

# The Power of Partnerships

Sacramento  
Homeless Policy  
Council Meeting  
August 27, 2021



Helene Schneider, Regional Coordinator



# Statutory Authority and Mission

- Originally authorized by Title II of the **Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (PL 100-77)** to serve as an independent establishment within the executive branch
- Most recently reauthorized by the **Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act** of 2009



# Coordinating the Federal Response

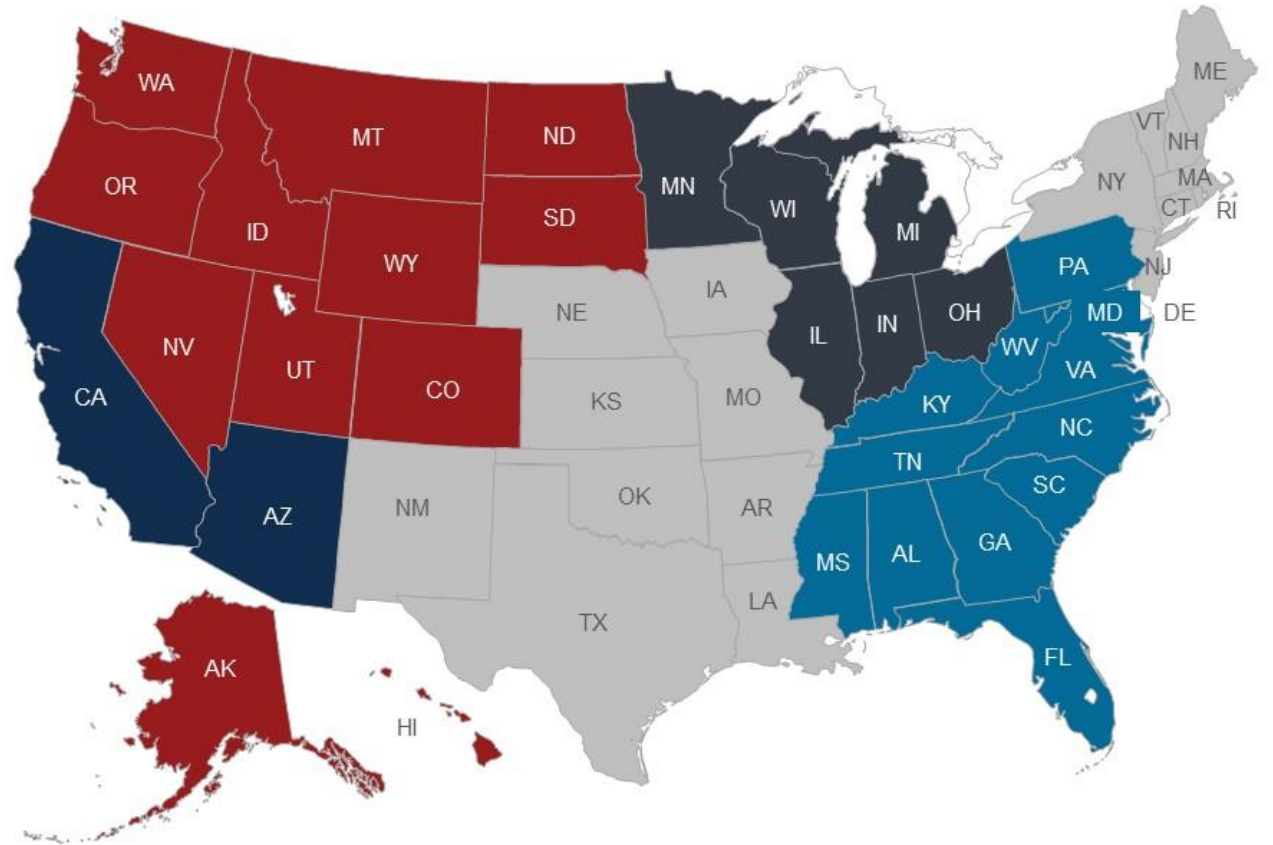
- The Council
- Interagency Working Groups
- Performance measurement and accountability





# Creating a National Partnership

- Regional and State Interagency Councils
- Governors, Mayors, County Elected Leaders
- Faith-based and Nonprofit Organizations
- Private Sector
- Philanthropy





# What is Meant by “Ending Homelessness”

## **Operational definition:**

Comprehensive response that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible, or if it can't be prevented, it is a **rare, brief, and one-time experience.**

## **Criteria and benchmarks:**

Essential **elements of comprehensive systems** and the **outcomes those systems must be able to achieve.**

**Rare,  
Brief &  
One-Time**



# 2021 Federal Priorities: A Comprehensive National Approach Toward Ending Homelessness

- **Advancing Racial Equity**
- **Ending Veteran Homelessness**
- **Protecting LGBTQ Rights**
- **Guaranteeing Housing Upon Release**
- **Housing First Approach**

# The Importance of Housing Stability

- Housing *First* is not Housing Only
- Low barrier & access to services
- Rapid rehousing
- Safe & flexible interim options when permanent housing is not available



The Evidence Behind Approaches that Drive an End to Homelessness





# Good Data; Good Planning; Good Decisions



## Point-in-Time



**161,548** people experienced homelessness on a single night in January 2020

The HUD Point-in-Time Count tells us how many people were outside or in an emergency shelter on one night

## Served Annually



In 2020, local providers reported serving a total of **248,130** people

Local Providers across California report how many people experiencing homelessness receive services over one year

## Housed



Of the people who were served, **91,626** people moved into a place they can call home throughout 2020

With HDIS, we now know how many people were permanently housed by local providers over the same one-year period







# Making the Most of the American Rescue Plan Act

- Housing
- Economic Impact Payments & Advance Child Care
- Education
- Food Insecurity
- Health Care
- State & Local Recovery
- Tribal National
- Unemployment
- Veterans

August 2021



## Making the Most of the American Rescue Plan: A Guide to the Funding That Impacts People Experiencing Homelessness

### **The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)**

USICH is the only federal agency with the sole mission to prevent and end homelessness. We coordinate the federal response to homelessness with the 19 agencies that make up our council, and we help state and local governments and the private sector create partnerships; use resources in the most efficient and effective ways; and implement evidence-based best practices.

### **The American Rescue Plan (ARP)**

President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act on March 11, 2021, in response to the economic crisis catalyzed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The relief legislation offers more than \$1.9 trillion in help for individuals, families, and businesses. It includes \$21.6 billion in emergency rental assistance for households struggling to pay rent and utilities. Many of the law's provisions can be used to help people who are currently or at risk of experiencing homelessness. These resources provide communities with a once-in-a-generation opportunity to innovate and improve existing systems and should target the most vulnerable people, including those living with disabilities and those living unsheltered.

This guide provides a snapshot of key provisions in the American Rescue Plan that are applicable to the work of USICH and beneficial to the communities we serve. Click each area of assistance below to jump to that section.

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United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

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# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

- **Emergency Rental Assistance: \$21.6B**
  - Offers assistance directly to renters;
  - Reduces wait for assistance offered to renters when landlords do not participate;
  - Protects renters from eviction while payments are being made on their behalf;
  - Prohibits documentation requirements



# COVID-19 Federal Resources

- **VA SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans Families) [Shallow Subsidy Compliance Guide](#)**
- **[HUD VASH](#) (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) Vouchers**
- **Emergency Rental Assistance Guide**
  - **[Full Guidance](#)**
  - **[Fact Sheet](#)**
  - **[Treasury Guidance on Expediting Emergency Rental Assistance](#)**



# USICH Resources on Eviction Prevention

- [Comprehensive Step-by-Step Guide for People At Risk of Eviction](#)
- [Need Help Paying Rent? Use This Tool to Find Emergency Rental Assistance Near You. | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](#)
- [Prevention-Diversion-Rapid-Exit-July-2019.pdf \(usich.gov\)](#)
- [Eviction Prevention: A Conversation with Communities | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](#)
- [Tips to Begin Tackling Homelessness Prevention | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](#)



# Ingredients towards Success

- **Political Will**
- **Effective Use of Adequate Resources**
- **Collaborative Approach**
- **“Never Give Up” Attitude**

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