How THP-Plus Providers, Youth Shelters & Campuses Can Use New State Funding to Address Youth Homelessness

September 18, 2019 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

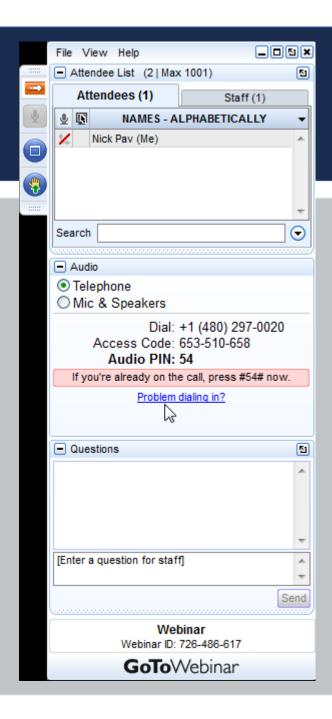


Information to participate

Call-in number is 1 (914) 614-3221 and access code is 326-026-666.

Presentation materials and audio will be posted at http://www.jbaforyouth.org/ under Research & Training / Training Archive. Also posted on HHAPP implementation project page.

To submit live questions, click on the "Questions" panel, type your question, and click "Send."



Agenda

- Key information on Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP)
- Three examples of how Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) was used to serve homeless youth
- Six steps to prepare for HHAPP
- Q & A

Presenters

- Amy Lemley, John Burton Advocates for Youth
- Lahela Mattox, California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
- Debbie Pell, Bill Wilson Center
- Q & A

But first: thank you to our elected officials for your leadership!

Assembly Bill 101 establishing Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAPP) was signed by Governor Newsom on July 3, 2019

Second consecutive year homeless youth have gotten a dedicated portion of homelessness funding.

Thank you to the California State Legislature and Governor Newsom!



HOMELESS COORDINATING AND FINANCING COUNCIL

- The Council was initially established by SB1380
- In 2018, SB850 moved the Council to the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH)
- Established to oversee the implementation of the Housing First guidelines and regulations.
- Established a number of additional policy goals to address homelessness in the state.



HCFC PRIORITIES

- Implement Housing First Policy
- Explore development of a state-level homeless data integration system.
- Facilitate coordination between state departments that have funding and programs to address homelessness.
- Initiative to develop a data-driven, evidence-based, high-level strategic plan for the state.



HCFC STATEWIDE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

- The Council initiated a collaborative process to develop a statewide action plan that focuses on prioritizing resources to efficiently and effectively address the homelessness crisis in California.
- The plan will focus on how the state should prioritize its resources to efficiently and effectively decrease homelessness throughout the state.
- In January 2019, an invitation to researchers, advocates, providers, and other stakeholders in the field to respond with recommendations of evidence-based best practices to address homelessness.
- HCFC is in the process of reviewing the submissions and developing a draft.
- HCFC is in the process of scheduling workshops to engage stakeholders, including those with lived experience.



PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Implement \$500 million one-time block grant, Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)
- Implement SB 918-Homeless Youth Act
- Implement \$650 million one-time block grant, Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP)
- Create and manage successful partnerships
- Provide opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and joint technical assistance with other state entities for local jurisdiction and providers



HEAP

Program Overview		 \$500 million one-time block grant Intended to provide localities with funding to address their
		immediate homelessness challenges
	Eligible	• 43 Continuums of Care
	Applicants	• 11 Largest Cities, with populations of 330,000 or more (as of January 2018)
	Key Elements	Required a crisis shelter declaration to be a direct recipient of HEAP funds
		Required a demonstration of collaboration
		Mandated that at least 5% of the allocation MUST be used to establish or expand
		programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness
		Eligible applicants to determine how to expend funds
		Eligible uses must align with Housing First Policy
		• 50% obligated by January 1, 2020, 100% fully expended by June 30, 2021
		100% of funds were disbursed within 60 days of a completed application
	Lessons	Streamlined application and disbursement processes
	Learned	 Technical Assistance was critical (Office Hours, 1:1, workshops, roundtables)
		 Local government liaison dedicated to supporting collaboration, partnership, and alignment of resources



