

California Behavioral Health Planning Council

Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

[Embassy Suites San Francisco Airport Waterfront](#)

150 Anza Boulevard
Burlingame, California 94010
Ambassador A Room

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Join by phone: (669) 444-9171

Meeting ID: 820 1412 7127

Passcode: 705358

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|------------------|---|--------------|
| 8:30 a.m. | Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping
<i>Deborah Starkey, Chairperson</i> | |
| 8:40 a.m. | Review and Accept June 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes (Action)
<i>Deborah Starkey, Chairperson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Discussion• Public Comment• Accept Minutes | Tab 1 |
| 8:45 a.m. | Review and Accept Draft 2025-2026 Committee Charter (Action)
<i>Deborah Starkey, Chairperson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Discussion• Public Comment• Accept Charter | Tab 2 |
| 8:55 a.m. | Discussion of the 2025 Housing and Homelessness Committee Activities for the Council's Year-End Report (Action)
<i>Deborah Starkey, Chairperson</i> | Tab 3 |
| 9:20 a.m. | Housing and Homelessness Committee 2026 Work Plan
<i>Deborah Starkey, Chairperson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Discussion• Public Comment | Tab 4 |

If reasonable accommodations are required, please contact the Council at (916) 701-8211 not less than 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

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10:00 a.m. Break

10:10 a.m. Overview of San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing's (HSH) Rapid Rehousing Programs **Tab 5**

Cricket Miller, Manager of Scattered Site Housing Programs, HSH

- Committee Member Question and Answer (Q&A)
- Public Comment

10:55 a.m. Break

11:05 a.m. California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) Recovery Housing Guidance **Tab 6**

Meghan Marshall, Executive Officer, Cal ICH

Giselle Sanchez, Housing First Specialist, Cal ICH

- Committee Member Question and Answer (Q&A)
- Public Comment

11:40 a.m. Presentation Debrief and Discussion **Tab 7**

Deborah Starkey, Chairperson

- Public Comment

11:55 a.m. Wrap-up & Next Steps

Deborah Starkey, Chairperson

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

The scheduled times on the agenda are estimates and subject to change.

Public Comment: Limited to a **2-minute maximum** to ensure all are heard.

Officers: Deborah Starkey, Chairperson Maria Sierra, Chairperson Elect

Committee Members: Susie Baker, John Black, Jason Bradley, Monica Caffey, Dave Cortright, Erin Franco, Lynne Martin Del Campo, Lanita Mims-Beal, Barbara Mitchell, Don Morrison, Danielle Sena, Daphne Shaw, Bill Stewart, Arden Tucker

TAB 1

California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: Review and Accept June 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes (Action)

Enclosure: June 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes

Background/Description:

Committee members will review the draft meeting minutes for the June 2025 Quarterly Meeting. Members can request edits before the minutes are accepted.

California Behavioral Health Planning Council

Housing and Homelessness Committee

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

June 19, 2025

Council Members present: Susie Baker, John Black, Jason Bradley, Monica Caffey, Dave Cortright, Erin Franco, Lanita Mims-Beal, Barbara Mitchell, Don Morrison, Danielle Sena, Daphne Shaw, Maria Sierra, Deborah Starkey, Bill Stewart, Arden Tucker

Staff present: Jenny Bayardo, Gabriella Sedano (virtual), Simon Vue

Presenters: Elizabeth Colorado, Anna Kokanyan, Claudine Sipili, Cody Zeger

Meeting Commenced: 8:30 a.m.

Quorum Established: 15 out of 18 members

Item #1	Review and Accept April 2025 Meeting Minutes
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The Housing and Homelessness Committee reviewed the April 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes. The minutes were accepted by the committee as written.

Action/Resolution

The April 2025 Housing and Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes are accepted and will be posted to the Council's website.

Responsible for Action-Due Date

Simon Vue – June 2025

Item #2	California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) Action Plan for 2025 – 2027
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Cody Zeger, Director of Statewide Policy at the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), presented an overview of their 2025-2027 Statewide Action Plan to prevent and end homelessness. Cody began with a brief introduction to Cal ICH, which is responsible for overseeing the implementation of Housing First policies, guidelines, and regulations supported by an advisory committee and a lived-experience advisory board.

Initially launched in 2020, Cal ICH's Action Plan aims to coordinate state efforts to address homelessness with a vision of building an equitable and just California where homelessness is rare, brief, and a one-time experience. The 2025-2027 Action Plan focuses on the following five key goals:

- Help more people leave unsheltered homelessness.
- Help more people move into housing.
- Ensure people do not experience homelessness again.
- Prevent more people from experiencing homelessness.
- Create more housing.

