



MEMBERS

Allied Affordable Housing
Bay Area Housing Corporation
Brilliant Corners
California Housing Foundation
Home Ownership Made Easy
HOPE, Inc.
Housing Consortium of the East Bay
Innovative Housing Opportunities
North Bay Housing Coalition
RCHDC
Southern CA Housing Collaboration

PARTNERS

CSLN
Chelsea Investment Corporation
EAH Housing
FDLRC
Golden State Pooled Trust
Lifeshouse, Inc.
North Bay Regional Center
RCOC
San Diego Regional Center
SCANPH
Wakeland HCDC

AFFILIATES

Access Home
ARCA
Esperanza Services
Housing Choices
Housing Now
Jessica Gould
Joshua Tree Group
Linc Housing
LIIF
Livelyhood Housing
NBHF
Portia Iversen
Rick Hodgkins
San Diego Housing Federation
The Adult Skills Center
The Kelsey
Villa De Vida

April 29, 2020

Honorable David Chiu
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0017

RE: AB 2329 (Chiu): Determining Needs & Gaps in California's Response to Homelessness - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Chiu:

The Lanterman Housing Alliance (LHA) is in strong support of AB 2329, which requires the state to conduct a gaps and needs analysis to identify the resources and interventions required to make meaningful reductions in homelessness statewide. Now more than ever, California is confronted with the danger of allowing the estimated 150,000 people in our state to remain in inadequate or unsheltered living conditions. LHA is particularly concerned with the thousands of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who continue to show up in local point-in-time counts but largely remain unconnected to the state's Regional Center (RC) system. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority identified more than 4,000 people with "developmental disabilities" in their most recent 2019 homeless count.

We strongly believe that there is a disconnect between the state's response to addressing homelessness and the unique needs of people with I/DD who have fallen outside of service coordination provided by the Regional Centers. Falling outside the service coordination of a local RC can happen for many reasons. Parents of people with I/DD can fail to register their children with their local RC because of a lack of awareness of the entitled services. People with I/DD can move into California from other states, which again have never enrolled at an RC. People with I/DD can disengage themselves from an RC for many reasons and be dropped from service coordinators' caseloads. These examples, and others, can lead to a major disconnect between the Regional Center system's reporting of low homelessness among people with I/DD that they serve and the number of people with I/DD being reported in point in time homeless counts.

LHA recognizes the moral, public health, and economic imperative to address homelessness for all Californians who find themselves in unstable housing or unsheltered environments. To tackle this monumental problem, we need the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) to perform AB 2329's recommended state needs/gaps analysis. We urge the HCFC to then give special consideration to the needs of people with I/DD who are increasingly finding themselves in the ranks those experiencing homeless.

For these reasons, we support this bill.

Sincerely,

Ian Nevarez
Association Director
Lanterman Housing Alliance