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Concord Civic Center
1950 Parkside Drive
Concord, CA 94519
www.cityofconcord.org

Homeless Strategic Plan Working Group

Monday
April 24, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Concord Senior Center
2727 Parkside Circle
Concord, CA 94519
Garden Room

This meeting will be held in-person

How to Submit Public Comments:

Written: All comments received **before 3:00 pm the day of the meeting** will be posted on the City's website as "Correspondence" under the relevant agenda item and provided to the Committee members at the meeting. Please email your comments to leng.power@cityofconcord.org.

April Meeting of the Homeless Strategic Plan Working Group

AGENDIZED ITEMS – The public is entitled to address the Committee on items appearing on the agenda before or during the Committee's consideration of that item. Each public comment will be limited to approximately three minutes.

- 1. Opening Roll Call**
- 2. Spotlight: Emergency Shelter** – The Working Group will receive a presentation on current homeless service structures and concepts related to Emergency Shelter.
- 3. Spotlight: Homeless System Structure Elements**
 - i. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
 - ii. Coordinated Entry (CE)
 - iii. Housing First

4. **Review Road Map for Phase 1** – Thurmond Consulting Team will present the strategic plan road map and review the expectations and deliverables for phase 1 (Attachment 1)

5. **Review of Initial Data** – Thurmond Consulting Team will present the initial data and next steps for data collection (see Attachment 2 for homeless systems terminology). Data collected will be shared during the meeting.

Additional items to be presented during the meeting:

 - I. Community Meeting Schedule- review dates and process
 - II. Community Survey- review components and process

6. **Review of Upcoming Meeting Items** – The next meeting will focus on the summary of feedback from community meetings and focus group interviews. A draft background report that incorporates data collected and interview results will be reviewed by the Working Group. Thurmond Consulting will also share a draft of the index map-out of available services and best practices. Spotlight topics are anticipated to include Continuum of Care partners.

7. **Adjournment**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

There is a 90-day limit for the filing of a challenge in the Superior Court to certain City administrative decisions and orders which require a hearing by law, the receipt of evidence, and the exercise of discretion. The 90-day limit begins on the date the decision is final (Code of Civil Procedure §1094.6). Further, if you challenge an action taken by the City Council in court, you may be limited by California law to raising only those issues you or someone else raised in the hearing or in a written correspondence delivered to the City Council prior to or at the hearing.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California Law, it is the policy of the City of Concord to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities. If you are disabled and require a copy of a public hearing notice, or an agenda and/or agenda packet in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require other accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator Tianjun Cao at (925) 671-3243 or Tianjun.cao@cityofconcord.org, at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.



Memo

Date: April 24, 2023

To: Homeless Strategic Plan Working Group

Prepared by: Leng Power, Community Services Manager
Leng.power@cityofconcord.org
(925) 603-5838

Subject: **Homeless Strategic Plan Working Group Meeting 2: Homeless system spotlights, data overview and discussion, and roadmap of Homeless Strategic Plan**

The monthly meeting of the Homeless Strategic Plan Working Group is scheduled for Monday April 24, 2023 at the Concord Senior Center, Garden Room at 6pm.

The following items will be covered:

- Thurmond Consulting will spend the first half hour of each Working Group meeting providing information on different elements of the homeless response system including service structures, best practices, and homeless intervention programs. Our service provider partners will be incorporated into the spotlights when it is feasible. The April meeting will spotlight Emergency Shelters as part of the continuum of care options in response to homelessness. County staff from the Concord shelter will be available to provide information and answer questions.
- Also to be covered under the spotlight will be the data systems used statewide. The Working Group will receive overviews of: the Homeless Management Information System, which is a technology platform used to collect client level and system performance data; the Coordinated Entry process that assists individuals and families through a coordinated referral and housing placement process; and the Housing First Model, which prioritizes connecting people into housing.
- Thurmond Consulting will review the road map and deliverables of the Homeless Strategic Plan schedule as outlined in the Work Plan. The roadmap will include when items will be presented to Working Group and when they will be presented

to Council. Thurmond Consulting will also review components of the Background Report.