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Cody also presented the plan's three-year targets:

- Move 70% of unsheltered individuals into shelters.
- Place 60% into permanent housing.
- Create 1.5 million new housing units with 710,000 designated for low-income residents.

He described key strategies to meet these goals such as interagency coordination, strategic investments, and equity-centered frameworks to address systemic barriers. Cody highlighted core principles that guide the plan, such as prioritizing racial equity, adopting trauma-informed approaches, and elevating the voices of those with lived experience of homelessness.

Cody concluded his presentation and opened the floor for questions from committee members. Key topics included:

- A committee member inquired about the size of the lived experience advisory board. Cody shared that Cal-ICH reduced its membership from 30 to approximately 25 members. Each member serves a two-year term. He explained that the board provides subject matter expertise, reviews key documents, and offers recommendations to Cal ICH members before key decisions.
- A committee member raised concerns about the proposed 44% federal cuts to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), particularly their impact on project-based and tenant-based rental assistance. Cody acknowledged the risk, noting that 15,000 emergency housing vouchers are slated to expire.
- A committee member asked how the number of homeless individuals aligns with the projected housing units. Cody explained that the 2.5 million planned units, including 1.5 million by 2027 and 710,000 reserved for low-income residents, are part of a broader housing strategy and not specifically designated for the homeless population.
- A committee member asked how racial equity is reflected in the plan's goals and data analysis. Cody emphasized Cal ICH's commitment to disaggregating targets by race, ethnicity, and gender to ensure a more inclusive and equitable approach.
- When asked about Cal ICH's leverage in advancing the Action Plan, Cody described their statutory authority and stressed the importance of cross-agency relationships. He noted that their influence stems from formal power and their ability to communicate and coordinate across state departments.

Public Comment:

Paula, a member of the public, inquired about current data reflecting progress toward the plan's three-year goal of a 42% increase in housing placements. Cody directed her to Cal ICH's website, where quarterly updates provide the latest information. He noted that the most recent data covers the calendar year 2024.

Barbara Wilson from Los Angeles County raised a question about tracking individuals moving from hospital settings to residential facilities, particularly those

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with psychosis. She was concerned about how these transitions are captured and whether individuals lose housing access once in licensed facilities.

Council Member John Black emphasized the importance of early intervention, proposing the use of peer support workers to help individuals who are newly experiencing homelessness before their situation worsens.

Item #3 Perspectives on Recovery Housing Panel Discussion

Over the past two quarterly meetings, the Housing and Homelessness Committee engaged in discussions about recovery housing and the Housing First model. The discussions focused on their roles within behavioral health services and highlighted key challenges and best practices. This panel built on those discussions and provided first-hand insights to inform the Committee's work further.

The panel featured three distinguished speakers with lived experiences of addiction and homelessness:

- **Elizabeth Colorado**, Advocate for the Unhoused Community
- **Claudine Sipili**, Lived Experience & Innovation Director, Destination Home
- **Anna Kokanyan**, Director of Admissions & Program Director, Conquer Recovery Centers

Each panelist shared their personal story of how recovery housing played a pivotal role in their journey to stability and long-term recovery. They addressed the barriers often faced during transitions from homelessness and addiction to stable housing, including financial hardship, limited guidance, and systemic obstacles. Their experiences highlighted the need for compassionate, structured environments that foster connection and provide resources without rigid requirements.

The panelists called for more flexible, trauma-informed approaches that prioritize human dignity, autonomy, and choice. Claudine emphasized the need to advocate for policies that center racial equity and incorporate lived expertise. She also stressed that recovery housing should remain voluntary and not a requirement. Anna emphasized the need to validate individuals' feelings and provide care in safe and supportive settings. Elizabeth highlighted the need to meet people where they are and guide them through both recovery and permanent housing pathways.

The panelists expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to share their experiences. The discussion concluded with a Questions-and-Answers session with committee members. Key topics included:

- A committee member asked Anna about the duration of her program at Conquer Recovery Centers and why participants travel from out of town. Anna explained that many public facilities have waitlists of six to nine months. Her program, which accepts private insurance, provides more immediate access to treatment.
- A committee member celebrated Anna's recent acceptance into a college program and shared heartfelt reflections on her journey. They emphasized the value of lived experience, resilience, and personal growth.

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- Another member raised concerns about the decision to offer housing before addressing mental health and substance use needs. The panelists acknowledged the diverse perspectives on the Housing First model and emphasized that services must reflect individual needs and allow each person to guide their own recovery.
- When asked how they remain strong and grounded in their work, the panelists shared personal wellness practices. Anna spoke about the importance of caring for the mind, body, and spirit through exercise, prayer, meditation, a healthy diet, and therapy. Claudine described her connection with nature through off-road travel as a source of peace, reflection, and spiritual strength. Elizabeth emphasized simple acts of kindness to give back and stay rooted in empathy and purpose.
- A committee member offered encouragement and shared a personal story about how they helped an individual regain custody of her children. The story affirmed the power of persistence, compassion, and hope.

