

## 2020-21 State Budget Proposal Investments to Tackle Homelessness

*Key elements of Governor Newsom's homelessness & mental health budget proposal:*

- \$750 million fund to get individuals off streets and into supportive services quickly. More homeless infrastructure is being built, but the state still has a severe shortage of affordable and supportive housing units. The budget includes the creation of a California Access to Housing and Services Fund in the state Department of Social Services (DSS) to (a) pay rent for individuals facing homelessness; (b) support regions to bring on more dwelling units and (c) to help stabilize board and care facilities/homes. Unlike other state efforts, this money will go directly to service providers. The Governor proposes to seed this new fund with \$750 million in new one-time General fund, and calls on philanthropy and the private sector to step up as well.
- Transform Medi-Cal. The Budget includes \$695 million (including federal funds) growing to \$1.4 billion by 2022 for an effort to transform Medi-Cal to boost preventative health care that brings down the cost of health care – all designed to pull down matching federal funds to do so. This expansion proposal formerly known as CalAIM and now called Medi-Cal Healthier California for All, would specifically address many challenges of chronically unsheltered populations – providing funding for tenancy support services, housing navigation services, recuperative care, and could include targeted rental assistance if housing insecurity is tied to inappropriately high utilization of costly health care services. This reform will also change how counties operate behavioral health services, making them more closely integrated and act more like physical health services. Funding accounts for half of year one when the waiver begins plus a full year of funding in the next budget year.
- Community Care Collaborative Pilot (CCCP). The budget includes \$24.6 million in 2020-21 and \$364.2 million over 6-years for the Department of State Hospitals to implement efforts in three pilot counties to place individuals with mental health needs, specifically those designated Incompetent to Stand Trial, into stable placements in the community instead of state hospital placements.

Link: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/01/08/governor-newsom-previews-1-billion-in-budget-proposal-to-jump-start-new-homeless-fund-and-provide-behavioral-health-services-signs-order-to-accelerate-state-action-to-fight-homelessness/>