

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.20
(ID # 29618)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

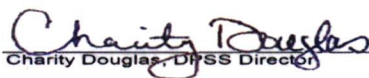
FROM : PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES (DPSS): Accept the Bringing Families Home Program (BFHP) allocation from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish, continue and expand housing and homelessness assistance and prevention, through June 30, 2028; Districts: All; [Total Cost: \$3,209,407; 100% State Funding]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Accept the Bringing Families Home Program allocation from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) in the amount of \$3,209,407; and,
2. Authorize the Director of DPSS, or designee, to administer the BFHP allocation and execute any certifications, agreements, assurances, reports, memorandums of understanding or amendments thereto, or other related documents required by CDSS to effectuate the allocation, as approved to form by County Counsel, and that are consistent with the funding conditions; and,
3. Authorize the Director of DPSS, or designee, charged with the responsibility of administering and implementing the BFH Program to:
 - a. Accept additional funding, if available, in the current or future fiscal year(s) through 2028, as a result to the BFHP initiative set forth by CDSS; and,
 - b. Execute subsequent certifications, memorandums of understanding, agreements, or amendments resulting from accepting additional funding, as well as any other documents which are related to the CDSS allocation, as approved to form by County Counsel, that are consistent with the funding conditions.

ACTION:Policy


Charity Douglas, DPSS Director

1/12/2026

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Medina, Spiegel, Washington, Perez, and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: January 27, 2026
xc: DPSS

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board

By: 
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$3,209,407	\$0	\$3,209,407	\$0
NET COUNTY COST	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% State			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	25/26 – 27/28

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The Bringing Families Home Program (BFHP) was established by Assembly Bill (AB) 1603 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016) and updated by Senate Bill (SB) 109 (Chapter 363, Statutes of 2019). The goal of BFHP is to increase family reunification and prevent foster care placement among participants in cases where housing instability prevents reunification or could lead to foster care placement. BFHP was created in 2016 with an initial \$10 million appropriation available over three (3) years. The 2019-2020 California budget Act included a state appropriation of \$25 million General Fund (one-time) for BFHP, available for a three-year period beginning July 2019 through June 2022. The Budget Act of 2021 (SB 129, Chapter 69, Statutes of 2021) appropriated a total of \$92.5 million in General Fund for BFHP in Fiscal Year 21/22. From this amount, Riverside County was initially allocated \$2,583,139. An additional \$78,077 was redistributed to Riverside County and announced on County Fiscal Letter dated April 27, 2022, bringing Riverside County's allocation amount to \$2,661,216.

The Children's Services Division (CSD) of Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) now has an opportunity to accept \$3,209,407 for the Bringing Families Home Program Allocation from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). CSD-DPSS intends to utilize the funding to provide housing assessments, housing navigation and search assistance, housing related direct financial assistance, housing stabilization, and housing related case management to clients that are eligible to participate in the Bringing Families Home Program.

This Form 11 requests the Board of Supervisors to accept the BFHP allocation of \$3,209,407 and any additional funding from CDSS to continue to support the need of increasing family reunification in Riverside County.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

This funding will allow Riverside County to maximize financial resources available to families receiving child welfare services who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. All County Welfare Director's Letter (FY) 2025-2026
- B. Bringing Families Home Program Director's Certification

Stacey Pena
Stacey Pena, EO Management Analyst 1/15/2026

Gregg Gu
Gregg Gu, Chief of Deputy County Counsel 1/12/2026



Bringing Families Home Program FY 2025-2026 (One-Time Funding Allocation) County Welfare Director's Certification

Introduction

This Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Director's Certification Response is designed to capture the responses pertaining to the Director's Certification, Budget Exercise, and the Expenditure Explanation as outlined in the [Bringing Families Home Program \(BFH\) All County Welfare Directors Letter \(ACWDL\) published on November 3 2025](#). Where specified in the instructions below, certification responses should represent information related to anticipated expenditures and services for FY 2025-26.

Certification Instructions

Please only submit one certification per county.

The deadline to submit final responses is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December, 15, 2025.

Questions about the certification can be emailed to Housing@dss.ca.gov.

In order to complete the County Welfare Director's Certification in its entirety, you will need the following:

1. Name, title, phone number, and email of primary BFH county contact
2. Total numbers of families to be served (new and continuing).

- 3. A copy of the draft letter(s) or comparable material that will be sent to relevant partner agencies within the community ready to upload.**
- 4. List of relevant partner agencies that will be recipients of the draft letter or comparable materials ready to upload.**
- 5. A Director's certification which will require a digital signature and date.**
- 6. Gather budget information to complete budget template.**
- 7. Prepare expenditure explanation if required.**

Certification Overview

While you are completing Attachments two and four you may want to have this packet printed for reference.

- 1. Attachment One: Bringing Families Home Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Planning Allocation Table**
- 2. Attachment Two: BFH Fiscal Year 2025-26 Director's Certification, Instructions, and Funding Conditions**
- 3. Attachment Three: Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget Template**
- 4. Attachment Four: Expenditure Explanation**

Please click on the 'NEXT' button below to begin the certification.

ATTACHMENT ONE: BRINGING FAMILIES HOME FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025-26 PLANNING ALLOCATION TABLE

Funds are available through June 30, 2028.

County	FY 2025-26 Planning Allocation
Alameda*	\$1,157,155
Alpine*	\$275,000
Amador	\$275,000
Butte	\$437,081
Calaveras	\$275,000
Colusa	\$275,000
Contra Costa*	\$1,074,414
Del Norte*	\$275,000
El Dorado*	\$286,537
Fresno*	\$1,474,951
Glenn*	\$275,000
Humboldt	\$1,166,330
Imperial*	\$314,758
Inyo	\$275,000
Kern	\$1,364,261
Kings*	\$405,681
Lake*	\$275,000
Lassen*	\$275,000
Los Angeles*	\$24,031,048
Madera	\$324,844
Marin*	\$318,319
Mariposa*	\$275,000
Mendocino	\$281,098
Merced*	\$318,409
Modoc*	\$275,000
Mono*	\$275,000
Monterey*	\$470,481
Napa	\$275,000

Nevada*	\$275,000
Orange*	\$3,512,803
Placer	\$489,473
Plumas*	\$275,000
Riverside*	\$3,209,407
Sacramento*	\$2,147,484
San Benito*	\$275,000
San Bernardino	\$3,075,214
San Diego	\$3,551,472
San Francisco*	\$4,015,877
San Joaquin*	\$729,799
San Luis Obispo*	\$1,587,971
San Mateo*	\$481,700
Santa Barbara*	\$473,453
Santa Clara*	\$3,021,080
Santa Cruz*	\$1,566,553
Shasta	\$556,152
Sierra*	\$275,000
Siskiyou	\$275,000
Solano	\$577,802
Sonoma*	\$1,609,275
Stanislaus*	\$481,956
Sutter*	\$339,645
Tehama*	\$275,000
Trinity*	\$275,000
Tulare*	\$523,400
Tuolumne	\$275,000
Ventura	\$941,686
Yolo*	\$309,931
Yuba	\$700,000
TOTAL	\$73,102,500

***Counties who spent and claimed less than ninety percent of their total FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023 allocations, as of the June 2025 claiming quarter are required to complete an Expenditure Explanation, as described in Attachment Four.**

ATTACHMENT TWO: BRINGING FAMILIES HOME (BFH) FY 2025-26 DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND FUNDING CONDITIONS

Counties wishing to accept funds displayed in [Attachment One](#) shall complete and return the Director's Certification, along with the Budget Template (Attachment Three) and, if applicable, the Expenditure Explanation (Attachment Four) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December, 15, 2025. One submission per county will be accepted.

