

Homeless and Housing Acronyms

Acronym	What	Definition
ABAWD	Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents	SNAP eligibility term referring to certain adults ages 18-54 who do not have dependents in their household and may be subject to work requirements and time limits unless an exemption applies.
AOT	Assisted Outpatient Treatment	Court-ordered outpatient behavioral health treatment for eligible individuals with serious mental illness who meet statutory criteria; often referenced in county behavioral health and encampment response work.
APR	Annual Progress Report	HUD-required report for Continuum of Care-funded projects that tracks project performance and outcomes during the reporting period. It is typically produced from HMIS/Sage reporting rather than being unique to one local agency.
BH-CONNECT	Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment	California's behavioral health Section 1115 demonstration that includes Transitional Rent and other community-based behavioral health supports for eligible Medi-Cal members.
BHBH	Behavioral Health Bridge Housing	California program that funds bridge housing and related supports for people experiencing homelessness who have behavioral health needs while they transition to longer-term housing or treatment.
CalAIM	California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal	a long-term commitment to transform and strengthen Medi-Cal, offering Californians a more equitable, coordinated, and person-centered approach to maximizing their health and life trajectory
CalSAWS	CA Statewide Automated Welfare System	California's integrated eligibility and case management system used by counties to administer public assistance programs such as CalFresh, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, and General Assistance/Relief.
CAS	Coordinated Access System	Local term commonly used in Sacramento for the coordinated process that connects people experiencing homelessness to shelter, problem-solving, and housing resources.
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	A program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that provides funding to local community development activities such as affordable housing, anti-poverty programs, and infrastructure development.
CES	Coordinated Entry System	A community-wide process used to ensure people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access to housing and homeless assistance resources, and are assessed, prioritized, and referred based on their strengths and needs.
CoC	Continuum of Care	an organization of service providers established by Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to oversee community planning around homelessness. Continua work together to define needs, plan strategies, and prioritize funding for supportive housing services. Entity that applies to HUD for federal funding.
CoS	Chiefs of Staff	
CSEC	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Refers to a range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for financial benefit
DGS	Department of General Services	
DHA	Department of Human Assistance	
DHS	Department of Health Services	
DOT	Department of Transportation	
DWM	Department of Waste Management	
DWR	Department of Water Resources	
ECM	Enhanced Care Management	A statewide Medi-Cal managed care benefit that provides high-touch, person-centered, community-based care management for members with complex needs, including people experiencing homelessness.
EPY	Expectant and Parenting Youth	Current or former foster youth who are expecting or already parenting child(ren)
ERF	Encampment Resolution Funding	California competitive grant program that funds local efforts to resolve encampments and connect people to safe and stable housing and supportive services.
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grants	A federal grant program designed to help improve the quality of existing emergency shelters for the homeless, to make available additional shelters, to meet the costs of operating shelters, to provide essential social services to homeless individuals, and to help prevent homelessness.
ESP	Emergency Shelter Programs	Any facility whose primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless.
FFA	Foster Family Agency	
FFACH	Foster Family Agency (County Home)	
FSS	Family Self Sufficiency Program	SHRA program that allows for 2yr extension on FYI Voucher.
FUP	Family Unification Program	HUD issued Housing Choice Vouchers provided to two different populations as defined on the FUP Fact Sheet
FYI	Foster Youth to Independence	A HUD initiative making housing assistance on behalf of: Youth at least 18 - 24 yrs of age who left foster care or will leave foster care within 90 days. FYI vouchers can be issued and can provide up to 3 years of housing assistance. Not attached to any services
FYSCP	Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program	
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development	California state department responsible for housing policy, community development programs, and the administration of major state housing and homelessness funding programs, including Homekey and ERF.

