

June 18, 2024

Scaling Up Homeless Prevention Efforts for Transition Age Youth and Older Adults

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors



Chief
Executive
Office.



County of Los Angeles
Homeless
Initiative

Board Motion: Preventing Homelessness for Older Adults and Transition Age Youth (TAY)

On February 6, 2024, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted a motion directing the Homeless Initiative to collaborate with County departments and agencies to report back with an analysis of:

- **Current homeless prevention strategies, programs, inter-departmental and agency coordination** serving older adults and transition age youth within the County.
- **Future efforts to scale up homeless prevention efforts countywide** with improved client outcomes in Fiscal Year 2023-24 and beyond.

Homeless Prevention Workgroups

In response to the Board motion, CEO-Homeless Initiative (CEO HI) convened workgroups of more than 20 key stakeholders, including County departments and agencies, LAHSA's Lived Experience Advisory Board, and the Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles. The workgroups were tasked with:

- 1) Creating an **inventory of current older adult and transition age youth homelessness prevention programs** and outcomes; and
- 2) Developing short-term and longer-term strategies to **reduce inflow into homelessness** among these two at-risk groups.

Homeless Prevention Programs in LA County

CEO-HI collaborates with service providers and County departments and agencies to improve housing stability and reduce the overall risk of homelessness for LA County residents. Some current programs include:

- **Stay Housed LA (DCBA):** Provides LA County residents with information and resources to prevent evictions and keep people in their homes, including legal representation, outreach, education, and short-term rental assistance.
 - **800+ households** retained their housing or received eviction aversion support in FY 2022-23
- **Prevention & Problem Solving (LAHSA):** Provides housing stabilization support, legal advocacy, landlord mediation, reunification and relocation assistance, and financial resources for households at risk of losing their homes.
 - Prevented homelessness for **389 families** and **916 individuals** in FY 2022-23
- **CalWORKs (DPSS):** Provides cash assistance to families with children to cover housing, food, and other necessary expenses.
 - **45,736** families enrolled in FY 2022-23

FY 2023-24 Strategies: Predictive Analytics & Training

Strategy	Lead Agency	Target Population
<p>Scale up predictive analytics to test whether changes in case management practices and financial supports can prevent or reduce homelessness among CalWORKs participants.</p>	DPSS	Families and TAY
<p>Train Aging & Disabilities staff on DPSS-administered benefits and using BenefitsCal website to increase the number of older adults accessing services.</p>	DPSS	Older Adults
<p>Train departments/agencies and community providers in problem-solving strategies and how to make referrals to LAHSA's problem-solving and prevention programs.</p>	LAHSA	Older Adults and TAY
<p>Train departments/agencies on how to screen veterans and connect to veteran benefits.</p>	DMVA	Older Adults

FY 2023-24 Strategies: Data Sharing & Technical Assistance

Strategy	Lead Agency	Target Population
<p>Enable data sharing between LACDA and DHS Homelessness Prevention Unit to enhance information sharing about clients in common and optimize client outcomes.</p>	<p>DHS LACDA</p>	<p>Older Adults and TAY</p>
<p>Use HMIS to enhance client screening process and service coordination/linkages with service providers DCBA contracts with to streamline services such as enrollment, outreach, and legal services to increase housing retention.</p>	<p>DCBA</p>	<p>Older Adults and TAY</p>
<p>Provide outreach and technical assistance to Public Housing Authorities to encourage participation in HUD's Youth to Independence Voucher Program.</p>	<p>LACDA</p>	<p>TAY</p>

FY 2023-24 Strategies: Community Engagement

Strategy	Lead Agency	Target Population
Provide information on homeless prevention resources to landlords and Housing Choice Voucher tenants , prioritizing tenants who have received notices of termination.	LACDA	Older Adults and TAY
Provide information on homelessness prevention resources to rent-burdened school districts to identify, engage, and refer them to services.	DCBA	Families and TAY
Enhance public communication platforms (e.g. websites, flyers) to spotlight prevention-related resources and client eligibility.	LACDA DCBA	Older Adults and TAY
Amplify the voices of young people with lived expertise by creating a youth and system leader roundtable to advise DMH and DCFS. Strengthen collaboration with the Youth Commission and other youth advisory bodies (e.g. DMH TAY Advisory Body).	DMH DCFS	TAY

Homeless Prevention: Strategies Beyond FY 2023-24

As we implement urgently-needed short-term strategies, we are simultaneously developing mid- and longer-term strategies to be implemented beyond the current fiscal year to **streamline coordination** among agencies and providers, **analyze and increase equity** in program design and delivery, **more quickly identify individuals at risk of becoming homeless**, and **improve housing retention** to reduce inflow into homelessness. Strategies include, but are not limited to:

- **Establish a “no wrong door” approach** allowing County departments, agencies, community providers, and the public to efficiently access countywide homeless prevention resources.
- Partner with County departments and community partners to **implement an enhanced proactive screening procedures** to identify individuals who are at higher risk of becoming homeless and quickly link them to resources.
- **Enhance and expand County-administered homeless prevention resources** to serve older adults and transition age youth.



