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## Home Safe Program FACT SHEET

### Background

The Home Safe Program, created by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 1811 \(Committee on Budget, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2018\)](#), supports the safety and housing stability of individuals involved in Adult Protective Services (APS). [AB 135 \(Committee on Budget, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021\)](#) updated eligibility, amongst other updates, for Home Safe to include individuals who are in the intake process for APS as well as individuals who may be served through a tribal social services agency who appear to be eligible for APS, as defined by Welfare and Institutions Code [Section 15610.10](#).

### Overview

Home Safe assists APS clients who are experiencing or are at imminent risk of homelessness due to elder or dependent adult abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation. Grantees operating local Home Safe programs utilize a range of strategies to prevent homelessness and support housing stability for eligible participants.

The program assists individuals in securing and maintaining permanent housing as quickly as possible without preconditions and provides the following:

- Financial assistance and housing-related wrap-around supportive services, including, but not limited to, housing-related intensive case management, housing related financial assistance, deep cleaning to maintain safe housing, eviction prevention, landlord mediation, facilitating mobility-related modifications to homes, and more
- Connections with local service providers including the homeless Continuum of Care (CoC)
- Client-centered services on a voluntary basis; housing is not contingent upon participation in services

The CDSS Housing and Homelessness Division provides technical assistance, in partnership with [the Change Well Project](#), to counties operating Home Safe. This includes but is not limited to:

- Individualized grantee-specific technical assistance, including ongoing telephone and email correspondence, and referrals to technical assistance partners.
- Webinars and trainings designed to support grantees in prevention, diversion and rehousing strategies, assessments and reporting, Housing First principles, addressing racial disparities in homelessness, coordination with APS services, and related topics.

## Impact and Accomplishments

All 58 counties operate Home Safe programming as Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22. This marks a significant statewide expansion since the pilot program launched in FY 2017-18, which operated in 25 counties. As of June 2022:

- Over 4,300 people have received assistance through the program
- More than 1,900 instances of housing financial assistance (e.g., rent, rental arrearages, deposits) being provided to participants; and,
- Over 1,200 people were connected to the local Coordinated Entry System (CES).

Grantees reported building new or stronger collaborations between APS and local homelessness systems, including integrating a Housing First approach to APS cases. Home Safe's flexible program design allows case workers to direct financial assistance to meet the specific housing stability challenges faced by each client. Without Home Safe, most APS caseworkers could not provide this type of assistance.

According to grantees, outside of Home Safe, local homelessness COCs have few emergency housing options for elderly or dependent adults who may have mobility issues, cognitive impairment, or otherwise require a higher level of care. Most grantees find that the use of intensive case management, paired with flexible housing-related financial support, is key to stabilizing a client in a housing crisis.

## Funding History

- The California State Budget for FY 2018-19 included a state allocation of \$15 million General Fund (GF) for Home Safe, available over a 3-year period, beginning July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021. The program required a dollar-for-dollar grantee match.
- [The Budget Act of 2021](#) appropriated \$92.5 million in match-exempt GF for Home Safe over multiple years. Of the statewide appropriation, \$5 million in Home Safe funding is set aside for tribal programming. For more information, please refer to the [Tribal Set-Aside Funding Letter \(July 26, 2022\)](#).
- [The Budget Act of 2022](#) appropriated an additional \$92.5 million in match-exempt GF for Home Safe over multiple years. Of the statewide appropriation, \$5 million in Home Safe 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 of the additional Home Safe funds in FY 22-23, which are available over multiple years, to further establish and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the Home Safe Program.

## Learn More

For more information, please visit the [Home Safe Program website](#).