Public Comment:

Barbara Wilson expressed appreciation for the panel discussion and proposed the creation of a safe healing space for individuals with behavioral health challenges. She shared that, in her experience, every unhoused person she had worked with could successfully maintain housing. Barbara also raised concerns about the Housing First model, noting that some individuals struggle with its structure and may feel like failures when they must return to more supported environments. Additionally, she questioned defining success solely in terms of paid employment, emphasizing that mental health conditions can impact a person's ability to work.

Anna, a college student, shared how impactful it was to hear directly from individuals with lived experience. While she studied incarceration and homelessness in her coursework, she said the personal stories gave her a deeper and more meaningful understanding of the issues.

A committee member highlighted the challenges of treating individuals who use substances. She acknowledged the value of harm reduction but emphasized that trauma work remains difficult when a person remains under the influence.

Item #4 Cal ICH and Recovery Housing Panel Debrief Discussion

The Committee debriefed on the information presented by Cody Zeger from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) and the panelists from the Recovery Housing Panel. Committee members also discussed potential next steps.

A committee member expressed deep appreciation for the lived expertise shared by the panelists. She emphasized the value of hearing from individuals who have experienced addiction and homelessness, are now in recovery, and are helping others through successful programs. She encouraged the inclusion of similar presentations in future meetings.

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Another committee member outlined the following follow-up items in response to the presentation from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH):

- **Federal Housing Voucher Concerns:** Urged follow-up with Cal ICH about federal funding cuts and reduced availability of rental vouchers. She noted that the presentation addressed only Homeless Prevention vouchers, which make up a small portion of the total supply. In Monterey County, she reported that no new Tenant-Based Vouchers appear available, and Project-Based Vouchers remain unavailable, which has stalled progress for individuals on waitlists.
- **Support for Undocumented Populations:** Requested information on Cal ICH's strategy to support undocumented individuals. The committee member shared that 13.5% of her county's population are undocumented and many in this group experience homelessness. She shared that local shelters have reached capacity and often house undocumented families for extended periods, which forces others in need of emergency shelter to go without. She urged the Committee to seek state-level guidance and data on this growing concern.

The committee member raised concerns about the long-term effectiveness of six-month rapid rehousing programs. She explained that individuals with serious mental illness who are unemployed often do not meet eligibility requirements for these short-term services. Even among those who do qualify, many are unable to sustain rent payments once the assistance ends. In one local case, 90% of participants became homeless again after the six-month support period. She questioned whether this approach offers a sustainable solution.

A committee member added that shelters should function as gateways to permanent housing, not long-term temporary accommodations. While acknowledging the value of recovery housing, he stressed that it is just one piece of a broader housing continuum that requires support.

Another committee member emphasized the importance of homelessness prevention. She referenced research from the University of California, San Francisco, showing that many people become homeless after missing a single rent or mortgage payment. She questioned why state and national investments remain focused on rehousing rather than proactively preventing housing loss. She also acknowledged the efforts of one panelist whose organization is working effectively in the prevention space.

A committee member described the current moment as a pivotal opportunity to advance the Committee's advocacy efforts. He noted that, although the presenter outlined several strategic goals, homelessness prevention remained undefined. He emphasized the value this Committee brings, as members provide firsthand insight into effective prevention strategies. The committee member added that the collective effort of this Committee could help influence broader policy decisions and bring hope to individuals at risk of homelessness.

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Public Comment:

Barbara Wilson expressed appreciation for the Committee's longstanding work, recalling her early involvement when she raised concerns about the closure of licensed adult residential facilities due to low reimbursement rates. She also highlighted the gap in oversight for sober living homes, which are unlicensed and therefore not subject to consistent standards. Barbara noted she has been in dialogue with her county's Sober Living Council and referenced similar efforts in Santa Clara County to establish operational guidelines for these homes.

She emphasized the lack of communication between systems and that many individuals' experiencing homelessness are unaware of licensed residential options. In contrast, mental health providers often lack insight into the realities of homelessness. Barbara stressed the urgency to break down these silos, particularly due to recent resistance from the substance use community during a Los Angeles County town hall meeting, where concerns were raised about merging mental health and substance use systems.

Action/Resolution

Committee staff will follow up with the questions to the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH).

Responsible for Action-Due Date

Simon Vue – April 2025

Item #5 Proposition 1 Update

Council staff, Simon Vue, shared an update on Proposition 1 Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Round 1: Launch Ready.