Homeless Prevention: Strategies Beyond FY 2023-24

- **Increase use of predictive analytics** to provide efficient interventions targeting people who are most likely to benefit from them.
- **Coordinate with providers on targeted efforts to increase housing retention** among formerly homeless older adults and transition age youth and reduce returns to homelessness.
- Partner with the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative on an **equity analysis of older adults and transition age youth homeless prevention programs** and outcomes to use the results to inform program design and delivery modifications and adjustments in resource allocation to address disproportionality.
- **Continue homeless prevention advocacy efforts** to preserve existing and pursue new opportunities to scale up prevention programs.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

PREVENTION &
PROMOTION SYSTEMS
GOVERNING COMMITTEE



Stakeholder Engagement

- Convened an Interim Community Advisory Body to guide our work
 - 27 members with broad diversity in age and lived experience, including homelessness
- Co-hosted four (4) listening sessions on preventing homelessness and promoting housing stability with CEO HI
 - Tenants and advocates
 - People experiencing homelessness and housing instability
 - Property owners and managers
 - Non-County government partners
- Disseminated a survey
- Co-convened Homelessness and Housing Prevention and Promotion Work Group Meeting with CEO HI
 - Engaged subject matter experts and service providers
 - Identified critical cross-cutting systems-level needs



Domain: Homelessness and Housing

Focal Populations:

- Systems-impacted youth between the ages of 18-24
 - Overlaps with Behavioral Health Domain focus on disconnected youth between the ages of 16-24
- Older adults, age 60+

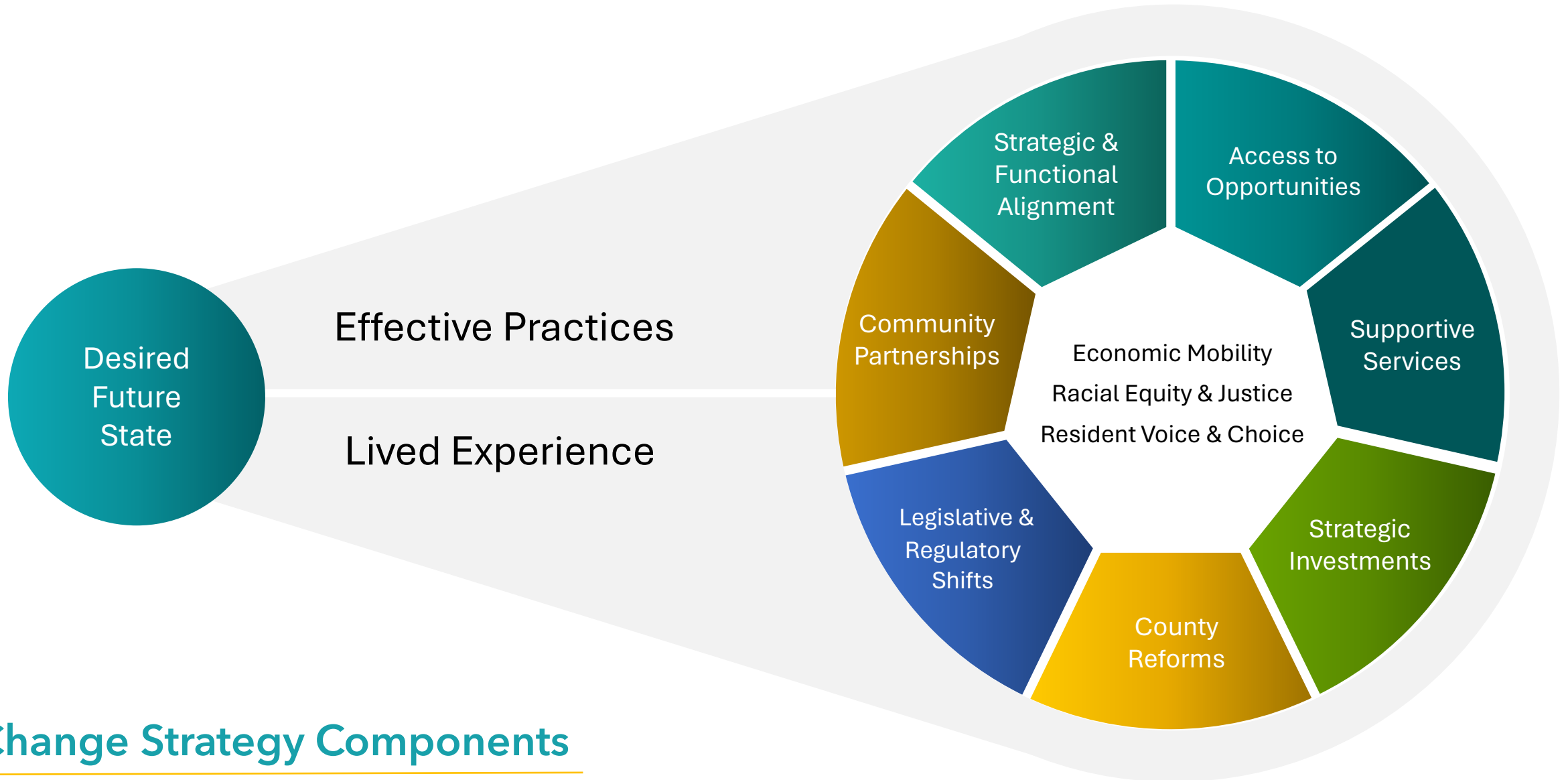
Outcome Goals:

- Increase housing stability
- Reduce associated racial disparities

Indicators (Metrics):

- Rates of housing stability among systems-impacted TAY
- Percentage of older adults experiencing rent burden





Change Strategy Components

Next Steps in Homelessness and Housing Domain

- Leverage leadership at the table
 - Address barriers to housing stability and solve problems in real time
 - Facilitate improved cross-departmental strategic and functional alignment
- Partner with stakeholders to develop change strategies and core Board-directed deliverables
 - Includes partnering with CEO HI and departments to implement recommendations regarding TAY and older adults
- Partner with CIO and departments on Prevention and Promotion data development
 - Begin addressing key Prevention and Promotion data gaps for TAY and Older Adults



Thank you.



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