Counties accepting all or a portion of the FY 2025-26 funds shall complete Section One through Section Three below. Counties declining all funding made available through this notice shall complete Sections One and Section Four below.

By accepting these funds and signing the Certification below, the County Welfare Director agrees to the funding terms and conditions outlined in this letter.

SECTION ONE: CONTACT INFORMATION

County Name*

- 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
- Orange
- Placer
- Plumas
- Riverside
- Sacramento
- San Benito
- San Bernardino
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Joaquin
- San Luis Obispo
- San Mateo
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Clara
- Santa Cruz

- Shasta
- Sierra
- Siskiyou
- Solano
- Sonoma
- Stanislaus
- Sutter
- Tehama
- Trinity
- Tulare
- Tuolumne
- Ventura
- Yolo
- Yuba

Department or Agency Name*

Riverside County Children's Services Division

Primary Contact Information:

Name*

Tanyel Butler

Title*

Administrative Services Manager II

Email Address*

tabutler@rivco.org

Phone Number*

(951) 358-6853

**ATTACHMENT TWO: BRINGING FAMILIES HOME
(BFH) FY 2025-26 DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION,
INSTRUCTIONS, AND FUNDING CONDITIONS
(CONT'D)**

SECTION TWO: FUNDING AMOUNT AND PROGRAM TARGETS

A. FY 2025-26 NONCOMPETITIVE ALLOCATION

A county may decline or accept the full amount, or accept only a portion of the FY 2025-26 planning allocation reflected in the table located in [Attachment One](#). Counties should consider their ability to fully utilize the funds by the expenditure deadline of June 30, 2028. Counties may indicate their ability to accept additional funds, in excess of the amounts reflected in Attachment One, as appropriate.

Does the County intend to decline all planning allocation as listed in Attachment One?*

- Yes
 No

Please complete the information below to confirm acknowledgment of [Attachment One](#) allocation amounts and select only one of the following acceptance options:

The County hereby acknowledges the total FY 2025-26 BFH noncompetitive allocation in Attachment One is:*

\$3,209,407

Please select only one of the following. The County of Riverside hereby:*

- Accepts the **total** allocation available as listed in Attachment One and indicated above.

(X) Accepts the **total** allocation as listed in Attachment One and indicated above **AND** can accept **additional** funds, if available, **with no limit**.

() Accepts the **total** allocation as listed in Attachment One and indicated above **AND** can accept **additional** funds, if available, **up to a limit**. Specify ONLY the **additional** amount of funds the county is able to accept: : _____*

() Accepts **only a portion** of the total allocation amount that is listed in Attachment One and indicated above. Specify the **total amount** of funds the county is able and willing to accept:: _____*

B. Expected Individuals to Serve

Complete the following by estimating the total unduplicated number of new and continuing BFH families expected to be served by fiscal year, between July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, with funds the county is accepting. Counties should assess community need, program capacity, and available resources (including allocation amount requested or accepted under Section One and any redistributed funds reflected in Attachment One of this letter). Counties must also consider any funds they may have encumbered but have not yet claimed to CDSS in order to accurately plan and budget their total allocation. CDSS acknowledges these are estimates and may be subject to change.

Refer to [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#), for definitions of eligible families experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness, and examples of BFH housing assistance and homelessness prevention:

1. Estimated number of families experiencing homelessness to be newly enrolled in each fiscal year:*

FY 2025–26: 13

FY 2026–27: 14

FY 2027–28: 14

2. Estimated number of families experiencing homelessness who will continue to be served in each fiscal year (cases that will remain open from prior FY and continue receiving services into the new FY):*

FY 2025–26: 31

FY 2026–27: 26

FY 2027–28: 30

3. Estimated number of families at risk of homelessness to be newly enrolled in each fiscal year:*

FY 2025–26: 68

FY 2026–27: 90

FY 2027–28: 90

4. Estimated number of families at risk of homelessness who will continue to be served in (cases that will remain open from prior FY and continue receiving services into the new FY):*

FY 2025–26: 193

FY 2026–27: 146

FY 2027–28: 198

5. Estimated TOTAL number of families to serve in Bringing Families Home each fiscal year (1-4 combined):*

Note: Item 5 should reflect the combined total number of Item 1, 2, 3, and 4 by Fiscal Year, as calculated by the Grantee.

FY 2025–26: 305

FY 2026–27: 276

FY 2027–28: 332

ATTACHMENT TWO: BRINGING FAMILIES HOME (BFH) FY 2025-26 DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND FUNDING CONDITIONS (CONT'D)

SECTION THREE: COLLABORATION AND DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING TERMS

A. Collaboration

BFH grantees must inform the local housing, homelessness, health, and social service networks of the following information upon release of the final County Fiscal Letter:

- **Total allocation available to the Grantee**
- **Total allocation accepted by the Grantee**
- **BFH program benefits and eligibility (e.g., Attachments One and Two of the [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#))**
- **BFH program requirements as they relate to collaboration with the Continuum of Care, Coordinated Entry System (CES), and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) (e.g., Attachment Two of the [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#))**

Examples of partner outreach and communications include but are not limited to sharing information with partners via email, sharing at advisory or collaborative meetings, and providing roadshows or presentations to partners.

Additional ongoing partner collaboration may include but is not limited to ongoing planning processes, aligning program targets and goals, coordinating assessment practices, regular check-in meetings, etc.

Relevant agencies and organizations shall include the Continuum of Care and may include Public Housing Authority (PHA), housing agencies of incorporated cities, family resource centers, First 5, family courts, behavioral health systems, medical institutions, emergency response systems, public benefits agencies, educational systems, domestic violence agencies, juvenile dependency courts, legal aid organizations, and other relevant networks or partners critical to local outreach and collaboration. For additional information on collaboration requirements and best practices, refer to [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#).

Counties will be expected to include in their certification a copy of the draft letter(s) or comparable material that will be sent to relevant partner agencies within the community and attach a list of recipients. The county understands that sending final collaboration letters is a requirement to accept the FY 2025-26 allocations.

Please attach a copy of the draft letter(s) or comparable material that will be sent to relevant partner agencies within the community and list of recipients. The county understands that sending final collaboration letters is a requirement to accept the FY 2025-26 noncompetitive allocation.*

Contracted Provider – CityNet

- _____ 1
- _____ 2
- _____ 3
- _____ 4
- _____ 5
- _____ 6
- _____ 7
- _____ 8
- _____ 9
- _____ 10

B. Conditions of Funding

I, County Welfare Director of Riverside County, certify that I will:

1) Operate a BFH consistent with relevant laws, program guidance, and evidence-based practices, including but not limited to:

- [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) sections 16523 and 16523.1](#)
- [All County Letters \(ACL\) or similar instruction, including the ACWDL dated February 11, 2022 and the ACWDL dated September 5, 2019](#)
- [Housing First requirements as enumerated in WIC section 8255 and further outlined in ACL 19-114 and ACL 24-88.](#)
- [Homelessness prevention services and/or the core components of Rapid Rehousing.](#)

2) Develop and implement written policies and procedures that ensure the administration and operation of BFH is consistent with relevant laws, program guidance issued by CDSS,

and evidence-based practices. CDSS reserves the right to access a grantee's written program policies and procedures for the purpose of performing audits, examinations, and/or to review for compliance with these conditions of funding or for the purposes of technical assistance. Grantees are encouraged to make written policies available to the public via their county website.