On May 12, 2025, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) announced Proposition 1 BHCIP Round 1: Launch Ready awards. Eligible organizations applied for funding to construct, acquire, and rehabilitate properties for behavioral health services for Medi-Cal members. The Department awarded 124 projects across 214 behavioral health facilities in California to support:

- 5,077 new residential/inpatient treatment beds for mental health and substance use disorders.
- 21,882 new outpatient treatment slots.

Additionally, the Department is preparing to launch BHCIP Round 2: Unmet Needs in May 2025, which will provide up to \$1 billion in competitive funding awards.

This funding is a vital part of the Department's Behavioral Health Transformation efforts, which aim to strengthen California's approach to providing services for mental health and substance use disorders by focusing on community-based care and support.

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Although the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) is not part of Proposition 1, the measure allocates up to \$4.4 billion through the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act (BHIBA), which establishes the program as a key vehicle to expand California's behavioral health infrastructure. This funding supports the development of treatment facilities, including residential care settings and supportive housing. The Department distributes these funds through competitive grants, focusing on community-based services and regional projects.

Action/Resolution

Staff will continue to monitor for the May updates regarding the Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program Round 2: Unmet Needs.

Responsible for Action-Due Date

Simon Vue – May 2025

Item #6	Wrap-up Next Steps
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Chairperson Deborah thanked the Committee for their participation and time. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Action/Resolution

The Committee leadership and staff will plan the agenda for the October 2025 Quarterly Meeting. The Committee will monitor the action sections of past and current quarterly meetings to determine what actions are needed at upcoming meetings.

Responsible for Action-Due Date

N/A

California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: Review and Accept 2025-2026 Committee Charter (Action)

Enclosure: Draft 2025-2026 Committee Charter

How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission

To review, evaluate, and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

This agenda item supports the Council's mission by ensuring that the Committee's structure and focus remain aligned with the Council's current priorities.

Background/Description:

Each committee of the California Behavioral Health Planning Council maintains a charter that outlines its purpose, goals, and guiding principles.

The Housing and Homelessness Committee Charter received its last update in June 2020. Since then, California has launched several major initiatives that reshape the behavioral health and housing landscape. It is important to update the Committee Charter to ensure alignment with these evolving priorities.

Key developments include:

- **Proposition 1 (2024):** In March 2024, voters passed Proposition 1, which includes two major components:
 - **The Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)** modernizes the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) to expand treatment options for substance use disorders, increase housing interventions, and strengthen prevention and early intervention efforts. Under the BHSA, beginning in 2026, 30% of each county's behavioral health funding must be allocated to housing interventions for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, with half of that amount prioritized for those experiencing chronic homelessness.
 - **The \$6.4 billion Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond** funds the development of behavioral health treatment beds, supportive housing, community sites, and funding for housing veterans with behavioral health needs.

- **Homekey+ Program:** Building on the success of the original Homekey initiative, Homekey+ is a new program funded through Proposition 1. It provides \$2.2 billion to expand permanent supportive housing for individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness who also have behavioral health or substance use challenges.
- **Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program:** Launched in 2022 and funded through 2027, the BHBH Program provides over \$1 billion to county behavioral health agencies and tribal entities to create temporary housing solutions for individuals with serious mental illness or substance use disorders who are experiencing homelessness. The program is aligned with the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act and aims to serve as a bridge to permanent housing and treatment.

Staff have prepared a draft Charter for the Committee's review. During this agenda item, Committee members will:

- Review the proposed updates to the Charter.
- Provide feedback and suggest edits.
- Accept the Charter with any requested changes.

New language is shown in underline text, while deletions are shown with ~~striethrough formatting~~.

Housing and Homelessness Committee

Charter and Membership Roster 2025-2026

The California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC) is mandated by federal and state statutes to 1) advocate for children with serious emotional disturbance and their families and for adults and older adults with serious mental illness, 2) review and report on outcomes for the public mental health system, and 3) advise the Department of Health Care Services and the Legislature on policies and priorities the state should pursue in developing its mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) systems.

VISION

A behavioral health system that makes it possible for individuals to lead full and purposeful lives.

MISSION

To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Wellness and Recovery: Wellness and recovery may be achieved through multiple pathways that support an individual to live a fulfilled life and reach their full potential.

Resiliency Across the lifespan: Resilience emerges when individuals of all ages are empowered and supported to cope with life events.

Advocacy and Education: Effective advocacy for policy change statewide starts with educating the public and decision makers on behavioral health issues.

Consumer and Family Voice: Individuals and family members are included in all aspects of policy development and system delivery.

Cultural Humility and Responsiveness: Services must be delivered in a way that is responsive to the needs of California's diverse populations and respects all aspects of an individual's culture.

Parity and System Accountability: A quality public behavioral health system includes stakeholder input, parity and performance measures that improve services and outcomes.

