

# HOUSING FAMILIES FIRST COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

## What does the Housing Families First Collaborative do?

1. Lead and engage the community to reduce family homelessness.
2. Develop infrastructure to coordinate county-wide response efforts.
3. Implement and monitor a local action plan to address family homelessness.
4. Provide annual progress reports to the Continuum of Care (CoC).
5. Advise participating and partner organizations on direct service delivery and policy matters related to family homelessness.
6. Advise the CoC and SSF on funding strategies to sustain the effort to reduce family homelessness

## Strategic Goals & Priorities

### Goals

Compared to findings from the [2024 Point-in-Time Count](#).

- Reduce number of families experiencing homelessness by 10% by 2026.
- Increase the percentage of families exiting to permanent housing to 40%.
- Reduce length of time homeless for families by 15%.

### Priorities

Four strategic priorities emerged over a two-year process of Housing Families First Collaborative planning, community sessions, and data analysis. These strategic priorities will inform the direction of future investments and regranting opportunities that focus on family homelessness.

#### Priority 1: Manage Comprehensive, Quality By-Name List

Real-time actionable data helps us understand and address homelessness with responsive strategies.

Actions	Timeframe	Participants
Update By-Name List, which reflects the size and composition of our local homeless population, and develop tools to analyze system inflow and outflow among families.	June 2024 – January 2025	SSF

### What is the HFFC?

The Housing Families First Collaborative (HFFC) is a group of experts and stakeholders dedicated to addressing family homelessness in Sacramento County. Convened by Sacramento Steps Forward (SSF), it brings together leaders from various sectors, including those with lived experience, to support the Sacramento Continuum of Care's shared vision of making homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring in our community.

Integrate updated By-Name List into family case conferencing to identify families and coordinate targeted housing, healthcare, and income support.	October 2024 – June 2026	SSF, Black Child Legacy Campaign Providers
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### Priority 2: Expand Prevention & Diversion

Targeted approaches for early identification of at-risk families, including those fleeing from domestic violence, can effectively reduce unsheltered homelessness.

Actions	Timeframe	Participants
Onboard Black Child Legacy Campaign sites to the Problem Solving Access Points program and expand problem-solving funds to more providers serving families.	October 2024 – June 2026	SSF, Black Child Legacy Campaign Providers
Support resource connections for families and children who are “doubled up” in shared housing.	October 2024 – June 2026	SSF, Sacramento County Office of Education, Family Collaborative Agencies
Provide information to local education homeless liaisons about eligibility and options for local housing and supportive services for youth and families.	October 2024 – November 2026	SSF, Sacramento County Office of Education, Family Collaborative Agencies
Ensure that survivors of violence receive specialized resources by engaging justice system partners and direct service providers.	October 2024 – November 2026	SSF, Family Collaborative Agencies

### Priority 3: Enhance Family-Focused Rapid Rehousing Assistance

Focused efforts to accelerate housing placements for families requires coordination of existing and new resources to close gaps in current rehousing capacity.

Actions	Timeframe	Participants
Launch housing accelerator pilot, integrating rental assistance, housing navigation, and case management services.	July 2025 – November 2026	SSF and Contracted Service Providers

Coordinate resources that improve housing sustainability and family self-sufficiency, such as workforce development, financial literacy, and parent education.	October 2025 – November 2026	SSF, Contracted Service Providers, Family Collaborative Agencies
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#### Priority 4: Improve Systems Coordination

Improved provider awareness and coordination of referrals across systems are critical for timely connections to services.

Actions	Timeframe	Participants
Update Coordinated Access System assessments to help homeless assistance providers identify and connect families with young children to early childhood services.	October 2024 – December 2024	SSF, Sacramento County Office of Education
Develop temporary motel stay program for extremely vulnerable family households awaiting shelter availability.	October 2024 – June 2025	SSF, Coordinated Access Navigation Team
Expand HEART behavioral health outreach team coverage at family and Transition Age Youth shelters.	October 2024 – June 2025	SSF, Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services
Establish HMIS access for Sacramento County Office of Education and assess potential to expand to other school districts.	October 2024 – December 2025	SSF, Sacramento County Office of Education
Build capacity for family-focused shelter navigation support into Coordinated Access System.	January 2025 – December 2025	SSF, Coordinated Access Navigation Team
Educate and share resources related to language access, cultural brokers, and legal aid for immigrants and refugees.	March 2025 – March 2026	SSF, Family Collaborative Agencies
Connect families to benefits, such as CalWorks, CalFresh, and Medi-Cal through service co-location and updated referral workflows.	October 2024 – November 2026	SSF, Department of Human Assistance, Contracted Service Providers, Managed Care Plans

## Monitoring & Evaluation

Periodic collection and assessment of quantitative data and qualitative feedback will be necessary for continuous improvement and data-informed decision-making. Sacramento Steps Forward and the Housing Families First Collaborative will track progress on these actions and key system performance data on a quarterly basis. The Key Performance Indicators listed below will be reviewed and disaggregated by race/ethnicity, age, gender, and sexual orientation. Community listening sessions and surveys will be held to evaluate satisfaction and identify areas for improvement.

### Key Performance Indicators:

- Number of households experiencing homelessness
- Returns to homelessness
- Length of time homeless
- Employment and income growth
- Successful placement and retention of housing