3) Actively collaborate with local, state, and federal housing, homelessness, health, and social service systems in order to make best use of available funding and link participants to necessary services. I understand that information on these collaborations will be requested within program updates. These collaborating entities may include but are not limited to:

- Child welfare service systems
- Continuum of Care and CES
- Behavioral health systems
- Medical institutions and emergency response systems
- Housing authorities
- Public benefit agencies
- Legal aid and benefit advocacy providers
- Family resource centers

4) Collect, track, report, and measure relevant program outcomes, and engage in continuous data quality improvement, such as:

- Enter participants into HMIS consistent with [WIC Section 8256](#).
- Submit BFH-related program reports, including but not limited to the BFH 17, which transitioned to an integrated, cloud-based reporting system called the Housing and Homelessness Data Reporting Solution (HHDRS) in May 2025 (see [ACL 25-23](#)).
- Participate in formal evaluation efforts which may include executing data-sharing agreements with the HMIS administrator.
- Set program targets and milestones and report to CDSS on progress at least annually or upon request from CDSS.

5) Engage in training, technical assistance, and continuous quality improvement, including but not limited to:

- Program leads attend meetings and training required by CDSS.
- Respond to requests for program amendments to comply with applicable laws and guidance, as determined by CDSS.

6) Actively engage with technical assistance providers, including those contracted by CDSS, to support program growth, expansion, and improvement by attending meetings and training, and contributing to technical assistance efforts, such as process mapping, program design, and case conferencing exercises.

7) Respond to requests for program progress reports, updates, expenditure information (including amount spent on prevention services, administrative costs, direct services and financial assistance), or program assessments as requested by CDSS, including but not limited to:

- **For new grantees, implementation updates related to program ramp up at least every six months and then annually, after program implementation and until the awarded amount is fully spent.**
- **For existing grantees, annual implementation updates in accordance with a schedule as determined by CDSS.**
- **For new and existing grantees, submit more frequent program updates if determined necessary by CDSS due to program performance.**

8) Maximize spending on direct financial assistance and minimize administrative costs in order to ensure that all BFH participants are provided with housing assistance.

9) Notify CDSS in writing at least 30 days in advance of any temporary or permanent interruption or end to BFH services and operations for any reason, including fully spending the given allocation.

11) CDSS, in consultation with CWDA, reserves the right to reallocate BFH funds should a grantee be out of compliance with applicable laws or guidance issued by CDSS, and if CDSS determines it is appropriate or necessary to maximize program impact throughout the state.*

[X] I, County Welfare Director of Riverside County, certify that the county will administer the BFH pursuant to the terms outlined above and understand this is a condition of receiving BFH funds. The information completed within the form and attached is true and correct.

If applicable:

[X] By checking this box, I am indicating our County’s official acceptance of the terms of the funding pending Board of Supervisors authorization, which is anticipated on the date selected below.

Anticipated Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

_____01/13/2026_____

Signature Date (MM/DD/YYYY)*

_____01/13/2026_____

ATTACHMENT TWO: FY 2025-26 HDAP COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTOR’S CERTIFICATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND FUNDING CONDITIONS (CONT’D)

SECTION FOUR: DECLINING FUNDS

Counties declining all FY 2025-26 BFH funding reflected in [Attachment One](#) are asked to notify CDSS by completing and electronically signing the FY BFH 2025-26 Director’s Certification below. Please see the instructions at the beginning of Attachment Two. Counties are encouraged to submit their responses as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December, 15, 2025. CDSS will consider the funds declined if no response is provided to CDSS by the county by the deadline specified above.

To decline the funds, check the box below and complete the name and signature of the County Welfare Director. *

County of [question('value'), id='42'] declines the entire amount of Fiscal Year 2025-26 BFH allocation available to the county as shown in Attachment One.

Signature Date*

ATTACHMENT THREE: FY 2025-26 BUDGET TEMPLATE

All counties accepting funding in FY 2025-26 must complete the budget template. The purpose of the Budget Template is to support counties in developing an annual BFH budget. The budget should be reflective of the number of families and individuals the county will continue to support from prior fiscal years, as well as any newly enrolled families and individuals in FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, consistent with the Director's Certification. Subsequent Budget Updates will be requested in the annual BFH Program Update Surveys, which may account for any additional funding allocated in the final allocation that is above the non-competitive allocation reflected in [Attachment One](#). For more details on budget categories, please refer to [ACWDL February 11, 2022, Attachment Three](#).

Budget Template Instructions:

1. In Section A, please enter the total amount of funds the county plans to utilize for BFH programming in each of the following FY: FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28. This amount should include any remaining funds allocated in FY 2022-23, that will be used (estimates are acceptable) and the amount of the FY 2025-26 Noncompetitive Allocation accepted in Attachment Two, Section Two- A. If the county is not expecting to carry over any remaining funds from prior FY allocations, this amount would only include the amount of funds accepted per this allocation.
2. In the Total Projected Cost column, please enter the total unduplicated amounts that you intend to allocate for each Budget category in Sections B, C and D. Note: You may use the [HUD Fair Rental Market Calculator](#) to project the cost of rental subsidies.
3. If there are budget categories or expenditures that are not captured below, please include them in the appropriate "other" category and include a description of the "other" costs.

Total Bringing Families Home Program Funds Budget Template for FY 2025-26

Note: If an item is reported in one section, it should not be duplicated in another section. For example, hiring of staff should be reported in either Section A or Section B, but not in both.

A. Program Administration Costs:

Captures expenses necessary for a specific program's proper administration. These may include, but are not limited to, costs for program administrative staff and data tracking, including HMIS licenses. Administrative costs in this box must be directly and solely related to the administration of this program. The total projected cost entered into this section should not be duplicative of the information entered under any other section below.

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:

1. Administration Staff (wages and benefits)*

FY 2025–26: \$126,739

FY 2026–27: \$70,000

FY 2027–28: \$70,000

2. Overhead *

FY 2025–26: \$246,512

FY 2026–27: \$135,000

FY 2027–28: \$135,000

3. Other Administrative Costs (please describe, if applicable):*

Budget:

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

Please describe any cost exceeding zero dollars, or enter “N/A” if there are no cost associated:

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

B. Program Service Costs:

Captures expenditures for directly delivering services within the program. These may include, but are not limited to, case management staff, housing navigation staff, and other program staff-related or operational costs not included within administrative costs. The total projected cost entered into this section should not be duplicative of the information entered under any other section below.

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:

1. Case Management (wages and benefits)*

FY 2025–26:: __\$1,022,569_____

FY 2026–27:: __\$560,000_____

FY 2027–28:: __\$560,000_____

2. Housing navigation staff (wages and benefits) *

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 above.

FY 2025–26:: __ N/A _____

FY 2026–27:: __ N/A _____

FY 2027–28:: __ N/A _____

3. Other Direct Program Service Costs: (please describe, if applicable)*

Budget:

FY 2025–26:: __ N/A _____

FY 2026–27:: __ N/A _____

FY 2027–28:: __ N/A _____

Please describe any cost exceeding zero dollars, or enter “N/A” if there are no cost associated:

FY 2025–26:: __ N/A _____

FY 2026–27:: __ N/A _____

FY 2027–28:: __ N/A _____

C. Financial Assistance to Support Housing:

Captures all housing related costs paid out on behalf of the program participant. This includes, but is not limited to, costs associated with rental assistance,

application fees, security deposits, first and last months' rent, housing rehabilitation and modification costs, interim shelter assistance, move-in costs, landlord incentives, among other items, as specified in program statutes and guidance. Noting, the total projected cost entered into this section should not be duplicative of the information entered under any other section below.