HHAP

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Program Overview	 \$650 million one-time block grant Provides local jurisdictions with funds to support regional coordination and expand
	or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges
Eligible	• 44 Continuums of Care
Applicants	 13 Largest Cities, with populations of 300,000 or more (as of January 2019) 58 Counties
Key Elements	190 million – Continuums of Care
	 275 million – Large Cities 175 million – Counties
	 Allocations are based on each CoCs proportionate share of the state's total
	homeless population based on the 2019 homeless point-in time count (PIT).
Key Elements	Requires a demonstration of regional coordination
	 Mandate that at least 8% of the allocation MUST be used to establish or expand programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness
	Does not require a crisis shelter declaration to be a direct recipient of HEAP funds



HHAP IMPORTANT DATES

HHAP TIMELINE					
Program Guidance	October 2019				
Application Map and Instructions	To Be Determined				
NOFA Release and On-line application portal open	To Be Determined **pending release of 2019 PIT County by HUD**				
Final date to submit applications	February 15, 2020				
Final date to award funds	April 1, 2020				
Deadline for program funds to be contractually obligated	May 31, 2023				
Funds shall be fully liquidated	June 30, 2025				



CONTINUUMS OF CARE (COCS)

- 44 in the State of California.
- CoCs are mandated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- CoCs are a geographically based entity that carries out the planning and local funding priority responsibilities.
- A CoC is made up of local stakeholders committed to ending homelessness, such as local non-profits, those who are or have experienced homelessness, law enforcement, local business leaders, local government leaders, etc.
- A CoC can be a county, a city, a non-profit organization.
- For additional information and resources:
 https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/



COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM (CES)

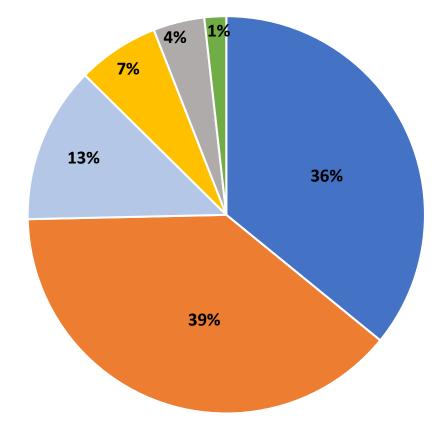
- CES is a process developed to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access.
- Goals of CES:
 - To ensure accessibility to services no matter where or how people present.
 - To ensure people are quickly identified, assessed for and referred to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs.
 - To reduce long waiting times to receive assistance
 - To prevent people from being screened out of needed assistance.
 - To help communities identify gaps and needed resources
- The system varies for each CoC.



STATEWIDE HEAP EXPENDITURES

Statewide

- Capital Improvements
- Rental Assistance/Subsidies
- Services
- Homeless Youth Set-Aside
- Administrative
- Other





EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES

- HEAP funding allowed for jurisdictions to have flexibility to use funds to meet their emergency needs.
- HHAP funding expands the HEAP funding and focuses on evidence-based best practices, regional coordination, and services specific to the needs of youth.
 - Prevention and diversion
 - Rapid rehousing
 - Landlord incentive programs
 - Outreach and coordination
 - Systems support for activities necessary to create regional partnerships and maintain a homeless services and housing delivery system



HHAP ALLOWABLE USES

- 1. Rental assistance
- 2. Rapid rehousing;
- 3. Operating subsidies in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units, emergency shelters, and navigation shelters
- 4. Incentives to landlords, such as security deposits and holding fees
- 5. Systems support to create regional partnerships and maintain a homeless services and housing delivery system;
- 6. Hotel and motel conversions;
- 7. Prevention and shelter diversion to permanent housing; and
- 8. New navigation centers and emergency shelters based on demonstrated need.



