



The State Bar of California

**OPEN SESSION
AGENDA ITEM
DECEMBER 2021
LEGAL SERVICES TRUST FUND COMMISSION VII.A**

DATE: December 13, 2021

TO: Members, Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

FROM: Chris McConkey, Acting Program Supervisor
Danielle MacRae, Senior Program Analyst

SUBJECT: Recommendations for the 2022-2024 Homelessness Prevention Competitive Grants

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recognizing the impacts of the pandemic on housing instability in California, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 164 (AB 164) on July 16, 2021. AB 164 amends that part of the state budget that provides \$40 million in Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for homelessness prevention grants to qualified legal services projects (QLSPs) and support centers. This \$40 million is the first installment of an expected \$80 million in funding over three years.

After administrative costs, 25 percent of the three-year total will go to eligible QLSP and support center applicants via competitive grants. On August 13, 2021, the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission approved a timeline and delegations of authority for 2022-2024 homelessness prevention (HP III) competitive awards. So that the competitive grant period can start by January 1, 2022, the commission conferred authority on State Bar staff to score applications in consultation with the committee.¹

The committee met on December 2, 2021, to finalize its HP III competitive grant recommendations. This memo describes the scoring process and presents the committee's recommendations for awards (Attachment A).

¹ The resolution states, "...FURTHER RESOLVED, that the commission delegates authority to the committee to approve the request for proposals, including scoring rubric, for the [HP III] grants and to staff to score applications in consultation with the committee."

BACKGROUND

The State Budget Act of 2021 allocates \$40 million in federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for HP III grants. This \$40 million is the first installment of an expected \$80 million in funding from the 2021, 2022, and 2023 state budget acts.

After deductions of up to 2.5 percent (\$2 million) for administrative costs, 75 percent of the three-year total (at least \$58,500,000) will go to eligible QLSP and support center applicants via statutory formula. The remaining 25 percent (at least \$19,500,000) will fund competitive grants. Both types of grants are to pay for:

[E]viction defense, other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant rental disputes, or services to prevent foreclosure for homeowners, including pre-eviction and eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, mediation, training, renter education, and representation, and legal services to improve habitability, increasing affordable housing, ensuring receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability, legal help for persons displaced because of domestic violence, and homelessness prevention.

Item 0250-162-8506 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2021.

The State Bar received 34 HP III competitive applications requesting about \$33,800,000 combined. Please see Attachment D for profile sheets detailing each application.

DISCUSSION

Scoring Criteria

On August 31, 2021, the committee adopted the following rubric for HP III competitive awards:

| Category | Exceeds Expectations | Meets Expectations | Below Expectations | Not Addressed |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Project impact and strategies: The applicant proposes a project that significantly and directly addresses or will address a compelling need for the particular homelessness prevention intervention(s). | | | | |
| Number of check marks | X25 points | X20 points | X15 points | X0 points |
| Subtotal | | | | |
| Organizational capacity: The applicant demonstrates that it has the qualifications, experience, resources, and/or partners that it needs to meet the proposal objectives. | | | | |
| Number of check marks | X20 points | X15 points | X10 points | X0 points |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Subtotal | | | | |
| Focus on rural populations: The applicant articulates a focus on addressing homelessness in rural communities. | | | | |
| Focus on underserved populations: The applicant articulates a focus on addressing homelessness in particularly underserved communities. | | | | |
| Project evaluation: The applicant details an evaluation strategy to acquire data that it can use to refine the project's strategies to increase its effectiveness in addressing homelessness. | | | | |
| Number of check marks | X15 points | X10 points | X5 points | X0 points |
| Subtotal | | | | |
| Special consideration: Applicant articulates a focus on partnerships and evidence-based advocacy strategies to address individual or systemic homelessness. | | | | |
| | 0-10 points | | | |
| Total | | | | |

The request for proposals (RFP, Attachment B) notes that the rubric is a tool to guide committee and commission discussion of projects. A comparatively high score, therefore, does not guarantee funding. The committee and commission may still exercise discretion to recommend/make awards that best accomplish the statewide goals of AB 164. For instance, the committee can use its best efforts to distribute grants statewide and to fund a diversity of homelessness prevention interventions.

The RFP also communicated the following explanations to applicants:

- **Project impact and strategies:** Applicants should explain how the project's strategies and goals—activities, partnerships, outputs, outcomes, etc.—will directly and significantly ameliorate homelessness. They should explain why they selected the particular intervention(s) over others. The justification for the proposed services should refer to the circumstances and needs of particular populations that the project seeks to serve.
- **Organizational capacity:** Applicants should demonstrate their ability and capacity to implement and manage the proposed activities. Recruiting partners, such as community based organizations and/or local government subgrantees, who offer complimentary homelessness prevention expertise and services is relevant to this criterion. Strong administration includes adequate staffing, leadership, and oversight of project monitoring, outreach, and resource development. An applicant's history of meeting the goals and complying with the requirements of other grants is relevant to this criterion.

- **Focus on rural populations:** Applicants should describe any focus on rural communities. The California Commission on Access to Justice recommends defining “rural” as areas that meet the medical service study area (MSSA) standard for “rural” or “frontier.” The California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development identifies MSSAs using sub-county clusters of census tracts.² The California Commission on Access to Justice argues that MSSA categories of rural and frontier—as opposed to urban—are better suited than counties to classify rural areas.³ Rural MSSAs have 50,000 or fewer residents and population densities below 250 people per square mile. “Frontier” MSSAs have population densities of fewer than 11 people per square mile.
- **Focus on underserved populations:** Applicants should describe any focus on particularly underserved clients. A project that focuses on such communities should explain how the latter face even higher barriers to accessing civil justice than does the low-income community generally. Since “focus on rural populations” is a separate criterion, “focus on underserved populations” refers to other aspects of community access.
- **Project evaluation:** Applicants should describe an evaluation strategy—frequency, diversity of approaches to collecting information, etc.—and resources that are likely to yield data in time for course corrections and refinements during the grant period.

State Bar staff proposed the following definitions for “exceeds expectations”, “meets expectations”, “below expectations”, and “not addressed” when the committee met on October 29:

- **Not addressed:** A proposal that scores “not addressed” in a category/criterion fails to satisfy that criterion in a meaningful way or lacks the relevant nexus. A proposal might fail to satisfy a criterion in a meaningful way if it articulates only a vague intention to do so. And a response might lack the relevant nexus to “focus on rural populations”, for instance, if it would serve only an urban community.
- **Below expectations:** A proposal that scores “below expectations” in a category/criterion addresses that criterion but is insufficiently competitive or persuasive to justify a score of “meets expectations”. The proposal might aspire to do too little, for instance, such as only occasionally serve rural clients in “focus on rural populations”. Or the proposal might lack sufficient detail, explanation, or basis in fact to demonstrate its contours or likelihood of success. Since an uncompetitive proposal might still articulate a feasible project, this score confers some points.
- **Meets expectations:** A proposal that scores “meets expectations” in a category/criterion is competitive and persuasive with respect to that row of the rubric. To be competitive, the proposal will be sufficiently ambitious and/or compelling to merit

² For more information, please visit

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=a20100c4bf374bd081bb49b82cbaaac3>.

³ The California Commission on Access to Justice, “Improving Civil Justice in Rural California” (2010) available at <https://www.calatj.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2010-Improving-Civil-Justice-in-Rural-CA.pdf>.

the use of competitive—as compared to formula—funds. To be persuasive, the proposal will describe circumstances sufficiently probative of the applicant’s intention and ability to accomplish its stated objectives in that criterion.

- **Exceeds expectations:** A proposal that scores “exceeds expectations” in a category/criterion satisfies the standard for “meets expectations” while standing out as particularly compelling or impressive. A project might be especially compelling, for instance, because its strategies or partnerships would be unusually impactful. Or the proposal might be exceptionally detailed, thorough, evidence-driven, or otherwise well-conceived and convincing.

Review Process

Given the short timeline to review submissions, the commission delegated authority to staff to score HP III competitive applications in consultation with the committee. The committee advised staff in at least three ways:

- (Before scoring) The scoring team observed the committee as it applied the rubric to a cross-section of five proposals.
- (During scoring) The committee chair participated in all scoring sessions.
- (After scoring) The committee discussed the scoring team’s results and adjusted awards as appropriate.

The scoring team consisted of the committee chair, James Meeker, and three staff members from the Office of Access & Inclusion. The team evaluated all 34 applications using the rubric and definitions above.⁴ Additionally, the committee met on October 29, 2021, and November 22, 2021, to advise the scoring team on rubric interpretation and application.⁵

The scoring team presented its funding recommendations to the committee on December 2, 2021. At this meeting, the committee discussed each of the recommended projects. Additionally, it made several adjustments to funding levels to facilitate the goals of AB 164.

Scores

The four-member scoring team arrived at unified scores and funding figures for every proposal. The highest score was 88 out of 100 points. The lowest score was 54 points. Given the significant amount of funding available, the committee recommends funding the 23 highest-scoring proposals—those with 68 to 88 points:

⁴ See “Scoring Criteria”, *supra*.

⁵ The committee discussed a cross-section of proposals on October 29. That selection of applications achieved a diversity of service areas, organization sizes, partnerships, subgrant relationships, and homelessness prevention strategies. Following its review of all applications, the scoring team elevated three more proposals to the committee on November 22 for a discussion about their project impact and strategies. The proposals were from Eviction Defense Collaborative, Inner City Law Center, and OneJustice.

Proposals Scoring 68 or Above
(From High Score to Low Score)

| Applicant | Total Score |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Inner City Law Center | 88 |
| 2. California Indian Legal Services | 86 |
| 3. California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. | 86 |
| 4. Inland Counties Legal Services | 83 |
| 5. Legal Aid at Work | 81 |
| 6. Public Counsel | 80 |
| 7. Housing and Economic Rights Advocates | 75 |
| 8. Immigrant Legal Resource Center | 75 |
| 9. Justice in Aging | 75 |
| 10. Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino | 75 |
| 11. Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice | 75 |
| 12. Legal Aid of Sonoma County | 74 |
| 13. Community Legal Aid SoCal | 73 |
| 14. National Housing Law Project | 73 |
| 15. Public Law Center | 73 |
| 16. Bay Area Legal Aid | 71 |
| 17. Legal Aid of Marin | 71 |
| 18. Neighborhood Legal Services of LA | 71 |
| 19. Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles | 70 |
| 20. OneJustice | 70 |
| 21. USD School of Law Legal Clinics | 70 |
| 22. Eviction Defense Collaborative | 68 |
| 23. San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation | 68 |

Nearly all of these proposals scored “exceeds expectations” in at least one rubric category—most of them in several—or scored at least 5 out of 10 points in “special consideration”.⁶ All but four of them scored points for describing a focus on rural communities. Even those four, however, scored a “meets expectations” or “exceeds expectations” in their focus on underserved communities and an “exceeds expectations” in two criteria.⁷ Attachment C provides a detailed breakdown of the scores for all proposals.

Funding Levels

In determining the appropriate amount of funding to award, the scoring team and committee considered, among other factors:

- The proportionality of the project deliverables to the funding request.

⁶ The rubric provides up to 10 points in “special consideration” for “articulat[ing] a focus on partnerships and evidence-based advocacy strategies to address individual or systemic homelessness.”

⁷ AB 164 states that “In awarding [competitive] grants, preference shall be given to qualified legal aid agencies that serve rural or underserved communities.” The rubric provided up to 15 points each for focusing on rural and/or underserved communities. Please see the section “Scoring Criteria”, *supra*, for definitions.

- The degree of fiscal conservatism in the budget, given the narrative explanations.
- The applicant's stated—to staff—ability to implement an impactful project with less than the full amount requested.
- The sufficiency of the budget narratives and other explanations.
- The comparative size of the applicant's HP III formula award, if any.

Award Recommendations
(From High Score to Low Score)

| Applicant | Score | Request | Recommend |
|---|-------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Inner City Law Center | 88 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$1,300,000 |
| 2. California Indian Legal Services | 86 | \$ 971,007 | \$770,000 |
| 3. California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. | 86 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$1,100,000 |
| 4. Inland Counties Legal Services | 83 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$1,250,000 |
| 5. Legal Aid at Work | 81 | \$ 924,000 | \$700,000 |
| 6. Public Counsel | 80 | \$ 1,499,688 | \$1,100,000 |
| 7. Housing and Economic Rights Advocates | 75 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$1,100,000 |
| 8. Immigrant Legal Resource Center | 75 | \$ 475,353 | \$330,000 |
| 9. Justice in Aging | 75 | \$ 915,000 | \$600,000 |
| 10. Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino | 75 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$950,000 |
| 11. Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice | 75 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$850,000 |
| 12. Legal Aid of Sonoma County | 74 | \$ 887,100 | \$880,000 |
| 13. Community Legal Aid SoCal | 73 | \$ 1,162,233 | \$1,000,000 |
| 14. National Housing Law Project | 73 | \$ 540,000 | \$500,000 |
| 15. Public Law Center | 73 | \$ 939,000 | \$900,000 |
| 16. Bay Area Legal Aid | 71 | \$ 1,020,471 | \$900,000 |
| 17. Legal Aid of Marin | 71 | \$ 360,681 | \$360,000 |
| 18. Neighborhood Legal Services of LA | 71 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$1,100,000 |
| 19. Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles | 70 | \$ 1,166,625 | \$810,000 |
| 20. OneJustice | 70 | \$ 750,000 | \$600,000 |
| 21. USD School of Law Legal Clinics | 70 | \$ 883,230 | \$800,000 |
| 22. Eviction Defense Collaborative | 68 | \$ 1,500,000 | \$1,025,000 |
| 23. San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation | 68 | \$ 715,590 | \$575,000 |
| Total | | \$19,500,000 | |

The above organizations would receive, on average, 79 percent of their budget request. Staff contacted the above applicants to see whether/how they would have to adjust deliverables if they received less than their request. The committee considered those responses when recommending funding.

CONCLUSION

Funding the recommended proposals would achieve AB 164’s policy goals for the competitive awards. Each project scored strongly against the rubric, which the committee carefully designed to implement AB 164’s priorities. As a result, these projects would fund a diversity of high-impact projects throughout the state. Each one describes a compelling focus on underserved communities—those that face particularly high barriers to civil justice. All but four of them describe a focus on rural communities.⁸ And nearly all of these projects identify partnerships and/or evidenced-based strategies to enhance their efficacy.

The scoring team might have recommended many of the remaining proposals for an award but for limited funding. Although scoring slightly lower than some of the projects above, they too described badly-needed and strategically crafted homelessness prevention work. On December 13, however, the committee will ask the commission to prioritize the 23 highest-scoring projects for funding.

RECOMMENDATION

Should the commission concur with the committee’s proposal, passage of the following resolution is recommended:

RESOLVED, that the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission recommends the 2022–2024 homelessness prevention competitive grant recipients and amounts as described herein.

ATTACHMENT(S) LIST

- A. Scores and Funding Recommendations for HP III Competitive Grant Applications
- B. 2022 – 2024 Homelessness Prevention Competitive Grant Request for Proposals
- C. Breakdown of Scores for HP III Competitive Applications
- D. Profile Sheets of HP III Competitive Applications
- E. Map of Recommended HP III Competitive Projects

⁸ Excluding five projects that propose to serve the entire state, the recommended organizations would focus on 24 counties in particular: Alameda, Alpine, Contra Costa, Fresno, Inyo, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Ventura. As Attachment E illustrates, the recommended projects pay careful attention to rural California. When combined with the concurrent HP III formula awards, virtually every county will receive significant funding for homelessness prevention legal aid through 2024.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | | | ATTACHMENT A | | |
| | Scores and Funding Recommendations for HP III Competitive Applications | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Organization | County(ies) Served | Formula Allocation | # of Partners | # of Subgrants | Amount Requested | Proposed Amount Sub-Granted | Total Score | Funding Recomm. |
| | Scores 88-68 | | | | | | | | |
| | Inner City Law Center | Statewide | \$1,310,991 | 2 | 2 | \$1,500,000 | \$ 600,000 | 88 | \$ 1,300,000 |
| | California Indian Legal Services | Alpine, Inyo, Mono | \$ 512,097 | 15 | 0 | \$ 971,007 | \$ - | 86 | \$ 770,000 |
| | California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. | Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura | \$4,544,697 | 1 | 0 | \$1,500,000 | \$ - | 86 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Inland Counties Legal Services | Riverside, San Bernardino | \$3,904,926 | 2 | 2 | \$1,500,000 | \$ 600,000 | 83 | \$ 1,250,000 |
| | Legal Aid at Work | Statewide | \$ 993,231 | 4 | 4 | \$ 924,000 | \$ 240,000 | 81 | \$ 700,000 |
| | Public Counsel | Los Angeles | \$2,600,319 | 4 | 3 | \$1,499,688 | \$ 431,045 | 80 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Housing and Economic Rights Advocates | Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura | \$ 150,000 | 1 | 0 | \$1,500,000 | \$ - | 75 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Immigrant Legal Resource Center | Fresno, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare | \$ - | 4 | 4 | \$ 475,353 | \$ 240,000 | 75 | \$ 330,000 |
| | Justice in Aging | Statewide | \$ 442,044 | 5 | 4 | \$ 915,000 | \$ 240,000 | 75 | \$ 600,000 |
| | Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino | San Bernardino | \$ 468,552 | 2 | 1 | \$1,500,000 | \$ 234,000 | 75 | \$ 950,000 |
| | Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice | Los Angeles | \$ - | 2 | 0 | \$1,500,000 | \$ - | 75 | \$ 850,000 |
| | Legal Aid of Sonoma County | Sonoma | \$ 301,389 | 0 | 0 | \$ 887,100 | \$ - | 74 | \$ 880,000 |
| | Community Legal Aid SoCal | Los Angeles, Orange | \$1,624,419 | 3 | 2 | \$1,162,233 | \$ 141,000 | 73 | \$ 1,000,000 |
| | National Housing Law Project | Statewide | \$ 442,044 | 0 | 0 | \$ 540,000 | \$ - | 73 | \$ 500,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|-------------|----|----|-------------|------------|----|--------------|
| | Public Law Center | Orange | \$1,418,901 | 6 | 2 | \$ 939,000 | \$ 210,000 | 73 | \$ 900,000 |
| | Bay Area Legal Aid | Alameda, Contra Costa | \$ 995,151 | 0 | 0 | \$1,020,471 | \$ - | 71 | \$ 900,000 |
| | Legal Aid of Marin | Marin | \$ 150,000 | 5 | 5 | \$ 360,681 | \$ 37,500 | 71 | \$ 360,000 |
| | Neighborhood Legal Services | Los Angeles | \$2,004,753 | 1 | 1 | \$1,500,000 | \$ 225,000 | 71 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles | Los Angeles | \$2,482,581 | 0 | 0 | \$1,166,625 | \$ - | 70 | \$ 810,000 |
| | OneJustice | Statewide | \$ 442,044 | 1 | 1 | \$ 750,000 | \$ 180,000 | 70 | \$ 600,000 |
| | USD School of Law Legal Clinics | San Diego | \$ 268,707 | 3 | 0 | \$ 883,230 | \$ - | 70 | \$ 800,000 |
| | Eviction Defense Collaborative | San Francisco | \$ 150,000 | 1 | 0 | \$1,500,000 | \$ - | 68 | \$ 1,025,000 |
| | San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation | San Luis Obispo | \$ 150,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 715,590 | \$ - | 68 | \$ 575,000 |
| | Scores 67-54 | | | | | | | | |
| | Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach | San Joaquin, Stanislaus | \$ 189,075 | 2 | 2 | \$1,160,916 | \$ 450,000 | 67 | \$ - |
| | Family Violence Law Center | Alameda | \$ 150,000 | 10 | 10 | \$ 258,948 | \$ 90,000 | 67 | \$ - |
| | Open Door Legal | San Francisco | \$ - | 2 | 2 | \$1,500,000 | \$ 285,000 | 67 | \$ - |
| | Centro Legal de la Raza | Alameda, Contra Costa | \$ 539,121 | 1 | 1 | \$1,500,000 | \$ 750,000 | 65 | \$ - |
| | Mental Health Advocacy Services | Los Angeles | \$ 150,000 | 1 | 1 | \$ 600,000 | \$ 86,829 | 64 | \$ - |
| | Public Interest Law Project | Statewide | \$ 442,044 | 2 | 1 | \$ 983,994 | \$ 249,000 | 64 | \$ - |
| | Senior Citizens Legal Services | Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz | \$ 150,000 | 5 | 3 | \$ 949,599 | \$ 517,200 | 64 | \$ - |
| | Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, Inc. | Riverside, San Bernardino | \$ - | 0 | 0 | \$ 300,000 | \$ - | 60 | \$ - |
| | Legal Assistance to the Elderly | San Francisco | \$ 150,000 | 4 | 0 | \$ 225,000 | \$ - | 60 | \$ - |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|------------|---|---|------------|-----------|--------------|----------------------|
| | Disability Rights Legal Center | Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara | \$ 564,708 | 0 | 0 | \$ 642,000 | \$ - | 58 | \$ - |
| | Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco | San Francisco | \$ 285,339 | 1 | 1 | \$ 450,000 | \$ 75,000 | 54 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | | Total | \$ 19,500,000 |



The State Bar of California

2022 –2024 Homelessness Prevention Competitive Grant Request for Proposals

Background

Recognizing the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on housing instability in California, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 164 (AB 164) on July 16, 2021. AB 164, amending the Budget Act of 2021, allocates \$40 million in federal Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for homelessness prevention (HP) grants to qualified legal services projects (QLSPs) and support centers. This \$40 million is the first installment of an expected \$80 million in funding over three years.

The State Bar has received confirmation that the future installment(s) totaling \$40 million will be appropriated over the next two years. If this amount decreases or increases, the State Bar will notify grantees as soon as possible. In light of guidance from the state Senate, and in consultation with the Judicial Council of California, the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (commission) has voted to confer three-year grants using the entire \$80 million. This increases the ability of programs to design and staff long-term projects.

After deductions for administrative costs, 75 percent of the three-year total will go to eligible QLSP and support center applicants via a modified funding formula. The remaining 25 percent will fund competitive grants. AB 164 provides that neither HP formula nor HP competitive grants may supplant existing resources and both must support:

[E]viction defense, other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant rental disputes, or services to prevent foreclosure for homeowners, including pre-eviction and eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, mediation, training, renter education, and representation, and legal services to improve habitability, increasing affordable housing, ensuring receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability, legal help for persons displaced because of domestic violence, and homelessness prevention.

Eligibility

HP competitive grant applications are due on SmartSimple by **Friday, October 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. (PT)**. To be eligible for a 2022-2024 HP competitive award, applicants must be a QLSP or support center under California Business and Professions Code [section 6213](#).

Competitive Grant Parameters

1. HP competitive awards may fund only the activities that AB 164 enumerates, above. These grants may not support legislative advocacy. Applicants that serve rural or underserved communities shall receive preference.
2. There is no minimum amount of funding that programs may request. The maximum that a program may request is \$500,000 per year (\$1,500,000 for three years).
3. Applicants must explain how they will avoid supplanting existing funds including any HP formula award. Grantees must use their award to serve clients whom they otherwise would be unable to reach.
4. While there are no income-eligibility requirements for this grant, programs must screen for and track indigency under Business and Professions Code [section 6213\(d\)](#). This is to report nonqualifying expenditures on the annual IOLTA and Equal Access Fund application. If an applicant aims to serve non-indigent individuals, it should describe how the homelessness prevention needs of the population(s) are currently unmet.

Award Information

The commission will distribute at least \$19,500,000 in competitive funds. It plans to vote on final awards on November 17, 2021. The competitive grant period will start on January 1, 2022.

The commission seeks to fund high-impact projects that, within the scope of AB 164's list of authorized activities, address acute homelessness risks and harms. The commission also seeks to fund a diversity of homelessness prevention legal services throughout the state.

Applicants may propose creative partnerships with IOLTA and non-IOLTA providers. To that end, programs may seek to subgrant a portion of their award to one or more partner organizations. Such a collaboration could enable a well-rounded suite of homelessness prevention expertise and services that the applicant alone might be unable to achieve.

Selection Criteria

Award decisions are final and without appeal. The funding level of awards will depend on the number and quality of applications as well as proposed budgets. A successful response to the RFP will expressly and persuasively:

- Identify how the proposed project aligns with the permissible uses in AB 164 and would meet the compelling needs of the population(s) it targets.
- Articulate the outputs (e.g. number of cases closed) and outcomes (e.g. increase in knowledge of tenant's/homeowners' rights) of services. Applicants should identify goals that are tied to the specific partnerships, activities, and deliverables they seek to achieve with this grant.

- Explain how grant funds will avoid supplanting existing resources, including any HP formula funding. That is, applicants should show how the award would enable services that the applicants otherwise would be unable to deliver.
- (If applicable) Highlight how clients in rural and/or particularly underserved communities will be the focus of the project. This could include populations whom the HP formula grant projects might have difficulty reaching.
- Describe the applicant's qualifications and staffing ability to perform the proposed work.