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

The purpose of the Housing and Homelessness Committee (HHC) is to actively engage with stakeholder organizations to influence policy and ensure access to housing and

supportive programs by services for homeless individuals experiencing or at-risk of homelessness who are served by the public behavioral health system. The Committee will advocates on for legislation, regulations, and practices, and regulatory matters related to the housing crisis in California and funding that address California's housing crisis, with a focus on supporting and programs to serve persons individuals with behavioral health conditions who have mental illness and are homeless. The Committee HHC will monitors, reviews, evaluate and recommends improvements in the delivery of housing services in the delivery of housing services and address the state's efforts to address homelessness homeless population. The Committee also recognizes and highlights By highlighting and recognizing outstanding service delivery programs, it is hoped that effective programs can be duplicated and shared throughout the State of with the goal of encouraging replication of effective practices across California. In addition, The HHC the Committee will supports the incorporation of cultural and linguistic competence in all programs, reviews fiscal impacts on service delivery, and addresses other issues that may require attention as they arise occur.

Existing Key initiatives efforts for this the Committee's consideration include, but are not limited to:

- California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) Homeless-Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) and Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) Housing Program.
- California Housing and Homelessness Agency (CHHA)
- Proposition 1 and Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT)
 - Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Housing Interventions
 - Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act
 - Homekey+
- Housing First Policy
- No Place Like Home (NPLH)
- Guidance on Recovery Housing

MANDATES

CA Welfare and Institutions Code

5772. The California Behavioral Health Planning Council shall have the powers and authority necessary to carry out the duties imposed upon it by this chapter, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) To advocate for effective, quality mental health and substance use programs.
- (b) To review, assess, and make recommendations regarding all components of California's mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) systems, and to report as necessary to the Legislature, the State Department of Health Care Services, local boards, and local programs.
- (c) To review program performance in delivering mental health services by annually reviewing performance outcome data as follows:
 - (1) To review and approve the performance outcome measures.
 - (2) To review the performance of mental health programs based on

performance outcome data and other reports from the State Department of Health Care Services and other sources.

- (3) To report findings and recommendations on programs' performance annually to the Legislature, the State Department of Health Care Services and the local boards.
- (4) To identify successful programs for recommendation and for consideration of replication in other areas. As data and technology are available, identify programs experiencing difficulties.
- (d) When appropriate, make a finding pursuant to Section 5655 that a county's performance is failing in a substantive manner. The State Department of Health Care Services shall investigate and review the findings, and report the action taken to the Legislature.
- (e) To advise the Legislature, the State Department of Health Care Services, and county boards on mental health and substance use disorder issues and the policies and priorities that this state should be pursuing in developing its mental health and substance use disorder systems.
- (f) To periodically review the state's data systems and paperwork requirements to ensure that they are reasonable and in compliance with state and federal law.

GENERAL COMMITTEE OPERATIONS

MEETING TIMES

The Housing and Homelessness Committee will meet in-person or virtually four times a year, rotating locations in conjunction with the Full Council meetings. At these meetings, the Committee meets on Thursday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meetings by conference call may occur in the months between in-person meetings, on an as needed basis.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MEMBER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Regular attendance of committee members is expected ~~in order~~ for the Committee to function effectively. If the Committee has difficulty achieving a quorum due to the continued absence of a committee member, the HHC Chairperson will discuss with the member the reasons for his or her absence. If the problem persists, the HHC Chairperson can request that the California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC) Officer Team remove the member from the committee.

The HHC Chairperson and Chair-Elect will be nominated by the ~~HHC~~ Committee members and appointed by the CBHPC Officer Team. In the Chairperson's absence the Chair-Elect will serve as the Chairperson. The Chairperson and Chair-Elect serve on the Executive Committee, which requires attendance and participation in those meetings in addition to ~~HHC~~ committee meetings. Terms will begin with the January in-person meeting and end with the last meeting of the calendar year.

Members are expected to serve as advocates for the Committee's charge, and as such, could include, but are not limited to:

- Attend meetings and provide input
- Review meeting materials prior to meetings ~~in order~~ to ensure effective meeting outcomes
- Speak at relevant conferences and summits when requested by the Committee leadership
- Develop products such as recommendations, white papers, opinion papers, and other documents
- Distribute the Committee's white papers and opinion papers to their represented communities and organizations
- Assist ~~in identifying~~ with identification of speakers for presentations

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff will capture the ~~HHG~~ committee members' decisions and activities in a document, briefly summarizing the discussion and outlining key outcomes during the meeting. The meeting summary will be distributed to the ~~HHG~~ members within one month following the meeting. Members will review and approve the previous meeting's summary at the following meeting.

