



Homebase

ADVANCING SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS

September 21, 2026

Understanding and Leveraging CalAIM Housing Programs: Enhanced Care Management, Community Supports & Transitional Rent

Child and Family Policy Institute of California (CFPIC)
Capacity Building & System Integration Lunch and Learn

Objectives

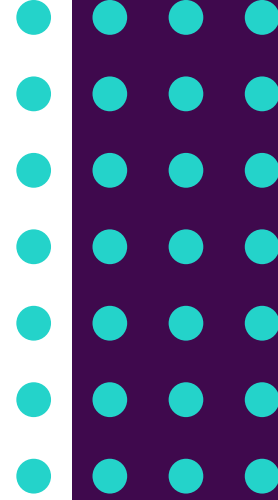
- Learn about CalAIM's housing-related Community Supports
- Understand how CalAIM complements other housing programs
- Ask Questions!

Why talk about CalAIM?

CalAIM's housing-related services can help increase agency and community capacity to serve people experiencing homelessness + expand services

- Medi-Cal is an entitlement program
- More expansive services than similar CoC/homeless system resources
- Funded by the federal government/state vs. CoC or county programs' funds

What are CalAIM's Housing-related programs?



Enhanced Care Management (ECM) & Community Supports

- Two CalAIM initiatives are focused on the needs of people experiencing homelessness:
 - **Enhanced Care Management (ECM):** Comprehensive care coordination/management
 - **Community Supports:** Services to address health-related social needs
- Transitional Rent was recently added via BH-CONNECT
- These support CalAIM's overall intention to provide comprehensive care to Medi-Cal members with complex needs

Enhanced Care Management

To help address clinical and non-clinical needs of people with complex care needs

- Intensive care coordination
- Intended to be interdisciplinary, high touch, person-centered and provided primarily through in-person interactions
- Help with goal setting + connecting to services and benefits