The commission and HP Funds Committee will use their best efforts to distribute grants statewide and to fund a diversity of HP interventions. Additionally, the committee has adopted the following rubric to guide its deliberations:

| Category | Exceeds Expectations | Meets Expectations | Below Expectations | Not Addressed |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Project impact and strategies: The applicant proposes a project that significantly and directly addresses or will address a compelling need for the particular homelessness prevention intervention(s). | | | | |
| Number of check marks | X30 points | X20 points | X10 points | X0 points |
| Subtotal | | | | |
| Organizational capacity: The applicant demonstrates that it has the qualifications, experience, and resources that it needs to meet the proposal objectives. | | | | |
| Number of check marks | X20 points | X15 points | X10 points | X0 points |
| Subtotal | | | | |
| Focus on rural populations: The applicant articulates a focus on addressing homelessness in rural communities. | | | | |
| Focus on underserved populations: The applicant articulates a focus on addressing homelessness in particularly underserved communities. | | | | |
| Project evaluation: The applicant details an evaluation strategy to acquire data that it can use to refine the project's strategies to increase its effectiveness in addressing homelessness. | | | | |

| Number of check marks | X15 points | X10 points | X5 points | X0 points |
|--|-------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Subtotal | | | | |
| Special consideration: Applicant articulates a focus on litigation strategies to address individual or systemic homelessness. | | | | |
| | 0-5 points | | | |
| Total | | | | |

Note: The rubric is a tool to guide committee and commission discussion of projects. A comparatively high score, therefore, does not guarantee funding. The committee and commission may still exercise discretion to recommend/make awards that best accomplish the statewide goals of AB 164.

The following explanations accompany the rubric's core criteria:

- **Project impact and strategies:** Applicants should explain how the project's strategies and goals—activities, partnerships, outputs, outcomes, etc.—will directly and significantly ameliorate homelessness. They should explain why they selected the particular intervention(s) over others. The justification for the proposed services should refer to the circumstances and needs of particular populations that the project seeks to serve.
- **Organizational capacity:** Applicants should demonstrate their ability and capacity to implement and manage the proposed activities. Strong administration includes adequate staffing, leadership, and oversight of project monitoring, outreach, and resource development. An applicant's history of meeting the goals and complying with the requirements of other grants is relevant to this criterion.
- **Focus on rural populations:** Applicants should describe any focus on rural communities. The California Commission on Access to Justice recommends defining "rural" as areas that meet the medical service study area (MSSA) standard for "rural" or "frontier." The California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development identifies MSSAs using sub-county clusters of census tracts.¹ The California Commission on Access to Justice argues that MSSA categories of rural and frontier—as opposed to urban—are better suited than counties to classify rural areas.² Rural MSSAs have 50,000 or fewer residents and population densities below 250 people per square mile. "Frontier" MSSAs have population densities of fewer than 11 people per square mile.

¹ For more information, please visit <https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=a20100c4bf374bd081bb49b82cbaaac3>.

² The California Commission on Access to Justice, "Improving Civil Justice in Rural California" (2010) available at <https://www.calatj.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2010-Improving-Civil-Justice-in-Rural-CA.pdf>.

- **Focus on underserved populations:** Applicants should describe any focus on particularly underserved clients. A project that focuses on such communities should explain how the latter face even higher barriers to accessing civil justice than does the low-income community generally.
- **Project evaluation:** Applicants should describe an evaluation strategy—frequency, diversity of approaches to collecting information, etc.—and resources that are likely to yield data in time for course corrections and refinements during the grant period.

HP Competitive Grantmaking Timeline:

| Date | Activity |
|---------------------|--|
| August 31, 2021 | HP Funds Committee approves RFP and scoring rubric |
| September 1, 2021 | Release RFP application |
| October 1, 2021 | RFP applications due |
| October 4-8, 2021 | HP Funds Committee calibrates scoring |
| October 25-29, 2021 | Committee finalizes award recommendations |
| November 17, 2021 | Commission votes on awards |
| January 1, 2022 | Grant period begins |

RFP Application

A complete HP competitive grant application will include the components below. Please see the application instructions for detailed guidance.

1. Form A: Project Profile

The project profile collects high-level information about the project’s geographic focus, community partnerships, budget request, and current funding (if any), as well as a project abstract.

Additionally, a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number is necessary since these grants are made possible by federal funds. To learn more about DUNS numbers, please visit grants.gov, [here](#). To request a free DUNS number—for organizations that do not have one already—please visit Dun & Bradstreet’s website, [here](#).

2. Form B: Project Description

The project description collects detailed information about the project’s need, clients, partnerships, goals, activities, deliverables, and strategies for outreach, accessibility, and evaluation. It also asks for detailed narratives about the applicant’s qualifications and resources to perform the work effectively.

3. Form C: Project Budget

The project budget collects information on how the program proposes to allocate HP

funds to the project for three years. Applicants will need to identify staff by their role (e.g. “Managing attorney” or “Housing attorney”) and estimate the amount of time that these roles would spend on the project. The project staff, budget, and description should be consistent with one another.

4. Form D: Budget Narrative

The budget narrative will collect information about each line of the budget, noting whether the grant will directly pay for specific items or be allocated on a percentage or other basis.

5. Form E: Project Assurances

Programs will have to acknowledge that the:

1. Applicant agrees that it will use funds it receives from the 2022-2024 Homelessness Prevention (HP) Grant only for purposes stated in its application.
2. Applicant will not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, age, marital or domestic partnership status, medical condition, or sexual orientation.
3. Applicant will comply with quality control procedures adopted by the State Bar of California (State Bar).
4. Applicant will permit reasonable site visits and will present additional information deemed reasonably necessary to determine compliance with the terms of the grant.
5. Applicant will comply with fiscal management and control procedures adopted by the State Bar.
6. Applicant agrees to consult with the State Bar concerning media coverage of any project funded by this HP grant.
7. Applicant understands that any proposal submitted for an HP Grant, and all documents submitted pursuant to issuance of HP funding, are public documents, and may be disclosed to any person.
8. Applicant assures that, to the extent this grant is being sought for an existing project, the funds will be used for services in addition to those already funded by other funds and will not supplant current funding committed to that project.
9. Applicant agrees it will file regular (e.g. quarterly) program and financial reports, as may be required by the State Bar, and cooperate with other data collection requests by the State Bar for this grant project.

10. The State Bar is permitted, in its sole discretion, to adjust Applicant's award at any time to reflect the actual amount of funding available for HP competitive grants. Consequently, grantees shall not be guaranteed any specific dollar amount in grant funds, or any grant funds at all, if funds received are insufficient or unavailable to the State Bar.

Reporting Requirements

Demonstrating effective use of these funds is critical to supporting future funds. Grantees must, therefore, report quantitative and qualitative data describing the clients they served and activities they performed. This data includes outcomes (main and economic benefits) tied to individual characteristics that demonstrate the impact/value of these grants.

Reporting requirements will include:

1. **Expenditure Reports**

Since 2022-2024 HP competitive grants are supported by federal dollars, organizations will have to submit quarterly spending reports that compare expenditures to the approved budget. Grantees must report budget variances of 10 percent or more to the State Bar as soon as possible.

2. **Services/Case Reports**

Grantees will also have to submit quarterly client-level data on at least the following:

- A. Main benefits for all cases according to the codes and definitions in the *California Legal Aid Reporting Handbook*.
- B. Geographic and demographic data, tied to outcomes, for all clients.
- C. Economic benefits for cases that resulted in an award for or savings to the client.
- D. Highest levels of service for all cases where there was an attorney-client relationship and aggregated data about all other services (e.g. trainings).

3. **Final Evaluation Report**

In addition to the regular activity/services reports, organizations will have to submit a final evaluation about the following outputs and outcomes, among others:

- A. Service population: How did this project impact the people it served? What changed for them, or what negative outcomes were prevented?
- B. Community impact: Describe whether and how this project has changed the community it serves.

- C. Evaluation/Assessment: Describe the processes used to assess the effectiveness of this project and any lessons learned regarding the project itself or the community it serves.
- D. Reports: Upload any report completed regarding the evaluation or assessment of this project or demonstrating the effect of services rendered (e.g., client satisfaction survey results, pre and post test results, number of cases in which stipulations were reached, number of trials, outcome of trials, etc.).
- E. Other impacts: Will this project have any immediate or long-term impacts that are not already captured in main benefits reporting?
- F. Continuation of the project: Describe any plans to continue the project after the grant period.
- G. Publications: Describe any future publication or distribution plans for materials resulting from grant activities; provide the URL for online resources related to this project (web sites, resource libraries, etc.).
- H. Impact work and materials:
 - Overview of impact litigation cases: For any grant-funded impact cases your organization litigated as part of this project during the grant period, whether open or closed, report the case name, number of individuals estimated to be impacted, date filed, venue, and any partners or co-counsel also participating.
 - Overview of public policy advocacy activities: Describe any grant-funded public policy advocacy activities, such as regulatory advocacy, your organization engaged in during the grant period. Remember that the legislature prohibited using these funds for legislative advocacy.
 - Training and support activities: Describe any grant-funded training or other support activities not identified above. For support centers, use this space to provide quantitative and qualitative data about trainings, convenings, research, and other support for QLSPs.

For Technical Support

If you have any questions, please contact:

Christopher McConkey, Senior Program Analyst, at (213) 765-1505 or Christopher.McConkey@calbar.ca.gov.

| | | | | | | | | | ATTACHMENT C |
|--|---|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | Breakdown of Scores for HP III Competitive Applications | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Organization | Project Impact | Org. Capacity | Focus on Rural | Focus on Underserved | Evaluation | Special Consideration | Total Score | Funding Recomm. |
| | Inner City Law Center | 25 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 8 | 88 | \$ 1,300,000 |
| | California Indian Legal Services | 20 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 6 | 86 | \$ 770,000 |
| | California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. | 20 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 6 | 86 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Inland Counties Legal Services | 25 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 83 | \$ 1,250,000 |
| | Legal Aid at Work | 20 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 6 | 81 | \$ 700,000 |
| | Public Counsel | 25 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 80 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Housing and Economic Rights Advocates | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 75 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Immigrant Legal Resource Center | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 75 | \$ 330,000 |
| | Justice in Aging | 20 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 75 | \$ 600,000 |
| | Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino | 20 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 75 | \$ 950,000 |
| | Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 75 | \$ 850,000 |
| | Legal Aid of Sonoma County | 20 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 4 | 74 | \$ 880,000 |
| | Community Legal Aid SoCal | 20 | 20 | 0 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 73 | \$ 1,000,000 |
| | National Housing Law Project | 20 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 3 | 73 | \$ 500,000 |
| | Public Law Center | 25 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 73 | \$ 900,000 |
| | Bay Area Legal Aid | 20 | 20 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 71 | \$ 900,000 |
| | Legal Aid of Marin | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 71 | \$ 360,000 |
| | Neighborhood Legal Services | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 71 | \$ 1,100,000 |
| | Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles | 25 | 20 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 70 | \$ 810,000 |
| | OneJustice | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 70 | \$ 600,000 |
| | USD School of Law Legal Clinics | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 70 | \$ 800,000 |
| | Eviction Defense Collaborative | 20 | 20 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 68 | \$ 1,025,000 |
| | San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 3 | 68 | \$ 575,000 |
| | Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach | 20 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 67 | |
| | Family Violence Law Center | 20 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 10 | 7 | 67 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | Open Door Legal | 25 | 15 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 67 | |
| | Centro Legal de la Raza | 20 | 15 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 65 | |
| | Mental Health Advocacy Services | 20 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 10 | 4 | 64 | |
| | Public Interest Law Project | 15 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 4 | 64 | |
| | Senior Citizens Legal Services | 15 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 4 | 64 | |
| | Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, Inc. | 20 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 60 | |
| | Legal Assistance to the Elderly | 20 | 15 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 60 | |
| | Disability Rights Legal Center | 15 | 15 | 5 | 15 | 5 | 3 | 58 | |
| | Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco | 20 | 15 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 4 | 54 | |
| | | | | | | | | Total | \$19,500,000 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Rubric Points Awarded | | | | | | | | |
| | | Project Impact | Org. Capacity | Focus on Rural | Focus on Underserved | Evaluation | Special Consideration | | |
| | Exceeds Expectations | 25 | 20 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 1-10 | | |
| | Meets Expectations | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | | | |
| | Below Expectations | 15 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 5 | | | |
| | Not Addressed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Organization Name | Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (APILO) | | |
| Project Name | The Central Valley API Services Project | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,160,916 | \$450,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Joaquin, Stanislaus | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The Central Valley API Services Project will provide virtual and in person culturally and linguistically competent legal services to prevent homelessness in multiple API languages and Spanish. Project services will focus on the API community in the Central Valley that continues to not only lack services but also political power to demand entitlements. This API community especially more recent immigrants and refugees remains invisible to traditional service providers and public services.</p> <p>API Legal Outreach provides legal services with a staff that speaks over twelve languages including, Cantonese, Mandarin, Toisan, Taiwanese, Ilocano, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. Legal services will provide eviction defense assistance, other tenant defense assistance in landlord tenant rental disputes, and services to prevent foreclosure for homeowners, including pre-eviction and eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, mediation, training, renter education, and representation, and legal services to improve habitability, increasing affordable housing, ensuring receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability, legal help for persons displaced because of domestic violence, and homelessness prevention.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The project will utilize a multi-pronged approach that builds on the strengths of API Legal Outreach's existing legal services, coordinates both direct services and pro bono efforts, and promotes broader community access and partnerships to ensure that the rights of tenants are enforced. Legal assistance for homelessness prevention will include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>Goals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase in access to and use of coordinated legal services in at least 70% of project's consumers; 2) Increase in knowledge and awareness about the rights and remedies available to prevent homelessness in at least 80% of project's consumers; 3) Increase in awareness about community resources available for addressing such needs in at least 80% of project's consumers; 4) Increase in homelessness prevention in at least 70% of clients; and 5) Increase in housing stability in at least 70% of clients. <p>Deliverables</p> <p>Legal counseling and representation to those at risk of homelessness: 360</p> <p>Homelessness prevented, individuals served: 360 per year</p> <p>Clients who benefited in other ways: 230 per year</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | The Central Valley counties of San Joaquin and Stanislaus, from Stockton to Modesto areas. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>API immigrant tenants and homeowners have no access to services if they are low income and LEP in rural counties. The Central Valley's Hmong, Lao, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Pacific Islander, South Asian, and other API's have little or no access to services. Many immigrants are disconnected from social and public services, with the effect that if they face eviction or foreclosure, they are less able to access legal or housing services to help them restabilize.</p> <p>Minority and LEP households are disproportionately affected by threats of eviction and foreclosure due to language and cultural barriers, lack of services, and discrimination. In rural counties, despite stereotypes, the API community still struggles with equal access to employment opportunities, high youth delinquency rates, and high levels of poverty.</p> | | |

| | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| | APILO's ongoing work in the Central Valley's API communities has found that many homeowners lost their homes due to predatory lending tactics by companies who hired community members as representatives. Though still devastated from the loss of housing equity and highly suspicious, those communities are slowly making a comeback economically. As a result of the economic impact of covid, the loss of jobs and small businesses, the lasting affect of the waves of foreclosures, the ending of eviction moratoriums, and landlord friendly courts, a much greater number of API residents are now tenants who are threatened with evictions. | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 2 | 2 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | APILO attorneys have made appearances in Stockton , Modesto, and Fresno courts. API Legal Outreach will provide Supervising Attorney and Administrative/Financial/Grant Management staffing for the project. Partner organizations will coordinate community outreach, legal education, know-your-rights presentations, translation, and referrals to social services. The project will develop pro bono panels specifically for this project to support clinical services. In the Bay Area the project works closely with the Asian American Bar Association, Asian Pacific American Bar of Solano County, the Filipino American, the South Asian, and Korean American Bar Associations. The project has found limited resources from bar and paralegal associations in the Central Valley but will continue such recruitment for multilingual volunteers from local API bar associations. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | Bay Area Legal Aid (BayLegal) | | |
| Project Name | Legal Advocacy for Stable Housing - Contra Costa & Alameda | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,020,471 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Alameda, Contra Costa | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>BayLegal proposes to sustain its homelessness prevention work in Contra Costa and Alameda counties after the project components' original funding sources sunset on December 31, 2021. Continuing our Contra Costa medical-legal partnership (MLP) will benefit underserved communities, including individuals with physical and mental health disabilities, by mitigating legal barriers and enforcing the rights of indigent residents who are connected to the County's "Continuum of Care" (CofC): those experiencing or at risk of homelessness; in a shelter or transitional housing; or in permanent supportive housing. The MLP attorney will be integrated with the County's Homeless infrastructure and work alongside its case managers, outreach team, and shelter and housing staff to receive referrals, educate, and collaborate to support mutual clients.</p> <p>HP funding will also maintain BayLegal's capacity to promote housing stability and prevent homelessness by ensuring full staffing for the Alameda County Tenants Rights Line (TRL). Tenants who call the TRL toll-free number can receive same-day legal information, referrals, advice and counsel, brief service, and possible extended representation, as warranted. Staffed by multilingual attorneys providing remote services, TRL puts help within reach of indigent tenants in distant areas of the county, as well as those with disabilities and special needs. TRL identifies and addresses a high volume and wide scope of legal issues to improve housing retention, which in turn informs the firm's systemic advocacy on injustices such as barriers to court access; discriminatory practices; and landlord abuses.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The Alameda Tenant Rights Line's goal is to continue helping low-income renters retain their housing by providing immediate, effective, high-volume access to legal services, related financial assistance, and representation in housing issues. The project is expected to serve approximately 300 tenants per year. The TRL attorney will also conduct 6 "Know Your Rights" presentations to community members and legal services providers per year. CCC MLP aims to help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness to access and retain safe, stable housing by providing coordinated legal advocacy. Through direct referrals from the CCH3 program and coordination with CCH3's homeless navigation, case management, and rental assistance services, BayLegal will provide housing advocacy for individuals and families who have connected with Continuum of Care services. BayLegal will also establish a referral process to accept eligible clients whose housing cases have been prepped by California Indian Legal Services. The project will handle approximately 60 cases each year, providing a range of legal services including advice and counsel, limited scope assistance, and representation.</p> <p>In addition to legal cases, we will also provide legal information and referrals to at least 20 CoC-connected individuals each year. BayLegal will conduct at least 4 Legal Issue Spotting trainings for project partners and community-based service providers each year and offer consults and technical assistance to frontline workers on an ongoing basis.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>For particularly underserved communities, the compounded impacts of poverty and California's housing crisis result in a higher risk of eviction, displacement, housing instability, and homelessness.</p> <p>In Alameda County, the housing crisis disparately affects low-income communities of color. UC Berkeley's Urban Displacement Project reports that the vast majority of the county is undergoing or at risk of displacement, and residents in areas with the highest levels of</p> | | |

| | <p>displacement are largely nonwhite and low-income renters. COVID has also exacerbated the crisis for BIPOC households, prior to which 46% of Black, 45% of Latinx, and 42% of Native American families were already rent-burdened and housing insecure. In Contra Costa County, nearly 10,000 individuals connect to the county's Continuum of Care each year, which serves extremely low income residents experiencing or at high risk of homelessness, a disproportionate number of them BIPOC households. 53% of these households experience a disabling condition and a lower rate of exiting CoC services to permanent housing. BIPOC, limited-English speaking, and disabled tenants face greater risk of eviction, homelessness, and displacement than the general low-income population; often grapple with compounding crises; and experience more obstacles to accessing civil legal services. This project also targets urban Indians, the majority of Native Americans in California, who are disproportionately underserved by the state's legal aid providers. Due to federal relocation policy of the 1950s-70s, they are typically members of tribes located outside California and often disconnected from tribal communities and networks of support.</p> | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 3 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Centro Legal de la Raza: BayLegal will continue to collaborate with Centro to ensure a coordinated referral process and housing services. This includes using a shared Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Salesforce platform, hosted by Centro, for targeted informed referrals to legal services agencies throughout Alameda. P2P streamlines the process for tenants so they do not have to make multiple calls or repeat the facts of their housing crisis, and are connected to services faster. This partnership also provides access to emergency financial assistance for clients' housing costs.</p> <p>Contra Costa County Health Services' Health, Housing, and Homeless Programs (CCCH3): BayLegal and CCCH3 will establish a mutual referral process and coordinated services to prevent evictions and stabilize housing. CCCH3 housing navigators and homeless outreach will identify legal issues and refer individuals at initial crisis points (such as when a family receives an eviction notice) so BayLegal can begin working early to defend against the eviction, negotiate appropriate accommodations, etc. BayLegal will refer clients to CCCH3 for case management, rental assistance, and re-housing services.</p> <p>California Indian Legal Services (CILS): Working with CILS, BayLegal will provide housing legal assistance to Native Americans experiencing housing instability. In cooperation with Native American Health Center, CILS staff based in Bishop will meet virtually with clients living in the Bay Area, conduct intake, collect documents, and assess legal defenses. BayLegal will advise CILS on local tenant protections and procedures. CILS will refer clients to BayLegal to assess next steps and appropriate services, with an anticipated focus on extended representation.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | California Indian Legal Services (CILS) | | |
| Project Name | Remote Eastern Sierra Tenant (REST) Project | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 971,007 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Alpine, Inyo, Mono | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>This Project has 3 components that all expand legal aid to reduce homelessness among underserved target populations.</p> <p>1. Expanding CILS' housing legal services in the Eastern Sierra by placing remote workstations throughout the tri-county (Inyo, Mono, Alpine) area. Full-scale eviction defense services offered at 8 remote locations will be promoted by local partners and protect an estimated 50 clients annually from homelessness.</p> <p>2. Partnering with Urban Indian Health Organizations (UIHOs) in Oakland, Sacramento, and Los Angeles, to offer eviction defense resources, limited representation, and 'elevated' referrals. CILS will spend 3-6 hours with each client collecting and organizing documents and assessing defenses before referring the client to a local Qualified Legal Service Program (QLSP) partner to provide direct representation or self-help materials and consultation, capacity allowing. This will increase eviction defense services and reinforce a system of care for approximately 150 urban Indians annually.</p> <p>Provide high-level advocacy on behalf of both Native and non-Native rural populations in the tri-county area. CILS will work with the Public Interest Law Program (PILP) to remedy legally deficient requirements for receiving General Assistance. PILP will provide legal expertise and analysis of GA regulations, and CILS' Bishop staff will leverage local knowledge and existing relationships (including County partners in this proposal), to increase both legal compliance and program access. GA is a last resort used by the poorest people to get and stay housed; lowering the entry barrier will decrease homelessness. Over 100 individuals living in these rural counties will benefit from this advocacy annually.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The primary goals of all Project components is preventing evictions and buying time for tenants without legal defenses. We will achieve these goals by providing services via computer access at locations in close proximity to the client, be it in the far reaches of the tri-county area or in the 3 UIHO clinics, and by improving access to GA.</p> <p>Component 1 deliverables include increasing service provision to clients in remote areas, which we will visually demonstrate with mapping software, and decreasing UD judgements in comparison to prior years. We plan to obtain these data from the courts and annually analyze the same. Demographic and other data will be collected in CILS' CMS with which we will track project outcomes and analyze for other service trends.</p> <p>Component 2 goals include increasing the representation of Native Americans in partner QLSPs, which we will show using prior and current year demographic data from our partner QLSPs. We estimate that we will make 150 referrals to QLSPs annually via the three UIHO clinics.</p> <p>Component 3 will increase the number of GA recipients by 200-400%. Recent data show that the percentage of residents who are in poverty and on GA for Inyo, Mono, and Alpine counties was 1.3% (28), .07% (1), and 0% (0). Most GA programs average between 2% and 5% of the population that is under the poverty line. If 3% of those in poverty obtain GA instead of 0.47%, approximately 113 people will get GA in the three counties instead of 29.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | The tri-county Eastern Sierra region only has one legal aid office for a vast geographic area that can be as far as a 4 hours' drive (in good weather) from the far reaches of Inyo and Alpine Counties (e.g. Tecopa, CA and Bear Valley, CA). | | |
| Underserved Communities | As a result of the rural region only having one legal aid office, the service area is underserved by civil legal aid. Both the remote workstation and GA systemic advocacy components will directly serve this rural population. The UIHO referral component of our | | |

| | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | Project will target housing insecure Native Americans, a disproportionately underserved demographic. The urban Native American population is often overlooked and their needs unknown by QLSPs due to lack of understanding and effective outreach. Tribal Health Organizations are the anchor institutions for urban centers and serve as community spaces for this population. CILS can act as a bridge between urban Indians, their housing needs and homeless issues, and the local QLSP. Providing urban Native Americans legal assessments of their tenant rights and connecting them to QLSPs for direct representation will empower Native Americans and prevent abusive landlord practices that would be otherwise unchecked and leading to unwarranted and illegal evictions. | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 15 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | Yes, many. For the REST Project we will partner with local housing organizations IMACA and Mammoth Lakes Housing, as well as both the Health and Human Services departments and libraries of all three counties. For the UIHO referral component of our project we will partner with 3 pairs of UIHOs and corresponding QLSP for the Bay Area, Sacramento, and Los Angeles (6 partners total). For the General Assistance Regulation Improvement project, we will partner with the Public Interest Law Project. This project will also likely partner with the same County partners as the REST project, as they are our target audience and we expect and hope that they will not be resistant to bringing their GA regulations within the bounds of the law. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Organization Name | California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA) | | |
| Project Name | Homelessness Prevention Central Coast Collaboration | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The Homelessness Prevention Central Coast Collaboration seeks to provide wrap-around legal services to low-income households facing eviction, housing insecurity, substandard housing conditions, or other housing obstacles across the Central Coast region of California. CRLA and companion applicant, HERA, will establish a coordinated intake system designed to conduct holistic screening of issues affecting housing stability. Central Coast residents will have multiple points of entry to CRLA and HERA services, including traditional phone and walk-in applications, Know Your Rights presentations and workshops, and record clearing clinics. At any point of entry, applicants' issues will be assessed using a screening tool that CRLA and HERA will develop to identify a variety of legal issues and assistance that CRLA and/or HERA can provide to prevent homelessness. By identifying the multitude of issues that may be affecting a client's housing stability, CRLA and HERA will be able to provide multi-pronged legal assistance. A more holistic approach to homelessness prevention will result in longer-lasting impacts on the tenants assisted by this project.</p> <p>CRLA services will include full-scope representation in eviction defense cases, legal services to tenants experiencing substandard housing, and legal services to assist low-income households in ensuring receipt of eligible income and/or benefits to ensure housing stability. CRLA will also provide many other legal services to prevent homelessness including Tenant's Rights workshops co-hosted with HERA, increased Unlawful Detainer Answer workshops, and record clearing clinics focused on assisting formerly incarcerated individuals in clearing their criminal records where they are barriers to finding housing or housing stability.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The project's overarching goal is to improve housing stability on the Central Coast. With this additional funding, CRLA will be able to hire 3 additional attorneys and 1 additional community outreach worker and add advocacy resources to some of the 5 field offices located in each of the counties in the service region. CRLA expects to accept an additional 300 cases per year through this project, impacting nearly 1,000 household members. Of these additional cases, approximately 50% or 150 will receive services beyond counsel and advice. The project's objective will be for CRLA to achieve an outcome to the benefit of the client in at least 55% or 83 of these cases receiving services beyond counsel and advice. The project will demonstrate improved housing stability through key performance indicators, including preventing loss of housing/obtaining, preserving access to housing, and recovering income or benefits.</p> <p>The project will also remove barriers that impact housing access, stability, and self-sufficiency needed to remain housed within reentry populations on the Central Coast. Of the 300 additional housing cases per year made possible through this collaborative project, CRLA expects that 20% or 60 will access CRLA's Records Clearing Clinics as an additional, wrap-around service to help improve housing stability. The project's objective would be to achieve a clean record for at least 80% or 48 clinic patrons per year.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | <p>We will target the Central Coast counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo (SLO), Monterey, and Santa Cruz. These counties have substantial areas classified as Rural Medical Service Study Areas. For instance, SLO County is nearly 17% rural according to census data, and Santa Cruz County is 12% rural. CRLA has a field office in each of the identified counties and is well equipped to address homelessness. There are substantial numbers of unhoused individuals in each county as of 2020 counts: 1,700 in Santa Cruz, 1,998 in Monterey, 1,172 in SLO, 1,223 in Santa Barbara, and 1,265 in Ventura. The</p> | | |

