medical, Alliance, and State premiums for Covered California.

Enhanced Case Management	Enhanced Case Management (ECM) is an interactive process that allows all community partners, organizations, and agencies to provide ECM referrals straight to the Managed Care Plan (MCP) for direct referral to all local ECM providers.	Central California Alliance for Health	All Local Jurisdictions
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Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Upload the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that reflects the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan submitted under this application.

Optional: Upload any additional supporting documentation the region would like to provide.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

2024044 MOU Fully Executed.pdf

Supporting Documentation (Optional)

Application Process Certification:

By checking the box below, I certify that that all participating eligible applicants met the statutory public meeting process requirements in developing the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan in compliance with HSC section 50233(d)-(e) and all of the following is true:

- All Eligible Applicants electing to collaborate to complete the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan have engaged in a public stakeholder process that included at least three public meetings before the plan was completed.

Meeting Dates

Meeting Dates

12/8/2023

12/15/2023

12/20/2023

- All of the following groups were invited and encouraged to engage in the public stakeholder process:

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholders	Description of how Stakeholders were invited and encouraged to engage in the public stakeholder process
People with lived experience of homelessness	Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.
Youth with lived experience of homelessness	Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.
Persons of populations overrepresented in homelessness	Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as

virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.

Local department leaders and staff from qualifying smaller jurisdictions, including child welfare, health care, behavioral health, justice, and education system leaders

Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.

Homeless service and housing providers operating within the region

Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.

Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans contracted with the State Department of Health Care Services in the region

Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.

Street medicine providers and other service providers directly assisting people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness

Group and individualized emails, reminders, CoC website postings, presented at CoC monthly meetings in October and November 2023, as well as town hall and trusted advisory group meetings. At the end of each public hearing meeting, we also encouraged participants to return to all future sessions as well as invite others who are missing from the table and encouraged attendance. The sessions were available both in person as well as virtual attendance for all three sessions. We also

sent outlook calendar invitations to everyone on our mailing list.

I certify under penalty of perjury that all of the information in the above section is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Open

Part 3: Funding Plan

Steps to complete this section:

1. Identify all Eligible Use Categories the Administrative Entity anticipates using.
2. Provide the **dollar amount** budgeted per eligible use category. Again, this must account for 100 percent of the HHAP-5 Allocation(s) the Administrative Entity will be responsible for administering.
3. Where applicable, provide the **dollar amount** that will be designated under the Youth Set-Aside from the selected eligible use categories. **Reminder: the youth set-aside must total at least 10% of all monies received.**
4. Provide a brief description of activities HHAP-5 funds will support in each selected eligible use category.
5. Provide an explanation of how the activities therein align with the state's HHAP-5 priorities to:
 - sustain existing investments towards long-term housing stability and supportive services and
 - prioritize permanent housing solutions.
6. Indicate whether the budget proposes to support **ANY** new interim housing solutions outside of the youth set-aside.
7. Indicate whether the budget proposes to support new interim housing solutions for youth in excess of 10% of the total HHAP-5 Dollars budgeted
 - If the Administrative Entity answers “yes” to either 6 or 7, they will be asked to demonstrate dedicated, sufficient resources from other funding sources for long-term housing stability and permanent housing solutions. This entails summarizing total available dollars for preventing and ending homelessness in the region, including the percentage of these resources dedicated to permanent and interim housing solutions, providing the status of five policy actions for each eligible applicant in the region, and demonstrating the need for additional shelter.

Guidance:

*Each Administrative Entity must submit a **single** Funding Plan that accounts for the entire HHAP-5 Allocation(s) which the Administrative Entity will be responsible for administering. This includes:*

- 100 percent of the HHAP-5 Base allocation(s);
- 100 percent of the HHAP-5 Planning allocation(s); and
- 100 percent of the Initial Supplemental Funding allocation(s).

The youth set-aside must total at least 10% of all monies received.

Administrative costs may not exceed 7% of all monies received.

Up to 1% of all monies received may be budgeted for costs related to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Related costs include HMIS licenses, training, system operating costs, and costs associated with carrying out related activities. Upon agreement between the grantee and the Homeless Management Information System lead entity, the grantee shall transfer the authorized amount of funds directly to the HMIS lead entity.