Homeless and Housing Acronyms

HCFC	Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (California)	Oversees the implementation of Housing First guidelines and regulations, and identify resources, benefits, and services to prevent and end homelessness in California.
HCV	Housing Choice Voucher Program	The federal government program for providing housing assistance
HDX	Homelessness Data Exchange	HUD's online data submission system used for reporting PIT, HIC, System Performance Measures, and other Continuum of Care data.
HHAP	Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant Program	California block grant program that provides flexible funding to local jurisdictions and Continuums of Care to prevent and reduce homelessness and improve local homeless response systems.
HHIP	Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program	DHCS incentive program that allows Medi-Cal managed care plans to earn funding for investments and progress in addressing homelessness and housing instability.
HIC	Housing Inventory Chart	Consists of three housing inventory charts for: emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996	U.S. law designed to provide privacy standards to protect patients' medical records and other health information provided to health plans, doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers while giving patients more control over how their personal health information is used and disclosed. Developed by the Department of Health and Human Services, these standards also recognize patients' right to access to their own medical records.
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System	Computerized data collection tool designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness.
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	Established by HUD to address the specific needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. HOPWA makes grants to local communities, States, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons medically diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and their families.
HOT	Homeless Outreach Team	Multi-disciplinary team that directly engages with individuals experiencing homelessness
HRAP	Housing Resource Access Points	
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	The Federal agency responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs that improve and develop the Nation's communities, and enforce fair housing laws.
JPA	Joint Powers Authority	
LHAP	Local Homeless Action Plan	Sacramento's plan that was initiated in 2022 to meet the requirement of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-3) application, but to also create a cross-jurisdictional unified approach to address homelessness across Sacramento County
LOCUS	Level of Care Utilization Scale	
LoS	Length of Stay	The amount of time a person or household remains in a shelter, housing program, institution, or other placement.
LSA	Longitudinal Systems Analysis	An annual HUD/HMIS reporting process that produces system-level data on people and households using the homeless response system over time and informs the Annual Homeless Assessment Report.
MCP	Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan	A health plan that contracts with DHCS to provide Medi-Cal covered services, including Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports where applicable.
MH	Mental Health	state of emotional and psychological well-being in which an individual is able to use his or her cognitive and emotional capabilities, function in society, and meet the ordinary demands of everyday life.
NAEH	National Alliance to End Homelessness	National nonprofit organization that provides policy analysis, research, and technical assistance focused on ending homelessness.
NIMBY	Not In My Backyard	describes the phenomenon in which residents of a neighborhood designate a new development (e.g. shelter, affordable housing, group home) or change in occupancy of an existing development as inappropriate or unwanted for their local area.
NMD	Non-minor Dependent	Foster youth between the ages of 18-21
NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability	A notice announcing that funding is available for a particular program or activity. Note: many federal programs now use the term NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) instead of NOFA.
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity	An announcement of funding available for a particular program or activity through the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.
NPLH	No Place Like Home	California program that finances permanent supportive housing for people living with serious mental illness who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of chronic homelessness.
OCE	Office of the County Executive	Responsible to the Board of Supervisors for planning, organizing, directing, controlling, and coordinating county activities. This includes serving in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors with respect to the functions of officials and boards not under the direct jurisdiction or control of the County Executive. The functions and activities of the County Executive are mandated by the County Charter.
PBID	Property Based Improvement District	