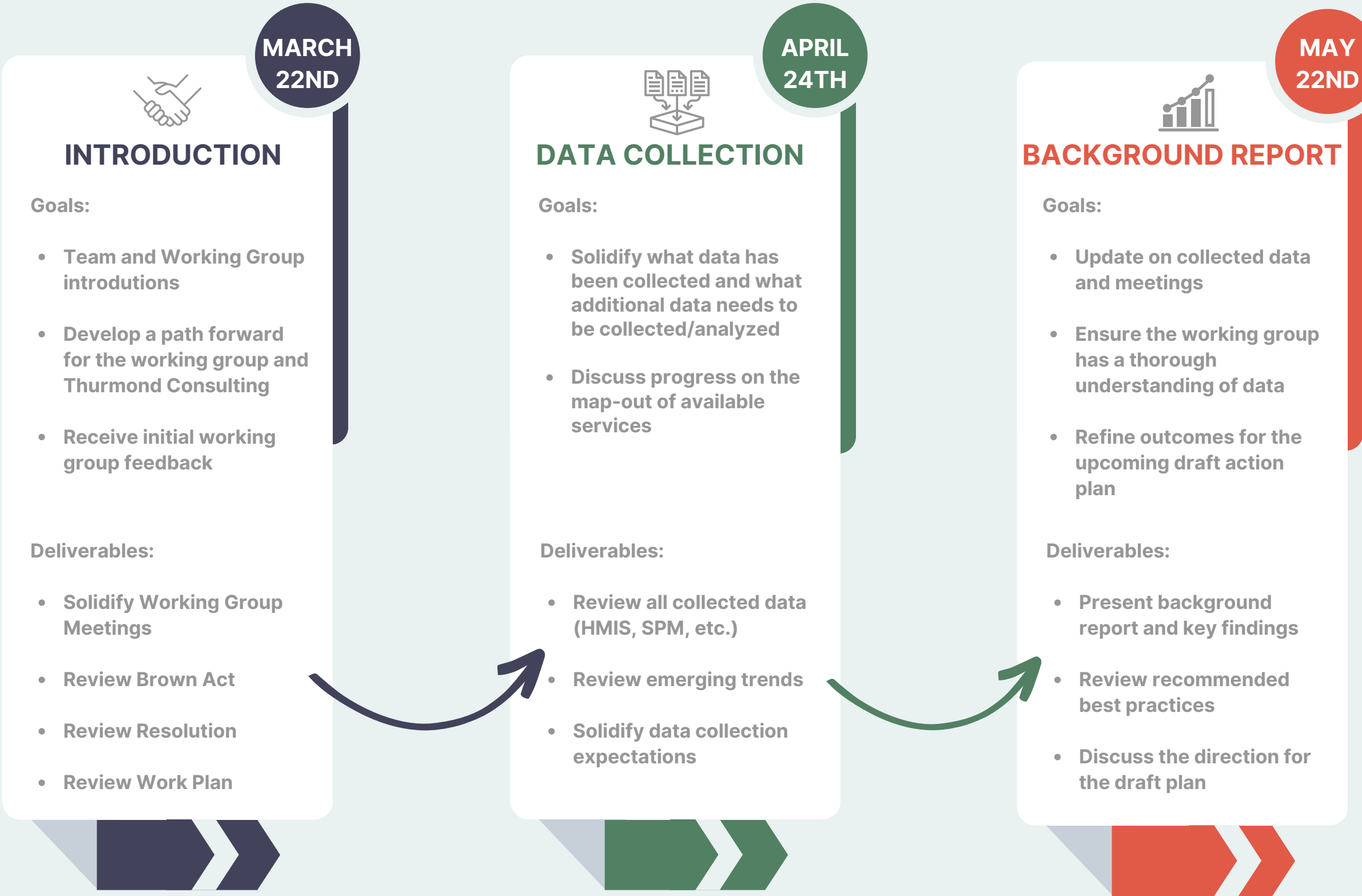
- Presented during the meeting will be data from the Contra Costa Continuum of Care and other partners.
- The Working Group will discuss and provide input on additional data collection activities including the Community Meetings, Focus Group interviews, and the Community Survey.
- The Working Group will review topics to be covered in the next meeting.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Road Map of Homeless Strategic Plan
- Attachment 2: Homeless System Terminology Sheet

