

Governor's Proposed Budget Eliminates Two Programs Providing Housing Support to Current & Former Foster Youth

Eliminates the \$13.7 million Housing Navigation & Maintenance Program

Serves more than 1,300 current and former foster youth age 18-24

Eliminates the \$18.8 million Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) Housing Supplement

Will begin serving more than 3,000 foster youth age 18-20 starting in 2025

The Housing Navigation & Maintenance Program (HNMP) Plays a Special Role Leveraging Federal Housing Support

Program overview

- **Administration:** Annual budget of \$13.7 million, administered by California Department of Housing & Community Development to county child welfare agencies.
 - **Population:** Serves current and former foster youth ages 18-24 (have not yet turned 25).
 - **Key purpose:** Only state funding designated for providing housing navigation and services to former foster youth with federal housing vouchers (FYI/FUP).
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Why is this program Important?

- **HNMP helps our state tap into federal housing assistance:** FYI/FUP vouchers are underutilized—Public Housing Authorities can and should be requesting vouchers in partnership with county child welfare for ALL youth in need.
 - **HNMP enables counties to fulfill their federal mandate, in partnership with housing authorities:** County child welfare is required by HUD to provide or secure services to youth with vouchers from their partner housing authority.
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FACT SHEET ON PROPOSED CUT: <https://jbay.org/resources/protect-hnmp/>

Losing State HNMP Funding Would Mean Losing Up to \$22M Annually in Federal Housing Support for Former Foster Youth

HNMP WAS A SOLUTION

In 2021, counties identified their biggest obstacle to FYI/FUP being there was no designated services funding. HNMP solved that.

Along with federal policy changes, this state funding led to a 54% increase in vouchers in CA between 2021-2023.

LOSING HNMP WILL REVERSE THIS PROGRESS

Counties are required to provide or secure services in order for their partner housing authorities to request vouchers.

Without funding for services, these county/housing authority partnerships will request less vouchers or none at all.

YOUTH WILL LOSE HOUSING & SERVICES

More than 1,300 former foster youth had an FYI/FUP voucher as of October 2023.

Many of these youth may lose services, and future youth in need of housing support as they exit care or after they exit, will not have access to a voucher.

The Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) Housing Supplement Will Prevent Foster Youth Homelessness

Program overview

- **What is a SILP?** The most independent extended foster care placement (no provider, no services, youth must find their own housing, youth receive their monthly foster care payment directly from the county child welfare agency).
- **Population:** “Non-minor dependents” or “NMDs” (age 18-20 in extended foster care) who are placed in SILPs (approx. 43% of NMD population).
- **Purpose:** The SILP Housing Supplement augments the statewide rate paid to youth, based on the local cost of housing, ensuring youth have enough money to pay rent.
- **Administration:** SILP Housing Supplement has an annual budget of \$18.8 million, administered by California Department of Social Services to county child welfare agencies. Would take effect July 1, 2025 (requires payment system automation).

Why is this program important?

- **It will prevent housing stability and homelessness:** 1 in 5 youth in extended foster care experience homelessness. More money for rent means better-quality and more stable housing.
- **It bases youth monthly payments on local housing costs:** Having a statewide, flat foster care rate is inequitable, especially because the majority of foster youth live in the most expensive counties.

Without the SILP Housing Supplement, Most NMDs Cannot Afford Housing.

THE COST OF HOUSING HAS OUTPACED THE GROWTH OF THE SILP RATE

Since 2012, the cost of housing has increased 95% in CA's 25 highest-cost counties, while the SILP rate has increased 51%.

81% of NMDs reside in the 25 highest-cost counties.

YOUTH IN SILPS ARE LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LINE

Youth in SILPs receive \$1,206 monthly = \$14,472 annually, which is below the federal poverty level.

This reinforces the intergenerational cycle of poverty, particularly for parenting youth.

THE SILP HOUSING SUPPLEMENT DRAWS DOWN FEDERAL FUNDING

The SILP Housing Supplement leverages \$6.7 million in federal funding.

Other state-funded housing programs generally do not leverage federal funding.

FOR FUTURE QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION

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