Staff will prepare the meeting agendas and materials, including coordinating presenters, at the direction of the ~~HHG~~ Chairperson and committee members. The meeting agenda and materials will be made available to ~~HHG~~ members, in hardcopy and/or electronically, not less than 10 days prior to the meeting.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF COLLABORATION

The following general operating principles are established to guide the Committee's deliberations:

- The Committee's purpose will be best achieved by relationships among the members characterized by mutual trust, responsiveness, flexibility, and open communication.
- It is the responsibility of all members to work toward the Council's vision.
- To that end, members will:
 - Commit to expending the time, energy and organizational resources necessary to carry out the Committee's Work Plan
 - Be prepared to listen intently to the concerns of others and identify the interests represented
 - Ask questions and seek clarification to ensure they fully understand ~~other's~~ others' interests, concerns, and comments.
 - Regard disagreements as problems to be solved rather than battles to be

won.

- Be prepared to “think outside the box” and develop creative solutions to address the many interests that will be raised throughout the Committee’s deliberations.

Committee members will work to find common ground on issues and strive to seek consensus on all key issues. Every effort will be made to reach a consensus, and opposing views will be explained. In situations where there are strongly divergent views, members may choose to present multiple recommendations on the same topic. If the Committee is unable to reach consensus on key issues, decisions will be made by majority vote. Minority views will be included in the meeting summary.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

CHAIRPERSON: Deborah Starkey

CHAIR-ELECT: Maria Sierra

Susie Baker
John Black
Jason Bradley
Monica Caffey
Dave Cortright
Erin Franco

Lynne Martin Del Campo
Lanita Mims-Beal
Barbara Mitchell
Don Morrison
Darlene Prettyman
Danielle Sena

Daphne Shaw
Bill Stewart
Arden Tucker

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE STAFF

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California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: Discussion of the 2025 Housing and Homelessness Committee Activities for the Council's Year-End Report (Action)

Enclosures: Housing and Homelessness Committee List of Completed Action Items and Activities - 2025
2024-2025 Housing and Homelessness Committee Work Plan

How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission

To review, evaluate, and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

The purpose of this agenda item is to review the activities and action items the Housing and Homelessness Committee completed in 2025. The discussion will support the Council's 2025 Year-End Report.

Background/Description:

The California Behavioral Health Planning Council publishes an annual report to highlight each committee's achievements and activities.

Staff have prepared a document that outlines the actions and activities undertaken by the Committee in 2025 in alignment with the goals and objectives in the 2024-2025 Work Plan.

Committee members will review the enclosed document in line with the Work Plan. Members will have the opportunity to discuss and prioritize items for inclusion in the Housing and Homelessness Committee section of the Council's 2025 Year-End Report.

Housing and Homelessness Committee

List of Completed Action Items and Activities - 2025

This document outlines the actions and activities undertaken by the Housing and Homelessness Committee in 2025 in alignment with the goals and objectives in the 2024-2025 Work Plan. Its purpose is to inform the Committee's contribution to the Council's 2025 Year-End Report.

WORK PLAN GOAL 1: Advocate for Equitable Access to Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness Across the Lifespan

Completed Action Items related to Work Plan Goal 1

- **Support for Assembly Bill 804 (Wicks):** In June 2025, the Committee voted to recommend a support position for AB 804, which would establish Medi-Cal housing supportive services as a statewide benefit. The recommendation was forwarded to the Legislation and Public Policy Committee (LPPC) for further consideration.
 - Note: AB 804 is a two-year bill, which means it did not advance out of committee and is now eligible to be taken up again in 2026.

Completed Action Items related to Work Plan Goal 1, Activity Bullet 3b

- **Engagement with the California Commission on Aging (CCoA):** During the January 2025 Quarterly Meeting, the Committee received a briefing from CCoA on its September 2024 report, *Housing Those Hardest Hit: Addressing Older Adult Homelessness*. The report provided key policy recommendations to address housing insecurity among older adults.

Completed Action Items related to Work Plan Goal 1, Activity Bullet 3c

- **Support for Assembly Bill 255 (Haney):** Committee leadership and staff reviewed and provided input on a draft support letter for AB 255, developed by the Legislation & Public Policy Committee (LPPC). The bill would allow state programs to fund supportive recovery residences, provided that at least 90% of program funds are allocated to housing or housing-based services aligned with harm-reduction principles.
- **Briefing from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH):** During the June 2025 Quarterly Meeting, Cal ICH presented its Guidance for Recovery Housing and Housing First. This guidance provides clarification on how state-funded recovery housing settings must comply with Housing First law.

Completed Action Items related to Work Plan Goal 1, Activity Bullet 4

- **Resource Compilation:** Committee staff compiled and archived Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) resources and documents related to housing and homelessness in PDF format for future reference.