Phase 1: Data Collection (March-April) Draft Version

**BACKGROUND REPORT
 AND EMERGING GOALS
 ANTICIPATED TO GO TO
 CITY COUNCIL IN JUNE**



INTRODUCTION

- Goals:**
- Team and Working Group introductions
 - Develop a path forward for the working group and Thurmond Consulting
 - Receive initial working group feedback

- Deliverables:**
- Solidify Working Group Meetings
 - Review Brown Act
 - Review Resolution
 - Review Work Plan

DATA COLLECTION

- Goals:**
- Solidify what data has been collected and what additional data needs to be collected/analyzed
 - Discuss progress on the map-out of available services

- Deliverables:**
- Review all collected data (HMIS, SPM, etc.)
 - Review emerging trends
 - Solidify data collection expectations

BACKGROUND REPORT

- Goals:**
- Update on collected data and meetings
 - Ensure the working group has a thorough understanding of data
 - Refine outcomes for the upcoming draft action plan

- Deliverables:**
- Present background report and key findings
 - Review recommended best practices
 - Discuss the direction for the draft plan

Phase 2: Formulate Draft Plan (June-August) Draft Version

UPDATE ON STRATEGIC
 PLAN & GOALS SHARED
 WITH COUNCIL IN AUGUST.



**JUNE
26TH**



OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIES

- Goals:**
- Discuss Strategic Plan goals and expectations
 - Discuss what is typically included in an action plan
 - Have consensus on the initial plan structure

- Deliverables:**
- Present a high-level outline of what will be included in the action plan
 - Document working group expectations for action plan sections
 - Provide reference action plans to working group

**JULY
31ST**



PLAN FORMATTING

- Goals:**
- Discuss the formatting expectations for the plan
 - Discuss other strategies implemented in other local jurisdictions

- Deliverables:**
- Provide action plan draft update
 - Present strategies for Council prioritization for implementation
 - Present draft goals and recommendations for high-level document formatting

**AUGUST
28TH**



REVIEW FIRST DRAFT

- Goals:**
- Review the draft strategic plan with the working group
 - Refine expectations for presented strategies

- Deliverables:**
- Present a draft strategic Plan to the Working Group

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN &
GOALS ANTICIPATED TO GO TO
CITY COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER

Phase 3: Finalize Plan (September-October)

Draft Version

FINAL STRATEGIC PLAN
ANTICIPATED TO GO TO
CITY COUNCIL IN OCTOBER



SEPT
25TH



REVIEW DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

Goals:

- Review the current plan to ensure it is accessible, easy to understand and actionable.
- Incorporate Working Group feedback into draft

Deliverables:

- Present the current draft of the plan

OCT
30TH



FINAL PLAN PRESENTATION

Goals:

- Review final strategic plan
- Ensure general buy-in to the final draft of the plan

Deliverables:

