

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Stockton, San Joaquin County, and CoC Release Over \$12 Million for Homeless Assistance

STOCKTON, Calif. – The City of Stockton, San Joaquin County, and the San Joaquin Continuum of Care (CoC) have announced the release of a total of \$12,430,905 in funds through a State program called Homeless, Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP). The City, County, and CoC are partnering to release HHAP funds through a single coordinated grant application process, a first-of-its-kind effort. This will streamline the process for local non-profits and create efficiencies to better focus resources on projects developing shelter, housing, and services for the homeless.

Authorized by State Assembly Bill 101 and signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 31, 2019, the HHAP program provides funding for a broad range of projects and programs to address homelessness. Funds were allocated directly to counties and CoC entities, and the 13 largest cities in the state, based on population, which included Stockton. The City of Stockton, San Joaquin County, and San Joaquin CoC have collaboratively developed plans for the implementation of HHAP, creating a strategic plan on homelessness that was adopted by the CoC Board of Directors in June and the Stockton City Council and San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors this month.

"Working together is essential to addressing homelessness," says Adam Cheshire,
San Joaquin County Program Administrator for Homeless Initiatives. "Going back to the
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formation of the Homeless Task Force by Supervisor Kathy Miller in early 2015, we've been working together on solutions and funding, because no single organization or group has the resources to take on these challenges alone. This joint process is the culmination of years

of work, and it's amazing to see how far we've come as a community."

"The City of Stockton funding is an essential component of the overall regional approach to addressing the needs of homeless individuals," shared Carrie Wright, City of Stockton Economic Development Director. "Working collaboratively amplifies our dedication to making a significant impact. Proposals that align closely with the Strategic Plan, providing solutions such as low-barrier shelter beds and services that help individuals accomplish permanent housing, are essential."

Jon Mendelson, Chair of the San Joaquin Continuum of Care, agreed. "This united effort and funding are vital to expanding our ability to help homeless households get off the street, find shelter and services, and obtain permanent housing. With all three entities working in partnership together, we give our front-line service providers more support and a better chance at making the type of big, positive impact our community deserves."

For more information, please visit <a href="www.stocktonca.gov/Housing">www.stocktonca.gov/Housing</a> or call (209) 937-8539.

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