

..Title

- a. Adopt a Resolution to support CSAC's AT HOME Plan; and,
- b. Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

..Report

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Adopt a Resolution to support CSAC's AT HOME Plan; and,
- b. Provide direction to staff as appropriate.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

On March 16, 2023, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) unveiled its AT HOME Plan, a first-of-its-kind comprehensive approach to effectively and equitably address homelessness in California. The plan consists of six (6) pillars:

- Accountability
 - Clearly define city and county roles for siting and supporting shelters, siting permanent supportive housing, encampment outreach, and encampment clean-up.
 - Commit ongoing funding – one-time funding is neither sustainable nor conducive to maintaining programs.
 - Work with the state and cities from start to finish, require the submission of countywide or regional plans with established, clear goals and responsibilities.
 - Allocate funding commensurate with the responsibilities each entity has within the plan and provide for maximum local flexibility to be used in accordance with established goals and outcomes.
- Transparency
 - Integrate and expand data systems to enhance transparency and allow for data-driven decision making.
 - Enhance existing health, social services and state and local criminal justice data systems to provide more robust data on the immediate and long-term needs of individuals and better manage institutional discharges.
- Housing
 - Increase resources needed to acquire, build, and operate housing solutions across the full housing continuum, especially permanent supportive housing for individuals with complex needs.
 - Increase flexibility and streamlining to generate more affordable housing projects.
 - Create flexible housing subsidies and modify federal Housing Choice Vouchers to help more individuals utilize rental assistance to maintain housing.
- Outreach
 - Recruit, train and retain a robust HHS workforce and consider new certifications for workers in housing and other fields.
 - Leverage additional federal funding for outreach and rapid response.
 - Expand training and quality improvement incentives for law enforcement and probation responding to unhoused individuals.
- Mitigation

- Provide adequate funding for county administration of safety net programs to ensure eligible individuals can be enrolled and receive the services they need timely.
- Increase the availability of and access to programs and services that provide screening, treatment, and recovery services for substance use disorder.
- Increase flexibility for county behavioral health funding to maximize federal Medi-Cal funds and expand the reach of county behavioral health investments for the unsheltered population.
- Economic Opportunity
 - Update local workforce development and investment boards to address employment for unhoused populations and work with California Community Colleges to develop programs that support the formerly unhoused.
 - Increase accessible programs for justice-involved individuals to receive training and overcome employment barriers.
 - Continue and expand efforts to assist more qualifying aged, blind, and disabled persons to obtain SSI/SSP benefits and expand subsidized housing placements for these populations.

The AT HOME Plan was created by CSAC because despite significant investments by the state and local governments, California lacks a comprehensive plan to address homelessness effectively and equitably. The AT HOME Plan changes that by outlining clear responsibilities aligned with strong accountability and sustainable funding for all levels of government.

Supporting this plan will allow us to line up our values, processes, priorities, and resources with state and local partners to make meaningful progress in helping the unhoused.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The County Administrative Office was involved in the creation of this report.

FINANCING:

No additional expenses will be incurred.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

This initiative correlates to the Health & Human Services Strategic Initiative adopted by the Board of Supervisors by working collaboratively to address and develop a plan for ending homelessness.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

- Economic Development
- Administration
- Health & Human Services
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety

Prepared by: Misti Hannan, Senior Secretary, x3049

Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer, x5145

Attachments:

A. CSAC's AT HOME Plan

B. Resolution