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| | <p>counties vary in the amount of interim and permanent housing supply, but no county has the number of beds needed to meet the need. Overlaying housing cost burden data shows that approximately 74,000 low-income households lack access to affordable housing. Therefore, well over 100,000 Central Coast residents are experiencing/at immediate risk of homelessness. In rural areas where rental housing is in shorter supply than in cities, low-income families often have high-occupancy households. As of June 2021, monthly rent for a 3-bedroom unit averages \$2,853 on the Central Coast but runs up to \$3,947 in Santa Cruz County. These households require over \$9,000 in monthly income to avoid becoming housing-cost burdened. Formerly incarcerated individuals have limited housing options and are typically forced to rely on interim arrangements with family/friends whose housing may already be overcrowded or unstable due to the extreme cost burden on low-income households on the Central Coast.</p> | |
| <p>Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.)</p> | <p>CRLA will focus on vulnerable populations that include Black, Indigenous, and people of color, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ individuals. Renters of color face the highest rates of cost burden in the Central Coast region, with Black, Latino, and multi-racial households being more likely than white households to be cost-burdened. Formerly incarcerated individuals are almost 10 times more likely to experience homelessness than the general public. It is estimated that 70% of people experiencing homelessness in California have a history of incarceration. Due to overrepresentation in the criminal justice system, people of color, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ individuals are disproportionately impacted. LGBTQ+ youth, in particular, are over-represented in the homeless youth population, with estimates ranging from 7% among youth receiving services to 39% among other LGBTQ+ youth.</p> <p>Extremely limited housing stock and high costs particularly affect certain vulnerable populations that tend to have the lowest incomes and experience additional barriers to housing access. California has especially low vacancy rates, an inadequate and vulnerable supply of affordable homes available to low-income households, and unsustainable housing costs burdens.</p> <p>CRLA will rely on the reputation and trust it has built with vulnerable populations to enhance its ability to reach people who would benefit from the services under this project. To serve these traditionally underserved populations and eradicate barriers to accessing civil justice, CRLA provides trauma-informed, in-language services, and engages in creative service delivery including workshops and other physical presence in the community that increase access to CRLA services in remote locations.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 1 | 0 |
| <p>Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.)</p> | <p>The Homelessness Prevention Central Coast Collaboration project seeks to provide wrap-around legal services to low-income households facing eviction, housing insecurity, substandard housing conditions, or other housing obstacles across the Central Coast region of California.</p> <p>CRLA and companion applicant, HERA, will establish a coordinated intake designed to conduct holistic screening of issues affecting housing stability. Central Coast residents will have multiple points of entry to CRLA and HERA services, including traditional phone and walk-in applications, Know Your Rights presentations and workshops, and record clearing clinics. At any point of entry, applicants' issues will be assessed using a screening tool that CRLA and HERA will develop in Quarter 1 of the project. The screening tool will identify a variety of legal issues and assistance that CRLA and/or HERA can provide to prevent homelessness. By identifying the multitude of issues that may be affecting a client's housing stability, CRLA and HERA will be able to provide multi-pronged legal assistance. A more holistic approach to homelessness prevention will result in longer-lasting impacts on the tenants assisted by this project.</p> <p>The coordinated intake process will also include seeking a release from applicants to share case information and records across the two companion applicants. The project will establish a shared drive and a shared communication platform to facilitate discussion about cases, transfers/referrals across the partners, and collaboration on wrap-around services. Project staff will also meet two times per quarter to ensure progress on the project, discuss substantive casework, and ensure quality and effective legal services.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Centro Legal de la Raza (CentroLegal) | | |
| Project Name | Building Tenant Support Networks in Underserved Areas | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$750,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Alameda, Contra Costa | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Centro Legal de la Raza and The East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE) will expand tenant resources in Contra Costa County by working together to host trainings to empower tenant leaders and allies, host tenant union gatherings, and provide legal services to Contra Costa tenants.</p> <p>EBASE will also host monthly tenant union gatherings in the city of Concord to provide a space for tenants and tenant service groups to discuss issues tenants are facing citywide, review tenant rights, and identify collective plans for engaging neighbors and enforcing rights. Monthly gatherings will include tenant leaders from building-specific tenant unions, door-to-door outreach and canvassing as well as phone and electronic outreach via email and social media. EBASE and Centro Legal will design and implement training for tenant leaders and allies to become peer educators and advocates on tenant rights in Contra Costa County. Lastly, EBASE will send referrals to Centro Legal for tenants needing legal assistance.</p> <p>By training and working together we will be able to spot issues and trends, triage issues that do not require an attorney, and make strong referrals when an attorney is needed. Building this connective tissue provides increased legal first aid, allowing Centro legal and other legal service providers to increase capacity for full-scope representation cases that will have maximum impact to advance the movement.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>Goal 1: Monthly Concord citywide tenant union gatherings. EBASE convenes monthly citywide tenant union meetings to discuss issues tenants are facing citywide, review tenant rights and identify collective plans for engaging their neighbors and enforcing rights. Monthly gatherings include tenant leaders from building-specific tenant unions, door to door outreach and from the clinics</p> <p>Goal 2: Centro Legal and EBASE design and implement an 8 week training institute for tenant leaders and allies to become peer educators and advocates on tenant rights in Contra Costa County. The training will develop the skills of 8 tenants per year over an 8 week institute and then engage them in ongoing neighbor-to-neighbor outreach. Tenant leaders will be stipended.</p> <p>Goal 3: Legal consultation. Provide excellent and equitable legal consultation eviction defense services to tenants. 21 legal consultations will be provided per quarter.</p> <p>Goal 4: Legal representation. Provide excellent and equitable full representation eviction defense services to tenants. Select cases for litigation for strategic and systemic impact. Legal representation will be provided to 15 tenants per quarter.</p> <p>Goal 5: Expand our existing peer-to-peer referral (P2P) system to Contra Costa partners for streamlined referrals and integration of new partners such as other legal service providers, outreach and social service providers.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The economic devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the lack of social and legal services in these geographies, make low-income renters and people of color particularly vulnerable to displacement and eviction. According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey collected between August 4 - August 16, 2021 for the San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area, while 5.3% of all surveyed tenant households were behind on their rent payments, more than double (12.7%) of Black tenant households in the metro area reported that they were behind on their rent. In addition, on the same survey</p> | | |

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| | <p>an estimated 24.6% of renter households - or 327,591 households - indicated that they were “not at all confident” they would be able to pay September rent. That rate more than doubled, to 59%, among Latinx tenant households. Finally, of the tenant households who are behind on their rent in the metro area, 37.8% indicated that having to leave their home due to eviction in the next two months is somewhat or very likely. Low-income tenants already vulnerable to eviction and homelessness are now facing job loss, loss of childcare, and extreme risks to their health. Even after the health impacts of COVID-19 diminish, the economic impacts will continue and low-income tenants will be vulnerable to eviction when they can't pay rent because they've lost jobs and income because of the pandemic.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 1 | 1 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Centro Legal de la Raza and The East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE) will work collaboratively on outreach efforts, creating education and training materials, presentations and ensuring that a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities so there is accountability. By working together we can leverage our resources and ensure we are both better informed to better serve tenants. By working together closely we will be able to make strong referrals and pool ideas, expertise and knowledge to ensure the regional expansion of the peer-to-peer system is successful.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Community Legal Aid SoCal (CLASC) | | |
| Project Name | Project Amplify | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,162,233 | \$141,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles, Orange | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>CLA SoCal has spent the past two years building a robust Housing Unit to serve its neighbors who are fighting housing instability. Now, it seeks funding to root its homelessness prevention program more deeply in the communities where it operates, and to cultivate support from the private bar and law schools to help meet a need that outstrips our capacity. This 360-degree approach – building relationships with community leaders to expand education and referrals, working with legal volunteers to shrink the justice gap in underserved communities, and allowing our unit staff to focus on neighbors who are most in need – will help us increase our ability to promote housing stability in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>GOAL #1: Over three years, partner with community leaders and promote utilization of legal services for prevention of homelessness and housing instability in underserved communities in southeast LA County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Hire two bilingual (Vietnamese/English and Spanish/English) Community Engagement Liaisons + Build 15-20 new formal or informal partnerships with CBOs who serve primarily BIPOC communities or disabled clientele. + Partner with community groups to strategize, evaluate, and hold 129 linguistically accessible Know Your Rights housing events for 774 attendees as well as community-based eviction defense clinics + Increase OC housing clients from 50% individuals who self-identify as BIPOC and/or disabled to 65% over three years. + Develop multilingual media campaign and housing stability materials <p>Goal #2: Replicate Orange County pro bono housing project to leverage more resources for eviction defense in underserved communities in southeast LA County in short- and long-term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Hire, train, and mentor 2-4 LAIC incubator housing attorneys annually + Attract 30 pro bono volunteers from law schools, law firms, solo practitioners, etc. + Hold 120 eviction defense clinics + Provide 480 clients with counsel and advice or limited action + Serve 135 clients with extended representation <p>Goal #3: Evaluate impact of project: Utilize qualitative and quantitative data to gauge the success of the project towards meeting its goals, gather input from partners, and make course corrections if necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Create survey for Project Amplify clients and workshop attendees and capture Main and Economic benefits + Follow up with clients at 3 months to gauge housing stability | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>While our BIPOC neighbors make up 66% of CLA SoCal's OC Family Law clients and 62% of our OC Benefits clients in 2021, they comprise only 45% of our OC Housing clients. While our Housing Unit prioritizes BIPOC residents for comprehensive services, the fact that BIPOC residents comprise only 45% of people who reach out to CLA SoCal for housing assistance means that we still fall short in engaging these communities around housing matters in the same way we do for other areas of law.</p> | | |

| | <p>Broader data shows that this is not just a problem affecting CLA SoCal. According to “Eviction Risk Insights Breakdown for California,” Asian residents are 44% more likely to face eviction than Whites; they also have accrued more non-reimbursable debt to help pay rent, with an average of \$10,059 in rent owed and more than \$4,500 borrowed. Asians also report language as the biggest barrier that keeps them from applying for state rental assistance. For this reason, CLA SoCal seeks to hire a Community Engagement Liaison who is bilingual English/Vietnamese to help us get legal services into the Vietnamese-speaking communities. Project Amplify will also focus on bringing more legal services to Black and Latinx communities. There, long-term housing discrimination means that the LA Metro area ranks as the sixth-most segregated of 221 American metro areas, with more than 60% of Black and Latinx households renting. In his “UD Day” study, Blasi shares that Black Angelenos are eleven times more likely to be homeless than White Angelenos.</p> | |
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| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 3 | 2 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>In LA, CLA SoCal will work with Fathers and Mothers Who Care (FMWC) and the LA County Office of Education (LACOE). We have not yet partnered with a community-based organization (CBO) in OC, but a new Liaison would begin work early in 2022 to identify and recruit a partner as a subgrantee.</p> <p>These community partners will help us reach audiences that may be unaware of legal aid and how it can help residents be housing stable. To do this, they will host and publicize multilingual Know Your Rights events for the public on housing, including how economic stability (including benefits) and domestic violence impact housing stability. We anticipate holding monthly intake clinics hosted by our community partners in each county, and that our partners will help to identify and schedule clients. Partners will be asked to participate in quarterly evaluation meetings that include assessment, issue spotting, and strategy development.</p> <p>Our work with Los Angeles Incubator Collaborative (LAIC) will mirror our work with the Elder Law and Disability Rights (ELDR) Center incubator in Orange County: between May-September 2021, these ELDR attorneys have worked with 22 clients. LAIC attorneys will be trained, mentored, and supervised by the CLA SoCal attorney. Annually, two incubator attorneys will provide 125 pro bono hours each for housing work, with a focus on extensive service to underserved clients in southeastern LA County.</p> <p>MOUs are out to Fathers and Mothers Who Care and LAIC for signature.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Disability Rights Legal Center (DRLC) | | |
| Project Name | Foster Youth Advocacy Program | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 642,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>DRLC will hire a 6-person team (1 Supervising Attorney, 1 Staff Attorney, 1 Education Advocate, 1 Administrative Support Staff, 2 Rotating Legal Fellows) over 3 years to represent foster youth with disabilities in Los Angeles, Orange, Kern, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo counties to gain access to essential support systems from school districts, Regional Centers, and county departments of mental health to reduce their risk of homelessness upon aging out of county dependency.</p> <p>Specifically, the Foster Youth Advocacy Program will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct outreach to target youth ages 14-18 with disabilities in the foster care system within the project's catchment area; • Advocate within the special education due process system for appropriate educational assessments, Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) (emphasizing transition plans for postsecondary life), educational placements, and support services; and • Coordinate with partners to ensure the youth has representation for Regional Center, mental health, and other disability-related supports and services. <p>Our goal is to target youth with the highest risk of homelessness, ensure they receive access to support systems for home life and school, create positive outcomes to reduce serious risk of impending chronic homelessness, and support their access to appropriate (often therapeutic) housing through the age of 18, and for qualified students, through age 22. The program will combine the support of nonprofit organizations, regional centers, the Dependency Court, DCFS, school districts, and foster youth advocates to target populations at the highest risk of becoming chronically homeless due to their lack of lifelong support systems.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hire additional expert staff to join the project. - Identify 10 partners to sign MOU commitments to help identify at-risk foster youth who require advocacy in either the education or Regional Center system, focusing on youth likely to have unassessed disabilities. - Create Transition Plans and provide direct support services for 25 youth in Year 1, 60 youth in Year 2, and 100 youth in Year 3. - Partner with over 150 pro bono attorneys to provide over 1,000 hours of pro bono support over 3 years to support high-risk foster youth. - Build capacity to extend the project beyond the first 3 years. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Any foster youth referred to DRLC's Foster Youth Advocacy Program from rural areas within the counties targeted by the project will be eligible for services. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | Foster youth are at particular risk of homelessness due to their lack of a foundational system of support and years spent in the DCFS system. Every year approximately 4,000 youth age out of care in California. According to Walden Family Services, 65% leave foster care at age 18 with no place to call home. Young men in California who spent time in foster care are 82% more likely to become homeless. The causes of homelessness for foster youth aging out of care are often treatable. DRLC's Foster Youth Advocacy Program will aim to ensure stable housing placements, access to services, proper assessments, and ability to stay in DCFS past the age of 18 if appropriate. | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 0 | 0 | |

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| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | The Foster Youth Advocacy Program will largely utilize referrals from new and existing connections already within the foster youth space. These relationships will be cultivated primarily by DRLC's Senior Education Advocate, who will liaison among community organizations to coordinate activities with nonprofit partners, schools, courts, and other partners on behalf of youth referred to the program. |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Eviction Defense Collaborative (EDC) | | |
| Project Name | Increasing Equitable Access to Eviction Defense Legal Services | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Francisco | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The project will increase access to eviction defense legal services for African American tenants in San Francisco's Bayview, seeking to interrupt the disproportionate impact of evictions and homelessness for this historically excluded community. This targeted intervention is urgently needed to address the stark disparities in eviction rates and resulting homelessness impacting African Americans in San Francisco. Nationwide data shows that African Americans are both twice as likely to have an eviction case filed against them, and to be successfully evicted. Additionally, although African Americans comprise just 5% of the total San Francisco population, they comprise 37% of the city's homeless population. These trends have resulted in the dramatic displacement and loss of African American residents in San Francisco with the overall African American population decreasing from 13% in 1970 to 5% in 2021.</p> <p>The project will launch a sited community legal clinic in the Bayview, located within the Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco's (HRCSF) offices. The clinic will provide a wraparound, holistic service model, combining eviction defense legal services, (limited services, eviction referrals, and full scope representation) with rental assistance, social work, and shelter client advocacy, which will assist unhoused Bayview residents in avoiding eviction from city shelters. By siting the legal clinic within the HRCSF's offices, the project will leverage the effectiveness of HRCSF's tenant counseling services and community organizing model, maximizing on their local tenant and community based organization relationships to effectively deepen and expand the impact of EDC's legal services.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The overall aim of the project is the increase equitable access to eviction defense legal services and shelter client advocacy for African American tenants in the Bayview. However, all Bayview tenants will be served by the project including Spanish and Asian language tenants who also require these services and need increased access to services in their own language.</p> <p>Key goals and deliverables include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Establishing a legal clinic in the Bayview within HRCSF's office 2) Expanding EDC's partnership with HRCSF to leverage their tenant counseling, community organizing and policy advocacy to increase awareness of and access to EDC's and SFTRC's services within the Bayview 5) Provide Legal Services paired with Rental Assistance when required to: Year 1) 300 clients; Year 2) 420 clients; Year 3) 600 clients 6) Provide Shelter Client Advocacy to: Year 1) 20 clients; Year 2) 24 clients; Year 3) 28 clients 7) Increase enforcement of due process for Bayview shelter residents under the City's Shelter Grievance Policy, providing them with representation in denials of service, shelter eviction hearings, arbitrations and Shelter in Place site appeals. The SCA staff at the Bayview clinic will serve 20 Bayview shelter clients annually, increasing per year as appropriate. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities | The long term impacts of structural racism and in particular anti-black racism—in housing, educational, and criminal justice policies have resulted in a crisis of homelessness among African Americans nationwide and also in San Francisco. Nationwide data shows that African Americans are both twice as likely to have an eviction case filed against them, and to be | | |

| (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>successfully evicted. Furthermore, low-income African American women face the highest risk of eviction, with 1 in 5 African American female renters reporting that they have experienced eviction. Additionally, nationwide, African Americans are overrepresented among homeless individuals by a factor of three. In San Francisco, by a factor of six. While African Americans comprise just 5% of the total San Francisco population, they comprise 37% of the city's homeless population. In San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point, a majority community of color neighborhood, 27% of the residents are African American, more than 30 percent of neighborhood households make \$30,000 or less per year, and 70 percent make less than San Francisco's current median household income. The area is geographically isolated with a severe lack of public transportation. It also continues to lack sufficient and easy access to eviction defense legal services for a population who is statistically at the highest risk of eviction in the city. In order to successfully interrupt the cycle of evictions and resulting homelessness for African American San Franciscans, increased access to eviction defense legal services and shelter client advocacy services is urgently needed.</p> | |
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| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 1 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>EDC will partner with the Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco (HRCSF), renting space within their Bayview office to host weekly walk in legal clinics for the provision of eviction defense legal services and shelter client advocacy. Founded in 1979 the HRCSF conducts community organizing, tenant counseling, know your rights education and policy advocacy. Leveraging the long term relationship between EDC and HRCSF will exponentially deepen the impact of the Bayview legal clinic in several ways. Firstly, partnering with HRCSF will greatly enhance EDC's community outreach and tenant education efforts, informing Bayview residents about our services, their tenant rights, and enabling direct and immediate referrals to increase default avoidance. Secondly, working together will strengthen both agencies' efforts to assess and affect policy matters to improve clients' prospects. Thirdly, this partnership will add a tenant counseling component to the SFTRC system, starting with EDC's Bayview legal clinic, increasing awareness throughout the city about SFTRC's services, and expanding the system's capacity for expanded outreach and tenant know your rights education.</p> <p>Partnership benefits: 1) A one stop shop for tenants rights information 2) Eviction prevention is stronger if EDC participates in tenant rights pre litigation 3) many tenants are scared (fearing cops, court, ICE), often self evicting. A Bayview clinic increases likelihood of earlier interventions, improving client outcomes 4) Earlier intervention allows for easier trend analysis in pre-litigation matters. 5) A historically underserved area with high levels of government funded housing, the Bayview clinic supports redressing historical inequities through legislative advocacy.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Family Violence Law Center (FVLC) | | |
| Project Name | A Roof of One's Own | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 258,948 | \$90,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Alameda | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>This expansion of A Roof of One's Own will allow Family Violence Law Center (FVLC) to accept housing referrals from other survivor serving providers, including providers serving domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual exploitation survivors. Currently the volume of internal housing referrals FVLC exceeds our capacity. Our partner agencies are eager to refer clients to us and to increase the housing knowledge and capacity of their staff and the survivors they serve. By providing preventative outreach and education to partner agency clients and staff in addition to expanding to provide legal services to more individual survivors, FVLC will increase survivors' ability to remain housed. Survivors have unique needs that FVLC has the expertise to address, and this model could be replicable, increasing access to housing for survivors, a population that is particularly vulnerable to becoming unhoused.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>FVLC anticipates that this project will provide at least 80 survivors annually with legal information, education, and individual legal assistance regarding their housing rights. All gender-based violence providers in Alameda County will become better educated regarding survivors' housing rights. Agency staff and survivors served by the agencies will be provided with legal information, education, and technical assistance regarding survivors' housing rights. We anticipate reaching at least 100 survivors, directly or indirectly. At least 12 of these survivors facing eviction will receive legal assistance.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>FVLC and all of the county's survivor serving providers listed as partners on this project serve survivors who have limited language access, primarily Latinx women who speak little or no English. Additionally, survivors generally are underserved by homelessness services systems because of the separate confidentiality and safety concerns that need to be considered for survivors. By serving survivors throughout the county in coordination with gender-based violence survivors, FVLC will make it possible for survivors to receive assistance at community locations, including emergency shelters and locations that they frequent for other social services, so they can travel to the appointment location without arousing the suspicions of an abusive partner who might be closely monitoring their daily activities.</p> | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 10 | 10 | |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>This project is designed to allow FVLC to accept housing referrals from other survivor serving providers, including providers serving domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking survivors; currently the volume of internal housing referrals exceeds our capacity. We are able to cover only a fraction of the need, but we work in close and frequent communication with other domestic violence and legal services agencies to coordinate our limited resources to provide the best possible legal assistance to domestic violence survivors most at risk. Our partner agencies are eager to refer clients to us and to increase the housing knowledge and capacity of their staff and the survivors they serve. With this proposed project, FVLC and other survivor-serving partner agencies will bring their respective professional skills to provide gender-based violence survivors with holistic legal services. FVLC will provide legal services and partner agency staff will support legal clients, using leveraged funds, with whatever non-legal supportive services they need, including financial assistance as available to assist with housing-related needs. FVLC also will conduct</p> | | |

