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Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) FACT SHEET

Background

HDAP, established by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 1603 \(Committee on Budget, Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016\)](#) and updated by [Senate Bill \(SB\) 80 \(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 27, Statutes of 2019\)](#) and [AB 135 \(Committee on Budget, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021\)](#), assists people, who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and are likely eligible for disability benefits, by providing advocacy for disability benefits as well as housing supports.

Overview

HDAP provides outreach, case management, benefits advocacy, and housing support to individuals who are likely eligible for disability benefits and who are experiencing homelessness. Housing-related financial assistance and wraparound supportive services may include, but is not limited to, interim housing, rental assistance, housing navigation, security deposits, utility payments, moving costs, legal services, and credit repair.

People experiencing chronic homelessness and those who rely most heavily on state and county-funded services are prioritized. HDAP follows a Housing First model and uses evidence-based housing interventions, including Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing. Services and assistance are provided with a client-centered approach on a voluntary basis; housing is not contingent upon participation in services.

The CDSS Housing and Homelessness Division provides regular and targeted technical assistance to HDAP grantees in partnership with [the Change Well Project](#), including but not limited to:

- Individualized grantee-specific technical assistance, including ongoing telephone and email correspondence
- Webinars and trainings designed to support grantees in landlord engagement, Housing First, successful budgeting and rehousing strategies, racial disparities in housing, and more
- Dedicated cohort learning for disability benefits advocacy development and best practices as well as the HDAP benefits advocacy helpline, where HDAP benefits advocates can ask specific questions of Social Security attorneys with the Inner City Law Center.
- Learning forums and trainings with national, state, and local experts in housing and homelessness on best and evidence-based practices

Impact and Accomplishments

As of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, a total of 57 counties and 2 tribal agencies representing 8 tribes operate HDAP statewide. Since HDAP's inception in FY 2017-18 through June 2022:

- Over 5,300 people were enrolled
- Over 2,600 people were permanently housed
- Over 6,000 disability applications were submitted
- Over 1,800 applications were approved

Grantees attribute HDAP with improving cross-collaboration between social services agencies, disability benefit advocates, and housing providers for a more holistic approach to service delivery. Grantees with robust and innovative outreach and engagement strategies report increased success in maintaining contact with clients, which is critical to providing disability benefit advocacy services and housing supports. HDAP increased tracking of homelessness data through the Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) and strengthened collaboration with the local homelessness Coordinated Entry System.

CDSS prepares an annual [HDAP Report](#) for the Legislature.

Funding History

- The program was established in [FY 2017-18](#) with a \$45 million appropriation available over three years (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020).
- In FY 2019-20, HDAP was established as an ongoing program with an annual appropriation of \$25 million. At that time, the program required a dollar-for-dollar grantee match.
- [The Budget Act of 2021](#) appropriated \$175 million for HDAP over multiple years inclusive of \$150 million in one-time, match-exempt funds in addition to the ongoing, annual appropriation of \$25 million with a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. \$7.5 million in HDAP funding is set aside for tribal programming, for more information, refer to [Tribal Set-Aside Funding Letter \(July 26, 2022\)](#).
- [The Budget Act of 2022](#) appropriated an additional \$175 million for HDAP over multiple years inclusive of \$150 million in one-time, match-exempt funds in addition to the ongoing, annual appropriation of \$25 million with a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. An additional \$7.5 million in HDAP funding is set aside for tribal programming.
- On September 21, 2022, CDSS released an [All County Welfare Director's Letter \(ACWDL\)](#) notifying all 58 counties and continuing tribal grantees of the additional HDAP funds in FY 22-23, which will be available over multiple years, to further establish and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the HDAP.

Learn More For more information, please visit the [HDAP webpage](#).