

Application: 0000000137

Maryza Seal - maryza.seal@ventura.org
BHBH County Behavioral Health Agencies Request for Applications (RFA)

Summary

ID: 0000000137

Applicant Organization Information

Completed - Apr 28 2023

Form for "DHCS Behavioral Health Bridge Housing" (BHBH)

Application Questions



Welcome to the BHBH application portal. Note that applications will only be accepted from the County Behavioral Health agencies as described in [Attachment A](#) on page 15 of the RFA. If you have any questions on your eligibility, please email BHBHinfo@ahpnet.com.

Responses Selected:

By checking this box, I acknowledge that I am completing this BHBH application on behalf of my County Behavioral Health Agency.



A. Applicant Organization Information

Name of County

Responses Selected:

Ventura County

County Agency Full Name for Contracting Purposes

Ventura County Behavioral Health Department (VCBH)

Name of County Agency

For use in public-facing materials and program description

Ventura County Behavioral Health Department

County Agency Mailing Address

1911 Williams Drive, Suite #200

County Agency City

Oxnard

County Agency State

California

County Agency ZIP Code

93036

County Agency website URL

<http://myvcweb/index.php/behavioral-health>

Application Contact Name

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B. Application Summary

Provide a 250- to 300-word executive summary (for public use) describing your county’s planned use of BHBH Program funding, including the number of people to be served, key partners, and desired outcomes.

VCBH proposes a tapestry of BHBH options that include motel vouchers, expanding shelter beds; rental assistance at project based and scattered site locations; and efforts to augment funding at licensed board and cares.

Staffing

VCBH requires the addition of staffing to perform grant-related activities for all housing options. SAMHSA recommends a ratio of 1 case manager for each 20 people housed.

Short-Term Shelter

VCBH will work with new and existing shelter providers to identify space for increased number of emergency shelter beds at a grant-funded rate of \$75,000 per new shelter bed. These new shelter beds will be located throughout Ventura County. Additionally, VCBH will fund motel stays up to 3 weeks while providing intensive housing navigation to eligible clients.

Interim Housing

Site-Specific Rental Assistance - VCBH will work with the local CoC and Project Homekey developers to leverage funding and provide rental assistance at site specific locations throughout Ventura County. Site specific rental assistance will be provided directly to property management for the restricted units at Homekey sites based on HUD Fair Market Rent (FMR). Additionally, VCBH is committed to exploring funding options for on-going rental assistance when the BHBH funding ends. VCBH will provide on-site supportive services with a grant-funded staff. VCBH has decades of experience managing rental assistance programs.

Scattered Site Rental Assistance – VCBH will identify 2 and 3 bedroom apartments accepting County funding to provide families with HUD FMR rental assistance and supportive services through June 30, 2027. VCBH has decades of experience managing scattered site rental assistance programs.

Board & Cares

VCBH will seek new board and cares willing to accept State/County funds and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit in lieu of private funding. VCBH will offer patch funding for serving new eligible clients. VCBH has decades of experience working with local board and cares.



C. Experience

1. Describe your county behavioral health agency's (BHA's) specific programs and efforts to address the housing needs of individuals with serious behavioral health conditions, including serious mental illness (SMI) and substance use disorder (SUD) (e.g., interim housing, recovery housing, Permanent Supportive Housing [PSH], homeless outreach). (500-word limit)

VCBH provides mental health treatment and services to clients with a serious mental health disorder that is substantially affecting their functioning at home, school, work and in the community. The goal of treatment is to reduce the impact of the mental illness and to assist clients in continuing to live independently in the community. VCBH offers services and treatment for youth and family, transitional age youth (TAY), adults and older adults at a network of community-based clinics and in partnership with other community-based organizations. VCBH offers crisis response, medication management, substance use treatment, inpatient and outpatient services, residential treatment, suicide prevention and peer support.

Rental Assistance

VCBH operates a variety of housing programs that are reserved for low-income clients with mental health disability. Many of VCBH housing programs are referred through the County's Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Coordinated Entry System (CES). VCBH funds and/or supports permanent supportive housing (PSH) units in all cities and unincorporated Ventura County. The following is a description of our PSH units:

- 16 site specific properties totaling 209 units (mostly 1 bedrooms, however, we do have some 2 bedrooms and at least two 3 bedroom units).
- 1 scattered site CoC grant serving 26 households county-wide;
- 105 additional PSH units in the pipeline under the No Place Like Home (NPLH) program.

VCBH provides supportive services for a minimum of 20 years for each PSH unit.

Adult Residential Facilities (ARF)

- 5 Board and Cares (18-59 years) totaling 126 beds
- 2 Residential Care for the Elderly (RCFE) (60+ years) totaling 90 beds

VCBH contracts with seven local ARFs. Residents at ARFs receive 24-hour care, including all meals, transportation, medication management along with social and recreational activities. The contracted ARFs agree to accept client's SSI in lieu of rent and VCBH provides some monthly supplemental funding.

Non-Licensed, Independent Community Based Living

VCBH provides temporary funding to clients seeking to live in non-licensed shared living situations such as sober living homes and room and boards. VCBH does not inspect these homes nor do we place clients in them or

recommend one over another. This type of assistance is reviewed monthly and VCBH pays the property manager directly.

Motel Vouchers

VCBH has a long standing relationship with a local motel owner who has agreed to make 20 rooms per month available for this proposal.

2. What is your county BHA's experience collaborating with the Continuum of Care (CoC) and other homeless/housing agencies in your community? Did you communicate or collaborate with the CoC in the development of the proposed BHBH Program? (250-word limit)

VCBH is a partner organization in Ventura County's Continuum of Care (CoC). The CoC oversees the majority of affordable housing funding in Ventura County, including Homekey projects which are where the site-specific rental assistance for this proposal will be located. VCBH has worked closely with the CoC to develop and build No Place Like Home (NPLH) housing projects in the County and is compliant with Housing First requirements. Additionally, VCBH has collaborated with the CoC under this proposal to leverage Homekey funding (Option #2).

VCBH partnered with the CoC and Homekey developers to establish a number of restricted units for rental assistance under this proposal. The CoC conducted a market study of the local HMIS which determines the number of people eligible for site specific rental assistance under this proposal. Additionally, VCBH has ensured that each of our community-based clinics have at least 1 staff person licensed to enter clients into HMIS allowing homeless clients to access CoC housing resources from any VCBH clinic in the County.