SPECIAL SHELTER CONSIDERATIONS, INCLUDING YOUTH SHELTER

Shelter be funded based on "demonstrated need."

To demonstrate need, applicants must provide the following information:

- 1. The number of available shelter beds in the jurisdiction;
- 2. The shelter vacancy rate in the summer and winter months;
- 3. The percentage of exits from emergency shelters to permanent housing; and
- 4. A plan to connect residents to permanent housing.





California State Homelessness Funding Programs



https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/heap_funding_matrix.pdf





State Resources to Address California's Homeless Crisis



https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/heap funding resources.pdf



Contact Information

- •HCFC website https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/
- •Questions: HCFC@BCSH.ca.gov
- ■To request HCFC staff presentations: https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/webapps/request.php
- •To receive information releases regarding the HEAP program, please register for the program listserv
- Social media
 - https://twitter.com/CA_HCFC

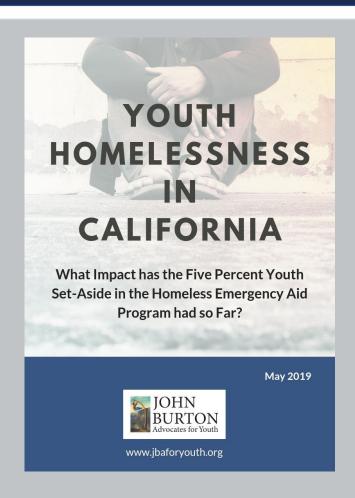


https://www.facebook.com/CalHCFC/



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Let's build on what we learned from HEAP to make HHAP work even better for homeless youth



KEY FINDINGS

- 10.3% of HEAP (\$52M) went to homeless youth, above the 5% requirement;
- Shelter, transitional housing and rapid rehousing were the most commonly utilized intervention for homeless youth
- Certain parts of the state were more likely go spend above 5%
- Read publication for more findings

For youth, shelter was the most common intervention, followed by transitional housing & rapid rehousing.

Interventions Funded with HEAP Youth Set-Aside	Percent of CoCs	Percent of Large Cities	Percent of All Jurisdictions
Shelter	36%	29%	34% Most common
Transitional Housing	32%	14%	28% interventions for
Rapid Re-Housing	16%	43%	homeless youth
Permanent Supportive Housing	24%	0%	19%
Navigation Center/Access Point	20%	0%	16%
Capital Improvements	12%	14%	13%
Case Management	12%	0%	9%
Host Homes	8%	14%	9%
Prevention Services	8%	0%	6%
Hotel Vouchers	8%	0%	6%

Case Study 1: Expanding THP-Plus



- BWC operates 97 beds of THP-Plus
- Received \$1 million in HEAP from City of San Jose; \$500K each year for two years
- Grant enabled creation of 20 beds of complementary program, Transition-In-Place (TIP)
- Funding enabled BWC to:
 - subsidize housing for minimum of 20 months and
 - serve a population that does not meet the narrow THP-Plus eligibility criteria

Case Study 2: Sustaining or expanding a youth shelter



- Operates a runaway and homeless youth shelter
- Moment-in-time capacity is 20 youth and number of youth served annually is 200
- Current shelter funding is \$2 million annually
- With CCR implementation, the shelter can no longer receive Title IV-E funding, resulting in loss of \$1.1 million
- County of Santa Clara provided one-year grant of \$900K in HEAP funding to sustain the youth shelter

Lessons Learned from HEAP



- Target advocacy to the right entity: city or county?
- Meet with elected officials
- Consider bringing young people
- Emphasize the percentage of PIT that is youth
- Actively participate in the formal stakeholder input process; Offer to hold groups at your facilities to ensure youth engagement
- Hire grant writers with experience applying to large, publicly-funded housing programs
- To use the funding: look for gaps and invest in what works

Case Study 3: Addressing homelessness among college students

- Before HEAP, LSS operated transitional housing, Rapid Rehousing and scatteredsite permanent, supportive housing.
- Their programs served transition-age youth, but there was no formal relationship with local campus.
- LSS received a \$700K from HEAP, which allowed them to expand their scattered-site permanent, supportive beds from 25 to 37.
- Used this expansion as an opportunity to forge a relationship with San Joaquin
 Delta College through their campus support program.
- Now receive direct referrals from the program coordinator on campus, who refers them to homeless students in one of their housing programs.

