

City of Palm Springs HHAP Application Narrative

1. SUMMARY OF HOMELESSNESS IN THE CoC, LARGE CITY, OR COUNTY

- A. The Riverside CoC LSA is attached herein as "Attachment A".
- B. The following data is derived from the LSA:

1. Total number of households served in:
 - a. (1) Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven and Transitional Housing: **3790**
 - b. (2) Rapid Rehousing: **447**
 - c. (3) Permanent Supportive Housing: **1190**
2. Total number of disabled households served across all interventions: **3028**
3. Total number of households experiencing chronic homelessness served across all interventions: **578**
4. Total number of 55+ households served across all interventions: **1388**
5. Total number of unaccompanied youth served across all interventions: **845**
6. Total number of veteran households served across all interventions: **1193**
7. Number of individuals served across all interventions who were:
 - a. (1) Female: **2281**
 - b. (2) Male: **3551**
 - c. (3) Transgender: **23**
 - d. (4) Gender Non-Conforming: **3**
8. Total number individuals served across all interventions who were:
 - a. (1) White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino (only): **2218**
 - b. (2) White, Hispanic/Latino (only): **1899**
 - c. (3) Black or African American (only): **1351**
 - d. (4) Asian (only): **55**
 - e. (5) American Indian or Alaska Native (only): **120**
 - f. (5) Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (only): **54**
 - g. (6) Multiple races: **133**

Homelessness in the greater Palm Springs region:

This application is to address homelessness in Palm Springs, however, Palm Springs chairs the Homeless Committee of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) that coordinates efforts in the region. The HHAP funds align with the regional goals being pursued by the committee and the Palm Springs projects have regional impact. The Coachella Valley typically refers to the nine cities of Palm Springs, Palm Desert, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, and the City of Coachella. In addition to the cities, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians are members of CVAG. According to the 2019 Point in Time Count (PIT Count), homelessness increased in this region to 612 individuals, up from 528 in 2017, and 434 in 2015. Of the 612 from the 2017 PIT Count, 196 were in the City of Palm Springs. The City, however, has good reason to believe the PIT Count is very low based on the following unduplicated services provided solely by Palm Springs:

- Coachella Valley Rescue Mission Overnight Shelter: 510
- Crisis Team: 1,347
- Martha's Village & Kitchen: 546
- Coachella Valley Association of Governments/Path of life: 269

Only one child was included in the PIT Count, but there is no solid count of homeless youths. The Palm Springs Unified School District estimates the population of children (over age 12) who lack access to stable housing countywide to be almost 900.

By subgroup the homeless population set forth in the PIT Count in the Coachella Valley is primarily adult (543) and mostly male (433, vs. 154 women). Young adults aged 18-24 accounted for approximately 6% of the homeless in the PIT Count. Of this regional number, the highest count (196, or 32%) was within the City of Palm Springs. The numbers the PIT Count is lower than the numbers cited above because Palm Springs is the only provider of services in the western Coachella Valley and, therefore, receives clients from cities throughout the surrounding areas.

2. DEMONSTRATION OF REGIONAL COORDINATION

A. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Information

1. How does Palm Springs coordinate with the CoC's CES?

The Coordinated Entry System is embedded in the work that our direct service providers offer at contact and access points throughout the community. This includes "Mental Health and Housing Crisis Teams" which reach out to homeless individuals to provide them with information on available resources (housing, shelter, identification documents, and other benefits) and "wrap-around" services helping individuals obtain health, disability, social security and other benefits, and employment training. Palm Springs also provides an overnight

heating/cooling center with shower and restroom facilities to provide shelter during inclement weather. Our service providers enter client information into the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) at the contact and access points mentioned above.

2. What, if any, are your jurisdiction's current challenges related to CES, and how do you plan to address these challenges?

The primary challenge is that data is collected from multiple sources in different formats and it is difficult to compare unduplicated numbers across service providers. As such, duplications must be identified and eliminated before being used for analysis and reporting and to obtain accurate data about the total homeless population. The solution that the City will implement going forward is to require that all grantees to use the CoC's CES in order to streamline reporting and ensure all data is contained in consistent formats and accessible by the City of Palm Springs and other regional partners.