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:

1. Continued Rental Subsidies (Continued housing for families and individuals enrolled in the program prior to July 1, 2025, and who will receive rental subsidies after July 1, 2025).*

FY 2025–26:: _____ \$410,854 _____

FY 2026–27:: _____ \$190,000 _____

FY 2027–28:: _____ \$210,000 _____

2. Rental subsidies for newly housed*

FY 2025–26:: _____ \$146,081 _____

FY 2026–27:: _____ \$115,000 _____

FY 2027–28:: _____ \$95,000 _____

3. Security deposits*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

FY 2025–26:: _____ N/A _____

FY 2026–27:: _____ N/A _____

FY 2027–28:: _____ N/A _____

4. Landlord Incentives*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

FY 2025–26:: _____ N/A _____

FY 2026–27:: _____ N/A _____

FY 2027–28:: _____ N/A _____

5. Utility Payments*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

FY 2025–26:: _____ N/A _____

FY 2026–27:: _____ N/A _____

FY 2027–28:: _____ N/A _____

6. Temporary Housing (e.g., motels, bridge, or interim housing)*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

7. Move-in costs (e.g. furniture, storage, relocation assistance such as movers or rental trucks)*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

8. Costs associated with making a home habitable/accessible (e.g., repairs, modifications, rehabilitation, damages)*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

9. Other Direct Financial Assistance: (please describe, if applicable)*

These costs haven't been broken down, rather they are included in the totals #1 and #2 above.

Budget:

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

Please describe the cost or enter "N/A":

FY 2025–26: N/A

FY 2026–27: N/A

FY 2027–28: N/A

D. Total of Funds Anticipated:

Note: Section D should reflect the combined total number of Sections A, B, and C by Fiscal Year, as calculated by the Grantee.

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:*

FY 2025–26: \$1,952,755

FY 2026–27: \$1,070,000

FY 2027–28: \$1,070,000

By checking the box below,*

[X] I confirm the funding entered in Section D does not exceed the Total Allocation accepted by County of Riverside.

ATTACHMENT FOUR: EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Use the space below to describe and address how the county will fully utilize all remaining funds from the FY 2022-23 allocation and the funds being accepted for FY 2025-26 to provide BFH services. Any County who claimed less than ninety percent of their total FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-23 allocations as of the June 2025 claiming quarter is required to provide an explanation. This explanation is not required for counties who claimed at least 90% of funds allocated to them in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 as of the June 2025 claiming quarter.

If the county’s claiming data reported to CDSS is not reflective of the amount of funds the program has expended and claimed to CDSS as of June 2025 claiming period, please include these details in the explanation. Include details on when the county is expected to claim expenditure to CDSS, and the estimated amount of funds encumbered (e.g., in a contract or earmarked, etc.) as well as funds spent (e.g., paid to a contractor, etc.) but not yet claimed to CDSS.

County Name: Riverside County

Expenditure Explanation:*

We have utilized 83% of the FY 22/23 allocation. We reduced spending because we did not anticipate another allocation. Our intent was to extend the funding across FY25–26. We expect to utilize the prior allocation by December 2025.

Approved as to Form
Minh C. Tran
County Counsel

Katherine Wilkins

Katherine Wilkins
Deputy County Counsel

Date: 12/10/2025

County Welfare Director's Signature

Signature

Charity Douglas

Signature Date*

12/11/2025

Review

Please review your certification responses and click the "Submit**" button once you have confirmed your answers. If you wish to keep a copy of your certification, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click "**Download PDF Version.**"**

Thank You!

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Bringing Families Home Program (BFH) FY 2025-26 (One-Time Funding Allocation) Director's Certification Response. A confirmation email will be sent to [question('value'), id='69']. (If the email does not arrive after a couple minutes, please check your Spam or Junk Mail folder)

Dear Provider,

Riverside County has been allocated \$3,209,407 under the *Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program*, with full utilization required by the expenditure deadline of June 30, 2028. We are grateful for your continued collaboration and commitment to ensuring that families in our community have access to stable housing and supportive services.

To ensure compliance and maximize program impact, please review the following program eligibility information and requirements:

- BFH program benefits and eligibility (see Attachments One and Two of the ACWDL dated February 11, 2022).
- BFH program requirements regarding collaboration with the Continuum of Care, Coordinated Entry System (CES), and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) (see Attachment Two of the ACWDL dated February 11, 2022).

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you, aligning program targets and goals, and holding regular check-in meetings to monitor progress.

Program Collaboration Commitments

1. Reporting and Updates
 - Respond promptly to requests for program progress reports, expenditure information (including prevention services, administrative costs, direct services, and financial assistance), or program assessments as requested by CDSS.
 - Provide annual implementation updates in accordance with CDSS schedules.
 - If required, submit more frequent updates if determined necessary by CDSS due to program performance.
2. Fiscal Responsibility
 - Maximize spending on direct financial assistance.
 - Minimize administrative costs to ensure all BFH participants receive housing assistance.
3. Service Continuity
 - Notify CSD in writing at least 30 days in advance of any temporary or permanent interruption or termination of BFH services and operations.

Together, we can ensure that the Bringing Families Home Program achieves its mission of providing housing stability and hope for families in Riverside County. Thank you for your dedication and partnership in this important work.

Sincerely,

November 3, 2025

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

The purpose of this letter is to notify All County Welfare Directors of funds available for counties to establish, continue, and expand housing and homelessness assistance through the Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program. The Budget Act of 2025 ([Senate 101 \(Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025\)](#)) appropriated \$81.0 million in one-time funds for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to allocate to counties and eligible Tribal grantees. This letter announces a noncompetitive allocation of \$73.1 million in one-time funding, available to all fifty-eight (58) counties.



JENNIFER TROIA
DIRECTOR

GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

November 3, 2025

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

TO: ALL BRINGING FAMILIES HOME PROGRAM MANAGERS
ALL BRINGING FAMILIES HOME PROGRAM COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

FROM: HANNA AZEMATI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS DIVISION

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025-26 ONE-TIME FUNDING
FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE BRINGING FAMILIES HOME
PROGRAM**

REFERENCE: [ASSEMBLY BILL 102, \(CHAPTER 5, STATUTES OF 2025\);](#)
[SENATE BILL \(SB\) 101 \(CHAPTER 4, STATUTES OF 2025\)](#)
[BUDGET ACT OF 2025; SB 119 \(CHAPTER 79, STATUTES OF](#)
[2025\); SB 146 \(CHAPTER 107, STATUTES OF 2025\); WELFARE](#)
[AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTIONS 8255, 10618.9,](#)
[16523, 16523.1; ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-22-](#)
[23; ALL COUNTY LETTER \(ACL\) NO. 24-21; ACL 24-88; ACL 25-](#)
[23; ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER \(ACWDL\)](#)
[DATED JULY 30, 2025; ACWDL DATED MARCH 5, 2025; ACWDL](#)
[DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2022; ACWDL DATED SEPTEMBER 21,](#)
[2022; COUNTY FISCAL LETTER \(CFL\) NO. 21/22-99; CFL 23/24-](#)
[59; CFL 24/25-43; CFL 24/25-65; CFL 24/25-78](#)

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to notify All County Welfare Directors of funds available to counties to establish, continue and expand housing and homelessness assistance and prevention through the [Bringing Families Home \(BFH\) Program](#). This letter also summarizes recent statutory updates enacted through [Senate Bill \(SB\) 119 \(Chapter 79, Statutes of 2025\)](#) and [SB 146 \(Chapter 107, Statutes of 2025\)](#), and outlines BFH program requirements.

