



CDSS

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California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP)

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is excited to announce a new housing program that will be offered to homeless families in the CalWORKs program.

Program Background

- Senate Bill (SB) 855 allocated \$20 million for a new Housing Support Program (HSP) for eligible CalWORKs recipients
- Twenty counties were awarded HSP funds in September 2014, which must be used before June 30, 2015
- Counties were given the flexibility to design their own county specific HSP plan to serve the needs of their community.

Program Goals and Target Population

- Assist homeless families in quickly obtaining permanent housing and provide wrap-around supports to families to foster housing retention.
- Core components include comprehensive and coordinated entry with community partners along a continuum of care, housing identification, rent and moving assistance, focused case management, and services based on individual participant needs.

Program Requirements

- Counties are required to use evidenced-based models, including those established in the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development's Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP).
- Rapid Re-Housing and targeted homelessness prevention programs have been implemented nationwide as cost effective strategies to help families exit or avoid homelessness and retain permanent housing.

Program Duration and Services Provided

- Housing subsidies may range from a few months to several months, depending on the individual needs of the family.
- Individual county program plans differ in terms of eligibility requirements, services offered, or duration of a family's eligibility.
- HSP services offered may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:
 - Financial assistance, including rental assistance, security deposits, utility payments, moving costs and motel and hotel vouchers; and
 - Housing stabilization and relocation, including outreach and engagement, landlord recruitment, case management, housing outreach and placement, legal services, and credit repair.

Counties Operating Housing Support Programs and Amount Awarded

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|----------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| • Alameda | \$1,266,825 | • San Bernardino | \$1,075,906 |
| • Contra Costa | \$1,085,850 | • San Diego | \$500,000 |
| • Fresno | \$854,049 | • San Francisco | \$2,051,050 |
| • Los Angeles | \$3,500,000 | • San Luis Obispo | \$1,046,065 |
| • Madera | \$431,300 | • Santa Clara | \$1,508,125 |
| • Merced | \$516,925 | • Santa Cruz | \$663,575 |
| • Monterey | \$376,625 | • Sonoma | \$878,033 |
| • Orange | \$450,000 | • Tuolumne | \$142,358 |
| • Riverside | \$1,000,000 | • Ventura | \$514,215 |
| • Sacramento | \$1,325,775 | • Yolo | \$813,142 |

CDSS Staff Contacts

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