- Presentation of the final strategic plan to the community

HOMELESS TERMINOLOGY FOR CONCORD STRATEGIC PLAN

- **HMIS** - HMIS stands for Homeless Management Information System. It is a database system used to collect and manage information about people experiencing homelessness, as well as the services provided to them. HMIS is typically used by homeless service providers, such as shelters, outreach programs, and other organizations that offer services to people experiencing homelessness.
- **Coordinated Entry** - Coordinated Entry is a process used by communities to ensure that people experiencing homelessness are quickly identified, assessed, and connected to appropriate housing and services. The goal of Coordinated Entry is to create a coordinated and efficient system that helps people move out of homelessness and into permanent housing as quickly as possible.
- **VI SPDAT** - VI-SPDAT stands for Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool. It is an assessment tool used to identify the needs and vulnerabilities of people experiencing homelessness, and to prioritize them for appropriate housing and support services.
- **Housing First** - Housing First is a model of providing services to people experiencing homelessness that prioritizes providing stable and permanent housing as quickly as possible, without requiring individuals to meet certain criteria, such as completing substance abuse treatment or demonstrating "housing readiness."
- **Harm Reduction** - Harm reduction is a philosophy and set of strategies that aim to reduce the negative consequences of drug use, homelessness, and other related issues, without requiring individuals to stop using drugs or make immediate changes to their lifestyle. Harm reduction recognizes that people may not be ready or willing to stop using drugs or other harmful behaviors, but can still benefit from services.
- **Transitional Housing** - Transitional housing is a type of temporary housing that is designed to provide a supportive and stable living environment for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, and who may need additional time and support to achieve housing stability.
- **Emergency Shelter** - Emergency shelters are temporary housing facilities designed to provide a safe and secure place for individuals and families experiencing homelessness to sleep and receive basic services such as food, clothing, and access to hygiene facilities.
- **Rapid Rehousing** - Rapid Rehousing is a model of providing services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness that prioritizes quickly moving them into permanent housing with the support needed to maintain that housing.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing** - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a type of long-term housing solution that provides a combination of affordable, safe, and secure housing with supportive

services to help individuals and families who have experienced chronic homelessness, disability, and/or other complex needs.

- **Case Management** - Case management is a collaborative and client-centered approach to managing a person's care and support services. It involves the coordination of resources and services to meet the unique needs of individuals or families who are facing complex or challenging situations. The aim of case management is to empower individuals to achieve their goals, improve their quality of life, and increase their independence.
- **HCD** - HCD refers to the California Department of Housing and Community Development, which is a state agency responsible for promoting the development of affordable housing, supporting community development, and improving access to safe and affordable housing for all Californians.
- **HUD** - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a federal agency responsible for promoting homeownership, creating affordable housing opportunities, supporting community development, and enforcing fair housing laws in the United States.
- **CAL ICH** - The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) was created by SB 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.
- **HUD Homeless Definitions** - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has established several definitions of homelessness that are used by federal programs to determine eligibility for assistance. These definitions are:
 - **Chronically Homeless:** A person who has a disabling condition and has been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.
 - **Veteran Homelessness:** A veteran who is currently experiencing homelessness or who has experienced homelessness in the past.
 - **Family Homelessness:** A household with children who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, including those who are living in motels or other temporary accommodations.
 - **Youth Homelessness:** A person under the age of 25 who is experiencing homelessness, including those who are unaccompanied by a parent or guardian.
 - **Individual Homelessness:** A person who is experiencing homelessness and is not part of a family or household.

GRANTS & FUNDING PROGRAMS

- **ESG** - The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) is a federal grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It provides funding to state and local governments, as well as non-profit organizations, to support a range of activities to address homelessness, including emergency shelter, rapid re-housing, homelessness prevention, and related services.
- **ESG CV** - The CARES Act appropriated \$4 billion through the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus under the Emergency Solutions Grants program.
- **CoC Competition** - Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition is a competitive grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The CoC program provides funding to support a comprehensive system of housing and services for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. The program is intended to promote community-wide collaboration and coordination among various service providers to help individuals and families obtain and maintain permanent housing.
- **HHAP** - HHAP (Homekey and Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention) is a California state program aimed at addressing homelessness and housing insecurity. It was created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to provide emergency housing solutions for vulnerable individuals and families in California.
- **CalAIM** - CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal) is a multi-year initiative launched by the state of California to transform and improve the Medi-Cal program, which is California's version of the Medicaid program that provides health coverage to low-income individuals and families.
- **HHIP** - The Homeless Housing Incentive Program (HHIP) is a program that encourages the development of affordable housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the state of California. The program is administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).
- **AOD - Alcohol and Other Drugs** - The AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) grant is a funding opportunity that supports programs and services related to substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery.