

## Service Planning Area (SPA) Quarterly Updates May 2019

### Policy and Legislative Affairs

For more information please visit: [www.lahsa.org/policy](http://www.lahsa.org/policy) or contact the policy team with questions at [policy@lahsa.org](mailto:policy@lahsa.org).

### **FY 2019 CoC Program NOFA is Coming Soon – Get RFSQ Certified Now**

- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced in multiple venues that HUD plans to release the FY 2019 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) as early as May 2019.
- LAHSA will likely release the 2019 CoC Program New Projects Request for Proposals (RFP) sometime in June 2019.
- LAHSA encourages all interested potential applicants to monitor LAHSA's NOFA webpage for updates on the pending NOFA release and RFP. Go to <https://www.lahsa.org/coc/> and click on the 'CoC Program NOFA' tab at the top of the page.
- Potential applicants who are not yet certified through LAHSA's Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) process are encouraged to visit our funding page at <https://www.lahsa.org/funding/> and apply for RFSQ certification, a required step to becoming eligible to apply for funding.

### **LA CoC Board Member Elections**

- LAHSA will hold elections to fill LA CoC Board SPA representative seats for SPA 4 and SPA 6 at the August quarterly meetings. LAHSA will send out election materials in the coming weeks to notify the continuum and those interested in serving as a LA CoC Board member.
- Please contact your LA CoC Board SPA representative (roster located here: <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=1741-lacoc-board-roster.pdf>) or your respective Community Engagement Coordinator with any questions or concerns.

### **Legislative Update**

#### **Federal**

- LAHSA wrote a letter in support of **H.R. 1856 (Waters)**, which would increase funding for supportive housing, housing choice vouchers targeted to households experiencing homelessness, and affordable housing funding. The bill was approved in the House Financial Services Committee and will head to the full House of Representatives for approval.
- LAHSA commented on a proposed rule from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) seeking to add punitive consequences for immigrants who use certain types of public assistance. Under the proposed rule, DHS would lower the threshold of public assistance usage needed to label an immigrant as a **public charge**, a status which can jeopardize one's ability to be approved for permanent residency. The rule would impact those seeking status as legal permanent residents who use Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers or public housing. LAHSA wrote in opposition to the proposed rule, which would discourage and disincentivize certain immigrants from using housing assistance and potentially leave them more vulnerable to homelessness.
- LAHSA responded to a proposed rule open for public comment which is seeking to restrict access to the **Supplemental Nutrition and Poverty Program (SNAP) for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs)**. LAHSA wrote in opposition to the proposed rule, which would have created additional burdens for single adults at-risk of homelessness and already facing high housing costs.

- LAHSA anticipates submitting comment on a soon-to-be-released rule open for public comment on **use of public housing assistance by immigrants**. The proposed rule is expected to further restrict public housing access for immigrants that are non-citizens, which would leave many immigrants further vulnerable to homelessness, including both non-citizens and citizens that live in households with family members with varying immigration statuses. LAHSA will circulate additional information on this rule making as it becomes available, including tools for your organization to comment and advocate.

### State

- At the state level, LAHSA has taken **support** positions on the following pieces of legislation:

Bill No.	Summary	Status
AB 10	Would increase the State Low-Income Housing Tax Credit by \$500 M annually.	Scheduled for Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee on 4/29.
AB 53	Would prohibit landlords from running a criminal background check at initial application stage.	Withdrawn from committee.
AB 58	Would add the Department of Education on the State Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council.	Approved by full Assembly on 4/11. Senate hearings in May.
AB 307	Would create \$100 M annual funding program for youth homelessness for CoCs and providers.	Will be heard in Assembly Appropriations in May.
AB 761	Would allow local jurisdictions to use vacant armories as shelter during hazardous weather.	Heard in Assembly Appropriations on 4/24.
AB 806	Would grant priority college registration to students experiencing homelessness.	Will be heard in Assembly Appropriations in May.
AB 1481	Would establish just cause eviction protections.	Scheduled in Assembly Judiciary on 4/30.
AB 1482	Would establish statewide cap on annual rent increases of 5% + CPI.	Approved in Assembly Housing on 4/24.
SB 48	Would establish interim housing as a by-right use if it meets certain local zoning standards.	Approved in Senate Environmental Quality on 4/24.
SB 282	Would allocate corrections funding for supportive housing for people on parole.	Heard in Senate Public Safety on 4/23.
SB 329	Would prohibit discrimination by landlords based on a prospective tenant's source of income.	Scheduled for Senate Judiciary on 4/30.

### Local

#### *City of Los Angeles*

- The Los Angeles City Council approved a **Source of Income Discrimination Ordinance** in late April, which would prohibit landlords from rejecting housing applicants solely on the basis of the source of their income. Once implemented, the ordinance will assist with ensuring Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher holders and Rapid Re-Housing vouchers are able to utilize these resources in a competitive housing environment.

#### *County*

- The County of Los Angeles is also in the process of developing a **Source of Income Discrimination Ordinance**, which is expected to be presented to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors later this May.
- The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is also developing an **Inclusionary Housing Ordinance**, which would require developers of market-rate housing to set aside a portion of their units as affordable to extremely-, very-, or low-income households. This ordinance will be presented to the Board of Supervisors later in the spring.