Six Steps to Prepare for HHAP

1. ConsiderProgrammaticImplications

2. MakeContact

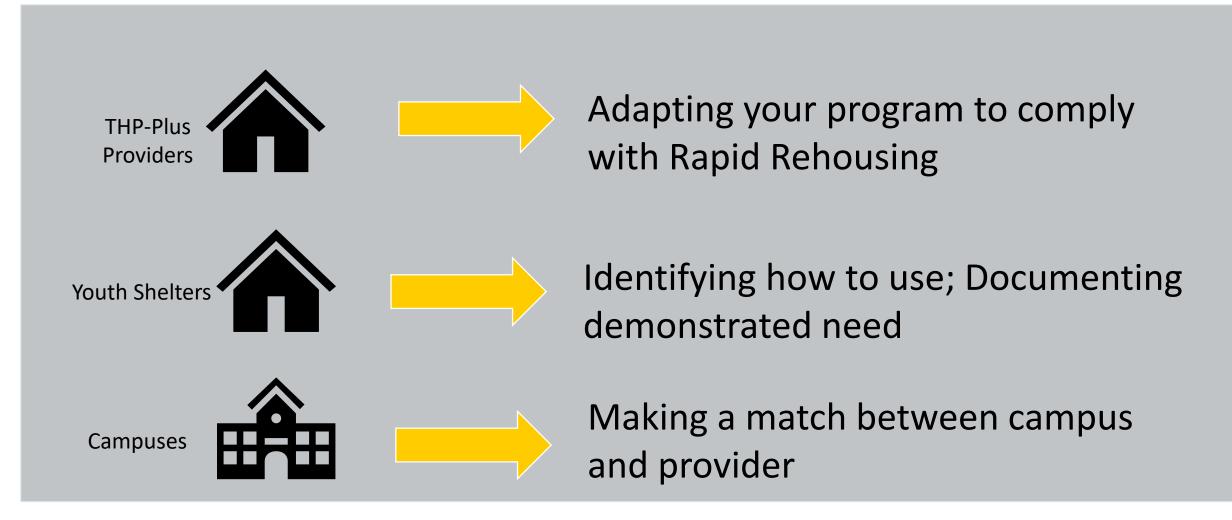
3. Calculate # of homeless youth

4. Determine Funding

5. Consider Partnering

6. Prepare for NOFA

Step 1: Consider programmatic implications of HHAP



THP-Plus has the key the elements of Rapid Rehousing

Housing Identification

Rent and Move-In Assistance

Case
Management
& Services

NAEH Toolkit on Rapid Rehousing for Youth:

https://endhomelessness.org/resource/rapid-re-housing-for-youth-toolkit/

HHAPP can complement your THP-Plus program in a variety of ways

- Expand the number of <u>youth served</u>
- Update the <u>rate</u>
- Establish a special rate for <u>parenting youth</u> and/or youth with <u>disabilities</u>
- Expand <u>eligibly criteria</u> to youth who achieved permanence, but face homelessness or housing instability
- Ask your county to opt into <u>AB 1255</u>, which provides an <u>extra year</u> of THP-Plus to youth enrolled in school