To add another funding plan for an additional Administrative Entity, click "Add Funding Plan" near the bottom of the page. You will be prompted to provide a specific number of funding plans (1 per Administrative Entity) based on the participation and contracting selections from Part 1: Regional Identification and Contracting Information.

Funding Plans from Administrative Entity/ies in Merced City & County CoC Participating in this Application

Administrative Entity 1

Which Administrative Entity is submitting the below budget?

Merced County Human Services Agency acting as the AE on behalf of Merced City & County Continuum of Care

Funding Plan - Merced County Human Services Agency acting as the AE on behalf of Merced City & County Continuum of Care

Eligible Use Category	HHAP-5 Dollars Budgeted	If applicable, Dollars budgeted for the Youth Set-Aside	Activities These Funds will Support	How are these Activities Aligned with the State's Priorities?
Rapid Rehousing	\$335,729.05		Rapid Rehousing services to include intensive case management, tenancy support services which include move-in expenses and coordinating wrap around services which include: mental health, substance use treatment, and primary care treatment to increase housing retention. This funding will impact	Sustain existing investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services and to prioritize permanent housing solutions.

SPM 1a, 1b, 2, and 3. Please see Row 3 of SPM 1a, Row 4 of SPM 1b, Row 2 of SPM 2 and Row 1 of SPM 3 of the Reginal Plan Section of the Application. The estimated completion date for these SPMs is the end of calendar year 2028. The method of measurement is the 2029 Housing Inventory Count and HMIS Service Data.

Prevention and Shelter Diversion

Delivery of Permanent Housing and Innovative Housing Solutions

Operating Subsidies-Permanent Housing

Operating Subsidies-Interim Sheltering

\$612,738.44 \$112,738.44

Funding the operation of an existing 50-bed congregate emergency shelter (D Street Shelter). This funding will impact SPM 1b Reducing the Number of Persons Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness on a Daily Basis and SPM 6 Increasing Successful Placements from Street Outreach. Please see Row 3 of SPM 1b and Row 2 of SPM 6 of the Reginal Plan

Sustain existing investments towards interim housing solutions and transition individuals to permanent housing solutions. In FY 23/24, the D Street Center discharged 27 individuals to permanent housing. This shelter serves as a pathway for case management, housing navigation, and

Interim Sheltering	\$100,000.00	Section of the Application. The estimated completion date for these SPMs is the end of calendar year 2026. The method of measurement is the 2027 Housing Inventory Count.	sustainability of permanent housing.
Improvements to Existing Emergency Shelter			
Street Outreach			
Services Coordination			
Systems Support	\$100,000.00	Requesting funding to sustain existing HMIS System Infrastructure and Support. Incorporating regional data into housing needs. Tracking and reporting progress on the System Performance Measures and Regional Plan Key Action Steps. Regional planning and informed decision making. This funding will impact SPM 1a. Please see Row 2 of SPM 1a. The estimated completion date for this SPMs is the end of calendar year 2025. The method of measurement is HMIS Data Quality Reporting.	Sustain existing investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services. Supports homelessness services system infrastructure, regional coordination, and improves accessibility and outcomes.
HMIS			

Administrative Costs	\$78,916.90	Administrative Support	General administration of the HHAP program.
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Total HHAP-5 Dollars Budgeted:	Total HHAP-5 Youth Set-Aside Dollars Budgeted:
\$1,127,384.39	\$112,738.44

Youth Set-Aside Minimum
\$112,738.44

HMIS Maximum
\$11,273.84

Administrative Maximum
\$78,916.91

Does this budget propose to support any new interim housing solutions outside of the youth set-aside?
No

Does this budget propose to support new interim housing solutions for youth in excess of 10% of the total HHAP-5 Dollars budgeted?
No

Administrative Entity 2

Which Administrative Entity is submitting the below budget?
Merced County Human Services Agency acting as the AE on behalf of County of Merced

Funding Plan - Merced County Human Services Agency acting as the AE on behalf of County of Merced

Eligible Use Category	HHAP-5 Dollars Budgeted	If applicable, Dollars budgeted for the Youth Set-Aside	Activities These Funds will Support	How are these Activities Aligned with the State's Priorities?
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Rapid Rehousing