D. Understanding Community Need

1. As part of the Homeless and Housing Assistance Program Round 3 (HHAP Round 3), the California Interagency Council on Homelessness required a comprehensive local homeless action plan.

Applications and plans can be found at https://bcsh.ca.gov/calich/hhap_rd3_apps.html. Review your action plan(s) and answer the following questions.

a. Were you involved in the development of the HHAP Round 3 plan?

No

b. To the best of your knowledge, are the data included in this action plan accurate for the BHBH Program?

Yes

Please explain. (200-word limit)

Mostly. The HHAP 3 Local Homeless Action Plan Goal #5 attempts to address return to homelessness by adults with substance use disorders (SUD) but does not address addiction, treatment, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) or even harm reduction efforts. VCBH offers voluntary Substance Use Services (SUS) for all clients. Furthermore, the HHAP 3 Local Homeless Action Plan does not address the need for more Board and Care beds or CARE Court.

In addition to the HHAP 3 Local Homeless Action Plan, VCBH, in collaboration with the CoC, has conducted a market survey to determine number of eligible population currently within HMIS. The HMIS market survey was conducted in March 2023 specifically for this proposal. The market survey shows 79 individual adults, 8 couples and 1 family of 3 with mental health diagnosis. Additionally, currently residing in Project Homekey units are 32 individuals, 1 TAY and 17 couples with mental health diagnosis. These numbers indicate that there are 96 people that can potentially benefit from emergency shelter (either motel vouchers or expanded shelter beds); at least 1 family that will benefit from scattered site rental assistance; and 50 individuals and couples that will benefit from site specific rental assistance.

2. Did people with lived experience of homelessness and/or a serious behavioral health condition contribute to this proposal?

Yes

What were their contributions? (200-word limit)

The VCBH Housing Manager met with consumers and advocates regarding the proposal for bridge housing. Most consumers want to see more affordable and supportive housing and more Board and Care beds. Additionally, both staff and consumers are concerned how the programs will be sustainable after 2027. The VCBH Housing Manager collected surveys from homeless stakeholders in April 2023.

3. Have you used additional reports or data to inform the design of your BHBH Program?

Yes

a. Provide citations and links and/or attach other reports or information that have informed your assessment of community need.

The information that has informed our assessment of community need includes stakeholder input, survey of the VCBH Housing waitlist, HMIS Market Study, CARE Court list of participants; MHSA 3 Year plan; 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment and the funding restrictions of the grant.

- 2023 HMIS Market Study: This survey was conducted in March 2023 and shows that at least 113 individuals; 25 couples and at least 1 family of 3 will benefit almost immediately from the services provided through this proposal. This information has been conveyed via e-mail from the CoC to the VCBH Housing Manager and is available upon request.
- VCBH Housing Waitlist is an internal document that is HIPPA protected;
- CARE Court list of participants – still under development and undergoing legal tests, however, it is estimated that Ventura County will have roughly 12 participants.
- MHSA 3 Year Plan: [https://www.vcbh.org/images/Exhibit_1 - MHSA FY 20-23 Three Year Program Expenditure Plan and Annual Update for FY 19-20 Reduced size.pdf](https://www.vcbh.org/images/Exhibit_1_-_MHSA_FY_20-23_Three_Year_Program_Expenditure_Plan_and_Annual_Update_for_FY_19-20_Reduced_size.pdf)
- VC Community Health Needs Assessment: https://www.healthmattersinvc.org/content/sites/ventura/chnas/Ventura_CHNA_2022_v4.pdf
- Stakeholder surveys conducted by VCBH in April 2023.

[BHBH Stakeholder Surveys.pdf](#)

Filename: BHBH Stakeholder Surveys.pdf **Size:** 587.2 kB

[Managment Plan.pdf](#)

Filename: Managment Plan.pdf **Size:** 79.6 kB

b. What do those reports say about reaching and serving people experiencing both homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions in your community? (350-word limit)

Engaging the target population to be served by rental assistance for this project will not be difficult because many of the individuals and families living with homelessness that are eligible are in HMIS, on the VCBH waitlist and may be part of the CARE Court census. Additionally, many of the Homekey beneficiaries are already staying in the motels that are slated for conversion to PSH. Furthermore, VCBH's HHAP 2 grant serving TAY homeless clients is well underway giving VCBH a jumpstart on engaging this population. Finding family housing with private property owners and managers for scattered site rental assistance will be more of a challenge, however, VCBH has established relationships with many property owners through our existing CoC grant and has built rapport with an existing property management engagement program offered through the local United Way.

Engaging clients for the motel vouchers and shelter beds will not be difficult since these resources are accessed daily by VCBH staff working on behalf of homeless clients.

Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court is a new mandated framework to get people with mental health and substance use disorders additional support. CARE Court will help people suffering from untreated mental health and substance use disorders leading to homelessness, incarceration or worse. The goals of CARE Court are to connect a person struggling with untreated mental illness and substance use with a court-ordered Care Plan for up to 24 months. Each plan is managed by a team and can include clinically prescribed interventions with supportive services, medication and a housing plan. VCBH will work closely with its partners to engage CARE Court population.

The HMIS market survey indicates that there are a total of 163 eligible people that have been entered into HMIS and are currently seeking PSH.

Additionally, the VCBH housing waitlist has people that have been waiting up to 10 years for housing opportunities.

The Ventura County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) identifies Mental Health as the #1 problem facing the community. Mental health treatment is not addressed by the CoC in the LHAP, however, VCBH can address it under this proposal.

4. What are the gaps in the current system for people with behavioral health conditions that would be addressed by the BHBH Program? Are there specific subpopulations of the target population in your county that would be prioritized for support through the BHBH Program? (400-word limit)

The Ventura County CoC does not provide mental health or substance use treatment for housing beneficiaries, nor do they fully fund supportive services. VCBH will provide these services to participants utilizing dedicated staff in concert with our clinical teams both on-site at Homekey projects and at community based mental health clinics.

The BH Bridge Housing program will serve clients that are homeless with SMI that have been unable to secure permanent supportive housing. In addition to mental health and substance use treatment, VCBH will provide individualized housing navigation, will secure family housing under the scattered site model and engage potential property managers.

There are limited resources for board and care facilities that provide housing and 24 hour care for homeless clients with mental health diagnosis that need a higher level of care. The Behavioral Health Bridge Housing program will begin to address this issue but will not address the need to increase social security benefit to an amount that will cover the actual costs of assisted living.



E. Proposed Program Design

1. What housing types do you propose to develop through the BHBH Program, how many beds will be available in each, and how did you estimate the need by housing type? (350-word limit)

Short term housing (less than 90 days): VCBH will work with local emergency shelter providers to expand shelter beds. It is estimated that approximately 15-20 new shelter beds will be created using BHBH funding. Additionally, VCBH will procure 20 to 30 motel rooms per month. Each motel room will be available up to 3 weeks maximum and beneficiaries will be required to have an exit plan to housing or residential treatment. The need for short term housing and shelter beds is determined by the March 2023 HMIS market survey, consumer input, the anticipated number of potential CARE Court participants, the restrictions of BHBH funding and the available locations for shelter beds in Ventura County.

Interim Housing (90 days to 2 years w/optional 1 year extension): VCBH will provide site specific rental assistance for at least 65 studio apartments at Homekey locations where motels are being converted to PSH. Each converted motel room will accommodate an individual or couple who will pay 30% of their income towards rent. The balance of their monthly rent will be paid with BHBH funding. Currently, the HUD 2023 Fair Market Rent (FMR) for Ventura County for a studio apartment is \$1,703. This amount will increase yearly and the proposed budget for rental assistance reflects an estimated increase in the FMR.

VCBH will also engage owners and managers of private properties in the community that provide 2 and 3 bedroom apartments for homeless families. It is anticipated that VCBH will serve approximately five (5) homeless families utilizing a scattered site rental assistance model. The number of homeless families served under the proposed scattered site model is determined by local HMIS survey and the number of known families currently residing at shelters.

Board and Care "Patches": There are few Adult Residential Facilities (ARF) in Ventura County that accept SSI in lieu of paying full price for assisted living. VCBH will seek additional facilities willing to accept SSI clients that are homeless. VCBH will offer an incentive not to exceed \$500 per person per month for those new ARF beds for three years.

2. How will you identify potential bridge housing options described above and how will you secure them for use by BHBH Program participants? (500-word limit)

The 3 types of Bridge Housing described in this proposal will be secured by VCBH working with local motels, local providers of emergency shelter beds and cities where Homekey projects are located, the local CoC and the County Board of Supervisors and CEO. VCBH has already met with these entities and gained agreement on our Bridge Housing proposal.

3. How will the BHBH Program address the unique needs of individuals with diverse behavioral health conditions (e.g., opioid use disorder, psychotic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, stimulant use disorder)? (500-word limit)

VCBH provides voluntary mental health treatment for the target population in Ventura County. VCBH employs a variety of evidence-based treatment options for people with Severe Mental Illness including:

- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Assertive Community Treatment
- Motivational Interviewing
- Active listening and goal setting
- FDA-approved Medicines
- Personalized Case Management
- Substance Use Treatment, including Medication Assisted Treatment
- Medication Management
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Group Therapy
- Peer Support and Positive Modeling
- Linkages to community resources

Recognizing that individuals eligible for the Bridge Housing opportunities may be individuals with complex and long-term homelessness and untreated mental illness, will require an individualized approach to assessment of needs and goals. The services and goals for each participant beneficiary will be developed in partnership the dedicated grant-funded Housing Case Managers using a strengths-based approach. Services will support the participant tenant in retaining housing in compliance with Housing First principles. Participant tenants will have access to a multidisciplinary team (MDT), including recovering consumers/peers and staff reflecting the ethnic and cultural make-up of the county. The MDT clinic-based team may include a psychiatrist, nurse, clinicians and Mental Health Associates. All services will be offered on a voluntary basis. The complete supportive services program may include, but not be limited to: assessment and evaluation; emergency assistance with food and clothing as needed; individual goal/service planning; assistance in accessing mainstream benefits; case management; independent living skills development/housing retention skills; transportation assistance; money management and financial education; medical assessment and wellness; treatment and referrals; addiction disorder treatment; employment services and opportunities; crisis intervention and counseling; community building; evidence based practices; individual and group therapy; peer support; and any other services as needed. The frequency and intensity of services will be tailored to the needs of the individual.

4. How do you plan to address the needs of diverse cultural groups, families, and other unique populations? What steps are you taking to advance racial equity in the design of the BHBH Program? (500-word limit)

Health equity is achieved when everyone has the opportunity to live a healthier life, no matter who we are, where we live, or how much money we make. And while we can't currently ensure that everyone will be healthy, we can change the physical conditions in which people live, learn, work and play, one community at a time. These conditions are called the Social Determinants of Health, and by improving these conditions we can ensure that everyone has the opportunity to achieve their full potential and improve their quality of life.

Recognizing that the root causes of health disparities must be addressed in order to achieve lasting change, the Ventura County Behavioral Health, Office of Health Equity (OHE) was established to assist the department to promote health and well-being for the most vulnerable in our community. A priority for this office is the direct input and perspectives shared by multiple community stakeholders, including consumers and their families, community-based organizations and local governmental agencies. OHE strives to ensure that community voices are heard, and that important improvements are incorporated into programs and policies designed to reduce health disparities.

VCBH's Cultural Competency Plan can be found here:

https://www.vcbh.org/images/Ventura_County_Cultural_Competency_Plan2020_2021.pdf

5. How does your county BHA plan to use the BHBH Program to support Community Assistance, Recovery & Empowerment (CARE) Program participants? (350-word limit)

VCBH is monitoring the CARE Court program development in Ventura County and will be ready to serve this unique population when the Courts are ready to make referrals. VCBH will work closely with the Public Defender, the District Attorney's Office and the VC Superior Court to engage this population once the CARE Court program is up and running. VCBH will ensure that the CoC and local Coordinated Entry System will prioritize CARE Court clients for BHBH funded housing.

6. How will you ensure housing navigation is provided to all BHBH Program participants?

Describe your housing navigation program, including the following (500-word limit):

- a. How will you identify and prioritize participants for housing navigation? What will be provided?
- b. Will you offer Landlord Outreach and Mitigation Funds?
- c. How will housing navigation be provided?
- d. Do you plan to provide Participant Assistance Funds to help people meet their housing needs? If yes, how will these funds be managed?

a. VCBH intends to fund and hire 4.0 FTE dedicated housing case management staff under this proposal that will perform all grant related activities. The ratio of case managers to clients for all housing options will be approximately 1:20 and the number of people served annually under the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program is estimated to be about 75 people monthly and 385 annually.

b. Housing navigation shall include the following services for all participants:

- assisting people in identifying housing options; resources, and services;
- working with individuals to help them find, move in to, and retain affordable housing;
- developing relationships with community partners, other service providers, agencies offering housing subsidies, and property owners and managers;
- Helping individuals eliminate or reduce the impact of personal housing barriers such as criminal records, poor credit, or prior housing judgments due to eviction, as well as transportation needs, application fees, and/or utility payments;
- assisting in identification and reporting of instances of housing discrimination;
- linking individuals with bridge housing and housing subsidy agencies and assisting them in completing applications;
- working directly with property owners and public housing authorities (PHAs) on behalf of clients to facilitate approvals;
- assisting with required documentation, timely inspections, and corrective action and reasonable accommodation requests;
- assisting clients with move-in, utility, food and hygiene, housekeeping, transportation and moderate furnishings (all allowable expenses under this grant).

c. Housing navigation services under this proposal will be provided both in the field and at community-based clinics by 4.0 FTE grant-funded dedicated housing case managers. It is understood that some clients will need more intensive case management than others.

d. Yes. VCBH will manage this fund the same way we manage MHSA Full Service Partnership (FSP) basic needs

funding for our existing clients. Case managers request funding on behalf of clients. Requests are first approved by the Clinic Administrator and then the Senior Manager over the division (Youth and Family, TAY, or Adult). VCBH can assist with deposits in addition to rental assistance.

7. Which of the following activities do you plan to fund using the BHBH Program? Address the estimates of people served that are included in your budget template as you answer questions 8-13.

Responses Selected:

County BHA BHBH Program Implementation Requirements

Outreach and Engagement

Bridge Housing – Shelter/Interim Housing

Bridge Housing - Rental Assistance

Bridge Housing - Auxiliary Funding in Assisted Living Settings (commonly referred to as board and care patches)

Bridge Housing Start-Up Infrastructure

8. Describe how you will use funds for County BHA BHBH Program implementation requirements as described in [Attachment C](#) in the RFA.

In your response, include an explanation of how you will collaborate with the CoC and other homeless service providers. (350-word limit)

- Convene an advisory board, comparable entity, or local process for soliciting input into program planning, implementation, quality improvement from people with lived experience of homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions. VCBH has convened a discussion roundtable of consumers with lived experience who have provided feedback and input with regard to on-going quality improvement measures into the program development and implementation process. The first round table was held in Oxnard and a survey questionnaire guided the discussion. Additionally, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board will be appraised of the Bridge Housing program and engaged in discussion around on-going improvements. VCBH will have on-going stakeholder events for the BHBH program.
- Establish a program lead who will direct these efforts - The VCBH Housing Manager will lead all efforts around this Bridge Housing proposal, including meeting all program requirements.
- Coordinate with local CoC and other stakeholders focused on serving similar target populations to expand capacity for addressing the needs of individuals with serious behavioral health conditions - VCBH coordinates all aspects of housing with the VC CoC and actively participates in local HMIS. VCBH community based mental health clinics have HMIS licensed operators whom are assigned to each clinic. Additionally, 4.0 FTE dedicated housing case managers funded by this proposal will provide liaison with the CoC, all community-based clinics, housing and supportive services providers, other county agencies, private property managers and ARF operators.
- Implement and actively participate in HMIS – VCBH incorporated HMIS into all our community-based clinics in 2019 and actively participates in all HMIS activities. VCBH has decades of experience managing housing referrals through HMIS as we are currently a HUD and HHAP 2 Grant recipient. Many of VCBH's housing programs pre-date the COC.
- Submit required reports and documentation to AHP/DHCS - VCBH will submit all required reports and documentation to AHP and DHCS. In a timely manner and will seek technical assistance regularly to ensure compliance.

9. Describe how will you use funds for outreach and engagement. (Refer to Attachment C for a list of requirements and options for outreach and engagement services.) (350-word limit)

a. Describe the outreach and engagement services you will offer. How will you engage both existing behavioral health clients and individuals who are not engaged in services and treatment but are likely eligible?

b. How will you coordinate with existing homeless outreach efforts in your county?

VCBH will conduct outreach and engagement to a variety of populations including:

- Those on the VCBH housing wait list;
- FSP clients;
- Those identified in the 2023 HMIS Market Survey:
- Homekey/Project Room Key participants;
- Affordable housing developers (Project Homekey site specific rental assistance);
- Property managers and owners (for scattered site rental assistance);
- Board and Care operators;
- CARE court participants;
- Justice involved clients;
- SUS clients;
- CoC and local service providers;
- Emergency shelters;
- Sober living homes;
- Health Care for the Homeless & Backpack Medicine clients.

Outreach and engagement services will be provided by dedicated housing case managers funded by this bridge housing proposal. Each type of outreach is different, however, taken all together, VCBH will provide outreach to at least 50 people and/or organizations per month.

a. Outreach and engagement services include attending meetings to spread the word among local service providers, clinic staff, the local Community Health Center (CHC) clinics and Health Care for the Homeless, local homeless and diversion court programs, jails, psychiatric hospitals, discharge planners, CoC, mental health clinics, local sober living homes, emergency departments, local homeless task forces and street outreach teams.

b. VCBH is already an active participant in homeless outreach efforts in Ventura County and this Bridge Housing program will be promoted through our existing network of service providers. Additionally, VCBH has an entire department devoted to outreach and engagement.

10. How will you use funds for bridge housing – shelter/interim housing options? (500-word limit)

- a. Please describe the types of bridge housing settings you intend to create (e.g., shelter, motel vouchers, recuperative care—see [Attachment C](#) for a more detailed, though not exhaustive, list) and the number of beds of each. If you already have identified potential sites, please list them. If you have not, please identify the types of units you intend to explore (e.g., single-family homes, tiny homes, office conversion—see [Attachment C](#)).
- b. Describe the supportive services that will be provided. How many people are you proposing to serve?
- c. How will you identify and prioritize participants?
- d. How will you accommodate pets?
- e. Are you working with, or do you intend to work with, partners to deliver this program? If so, briefly describe the relationship(s) and how you are working with your partners or how you will identify or contract with partners.

a. VCBH proposes a tapestry of bridge housing that includes expanding shelter beds; providing motel vouchers and rental assistance at both project based and scattered site locations throughout Ventura County; and reaching out to new board and cares.