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| | outreach / preventative education presentations for each partner agency so both staff and partner agency clients can increase their knowledge of housing law. Most partner agencies either run housing programs like shelters or conduct support groups so will have regular groups of clients for FVLC to interact with. |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Housing and Economic Rights Advocates (HERA) | | |
| Project Name | Homelessness Prevention - Central Coast Collaboration | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The proposed HP Project-Central Coast is a collaboration with California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA). Through development of a coordinated intake system between HERA and CRLA, indigent tenants of California's Central Coast counties will get screened simultaneously by both agencies for each other's services to keep them housed. HERA will address such issues as habitability problems, discrimination, harassment, unlawful rent increases, and pre-UD notices, among the many problems that plague tenants well before they reach the formal eviction process. We have found from our work that we can have tremendous success at this pre-eviction stage in helping tenants keep their home and resolve their concerns. CRLA will serve tenants served with an Unlawful Detainer summons and complaint. For tenants who need to seek alternative rental housing, HERA will work on credit clean-up and will pursue fair housing complaints when credit or other unlawful reasons, such as justice system involvement, is being used as a pretext for unlawful discrimination. Clients will agree up front to information sharing between HERA and CRLA to facilitate one agency providing services where the other leaves off, such that they benefit from our respective areas of expertise via a seamless, coordinated system. CRLA will also ensure receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability. Both programs will work with DV survivors as well as other vulnerable tenants to help them avoid homelessness. This collaboration, with CRLA's footprint and roots in Central Coast Counties will help HERA reach rural and underserved residents in this region.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | HERA proposes to provide housing stabilization legal services to 350 residents per year one-on-one in our target area. Out of the 350, we estimate that 50% (175) will need in-depth pre-eviction advocacy to keep them housed or facilitate their moving to safe rental housing if no other solution is possible, or if that is their ultimate choice. CRLA will describe in its proposal how many residents with Unlawful Detainers it will serve under the project. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Rural communities we are targeting consist of low-income residents of the counties of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Ventura, particularly seniors, people of color, immigrants, Limited English Proficiency residents, and households with minor children. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The underserved communities we are targeting consist of low-income residents of the counties of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Ventura, particularly seniors, people of color, immigrants, and households with minor children. (Data drawn from most recent consolidated plans.) In Monterey County: County unincorporated areas, the City of Salinas, and the cities of Del Rey Oaks, Gonzales, Greenfield, and Sand City. In Ventura County: Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, and unincorporated areas of Ventura County. In Santa Barbara County: Census tracts in which a majority of residents are low and moderate income can be found in portions of the unincorporated county as well as Santa Maria, Lompoc, Goleta, the City of Santa Barbara and Carpinteria. Poverty concentrations are found in Santa Maria, Lompoc and Isla Vista. In San Luis Obispo County: County-wide with focus on the unincorporated communities of San Miguel, Nipomo and Oceano, where low-income Latinos are particularly impacted. Lack of decent affordable housing units in these communities is a concern. In Santa Cruz County: Watsonville, the City of Santa Cruz and unincorporated neighborhoods in the county will be key areas of focus.</p> | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 1 | 0 | |

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| <p>Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.)</p> | <p>The HP Project-Central Coast is a collaboration between HERA and California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA). Through development of a coordinated intake system between HERA and CRLA, indigent tenants of California's Central Coast counties will get screened simultaneously by both agencies for each other's services to keep them housed. HERA will address such issues as habitability problems, discrimination, harassment, unlawful rent increases, and pre-UD notices, among the many problems that plague tenants well before they reach the formal eviction process. We have found from our work that we can have tremendous success at this pre-eviction stage in helping tenants keep their home and resolve their concerns. CRLA will serve tenants served with an Unlawful Detainer summons and complaint. For a smaller number of tenants who need to seek alternative rental housing, HERA will work on credit clean-up and will pursue fair housing complaints when credit or other unlawful reasons, such as justice system involvement, is being used as a pretext for unlawful discrimination. Clients will agree up front to information sharing between HERA and CRLA to facilitate one agency providing services where the other leaves off, such that they benefit from our respective areas of expertise via a seamless, coordinated system. CRLA will also ensure receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability. Both programs will work with DV survivors as well as other vulnerable tenants to help them avoid homelessness.</p> |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) | | |
| Project Name | Creating Economic Stability for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence in the San Joaquin Valley | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 475,353 | \$240,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Fresno, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>This project will fortify the economic stability of immigrant survivors of domestic violence in the rural region of the San Joaquin Valley by facilitating their access to lawful immigration status, employment authorization, and public benefits. The project will establish key partnerships between domestic violence shelters and immigration legal service providers in two regions of the San Joaquin Valley. The capacity of domestic violence advocates to respond to and serve immigrant survivors of domestic violence will be strengthened through training and direct collaboration with immigration legal service providers. Domestic violence service providers will receive training on relevant immigration law topics that will enhance their case management assistance. In turn, they will host immigration legal clinics at their organizations where local immigration legal service providers will provide legal support to their immigrant clients. These partnerships will ensure that immigrant survivors of domestic violence receive high quality legal consultations, know your rights presentations, and legal assistance with their immigration processes. For vulnerable immigrant survivors of domestic violence, especially those living in rural and isolated areas, having the ability to apply for and obtain an immigration benefit can be a lifeline to work authorization and eligibility for public benefits. Such status and documentation will open the door to access critical benefits, including housing assistance, and to more stable employment. By ensuring this vulnerable immigrant population in rural California receives needed immigration legal support, the safety and economic stability of immigrant survivors is greatly strengthened, including housing security.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>With this project, the ILRC will facilitate access to legal services for immigrant survivors by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness of domestic violence agency advocates about the immigration options for immigrant survivors so they are better able to identify and support immigrant survivors in their immigration process. • Increasing the knowledge and information available to immigrant survivors so they can better understand their legal options, receive high-quality legal services, and navigate their cases. • Connecting immigrant domestic violence survivors with a legal organization that can help them submit their immigration petitions and access to lawful work authorization. • Formalizing partnerships between the domestic violence agencies and the immigration legal service agencies to better serve immigrant clients and reduce attrition in referrals. <p>The ILRC will be able to complete these goals by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering quarterly legal clinics at each site for immigrant survivors of domestic violence. • Providing trainings to the domestic violence agency staff to help them identify, assist, and refer their immigrant clients to ensure they can access services. • Strengthening the referral system for immigrant survivors through the creation of partnerships and supporting legal service providers with legal resource materials and case-specific technical assistance. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | The ILRC and partners will work with domestic violence services providers for immigrants in rural communities of the San Joaquin Valley, primarily the surrounding areas of Fresno and Stockton, and rural areas in Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, and Tulare Counties. | | |
| Underserved Communities | Undocumented immigrant survivors of domestic violence face higher barriers to housing security and economic security due to their lack of immigration status. Oftentimes immigrant survivors are unsure what services they can access due to status and fear of sharing | | |

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| (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | immigration status with public officials. Many immigrants fear accessing services they qualify for because they do not know how accessing services might affect their future immigration options. | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 4 | 4 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | The ILRC will work with legal services providers and domestic violence shelters to identify immigrant survivors in need of legal services; provide support at legal clinics; and ensure immigrant survivors are partners with agencies to meet their needs both legally and social services. Partner organizations will meet regularly to evaluate service provided, discuss emerging needs, and share successful strategies. Each agency will focus on one aspect of the project so that all partner can build on the expertise of the whole collaborative. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Inland Counties Legal Services (ICLS) | | |
| Project Name | HP-III Competitive (HP-3 Competitive) | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$600,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Riverside, San Bernardino | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>This project serves individuals experiencing homelessness in two specific categories – the chronically homeless and the actually homeless; through partnerships between ICLS, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and Step Up on Second (Step Up). San Bernardino County referrals will be received via San Bernardino County “211”, Behavioral Health Department, the Coordinated Entry System (CES), and additional community partners, and through provision of outreach and on-site services to individuals in encampments and rural areas. Riverside County referrals will come through the CVAG and other local area partners.</p> <p>Project partners provide social services to homeless individuals. Individuals will be assessed, and a plan created to move them towards available and appropriate housing by addressing their holistic needs, such as medical, behavioral, substance abuse, and self-efficiency. Provision of legal services will eliminate barriers to accessing permanent housing, such as a lack of identification or Social Security card, as well as creating a pathway to sustainable income by connecting clients to public benefits, such as SSI. The partnership will reach especially vulnerable homeless subpopulations, such as families with children and veterans by assisting them with access to CalFresh and CalWORKs or VA disability compensation. Through ICLS's collaborations, most individuals served will gain access to a 30-to-90-day bridge between homelessness and longer-term housing solutions clients can sustain over time. Clients will also receive intensive case management and legal services to address underlying issues that contributed to homelessness in the first place to ensure these individuals will be more successful retaining long term housing.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>UNDER THIS FUNDING THIS PROJECT'S KEY 3-YEAR GOALS ARE:</p> <p>450 clients served 100 cases closed as extended services 150 cases closed as limited action services 200 cases closed as counsel and advice</p> <p>Step Up will provide non-legal wrap-around and case management services that are geared to stabilize the lives of the clients and their families such as mental health services/treatment; obtaining permanent supportive housing services; as well as health care assessment and services all with the goal of stabilizing clients and their families and to provide long lasting permanent housing.</p> <p>CVAG does not directly provide non-legal wrap-around and case management services however they will help clients funded under this grant with an initial needs assessment and then connect them to resources such as emergency housing; food and water; basic necessities; with a goal of permanent housing.</p> <p>MAIN BENEFITS OBTAINED FOR CLIENTS WILL INCLUDE:</p> <p>IM3. It is estimated that approximately 200 clients will receive this main benefit. IM4. It is estimated that approximately 60 clients will receive this main benefit. IM5. It is estimated that approximately 40 clients will receive this main benefit. HO3. It is estimated that approximately 450 clients will receive this main benefit.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | <p>Through ICLS' partnership with CVAG, regular outreach via a Mobile Access Center and on-site legal services will be provided to the following areas and tribal lands: Blythe, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Territory located near Palm Springs, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians Territory located in the Indio area, Torres</p> | | |

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| | Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Territory in the City of Thermal, and Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians Territory in the City of Coachella. Through ICLS' partnership with Step Up on Second, regular outreach will begin with the city of San Bernardino, and later expanding throughout the county, covering the Victorville High Desert area. | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>Clients who are unsheltered often lack access to phones, computers, and email, which makes it inherently difficult to be informed of and pursue legal assistance. Additionally, with their basic needs such as food, shelter, and medical care, going unmet, access to civil justice cannot be prioritized, even when necessary.</p> <p>The capacity to seek assistance may also be compromised by mental health or alcohol and/or other drug issues, which are often underlying issues that led to homelessness. Coupled with limited resources, a sense of hopelessness, a lack of knowledge of legal options and a sense of distrust that the law would work in their interests, legal issues are likely to remain unaddressed.</p> <p>Often when individuals experiencing homelessness finally do contact a legal service provider (if at all), the issue has usually already reached crisis point. In some cases, it may be too late to resolve the issue, or the issue has become more complex and difficult to address.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 2 | 2 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>ICLS' partners, Step Up on Second and Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), respectively, operate as Housing First Programs with a primary focus on providing intensive case management services to the chronically homeless.</p> <p>ICLS will provide legal services to these individuals to assess and assist with obtaining, preserving, and increasing mainstream public benefits, as well as acquiring vital documents. This project will expand upon each agency's ability to reach those in need in multiple ways. First, by incorporating staff dedicated to conducting regular community outreach we will increase the number of individuals served overall, as well as the immediacy in which they are helped through offering onsite legal services.</p> <p>CVAG's current outreach schedule will increase significantly with the addition of a mobile access center designed to allow for confidential in-person meetings, access to technology and internet; and ICLS will partner in these efforts to provide direct services to those living on the streets, in encampments, and other places unfit for human habitation.</p> <p>CVAG and Step Up on Second, will provide client transportation and physical office space to allow ICLS staff to conduct regular in-person client intakes and meetings.</p> <p>Third, both subgrantees will devote space and necessary devices to continue our virtual clinic appointments to increase modes of accessibility and the frequency in which we can serve clients.</p> <p>Lastly, we will collaborate to inform additional community partners about this project and the possibility of referring their similarly situated members through meetings, presentations, and materials.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, Inc. (IELLA) | | |
| Project Name | Homelessness Prevention | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 300,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Riverside, San Bernardino | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>IELLA's Homeless Prevention Project is a Qualified Pro Bono Program with its primary delivery of services being provided by volunteers. IELLA's Pro Bono Coordinator recruits, trains, retains, and schedules pro bono attorneys and law students to assist with the project. IELLA staff provide know-your-rights presentations to the general public on housing issues. Due to on-going pandemic concerns, presentations are provided via Zoom. To address the technology divide, in-person presentations are available for five or less attendees by advance appointment. All presentation attendees are welcomed to complete an intake sheet to determine if they meet IELLA client eligibility for free legal assistance. To be eligible for services, an applicant must have a household income at or below 125% (200%, effective 01/01/22) of Federal Poverty Guidelines. If an applicant does not meet IELLA income guidelines, the applicant is provided a referral booklet with the names of other nonprofits, legal aids, self-help clinics, and the local law library address. Eligible applicants are accepted as clients and are scheduled for free counsel and advise with a pro bono attorney. The client is advised on how to represent themselves pro per. The pro bono attorney provides instructions for the pro bono law students to prepare legal paperwork for the client. IELLA staff review the paperwork prepared by the client for quality control and make corrections if necessary. Once the documents are approved, the client is instructed to return to pick-up their prepared legal documents. All legal documents are prepared free of charge to IELLA clients.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>During the Grant Period of January 1, 2022 through December 21, 2024, IELLA's Homeless Prevention Program will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) perform know your rights presentations on landlord tenant law and rental assistance programs 2) provide free counsel and advise to clients 3) assist clients in fighting illegal landlord self-help evictions 4) perform legal document preparation services 5) provide landlord-tenant dispute resolution services <p>IELLA will continue to advise tenant clients of their legal rights and providing tenant clients legal paperwork in regards to but not limited to: objections to unlawful evictions, cash-for-keys foreclosure mediation agreements, rental assistance application programs, civil litigation answers to lawsuits for nonpayment of rent, small claims lawsuits for return of rental deposits, small claims lawsuits for damage to tenant's property during unlawful self-help evictions, and hardship objections to wage garnishment collection actions for nonpayment of rent.</p> <p>IELLA's pro bono panel performs mediation services for landlord-tenant disputes over issues such as nonpayment of rent, housing repair or maintenance, or the recovery of security deposits. While there are a range of court mediation programs available to address tenancy issues, a common theme is that they generally involve the filing of an eviction legal action in the court. Tenants prefer pre-court efforts to resolve the dispute as it prevents an eviction case being on their permanent legal record, as it could hinder their ability to secure a future rental unit.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | <p>Since 1978, IELLA has been serving both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Riverside and San Bernardino Counties encompass large landmasses spanning into heavily rural areas, such as 29 Palms, Coachella, Blythe. Both counties have large homeless populations that continue to grow. "For the fourth year in a row, the number of people living on the streets</p> | | |

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| | <p>across Riverside County has increased." In 2020, there was "an increase of 5%, which followed a 22% increase from 2018 to 2019. Komuro also emphasized the numbers were gathered in January - before the corona virus pandemic upended the economy and put many people out of work. She warned Riverside County could see a troubling surge in homelessness in 2021 as a result of crises. We need to brace ourselves for what's ahead and be proactive in preventing people from becoming homeless." (See https://www.pe.com/2020/05/06/riverside-countys-homeless-populationclimbs-5/).</p> <p>"Homelessness in San Bernardino County increased by 19.9% in 2020 compared to 2019. There has been a 95% increase of homeless persons age 55 and over since 2017, many of whom have life threatening health conditions. We must have long-term housing solutions for those who are most vulnerable." (See https://www.redlandscommunitynews.com/news/homelessness-in-sanbernardino-county-increases-by-nearly-onefifth/article_293a5c8c-8506-11ea-88f8-0fc8cb824ed3.html).</p> <p>IELLA agrees that providing legal assistance aimed at preventing a person from losing their home is the best way to prevent homelessness. Once a person is evicted, the ability to regain housing becomes a tedious, arduous, and practically impossible uphill battle.</p> | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The Inland Empire is home to more than 4.5 million Californians. The 2020 Census Campaigned classified Riverside and San Bernardino Counties as Hard-to-Count Populations (HTC). HTC is based upon an area having difficulty being counted due to a multitude of factors from language barriers, disenfranchisement, Latinx, Indigenous, Senior, disinformation, lack of broadband, rural, multi-household living, etc. African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans tend to be historically undercounted in the census. These groups make up more than half of the population in the Inland Empire—54% in Riverside County and 60% in San Bernardino County—compared to 45% statewide. In the metro areas of both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, over 80% of residents in many neighborhoods are people of color. The Inland Empire also includes several tribal reservations, such as those southeast of Coachella, south of Temecula, and northwest of Palm Springs. (See https://www.ppica.org/blog/2020-census-counting-the-inland-empire/)</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 0 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | Not applicable | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Inner City Law Center (ICLC) | | |
| Project Name | Statewide Eviction Defense Tool and Support | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$600,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Statewide | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The Statewide Eviction Defense Tool and Support Project is a collaborative program between Inner City Law Center, the Debt Collective, and Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability that involves three components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation, operation, and maintenance of the Tenant Power Toolkit, a web-based tool that will allow California tenants to file responses to eviction notices. The tool prepares not only an Answer but also the paperwork necessary to obtain a Waiver of Court Fees, a Declaration of COVID-related Financial Distress, and (when appropriate) a Demand for Jury Trial. In LA County, the tool electronically serves and files these legal documents. Tenants in other counties will follow detailed instructions to download, print and file the responsive pleadings themselves. Tenants are then connected to local tenant and legal services organizations; 2. A statewide outreach and education campaign about tenants' rights and the availability of this tool conducted through media, phone calls, texting, canvassing, community and collaborative partner meetings, and government partnerships; and 3. Full scope representation in LA County. According to a 2019 STOUT study, 95% of people facing eviction who have full scope representation have a "high likelihood of avoiding disruptive displacement." Quite simply, the most effective evidence-based tool for avoiding eviction and possible homelessness is having a lawyer providing full-scope legal representation. <p>The project will serve primarily vulnerable, low-income, California tenants and will greatly reduce the number of tenants who are evicted because they lack legal representation and cannot file a response to a UD complaint within five business days.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>Given the online nature of this tool, it is a bit difficult to estimate the scale of adoption and use by tenants. We conservatively estimate that the project will annually:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide assistance to 2,500 tenants facing eviction through the online toolkit; 2. Inform 50 partner organizations or communities about the Project; 3. Provide full scope legal representation to 50 tenants. <p>With a goal to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce Default Judgments. No family should become homeless because of the daunting complexity of current landlord-tenant law and procedural hurdles like requiring a response within five days to a massive court filing by a landlord's lawyer. 2. Make Critical Legal Defenses Real. No family should become homeless because they were able to file an answer to an unlawful detainer but failed to assert a critical defense. 3. Empower Tenants and Tenant Organizations to Access Critical Entry Points into the System of Justice. We have received enthusiastic support from tenant organizers for this Project because they are often unable to find timely legal help for tenants facing eviction. 4. Lesson the Load for Legal Services. Lawyers at several legal services programs have told us that, to the extent they cannot accommodate demand, they intend to use our tool to address a significant part of their immediate response to eviction cases. 5. Prevent Homelessness before it Happens. Fewer people being evicted means fewer people becoming homeless. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | This Statewide Eviction Defense Tool and Support project focuses on addressing homelessness in rural communities by helping low-income tenants in rural communities avoid being evicted into homelessness. Statewide: This tool will be available to all tenants statewide—including those in rural communities. | | |

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| | <p>Project Partner, The Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability, focuses on serving tenants in the rural communities of Riverside, Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Madera and Merced Counties.</p> <p>Inner City Law Center's service area includes serving tenants in the rural communities of Los Angeles County, including Elizabeth Lake, Green Valley, Lake Hughes, Leona Valley, Neenach, Castiac, Val Verde, Acton, Ravenna, Azusa North, East Pasadena, Juniper Hills, Littlerock, Longview, Pearblossom, Valyermo, Lake Los Angeles, and parts of Altadena East; National Forest East, Duarte North; and Glendora.</p> | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>Because of our location in Skid Row, our ability to serve undocumented clients, and our focus on serving homeless and precariously housed clients, the clients that ICLC serves face even higher barriers to accessing civil justice than the low-income community generally. Eviction risk is not distributed equally across households; it is much higher for historically underserved populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 2020 report by the Economic Roundtable noted that among households who have recently experienced job loss, European Americans are "twice as likely as African Americans or Latinos to report that they have 'high confidence' in their ability to pay next month's rent." • In 2020, the LA Homeless Services Authority reported that Black residents are four times more likely to experience homelessness than White residents. • In 2018—prior to the pandemic—the Economic Roundtable reported that nearly 600,000 LA County residents were spending 90% or more of their income on housing. <p>These are the tenants who are most likely to face eviction and are the tenants that ICLC and our partners focus on serving. Although legal representation has expanded in recent years, the majority of tenants facing eviction still do not receive legal assistance. A 2019 STOUT Investment Bank report found that "in unsealed eviction cases, approximately 97% of tenants were unrepresented."</p> <p>Our project will by definition assist underserved people, particularly in rural areas, as we are targeting those who would not normally file a response to an eviction notice. The project will expand access to for those facing imminent homelessness.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 2 | 2 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>ICLC and its partners on this project—the Debt Collective and Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability—will collaborate through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Tenant Power Toolkit. ICLC and the Debt Collective have spent the past several months developing the toolkit, including logistics, coding, and informing the legal content and structure of the online tool; 2. Outreach and Education efforts. In addition to a statewide media campaign by the Debt Collective, each partner will promote the project through its extensive network of collaborative partners. ICLC will promote the project through the ICLC-led Provider Alliance to End Homelessness, a collaboration of 85 organizations dedicated to ending homelessness. The Debt Collective is a grassroots activist group with both national and local campaigns and member-led chapters. They work in issue-based coalitions as well, and the Tenant Power Toolkit project has been a collaborative effort from the beginning, with close links to the LA Tenants Union, the Anti Eviction Mapping Project, ACCE, Tenants Together, and HRC/RTO in the Bay Area. The Leadership Counsel has a strong presence in California's Central Valley rural communities and will promote the project through its networks and boots-on-the-ground outreach efforts, with a special emphasis on Indigenous communities living in mobile home parks; and 3. ICLC will provide full scope representation to clients in LA County who use the tool to Answer a UD complaint. This representation will help determine the effectiveness of the online toolkit and allow adjustments as needed. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco (JDC) | | |
| Project Name | Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 450,000 | \$75,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Francisco | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>JDC's Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project prevents eviction lawsuits from being filed by intervening in landlord-tenant disputes before the conflict rises to the level of a formal eviction. JDC's Supervising Housing Attorney steps into these situations to help mediate and negotiate with landlords to resolve conflicts, making clear that tenants are not by themselves and have the resources to fight prospective evictions.</p> <p>With the award of this grant, JDC plans to form an MOU partnership with Legal Link to provide quarterly Legal Navigation trainings to the staff of local nonprofit service organizations that target low-income San Franciscans, educating staff on how to identify pre-eviction legal housing issues and to connect appropriate clients to JDC. Legal Link will also create and support a system for streamlining client referrals to JDC's Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project by developing a central online tool for completing intakes, routing clients to the appropriate project, and triaging legal needs.</p> <p>This new EAF HP funding will also enable JDC to hire a new Client Advocate for this project, who will support the Supervising Housing Attorney and provide clients with advocacy around rental assistance applications. These publicly available rental assistance programs could be a lifeline for desperate tenants if they were better known and more readily accessible. Additionally, these applications require cooperation from the landlord to complete and submit, cooperation that landlords are frequently unwilling to provide. The new Client Advocate will liaise between the tenant and landlord to ensure that as many rental assistance applications are submitted as possible.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>JDC's Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project's expansion and enhancement proposed for EAF HP funding will greatly increase the project's overall service volume, anticipating a large influx of non-payment of rent conflicts in the coming year. As such, we expect the Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project to achieve the following outcomes annually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Serve at least 200 total tenants who have conflicts with their landlords and are at risk of losing housing; * At least 90% of these clients' cases will result in a positive outcome, such as maintenance of current stable housing, securing a move-out settlement that is mutually beneficial, or another housing outcome that results in housing stability; * Assist at least 50 clients to complete rental assistance applications; * At least 50% of rental assistance application clients' landlords will cooperate with rental assistance application processes; and * Legal Link will provide at least four Legal Navigation trainings that prepare community-based organizations to make warm referrals to JDC's project. <p>Additionally, within the first year of this grant period, JDC and Legal Link will work together to create a streamlined client referral system that enables the project to operate more smoothly.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>This project specifically serves low-income tenants who are in conflict with their landlords but who have not yet received an eviction notice. The tenant advocacy legal services system in San Francisco is designed to provide representation for tenants who have already been sued for eviction. But tenants across the city in conflict with their landlords where an eviction notice may be imminent but has not yet materialized have nowhere else to turn for legal advocacy services. As such, these pre-eviction tenants face barriers to receiving legal advocacy services that tenants in eviction proceedings do not.</p> | | |