Prevention and Shelter Diversion

Delivery of Permanent Housing and Innovative Housing Solutions

Operating Subsidies-

Permanent Housing

Operating Subsidies-Interim Sheltering	\$1,005,911.67	\$108,162.55	Funding the operation of an existing 76-bed low barrier congregate Navigation Center. This funding will impact SPM 1b Reducing the Number of Persons Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness on a Daily Basis and SPM 6 Increasing Successful Placements from Street Outreach. Please see Row 3 of SPM 1b and Row 2 of SPM 6 of the Regional Plan Section of the Application. The estimated completion date for these SPMs is the end of calendar year 2026. The method of measurement is the 2027 Housing Inventory Count.	Sustain existing investments towards interim housing solutions and transition individuals to permanent housing solutions. In FY 23/24, the Navigation Center discharged 34 individuals to permanent housing. This service enriched Navigation Center serves as a pathway for case management, housing navigation, and sustainability of permanent housing.
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Interim Sheltering

Improvements to Existing Emergency Shelter				
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Street Outreach

Services Coordination				
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Systems Support

HMIS				
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Administrative Costs	\$75,713.78		Administrative Support	General administration of the HHAP program.
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Total HHAP-5 Dollars Budgeted: \$1,081,625.45	Total HHAP-5 Youth Set-Aside Dollars Budgeted: \$108,162.55
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Youth Set-Aside Minimum

\$108,162.54

HMIS Maximum

\$10,816.25

Administrative Maximum

\$75,713.78

Does this budget propose to support any new interim housing solutions outside of the youth set-aside?

No

Does this budget propose to support new interim housing solutions for youth in excess of 10% of the total HHAP-5 Dollars budgeted?

No

Certification

Participating Eligible Applicant 1

Participating Eligible Applicant

County of Merced

Certification County of Merced

On behalf of the above entered participating eligible applicant, I certify that all information included in this Application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name

Jewel Wise

Phone

(209) 385-3000 x5579

Email

jewel.wise3@countyofmerced.com

Participating Eligible Applicant 2

Participating Eligible Applicant

Merced City & County Continuum of Care

Certification Merced City & County Continuum of Care

On behalf of the above entered participating eligible applicant, I certify that all information included in this Application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name

See Her

Phone

Email

(209) 385-3000 x5510

see.her2@countyofmerced.com

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
COUNTY OF MERCED
AND
MERCED CITY AND COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
AND
MERCED COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is entered into this date by and between the County of Merced, herein referred to as "County", the Merced City and County Continuum of Care, herein referred to as, "CoC", and Merced County Community Action Board herein referred to as "MCCAB", hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties". The purpose of this document is to set forth the types and terms of collaborative services between County and CoC.

WHEREAS, the County designated the Merced County Human Services Agency as the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity on behalf of the Merced City and County Continuum of Care by vote on March 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Merced CoC appointed MCCAB in 2008, to become the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead who is responsible for administering HMIS in a manner that will meet the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s standards for data quality; and

WHEREAS, the County reestablished the Merced County Human Services Agency as the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity on behalf of the Merced City and County Continuum of Care by vote on May 9, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of their mutual covenants and conditions, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to confirm agreements between the Parties related to their individual roles.

Collaborative Applicant is defined as the eligible applicant designated to collect and submit the CoC Registration, CoC Consolidated Application, and apply for CoC planning funds on behalf of the CoC during the CoC Program Competition.

Administrative Entity is defined as in California Health and Safety Code Division 31, Part 1, Chapter 5 of Section 50210 to mean, a unit of general purpose local government, or a nonprofit organization that has previously administered federal Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care funds as the collaborative applicant pursuant to Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations that has been designated by the Continuum of Car to administer program funds.

2. TERM

The term of this MOU is three (3) years from the date of execution.

3. FISCAL EXPLANATION

This is a nonfinancial MOU and there are no costs associated with this MOU.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Parties are set forth in Attachment A, Description of Responsibilities, attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein. These services are being provided with no cost to the Parties.