Staffing Requirements

VCBH will require staffing to perform grant-related activities. VCBH is proposing 3.5 to 4.0 FTE dedicated Housing Case Managers.

Short-Term Housing

VCBH will work with operators of emergency year round shelters to identify space for increased number of shelter beds at an allowable rate of \$75,000 per new shelter bed. Additionally, VCBH will offer motel accommodation for up to 3 weeks.

Interim Housing

VCBH will work with the local CoC and Project Homekey providers to deliver rental assistance to new, formerly homeless residents at site specific Homekey locations of motel conversions to permanent supportive housing (PSH) county wide. The number of units to be made available to the target population at site specific locations is 65. Funds will be provided directly to property management for the restricted units based on HUDs FMR. Under this site specific model, VCBH will have an MOU with the Homekey project operator. VCBH will provide on-site supportive services.

VCBH staff will conduct property management engagement efforts to identify apartments in the community that will accept BHBH funding. VCBH will provide families with rental assistance at these scattered site locations with supportive services.

Board and Care “Patches”

VCBH will seek out new board and care operators willing to accept BHBH funds and serve the target population. VCBH will offer a rate not to exceed \$500 per person monthly to incentivize new board and cares.

b. The type and frequency of supportive services to be offered to participants of the BHBH program at shelters and motels will be focused on moving participants to permanent housing. All BHBH participants will receive:

Mental health & substance use treatment

Case management

Medication management

Peer support

Vocational and rehabilitative services

Group sessions

Budgeting and independent living skills

Referrals to community resources

Family support.

c. All BHBH applicants will be entered into HMIS and VCBH will receive referrals through CES. CARE Court participants and Homekey residents will be prioritized for permanent supportive housing. FSP, VCBH waitlist clients and clients already prioritized through HMIS will be referred to motel and/or shelter beds with a plan to move on to PSH.

d. Emotional support pets are permitted at Homekey sites and most shelters in Ventura County, however, VCBH will also coordinate with the local Buddy Nation (<https://buddynationangels.org/>) if needed.

e. VCBH is working with the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to accept DHCS funding in order to provide BHBH funds to our partners.

VCBH is working with the local CoC to organize and prioritize referrals.

VCBH is working with various cities and Homekey providers to provide rental assistance.

VCBH is working with local motel operators and shelters.

VCBH is working with Human Resources to fund and hire 3.5 FTE dedicated BHBH staff.

VCBH will work with Community Care Licensing to engage new ARFs.

11. How will you use funds for bridge housing through short- and/or mid-term rental assistance? (500-word limit)

a. Describe your rental assistance program, including whether you plan to use scattered-site or project-based units, and how it will address the requirements described in [Attachment C](#).

b. How many rental subsidies are you budgeting for, and at what cost? What are your assumptions for length of rental subsidy?

c. How will you identify and prioritize participants?

d. How will you provide supportive services to individuals accessing rental assistance?

e. Given that BHBH Program funding ends June 30, 2027, what are your plans to move people from BHBH Program rental assistance to longer-term subsidies and/or employment?

a. VCBH will provide at least 65 individuals and couples with site specific rental assistance at the HUD FMR of \$1,703 for studio apartment at Homekey sites in Ventura County.

VCBH will provide up to five (5) families with scattered site rental assistance at the 2023 HUD FMR of \$2,425 per month for a 2 bedroom and \$3,368 per month for a 3 bedroom.

The rental assistance programs will be managed in the same way that VCBH manages their HUD CoC grant – clients will pay 30% of their income towards rent and VCBH will pay the balance. Participant income will be assessed annually. Housing provided will meet the requirements of ESG Minimum Habitability Standards and CoC Housing Quality Standards and units will be inspected annually. BHBH rental assistance subsidies will be approved by the VCBH Housing Manager and paid directly to the property owner/ manager by the County of Ventura Auditor Controller.

b. At least 65 studio apartments up to \$1,703 each.

Up to two 3 bedroom apartments at \$3,368 per month

Up to three 2 bedroom apartments at \$2,425 per month

c. All BHBH applicants will be entered into HMIS and VCBH will receive referrals through CES. CARE Court participants will be prioritized, however, eligible Homekey residents will be prioritized for permanent supportive housing at the locations where they are currently residing. Once we have served CARE Court and Homekey clients, VCBH will offer units to clients already prioritized in HMIS, FSP clients and eligible clients on the VCBH housing wait list.

d. Supportive services will be provided at all BHBH locations and at community based mental health clinics by the dedicated housing case managers funded by this proposal. Services provided at shelters will be provided by

shelter operators.

e. For the shelter beds and motel vouchers, VCBH grant-funded dedicated housing case managers will begin to taper referrals during the last six (6) months of the BHBH proposal in 2027.

For the BHBH rental assistance, VCBH will present families receiving scattered site rental assistance to the CES Pathways to Home Case Conferencing weekly meeting for transfer to another program.

For site-specific rental assistance, VCBH will work with the Homekey developers to establish other rent subsidy accounts in their operating budgets. Additionally, VCBH may consider using Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) funding to establish 3 year COSR accounts for some of the restricted units when the BHBH funding ends in 2027.

12. Describe any plans to provide auxiliary funding in assisted living facilities (commonly referred to as board and care patches).

VCBH has contracts with seven Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) in Ventura County to serve clients with serious mental illness who might otherwise be homeless. The board and care residents cannot live independently and receive 24 hour care, including all meals, transportation, medication management along with social and recreational activities. Clients receiving social security benefits assign their checks to the ARF operator and VCBH pays an additional monthly augmentation rate (the “board and care patch”). The number of ARFs in Ventura County willing to serve the target population is minimal and finding more ARFs willing to contract with VCBH will be challenging, however, VCBH proposes an extensive outreach campaign to discover new ARF beds that will accommodate the target population. If successful, VCBH will initiate a 3 year contract with the ARF to serve the target population and VCBH will provide a monthly augmented rate of \$500 per person per month for the term of the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding.

13. Will you use funds for infrastructure? (See Attachment C for requirements related to startup infrastructure funding.)

Yes

a. Check all the applicable categories of infrastructure funds requested:

Responses Selected:

Tenant improvements (permits required)

Renovations (permits required)

Acquisition, placement, and related costs of modular or tiny homes

Adaptive reuse of non-residential property

Initial furnishings, equipment, and appliances

b. Briefly describe each proposed site, the proposed start-up infrastructure necessary, and any work completed to date.

