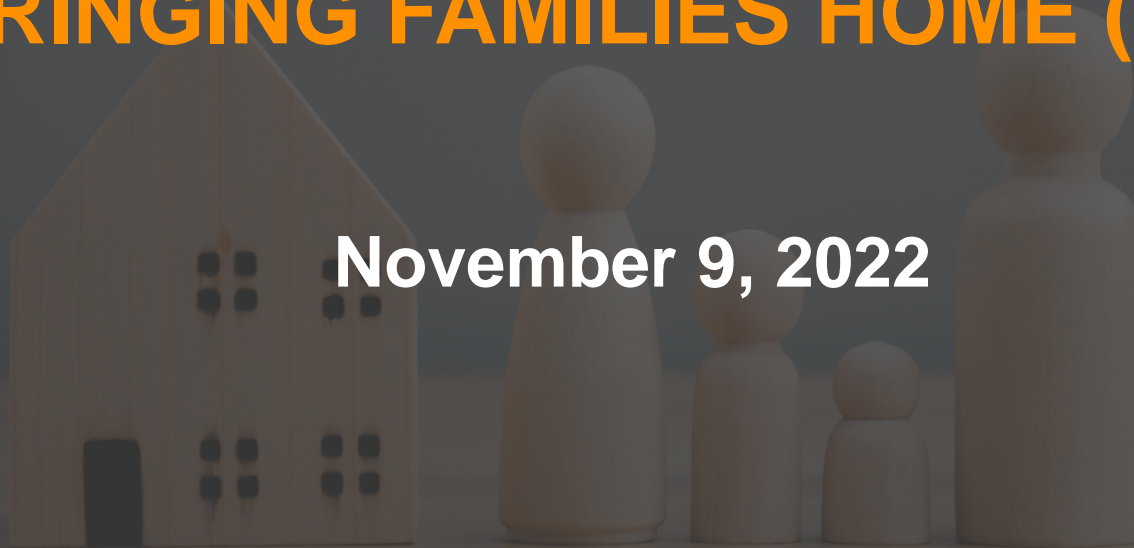




# **BRINGING FAMILIES HOME (BFH)**

**November 9, 2022**





## Introduction

The State Budget Act of 2021 (Senate Bill (SB) 129, Chapter 69, Statutes of 2021) appropriated an additional \$92.5 million in General Funds to continue and expand funding for BFH.

## Program Basics

The primary focus of the BFH Program is to provide housing support to families receiving child welfare services who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness, thereby increasing family reunification and keeping families together.





## Program Basics (Cont.)

Up to \$20 million is available to provide temporary rapid re-housing rental assistance, targeted prevention, legal, and supportive services for families in the child welfare system who are homeless or facing housing instability.

The BFH Contractor must participate in the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) Coordinated Entry System (CES) for families.



## Program Basics (Cont.)

To participate in the BFH Program, the family applying must meet the following five conditions:

1. Have an open case with child welfare services at the time eligibility is determined;
2. Be homeless, at risk of being homeless, or in a living situation that cannot accommodate the child or multiple children in the home, including individuals who have not received an eviction notice;
3. Voluntarily agree to participate in the Program;
4. Have annual income at or below 50% of Area Median Income; and
5. Be referred by the case carrying Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Social Worker or the Child Dependency Court.

## Program Basics (Cont.)

A family must meet homeless definition as defined in **Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Section 16523(d)**:

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Family Definition – household consisting of one or more minor children (17 or under) in the legal custody of one or two adults who are living together and working cooperatively to care for the children.
- Most Program participants will be referred from DCFS through 211 LA (Reverse referrals are also allowed).

## Major Program Changes

- Expansion to three program components: Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) with Bridge to Supportive Housing subcomponent, Prevention, and Legal Services.
- Service Planning Area (SPA)-based case conferencing.
- Reverse referrals allowed.
- Referrals of families to Contractors based on the SPA of origin (family voice and choice).
- Increased RRH's average cost per household to \$40,000.
- Matching funds are waived.



## Major Program Changes (Cont.)

- Flexibility to use funding within the general eligibility parameters.
- Rental assistance up to 24 months.
- Motel vouchers increase to 30 days; housing does not have to be identified.
- Alternative Interim Housing options.
- One-time emergency flexible funds up to \$250 per household.
- Slot-based case assignment approach to support reasonable caseload size.



## Eligible Applicants

- Eligible applicants are registered nonprofit organizations or joint ventures of nonprofits.
- Applicants for Prevention and RRH must have at least two years of experience providing services in support of homelessness prevention and RRH to families who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.
- Applicants for legal services must have at least two years of experience providing housing-related legal services to persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Applicants must have adequate financial and organizational capacity.
- Applicants cannot be debarred by the Federal, State, or Local Government.