The Budget Act of 2025 ([Senate Bill 101 \(Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025\)](#)) appropriated a total of \$81.0 million in General Fund (GF) for BFH available July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will utilize five percent of the appropriated funds, which is \$4.05 million, to administer and implement the program. This ACWDL announces a total of \$73.1 million in FY 2025-26 noncompetitive allocations available to all 58 counties. The remaining \$3.85 million will be made available to eligible Tribal Grantees. Additional information on the Tribal Set Aside will be released under a separate cover.

The county allocations announced in this letter are provided in addition to funding awarded in prior fiscal years (FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23), which is available for expenditure as reflected in [BFH CFL 23/24-59](#) and [CFL 24/25-65](#) and [CFL 24/25-78](#).

I. PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The BFH program was established in 2016 through [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 1603 \(Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016\)](#) and provides housing-related financial assistance and supportive services to families who are receiving child welfare services, including tribal child welfare services, and are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The goal of BFH is to increase family reunification and prevent foster care placement among participants in cases where housing instability prevents reunification or could lead to foster care placement.

All funding accepted for purposes of operating the BFH program must be utilized in accordance with state, federal, and local laws as well as written guidance from the CDSS, including but not limited to [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) Section 16523-16523.1](#), [WIC Section 8255](#), [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#), and [ACL 24-88](#).

II. FY 2025-26 PROGRAM BUDGET AND TRAILER BILL LANGUAGE

The following changes are a result of [Senate Bill \(SB\) 119 \(Chapter 79, Statutes of 2025\)](#), which makes modifications to the BFH Program's funding and requirements in [WIC Section 16523.1\(d\)](#), and [SB 146 \(Chapter 107, Statutes of 2025\)](#), which adds [Section 10618.9](#) to the Welfare and Institutions Code.

Repeal of Match Requirement

[SB 119](#) amended [WIC Section 16523.1\(d\)](#) to permanently remove the dollar-for-dollar match requirement for the BFH program. Beginning on July 1, 2025, a county or Tribe that receives BFH funding will no longer be subject to match requirements. Previously, grantees were required to provide dollar-for-dollar match funds for BFH allocations, with the exception of allocations received from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2024, for which the match requirement was waived.

Local Complaint Resolution Process, State Hearings, and Housing Plans

In addition to the changes made by SB 119, [Section 10618.9](#) was added to the Welfare and Institutions Code by [SB 146](#). This section will require counties operating a BFH program to implement local complaint resolution processes and participate in state administrative hearings, when applicable. As part of the state hearings process for BFH, counties will be required to continue providing certain types of housing-related assistance, which may be subject to overpayment, to participants who are awaiting the outcome of their county or state-level complaint. Additionally, counties will be required to issue individualized, written housing plans outlining the housing-related assistance to be provided to recipients of BFH.

Guidance for implementing these new requirements is expected to be issued in March 2027, along with resources and technical assistance. Counties wishing to accept BFH funds are encouraged to begin reviewing statutory amendments from [SB 146](#) and preparing for implementation accordingly. Once CDSS issues this guidance, counties will be required to implement the guidance within six months.

III. FY 2025-26 ALLOCATIONS

This letter announces the statewide availability of \$73.1 million in noncompetitive FY 2025-26 allocations for all fifty-eight (58) counties, based on the funding methodology described below. Refer to Attachment One for the allocation table.

FY 2025-26 Allocation Methodology

This noncompetitive allocation is distributed based on a methodology that accounts for needs and was established by CDSS in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA). The methodology includes the following, calculated using equally weighted criteria:

- The percent of the statewide total of individuals experiencing homelessness living in the county (2024 Homelessness Point in Time Count).
- The percent of the statewide Child Welfare Services Family Maintenance and Family Reunification caseloads living in the county (2024 CWS/CMS data).
- The percent of the statewide total of households with severe cost burden living in the county (i.e., household income less than 50 percent of the area median income and paying more than 50 percent of income toward rent or mortgage); and
- The percent of the total FY 2021-22 through FY 2024-25 expenditures, as of June 2025 County Expense Claim (CEC), adjusted for the percent unspent of the FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocations.

The noncompetitive allocation was adjusted to ensure a funding floor equal to the greater of \$275,000, the FY 2019-20 allocation or seventy-five percent of the FY 2022-23 allocation for counties that spent at least 25 percent of their FY 2022-23 allocation.

Allocation of Funds Not Accepted by Counties

Funds that are declined by counties will be redistributed to counties using the same needs-based methodology outlined in this letter, up to the amount of funds the counties indicate they are able to accept as outlined on the County Welfare Director's Certification (hereafter "Director's Certification"). Priority for this redistribution will be given to counties that have spent and claimed ninety percent or more of the FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocations as of the June 2025 claiming quarter.

Counties are strongly encouraged to carefully consider the level of funding accepted to ensure full, statewide utilization of all funds appropriated for the BFH program from any prior and current appropriations.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING

All new and continuing grantees wishing to accept all or a portion of the one-time FY 2025-26 funds must submit a Director's Certification using a state-provided survey template accessed through a password protected link. Only one submission per county will be accepted. The attachments included in this letter and identified below are intended for planning purposes only, and all submissions must be completed using the official survey link provided, as paper copies will not be accepted.

- Signed Director's Certification (Refer to Attachment II).
- Complete Budget Template (Refer to Attachment III).
- Expenditure Explanation, if applicable (Refer to Attachment IV).

CDSS will provide the official survey link and password via email to all designated County Grantee contacts. If your designated BFH program coordinator has not received the email containing this information by **November 14, 2025**, or you are experiencing difficulty completing the online survey, please email housing@dss.ca.gov.

The deadline for submitting the Director's Certification, Budget Template and Expenditure Explanation via the survey is **5:00 p.m. on December 5, 2025**. Counties requiring additional time to submit the survey should contact housing@dss.ca.gov prior to the deadline.

CDSS encourages counties to review and accept funds as soon as possible to allow CDSS to expeditiously issue final allocations. Additional guidance on the required documents is provided below.

County Welfare Director's Certification

Counties wishing to accept all or a portion of the noncompetitive allocation amount listed in Attachment One shall review, sign and return the Director's Certification. The Director's Certification outlines the funding terms and conditions that counties must follow should they accept BFH funds, including the requirement that counties develop

and update written policies and procedures that ensure the administration and operation of BFH is consistent with relevant laws, regulations and program guidance (including this ACWDL) issued by CDSS. Counties are reminded that written policies and procedures shall be consistent with a Housing First approach, and that written policies are required in order to comply with the guidance outlined in [ACL 24-88](#).

Counties wishing to decline the allocation shall submit a signed Director's Certification indicating the county is declining the allocated funds. Failure to submit the Director's Certification by the deadline (**December 5, 2025**) will be considered the same as declining funds.