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| | Further, due to the overwhelming demand for its services, the Tenant Right to Counsel system does not currently have the capacity to provide representation to every single tenant facing eviction, despite the affirmative right to such counsel. This situation means that even though tenants have the right to counsel, if the system lacks the capacity to provide representation, they will be turned away. JDC's Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project relieves pressure on this system by averting eviction law suits before they are filed. The result of JDC's project is to reduce barriers to accessing civil justice by making the overall legal services system for tenants function more smoothly and fairly. | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 1 | 1 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | Upon the award of this new EAF HP funding, JDC will form an MOU partnership with Legal Link to provide Legal Navigation trainings to the staff of local nonprofit service organizations that target low-income San Franciscans, educating staff on how to identify pre-eviction legal housing issues and connect appropriate clients to JDC's Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project. Legal Link will provide these Legal Navigation trainings quarterly to the frontline staff of community-based organizations, spreading knowledge of the project and how to access it as widely as possible. These trainings will increase the number of tenants with pre-eviction conflicts with their landlords who are appropriately referred to JDC for advocacy. Legal Link will also create and support a system for streamlining these client referrals to JDC's Affirmative Tenant Advocacy Project. Our agencies will work together to develop a central online tool for completing intakes, routing clients to the appropriate project, and triaging legal needs. Legal Link will remain available to the staff of trained organizations to offer individualized support in the referral process and to update and improve the referral system in response to project data and client experiences. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Organization Name | Justice in Aging (JIA) | | |
| Project Name | The Preventing Older Homelessness Collaborative | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 915,000 | \$240,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Statewide | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>To prevent homelessness among underserved and rural low-income older adults, Justice in Aging is launching the Preventing Older Adult Homelessness Collaborative. The Collaborative will convene local legal services providers from across the state whose work focuses on preventing homelessness among older adults. The Collaborative will have a special emphasis on strengthening the legal capacity of programs serving older adults in rural areas and underserved communities, including tribal elders, immigrant older adults, and underserved Black and Latino/a communities in both urban and rural areas. Collaborative participants will become equipped to better serve individual clients and advocate for solutions to systemic housing problems faced by older adults.</p> <p>Together, the Collaborative will identify and address systemic housing-related problems affecting low-income seniors in order to seek large-scale solutions benefiting older adults experiencing housing instability, or at imminent risk of homelessness.</p> <p>Justice in Aging will form a Collaborative Steering Committee comprised of our four subgrantees and one partner organization. These Steering Committee members will plan and actively participate in regularly occurring opportunities for shared learning and training. With its partners, Justice in Aging will provide housing-specific legal training, written resources, technical assistance, and advocacy and litigation support that focuses on the specific housing needs of older, underserved, and rural populations.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The overall goal of the Collaborative is to prevent homelessness among rural and underserved older adults. To achieve that we have three subgoals:</p> <p>1. Shared Learning. Connect Collaborative members to learn from one another on how best to serve older adults facing housing instability.</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>a. Expand by 10 new members annually and moderate the Collaborative listserv where members can exchange information, identify systemic problems faced by their clients and effective strategies for addressing them;</p> <p>b. Convene and facilitate (virtually) six learning and support meetings annually for Collaborative members to share best practices, and to address key housing issues confronting our target populations.</p> <p>2. Training and Technical Assistance. Provide legal training and technical assistance to Collaborative members and other advocates serving older adults in matters related to homelessness prevention, with special emphasis on rural and underserved older adult communities.</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>a. Provide technical assistance and case consultations for Collaborative members on 15 housing cases annually;</p> <p>b. Facilitate two to three trainings annually for Collaborative members on eviction defense and housing preservation issues facing older adults;</p> <p>c. Produce two written resources annually, such as practice tips, issue briefs and advocate guides.</p> <p>3. Systemic Advocacy. Partner with Collaborative members to identify and advance legal and policy solutions to systemic barriers to housing stability for older adults, with a special emphasis on rural and underserved older adults.</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>a. We will identify and resolve, including via litigation where appropriate, at least one systemic barrier annually to housing stability for our target populations.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |

| | Yes | Yes | No |
|---|--|-----|---------------------|
| Rural Communities | This project has a special focus on meeting the housing needs of older adults living in rural areas. The Collaborative Steering Committee includes legal services providers that serve older adults in the following rural communities: Stanislaus, Imperial, Monterey, Alpine, Inyo, Kern, Mono, Tuolumne counties, and those portions of Alameda and San Diego counties that are defined as rural. Our partner California Indian Legal Services is also a statewide legal services organization serving all rural areas across the state. In addition to the Steering Committee, the broader Collaborative will include legal services providers from other rural communities across the state. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The Preventing Older Adult Homelessness Collaborative targets several underserved communities -- Black, Latino/a, Native American, and immigrant older adults. By collaborating with senior legal services who serve both rural and underserved communities, we will bring an intersectional approach to these racial/ethnic and geographic disparities. Each of these targeted, underserved populations face additional barriers in both maintaining housing stability, and accessing needed legal assistance to assert their rights.</p> <p>Due to decades of discrimination in housing, employment, and access to wealth-building opportunities, Black older renters and homeowners are more likely to be housing unstable, and less able to access civil justice to preserve or protect their tenancies or homes. Older black homeowners are frequent victims of reverse equity mortgage or contractor scams, and other equity-stripping devices. Yet, they frequently do not get legal representation to prevent or restore their interests in their homes.</p> <p>Tribal elders face particular barriers to civil justice due to the large distances between legal services offices, especially in more remote areas. These geographic barriers are exacerbated by the lack of public transportation, internet and/or phone service.</p> <p>Older Latino/a, indigenous, and immigrant renters face severe challenges to accessing civil justice. For older adults whose primary language is not English, and for indigenous communities whose primary language is not English or Spanish, language barriers pose a significant barrier to accessing legal services or the courts. Immigrant renters fear asserting their tenancy rights because of their immigration status which also prevents them from accessing federally subsidized housing, or LSC-funded legal assistance.</p> | | |
| | Number of Partners | | Number of Subgrants |
| | 5 | | 4 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>This project combines the strengths of Justice in Aging's proven role as a support center with the strengths of on the ground direct service providers to meet the growing housing needs of older adults across the state. Justice in Aging's substantive expertise, legal training, and systemic advocacy skills will be paired with the on-the-ground experience and expertise of our partners to better meet the needs of individual older adults and advance systemic change necessary to meet the housing needs of communities of older adults. Justice in Aging has partnered with five different local legal services organizations (4 subgrantees) who will comprise a Steering Committee to lead and provide direction to the project and the statewide collaborative. Steering Committee members are leading legal services providers who are already serving older adults in rural areas, tribal elders and underserved Black, Latino/a and immigrant communities. Each partner organization will identify a project lead to carry the work of the Steering Committee.</p> <p>Justice in Aging will work with the Steering Committee to prepare agendas for the bi-monthly statewide meetings/learning sessions, identify topics for trainings for the larger collaborative, share successful strategies in their local practice to more effectively address the housing needs of older adults in rural and underserved communities, and assist in identifying systemic issues impeding older adults' access to housing stability. Steering Committee members will also have opportunities to participate in advocacy to address systemic problems impeding housing stability and retention for older adults.</p> | | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Legal Aid at Work (LAAW) | | |
| Project Name | Emergency Income Stabilization Project to Prevent Homelessness | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 924,000 | \$240,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Statewide | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Lack of income to pay the rent due to disruptions in workers' employment is a primary driver of homelessness for the lowest income workers. Unemployment Insurance (UI), State Disability Insurance (SDI), and Paid Family Leave (PFL) provide lifeline assistance to workers at risk of becoming homeless because they experience a disruption in their job-related income. But these systems are notoriously difficult for workers to access—especially during the pandemic—because of antiquated, underfunded, and byzantine government processes. Accessing these benefits has been nearly impossible for many of the most vulnerable workers, particularly those with language barriers.</p> <p>Although LAAW has significant expertise in providing vulnerable communities with legal advice on how to apply for these benefits and appeal any claim denials, there is no single attorney on staff who exclusively focuses on these income-supports. Instead, staff members from various parts of the organization squeeze this vital work in as part of their larger work portfolios. That approach is not sustainable given the surge in demand. Thus, if funded, LAAW will use the funds to hire a dedicated attorney to coordinate our work on these income-supports, including full-scope representation.</p> <p>To target some of the most vulnerable workers, LAAW will partner with outreach partners Chinese Progressive Association (CPA), Burma Refugee Families & Newcomers (BRFN), Refugee & Immigrant Transitions (RIT), and Watsonville Law Center (WLC) to identify especially vulnerable workers in Chinese, Burmese, Afghan, Guatemalan (and other Latinx), and East African communities, as well as agricultural workers (including those with limited-English proficiency) in and around Watsonville.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The main goal of the Emergency Income Stabilization Project to Prevent Homelessness will be to create a formalized referral network involving LAAW and the partner organizations to prevent persons from becoming homeless because of interruptions in their job-related income caused by unemployment, disability, and family medical crises. The community partners will conduct targeted outreach to the specific communities served by each of the individual community partners, including Eritrean, Afghan, and Chinese communities in the Bay Area, refugee communities more broadly, and agricultural workers in and around Watsonville.</p> <p>Another key goal of the Project is to identify, through the provision of these services, any systemic issues that are affecting significant groups of clients, and to then have the Project attorney flag those issues for broader systemic reform work by providing technical assistance to other LAAW staff and coalition members who can then advocate for wider changes in the systems governing these programs, especially as it relates to language access at the Employment Development Department.</p> <p>During each year of the grant term, LAAW will serve clients with legal problems related to UI, SDI, PFL, or other income-maintenance benefits each year. Those services could include assistance with filing claims, prosecuting appeals of claim denials, contesting overpayments, and representation in any related hearings, as well any related claims.</p> <p>Finally, the Project will engage in public education by updating and maintaining the fact sheets relating to UI, SDI, and PFL at least annually during the grant term</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | One of the Emergency Income Stabilization Project to Prevent Homelessness's key partnerships will be with WLC, which will conduct special targeting of services to farmworkers and other low-wage workers in and around Watsonville. The Project will also tap into LAAW's broader statewide network of clinics, helplines, and other partnerships, | | |

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| | including its on-site clinic locations in or adjacent to many rural areas, including Fresno, Visalia, and Merced. From these and other clinics and helplines, we regularly serve clients in rural MSSA's in the Central Valley and other core rural geographies, for example in San Joaquin, Merced, Fresno, and Tulare counties (as also discussed above in Form A, Question 8A). | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>As explained above, the Emergency Income Stabilization Project to Prevent Homelessness will use LAAW's existing relationships with community partners to provide income-stabilization-related legal services to especially vulnerable workers and families, including refugee and immigrant communities from Eritrea, Afghanistan, Guatemala (and other Latin American countries), and Burma (as well as broader refugee communities in the Bay Area), as well as to Mandarin- and Cantonese-speaking communities in the Bay Area, and to undocumented farmworkers and other vulnerable persons and communities near Watsonville.</p> <p>These communities are precisely the ones that are having the most difficulty accessing the income-maintenance programs run by the Employment Development Department (EDD), namely UI, SDI, and PFL.[12] These individuals and communities are especially vulnerable across their many intersectional identities, including being people of color, immigrants (including undocumented immigrants), refugees, or asylees—many who have experienced extreme trauma and resulting disability from that trauma—and/or having limited-English proficiency. For example, and as explained above, 66 percent of the Burmese refugee community in Oakland speak little or no English and the vast majority are below the federal poverty line.[13] And close to 90% of the adult population in San Francisco's Chinatown are monolingual Chinese speakers, with about a third living below the poverty line.[14] In addition, there are often technological barriers to accessing the particular benefits at issue here that are administered by EDD (that are only magnified by the language access issues), including lack of access to computers and the Internet.[15]</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 4 | 4 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>The Project will leverage existing trusted relationships that the outreach partners have with their respective communities to identify workers in crisis who are experiencing disruptions to their job-related income and refer those workers to LAAW for services regarding UI, SDI, PFL, and similar claims.</p> <p>Thus, for example, BRFN has close contacts with newly-arrived refugee communities in Alameda County and provides case management support for multiple issues, including when workers and families are experiencing housing insecurity. When they identify a worker that is experiencing job-related income loss due to unemployment, disability, or family medical needs, they will provide a warm hand off to a dedicated attorney at LAAW, who can then help them file and prosecute their claim for any income maintenance benefit program for which they qualify. RIT and CPA will similarly identify and coordinate warm referrals for the broader refugee communities and Chinese-speaking community in the Bay Area, and the WLC will likewise do the same for the agricultural and other workers it serves.</p> <p>The partners will also work with LAAW to ensure that fact sheets, toolkits, educational materials, and any other outreach and education efforts are presented in a way that is culturally and linguistically appropriate for the communities served by each respective organization.</p> <p>Moreover, to the extent that any individual issues arising from individual cases raise larger, systemic issues that impact broader communities of workers (for example, regarding language access issues), the dedicated LAAW attorney can help coordinate administrative advocacy for the partners.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) | | |
| Project Name | The Tenant Empowerment & Anti-Harassment Project (TEAP) | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,166,625 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The Tenant Empowerment & Anti-Harassment Project ("TEAP") seeks to address and raise public awareness on two main issues to combat eviction, homelessness, and displacement: (1) bringing affirmative tenant harassment lawsuits in Los Angeles City and County under the new Tenant Anti-Harassment Ordinances (TAHO); and (2) pursuit of compulsory crossclaims for harassment in defending limited cases for unpaid rent converted to a consumer debt under the COVID-19 Tenant Relief Act 2020 ("AB 3088"). The project aims to achieve these goals through a combination of full representation in both defense and affirmative claims and an outreach and educational campaign including legal clinics, workshops, and direct limited legal assistance. Project attorneys will represent tenants in these cases and provide limited legal assistance to those they cannot represent, focusing on South LA and Skid Row, areas served by LA CAN and SAJE. The project would full scope representation for TAHO claims, and would empower pro per tenants throughout LA County to more effectively assert harassment claims under TAHO on their own. With partner community organizations LACAN and SAJE, the project will provide comprehensive wraparound anti-harassment assistance at all levels of court. Importantly, the increased outreach, publicity, and exposure will raise awareness of tenants' rights under TAHO.</p> <p>In years two and three, we aim to address the consequences of limited and unlimited judgments in addition to expanding full scope representation services. The target population will be Black and immigrant communities in Greater Los Angeles with an emphasis on South Los Angeles and Skid Row.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide full-scope representation to pursue affirmative tenant anti-harassment claims. 2. Provide full-scope representation in defense of limited and unlimited actions for consumer COVID rent debt and raise compulsory crossclaims for tenant harassment. 3. To educate litigants, via online resources, workshops, and clinics on: (i) local anti-harassment ordinances, and combatting tenant-harassment and displacement; and (ii) what legal steps can be taken to combat harassment and defend against rental debt. 4. To better position litigants to represent themselves in in limited and unlimited actions for consumer COVID rent debt and raise appropriate defenses and crossclaims. 5. Assist and empower tenants, through organizing and legal strategies, who are facing tenant harassment, and raise public awareness and exposure of anti-harassment rights to act as deterrent to landlords going forward. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full-scope representation in 12 cases per year (after ramping up from 4 in Year 1) for affirmative tenant anti-habitability cases or defending civil court debt relief cases that include crossclaims for harassment. 2. Provide limited-scope services to 60 tenant households in Year 1, and 240 tenant households per year in Years 2 and 3 of the project. 3. Conduct 6 workshops/clinics in Year 1, and 24 workshops clinics per year in Years 2 and 3, on tenant harassment and defense of rental debt suits. 4. 1,200 website views per year of Know Your Rights materials regarding: (i) local tenant anti-harassment ordinances and (ii) impacts of consumer debt, credit reporting and scores, wage garnishment, bank levies and claims of exemption. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |

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| Rural Communities | Not applicable | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>This project will target Black and immigrant renters with a particular focus on tenants in Skid Row and Historic South Los Angeles.</p> <p>Providing full scope representation in defense of COVID rent debt brought in limited or unlimited court has a direct relationship with homelessness prevention. Monetary judgments in consumer cases would be enforced through garnishments and levies, directly impacting an individual's financial ability to pay for current and future rent, and other expenses such as food, medical, and utilities for themselves and their families. Moreover, judgments impact credit scores and the ability for low-income tenants to find new housing. This shift from one court system to another will have various unintended consequences for tenants and help maintain the cycle of poverty that will extend years beyond 2021. As such, providing representation in defense of these limited and unlimited COVID consumer claims is homelessness prevention.</p> <p>In 2018, the Housing and Community Investment Department investigated approximately 10,000 tenant complaints of harassment in rent stabilized units concerning illegal rent increases, illegal evictions, failure to post required notifications non-registration of rental units, illegal tenant buy-out agreements, and denial of relocation assistance. One council member said, in support of the ordinance " I really want to be clear today, as we're talking about this issue, who this ordinance will help," Raman said. "The more vulnerable the tenant is, the more likely they are to be affected by harassment and to be displaced by harassment."</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 0 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | We propose to collaborate with community-based organizations LACAN and SAJE for outreach, education, tenant navigation services, and litigation support through client communication. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Legal Aid of Marin (LAM) | | |
| Project Name | COVID-19 Homelessness Prevention Legal Services & Outreach Expansion Program | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 360,681 | \$37,500 | |
| County(ies) Served | Marin | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Legal Aid of Marin's (LAM) COVID-19 Homelessness Prevention Legal Services & Outreach Expansion Program will enable LAM to reach additional rural and underserved communities by expanding its homelessness prevention services to offer COVID-related housing legal services and building a new outreach and training aimed at increasing housing stability specifically among low-income Marin residents.</p> <p>A new Staff Attorney will be hired to focus solely on providing COVID-related homelessness prevention activities to Marin County residents who are facing housing instability or eviction due to COVID-19 (e.g., job loss, health issues, and the expiration of the eviction moratorium). Services will include pre-eviction advise of rights, counseling, negotiations/dispute resolution with landlords, and full-scope representation in Marin Superior Court. The COVID-19 Homelessness Prevention Legal Services & Outreach Expansion Program Staff Attorney will also help resolve habitability issues and head off illegal and retaliatory rent increases. The Staff Attorney will serve 200+ tenants/year whom LAM would otherwise be unable to serve. Of those clients, 75% will experience increased housing stability because of the COVID-19 Homelessness Prevention Legal Services & Outreach Expansion Program.</p> <p>To educate both renters and landlords on legal rights and processes, LAM will create written and digital resources for at least one bilingual (English/Spanish) training that they will conduct each month. Trainings will be held in partnership with five community-based organizations who are trusted resources for rural and/or underserved communities—reaching at least 200 tenants and landlords per year.</p> <p>Both service components will take place in urban, suburban, and rural settings all across Marin County.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>1. Provide Homelessness Prevention Through Direct Legal Services: Through the proposed program, LAM will provide efficient, client-centered, and holistic housing services to at least 200 additional COVID-19 impacted tenants living in Marin County each year. Of those clients served, 75% will experience increased housing stability because of COVID-19 Homelessness Prevention Legal Services & Outreach Expansion Program services. Services will include pre-eviction assistance and eviction defense, advise of rights, consultation, and full representation in litigation. In cases of eviction for COVID-related debt, negotiations may be conducted with property owners for reasonable payment plans or alternatively time to move, preventing the hardship of sudden eviction that can lead to protracted homelessness.</p> <p>2. Provide Homelessness Prevention Through Outreach & Dissemination of Written and Digital Resources: LAM will conduct at least one community-based training each month in partnership with the Phoenix Project, North Marin Community Services, Community Action Marin, Canal Alliance, and West Marin Community Services—reaching at least 200 tenants and landlords per year. Participants will be asked to complete an exit ticket, which will test their knowledge of concepts learned as well as provide an opportunity to give feedback about presentations. Bilingual (English and Spanish) written and digital resources will be created for these events and for widespread distribution via social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram Live) as well as community centers, partner organizations, food banks, and libraries.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | This project aims to serve the entirety of Marin County, inclusive of all of the county's rural communities (Point Reyes Station, Inverness, Bolinas, Stinson Beach, Olema, and the San | | |

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| | Geronimo Valley). To give readers an idea of how geographically isolated Marin County's rural residents are from most service centers, the distance from Point Reyes to LAM's office is 23 miles, which takes 39 minutes by car (without traffic) and 1.3 hours by bus. | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The following underserved populations are included in the proposed project's scope:</p> <p>LATINX RESIDENTS: As noted, Latinx residents who are undocumented and/or work in agriculture in rural areas face numerous barriers in accessing legal services. Many are fearful of exploring and exercising legal rights because they are worried about—or have even been threatened about—their immigration status. Language barriers complicate these fears. This project will allow us to expand outreach and legal services to Latinx people who have historically been pushed to the margins of society.</p> <p>BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS: As Marin County has gentrified and become more expensive, many Black and African American families have been pushed out. But Marin City—initially housed built to house WWII ship workers—still has a population that is almost 30% Black/African American.</p> <p>About 53% of the city's population lives under 200% of the federal poverty level (American Community Survey, 2019). As highlighted in a January 2020 article that appeared in The Guardian, approximately 400 African American tenants live in an aging public housing community that has been targeted for development (“I don’t have anywhere else to go’: why tenants fear renovation of neglected public housing.” The Guardian, 1/27/20). Their legal rights will be included in the focus of this project in partnership with the Phoenix Project.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 5 | 5 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Offering education and outreach to tenants and landlords will prevent evictions before they happen by 1) spreading awareness of COVID-related renter protections; 2) allowing potential clients to start the intake process for legal services and get assistance that they need as quickly as possible; and 3) reducing the amount of eviction actions filed by landlords. To ensure these trainings reach as many people as possible, LAM will provide sub-grants to five multi-service nonprofit community-based organizations who will serve as partners by providing sites for education, outreach, and co-location of housing legal services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Marin Community Services in Point Reyes Station (rural location) • North Marin Community Services in Novato (rural location) • Phoenix Project Marin in Marin City (serving Black/African American community members) • Community Action Marin in San Rafael (serving the entire Marin community) • Canal Alliance in San Rafael (serving Latinx community members) <p>These collaborations will ensure the program facilitates at least one community-based education session per month at geographically diverse locations—allowing clients to overcome transportation barriers and extending LAM's reach across the county. LAM's new Housing Staff Attorney will prepare the educational trainings and resources. Partners will help promote trainings to their networks, provide meeting space, support technological infrastructure where needed, and offer light refreshments as an incentive for attendance. Events will be hybrid, so that people who cannot attend in person can remotely access resources. Trainings will be held virtually if it is unsafe to meet in-person.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Legal Aid of Sonoma County (LASC) | | |
| Project Name | HP Veterans Benefits Program | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 887,100 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Sonoma | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Legal Aid of Sonoma County's project is the HP Veterans Benefits Program (VBP). The goal of the VBP is to reduce veteran homelessness in Sonoma County by assisting homeless and unstably housed low-income veterans in removing barriers to housing and obtaining life-sustaining benefits they are entitled to. Specifically, the VBP will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the number of Veterans who are eligible for and access housing, medical, legal, and other services - Reduce the number of veterans with stigmatizing discharges - Increase the number of veterans in rural areas who access services - Increase veteran financial stability - Improve veteran housing stability <p>LASC's Veterans Benefits Project (VBP) assists homeless and unstably housed veterans in obtaining benefits by modifying their discharge status when this status is an obstacle to them obtaining benefits. VBP also helps them submit applications for benefits, including filing appeals with the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA). These benefits provide a crucial path from homelessness to housing. A lack of funds and a lack of mental health care are two of the most significant barriers individuals face in seeking stable housing. VBP services give veterans access to both. They allow vulnerable veterans to have money for housing and vital medical/mental health care. Services provided through the VBP include legal advice, legal filings, assistance requesting and gathering pertinent records such as military personnel and medical records, and legal representation at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DOD).</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The VBP's goal is to bring, income, housing, and medical care to veterans who are homeless or unstably housed to help stabilize their housing. Specifically, the project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish eligibility to HUD VASH housing vouchers for at least 15 homeless or at-risk veterans. - Increase income to be used to stabilize housing for at least 30 homeless or at-risk veterans. - Reach at least 80 geographically isolated/rural veterans. - Establish eligibility to VA benefits for at least 25 veterans. - Leverage at least \$500,000 in lump sum benefits for vulnerable veterans. - Leverage at least \$8 million in estimated lifetime benefits for vulnerable veterans. <p>The VBP will achieve positive outcomes for at least 85% of clients seeking benefits or modification of discharge status in cases resolved over the term of this project.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Yes, this project will focus on addressing homelessness in rural communities. All of Sonoma County outside the Santa Rosa and Petaluma urban districts is rural under the MSSA definition. We will target these areas including West, North and Eastern districts with cities such as Sebastopol, Guerneville, Rio Nido, Boyes Hot Springs, and Cloverdale. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>Yes, this project will focus on addressing homelessness in underserved communities. Black and Indigenous veterans and veterans who experienced sexual trauma in service are more likely to experience poverty and homelessness. This project will conduct outreach to black and indigenous veterans, woman veterans, and MST survivors.</p> <p>BIPOC veterans have a particular need for VPB's discharge upgrade services. Historically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, including veterans of color and military sexual trauma survivors, are discharged from the military with less than honorable discharges at a disproportionate rate. (Dep't of Defense, Report of the Task Force on the Administration of</p> | | |

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| | Military Justice in the Armed Forces, 2013); (Human Rights Watch, “Booted: Lack of Recourse for Wrongfully Discharged US Military Rape Survivors,” 2016). | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 0 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | Not applicable | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino (LASSB) | | |
| Project Name | Safe House Project | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$234,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Bernardino | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Victims of domestic violence or elder abuse are often forced to flee their homes to preserve their lives. This flight frequently involves leaving needed belongings and their primary or sole source of financial support. Unfortunately, landlords can also evict victims to eliminate violence within the rental property. Studies across the country confirm this connection: domestic violence is a primary cause of homelessness for women and families.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino (LASSB) has an established partnership project with the San Bernardino Superior Court (Caregivers Accessing Justice), providing low-income and senior caregivers with on-site document preparation. That project eliminates procedural barriers, prevents unnecessary delays in processing, and has reduced the Court's backlog of unfinished matters. LASSB proposes to launch a similar project for domestic violence and elder abuse victims.</p> <p>This project will allow eligible applicants to obtain consultation, advice, have case documents reviewed, secure assistance with document preparation, attain procedural information to secure protective orders, and, as needed, attain help with eviction actions to prevent homelessness. Services will be provided Monday-Thursday, 9am-12:30 and 1:30-4:00pm. Our project partners will provide these needful clients access to emergency shelter, emergency food, clothing, a weekly food bank and a plethora of recovery and self-reliance courses to eliminate homelessness and progress to safe, independent living.</p> <p>The Court may refer clients and LASSB will conduct marketing through numerous outlets. An eligibility process will ensure that Applicants are low-income or seniors and that no conflict of interests exists for LASSB.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>LASSB has identified the following goals which include to provide services to 420-840 unduplicated clients facing homelessness.</p> <p>Upon completing the review of the clients' documents (lease, mortgage, police reports.) or any other relevant documents necessary to obtain a restraining order to prevent homelessness. Estimate 10-20 a month.</p> <p>Upon completing the review of the clients' documents, the advocate will prepare a written or oral assessment of the client's housing issues, specifically identifying those instances in which there has been a potential for homelessness due to domestic violence or eviction because of domestic violence and abuse in the home. Estimated at 10-20 a month.</p> <p>The advocate will prepare a DV TRO, Unlawful Detainer Defense, or negotiate with landlords to prevent homelessness. Estimate at 10-20 a month.</p> <p>If the issue cannot be resolved informally, the advocate will assist in filing the necessary documents and will provide direct representation on Domestic Violence restraining order or Unlawful Detainer. Estimated at 5-10 a month.</p> <p>One or more of the above legal services activities may be provided to the same client in the same case.</p> <p>Mary's Mercy Center will provide 10-20 individuals (Women with children or men) who may be victims of domestic violence and/or experiencing homelessness will be provided with safe and stable housing and an individual assessment and service plan. All housing plans will include domestic violence recovery, parenting classes, self-reliance & coping skills, GED preparation, parenting classes, health and mental health treatment, anger management, childcare, family counseling & tutoring, financial literacy, and Bible study.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | Access to Legal Services is critical to good health, family support and preventing homelessness, yet rural residents face a variety of access barriers. If awarded, this grant will | | |

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| | focus on serving all residents of San Bernardino and Riverside County. Clients will be served remotely through telephone or other electronic devices via our virtual platform. This model allows qualifying clients of virtually any San Bernardino or Riverside County residence to secure essential services. This model may also help to preserve safety by allowing prospective clients to attain services from a secure environment rather than travelling to seek assistance. | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>This project will focus on serving parties facing homelessness because of domestic violence or elder abuse. Those served will eligible residents of those two counties, and will include residents of urban, rural or frontier regions of these counties. All who suffer as victims of domestic violence or elder abuse, or as alleged perpetrators of domestic violence, will have access to services, if there is no direct conflict of interest. Whether victim or alleged perpetrator, the first party to a possible action will be provided services. Should the opposing party to an existing case seek services, they will be referred to other legal service providers, including ICLS, IELLA, Legal Aid of Riverside, Legal Aid of Orange County, Self-Help Centers, or the Bar Association located within the appropriate region. The opposing party may also be referred to a local partner who would be able to provide housing, shelter, classes, or counseling to help with long term success and family unification.</p> <p>Multiple, external factors keep this group of clients oppressed: the chains of poverty are further bound by the physical, financial, and psychological effects of abuse. They are often financially dependent upon their abusers, making it nearly impossible to remove themselves and their dependents from the abusive environment. The project will focus on providing wrap around services that will ensure the victim will have the necessary services to obtain short-term housing/food assistance, long-term housing/counseling/food and necessary legal documents and assistance to prevent homelessness and abuse.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 2 | 1 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>The financial and physical prospect of relocating into new living quarters often represent barriers to victims of domestic violence or elder abuse. The non-profit partners to this project will assist with those challenges by providing the following services to needful clients of this project:</p> <p>Mary's Mercy Center is a well-established agency who provides hot meals six days per week, a weekly food bag disbursement, weekly medical screening, monthly dental assistance, access to clothing, showers with hygiene items, and a children's program providing formula, diapers, and various baby-care items through a referral system. Mary's Mercy also operates shelters which offer emergency housing to women and children, one providing temporary housing to men and children and transitional housing for women/families fully engaged within their program toward self-sufficiency. Their self-sufficiency trainings include Coping Skills, Budgeting, Cooking, Child Care, Prenatal Classes, Dental Hygiene, Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation, Domestic Violence Education and Training, Rape Crisis Counseling, Family Counselling, Self-Reliance and Child Development, Extreme Parenting, GED Preparation, and Tutoring.</p> <p>San Bernardino Superior Court, will provide a collaborative partnership which includes court referrals and onsite court space. The current court layout does not allow onsite assistance, however the court has agreed to provide space, if and once it becomes available.</p> <p>Each of these agencies will accept immediate referrals to provide their project services. Mary's Mercy Center will not house persons accused of exacting domestic violence or elder abuse; however, they will provide the counselling and education services to these persons to assist with growth beyond abusive behaviors.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Legal Assistance to the Elderly (LAE) | | |
| Project Name | Eviction Defense in Low-Income San Francisco Neighborhoods | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 225,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Francisco | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>LAE's proposed project will leverage an existing collaboration that provides access to a range of legal services for low-income individuals in one San Francisco district, and expand the geographic scope of the collaboration's eviction defense work, thereby serving an additional 80 clients per year. Clients served will be the low-income, predominantly immigrant workforce that has experienced lost wages due to COVID-19. EAF funding will pay for a .70 FTE Staff Attorney at LAE, who will handle full-scope representation in Unlawful Detainer and landlord harassment cases, provide limited services in civil cases involving the collection of unpaid rent, and also provide advice and information to clients. The Staff Attorney will take on 20 full-scope representation cases, 40 limited service cases, and 20 advice and information cases annually.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>Our goal is to prevent eviction among low-income tenants by providing full-scope representation in eviction defense cases as well as providing information and advice, and to reach these isolated communities through community outreach and drop-in clinics. Our deliverables are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year One: 20 full scope cases, 40 limited service cases, 20 advice and information cases. • Year Two: 20 full scope cases, 40 limited service cases, 20 advice and information cases. • Year Three: 20 full scope cases, 40 limited service cases, 20 advice and information cases. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | No | Yes |
| Rural Communities | | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | Not applicable | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 4 | 0 | |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Partner organizations for this collaboration are Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus, Jubilee Immigration Advocates, PODER! and Excelsior Works! Excelsior Works! and PODER! reach out in Spanish, English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Tagalog to community members who are in need of legal services but who are isolated because of age, disability, language, or immigration status, and connect these community members with the collaboration's legal services. Because evictions can move on a very fast timeline, having outreach workers experienced in housing law is paramount for the success of this outreach. Though Excelsior Works! is rooted in the Excelsior neighborhood, many of its program participants are drawn from the adjacent Mission and Bayview/Hunters Point neighborhoods. Similarly, PODER! was founded in the Mission District and now has an office in the Excelsior, and many members from the Bayview/Hunters Point neighborhoods. The collaboration holds weekly intake clinics that alternate among four legal practice areas: Housing, Senior Legal Services, Workers' Rights, and Immigration (funding from this grant will only support housing work). All clinics screen for eviction. Each clinic has a "Know Your Rights" section followed by direct legal consultation. Three clinics are held in the evening to accommodate working people's schedules. We also offer appointments in our offices, outside of the clinics. Our attorneys work closely and collaboratively and can tap into the expertise of our entire legal team to address clients' immediate issues as well as other underlying legal issues.</p> | | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice (LACLJ) | | |
| Project Name | Leading Legal Access to Victims for Economic Stability | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Domestic Violence (DV) is a leading cause of homelessness for women. According to Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) 2020 Greater Los Angeles County Homeless Count, 7% of all homeless L.A. County residents were fleeing DV. In 2020 the homeless count for Domestic Violence victims had increased 40% from 2019. Nearly 80% of LACLJ clients are survivors of DV and nearly 30% of clients face unstable housing situations. LACLJ's proposed project, "Leading Legal Access to Victims for Economic Stability (LLAVES)" seeks to directly and significantly ameliorate homelessness among victims of DV through combining legal aid, social services, and partnerships with domestic violence shelters. LACLJ will partner with Valley Oasis, of Antelope Valley, and Good Shepherd Center Los Angeles to create project "LLAVES". The proposed project will serve DV survivors throughout LA county who are at risk of homelessness. Valley Oasis serves around 300 domestic violence survivors annually in rural Antelope Valley. The partnership with LACLJ will meet the overwhelming demand for legal aid in the community. Good Shepherd Center (GSC) is a Los Angeles based organization with expertise in the intersection between homelessness and DV, however their clients require legal assistance beyond what is provided. Project LLAVES' key goal is to prevent homelessness among survivors of DV by providing victim-centered, trauma-informed legal services integrated with case management.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>LACLJ's key project goal is to prevent homelessness among more individuals displaced because of DV by providing victim-centered, trauma-informed legal services integrated with case management. To accomplish this overarching goal, LACLJ will conduct activities to build internal capacity to assist with homelessness prevention, develop community resources and partnerships that help prevent homelessness among DV survivors, increase knowledge and awareness of rights and benefits among DV survivors, and expand outreach to connect with DV survivors who are underserved, including those in rural Antelope Valley where homelessness has increased significantly over the past year.</p> <p>Achieving this goal will yield the following outcomes/deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve at least 200 clients with homeless prevention legal services during the grant period. • Expand homeless prevention legal aid to rural DV survivors by helping at least 30 clients annually referred by Valley Oasis. • Ensure 100% of clients apply for all applicable benefits that will support housing stability and wellbeing (e.g., SSI or SNAP). • Connect clients to housing/shelter with at least 25% securing permanent housing annually. • Upon case closure, have at least 75% of clients report feeling safe and secure in terms of housing. • Increase the economic agency of at least 50% of clients by conducting/connecting them to financial literacy education, credit counseling, job training, or work permits; by accompanying clients to benefits hearings; and/or by filing benefits appeals. • Close at least 75% of cases with positive outcomes that prevent homelessness. • Conduct four legal services trainings on homeless issues each year. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | <p>By partnering with Valley Oasis, a DV shelter and homelessness agency serving more than 300 individuals annually, LACLJ will expand our reach to the underserved rural Antelope Valley region of Los Angeles County. Residents in this region have access to far fewer resources for legal assistance than low-income populations in general. Fewer law firms and nonprofit agencies offering pro bono</p> | | |

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| | <p>legal services are located in Antelope Valley than in more densely-populated areas of Los Angeles, which severely limits DV survivors' access to legal representation. Additionally, this region has experienced a drastic increase in the number of homeless individuals between 2019 and 2020. LAHSA's 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count reports a 44% increase in homelessness in Antelope Valley (SPA 1) in the last year. This increase is the largest year-over-year increase in homelessness among the eight Los Angeles County SPAs.</p> <p>LACLJ will partner with Valley Oasis to expand legal and social service supports for those at risk of homelessness in this exceptionally vulnerable rural community. The partnership's goals are to: 1) leverage resources to create a seamless, cost-effective cooperative system of service delivery; 2) reduce the overall impact of homelessness; and 3) reduce the number of DV survivors experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Legal services offered by Valley Oasis and LACLJ include family law, restraining orders, immigration, government benefits, landlord/tenant issues, and other issues including expungements. Legal aid will be provided in conjunction with case management to ensure an effective safety net for DV survivors with numerous complex needs.</p> | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>DV survivors as a whole comprise an underserved community because of the barriers they face in accessing civil justice that are more prevalent and complex than barriers that low-income populations in general experience. For example, DV survivors have lived – often for years – in situations where they have learned to be unassertive and accept any wrongs without taking corrective or protective actions. Survival has depended upon becoming as invisible as possible. The psychological scars of abuse run deep and often make accessing legal assistance more difficult for them since doing so requires taking steps towards personal empowerment and requires trusting in others to help them.</p> <p>Additionally, the population of DV survivors that LACLJ will serve through the project are also from underserved communities who face obstacles to receiving civil justice because of their immigration status, language abilities, cultural beliefs and/or fear of government or judicial involvement, and severe anxieties and fear of retaliation from or exposure to their abusers as they navigate civil justice systems that help them with establish housing stability.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 2 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>LACLJ will tackle the growing issue of homelessness and the intersection with DV using a collaborative task force approach. Good Shepherd Center (GSC) of Los Angeles and Valley Oasis will partner with LACLJ in expanding legal services access for underserved DV survivors.</p> <p>Valley Oasis brings expertise in homeless services in the rural Antelope Valley region and in using evidence-based approaches integrated into Los Angeles County's Coordinated Entry System (CES) to address homelessness: Housing First, Harm Reduction, Rapid Re-housing, Progressive Case Management, and Critical Time Intervention. Valley Oasis seeks to build its capacity to provide legal aid that is in high demand and will provide referrals to LACLJ.</p> <p>GSC shelters mothers and their children who are victims of DV and provides supportive services including educational and vocational support and life skills workshops. GSC will connect homeless DV victims with LACLJ's legal services LACLJ will also bring to the project our internal capacity to connect those who are homeless/at risk of homelessness to a cadre of social services through our Community Advocacy Program staffed with graduate students from social work programs who work as community advocates (CAs). CAs coordinate social services under the direction of LACLJ attorneys. This grant project will allow us to recruit and train CAs dedicated solely to working on homeless prevention.</p> <p>LACLJ's existing partnerships will also help achieve project objectives, including developing interagency referral procedures, making referrals for legal and other services, tracking case outcomes, and cross-training legal, social services, and nonprofit staff addressing homelessness.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Mental Health Advocacy Services (MHAS) | | |
| Project Name | Behavioral Health-Legal Partnership for Low Income Tenants with Mental Health Disabilities - Via Care | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 600,000 | \$86,829 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>MHAS seeks to launch a new behavioral health-legal partnership in which legal services specifically targeting low-income tenants with mental health disabilities at risk of homelessness are holistically integrated in partnership with Via Care Community Health Center, a community-based organization that provides comprehensive healthcare to the underserved community of East Los Angeles. Clients will be provided with tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant rental disputes, including pre-eviction and post-eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, training, renter education and representation, and advocacy to improve habitability and to ensure receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability.</p> <p>This partnership will also provide critical funding to support a new Housing Navigator position at Via Care. The Housing Navigator will assist participants with obtaining housing by 1) Overseeing a tenant screening and housing assessment that identifies the participant's preferences and barriers related to successful tenancy; 2) Developing an individualized housing support plan; 3) Searching for housing and presenting options; 4) Assisting in securing housing, including the completion of housing applications and securing required documentation; and 5) Identifying and securing available resources to assist with subsidizing rent, among other tasks. The Housing Navigator will identify participants needing housing-related legal services and will refer these participants to the MHAS legal team. MHAS will provide direct legal services to at least sixty (60) participants every year, will provide technical assistance to the Housing Navigator as needed, and will offer several "know your rights" trainings to the broader staff and participants at Via Care.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The first key goal of this project is to increase access to justice for individuals with mental health disabilities facing housing insecurity.</p> <p>The second key goal of this project is to keep some of Los Angeles County's most vulnerable residents – including immigrants with mental health disabilities - safely and permanently housed.</p> <p>The Via Care Housing Navigator will oversee tenant screenings and housing assessments conducted by Via Care behavioral health case workers for at least 200 participants per year. The Via Care Housing Navigator will review all screenings and identify participants needing housing supportive services and participants needing legal services.</p> <p>For participants needing housing supportive services, the Housing Navigator will develop individualized housing support plans that address identified barriers, include short- and long-term measurable goals for each issue, and establish the participant's plan for meeting the goal, for at least 60 participants per year.</p> <p>For participants needing legal services, the Housing Navigator will refer these participants to MHAS. MHAS will serve at least 60 clients per year, some receiving brief service legal assistance with others receiving extensive services and case representation. MHAS will additionally be on-call to provide technical assistance to the Via Care Housing Navigator and other staff at Via Care as needed. Finally, MHAS will provide four "know your rights" style trainings per year for Via Care participants and staff on a range of homelessness prevention issues including housing law, renter protections, and government benefits for people with disabilities.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |

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| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>All clients served through the proposed project will reside in Los Angeles County's East Service Planning Area (SPA) 7 – an area whose population is grossly underserved and experiences some of the most concerning disparities in all of Los Angeles County. This area is comprised of five federally designated medically underserved areas (MUAs) and two federally designated medically underserved populations (MUPs). In this area, 45% of individuals have less than a high school-level education, 30.3% are uninsured, and over 98% are racial/ethnic minorities. With nearly a quarter of residents (23.9%) living below the federal poverty level and another one-third (31.6%) of the community living between 100-199% of it, the community's access to justice is compromised by multiple socio-cultural problems in addition to poverty, such as low-levels of education, language barriers and lack of transportation, that magnify the already significant barriers.</p> <p>There are additional characteristics of this population that result in them facing even higher barriers to accessing civil justice than the low-income community generally. Nearly 9 in 10 Via Care participants are Latinx and are often culturally and linguistically isolated; many are also undocumented. This population hesitates to seek legal services for fear that doing so will bring unwanted attention from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or disqualify them from future legalization effort.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 1 | 1 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Studies show a range of health and social benefits when lawyers are colocated at medical sites and work alongside medical staff to address the legal needs of their patients – such as disputes with their landlords, inhabitation of their homes, and problems securing the benefits to which they are legally entitled to pay their rent.</p> <p>Here, MHAS and Via Care will collaborate on a behavioral health-legal partnership wherein the MHAS legal team will be embedded into the Via Care behavioral health program to prevent homelessness most efficiently for the most vulnerable Via Care participants. Funding will be used to cover 50% of a new Housing Navigator position at Via Care and 100% of an MHAS Staff Attorney dedicated exclusively to serving Via Care participants. The Housing Navigator will work with Via Care staff in the behavioral health program to identify participants receiving behavioral health/mental health services who are most at risk of homelessness and are currently experiencing housing instability. The Housing Navigator will assist participants with their housing needs by developing an individualized housing support plan for each project participant, assisting participants with securing housing, and provide ongoing support and case management for participants. Participants who the Housing Navigator determines need legal assistance will be referred to the MHAS team for legal services in landlord-tenant rental disputes, including pre-eviction and post-eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, training, renter education and representation, and advocacy to improve habitability and to ensure receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | National Housing Law Project (NationalHousing) | | |
| Project Name | Government to the Rescue | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 540,000 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | Statewide | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The federal government is appropriating unprecedented resources for housing programs. For California, that will mean at least \$7 billion in new funding between 2020 and 2022, but funding levels may reach more than \$35 billion if Congress passes the reconciliation infrastructure bill. Some of the increased funding targets existing programs but many new programs will be created and much of the funding of existing programs comes with program changes. California badly needs these new funds to address housing stability and homelessness but there are major challenges around implementation of these new funds. The National Housing Law Project (NHLP) serves as both a national support center and a California support center. Those roles uniquely position the organization to assist California advocates, legal services organizations and government entities in the implementation of the new federal funding and new federal housing programs. Small cities and rural areas, in particular, will have challenges with all of the new guidelines and programs. NHLP will focus its efforts on small cities and rural areas to ensure that programs reduce evictions, preserve tenants' rights and serve the most vulnerable families in California. Through training, technical assistance, litigation, policy briefs and other efforts, NHLP will help California take full advantage of the federal housing funding and achieve the highest levels of housing stability possible.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>NHLP will increase the capacity of legal services attorneys, organizers and advocates to help their clients access the programs and to engage in local implementation. Legal service attorneys will demonstrate increased capacity to litigate tenants' rights and preservation related issues related to the new programs. The grantees will structure the new programs in a way that serves the most vulnerable Californians, ends homelessness, decreases evictions and prevents foreclosures.</p> <p>Given the character limits, here are goals for two of the largest programs:</p> <p>Homeowner Assistance Fund: Increase collaboration between housing counselors and legal aid attorneys. Ensure accessibility for people with limited English proficiency and without access to internet. Build the capacity of legal services to work on lending and foreclosure related issues as this has declined since the Great Recession.</p> <p>Emergency Rental Assistance II: California has received ERA II funding but has not begun to spend it. The program requires strong direct-to-tenant payment processes, can provide on-going funding for up to 18 months and that state does not need to fully expend the funds until September of 2027. That means that California has the opportunity to develop a more comprehensive response to evictions, one that has funded rental assistance for almost six years, can increase funding for legal services and ideally works in concert with court based eviction diversion programs. California has a tremendous opportunity to reduce evictions but this will require additional collaboration between courts, grantees, legal services and other organizations.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | All rural areas throughout the state. The Public Policy Institute reports poverty levels in counties throughout the state and in their report, rural communities are reported at roughly 15-20% residents in poverty. The low and very income residents of federally assisted housing and/or members of special housing needs groups are among the members of all rural communities. | | |
| Underserved Communities | Among the underserved communities singled out for prioritization in the new programs and funding are survivors of domestic violence. This community, overwhelmingly women and disproportionately low income women, comprises the third largest demographic of the | | |

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| (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | homeless population. Their barriers to housing and housing insecurity have been so fully documented that the federal Violence Against Women Act has incrementally added housing rights and protections to VAWA in every reauthorization of the bill since its first housing rights were adopted in 2004. People with criminal records are another significant sector of the homeless population, and in some areas such as San Francisco, Contra Costa, and Los Angeles counties are the largest segment of the unhoused. NHLP's ongoing work in helping to establish local ordinances that "ban the box" in first round housing applications and our past work with PHAs setting up tenant eligibility policies to improve access for this community of people. have paved the way for this group in the implementation work we do with HP III funding on new programs. | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 0 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>As in nearly everything NHLP does, our attorneys will closely collaborate with CA QLSPs on this project. Our training and resources are made readily available to all QLSPs statewide through broadcasts on our various networks and on our website for free download. As a state support center, QLSPs regard NHLP as the "go to" for education and technical assistance on the rollout of new programs and housing and resources.</p> <p>Programs that are frequent working partners include Bay Area Legal Aid, Central CA Legal Services, Disability Rights California, Legal Services of Northern CA, and Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles. In our rural work, we collaborate closely with CA Rural Legal Assistance and will likely collaborate with another historic partner, California Coalition for Rural Housing (CCRC) to inform those members about training, services and resources applicable to rural housing. Our outreach also targets CA based tenant organizations that serve indigent people and underserved communities, including Tenants Together, Coalition for Economic Survival, Housing Rights Committee of SF, POWER LA, ACCE, and Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability. NHLP also typically joins with other support centers, including Western Center on Law & Poverty (WCLP), as training presenters, co-litigators and advisors to state agencies on the implementation and operating rules of new programs and policies.M27</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) | | |
| Project Name | Preventing Homelessness with Healthcare Debt Advocacy | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$225,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>NLSLA will take an innovative approach to the homelessness crisis by serving individuals and families with healthcare debt by addressing it through the health lens. Through direct representation, NLSLA will provide a range of advocacy to prevent homelessness, including, but not limited to, negotiating with healthcare providers to engage in informal dispute resolution, ensuring consumer protections are upheld especially by debt collectors, screening for health insurance eligibility and subsidy programs, assessing for financial assistance program eligibility for the healthcare service obtained, resolving billing errors, engaging in debt dispute, advising on administrative remedies and complaint processes, and providing full scope representation on civil healthcare debt cases. The project will also provide reasonable accommodation requests in the housing context for eligible people with disabilities and healthcare debt in an effort to preserve housing.</p> <p>NLSLA will partner with Maternal Child Health Access ("MCHA") to expand services to households with healthcare debt who are not eligible for NLSLA's services, including screening individuals at risk of homelessness for financial assistance programs and health insurance eligibility, as well as providing health insurance enrollment services. NLSLA and MCHA will engage in formal cross-referral collaboration through this project.</p> <p>This project will be evidence-based by conducting surveys and focus groups of past clients and clients served through the project to measure the effectiveness of the homelessness prevention efforts. It will also compare the volume of people with healthcare debt served before and after the project. Additionally, it will measure the monetary benefits and outcomes of the project participants.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>This project will serve households in Los Angeles County with healthcare debt to help prevent homelessness, targeting the rural areas of the Antelope, San Fernando, San Gabriel, and Pomona Valleys, as well as the underserved populations comprised of people with disabilities, older adults, people of color, and/or the limited- English proficient. The legal services provided by NLSLA will include informal dispute resolution by negotiating with healthcare providers, ensuring consumer protections are upheld, screening for health insurance eligibility, assessing eligibility for financial assistance programs, resolving billing errors, disputing debts, representing on administrative remedies and complaint processes, and providing full scope representation at debt collection cases in civil court. The project will also provide reasonable accommodation requests in the housing context for eligible people with disabilities. The project will provide legal representation in at least 60 healthcare debt collection cases filed in civil court and assist with at least 360 administrative hearing representation, brief services and/or counsel and advice matters per year.</p> <p>The project will conduct outreach and education events to over 1,000 health consumers in Los Angeles County annually through a combination of medical debt self-help materials, presentations at community-based organizations, and participation in resource fairs. The project will conduct at least two events per quarter - one to community members and one to service providers.</p> <p>MCHA will serve at least 600 individuals annually through this project. MCHA will provide non-legal services including, but not limited to, health insurance enrollment and engaging in other advocacy to resolve healthcare debt matters.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | This project will target the rural communities of the Antelope, San Fernando, San Gabriel, and Pomona valleys. | | |