## General Program Requirements

All proposals must meet the following requirements:

- Funds for administration must not exceed 10% of Program services budget;
- RRH and Prevention: Supportive services must not exceed 30% of the project total budget. Legal Services are not subject to the 30% limitation;
- All funded projects must be fully staffed and operational by March 7, 2023; and
- All funds are expected to be fully expended no later than June 30, 2024.

# Available Funding

Funding Term - March 2023 – June 2024

COMPONENT	FUNDING ALLOCATION
Rapid Re-Housing	\$13,788,048
Prevention	\$6,114,019
Legal Services	\$1,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,902,067</b>

# Rapid Re-Housing

## Funding Structure and Limits

SPA	% BY SPA*	FUNDING DISTRIBUTION	PROGRAM COSTS	ADMIN. MAXIMUM
1	9%	\$1,240,924	\$1,128,113	\$112,811
2	10%	\$1,378,805	\$1,253,459	\$125,346
3	20%	\$2,757,610	\$2,506,918	\$250,692
4	9%	\$1,240,924	\$1,128,113	\$112,811
5	5%	\$689,402	\$626,729	\$62,673
6	18%	\$2,481,849	\$2,256,226	\$225,623
7	13%	\$1,792,446	\$1,629,497	\$162,950
8	16%	\$2,206,088	\$2,005,534	\$200,553
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$13,788,048</b>	<b>\$12,534,589</b>	<b>\$1,253,459</b>

\* The percentage funding distribution is based on the number of housed clients for the Family Reunification Housing Subsidy Program from inception thru June 30, 2022.

# Rapid Re-Housing

## Bridge to Supportive Housing

- This is a sub-component of RRH for families that need more intensive case management and long-term subsidy with supportive services (e.g., Family Unification Program voucher, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) unit, Continuum of Care Voucher, the LACDA Public Housing turnover unit).
- Families may be identified for Bridge to Supportive Housing at any point while the family is enrolled in the BFH Program or at Program intake.
- The Program must be implemented by the Contractor operating both RRH and Prevention components and is applying for more than 50% of RRH funding.



# Prevention

## Funding Structure and Limits

SPA	% BY SPA*	FUNDING DISTRIBUTION	PROGRAM COSTS	ADMIN. MAXIMUM
1	9%	\$550,262	\$500,238	\$50,024
2	10%	\$611,402	\$555,820	\$55,582
3	20%	\$1,222,804	\$1,111,640	\$111,164
4	9%	\$550,262	\$500,238	\$50,024
5	5%	\$305,701	\$277,910	\$27,791
6	18%	\$1,100,523	\$1,000,476	\$100,048
7	13%	\$794,823	\$722,566	\$72,257
8	16%	\$978,243	\$889,312	\$88,931
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$6,114,019</b>	<b>\$5,558,199</b>	<b>\$555,820</b>

\* The percentage funding distribution is based on the number of housed clients for the Family Reunification Housing Subsidy Program from inception thru June 30, 2022.

# Prevention

- This is a new program component for BFH.
- The goal is to assist rent-burdened, low-income participants that are at imminent risk of becoming homeless to retain permanent housing.
- Families will be screened by the Contractor to determine other housing options to remain housed or to be rehoused temporarily or permanently.
- The level of case management and financial assistance will be determined by the family's unique circumstances and the results of a Prevention Targeting Tool.
- After six months of operations, the LACDA and DCFS will re-evaluate the Program to determine if adjustments need to be made (e.g., caseload size, length of enrollment, level, or duration of financial assistance).

# Legal Services

To assist families who are at risk of homelessness and may require legal services including support with:

- Eviction prevention;
- Landlord dispute resolutions;
- Resolving legal barriers that impact sustaining housing and other legal services related to housing stabilization; and
- Family law.

Program guidelines will be established on how the referrals will be initiated for legal services.





# Legal Services

## Funding Structure and Limits

- One contract will be awarded for the entire LA County.
- Award will be up to \$1 million.
- To ensure countywide coverage, applicants are encouraged to partner with other legal service providers. Such partnerships may include subcontracts.

## Timeline

October 7, 2022.....RFP Release

October 13, 2022.....Mandatory Virtual Proposer Conference

October 18, 2022.....Last day to Email Questions

October 20, 2022.....Q & A and Addendum Issued

November 8, 2022.....Applications/Proposals due by 4:00 pm

December 9, 2022.....Declination letters Issued

December 16, 2022.....Last day to Appeal

January 3, 2023.....Pre-Award letters to selected Applicants

March 7, 2023.....Anticipated Contract Start Date



## Mandatory Virtual Proposers Conference

- Mandatory Virtual Proposers Conference was held on October 13, 2022.
- 52 prospective applicants and 80 individuals attended the conference.



# Questions?

Thank you





## Contact Us

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