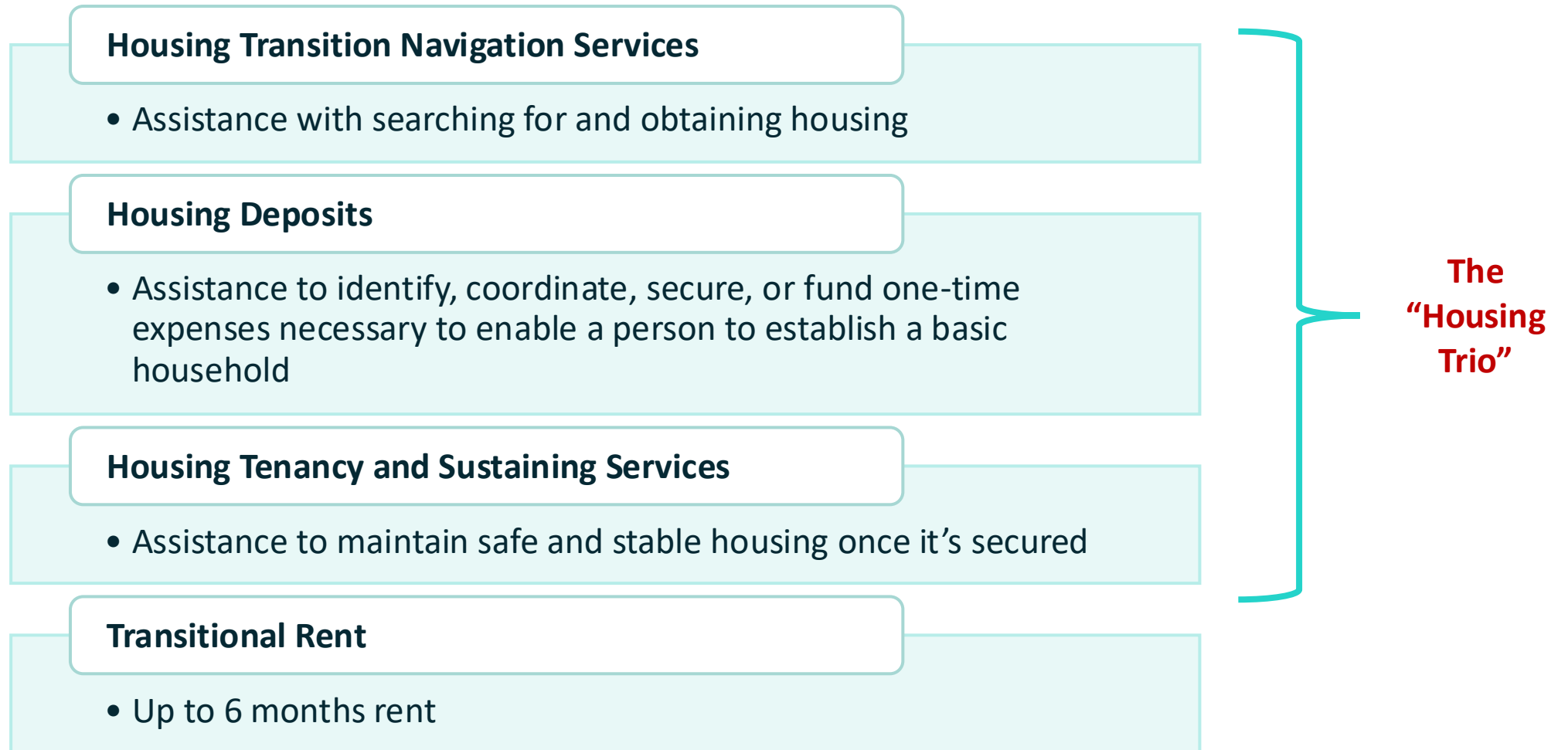
Community Supports

For people with **complex health needs & unmet social needs**

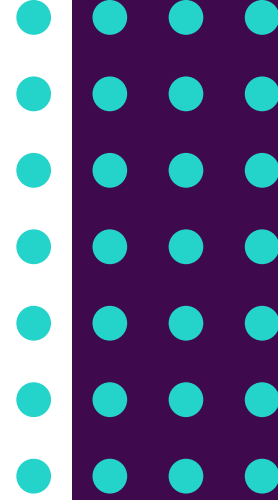
Optional services MCPs offer to eligible members:

- **Housing transition navigation services**
- **Housing tenancy and sustaining services**
- **Housing deposits**
- Caregiver respite services
- Community transition services/nursing facility transition to a home
- Environmental accessibility adaptations (home modifications)
- Sobering centers
- **Recuperative care (medical respite)**
- **Short-term post hospitalization housing**
+ the newest (and first required) Community Support: ***Transitional Rent!***
- **Day habitation programs**
- Personal care and homemaker services
- Nursing facility transition/diversion to assisted living facilities
- Medically supportive food/meals/medically tailored meals
- Asthma remediation

Community Supports Relevant to People Experiencing or at Risk of Homelessness



What services do these programs cover?



Enhanced Care Management (ECM)

- Intensive care coordination across multiple systems of care to help address clinical and non-clinical needs
- ECM providers are required to meet members where they are in their communities (e.g., at shelters, on the street, or at home)
- Enhanced care managers help set clear goals, make sure members receive the full array of benefits they're eligible for, and coordinate across systems to help members achieve their goals

ECM Core Services

Outreach and Engagement



Comprehensive Assessment and Care Management Plan



Enhanced Coordination of Care



Health Promotion



Comprehensive Transitional Care



Member and Family Supports



Coordination of and Referral to Community and Social Support Services



Housing Transition Navigation Services (HTNS)

Conduct housing assessments to identify member's preferences and barriers to stable housing

Develop an individualized housing support plan

Search for and share housing options

Assist in obtaining housing (incl. completing applications and accessing required documentation)

Assist with requests for reasonable accommodation

Identify & secure resources for members to access subsidized rent programs (e.g., HCVs)

Assist with benefits advocacy

Identify and secure resources to cover one-time expenses like security deposits, moving costs, adaptive aids

Educate and engage landlords; advocate on behalf of the member

Ensure living environment is safe and move-in ready

Help arrange and support the move

Establish contacts and procedures to retain housing

For each of the Housing Trio Community Supports, specific services offered must be based on each person's assessment and documented in an individualized housing support plan.