Homeless and Housing Acronyms

PIO	Public Information Officer	Public information officers typically work for state and local governments and must create and enable clear and concise communication between a government agency and both news media outlets and the general public
PIT	Point in Time Count	A snapshot of the homeless population taken on a given day. Since 2005, HUD requires all CoC applicants to complete this count every other year in the last week of January. This count includes a street count in addition to a count of all clients in emergency and transitional beds.
PPI	Personal Protected Information	Information that can be used to uniquely identify, contact or locate a single person, or may enable disclosure of personal information.
PRK	Project Room Key	The purpose of Project Roomkey is to provide non-congregate shelter options for people experiencing homelessness, protect human life, and minimize strain on health care system capacity.
PSAP	Problem Solving Access Points	Once in a lifetime financial assistance dollars up to \$5,000.
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing	Long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless persons with disabilities. This type of supportive housing enables the special needs populations to live independently as possible in a permanent setting. Permanent housing can be provided in one structure or in several structures at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.
RAPS	Rapid Access to Problem Solving	
RFA	Request for Application	
RFP	Request for Proposal	
RFQ	Request for Qualifications	
RFTA	Request for Tenancy Approval	Is the formal documentation that is completed to begin the lease-up process with the HCV program, currently can be completed online.
RHNA	Regional Housing Needs Allocation	
RRH	Rapid Re-Housing	approach that focuses on moving individuals and families that are homeless into appropriate housing as quickly as possible.
S+C	Shelter Plus Care (McKinney-Vento Program)	A program that provides grants for rental assistance for homeless persons with disabilities through four component programs: Tenant, Sponsor, Project, and Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Rental Assistance.
S-HIE	Social Health Information Exchange	
SA	Substance Abuse	Use of alcohol or drugs, characterized by daily intoxication, in ability to reduce consumption, and impairment in social or occupational functioning.
SERA	Sacramento Emergency Rental Assistance	
SHP	Supportive Housing Program	Permanent affordable housing, in any housing configuration with supportive services attached that are designed to help people maintain the housing. It is for people who have been or are at risk of homelessness and who have special needs including disabilities, or other substantial barriers to maintaining housing stability. Permanent means housing with no limit or length of stay and no requirement that tenants move out in their service needs change.
SHRA	Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency	Sacramento's public housing authority and redevelopment agency, which administers housing assistance programs including Housing Choice Vouchers and other affordable housing resources.
SILP	Supervised Independent Living Placement	Foster care placement for "non-minor dependents" (NMDs), foster youth ages 18-21. The SILP is the least restrictive placement for NMDs prepared to live independently without supportive services. Youth in SILPs are responsible for identifying and securing their own housing, which may be an apartment or house rented alone or with roommates; a room rental, a single room occupancy hotel, or college dorm.
SMI	Seriously Mentally Ill	defined as a serious and persistent mental or emotional disorder (e.g. schizophrenia, mood-disorders, schizo-affective disorders) that interrupts people's abilities to carry out a range of daily life activities such as self-care, interpersonal relationships, maintaining housing, and employment or school.
SO	Street Outreach	Engage people experiencing homelessness who may be disconnected and alienated not only from mainstream services and supports, but from the services targeting homeless persons as well.
SPM	System Performance Measures	HUD's set of system-level measures used by Continuums of Care to assess how effectively the local homeless response system is reducing and ending homelessness.
SRO	Single Room Occupancy	A residential property that includes multiple single room dwelling units. Each unit is for occupancy by a single eligible individual. The unit need not, but may, contain food preparation or sanitary facilities, or both. It provides rental assistance on behalf of homeless individuals in connection with moderate rehabilitation of SRO dwellings.

Homeless and Housing Acronyms

SSDI	Social Security Disability Insurance	A payroll tax-funded, federal insurance program of the United States government. It is managed by the Social Security Administration and is designed to provide income supplements to people who are physically restricted in their ability to be employed because of a notable disability, usually a physical disability. SSDI can be supplied on either a temporary or permanent basis, usually directly correlated to whether the person's disability is temporary or permanent. Differs from SSI in that eligibility is not dependent on the income of the person receiving the benefit.
SSF	Sacramento Steps Forward	The lead Sacramento Continuum of Care organization that coordinates community planning, HMIS, coordinated entry functions, and homelessness system strategy in Sacramento County.
SSI	Supplemental Security Income	A monthly stipend provided to aged (legally deemed to be 65 or older), blind, or disabled persons based on need, paid by the U.S. Government.
SSO	Supportive Services Only	Projects that address the service needs of homeless persons. Projects are classified as this component only if the project sponsor is not also providing housing to the same persons receiving the services. SSO projects may be in a structure or operated independently of a structure, such as street outreach or mobile vans for health care.
SSVF	Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program	Funding available through the Department of Veteran Affairs to non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives who provide housing supportive services to very low-income Veterans families.
SUPT	Substance Use Prevention & Treatment	
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Provides cash assistance to indigent American families with dependent children through the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Commonly referred to as "welfare".
THP	Transitional Housing Program	A project that has its purpose facilitating the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within a reasonable amount of time (usually 24 months).
UPR	Union Pacific Railroad	
USICH	United States Interagency Council on Homelessness	Federal interagency body that coordinates the national response to homelessness across agencies and supports implementation of federal strategies to prevent and end homelessness.
VA	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs	A government-run military veteran benefit system. It is responsible for administering programs of veterans' benefits for veterans, their families, and survivors. The benefits provided include disability compensation, pension, education, home loans, life insurance, vocational rehabilitation, survivors' benefits, medical benefits, and burial benefits.
VAWA	Violence Against Women Act	Programs range from policies to encourage the prosecution of abusers to victim's services to prevention programs. VAWA helped forge new alliances between police officers, courts, and victim advocates.

Homeless and Housing Acronyms