3. How do you promote the utilization of your CES?

The lead CES agency for Riverside County, Riverside University Healthcare System-Behavioral Health (RUHS-BH), coordinates marketing and training for CES access point organizations and navigators in the CES system.

Palm Springs' homeless service providers (Mental Health and Housing Crisis Teams, wrap-around services, and the overnight heating/cooling center) staff includes Behavioral Health Specialists, Mental Health Peer Specialists, and case managers trained in the various needs of homeless individuals and how best to address those needs. Our service providers are trained by RUHS-BH and experienced in explaining the coordinated entry system to clients and how it is the path to benefits.

B. Prioritization Criteria

1. What are the criteria used to prioritize assistance for people experiencing homelessness in your jurisdiction?

In general, Palm Springs follows the same prioritization guidelines as the County and the CoC, which aligns with HUD Prioritization Notice CRD-16-11.

Prioritization for the HHAP funds are based on stakeholder and community input derived from focus groups and interviews with service providers, people currently experiencing homelessness, and people who have successfully used city-funded and regional homelessness and housing services . Palm Springs commissioned a report that conducted focus groups of individuals recruited through three service providers in the region that had received assistance during periods of homelessness. Palm Springs retained Barbara Poppe to conduct focus groups, conduct a public meeting for community input, and produce a comprehensive report about homelessness in Palm Springs and the region. Ms. Poppe is a nationally recognized expert on homelessness. Ms. Poppe is well versed in the requirements of HUD requirements and her recommendations align with HUD prioritization guidelines.

In addition, key leaders from twelve organizations providing services to the homeless population were interviewed to identify best practices and the highest priority unmet needs in the region. Each was asked for their highest unmet needs to reduce homelessness. Palm Springs also held a special session of the City Council to solicit public input on the report and recommendations, with over 200 people attending, including the county supervisor and elected officials from neighboring cities, as well as people currently experiencing homelessness, 40 public comments, and dozens of written comments. The feedback from the focus groups, interviews with key leaders, and public input formed the prioritization reflected in the annual budget submitted with this application.

To the extent that the prioritization differs between the County and the City, the difference is due to the differing roles they assume through the CVAG Homelessness Committee and the unique populations and needs present in different jurisdictions.

2. How is CES, pursuant to 24 CFR 578.8(a)(8) used for this process?

CES Lead Agency is accessible via both verbal and written communication in order to accommodate individual need. As an example, CES regularly use interpretation services and TTY to accommodate consumers of differing verbal and auditory abilities. All CoC funded agencies are expected to comply with Section 504 and Title II regulations.

C. Coordination of Regional Needs

1. How have you coordinated with your partnering CoC and county to identify your share of the regional need to address homelessness?

Palm Springs is coordinating with the County of Riverside in its planning for use of the HHAP funds. Specifically, the Riverside County Executive Office, and the Riverside Housing Authority, were consulted in the preparation of the report that is the basis for this application in order to avoid duplication of efforts. In addition, the County coordinates directly with Palm Springs and the other cities through the CVAG Homelessness Committee described above.

The Coachella Valley is a leader in Riverside County and the State of California on the issue of homelessness and the provision of services to our homeless populations. We have a strong network of service providers such as Martha's Village and Kitchen, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission (CVRM), Shelter From the Storm, Operation Safe House, Path of Life Ministries, Jewish Family Services, and Well in the Desert working 24/7 providing prevention services, shelter services, transitional and permanent housing, workforce training, substance use assistance and behavioral health services just to name a few. In addition to these larger organizations, the Coachella Valley has a number of faith-based and community organizations providing food and essentials to our homeless residents.

The CVAG Homelessness Committee established the CV Housing First program and contracted with Path of Life Ministries to provide intake offices, crisis stabilization units, preventative services, linkages to other homelessness services, and transitional and permanent supportive housing programs. The Desert Healthcare District (DHCD) incentivized participation by offering a \$100,000 match for each city that contributed. As a result, eight of the nine Coachella Valley cities contribute \$100,000, resulting in an \$800,000 match from DHCD. Additional program funding comes from Riverside County, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, and the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians. Over the past two years the CV Housing First program housed 401 clients throughout the Coachella Valley.

The City of Palm Springs has coordinated with CVAG's Homelessness Committee, the County of Riverside, Cathedral

City and the City of Desert Hot Springs to establish an overnight cooling and warming shelter in the city and to transition the shelter to a navigation center and access point to connect homeless clients to service providers and housing.

Together with Palm Springs, CVAG is also spearheading efforts across all nine cities, including a call for each city to identify crisis stabilization units and commit permanent units to the CV Housing First Program.

With Palm Springs' leadership, CVAG has also developed a regional collaboration for collective impact named the Coachella Valley Homelessness Engagement, Action & Response Teams (CV HEART) in order to align services and strategies across the region for greater impact. Palm Springs' representative serves on the planning subcommittee for CV HEART. The staff member for CV HEART and members serve on the CoC and also work for Riverside County and County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez to ensure coordination across the region. There are excellent organizations and agencies addressing homelessness in the valley, but there is also the potential to do much more working together. The collaborative can help to identify what agencies and programs do what best and help to support those efforts further. At the same time, the collaborative can identify gaps that can be filled by capacity building or other service providers. CV HEART will also work to expand the sphere of collaboration outside of just the current governmental agencies and a few non-profit service providers.

2. What is your identified share of this need, and how will the requested funds help your jurisdiction meet it?

Although difficult to extrapolate accurately, PIT Counts indicate that the cities referenced in this application account for at least 22% of the homeless population in the county. With the County and the CoC focusing on countywide needs and wraparound services, Palm Springs seeks to use its HHAP funds in a targeted manner to meet the highest unmet needs identified in the stakeholder process it undertook to prepare for this application. The highest needs, by far, relate to increasing the available inventory for reducing homelessness (70% of funds directed towards housing), followed by prevention and crisis response (12% and 18% of funds respectively).

Service providers and homeless individuals report that while emergency shelters exist in the Coachella Valley and in Riverside County, there is a significant lack of crisis stabilization or transitional housing, and a dire need of permanent supportive housing, such that people encountering outreach or referral services currently have few options to secure housing out of homelessness.

D. Creating Sustainable, Long Term Housing Solutions

1. How is your jurisdiction involved in the efforts to create sustainable, long-term housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness across your region?

One of the primary objectives of the planning process Palm Springs undertook to plan for the HHAP funds was to identify which services were already being provided to a significant degree by other cooperating entities in the region, specifically Riverside County and the CoC. In addition, Palm Spring is an active participant in the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) that has a homeless committee tasked with coordinating efforts in the region. CVAG is separately implementing some of the recommendations of the aforementioned report, "The Path Forward: recommendations to advance an end to homelessness in the Coachella Valley." The budget allocations in this application are aligned with the recommendations of that report and CVAG's ongoing efforts.

3. RESOURCES ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

A. Existing Programs and Resources

1. Provide an exhaustive list of all funds (including the program and dollar amount) that your jurisdiction currently uses to provide housing and homeless services for homeless populations.

CV Housing First Program (Palm Springs Annual Contribution: \$103,000- CVAG Homelessness Committee established the CV Housing First program and contracted with Path of Life Ministries to provide intake offices, crisis stabilization units, preventative services and linkages to

other homelessness services and housing programs. This program is jointly funded by eight of the nine Coachella Valley cities contributing \$100,000 each. Contributions by cities are matched by DHCD. Additional program funding comes from Riverside County and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians.

Well in the Desert (Palm Springs Annual Contribution: \$75,000)– The Well in the Desert provides clothing, showers and a cooling center in Palm Springs 7 days a week, plus nutritious hot meals 5 days a week. They also offer emergency food assistance, weekly supplemental food distribution and a wide array of services through advocacy to those affected by poverty, including the working poor, the homeless, seniors, veterans, the handicapped and others in the western Coachella Valley.

CVRM Overnight Shelter (Palm Springs Contribution: \$100,000 to date– Palm Springs converted a former Boxing Club building for use as an Overnight Shelter for the Summer of 2019. CVAG provided the initial funding for the Overnight Shelter. Today, Palm Springs and the DHCD provide funding to continue operating the Cooling Center at a rate of \$25,000 per month.

Palm Springs Mental Health Housing Crisis Response Outreach Team (Total Annual cost: \$330,000) – The City provides two Mental Health Housing Crisis Teams. Each team has a Behavioral Health Specialist II, and a Mental Health Peer Specialist to engage and refer individuals to resources for housing, mental health, and substance abuse.

Palm Springs Mental Health Housing Crisis Response Public Safety Team (Total Annual cost: \$810,000, - Each of the Mental Health Housing Crisis Teams also includes a Palm Springs Community Service Officer and Sworn Police Officer. There are two Community Service Officers and two Sworn Police Officers. Each of the Mental Health Housing Crisis Team includes a Palm Springs Community Service Officer and Sworn Police Officer.

Wrap Around Employment and Referral Services (Total Annual cost: \$146,000 – Under a contract with Martha's Village and Kitchen, Palm Springs offers Wrap Around services for homeless individuals. Examples of wrap around services include assisting individuals to obtain permanent housing and supportive housing, assisting individuals with securing health, disability, social security and other benefits, training for computer skills, internet searches for employment, completing on-line employment applications, and interview techniques, employment

assessment of an individual's employment strengths and weaknesses, and basic first aid training and assistance with securing food handlers certificates.

Jewish Family Services of the Desert (Palm Springs Contribution: \$25,500 CDBG funds) – Jewish Family Services of the Desert provides emergency assistance to low-income seniors and individuals who are experiencing a severe financial crisis and are at-risk of losing their housing.

Senior Advocates of the Desert (Palm Springs Contribution: \$15,700 CDBG funds) - Emergency financial aid to low income seniors to prevent eviction, utilities being disconnected, and to provide home repairs.

2. How are these resources integrated or coordinated with applicants from overlapping jurisdictions?

The County coordinates directly with Palm Springs and the other Coachella Valley cities through the aforementioned CVAG Homelessness Committee. A Palm Springs city council member chairs the committee, and all nine cities and the County are members. All project funding is coordinated through this committee.

3. What gaps currently exist in housing and homeless services for homeless populations in your jurisdiction?

Based on the demographics of the homeless population detailed in the PIT Count and feedback from regional service providers, the highest unmet need in the region is for new housing and new housing options, followed by prevention and crisis services. While the outreach and services provided in the Coachella Valley are growing, there are very few permanent housing solutions available to unsheltered individuals. The CV Housing First Program, for example, provides just 12 crisis stabilization units to help individuals exit homelessness in a region of nine cities with 500,000 permanent residents.

B. HHAP Funding Plans

1. Explain, in detail, how your jurisdiction plans to use the full amount of HHAP funds (including the youth set-aside) and how it will complement existing funds to close the identified gaps in housing and homeless services for the homeless population in your jurisdiction.

Youth set-aside (\$800,000--\$450,000 for rental assistance and rapid rehousing, \$50,000 for landlord incentives, and \$300,000 for prevention and shelter diversion to permanent housing): As indicated above, solid numbers are not available for homeless children 12 and up. Information from the Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD) indicates a significant and growing and serious problem. Best practices identified through the planning process indicate that (1) flexible financial assistance for prevention and rehousing, and (2) rapid rehousing and/or host homes are the most effective measures to reduce youth homelessness. Delivery of these services shall be through an RFP process with the PSUSD and the Coachella Valley Coalition on Youth Homelessness acting as resources.

New housing and services (\$8,500,000): the highest unmet need in the region by a wide margin is new housing options and services. Given the low vacancy rate in the region and number of available housing units, three priorities have been identified through the planning described above: (1) landlord engagement and incentives, (2) one shot and rapid rehousing financial assistance, and (3) new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and bridge housing.

Landlord engagement includes: incentives for landlords to reduce screening criteria, and financial assistance with initial move in costs.

One shot financial assistance: financial assistance for individuals facing homelessness who do not require assistance with housing location or need home-based services in order to help them more quickly exit homelessness.

PSH and Bridge Housing: PSH is needed to address chronic homelessness, particularly for individuals with medical needs and/or disabilities. Bridge housing, or crisis stabilization housing, is necessary for individuals who are not well served by existing congregation services. This population includes families with children, seniors, and transgendered individuals.

Administration, Leadership, and Accountability (\$700,000): much of the HHAP funds are intended to be distributed as grants through an RFP process. This will require the development of contract and grant standards, as well as oversight of grantees and monitoring to ensure the funds are properly utilized. In addition, extensive civic engagement is necessary to ensure transparency, community acceptance, and to raise private funding and capital investment needed to fully utilize the HHAP funds.

The majority of the permanent housing project funds will be directed at the City of Palm Springs, which estimates that they will house 250 individuals, or approximately 40% of the homeless population. We estimate that approximately 100 people per year in total will be served with the HHAP funds during the 5-year grant period, or 500. (Of which 250 which be permanently housed.) These number do not coincide with the PIT count because Palm Springs has an usually large transient and/or seasonal population of homelessness.

2. How will you ensure that HHAP funded projects will align and comply with the core components of Housing First as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8255(b)?

The funds allocated to administration include training on all eleven core components of Housing First for city staff and ad hoc groups who will administer HHAP grants, and Housing First requirements will be a required part of grant criteria. This will require little change to the City's existing practices.

4. PARTNERS ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

A. Collaborating Partner Efforts

Palm Springs has undertaken significant effort to collaborate with homeless service providers in the region. The following twelve organizations were involved in preparing the report that forms the basis of this application. Those organizations are as follows:

Coachella Valley Rescue Mission

CV HEART collaborative
CVAG
Desert AIDS Project
Martha's Village and Kitchen
Palm Springs Police Department HOT team
Path of Life Ministries
Riverside County Executive Office
Riverside Housing Authority
Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health
Transgender Health and Wellness Center
Well in the Desert
Desert Healthcare Foundation

The HHAP funds will be spent on the unmet needs identified by these key leaders. By way of example, no funds are planned for services currently provided by the County of Riverside, such as Coordinated Entry Services. Palm Springs will continue to rely on Riverside County and the CoC for such administrative support and will direct the HHAP funds to fill unmet needs.

5. SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

The City has developed outreach, wrap around, counseling, and temporary assistance, but there is little to no housing for individuals once they are ready to exit homelessness. The HHAP funds are intended to directly increase the available inventory of housing available to permanently reduce homelessness. Palm Springs does have specific properties identified across the various categories, such as conversion, rehabilitation, lease agreements with landlords, and construction on city land, but all of these are contingent on future contract negotiations. Taking into account this uncertainty, and assuming no major unanticipated changes in the housing market over the next several years, it is not unreasonable to achieve an overall 30% reduction in homelessness in the region.



HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (HHAP) ANNUAL BUDGET TEMPLATE

APPLICANT INFORMATION

CoC / Large City / County Name:	City of Palm Springs	Receiving Redirected Funds? Y/N	No
Administrative Entity Name:	David Ready, City Manager	Total Redirected Funding	\$ -

HHAP FUNDING EXPENDITURE PLAN*

ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY	FY20/21	FY21/22	FY22/23	FY23/24	FY24/25	TOTAL
Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
Operating Subsidies and Reserves	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Landlord Incentives	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Outreach and Coordination (including employment)	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
Systems Support to Create Regional Partnerships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Delivery of Permanent Housing	\$ 3,150,000.00	\$ 3,150,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,300,000.00
Prevention and Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Strategic Homelessness Planning, Infrastructure Development, CES, and HMIS (up to 5%)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Administrative (up to 7%)	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 700,000.00
TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATION						\$ 10,000,000.00
Youth Set-Aside (at least 8%)	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 800,000.00

*Narrative should reflect details of HHAP funding plan

COMMENTS:

The grand total listed in the template does not equal the full HHAP allocation for your jurisdiction.
 The minimum 8% youth set aside allocation is not applied to the eligible use categories. All projects for youth should be reflected in the annual budget and listed within the correct eligible use category.
 On your original budget template, Row 19 "Delivery of Permanent Housing" there are two entries totaling \$5,000,000.00. The total for that column is \$6,275,000.00 - Please check for a missed entry on this row and make the correction.



HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (HHAP) ANNUAL BUDGET TEMPLATE

APPLICANT INFORMATION

CoC / Large City / County Name:	City of Palm Springs	Receiving Redirected Funds? Y/N	No
Administrative Entity Name:	David Ready, City Manager	Total Redirected Funding	\$ -

HHAP FUNDING EXPENDITURE PLAN*

ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY	FY20/21	FY21/22	FY22/23	FY23/24	FY24/25	TOTAL
Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
Operating Subsidies and Reserves	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Landlord Incentives	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Outreach and Coordination (Including employment)	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
Systems Support to Create Regional Partnerships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Delivery of Permanent Housing	\$ 3,150,000.00	\$ 3,150,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,300,000.00
Prevention and Shelter Diversion to Permanent Housing	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
New Navigation Centers and Emergency Shelters	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Strategic Homelessness Planning, Infrastructure Development, CES, and HMIS (up to 5%)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Administrative (up to 7%)	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 700,000.00
TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATION						\$ 10,000,000.00
Youth Set-Aside (at least 8%)	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 800,000.00

*Narrative should reflect details of HHAP funding plan

COMMENTS:

The grand total listed in the template does not equal the full HHAP allocation for your jurisdiction.
 The minimum 8% youth set aside allocation is not applied to the eligible use categories. All projects for youth should be reflected in the annual budget and listed within the correct eligible use category.
 On your original budget template, Row 19 "Delivery of Permanent Housing" there are two entries totaling \$5,000,000.00. The total for that column is \$6,275,000.00 - Please check for a missed entry on this row and make the correction.

**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

GEORGE A. JOHNSON
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER



LISA BRANDL
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

DON KENT
ASSISTANT COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COUNTY FINANCE OFFICER

February 11, 2020

Ms. Alicia Sutton, Deputy Secretary of Homelessness
Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
915 Capitol Mall, Suite 350-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Sutton:

The County of Riverside, the Riverside Continuum of Care, and the cities of Palm Springs and Riverside are pleased to provide this letter of mutual support for the application for California Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program.

We have been working collaboratively in the following ways and will continue to use these methods for ongoing oversight and evaluation of HHAP spending and projects:

- A. Continuum of Care Board of Governance: Riverside City and County have elected officials representing as voting members; Palm Springs participates in CoC meetings. The Board of Governance meet every other month, with committees meeting in the intervening months.
- B. Coachella Valley Association of Governments: City of Palm Springs and County of Riverside participate on the Homeless Subcommittee and in regional homeless services planning and funding. The subcommittee meets monthly.
- C. Western Riverside County of Governments (WRCOG): City and County of Riverside are members and participate with other cities in coordinated planning related to homelessness.
- D. Encampment Response: Riverside County's Executive Office coordinates the use of Riverside County services, and CoC funded outreach to support City of Riverside's and other city outreach to homeless encampments.
- E. Riverside University Health System-Behavioral Health (RUHS-BH), collaborates with the Riverside city's outreach team and supports the City's effort to house and serve homeless clients with persistent mental illness. RUHS-BH operates The Place on the City's Hulen Place campus, providing 24-hour drop-in services, and low-demand permanent supportive housing for 25 adults.
- F. In 2018, the City and County of Riverside signed a Memorandum of Understanding to create the Riverside Housing First Program to housing 100 chronically homeless adults. In the pilot project, the City of Riverside identifies chronically unsheltered and vulnerable homeless individuals and families for referral, funds security and utility deposits and the initial 12-month subsidy, as well as up to 6 months of case management to participants that transition into the County's Housing Choice/Section 8 Voucher program.

Riverside County commits up to 100 Housing Choice Vouchers annually, and provides coordination of Continuum of Care resources, Coordinated Entry System housing navigation and matching, and assistance in accessing mainstream benefits administered by the Department of Public Social Services. City and County staff meet regularly to discuss project progress and address any impediments.

To date, 89 formerly homeless households have been placed into permanent housing through this partnership.

Riverside County commits to continuing the Housing First Project meetings as well as the following:


- Coordinated Entry System meetings – meetings are every Tuesday
- Multi-disciplinary Team meetings to troubleshoot difficult cases – meets monthly

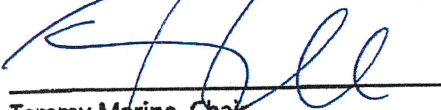
In addition to the above, representatives from our respective organizations participate in these coordinating efforts that will also support HHAP implementation:

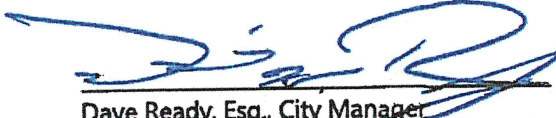
- Western Riverside Cities – a collaborative focused on regional planning to address homelessness, led by the City of Riverside. Meetings anticipated to be bi-monthly. Includes the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Norco, Moreno Valley and Riverside, as well as City and County of San Bernardino.
- Riverside County 2nd District cities meeting, convened by Supervisor Karen Spiegel, this includes the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Norco and Riverside.
- Riverside County 3rd District Homeless Task Force Meeting. Convened by Supervisor Chuck Washington, this meeting includes the cities of Hemet, Murrieta, San Jacinto and Temecula.
- Riverside County 4th District Coachella Valley Homeless Engagement & Action Response Team (CVHEART) collaboration of government and nonprofit organizations serving and housing homeless people in the Coachella Valley.

Lastly, the City of Riverside has collaborated with affordable housing developers, non-profit agencies, and County Riverside University Health System Behavioral Health to procure No Place Like Home Funding for three affordable housing communities totaling up to 195 units with 94 units designated as NPLH.

We appreciate the State's investment in our collaboration and look forward to sharing the impact of this investment in the coming years.


George Johnson, County Executive Officer
County of Riverside


Tammy Marine, Chair,
Riverside County Continuum of Care
Board of Governance


Dave Ready, Esq., City Manager
City of Palm Springs


Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager
City of Riverside

Assembly
California Legislature



CHAD MAYES

ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FORTY-SECOND DISTRICT

February 7, 2020

Secretary Alexis Podesta
Council Chair
California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program
915 Capitol Mall, Suite 350-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Chair Podesta,

I am pleased to voice my support for the City of Palm Springs as a recipient of \$10 million in State funding under the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program (HHAP). The City of Palm Springs has worked diligently with local stakeholders to expand homelessness programs and services and has invested significant resources toward this endeavor, demonstrating its dedication and willingness to end homelessness.

In the Coachella Valley, our community has a network of social service providers, county agencies, municipalities, and regional planning agencies striving to address homelessness. While we have made progress in homeless outreach and employment training, limited resources have hindered creation of a much needed navigation center and other housing options in the Coachella Valley.

The 2019 Point in Time Count identified a 21% increase of unsheltered individuals in Riverside County from 2018 to 2019. With 63% of Riverside County's shelter beds and 58% of transitional housing beds in the County located in the Coachella Valley, the Coachella Valley is providing a disproportionate share of crisis housing in Riverside County. Furthermore, 32% of those counted as unsheltered in the Coachella Valley reside in Palm Springs. It is clear that HHAP resources are needed to create new facilities and housing options in Palm Springs in addition to what other local agencies are currently undertaking.

The City of Palm Springs recently held a community meeting, attended by more than 200 individuals, to present the results of a report on homelessness in Palm Springs. The report was prepared by a highly reputable expert on dealing with homelessness, Barbara Poppe and Associates, and included recommendations for use of the \$10 million of HHAP funding. We have reviewed and agree with how the City of Palm Springs intends to spend their HHAP funds and that their spending plan accurately addresses their share of the regional needs to address homelessness.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out to my staff for any further questions you may have. (John.Knobel@asm.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chad Mayes".

Chad Mayes
Member of the Assembly