Housing Deposits

Security deposits required to obtain a lease

Set-up fees or deposits for utilities or service access & utility arrears

First month utilities (including phone, gas, electricity, heating, water)

First and last months' rent if required by a landlord for occupancy

Services necessary for a person's health and safety, such as pest eradication and one-time pre-move-in cleaning

Goods necessary to ensure access and safety upon move-in (e.g., A/C or heater) and other medically-necessary adaptive aids and services to preserve a person's health and safety in the home (e.g., hospital beds, air filters, specialized cleaning supplies)

Housing Tenancy & Sustaining Services (HTSS)

Early identification of and intervention around behaviors that may jeopardize housing

Educate & train on tenant and landlord roles, rights, and responsibilities

Help to develop/maintain relationships with landlords/property managers.

Coordinate with landlord and case manager to address issues that could impact housing stability and resolve disputes

Advocacy and linkage with community resources to prevent eviction

Assist with benefits advocacy

Coordinate to regularly review, update and modify housing support and crisis plan

Ongoing assistance with lease compliance

Health and safety visits, including unit habitability inspections

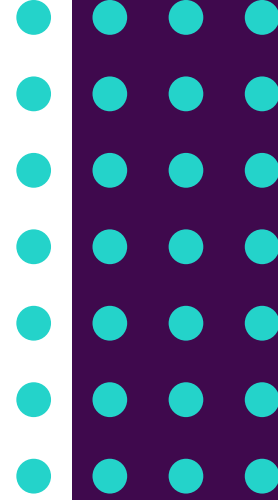
Other prevention and early intervention services identified in the crisis plan

Assistance with independent living, life skills, and training on budgets

Transitional Rent Services & Covered Costs

Services	Covered Costs
• Help identifying housing • Ensure housing unit is habitable • Help person understand and execute a lease agreement • Structure rent payment agreement with property manager or owner • Issue timely rent payments • Coordinate with supportive services providers	• Rent • Cannot cover back rent • TR must cover 100% of monthly rent • Rent cap/max based on Small Area Fair Market Rent • Fees for storage of additional belongings • Amenity fees & utilities included in rent

Who can receive these services?



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Eligibility for ECM

Enrolled in Medi-Cal managed care + meet at least one ECM Population of Focus

ECM Populations of Focus
Individuals Experiencing Homelessness, including single adults, families, or unaccompanied children/youth
Individuals At Risk for Avoidable Hospital or ED Utilization
Individuals with Serious Mental Health and/or SUD Needs
Individuals Transitioning from Incarceration
Adults Living in the Community and At Risk for LTC Institutionalization
Adult Nursing Facility Residents Transitioning to the Community
Children and Youth Enrolled in CCS or CCS WCM with Additional Needs Beyond CCS Condition
Children and Youth Involved in Child Welfare
Birth Equity Population of Focus

Housing Trio Eligibility

Enrolled in Medi-Cal managed care +

Experiencing or at risk of homelessness + has one of these clinical risk factors:

- Pregnant up through 12-months post-partum
- One or more serious chronic physical health condition
- One or more physical, intellectual, or development disability
- Meets access criteria for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) = significant impairment or a reasonable probability of significant deterioration in an important area of life functioning due to a diagnosed or suspected MH disorder*
- Meets access criteria for Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) or DMC Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) = A diagnosed substance use disorder (SUD) other than tobacco use*

OR

Prioritized for a permanent supportive housing unit or rental subsidy resource through the local homeless Coordinated Entry System or similar system