Youth shelters can use HHAPP in a variety of ways

Replace lost IV-E funding

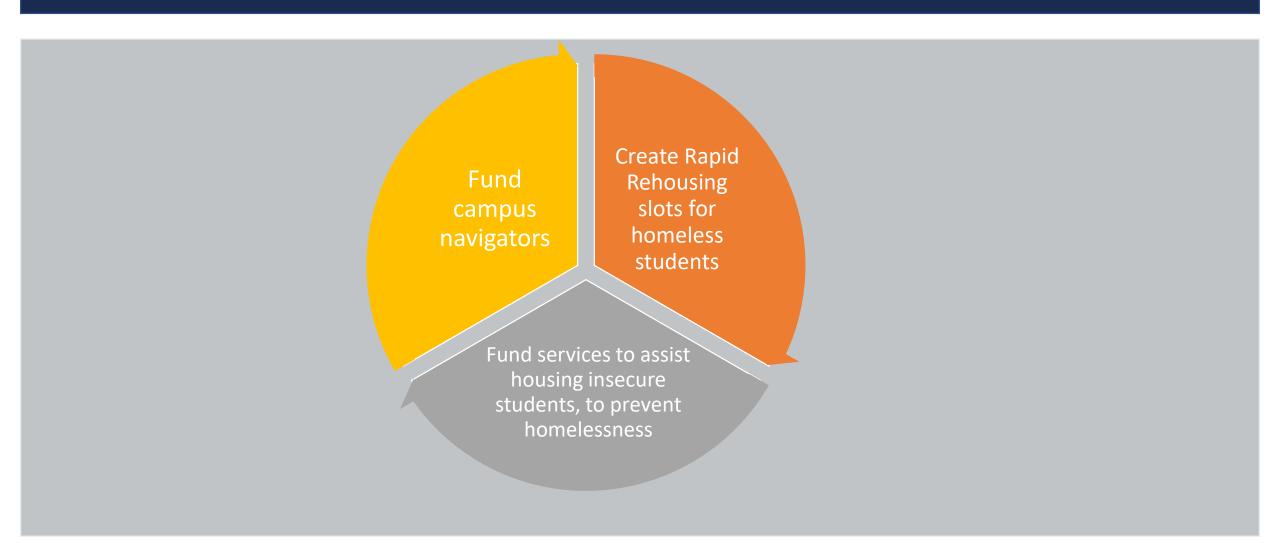
Fund stays past 21 days

Maintain connection to families

Hire staff to conduct housing search & aftercare

Formalize relationship with juvenile probation

For campuses, the first step is connecting with a housing provider that can apply for HHAPP



Step 2: Make contact with your local Continuum of Care, county and large city

CoC

- 44 Continuums of Care in California
- Entities in California that apply for and receive HUD funding
- Also distribute funding from California
 Department of Housing and Community
 Development.

County

- 58 counties
- Each have a Department of Housing and Community Development.

Large City

- 13 large cities:
- Anaheim, Bakersfield,
 Fresno, Long Beach, Los
 Angeles, Oakland,
 Riverside, Sacramento, San
 Diego, San Francisco, San
 Jose, Santa Ana, and
 Stockton.

*Visit HHAPP webpage at www.jbaforyouth.org to find a contact for your CoC, County and Large City

Step 2: Make contact with your local Continuum of Care, county and large city

- Move quickly with Large Cities
 - Their HEAP process included less formal stakeholder engagement and were more likely to solesource that issue competitive NOFAs
- Clarify that 8% is a minimum, even if their PIT youth percentage is lower than 8%
 - With HEAP, jurisdictions with smaller allocations (under \$4 million) were more likely to allocate the minimum to homeless youth.
- Expect to have to educate your CoC, County and Large City on foster care and homeless youth

*Visit HHAPP webpage at www.jbaforyouth.org to find a contact for your CoC, County and Large City

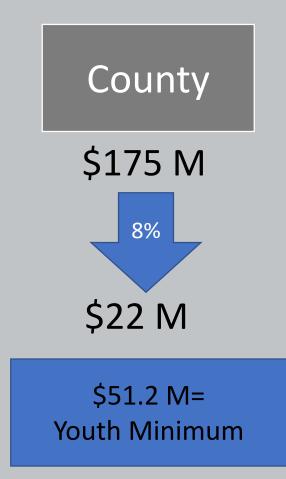
Step 3: Find out how many unaccompanied youth were homeless in your 2019 Point in Time Count