5. TERMINATION

This MOU may be terminated by either Party upon the giving of sixty (60) days advance written notice of an intention to terminate.

6. NON-ASSIGNMENT

Neither Party shall assign, transfer, or sub-contract this MOU nor their rights or duties under this MOU without the prior written consent of the other Party.

7. RECORDS

All Parties subject to this MOU shall maintain a record of services provided in sufficient detail to permit an evaluation of the MOU. All such records shall be made available during normal business hours to authorized representatives of County, State, and Federal governments during the term of this MOU and during the period of record retention for the purpose of program review and/or fiscal audit.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS/POLICES

The Parties shall comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations related to the HUD CoC and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) regulations. As well as compliance with State and other funding regulations, standards, and guidelines.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties shall act in strict conformance with all applicable Federal, State of California, and/or local laws and regulations relating to confidentiality, including but not limited to, California Civil Code Section 56 et seq., Welfare and Institutions Code sections 827, 5328, 10850, and 14100.2, Health and Safety section 11977 and 11812, 22 California Code of Regulations section 51009, and 42 Code of Federal Regulations section 2.1 et seq. The Parties shall ensure that no list of persons receiving services under this MOU is published, disclosed, or used for any other purpose except for the direct administration of the program or other uses authorized by this reference incorporated herein.

10. NON-DISCRIMINATION

During the performance of this MOU, the Parties shall not unlawfully discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment, or recipient of services, because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability,

medical condition, marital status, age, or gender pursuant to all applicable State and Federal statutes and regulations.

11. RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

It is understood that this is a MOU by and between three (3) separate public agencies and is not intended to and shall not be construed to create a relationship of agent, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture or association.

12. NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES

All Parties agree it is their specific intent that no other person or entity shall be a Party to or a third Party beneficiary of this MOU or and attachment or addenda to this MOU.

13. INDEMNIFICATION

All Parties agree to be responsible and assume liability for its own wrongful or negligent acts or omissions, or those of its officers, agents, or employees to the full extent required by law.

14. NOTICE

Any and all notices, reports, or other communication to be given to County or CoC shall be given to the persons representing the respective parties at the following addresses:

County of Merced c/o Human Services Agency
P.O. Box 112
Merced, CA 95341
Attn: Yvonna Brown, Director

Merced City and County Continuum of Care
P.O. Box 112
Merced, CA 95341
Attn: John Ceccoli, Deputy Director, Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity

Merced County Community Action Board
P.O. Box 2085
Merced, CA 95340
Attn: Brenda Callahan-Johnson

15. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Both County and CoC are aware that this MOU and any documents provided are related only to this MOU may be subject to the California Public Records Act and may be disclosed to members of the public upon request. It is the responsibility of both County and CoC to clearly identify information in those documents that is considered to be confidential under the California Public Records Act. To the extent that County and CoC agree with that designation, such information will be held in confidence whenever possible. All other information will be considered

public.

16. ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND MODIFICATION

This MOU contains the entire agreement of the Parties relating to the subject matter of this MOU and supersedes all prior agreements and representations with respect to the subject matter hereof. This MOU may only be modified by a written amendment hereto, executed by both Parties. If there are attachments attached hereto, and a conflict exists between the terms of this MOU and any attachment, the terms of this MOU shall control.

17. ENFORCEABILITY AND SEVERABILITY

The invalidity or enforcement of any term or provisions of this MOU shall not, unless otherwise specified, affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision, which shall remain in full force and effect.

18. DISPUTES

Parties shall use good faith efforts to resolve any disputes prior to bringing any action to enforce the terms of this MOU.

19. CAPTIONS

The captions of this MOU are for convenience in reference only and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provision of this MOU.

20. OTHER DOCUMENTS

Parties agree that they shall cooperate in good faith to accomplish the objectives of this MOU and, to that end, agree to execute and deliver such other and further instruments and documents as may be necessary and convenient to the fulfillment of these purposes.

21. CONTROLLING LAW

The validity, interpretation and performance of this MOU shall be controlled by and construed under the laws of the State of California.

22. AUTHORITY AND EXECUTION

The signing of this mou does not constitute a formal undertaking, and as such it simply intends that the signatories shall strive to reach, to the best of their abilities, the goals and objectives stated in this MOU.

Signature page to follow

County of Merced

By Rodrigo Espinosa
Rodrigo Espinosa, Board Chair
Merced County Board of Supervisors

MAR 12 2024

Dated

Merced City and
County Continuum of Care

By Matthew Serratto
Matthew Serratto
Chair

02/21/2024

Dated

Additional Signature page to follow

Merced County
Community Action Board

By Brenda Callahan Johnson
Brenda Callahan-Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

2/21/24

Dated

Merced County
Community Action Board

By Katie Luxon
Katie Luxon
Secretary

2/21/2024

Dated

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM
MERCED COUNTY COUNSEL

By Breana McMahon

2/21/2024

Dated

ATTACHMENT A

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A majority of CoC services shall be provided at Merced County Human Services Agency office located 2115 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced CA 95342. Services may also be provided at various locations within the community and County of Merced.

Merced City and County Continuum of Care Responsibilities

1. CoC will continue to work with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead to ensure all projects for those experiencing and at risk of experiencing homelessness are being captured in the HMIS database.
2. CoC will continue to work with the HMIS lead to establish HMIS Data Report Card by December 31, 2024, for all contracted services providers in the service area.
3. CoC will continue to work with the HMIS lead to provide data quality training to all service providers and decrease overall missing and inaccurate data.
4. CoC, in collaboration with County and community partners, will develop and implement policies and procedures for case management.
5. CoC, in collaboration with County and community partners, will develop and implement case management training series by December 31, 2026.
6. CoC will work with contracted outreach providers for the development of an outreach after-hours hotline and extend hours of operation by December 31, 2026.
7. CoC, in collaboration with County and community partners, will develop and implement policies and procedures for outreach and engagement.
8. CoC, in collaboration with County and community partners, will develop and implement outreach and engagement training series by December 31, 2026.
9. CoC will continue to apply annually for viable funding sources to support emergency shelter services, rapid rehousing, system support, outreach and engagement, and permanent housing.
10. The Merced CoC will continue to work with the Coordinated Entry System (CES) to ensure that housing resources are being effectively matched to people based on need so that the right housing interventions are being targeted to the right people at the right time.

County of Merced Responsibilities

1. County will continue to apply annually for viable funding sources to support emergency shelter services, rapid rehousing, system support, outreach and engagement, and permanent housing.

Merced County Community Action Board Responsibilities

1. Oversee the day-to-day administration of the HMIS system.
2. Provide staffing for operation of HMIS system.
3. Provide technical support and software training to participating HMIS agencies.

4. Ensure HMIS system integrity and availability.
5. Ensure HMIS software is capable of producing required reports, including summary reports of unduplicated client records.
6. Ensure participation in Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) Program and submission of usable data.
7. Ensure participation and reviews accuracy of data in the annual Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) and submission of usable data.
8. Ensure participation and reviews accuracy of data for the annual Point-In-Time (PIT) count.
9. Ensure compliance with all applicable federal and state laws regarding protection of client privacy and confidentiality regulations.
10. Execute participation agreements with each contributing HMIS organization and ensures that each HMIS user has signed a HMIS User Agreement.
11. Ensure and maintain written agreements with participating agencies who share client level data that describes the level of data element or program information sharing among the data sharing HMIS agencies.
12. Provide information on HMIS agency performance for CoC annual ranking.

Responsibilities for Parties

1. Parties will develop and strengthen relationships with the local Public Housing Authority to increase voucher utilization and success rates, implement strategies to maximize emergency vouchers for households experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness; explore prioritization for special populations; work with landlords to increase participation; and pair Public Housing Authority resources, including vouchers, with services and housing units to create permanent supportive housing opportunities.
2. Parties will leverage funding sources, including but not limited to, CalAIM, Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program, Behavioral Health Bridge Housing, Homekey, Mental Health Services Act, Emergency Solutions Grants, or other locally funded rental assistance opportunities.
3. Parties will establish cross-system partnerships to enhance person-centered and effective homelessness response system outcomes. Examples include partnerships with local jails and/or sheriff departments, child welfare agencies, and/or institutions of higher education.