VCBH will work with the local operators of emergency shelters to fund up to 20 shelter beds using Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funds at a rate of \$75,000 each bed and new \$27,000 per bed per year in operational costs. The locations of these shelter beds will be geographically diverse. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Start-Up Infrastructure expenses will include minor building renovations, furnishing and appliances.

c. How will you ensure that program sites will be available to house people within 1 year of contract execution?

This will be a condition of funding imposed on sub-contractors under contract with VCBH. Vendors will have to meet certain benchmarks that ensure beds are available by June 2024. Both Project Benchmarks and funding will be monitored by VCBH.

d. What is the estimated infrastructure cost per bed for each proposed project site?

This proposal is for \$75,000 per bed per the RFA, however, we can adjust costs if needed as we proceed.

e. Are you requesting an exception to the funding specification as described in Attachment C?

No



F. Management Plan

Describe your agency's capacity to implement this project:

1. Describe your overall management and staffing plan for implementation of the BHBH Program.

a. How will you involve people with lived experience of homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions—both SMI and SUD—as part of the planning, implementation, and quality improvement?

VCBH has developed and launched a discussion round table and on-going listening sessions throughout the county to garner consumer and peer input for Bridge Housing. The Bridge Housing round table meetings occur quarterly at different times of the day at various locations throughout the County. Additionally, VCBH has engaged consumers and stakeholders at all levels and the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) offers on-going opportunity to discuss the program. The BHAB meets monthly and the mission of the BHAB is to advocate for members of the community living with mental illness and/or substance use disorders and their families. This is accomplished through support, review, and evaluation of treatment services provided and/or coordinated through VCBH.

All appointed members to the BHAB have the authority to vote on all issues presented to the board. Board members review and evaluate the community's behavioral health needs, including housing, services, facilities, and special problems to ensure that services are provided that promote wellness and recovery, improving and maintaining the health and safety of individuals, families and communities affected by mental health and/or substance use issues.

b. Provide a brief description of the role of the BHBH program director or lead, including FTE dedicated to this project.

VCBH is proposing 4.0 FTE dedicated housing case managers for the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing project. The job classification for the grant-funded case managers is "Community Services Coordinator (CSC)" with a salary of \$86,790 per year and a County fringe rate of 45%. The grant funded CSCs will be dedicated to approximately grant-related activities through June 30, 2027. The VCBH Housing Manager will oversee the grant-funded dedicated housing team and is committed to investing the time needed to make it a successful project. The VCBH Housing Manager will ensure that all Bridge Housing program requirements are met including referrals through CES, Housing First compliance, supportive services, outreach and engagement, project benchmarks, reporting requirements, etc.

In addition to the dedicated Bridge Housing team, VCBH will provide fiscal and contracts management support, mental health treatment at our community based clinics where we have employed Psychiatrists, Behavioral Health Clinicians, Registered Nurses, Mental Health Associates and Clinic Administrators.

c. Do you plan to subcontract with provider organizations? If yes, provide a brief description of the role of subcontractors/providers, including how they will be selected and a timeline to initiate operations.

VCBH will sub-contract with local emergency shelter developers and operators for the provision and operation of new shelter beds. Given the time constraints of the BHBH funding, VCBH will work with these existing developers and operators to expand shelter beds for the target population. New beds will be located throughout the county and operations will be contracted out at a rate of \$27,000 per bed per year.

For the provision of ARF augmented rates (aka "board and care patches"), VCBH will have an MOU with the Board and Care Operator for the term of the Behavioral Health Bridge Funding.

d. Provide an organizational chart that shows how the BHBH Program will be housed in relation to your county's/agency's other behavioral health and homeless/housing programs.

[VCBH Org Chart BH Bridge Housing Application.pdf](#)

Filename: VCBH Org Chart BH Bridge Housing Application.pdf **Size:** 146.0 kB

2. Does your county BHA currently enter information into the HMIS data portal?

Yes

3. Provide a detailed timeline with significant milestones for the start-up and implementation of the BHBH Program.

You may optionally upload a file in place of filling out the following tables.

BHBH Program Implementation Start-Up (address each required area in Attachment C)

	Key Milestones	Responsible Party	Anticipated Completion Date
Row 1	Application & Budget Due to AHP/DHCS	VCBH	04/28/2023
Row 2	Consumer round Table Discussion	VCBH	04/18/2023
Row 3	Award Announcement	DCHS	06/30/2023
Row 4	Recruit & Train Dedicated Housing Case Management Staff	VCBH	10/01/2023
Row 5	Outreach & Engagement (clients & properties)	VCBH	12/01/2023
Row 6	Develop & Execute MOUs with Shelter Bed Providers. MOUs to include Supportive Service Plans	VCBH	10/01/2023
Row 7	Develop BH Bridge Housing Policy & Procedures	VCBH	09/01/2023
Row 8	Outreach & Engage Board & Care Facilities; Develop 3 Year MOUs	VCBH	12/01/2023
Row 9	Renovations of Shelter Facilities	VCBH	06/01/2024
Row 10	Begin Rental Assistance Referrals through CES	VCBH,CES	04/01/2024
Row 11	Begin Shelter Bed Referrals through CES	VCBH,CES	04/01/2024
Row 12	Consumer Round Table Discussion	VCBH	08/01/2024

Do you need more rows to complete this table?

Yes

BHBH Program Implementation Start-Up (address each required area in Attachment C)

	Key Milestones	Responsible Party	Anticipated Completion Date
Row 1	On-going Housing Navigation & Supportive Services	VCBH	12/01/2023
Row 2			
Row 3			
Row 4			
Row 5			
Row 6			
Row 7			
Row 8			
Row 9			
Row 10			
Row 11			
Row 12			
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Row 40			

Bridge Housing Project(s) Start-Up (include bridge housing infrastructure, outreach and engagement, bridge housing-interim housing, bridge housing-rental assistance, bridge housing-auxiliary payments in assisted living settings, and housing navigation under bridge housing project(s) start-up)

	Key Milestones	Responsible Party	Anticipated Completion Date
Row 1			
Row 2			
Row 3			
Row 4			
Row 5			
Row 6			
Row 7			
Row 8			
Row 9			
Row 10			
Row 11			
Row 12			

Do you need more rows to complete this table?