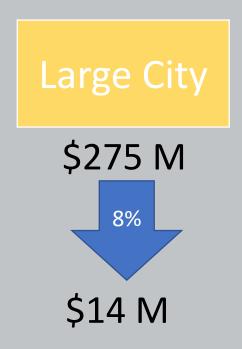


*Visit HHAP webpage at www.jbaforyouth.org to see what percentage of homeless individuals are unaccompanied youth for your Continuum of Care; 2019 PIT data available for 30 of 44 CoCs.

Step 4: Calculate the minimum allocation your administrative entity has for homeless youth







Homeless youth far exceed 8% of total homeless in many jurisdictions

Watsonville /Santa Cruz City and County

29%

Santa Rosa/Petal uma/Sono ma County

22%

San
Jose/Santa
Clara City
and County

19%



14%

San Francisco City and County

2019 Homeless Youth PIT

There are compelling reasons to request a higher percentage of funding for homeless youth



Youth homelessness has been historically underfunded at state and federal level



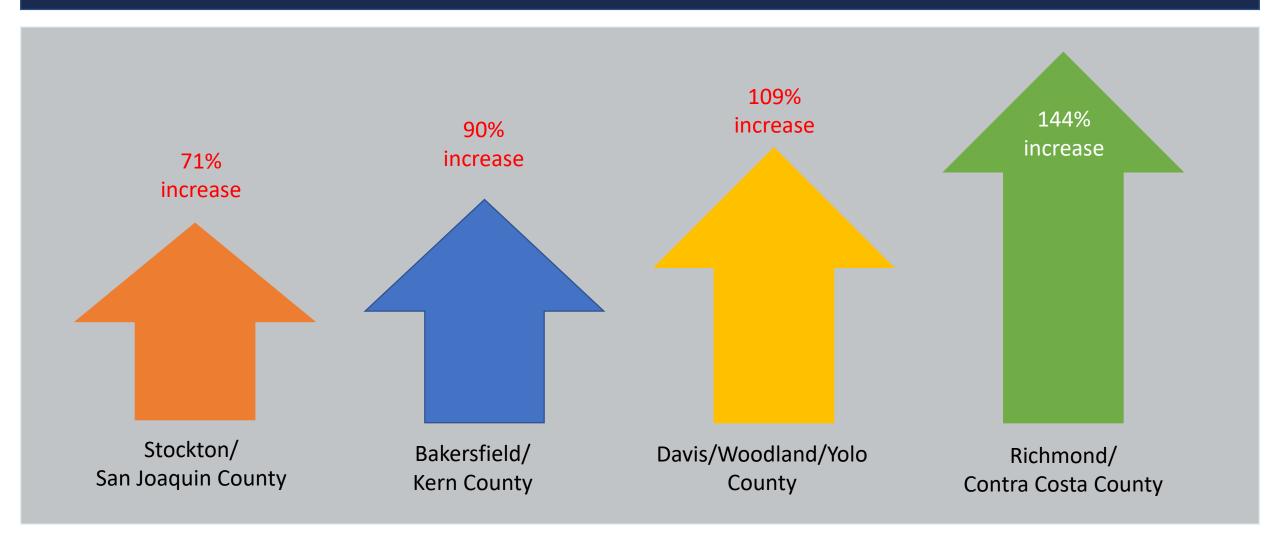
Newly available data about the prevalence of homelessness among youth



Growing issue of homelessness among college students

Be aggressive in your request; with HEAP, jurisdictions put 6.8% collectively in their application, but used 10.3%

Certain jurisdictions have had big increases in the number of homeless youth since 2017