Any funds that are made available to counties outlined in Attachment One but not accepted will be distributed to counties that have expended and claimed at least ninety percent or more of prior available allocations as of the June claiming quarter. These funds will be distributed to counties indicating they can accept additional funds via the Director's Certification in accordance with the needs-based methodology and prioritization outlined above.

Budget Template

The purpose of the Budget Template is to support counties in developing an annual budget that corresponds to the amount of non-competitive funding accepted in the Director's Certification. Counties accepting BFH funds must complete the Budget Template for each fiscal year (FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28) the county plans to utilize the allocation accepted. Refer to Attachment Three for additional information and instructions related to completing the Budget Template.

Expenditure Explanation

Any county that expended and claimed less than ninety percent of their FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocation as of the June 2025 claiming quarter is required to provide an explanation of their ability to spend **all remaining funds from the prior allocations by the expenditure deadline as well as their ability to spend the new funds being accepted for FY 2025-26**.

The Expenditure Explanation should be consistent with the amount of funding accepted from the non-competitive allocation as reflected in the Director's Certification and corresponding Budget Template, and address how counties will fully utilize and claim the funds accepted through this funding notice. Counties required to complete an Expenditure Explanation are notated in Attachment One, Table One with an **asterisk (*)**. The Expenditure Explanation is not required for counties that have claimed at least ninety percent of the funds allocated to them in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 as of the June 2025 claiming quarter. Refer to Attachment Four for additional information.

V. ALLOCATION CLAIMING AND FISCAL INFORMATION

A County Fiscal Letter (CFL) providing final FY 2025-26 allocations will be released after the deadline to accept funds for FY 2025-26. The claiming deadline for the FY 2025-26 funds is **June 30, 2028**. As a reminder, BFH allocations no longer require a dollar-for-dollar match and expenditures for BFH should be claimed to **PC 0496 (BFH)** claiming code.

Reminder of Reappropriation of Funds Appropriated in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23

As a reminder, the Budget Act of 2024 reappropriated up to \$92.5 million from the Budget Act of 2021. The deadline to expend and claim FY 2021-22 BFH funds, previously set to expire June 30, 2025, was extended for two additional quarters, up to the December 2025 quarter in the CEC with a final filing date of January 30, 2026, as outlined [in ACWDL dated March 5, 2025](#) and [CFL 24/25-65](#).

The Budget Act of 2024 also reappropriated up to \$80 million from the Budget Act of 2022, which includes up to \$40 million available through June 30, 2026, and up to \$40 million available through June 30, 2027, as outlined in [CFL 24/25-78](#).

VI. DATA REPORTING

The data reporting requirements for BFH will mostly remain consistent with prior guidance ([All County Information Notice No. I-22-23](#)), specifically the elements and cadence of data reporting. However, in May 2025, data reporting for counties operating a BFH program transitioned to an integrated, cloud-based reporting system called the Housing and Homelessness Data Reporting Solution (HHDRS). Please see [ACL No. 25-23](#) for more information. The goal of HHDRS is to reduce the data collection and reporting burden for counties implementing BFH, enhance data quality and data security, and facilitate the use of data through a single software solution accessible to CDSS and grantee counterparts.

The HHDRS replaces the previous BFH 17 Excel workbook reports as the method by which BFH grantees submit data reports. All grantees must submit their data in HHDRS within the quarterly deadlines to fulfill reporting requirements under the terms and conditions outlined in the Director's Certification and [ACL No. 25-23](#). Grantees that fail to meet data reporting requirements may be subject to increased monitoring, mandated technical assistance, or other escalation processes. Further updates and resources for HHDRS can be found on the [CDSS HHDRS webpage](#) under the section "HHDRS Additional Information and Resources."

VII. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical Assistance is available to assist with all aspects of program planning, development, operation, and evaluation. Counties may utilize program funds to provide program-specific training in areas identified by the county or by CDSS to support

continuous quality improvement. Counties interested in requesting TA may contact CDSS by email at housing@dss.ca.gov with a description of the issue and other helpful background information or supporting documentation, as appropriate. Counties interested in TA from CDSS's TA partner, Change Well Project, should complete the [Change Well Project technical assistance request form](#).

Counties may be required to utilize TA to expand and/or improve their programs, including as part of CDSS-identified program improvement needs, at CDSS discretion.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, please contact the Housing and Homelessness Division at housing@dss.ca.gov.

Attachments

- I. Attachment One: Bringing Families Home Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Planning Allocation Table
- II. Attachment Two: Bringing Families Home FY 2025-26 Director's Certification, Instructions, and Funding Conditions
- III. Attachment Three: Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget Template
- IV. Attachment Four: Expenditure Explanation

ATTACHMENT ONE: BRINGING FAMILIES HOME FISCAL YEAR 2025-26
PLANNING ALLOCATION TABLE

County	FY 2025-26 Planning Allocation
Alameda*	\$1,157,155
Alpine*	\$275,000
Amador	\$275,000
Butte	\$437,081
Calaveras	\$275,000
Colusa	\$275,000
Contra Costa*	\$1,074,414
Del Norte*	\$275,000
El Dorado*	\$286,537
Fresno*	\$1,474,951
Glenn*	\$275,000
Humboldt	\$1,166,330
Imperial*	\$314,758
Inyo	\$275,000
Kern	\$1,364,261
Kings*	\$405,681
Lake*	\$275,000
Lassen*	\$275,000
Los Angeles*	\$24,031,048
Madera	\$324,844
Marin*	\$318,319
Mariposa*	\$275,000
Mendocino	\$281,098
Merced*	\$318,409
Modoc*	\$275,000
Mono*	\$275,000
Monterey*	\$470,481
Napa	\$275,000
Nevada*	\$275,000
Orange*	\$3,512,803
Placer	\$489,473
Plumas*	\$275,000
Riverside*	\$3,209,407
Sacramento*	\$2,147,484
San Benito*	\$275,000
San Bernardino	\$3,075,214
San Diego	\$3,551,472
San Francisco*	\$4,015,877
San Joaquin*	\$729,799

Attachment One

County	FY 2025-26 Planning Allocation
San Luis Obispo*	\$1,587,971
San Mateo*	\$481,700
Santa Barbara*	\$473,453
Santa Clara*	\$3,021,080
Santa Cruz*	\$1,566,553
Shasta	\$556,152
Sierra*	\$275,000
Siskiyou	\$275,000
Solano	\$577,802
Sonoma*	\$1,609,275
Stanislaus*	\$481,956
Sutter*	\$339,645
Tehama*	\$275,000
Trinity*	\$275,000
Tulare*	\$523,400
Tuolumne	\$275,000
Ventura	\$941,686
Yolo*	\$309,931
Yuba	\$700,000
TOTAL	\$73,102,500

* Counties that spent and claimed less than ninety percent of their total FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocations as of the June 2025 claiming quarter are required to complete the Expenditure Explanation, as described in Attachment Four.

ATTACHMENT TWO: BRINGING FAMILIES HOME (BFH) FY 2025-26 DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND FUNDING CONDITIONS

Counties wishing to accept funds displayed in Attachment One shall complete and return the Director's Certification Survey, along with the Budget Template (Attachment Three) and, if applicable, the Expenditure Explanation (Attachment Four) no later than **5:00 pm on December 5, 2025**. All attachments will be made available via automated survey using this state-provided link to the BFH FY 2025-26 Director's Certification Survey. One submission per county will be accepted. The Director's Certification Survey is password-protected and CDSS will share the password with BFH designated program contacts via email. If your BFH designated contact has not received an email from CDSS with the survey link and survey password by **November 14, 2025**, please email housing@dss.ca.gov. Note: Attachments Two, Three and Four are included in this letter for planning purposes. Counties must submit these attachments via the survey link provided. Counties accepting all or a portion of the FY 2025-26 funds shall complete Section One through Section Three below. Counties declining all funding made available through this notice shall complete Section One and Section Four below.