No

BHBH Program Quarterly Implementation Milestones (provide detail for each specific program)

	Key Milestones	Responsible Party	Performance Measure
Row 1	MOUs with Sub-Contractors	VCBH	Board Approval within 6 months of Award
Row 2	Hiring & Training Program Staff	VCBH,HR	Staff Hired & Trained within 6 months of Award
Row 3	Program Policies & Procedures	VCBH	Policies Finalized within 6 months of Award
Row 4	Facility Renovations Complete	Sub-Contractors	Beds Available within 1 year from Award
Row 5	Outreach & Engagement	VCBH	Enrolling clients within 9 months of Award
Row 6	Client eligibility verified in HMIS	VCBH	HMIS Survey within 6 months of Award
Row 7	Active Referrals to Shelter Beds & Rental Assistance	VCBH	Placements within 12 months of Award
Row 8	Housing Navigation & On-Going Supportive Services	VCBH	Within 9 months of Award
Row 9	Data Tracking & Required Reporting	VCBH	Within 6 months of Award
Row 10			
Row 11			
Row 12			

Do you need more rows to complete this table?

No

Summarize the key accomplishments to be completed in the first 90 days, first six months, and first year of the program.

First 90 Days:

- VCBH will establish MOUs with Homekey Projects
- VCBH will obtain BoS approval for the award, the MOUs and the 3.5 FTE

First 6 Months:

- VCBH will hire BHBH staff
- VCBH will secure funding for new shelter beds
- VCBH will begin outreach to private property managers and new ARFs
- VCBH will begin referrals to motels

First Year:

- VCBH will begin referrals and funding to Homekey residents
- VCBH will begin referrals and funding to scattered site rentals
- VCBH will begin moving clients from short term to long term housing
- VCBH will move clients to new shelter beds
- VCBH will begin paying incentives to new ARFs



G. Budget

Using the budget instructions in [Attachment E](#), provide a detailed BHBH Program budget and a narrative budget justification. The budget must be submitted using the BHBH Program Excel budget template, available online. The budget template also contains information on the number of people to be served.

Once you have completed the budget template and the narrative budget justification, you will upload them with the application.

Budget Template

[Ventura county_BH Budget Template Bridge Housing 4.25.23.xlsx](#)

Filename: Ventura county BH Budget Template Bridge Housing 4.25.23.xlsx **Size:** 149.1 kB

Budget Narrative

[BHBH application budget Narratives.pdf](#)

Filename: BHBH application budget Narratives.pdf **Size:** 138.2 kB



H. Attestation

Complete the attestation document ([Attachment F](#)) and upload it with the application.

[Attachment F- BHBH Program Applicat Attestation.pdf](#)

Filename: Attachment F- BHBH Program Applicat Attestation.pdf **Size:** 102.8 kB

Budget Narratives

Staffing

VCBH requires the addition of staffing to perform grant-related activities for all housing options. SAMHSA recommends a ratio of 1 case manager for each 20 people housed. Budget included 4 Community Service Coordinators. Total cost is \$1,569,827. This included 0.5FTE for Outreach & Engagement.

Short-Term Shelter and Start -up cost

VCBH will work with new and existing shelter providers to identify space for increased number of emergency shelter beds at a grant-funded rate of \$75,000 per new shelter bed. These new shelter beds will be located throughout Ventura County. Additionally, VCBH will fund motel stays for up to 3 weeks while providing intensive housing navigation to eligible clients. Total Shelter & Interim housing cost is \$3,611,520 and Start-up infrastructure cost \$1,500,000.

Rental Assistance

VCBH has decades of experience managing rental assistance programs. Total cost is for rental assistant \$6,651,241 which included site Specific rental assistance studio for 65 per month, Scattered site rental assistance for families 2 bedrooms for 3 per month and scattered site rental assistance for families 3 bed rooms 3 per month. This also included \$5000 deposit per 30 participants.

Board & Cares

VCBH will seek new board and cares willing to accept State/County funds and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit in lieu of private funding. VCBH will offer patch funding for serving new eligible clients. VCBH has decades of experience working with local board and cares. Total cost is \$118,000 which included \$500 per month per 6 participants.

County BHA Implementation

Total cost is \$65,044 for implementation, grant relate workload and other related initial and ongoing overseen.

Indirect Cost

Total indirect cost for each budget categories is 10% of direct cost.

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

1) How would you describe your current living situation?

I'm currently homeless living at Mercy House Orchard.

2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

I work at Ultimate Escape Rooms Ventura

3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons?

Lack of sufficient income My dog Precious
No credit
First time renter

4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

My ideal living situation would either be a studio or 1-bedroom apartment or a 2 bedroom apartment with a friend or partner.

5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

Too many people who are different and may not always get along with each other, lack of privacy.

6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

Yes, I could definitely benefit from mental health. Mental health treatment helps with getting people equipped to handle independent living.

7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

A shelter or motel

8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

Yes, I currently need help with credit repair, since I have no credit and need to learn how to build it.

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

0 Tiny Homes

3 Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

1 Apartment

4 Dorm-style Shelter

 Other (please specify): _____

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

1) How would you describe your current living situation?

Section 8

2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

SS - Spouse (widow)

3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons?

mental health - not connected to resources

4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

Section 8 + Soc. Sec.

5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

too many distractions

6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

not a fan but was in for a while (10)

7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

single occupancy w/ support

8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

not now - was on housing
with credit repair

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

2 Tiny Homes

3 Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

1 Apartment

4 Dorm-style Shelter

5 Other (please specify): Trailer

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

also need respite houses

independent living solutions

boost AAA HomeShare Program

RGG
EEL
AQA
YFI

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

1) How would you describe your current living situation?

Living in touring
point safe haven.

2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

currently
waiting for my social security hearing so
only ebt as of right now.

3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons?

not knowing the resources and
not being able to find the resource to
help me get off the streets.

4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

get social security getting on
section 8 assistance.

5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

trying to respect each other personal
boundaries.

6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

mental health has helped me
get the resources to get into touring point.

7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

Temp housing that focuses on
the reason for the persons reason for
being homeless.

8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

deposit would be useful after my
social security hearing in June 2023.

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

_____ Tiny Homes

_____ Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

_____ Apartment

_____ Dorm-style Shelter

_____ Other (please specify): _____

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

1) How would you describe your current living situation?

acceptable - payable rent

2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

social security

3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons?

getting thrown out of house by ex
due to my drinking also divorce

4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

I'd love where I'd live so something like
with a bathroom (studio apt.)