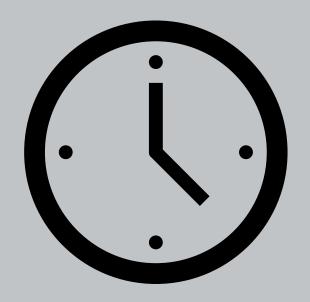


A low percentage of homeless youth doesn't mean the CoC, LC or County will invest the minimum

CoC Region	Percentage of Youth in Homeless Population Identified in 2017 Homeless PIT Count	Percent CoC Reported Spending to Address Youth Homelessness
Mendocino County	3%	5.4%
Davis, Woodland/Yolo County	4%	5.2%
Tuolumne, Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa Counties	4%	8.1%
Stockton/San Joaquin County	4%	10.0%
Richmond/Contra Costa County	4%	14.0%
Merced City & County	5%	9.3%
Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County	5%	17.6%

Step 5: Consider partnering with organizations that have contracts with the CoC, County or City

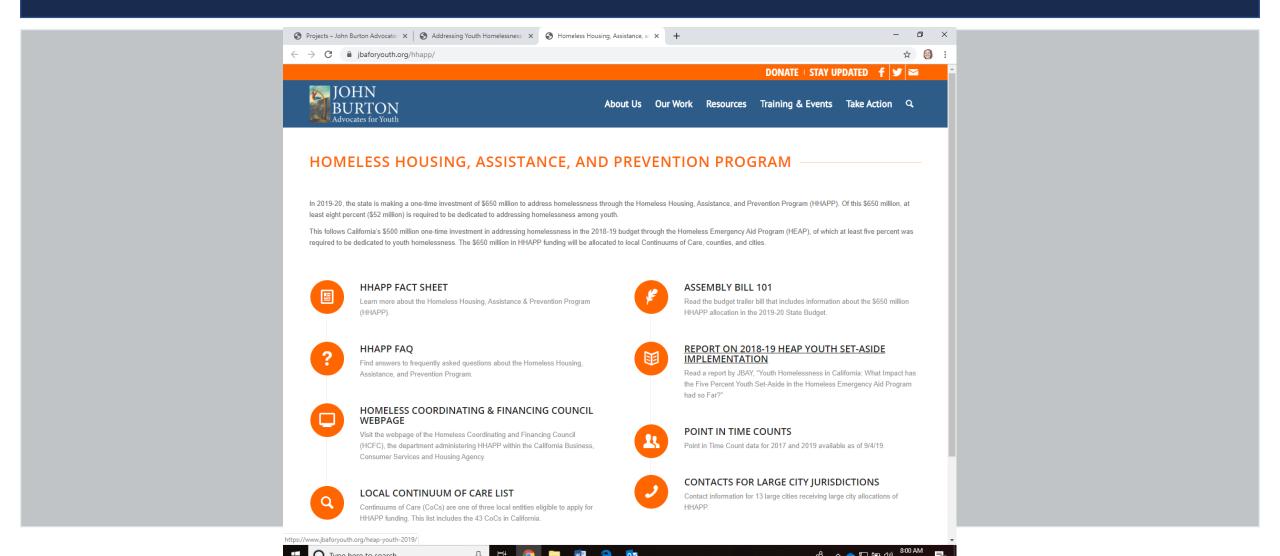
- Existing contracts and relationships facilitate issuing funds.
- Getting a contract for the first time is difficult.
- May 2019 study found few HEAP recipients were first-time CoC grantees.



Step 6: Prepare for the release of the NOFA

- Final release of HUD count likely in October or early November
- Application period will be during the holiday, when it can be hard to get things done- it's never too early to start
- Subscribe to receive notices at HCFC website
- Ask largest private funder for TA grant to help with application-they want you to get this funding!
- Visit JBAY web page on HHAPP implementation:
 - Fact sheet
 - FAQ
 - Continuum of Care, County and Large City contacts
 - % of homeless who are unaccompanied youth

All information presented is on the JBAY HHAPP implementation website





Question and Answer

Enter your questions on your screen now by clicking the "question and answer" arrow, typing your question, and clicking "send."

Questions and comments can be directed to:

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