WORK PLAN GOAL 2: Contribute to the Development of Regulations for Housing Initiatives for Persons with Serious Mental Illness

Completed Action Items related to Work Plan Goal 2, Activity Bullet 1

- **Behavioral Health Bond Process:** The Committee obtained information on the Behavioral Health Bond application and award process through a presentation by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). During the January 2025 Quarterly Meeting, Committee members also participated in a Question and Answer (Q&A) session with DHCS to further discuss the topic.

Completed Action Items related to Work Plan Goal 2, Activity Bullet 4

- **Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Feedback:** The Committee contributed to the Council's feedback on Module 1 of the BHSA Policy Manual. The Council's recommendations, submitted to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) earlier this year, were largely accepted. This success underscores the impact of the Council's advocacy and the critical role of our members in shaping behavioral health policy. Key outcomes include:
 - Broader definitions for housing eligibility.
 - More inclusive definitions of homelessness and at-risk of homelessness.
 - Flexibility in housing supports or project-based subsidies.
 - Clarification that skilled nursing facilities are not considered housing.

Centering Lived Experience: Perspectives on Recovery Housing

As part of its commitment to centering lived experience in policy development, the Committee hosted a panel discussion titled, "Perspectives on Recovery Housing," during the June 2025 Quarterly Meeting. The panel featured three speakers with firsthand experience of homelessness and behavioral health recovery, who shared valuable insights on the role of recovery housing in achieving long-term stability and permanent housing.

Key Takeaways included:

- A deeper understanding of how recovery housing supports transitions from homelessness and addiction to independent living.
- Identification of systemic barriers, including financial hardship and lack of guidance.
- Affirmation of the value of compassionate, structured environments that foster connection and recovery without rigid requirements.

The insights shared during this discussion continue to inform the Committee's advocacy for equitable, recovery-oriented housing models and best practices across California.

Presentations Secured by HHC in 2025

Throughout the year, the Committee coordinated a series of presentations from key state and local partners to inform and guide its work. These included:

- **California Commission on Aging:** Overview of September 2024 Report on older adult homelessness in California.
- **Department of Health Care Services (DHCS):** Overview of the Behavioral Health Bond application and award process.
- **Housing California:** Presentation on advocacy priorities and statewide housing initiatives.
- **California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH):** Overview of the 2025-2027 Statewide Action Plan to prevent and end homelessness.
- **California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH):** Overview of the Guidance for Recovery Housing and Housing First.
- **San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing:** Overview of the City's Rapid Rehousing programs.

California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: Housing and Homelessness Committee 2026 Work Plan

Enclosure: 2024-2025 Housing and Homelessness Committee Work Plan

How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission

To review, evaluate, and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

The Work Plan is an instrument to guide and monitor the Housing and Homelessness Committee's activities in its efforts to uphold its duties within the framework of the Planning Council.

Background/Description:

The purpose of the Work Plan is to establish the Committee's objectives and goals and outline the necessary tasks to achieve those goals. During this agenda item, Committee members will review and update the Work Plan to prioritize activities for 2026. This process will help ensure that the Committee's work remains relevant, responsive, and aligned with emerging statewide behavioral health initiatives, including the implementation of Proposition 1.

As part of this process, members may consider the following:

- Identify activities that are no longer relevant or have shifted in priority.
- Identify new goals and the steps needed to accomplish the goals set for 2026.
- Determine the appropriate time frame the updated Work Plan should cover.

Some of the goals the Committee may want to consider for the 2026 Work Plan include *(please note that this is not an all-inclusive list)*:

- Propose new initiatives, programs, or policies to incorporate into existing goals.
 - Monitor implementation of the new California Housing and Homelessness Agency and its implications.
 - Explore the impact of the California SAFE (State Action for Facilitation on Encampments) Task Force.
 - Highlight local homelessness prevention strategies.
 - Track legislation related to housing and homelessness

- Monitor and Evaluate the Implementation of Proposition 1 (Behavioral Health Services Act and Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act)
 - Track the rollout of Proposition 1 funding to assess how new investments in housing and behavioral health infrastructure are being allocated and implemented.
- Support culturally responsive and equity-focused housing strategies.
 - Identify strategies to ensure housing and homelessness services are inclusive and responsive to the needs of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+), and other historically underserved populations.

California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: Overview of San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing's (HSH) Rapid Rehousing Programs

Enclosure: None

How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission

To review, evaluate, and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

The Council's scope of work includes identifying best practices and evaluating programs funded by the public behavioral health system. This agenda item provides Committee members with information regarding Rapid Rehousing programs and services that the City and County of San Francisco provides for individuals with behavioral health conditions. This discussion will help inform policy discussions and promote effective housing strategies across California.

This discussion aligns with Committee Work Plan Goal 1.

- **Goal 1:** Advocate for Equitable Access to Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness Across the Lifespan

Background/ Description

Committee members will hear a presentation from Cricket Miller, Manager of Scattered Site Housing Programs at the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH). The presentation will provide an overview of the City's Rapid Rehousing Programs. Committee members will have the opportunity to engage in discussion and provide input to inform housing and homelessness policies that impact individuals with lived experience of serious mental illness and substance use disorders.

About the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

The San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) is the city agency dedicated to preventing and ending homelessness in San Francisco. The department combines key homeless-serving programs and contracts from the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Human Services Agency (HSA), the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD), and the Department of

Children Youth and Their Families (DCYF). This consolidated department has a singular focus on preventing and ending homelessness for people in San Francisco. The Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing strives to make homelessness in San Francisco rare, brief, and one-time, through the provision of coordinated, compassionate, and high-quality services.

Additional Resources

[San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing](#)

California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) Recovery Housing Guidance

Enclosure: None

How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission

To review, evaluate, and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

This agenda item provides the Committee with an overview of the Guidance on Housing First and Recovery Housing released by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) in September 2025. Committee members will use this information to inform housing and homelessness policies that affect individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.

This agenda item corresponds to Committee Work Plan Goal 1:

- **Goal 1:** Advocate for Equitable Access to Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness Across the Lifespan
- **Objective:** Assess the availability of housing resources for persons across the lifespan and review how state laws have impeded matters contributing to housing and homelessness issues.

Background/ Description

Meghan Marshall, California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), Executive Officer, and Giselle Sanchez, Housing First Specialist, will present the Guidance on Housing First and Recovery Housing.



Meghan Marshall was appointed Executive Officer of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness by Governor Gavin Newsom in March 2023. Meghan has over 17 years of experience working in the public sectors of public health, behavioral health, human services, housing, and homelessness. Prior to her most recent role as the Director of Public Health for Placer County, Meghan served in many positions of leadership for Sacramento County, including as Division Manager for the COVID-19 Homelessness Response

Team and as the Planning Manager for the county's Initiatives to Reduce Homelessness.

Meghan has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Social Work from California State University, Sacramento, and a Master's degree in Public Health from George Washington University.



Giselle Sanchez serves as Statewide Homelessness Policy Specialist for the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) since September 2022. She supports relationships with state departments, local communities, and other stakeholders and promotes best practices and knowledge sharing on homelessness strategies, including the state's Housing First policies. Additionally, she provides support to the implementation of the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness and the Cal ICH inter-agency work groups.

Giselle began at Cal ICH in June 2020 as a Graduate Student Assistant and assisted in policy, data, and research analysis for the Council. After, she continued at Cal ICH as a Council Specialist. In this role, she organized and executed the Quarterly Council Meetings. Prior to joining Cal ICH, Giselle was an officer manager assistant at a small landscaping business in the San Francisco Bay Area and a Supplemental Instructor at San José State University.

Giselle is dedicated to addressing racial disparities and promoting racial equity across California. Giselle holds a B.A. in Sociology with a concentration in Community Change and a minor in Justice Studies from San José State University and a Master's in Public Policy and Administration from California State University, Sacramento.

About Cal ICH

The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) was created by Senate Bill 1380 in 2017 as the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee the implementation of Housing First policies, guidelines, and regulations to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness in California.

In 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 1220 into law, which renamed and restructured the Council to continue California's forward momentum towards the state's broader vision for greater statewide leadership and coordination around its response to the homelessness crisis. The Council's mission is to develop policies and identify resources, benefits, and services to prevent and work toward ending homelessness in California.

Additional Resources

[California Interagency Council on Homelessness \(Cal ICH\) Website](#)

California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Agenda Item: Presentation Debrief and Discussion

Enclosures: None

How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission

To review, evaluate, and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.

This agenda item provides Committee members with the opportunity to reflect on key insights from the presentations by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) and the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH). The discussion will help identify action items to inform policy recommendations that promote housing stability and behavioral health support for individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.

This discussion aligns with Committee Work Plan Goal 1. By examining practices and challenges shared during the presentations, the Committee can better advocate for housing solutions that are inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs of individuals with lived experience.

- **Goal 1:** Advocate for Equitable Access to Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness Across the Lifespan

Background/ Description:

Committee members will engage in a debrief to reflect on the key insights from the Cal ICH and San Francisco HSH presentations. This discussion will include identifying themes, gaps, and opportunities for alignment with the Committee's priorities. Members will also outline potential next steps such as areas for further exploration, advocacy, and policy development to advance housing access and behavioral health outcomes for individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.