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| | <p>The Antelope Valley, located within SPA 1, is a remote region of Los Angeles County, known for its long history of systemic racism against low-income people of color. More than 30% of residents are Black and more than 60% are Latinx. The poverty rate at 22.4% is significantly higher than the 16% in Los Angeles County overall, with four out of ten residents living at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.</p> <p>Approximately 93% of the San Fernando Valley population, located within SPA 2, is comprised of the Latinx community, with over 37% of the population being foreign born.</p> <p>San Gabriel Valley, located within SPA 3, is one of the most diverse in the nation. It is home to many immigrant communities, primarily Asian and Latinx. Pomona Valley, also located within SPA 3, is home to a large Black community.</p> <p>NLSLA has served the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys since it was found in 1965. In 2000, it expanded its service area to include the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys. With program offices in Pacoima, Boyle Heights, Glendale, and El Monte, and advocates co-located in courthouses at the Self-Help Legal Access Centers in Van Nuys, Lancaster, Chatsworth, Pomona, Pasadena, and Downtown Los Angeles, NLSLA is physically positioned to provide access to legal services for these communities.</p> | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>This project will target underserved communities, prioritizing people with disabilities, older adults, people of color, and the limited-English proficient. The target goal will be to have at least 70% of the households served through this project be from these communities.</p> <p>People with disabilities face even higher barriers to accessing civil justice than the low-income community generally due to health disparities resulting from their intellectual and developmental, physical, and mental health challenges. Due to the complexities of various health conditions, people with disabilities must navigate additional barriers in both housing and healthcare.</p> <p>Older adults are a particularly vulnerable population as they are widely susceptible to being convinced to sign up for credit cards with high interest rates at healthcare provider offices. They are also generally at an increased risk of facing physical, health, and mental barriers to access justice. Older adults are also often on a fixed and limited income.</p> <p>People of color have been historically underserved due to systemic racism, which has resulted in the population experiencing persistent inequities. Studies show that people of color receive lower-quality health care and experience higher rates of illness and death across a wide range of health conditions.</p> <p>Limited-English proficient communities experience medical errors at high rates and are among the most vulnerable population to experience access to justice issues due to language and cultural barriers.</p> <p>Moreover, people with disabilities, older adults, people of color, and the limited-English proficient communities have higher rates of and are at an increased risk of experiencing healthcare debt.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 1 | 1 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>NLSLA will partner with Maternal Child Health Access ("MCHA") as a subgrantee for this project. MCHA works to provide healthcare access to Los Angeles residents through advocacy, education, training and direct services. It also provides policy advocacy at a statewide level. MCHA will allow this project to expand services to households with healthcare debt ineligible for NLSLA's services. The services would include non-legal advocacy, such as screening individuals at risk of homelessness for financial assistance programs and health insurance eligibility such as Medi-Cal, Covered California, and/or county programs. Furthermore, MCHA will provide health insurance enrollment services, which would fill a gap in the services provided by NLSLA. MCHA will also engage in other problem solving and troubleshooting to resolve healthcare debt matters.</p> <p>NLSLA will fill a gap in the legal services needs of MCHA. NLSLA will also provide technical support and troubleshooting or take on cases for further assistance if enrollment challenges arise or other complicated issues need to be addressed. NLSLA and MCHA will also collaborate on training and outreach efforts.</p> <p>This partnership and collaboration would allow project participants to maximize their chance of being relieved from their healthcare debt or at least reduced to a manageable amount to</p> | |

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| | avoid homelessness. The services would range from health insurance enrollment by MCHA to full scope representation on a healthcare debt case in civil court by NLSLA. |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | OneJustice (OneJustice) | |
| Project Name | Supporting Data-Driven Practices in Homelessness Prevention | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted |
| | \$ 750,000 | \$180,000 |
| County(ies) Served | Statewide | |
| Project Abstract | <p>This project will increase the effectiveness of legal services interventions in preserving housing stability and reducing homelessness, particularly for rural communities and underserved populations. We will utilize our well-established relationships with LSOs, as well as our understanding that many organizations lack the capacity and/or expertise to adopt evidence-based and other data-driven practices, or to shape their service delivery models based on data and research, to improve overall service delivery. This will help ensure that California remains in the vanguard of homelessness prevention and civil legal aid.</p> <p>The project will be implemented in three phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation with national experts and summarization of research on data-driven practices; - Comprehensive analyses of housing service delivery models that can serve as models for programs statewide, particularly in rural and underserved communities; and - A series of convenings to share findings, lift up data-driven practices, foster peer-to-peer learning, and encourage new collaborative projects. <p>In tandem, these phases will ensure that housing programs have a comprehensive perspective on data-driven practices in program service delivery, including issues like community outreach; intake models; resource prioritization; the role of legal clinics, pro bono projects, and other models for delivering legal services to large numbers of indigent households; strategies for maximizing housing stability and reducing homelessness; and tracking inputs and results through data collection and synthesis. This project will improve how legal services are delivered, how resource allocation decisions are made, and how housing programs evaluate the impact of their services and refine their strategies based on data-driven practices.</p> | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>We predict our deliverables will include the following, although we will remain flexible in response to the changing landscape of evictions in California.</p> <p>Phase One:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The results of a literature survey and interviews with legal experts like Jim Greiner (Harvard Law) and Jessica Steinberg (GW Law) who have authored articles on the effectiveness of housing law interventions, and national experts on homelessness prevention like Dennis Culhane (UPenn) and Marybeth Shinn (Vanderbilt). - The results of interviews with housing LSOs and CBOs regarding community-specific needs and service delivery models, utilizing our statewide networks to identify housing program partners for in-depth analyses on outcome maximization and mission impact - Summary of evidence-based and other data-driven practices in homelessness prevention <p>Phase Two:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compilation of data-driven case studies from local and national homelessness prevention programs, prioritizing those serving rural regions and underserved populations, and programs with highly impactful models - A resource guide for LSOs on data collection and program evaluation best practices - A Homelessness Prevention Guide of evidence-based and other data-driven practices in homelessness prevention <p>Phase Three:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2-3 statewide Homelessness Prevention Webinars on data-driven practices and effective homelessness prevention service delivery models - 4-6 Homelessness Prevention Workshops specific to rural communities and underserved populations - A listserv and Slack channel for LSOs and CBOs to communicate and engage in peer learning - Technical assistance appointments with Homelessness Prevention grantees | |

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| | - A check-in with LSOs and CBOs to assess their needs and challenges and to strategize a Year 3 plan | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | <p>We will consult with QLSPs and other services agencies to determine the highest needs of their communities for homelessness prevention. We will remain flexible with our strategy and target areas so that we may adjust to the needs of the QLSPs and their clients. That said, we foresee serving rural communities and their low-income tenant populations through targeted resources in the following counties:</p> <p>Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Ventura, Yolo, Yuba</p> <p>Rural tenants make up 13% of California's adult population, but experience poverty at higher rates than urban populations. More than 675,000 (or 18% of all) rural residents live in households at or below 125% of the federal poverty level.</p> <p>Low-income Californians generally have difficulty accessing legal services, but those in rural areas face additional challenges. Rural Californians are more likely to experience a housing-related legal matter than their urban counterparts, but there are fewer legal aid lawyers in rural communities and few private lawyers to fill the gaps. Inadequate or unavailable public transportation also makes it difficult to access legal services, especially with the large distances between legal aid offices that are typical of rural areas.</p> | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>We will consult with OneJustice's partners and LAAC's member organizations to identify and serve underserved communities who face additional barriers to accessing legal resources. The underserved populations whom we anticipate serving include: survivors of sexual assault or domestic violence, immigrants, and BIPOC community members. For example, those who experienced sexual assault or domestic violence report approximately 800% more civil legal problems than low-income residents in general, including in rental housing, employment, finance, and income maintenance. Among low-income Californians, immigrants are least likely to receive legal representation, and among low-income residents who can't access legal representation due to cost, 36% face immigration-related issues. Among BIPOC communities, members of the Latinx community report rental housing issues 220% more frequently, and Black Americans report issues with rental housing 300% more frequently than their White counterparts. Overall, Latinx and Black Americans report a higher frequency of legal problems in not only rental housing, but also employment, finance, and family law, even when controlling for other demographics such as income. Finally, while 54% of White Americans say that the civil legal system treats them fairly most or all of the time, only 31% of Black Americans, 36% of Latinx Americans, and 38% of other races report the same.</p> | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 1 | 1 | |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Studies show a range of health and social benefits when lawyers are colocated at medical sites and work alongside medical staff to address the legal needs of their patients – such as disputes with their landlords, inhabitation of their homes, and problems securing the benefits to which they are legally entitled to pay their rent.</p> <p>Here, MHAS and Via Care will collaborate on a behavioral health-legal partnership wherein the MHAS legal team will be embedded into the Via Care behavioral health program to prevent homelessness most efficiently for the most vulnerable Via Care participants. Funding will be used to cover 50% of a new Housing Navigator position at Via Care and 100% of an MHAS Staff Attorney dedicated exclusively to serving Via Care participants. The Housing Navigator will work with Via Care staff in the behavioral health program to identify participants receiving behavioral health/mental health services who are most at risk of homelessness and are currently experiencing housing instability. The Housing Navigator will</p> | | |

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| | assist participants with their housing needs by developing an individualized housing support plan for each project participant, assisting participants with securing housing, and provide ongoing support and case management for participants. Participants who the Housing Navigator determines need legal assistance will be referred to the MHAS team for legal services in landlord-tenant rental disputes, including pre-eviction and post-eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, training, renter education and representation, M28 and advocacy to improve habitability and to ensure receipt of eligible income or benefits to improve housing stability. |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Open Door Legal (ODL) | | |
| Project Name | Universal Access to Legal Aid for People At-Risk of Homelessness | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,500,000 | \$285,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Francisco | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>We ask all clients the question: "If this issue were not to be solved, would you be at risk of homelessness?" For those who responded affirmatively, only about 30% were pursuing housing cases. The rest of the cases were in consumer and family law, followed by elder, employment, and other. To that end, we intend to focus this project on the following pillars: Increasing our capacity to take on affirmative housing cases, family law cases, public benefits cases, and consumer cases for clients who state that if their legal issue isn't solved, it will lead to homelessness</p> <p>Recruiting, hiring, and onboarding a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) to provide wraparound support for our clients</p> <p>Scaling up the number of housing advice intakes we are able to perform</p> <p>Providing robust referrals to other agencies when necessary</p> <p>Collaborating with the Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic (CROC) to provide support for clients seeking Domestic Violence Restraining Orders so victims and children can stay housed</p> <p>Collaborating with the San Francisco Housing Development Corporation (SFHDC) to provide foreclosure intervention counseling and family mediation services to clients to prevent homeowners from losing their homes and resolve interpersonal disputes that could lead to homelessness</p> <p>Our goal is to guarantee service to everyone in the highest-need parts of San Francisco who has a legal issue that could lead to homelessness, across issue areas. We hope this can be a model demonstration project for the rest of the state on cost-effective ways to dramatically prevent homelessness.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>Our goal is to prevent low-income San Franciscans from becoming homeless during these incredibly tumultuous times. Our key deliverables per year will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100 new full-scope representation cases that will prevent a family or individual from becoming homeless - 60 cases handled by a to-be-hired Licensed Clinical Social Worker, including wraparound care and referrals, that will prevent a family or individual from becoming homeless - 300 intakes that will provide advice - including housing advice - to address issues that a guest is having that will prevent a family or individual from becoming homeless - 200 warm-handoff referrals for individuals or families who are having problems that can be addressed by other social service organizations and which will aid in preventing them from becoming homeless - 15 referrals to CROC for drafted and filed Domestic Violence Restraining Order paperwork that will, in turn, aid in the prevention of homelessness - 20 referrals to SFHDC for family law mediation for issues related to family law such as divorce, child custody, or child support that will aid in preventing a family or individual from becoming homeless - 25 referrals to SFHDC for foreclosure intervention counseling which will prevent a family or individual from becoming homeless. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities | Anyone who cannot afford an attorney certainly faces a high barrier to accessing civil justice. Our entire client population would already be considered underserved; within that group, we | | |

| (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | would especially note the elderly, those who do not speak English as their primary language, and single parents are particularly bereft. | |
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| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 2 | 2 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>We will work collaboratively with two partner organizations. The first is the Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic (CROC), with whom we have a longstanding relationship. CROC assists domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking survivors in San Francisco in obtaining restraining orders against the person who is abusing them. If the parties have minor children together, CROC also assists in obtaining child custody and visitation orders that keep all members of the family safe. Since January 2020, we have referred 28 clients to CROC. We will implement a shared data system with CROC and use that platform to refer cases and gather data, with the goal of total legal coverage for victims of domestic violence. Our point of contact with CROC will be our Lead Family Law Attorney, Patricia Moon. We will also partner with the San Francisco Housing Development Corporation (SFHDC). We have been a sub-grantee of SFHDC for seven years. They refer clients to us for legal services related to rental or home ownership issues. This would be our first time sub-granting them, thus creating a more collaborative relationship. We will refer clients to SFHDC for family law mediation, as issues of divorce, child custody, and child support can lead to homelessness if not resolved. We will also refer clients to SFHDC for foreclosure intervention counseling to ensure they can keep their homes. We will similarly create a shared data platform. Our primary point of contact with SFHDC will be our Lead Civil Litigation Attorney, Tara Macomber.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Public Counsel (PublicCounsel) | | |
| Project Name | Homeownership Preservation Project | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 1,499,688 | \$431,045 | |
| County(ies) Served | Los Angeles | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>This collaborative Homeownership Preservation project aims to reach and preserve underserved communities throughout Los Angeles County, with a particular focus on South and East Los Angeles and the Antelope Valley. The project will use a unique clinic model comprised of attorneys skilled in foreclosure prevention and bankruptcy, along with housing counselors, to provide a one-stop shop for struggling homeowners fighting to save their homes. In addition, the project will provide community workshops and outreach events delivered through local community-based partners and other organizations to educate community members about strategies to avoid foreclosure before the worst is upon them.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>We already see an uptick in mortgage issues that require legal intervention including at-risk extensions for those in reverse mortgages, zombie second mortgages, servicing errors, and homeowner association foreclosures. Additionally, we expect the pace of foreclosure cases to accelerate as the various governmental forbearances end. The main objectives of this work will be to prevent foreclosure, keep homeowners in their homes, and decrease the displacement of vulnerable communities. Activities will include monthly foreclosure workshops to identify and empower homeowners; one-stop legal clinics to address the legal, bankruptcy, and housing counseling needs of homeowners facing foreclosure; and general homeowner know-your-rights sessions to ensure at-risk communities know about resources and strategies to avoid foreclosure. This project will provide support to legal services organizations across Southern California as any materials developed will be made available through the Advocates for Consumer Justice group that Public Counsel chairs.</p> <p>Specifically we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 99 clinics combining legal services and housing counseling; • Serve 2,000 clients in default or danger of defaulting on their mortgage or already in the foreclosure process; • Reach 660 additional homeowners through at least 33 foreclosure know-your-rights presentations; • Organize 6 training events for housing counselors/other legal to keep project staff and the legal services community up-to-date on the latest law, regulations, and resources available to homeowners in foreclosure; and • Provide limited representation or pro per services to 640 homeowners over the life of the project and be instrumental in the prevention or delay of foreclosure for 10% of those. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |
| Rural Communities | The project will increase access to services for consumers in Antelope Valley, a geographically isolated and resource-poor area of Los Angeles County. It is often difficult for people in remote areas such as Antelope Valley to travel to our offices and clinics for assistance. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | This project will assist underserved communities of low-income Black and Brown people, elders, and monolingual Spanish speakers. Homeowners in these communities often do not know that there are resources out there to help them cope with foreclosure related issues. We will outreach into particular communities of East and South Los Angeles, and the Antelope Valley, collaborating with housing counselling and community based organizations with deep connections in those communities. | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 4 | 3 | |

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| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>Due to a unique workshop-to-clinic model and the coordination between Public Counsel and its partner organizations, clients in need of assistance will be able to get help by watching a video workshop at their convenience and then attending one clinic at the location easiest for them. Each clinic will be staffed with a mixture of attorneys and housing counsellors.</p> <p>Depending on the trajectory of the pandemic, which may necessitate virtual clinics, we hope to provide in-person clinics in the hearts of South Los Angeles, East Los Angeles, and Antelope Valley. Whether remotely or in person, the project will ensure accessibility for members of those communities who may not otherwise have the time or means of transit to travel for these services. This ease of access to the video workshop and the proximity of the clinics to the affected communities ensure that fewer clients will give up in frustration or not have the documentation required for their intake. To ensure we bridge the digital divide we will also provide intake over the phone as needed.</p> |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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| Organization Name | Public Interest Law Project (PILP) | | |
| Project Name | First Responses: Income, Food, and Rent | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 983,994 | \$249,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Statewide | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The deplorable increase of people without housing emanates not only from the lack of affordable housing but from epic and protracted income disparities and attendant lack of access to the other basic necessities, including critical income support, food assistance, and rental assistance. The lifting of state, local, and federal eviction moratoria comes simultaneously with the expiration of federal COVID-19 unemployment benefits, impacting an estimated four million Californians. These individuals, unhoused or on the cusp of it, are disproportionately Black, brown, and other persons of color. And they increasingly rely on emergency public aid—General Relief (basic income), CalFresh (food stamps), and rent subsidies as a last resort to survive as they await the availability of affordable housing. These “first” responses to the lack of critical basic necessities sadly will remain absolutely essential until the underlying disparity between income and housing affordability is ended. This project, therefore, concentrates on critical first responses—General Assistance, CalFresh Expedited Service food stamps, ERAP, and other rental assistance. We will add an attorney to enable us to provide expertise and litigation and advocacy support to QLSPs, partnering particularly with QLSPs working in the rural counties, but also with QLSPs in other underserved communities that substantially fail to perform their state and federal legal obligations to provide basic income support, food stamps, and rent. From our outreach and advocacy, the QLSPs with a strong interest in this work are California Indian Legal Services, ICLS, CCLS, CRLA, and NLSLA, along with non-QLSP Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>Goals.</p> <p>1) Litigation and advocacy enforcing California's General Assistance statutes in rural and underserved counties failing to comply with these obligations and in counties with underserved communities failing to comply with these obligations with the goal of ensuring unhoused persons and persons at risk of becoming unhoused receive at least basic income.</p> <p>2) Litigation and advocacy enforcing federal and state Cal/Fresh laws and regulations in rural counties and other counties with underserved communities failing to comply with these obligations with the goal of ensuring unhoused persons and those at risk of becoming unhoused receive sufficient and healthy nourishment.</p> <p>3) San Joaquin and Coachella valley outreach, advocacy and know-your-rights workshops to ensure timely distribution of ERAP and other emergency assistance.</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>1) Commence and carry out at least three new advocacy or litigation efforts with QLSPs/Leadership Counsel in each of the three activity areas, by the end of the grant's first year (2022), and at least 12 total by the end of the three year grant period.</p> <p>2) Ensure activities are supported in frontier, rural and underserved communities throughout the state.</p> <p>3) Complete a manual for the implementation and enforcement of California's General Assistance programs and W&I Code section 17000 before the end of the grant period.</p> <p>4) Develop a plan to continue the work after the grant, including a plan for continued funding of the goals.</p> <p>5) Provide assisted QLSPs and Leadership Counsel with the necessary training in each of the goal areas.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | The obligation to provide General Assistance and CalFresh aid resides with the counties and ERAP with cities. To achieve a project focus on rural communities, therefore, PILP and its | | |