5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

I live in a dorm style shelter - it is
good or bad depending on other people.

6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

it is necessary for people who need it.

7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

dorm style

8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

Have not received housing navigation.
also do not need assistance w/ credit
repair, Homeless Court or deposits to
secure housing

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

6 Tiny Homes

____ Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

1 Apartment

____ Dorm-style Shelter

____ Other (please specify): _____

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

- 1) How would you describe your current living situation?

Transitional - Temp Shelter

- 2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

SSDI

- 3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons?

was living in a room & Board that I worked at and it was very Toxic as well as full of code violations - House closed.

- 4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

an apartment for 30% of my income.

- 5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

pro's: Not on the street - Safer (Temp)
cons: No privacy - over crowded

- 6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

I dont feel much about it. I dont have dual diagnosis, It wont affect me.

- 7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

To live Alone.

- 8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

Credit repair due to identity theft
Secure Housing.

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

_____ Tiny Homes

_____ Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

_____ Apartment

_____ Dorm-style Shelter

_____ Other (please specify): _____

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

1) How would you describe your current living situation?

A struggle consistent agony as if I'm in purgatory

2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

Yes I have applied

3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons?

My mental condition schizophrenia

4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

Just having a roof over my head & I would pay rent by getting a job

5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

I don't mind sharing rooms or dorm

6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

I feel as though the mental health programs are good

7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

I think any kind of housing

8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

I need help in all the above

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

1 Tiny Homes

4 Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

2 Apartment

3 Dorm-style Shelter

_____ Other (please specify): _____

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

Survey Questions for Bridge Housing Project Stakeholder Round Table Discussion #1

1) How would you describe your current living situation?

LIVING at Turning point - feeling grateful for the bed/pillow & Roof over my head.

2) What is your current source of income? Have you applied for SSI benefits?

I only receive ERST. Trying to get My pet sitting biz going. Im also consistently Applying for employment.

3) If you are unhoused currently (or have been unhoused in the past), what would you say are (or were) the main reasons? For me - Stupid Choice's. Can now realize NA is helping me.

4) What would be your ideal or preferred living situation and how do you plan to pay rent?

Get a little place w/ A yard. Have A dog/cat & have A job I love.

5) What are the pros/cons with shared living situations (e.g., shared room or dorm-style shelter)?

DRAMA - Con -
Shared life experiences - pro.

6) What are your feelings about mental health and/or substance use treatment? Do you feel like you could benefit from treatment? If so, how do you think it might effect your living situation?

I do have Substance Abuse & depression. I take medication & go to NA Meetings every day. Sometimes 2 times A day.

7) What type of housing do you think would be most popular or preferred by folks who are currently unhoused?

Somehow having Support.

8) Have you received Housing Navigation services? What was that experience like for you? Do you currently need help with credit repair, Homeless Court and/or deposits to secure housing?

?

9) Rank from 1-5 the follow housing options (1 being best/most preferred and 6 being least):

Tiny Homes

Shared living situation (e.g., Room & Board or Sober Living)

Apartment

Dorm-style Shelter

Other (please specify): _____

Additional Comments about Bridge Housing opportunities:

I just want to do the right thing.

F. MANAGEMENT PLAN

Describe your agency's capacity to implement this project:

1. Describe your overall management and staffing plan for implementation of the BHBH Program.

The VCBH Bridge Housing staffing plan is as follows:

Grant-funded fixed term positions: 3.5 FTE Community Services Coordinators @ approximately \$86,790 per year each and plus an additional 45% for fringe benefits.

Existing positions at VCBH that will be leveraged to support the BHBH program include:

- VCBH Housing Manager
- VCBH Contracts Manager
- VCBH Fiscal Manager
- VCBH Clinic Administrators
- VCBH Behavioral Health Clinicians
- VCBH Mental Health Associates
- VCBH Psychiatrists
- VCBH Administrative & Support Staff

Attachment F: BHBH Program Applicant Attestation

As an authorized representative of County of Ventura (county behavioral

health agency [BHA]), I, Scott Gilman (name) certify that I

understand and/or acknowledge the following:

1. The information, statements, and attachments included in this application are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and correct.
2. ~~I understand and agree that the~~The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) reserves the right to request clarification of unclear or ambiguous statements made in the application and other supporting documents submitted for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program funding.
3. The ~~county BHA shall use~~BHBH Program requires the county BHA to use BHBH Program funds to serve the targeted population(s) as described in the application. Further, the BHBH Program requires the county BHA will to meet all of the program requirements described in the request for applications (RFA) and attachments.
4. The BHBH Program requires the county BHA will to be responsible for ensuring that its BHBH Program and all components, including bridge housing start-up infrastructure, are on schedule and on budget.
5. Funding Any funding received for the BHBH Program will must be spent only on allowable uses as stated in the RFA and attachments, or on those uses for which the applicant has received express DHCS approval.
6. The BHBH Program requires the county BHA shall to be solely responsible for any costs needed to complete the proposed bridge housing start-up infrastructure in excess of the BHBH Program award amount. ~~Neither and that neither~~ DHCS nor Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP), the BHBH Program administrative entity, will be responsible for any cost overruns.
7. The funding the county BHA receives received through the BHBH Program will must supplement, and not supplant, other funding available from existing local, state, or federal programs or from grants with similar purposes.
8. The BHBH Program requires the county BHA will to respond to general inquiries and provide information requested from DHCS and/or AHP pertaining to the inquiry within three (3) business days of receipt, unless an alternate timeline is approved or determined necessary by DHCS and/or AHP.
9. ~~The county BHA understands that~~As part of the BHBH Program, DHCS and AHP will review the county BHA's progress in meeting deliverables and expending funds annually, and that if it is not on track to meet funding deliverables and spend its full contracted amount, DHCS will engage the county to discuss potential extensions or modifications. DHCS may redistribute those funds to other eligible county BHAs.
10. The ~~applicant~~BHBH Program requires the county BHA, as part of a separate funding agreement, to shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless DHCS and the State of California and all officers, trustees, agents, and employees of the same, as well as AHP, from and against any and all claims, losses, costs, damages, or liabilities of any kind or nature, including attorneys' fees, whether direct or indirect, arising from or relating to the grant funding or related project.

Scott Gilman

Signature of authorized representative

Scott Gilman

Name of authorized representative

4/28/23

Date

Behavioral Health Director

Title