By accepting these funds and signing the Certification below, the County Welfare Director agrees to the funding terms and conditions outlined in this letter.

SECTION ONE: CONTACT INFORMATION

(All grantees complete sections a) through c) below):

- a. Name of County: _____
- b. Name of and Title of Contact Person: _____
- c. Contact Information (phone and email): _____

SECTION TWO: FUNDING AMOUNT AND PROGRAM TARGETS

A. FY 2025-26 NONCOMPETITIVE ALLOCATION

A county may accept the full amount identified in Attachment One, or a portion of these funds and indicate an ability to utilize additional funds. Complete the information below to confirm acknowledgment of Attachment One allocation amounts and select one of the following acceptance options:

The County hereby acknowledges the total FY 2025-26 BFH noncompetitive allocation in Attachment One is \$_____.

The County hereby:

Attachment Two

- Accepts the **total** allocation available as listed in Attachment One and as indicated above.
- Accepts the **total** allocation as listed in Attachment One and indicated above **AND** can accept **additional** funds, if available, **with no limit**.
- Accepts the **total** allocation as listed in Attachment One and indicated above **AND** can accept additional funds, if available, up **to a limit**.
 - Specify the **total additional** amount of funds the county is able to accept:
\$ _____
- Accepts **only a portion** of the total allocation amount that is listed in Attachment One and indicated above.
 - Specify the **total amount** of funds the county is able to accept:
\$ _____

B. EXPECTED FAMILIES TO SERVE

Complete the following by estimating the total unduplicated number of new and continuing BFH families expected to be served by fiscal year, between July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, with funds the county is accepting. CDSS understands there will be duplication across years if participants are served over multiple years. Counties should assess community need, program capacity, and available resources (including allocation amount requested or accepted under Section One. Counties must also consider any funds they may have encumbered but have not yet claimed to CDSS in order to accurately plan and budget their total allocation. CDSS acknowledges these are estimates and may be subject to change.

Refer to [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#), for definitions of eligible families experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness, and examples of BFH housing assistance and homelessness prevention:

1. Estimated number of families **experiencing homelessness** to be newly enrolled in each fiscal year:
 - FY 2025–26: _____
 - FY 2026–27: _____
 - FY 2027–28: _____

Attachment Two

2. Estimated number of families **experiencing homelessness** who will continue to be served in each fiscal year (cases that will remain open from prior FY and continue receiving services into the new FY):
 - FY 2025–26: _____
 - FY 2026–27: _____
 - FY 2027–28: _____

3. Estimated number of families **at risk of homelessness** to be newly enrolled in each fiscal year:
 - FY 2025–26: _____
 - FY 2026–27: _____
 - FY 2027–28: _____

4. Estimated number of families **at risk of homelessness** who will continue to be served in each fiscal year (cases that will remain open from prior FY and continue receiving services into the new FY):
 - FY 2025–26: _____
 - FY 2026–27: _____
 - FY 2027–28: _____

5. Estimated **TOTAL** number of families to be served in BFH each fiscal year (1-4 combined):
 - FY 2025–26: _____
 - FY 2026–27: _____
 - FY 2027–28: _____

SECTION THREE: COLLABORATION AND DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING TERMS

A. COLLABORATION

BFH County grantees must inform the local housing, homelessness, health, and social service networks of the following information upon release of the final County Fiscal Letter:

- Total allocation available to the Grantee
- Total allocation accepted by the Grantee
- BFH program benefits and eligibility (e.g., Attachments One and Two of the [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#))
- BFH program requirements as they relate to collaboration with the Continuum of Care, Coordinated Entry System (CES), and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) (e.g., Attachment Two of the [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#))

Attachment Two

Examples of partner outreach and communications include but are not limited to sharing information with partners via email, sharing at advisory or collaborative meetings, and providing roadshows or presentations to partners. Additional ongoing partner collaboration may include but is not limited to ongoing planning processes, aligning program targets and goals, coordinating assessment practices, regular check-in meetings, etc.

Relevant agencies and organizations shall include the Continuum of Care and may include Public Housing Authority (PHA), housing agencies of incorporated cities, family resource centers, First 5, family courts, behavioral health systems, medical institutions and emergency response systems, public benefit agencies, educational systems, domestic violence agencies, juvenile dependency courts, legal aid organizations, and other relevant networks or partners critical to local outreach and collaboration. For [additional information on collaboration requirements and best practices, refer to ACWDL dated February 11, 2022.](#)

Counties will be expected to include in their survey a copy of the draft letter(s) or comparable material that will be sent to relevant partner agencies within the community and attach a list of recipients. The county understands that sending final collaboration letters is a requirement to accept the FY 2025-26 allocations.

B. CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

I, County Welfare Director of [*insert name of county*], certify that I will:

1. Operate a BFH Program consistent with relevant laws, regulations, program guidance, and evidence-based practices, including but not limited to:
 - a) [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) sections 16523 and 16523.1](#)
 - b) All County Letters (ACL) or similar instruction, including the [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#) and the [ACWDL dated September 5, 2019](#)
 - c) Housing First requirements as enumerated in [WIC section 8255](#) and further outlined in [ACL 19-114](#) and [ACL 24-88](#).
 - d) [Homelessness prevention services](#) and/or the [core components of Rapid Rehousing](#).
2. Develop and implement written policies and procedures that ensure the administration and operation of BFH is consistent with relevant laws, program guidance issued by CDSS, and evidence-based practices. CDSS reserves the right to access a counties' written program policies and procedures for the purpose of performing audits, examinations, and/or to review for compliance with these

Attachment Two

conditions of funding or for the purposes of technical assistance. Grantees are encouraged to make written policies available to the public via the county website.

3. Actively collaborate with local, state, and federal housing, homelessness, health, and social service systems in order to make best use of available funding and link participants to necessary services. I understand that information on these collaborations will be requested within program updates. These collaborating entities may include but are not limited to:
 - a) Child welfare service systems
 - b) Continuum of Care and CES
 - c) Behavioral health systems
 - d) Medical institutions and emergency response systems
 - e) Housing authorities
 - f) Public benefit agencies
 - g) Legal aid and benefit advocacy providers
 - h) Family resource centers
4. Collect, track, report, and measure relevant program outcomes and engage in continuous data quality improvement, such as:
 - a) Enter participants into HMIS consistent with [WIC Section 8256](#).
 - b) Submit BFH related program reports, including but not limited to the HSAPS 19, which transitioned to an integrated, cloud-based reporting system called the Housing and Homelessness Data Reporting Solution (HHDRS) in May 2025 (see [ACL 25-23](#)).
 - c) Participate in formal evaluation efforts, which may include executing data sharing agreements with the HMIS administrator.
 - d) Set program targets and milestones and report to CDSS on progress at least annually or upon request from CDSS.
5. Engage in training, technical assistance, and continuous quality improvement, including but not limited to:
 - a) Program leads attend meetings and trainings required by CDSS.
 - b) Respond to requests for program adjustments to ensure consistent compliance with applicable laws and guidance, as determined by CDSS.

Attachment Two

6. Actively engage with technical assistance providers, including those contracted by CDSS, to support program growth, expansion, and improvement by attending meetings and trainings and contributing to technical assistance efforts, such as process mapping, program design, and case conferencing exercises.
7. Respond to requests for program progress reports, updates, expenditure information (including amount spent on prevention services), administrative costs, direct services and financial assistance, or program assessments as requested by CDSS, including but not limited to:
 - a) For new grantees, implementation updates related to program ramp up at least every six months and then annually after program implementation and until the awarded amount is fully spent.
 - b) For existing grantees, annual implementation updates in accordance with a schedule as determined by CDSS.
 - c) For new and existing grantees, submit more frequent program updates if determined necessary by CDSS due to program performance.
8. Maximize spending on direct financial assistance and minimize administrative costs in order to ensure that all BFH participants are provided housing assistance including housing navigation, housing-related financial assistance, and case management.
9. Notify CDSS in writing at least 30 days in advance of any temporary or permanent interruption or end to BFH services and operations for any reason, including fully spending the given allocation.
10. CDSS, in consultation with CWDA, reserves the right to reallocate BFH funds should a county be out of compliance with applicable laws or guidance issued by CDSS or if CDSS determines it is appropriate or necessary to maximize program impact throughout the state.

I *[insert County Welfare Director's Name]* certify that *[insert County Name]* will administer the BFH program pursuant to the terms outlined above and understand this is a condition of receiving BFH funds. The information completed within the form and attached is true and correct.

(if applicable) By checking this box, I am indicating our County's official acceptance of the terms of the funding pending Board of Supervisor authorization, which is anticipated on *[insert date]*.

County Welfare Director Signature

Date

SECTION FOUR: DECLINING FUNDS (ONLY COMPLETE IF THE COUNTY DECLINES ALL OF THE FY 2025-26 NONCOMPETITIVE ALLOCATION OUTLINED IN ATTACHMENT ONE)

Counties declining all FY 2025-26 BFH funding reflected in Attachment One are asked to notify CDSS by completing and electronically signing the section below via automated survey using this state-provided link to the FY BFH 2025-26 Director's Certification Survey. Please see the instructions at the beginning of Attachment Two. Counties are encouraged to submit their responses as soon as possible but no later than December 5, 2025. CDSS will consider the funds declined if no response is provided to CDSS by the county by the deadline specified above.

To decline the funds, check the box below and complete the name and signature of the County Welfare Director.

The county declines the entire amount of the FY 2025-26 Bringing Families Home allocation available to the county as shown in Attachment One.

County Welfare Director Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT THREE: FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025-26 BUDGET TEMPLATE

All counties accepting funding in FY 2025-26 must complete the Budget Template. The purpose of the Budget Template is to support counties in developing an annual BFH budget. The budget should be reflective of the number of families the county will continue to support from prior fiscal years, as well as any newly enrolled families in FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, consistent with the Director's Certification. Subsequent Budget Updates will be requested in the annual BFH Program Update Surveys, which may account for any additional funding allocated in the final allocation that is above the non-competitive allocation reflected in Attachment One. For more details on budget categories, please refer to [ACWDL February 11, 2022, Attachment Three](#).

BUDGET TEMPLATE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In Section A, please enter the total amount of funds the county plans to utilize for BFH programming in each of the following FYs: FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28. This amount should include any remaining funds allocated in FY 2022-23 that will be used (estimates are acceptable) and the amount of the FY 2025-26 Noncompetitive Allocation accepted in Attachment Two, Section Two- A. If the county is not expecting to carry over any remaining funds from prior FY allocations, this amount would only include the amount of funds accepted of the noncompetitive allocation reflected in Attachment One per this allocation.
2. In the Total Projected Cost column, please enter the total unduplicated amounts that you intend to allocate for each Budget category in Sections B, C and D. Note: You may use the [HUD Fair Rental Market Calculator](#) to project the cost of rental subsidies.
3. If there are budget categories or expenditures that are not captured below, please include them in the appropriate "other" category and include a description of the "other" costs.

Bringing Families Home Program Funds Budget Template for FY 2025-26

A. Total Funds Anticipated

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:

- Fiscal Year 2025–26: _____
- Fiscal Year 2026–27: _____
- Fiscal Year 2027–28: _____

B. Program Administration Costs:

Captures expenses necessary for a specific program’s proper administration. These may include, but are not limited to, costs for program administrative staff and data tracking, including HMIS licenses. Administrative costs in this section must be directly and solely related to the administration of this program. The total projected cost entered here should not duplicate any other information entered in any other section below.

If an item is reported in one section, it should not be duplicated in another section. For example, hiring of staff should be reported in either Section B or Section C, but not in both.

For each of the following categories, please provide the **total projected cost** for:

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

1. Administration Staff (wages and benefits)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

2. Overhead

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

3. Other Administrative Costs (please describe, if applicable)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

C. Program Service Costs:

Captures expenditures for directly delivering services within the program. These may include, but are not limited to, case management staff, housing navigation staff, and other program staff-related or operational costs not included within administrative costs.

Attachment Three

The total projected cost entered into this section should not be duplicative of the information entered under any other section below.

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:

1. Case Management (wages and benefits)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

2. Housing navigation staff (wages and benefits)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

3. Other Direct Program Service Costs: (please describe, if applicable)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

D. Direct Financial Assistance to Support Housing:

Captures all housing related costs paid out on behalf of the program participant. This includes, but is not limited to, costs associated with rental assistance, application fees, security deposits, first and last months' rent, housing rehabilitation and modification costs, interim shelter assistance, move-in costs, landlord incentives, among other items, as specified in program statutes and guidance. Noting, the total projected cost entered into this section should not be duplicative of the information entered under any other section below.

Please enter the total funds anticipated to be used in:

4. Continued Rental Subsidies (Continued housing for individuals enrolled in the program prior to July 1, 2025, and who will receive rental subsidies after July 1, 2025).

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

5. Rental subsidies for newly housed

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

6. Security deposits

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

7. Landlord Incentives

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

8. Utility Payments

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

9. Temporary Housing (e.g., motels, bridge, or interim housing)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

10. Move-in costs (e.g. furniture, storage, relocation assistance such as movers or rental trucks)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

11. Costs associated with making a home habitable/accessible (e.g., repairs, modifications, rehabilitation, damages)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

12. Other Direct Financial Assistance: (please describe, if applicable)

- FY 2025–26: _____
- FY 2026–27: _____
- FY 2027–28: _____

ATTACHMENT FOUR: EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Use the space below to describe and **address how the county will fully utilize all remaining funds from the FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocation and the funds being accepted for FY 2025-26 to provide BFH services.** Any County that claimed less than ninety percent of their total FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 allocations as of the June 2025 claiming quarter is required to provide an explanation. This explanation is not required for counties that claimed at least ninety percent of the funds allocated to them in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23, as of the June 2025 claiming quarter.

If the county's claiming data reported to CDSS is not reflective of the amount of funds the program has expended and claimed to CDSS as of the June 2025 claiming quarter, please include these details in the explanation. Include details on when the county is expected to claim expenditures to CDSS and the estimated amount of funds encumbered (e.g., in a contract or earmarked, etc.) as well as funds spent (e.g., paid to a contractor, etc.) but not yet claimed to CDSS.

County Name: _____