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| | <p>local partners will focus on underperforming rural counties. These are the ones we've identified: Alpine, Mono, Inyo, San Bernardino, Riverside, Madera, Fresno, Kern, Yuba, Sutter, Del Norte, Shasta, Sonoma, Humboldt, and Tulare. (See also the information in 8.A. under Project Profile.) Alpine, Mono, and Inyo counties are predominantly frontier counties as defined by the MSSA maps.</p> <p>PRE-COVID-19 Monthly GA Cases / COVID-19 Monthly GA Cases Average (3/20 - 6/21)</p> <p>Statewide 130077 / 119983</p> <p>Alpine 0 / 0</p> <p>Del Norte 65 / 44</p> <p>Fresno 2765 / 1510</p> <p>Humboldt 219 / 139</p> <p>Inyo 28 / 20</p> <p>Madera 80 / 45</p> <p>Mono 1 / 0</p> <p>Riverside 4583 / 2026</p> <p>San Bernardino 204 / 99</p> <p>Shasta 265 / 155</p> <p>Sonoma 461 / 238</p> <p>Sutter 12 / 6</p> <p>Yuba 35 / 19</p> <p>CalFresh ES LATE Data 3/20 - 8/21 (Rank)-- Statewide 20.00%</p> <p>Alpine County 9.46% (32)</p> <p>Del Norte County 10.27% (35)</p> <p>Glenn County 10.38% (37)</p> <p>Kern County 10.71% (38)</p> <p>Lassen County 22.04% (53)</p> <p>Mono County 8.36% (31)</p> <p>Nevada County 28.93% (55)</p> <p>Sacramento County 45.12% (57)</p> <p>San Bernardino County 12.37% (44)</p> <p>San Joaquin County 15.47% (48)</p> <p>Shasta County 14.34% (46)</p> <p>Siskiyou County 11.14% (40)</p> <p>Sonoma County 70.00% (59)</p> <p>Stanislaus County 15.27% (47)</p> <p>Tulare County 45.28% (58)</p> <p>Tuolumne County 11.73% (43)</p> <p>Ventura County 13.96% (45)</p> <p>Yolo County 23.79% (54)</p> <p>Yuba County 17.80% (51)</p> |
| <p>Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.)</p> | <p>CalFresh. Los Angeles County and the urban communities in the rural counties are identified in 3. A. In Los Angeles County, more than half of the eligible recipients of CalFresh benefits failed to timely receive emergency assistance in August 2021, ranking 56 out of 58 counties. PILP, NLSLC, and Western Center have initiated advocacy with the County for failure to comply with its expedited service obligations under CalFresh. If necessary, we will represent our clients in litigation, which we would hope to bring and try or settle in 2022 - 2023. If successful, we will be able to use that to obtain compliance in the other worst offending counties, which include Alpine, Del Norte, Kern, Lassen, Mono, Nevada, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sonoma, Tulare, and Yolo. PILP currently advocates with CCLS to lower CalFresh ES late rates in Tulare County, which has far fewer services and amenities than Fresno County.</p> <p>General Assistance. The population the CILS Bishop office assists is underserved in that there is only one aid legal aid office serving the entire Alpine, Mono, and Inyo Counties area. And generally, the rural areas of rural counties in California lie substantial distances away from legal services, courts, and governmental offices that provide access to basic public benefits. Public transportation is sparse or nonexistent, internet access is often unavailable, and indigent persons generally lack the means to access courts or benefits services even when applications can be submitted virtually.</p> |

| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
|---|---|---------------------|
| | 2 | 1 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>For specific advocacy and litigation, we form teams with QLSPs that include an experienced PILP attorney and the local program attorney. We will review and assist with the review of the General Assistance, CalFresh, or rental assistance programs of the local county or city, assist the local program attorney with administrative advocacy with the county, and, if necessary, co-counsel with the local attorney if litigation is warranted. The extent of the roles we play in each of these stages of advocacy will depend on the experience of the local attorney, and we endeavor to guide and train less experienced attorneys to enable them to take the lead in future advocacy.</p> <p>For example, PILP staff attorneys have begun coordinating an advocacy strategy with directing attorney Michael Godbe at the CILS Bishop office. CILS' Bishop office is the only civil legal aid office located on the east side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains south of Lake Tahoe – a huge geographic area that would take approximately 8 hours to drive from one end to the other. Alpine, Inyo, and Mono Counties are the 1st, 5th, and 7th most rural counties in California.</p> <p>Partner/subgrantee Leadership Counsel will consult with us to increase and extend its advocacy and know-your-rights sessions for rental assistance in southern the San Joaquin and eastern Coachella valleys.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Organization Name | Public Law Center (PLC) | | |
| Project Name | Orange County Mobilehome Housing Stability Project | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 939,000 | \$210,000 | |
| County(ies) Served | Orange | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>Public Law Center's Orange County Mobilehome Housing Stability Project seeks to expand legal services to low-income mobilehome owners in Orange County to ensure housing stability, community awareness, and resident engagement. Working closely with existing community partners, the Project will target underserved Latinx and Vietnamese American communities and bolster resources for associations of mobilehome owners. Legal services will include counsel and advice, limited and full-scope representation, and systemic change advocacy. Subgrantees (Latino Health Access and VietRise) and other community partners (Orange Mobile Home Coalition, Costa Mesa Mobilehome Coalition, Orange County Mobile Home Residents Coalition, and Tenants United Santa Ana) will help provide community education and outreach, and co-host Know-Your-Rights trainings. The Project will address Unlawful Detainer, Failure to Maintain, Mobilehome Residency Law, Rent Control Probate/Title Transfer, and Reasonable Accommodation matters. Where appropriate, Project clients may receive referrals within Public Law Center to other units like Health and Consumer for income and benefits support. In addition, Public Law Center's Community Organizations Legal Assistance Project will expand services to better serve existing and new associations of mobile home owners throughout Orange County. Furthermore, the Project seeks to ensure mobilehome owners associations are accessible to and inclusive of older adults, veterans, Black, Indigenous, People of Color, LGBTQ+, victims of crime, and families with children. Finally, Project participants will have linguistically accessible and culturally appropriate access to Public Law Center's full range of services to address other legal challenges that may contribute to their housing insecurity.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>PLC's Project seeks to expand legal services to low-income mobile home owners in Orange County to ensure housing stability, community awareness, and resident engagement. The Project will target underserved Latinx and Vietnamese American communities and bolster resources for associations of mobilehome owners. PLC will handle 40 to 45 cases annually. We anticipate 6 to 8 cases annually will involve failure to maintain issues (for individual spaces and park-wide issues) and 6 to 8 will be unlawful detainers (ranging from limited assistance to full representation). Many cases will be complex and address systemic issues that impact entire mobilehome parks. PLC and our project partners will develop and conduct four to eight trainings a year. The impact and reach of the Project is projected to benefit tens of thousands of low-income mobilehome owners. Legal services will include counsel and advice, limited and full-scope representation, and systemic change advocacy. Subgrantees and other community partners will help provide community education and outreach, and co-host Know-Your-Rights trainings designed to ensure resources and information efficiently and accurately transmit from coalition leaders to individual association and their members. The Project will address Unlawful Detainer, Failure to Maintain, Mobilehome Residency Law, Rent Control Probate/Title Transfer, and Reasonable Accommodation matters. Project clients may receive referrals to other PLC units. The Project will serve existing and new associations of mobile home owners, and seeks to ensure mobilehome owners associations are accessible to and inclusive of older adults, veterans, Black, Indigenous, People of Color, LGBTQ+, victims of crime, and families.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | No | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Not applicable | | |
| Underserved Communities | The Orange County Mobilehome Housing Stability Project will focus primarily on underserved Latinx and Vietnamese American communities. Although legal aid services for | | |

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| (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>these communities exist within the County, the project represents the first County-wide effort to target mobilehome owners from these underserved communities. While much attention has been paid to the widening crisis for low-income renters, the mounting challenges mobilehome owners face tend not to be part of mainstream discussion on homelessness prevention. Although mobilehomes once represented a significant percentage of the national and local stock of affordable housing, the transition of mobilehome park ownership to private equity-backed firms and other large corporations has created large populations of captive mobilehome owners unable to pay skyrocketing rent nor move their home to a more affordable park. Most often, unrepresented mobilehome owners are faced with the double indignity of having to abandon their most valuable asset and experiencing homelessness. For our target populations, language access is often just one of many hurdles they need to overcome to gain housing stability. Many mobilehome residents are also older adults and have differing abilities, thus they are experiencing legal challenges beyond the realm of housing law. The project seeks to provide a holistic set of solutions that include non-legal services provided by subgrantees and other community partners and referrals to other legal units within Public Law Center. While the project does have target communities, it is also designed to strengthen existing and future owner associations to become more inclusive of low-income individuals of all backgrounds.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 6 | 2 |
| <p>Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.)</p> | <p>The Project builds upon long-term relationships with both funded and unfunded project partners. Subgrantee Latino Health Access works closely with Public Law Center (PLC) on a wide range of legal issues. VietRise is an emerging partner with established connections with various PLC units. These two subgrantees will support the Project and complement PLC's legal services by conducting in-language and culturally-relevant outreach to Latinx and Vietnamese American community members, referring mobilehome cases to PLC's Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention (Housing) Unit and conducting trainings to empower mobilehome owners to be their own advocate for housing stability within their mobilehome parks and cities. While the Project Subgrantee's activities will be developed in partnership with PLC, both groups have a clear understanding of the requirements for confidentiality and attorney-client privilege once cases are referred to PLC.</p> <p>The Project Subgrantees will also work with PLC's Community Organizations Legal Assistance Project (COLAP) to organize mobilehome owners into associations and coalitions of associations capable of creating positive change for their members. The Project also features collaborations with organizations PLC previously helped form through COLAP. Orange Mobile Home Coalition, Costa Mesa Mobilehome Coalition, Orange County Mobile Home Residents Coalition and Tenants United Santa Ana are all existing Housing Unit partners and will help facilitate community education and training events in targeted locations. COLAP will also work with these partners to ensure mobilehome owners of all backgrounds will be able to engage with the Project. This Project is built on the established trust between partner groups.</p> | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation (SLOLAF) | | |
| Project Name | Economic Justice and Outreach | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 715,590 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Luis Obispo | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>The Economic Justice and Outreach Project (the Project) will provide legal assistance to individuals struggling with financial security who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Project will represent individuals and families appealing unlawful terminations and wrongful denials of Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Food Stamps, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Medi-Cal, California Work Opportunities & Responsibilities, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), CalFresh (food stamps), California Food Assistance Program, Veterans Administration (VA) benefits and General Assistance. These critical and basic legal services are virtually non-existent in San Luis Obispo (SLO) County and are necessary to keep many people housed, clothed and fed. The Project will also include community outreach in order to provide information on tenants' rights and government benefits, and access to legal and other housing resources to the most rural, under-served areas of SLO County.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The Project has the following goals for each year of the three-year grant term:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide direct legal assistance (ranging from advice and counsel to full representation at hearings) indigent San Luis Obispo County residents each year who need legal help receiving public benefits they are entitled to but cannot access on their own. We aim to serve: 60 clients in 2022 200 clients in 2023 200 clients in 2024 ; 2. Attend at least two meetings per month with community partners around the County to network, share resources, and provide information about the Project; 3. Prepare informational "know your rights" resources in English and Spanish with the Project's contact information and widely distribute them in paper and electronically throughout the County with a focus on rural and frontier areas; 4. Prepare at least five public service announcement/press releases with information for the public in English and Spanish and distribute to the local English and Spanish media in order to increase visibility and awareness for the Project; and 5. Provide at least 10 community engagement educational opportunities either in person (when possible) or via webinar with an emphasis of reaching rural and under-served communities. 6. Increase the percentage of clients SLOLAF serves who identify as Hispanic and People of Color. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | <p>The entire County of San Luis Obispo will be served and is considered rural; however, the Outreach component of this Project will target the most rural areas of the County, focusing on the northern and southern areas of the County, including rural Paso Robles, San Miguel, Shandon, Creston, Oceano, Nipomo and California Valley. These areas are more affordable, have a higher concentration of low-income workers, with many working in agriculture. Our outreach efforts will be targeted in those areas.</p> | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The Project intends to reach unique underserved communities in SLO County, including the undocumented immigrant population who are often unaware of community resources and benefits available to them because of language barriers and fear that they will not receive help because of their citizenship status. There is a common fear, distrust and apprehension toward government and a reluctance to take advantage of benefits to which they are entitled among the immigrant populations. The Project intends to do outreach to these communities</p> | | |

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| | in Spanish in order to provide them with information regarding their rights and access to information and assistance. | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 0 | 0 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | SLOLAF will tap into its relationships with community partners such as Department of Social Services, Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo, 5 Cities Homeless Coalition, Adult Protective Services, senior centers, public libraries, and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman to help us reach people in need of these new services in SLO County. Because SLOLAF has been operating for so long in SLO County, we have many contacts within the various organizations who can help us get the word out and share multilingual information materials that we provide them. | |

**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Organization Name | Senior Citizens Legal Services (SCLS) | | |
| Project Name | Central Coast Collaboration for Holistic Legal Services | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 949,599 | \$517,200 | |
| County(ies) Served | Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz | | |
| Project Abstract | <p>With the shared goal of preventing homelessness among underserved, Senior Citizens Legal Services (SCLS) propose to collaborate with Legal Services for Seniors (LSS) to jointly contract with the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley's Clinical Social Work Supervisor (CSWS) to design and implement a new holistic model of case management services within their respective legal teams. This new holistic service model will add 3.0 FTE social service advocates (SSAs), one .5 FTE social worker supervisor (SWS) and 1.0 FTE attorney to the programs to better enable clients to meaningfully participate in their case, reduce the negative traumatizing impact of the legal system and improve legal outcomes by allowing attorneys to focus on the legal matters of the client's case. More people will remain safely housed.</p> <p>Secondly, SCLS is now partnering with Community Bridges (CB) (the largest provider of free community services in Santa Cruz County), Tenant Sanctuary (the newest tenancy advocacy group), and Conflict Resolution Center (CRC) to build a "Legal Defense Clinic" (LDC) offering free bi-lingual and bi-cultural eviction prevention counseling, legal assistance, and mediation for primarily undocumented Latinx community members who have little to no access to resources and are highly impacted by structural inequities. The LDC positions legal services in CB's trusted Family Resource Centers where individuals will be triaged and streamlined to the appropriate team member for attorney services from SCLS, attorney supervised peer support from Tenant Sanctuary or mediation at CRC. SCLS proposes to use HP grant funds to double the capacity of this new project.</p> | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | <p>The overarching goals and deliverables of both collaborative projects are listed here.</p> <p>Goal 1: To Keep Tenant's Safely Housed by Providing New and Innovative Referrals, Outreach and Education regarding Tenant's Housing rights.</p> <p>Objective 1A :To Deliver Social Services on Case by Case basis to approximately 8 new clients each month</p> <p>Objective 1B: Build professional relationship between the SSA and the client, separate and independent from the attorney's relationship.</p> <p>Objective 1C: SSAs provide system navigation which includes informal advocacy in order to remove barriers to the needed services.</p> <p>Objective 1D: SSAs provide client with referral information, so they understand why they are being referred and make themselves available to the needed service.</p> <p>Goal 2: To Service Additional Rural/Frontier Located Tenants with Existing Services and with New and Innovative Services and Resources.</p> <p>Objective 2A: To Develop Key Partnerships for making referrals to organizations in Remote Locations</p> <p>Goal 3: Increase Project Participant Satisfaction with Their Legal Outcome Compared with the Legal Outcome Obtained by a Client Who Received No Social Services</p> <p>Objective 3A: 80% of project participants will report being satisfied with their services received.</p> <p>Objective 3B: 70% of project participants will score higher on the Arizona Self Sufficiency Matrix at the end of their case, compared with their score at the beginning.</p> <p>Goal 4: To Service Additional Hispanic and Undocumented Tenants with Existing Services and with New and Innovative Services and Resources.</p> <p>Objective 4A: To develop all outreach materials in Spanish and English and to make every effort to hire bilingual staff.</p> | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | No |

| | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Rural Communities | <p>Both projects will undoubtedly focus on addressing homelessness in rural communities. As mentioned above, seniors in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties live in remote rural and frontier areas. The Central Coast Collaboration for Holistic Legal Services will initiate new services for SCLS and LSS clients who reside throughout these rural and frontier areas. The Legal Defense Clinic services will be provided particularly in Family Resource Centers throughout Santa Cruz County, which is 82.2% rural.</p> <p>The largest majority of cases served at both SCLS and LSS consistently tend to be housing cases. In 2020, at SCLS approximately 40% of all case services involved landlord/tenant or other housing disputes, with similar numbers existing at LSS. SCLS and LSS anticipate the demand will significantly increase due to repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic and rising cost of living in the local area. Immediately following the onset of Covid-19, SCLS experienced a 925% increase in requests for services, the majority of those relating to housing insecurity. Prior to April 2020, SCLS opened an average of 12 new cases each week. Post April 2020, SCLS received an average of 111 calls each week requesting services.</p> <p>Additionally, Santa Cruz County is uniquely plagued with extreme high levels of homelessness, in part because of its consistent year-round moderate temperatures, historically liberal tendencies and rising cost of living. Census data for the three-county jurisdiction reveals population growth and housing rental cost increasing dramatically. These new projects utilize new partnerships to reach more seniors in low density areas.</p> | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | <p>The south county of Santa Cruz, much of San Benito and parts of Monterey are predominantly Hispanic and have been hardest hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. According to the recent US Census, 59.6% of Monterey County is Hispanic. In San Benito County, 60.8% is Hispanic with 69.3% in the city of Hollister. And 34% of the population of Santa Cruz County and 81.2% of Watsonville is Hispanic. Legal aid addressing potential homelessness is a top priority for our clients, particularly mono-lingual Spanish speaking seniors.</p> <p>Due to the pandemic, clients endured self-eviction, unlawful three-day notices and evictions. Many of these incidents result in "self-eviction" because clients fear repercussions due to immigration status, lack of legal support and emotional support in legal remedies.</p> <p>Every effort will be made to hire a bilingual and bicultural staff for these new grant projects. Currently half of the staff at SCLS and LSS are bilingual and generally, all services are offered in both English and Spanish. We will be utilizing technology and focus our outreach and education efforts at these targeted regions.</p> <p>Additionally, SSAs will generally be assigned to cases involving elderly tenants and families, tenants with disabilities, and tenants with unmet medical and mental health needs and substance use issues. Multiple issues—including poverty, chronic health problems, mental health challenges, substance abuse, domestic violence, lack of affordable housing, evictions, deinstitutionalization, decarceration, and trauma—contribute to homelessness and consistently show up in our cases. These new projects will improve access to civil justice for these high need populations.</p> | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants |
| | 5 | 3 |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | <p>With the anticipated influx of evictions driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, SCLS aims to significantly expand our work to prevent displacement of persons, particularly those in low-income and latinx communities. For the Central Coast Collaboration of Holistic Legal Services, SCLS with LSS jointly contracted the highly experienced Clinical Social Work Supervisor, Nathan Lingat-Thomas, of the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley (LFSV), to design and implement the program. SCLS/LSS will also share a part-time MSW or LCSW supervisor for the three new social service advocates in both offices. This will build an important network for the social workers to bolster their professional identity and encourage their unique perspectives which may sometimes be different than that of the legal team. Each team will also have attorney oversight to ensure services are integrated into an open legal case. A formal evaluation of the overall services will be conducted.</p> <p>For the Legal Defense Clinic, SCLS has entered into an MOU with Community Bridges (CB) to provide free legal services one day a week in CB's Family Resource Centers (FRC). CB also contracted with Tenant Sanctuary for attorney supervised tenant peer support and with Conflict Resolution Center (CRC) for housing mediation, in order to offer wrap around</p> | |

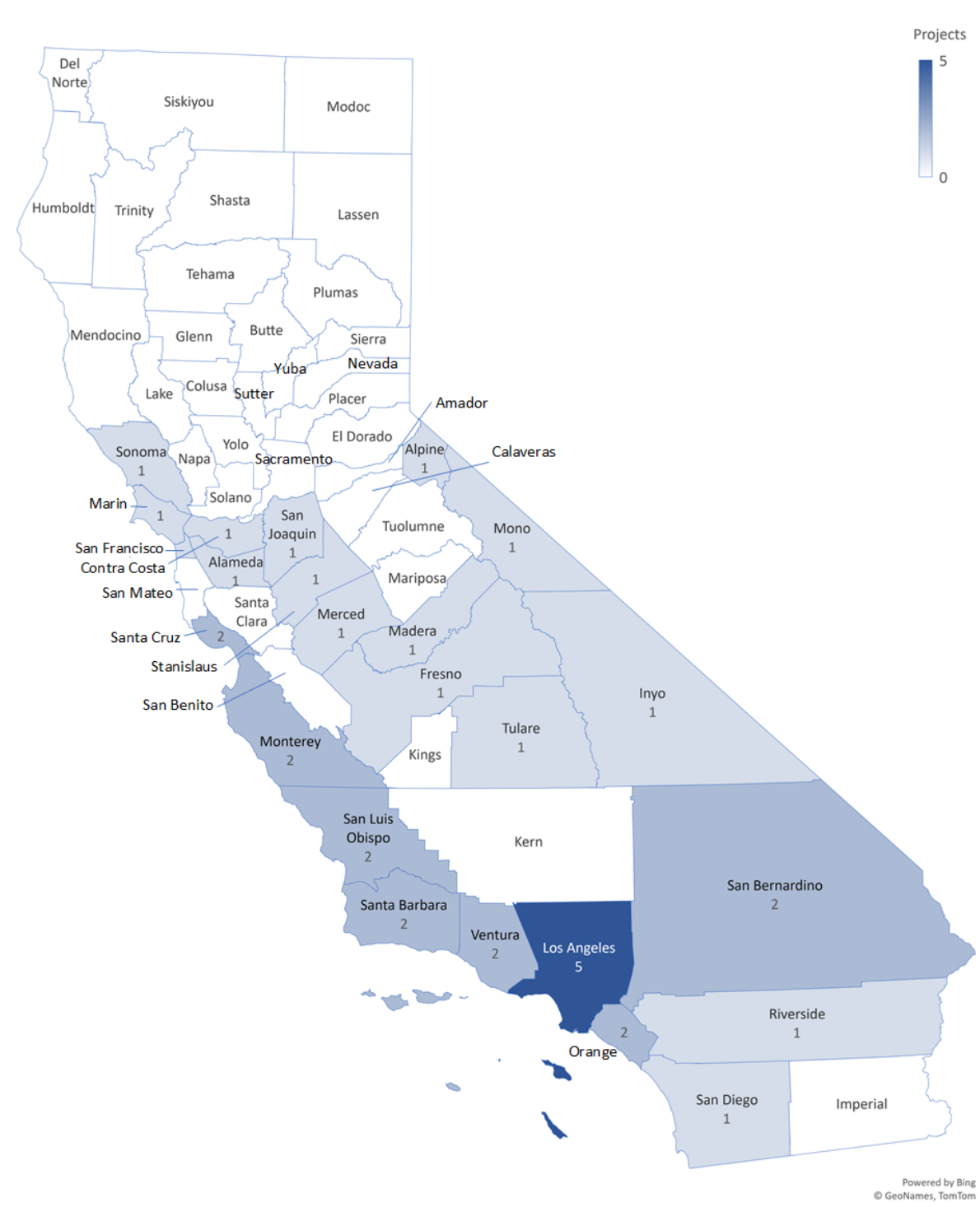
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| | services in one central community-based location after a thorough triage at the FRC is conducted. A point person at each organization is involved in overseeing their portion of this new program and each will engage in careful evaluations to ensure efficacy and satisfaction in the services provided. |
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**2022-2024 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (HP III) COMPETITIVE GRANT
APPLICATION PROFILE**

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|---|--|---|--|
| Organization Name | USD School of Law Legal Clinics (USD) | | |
| Project Name | Housing Rights Project - Representing Undocumented Indigent Clients in San Diego County | | |
| | Total Amount Requested | Total Amount Sub-Granted | |
| | \$ 883,230 | \$0 | |
| County(ies) Served | San Diego | | |
| Project Abstract | The core aspect of the proposed project is to provide full-scope legal representation, outreach, and educational workshops to undocumented indigent clients in landlord-tenant cases and other housing rights disputes. The San Diego Eviction Prevention Collaborative proposed the project to the USD Legal Clinics ("Legal Clinics") after their research discovered, due to LSC grant restrictions and other factors, that there are not any legal service providers in San Diego County willing and able to provide full-scope legal representation to undocumented indigent clients in unlawful detainer/eviction cases and other housing rights disputes. | | |
| Project Goals and Deliverables | Once the project is fully staffed and operational, approximately 50 indigent individuals would be served through educational workshops, outreach events, and/or direct legal representation every month (600 per year). On average, the Housing Rights Project would maintain an estimated active caseload of 20-25 unlawful detainer/housing cases at any one time. The Housing Rights Project would first prioritize serving indigent undocumented clients. It is our hope and expectation that community partners from throughout San Diego County will refer indigent undocumented clients to the Housing Rights Project for assistance and legal representation. | | |
| | Focus on Rural Communities? | Focus on Particularly Underserved? | Focus on Full-Scope Representation? |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rural Communities | Yes, the project will prioritize serving undocumented individuals, including those living in the rural eastern portion of San Diego County all the way to the Imperial County border. | | |
| Underserved Communities (Identify the communities and explain barriers.) | Yes, the project will prioritize serving undocumented individuals to provide eviction defense, other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant disputes, and other housing rights legal issues. Undocumented individuals and families face even higher barriers to accessing civil justice than do the low-income community generally because Legal Services Corporation ("LSC") funding does not allow Legal Aid Society to serve undocumented clients. As a result, unfortunately, undocumented indigent clients do not have access to justice, including free full-scope legal representation in landlord-tenant disputes and evictions due to their immigration status. | | |
| | Number of Partners | Number of Subgrants | |
| | 3 | 0 | |
| Collaboration (Describe how the applicant and partners will work together.) | The Housing Rights Project at the Legal Clinics will collaborate with other nonprofits throughout San Diego County to make potential clients aware of the free legal representation available to undocumented indigent clients. This will involve attending outreach events, conducting educational workshops, and creating/distributing informational materials to promote the services available. | | |

Map of Recommended HP III Competitive Projects: Number of Projects that Would Serve Each County

In addition to the projects represented on this map, five of the recommended projects would serve the entire state. Therefore, every county stands to benefit from the 23 highest-scoring proposals. The map below, however, plots the 18 proposals that would focus their services on particular counties.



| Organization | Counties Served | Score | Funding Requested | Funding Recomm. |
|---|---|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Inner City Law Center | Statewide | 88 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,300,000 |
| California Indian Legal Services | Alpine, Inyo, Mono | 86 | \$971,007 | \$770,000 |
| California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. | Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura | 86 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,100,000 |
| Inland Counties Legal Services | Riverside, San Bernardino | 83 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,250,000 |
| Legal Aid at Work | Statewide | 81 | \$924,000 | \$700,000 |
| Public Counsel | Los Angeles | 80 | \$1,499,688 | \$1,100,000 |
| Housing and Economic Rights Advocates | Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura | 75 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,100,000 |
| Immigrant Legal Resource Center | Fresno, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare | 75 | \$475,353 | \$330,000 |
| Justice in Aging | Statewide | 75 | \$915,000 | \$600,000 |
| Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino | San Bernardino | 75 | \$1,500,000 | \$950,000 |
| Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice | Los Angeles | 75 | \$1,500,000 | \$850,000 |
| Legal Aid of Sonoma County | Sonoma | 74 | \$887,100 | \$880,000 |
| Public Law Center | Orange | 73 | \$939,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| National Housing Law Project | Statewide | 73 | \$540,000 | \$500,000 |
| Community Legal Aid SoCal | Los Angeles, Orange | 73 | \$1,162,233 | \$900,000 |
| Bay Area Legal Aid | Alameda, Contra Costa | 71 | \$1,020,471 | \$900,000 |
| Legal Aid of Marin | Marin | 71 | \$360,681 | \$360,000 |
| Neighborhood Legal Services | Los Angeles | 71 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,100,000 |
| Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles | Los Angeles | 70 | \$1,166,625 | \$810,000 |
| OneJustice | Statewide | 70 | \$750,000 | \$600,000 |
| USD School of Law Legal Clinics | San Diego | 70 | \$883,230 | \$800,000 |
| Eviction Defense Collaborative | San Francisco | 68 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,025,000 |
| San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation | San Luis Obispo | 68 | \$715,590 | \$575,000 |