OR

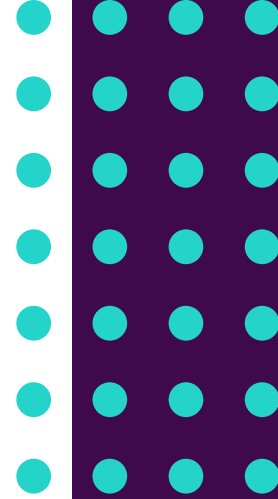
Deemed eligible for Transitional Rent

Eligibility Criteria for Transitional Rent

Must be enrolled in a Medi-Cal MCP and meet all 3 criteria:

1. Meet one of the stated clinical risk factors		3. Unsheltered OR <u>Full Service Partnership-eligible</u> OR Part of a specific “transitioning population”
For Behavioral Health POF: Meet the access criteria for SMHS, DMC, or DMC-ODS services	2. Experiencing or at risk of homelessness	

How are these services delivered?



ECM and Housing Trio Referrals

Medi-Cal members who are eligible for ECM and Community Supports can be referred by anyone.

- Ensure member is enrolled in Medi-Cal and managed care plan
- Confirm eligibility for ECM and/or specific Community Supports
- Submit referral or application forms and supporting documentation to MCP for each benefit and service
- Once member is approved and enrolled in the relevant service:
 - MCPs each contract with providers for ECM & Community Supports
 - People enrolled in both ECM and a Community Support may or may not have the same provider for both
 - If a person is enrolled in ECM, their ECM provider can/should assess and refer them to appropriate Community Supports

Transitional Rent Referrals & Authorization

Check eligibility criteria

Create **Housing Support Plan**, including post-TR permanent housing solution

Identify interim or permanent housing

Submit referral to MCP

MCP authorizes TR* (and assigns provider)

*For interim settings, authorization requires Behavioral Health Dept to confirm availability of BHSa housing resource if other housing isn't secured by end of TR.

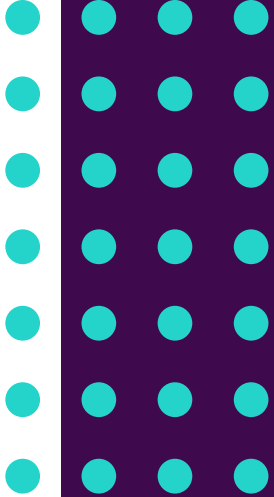
Housing Support Plans

- Required for Transitional Rent authorization and to document specific services offered under Housing Trio
- For TR authorization, must name:
 - Housing barriers, goals, and action steps
 - Supports to sustain permanent housing
 - Plan to pay for housing after TR ends
- Must be culturally appropriate, trauma-informed, and developed with member input



ECM & Community Supports Providers

- Mix of providers from health and housing systems, with varying levels of experience working with unhoused folks
- Must be contracted with MCP
- Provider assignment protocols differ by MCP
 - Many have strategies to match members with appropriate providers
 - Most allow contracted providers to “refer” clients to themselves to ensure people can receive services from trusted agencies



How do ECM, the Housing Trio, and Transitional Rent fit with other housing programs?

Examples of Other Housing Programs

Public Housing Agency (PHA): Public Housing, Housing Choice Vouchers

Continuum of Care (CoC): Permanent Supportive Housing & Rapid Rehousing

CalWORKS Housing Support Program (HSP)

CalWORKS Homeless Assistance (HA)

Bringing Families Home Program (BFH)

Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP)

Home Safe Program

Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) assistance

No Place Like Home projects

CalAIM + Other Housing Programs

ECM can help people trying to navigate all these programs (and more).

Housing Navigation (HTNS) can help people who have a rental subsidy or other housing resource lined up find and apply for housing units.

Housing Deposits can help with securing units and move-in.

Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services (HTSS) can help people stabilize in housing once they've moved in (regardless of other subsidy, if any).

Transitional Rent can help people in emergency shelter or interim housing programs transition into more permanent housing settings.

Other housing assistance programs can be the permanent housing solution named in Housing Support Plans to ensure TR authorization

Receiving up to six months of total rent coverage through TR before those programs take over can help folks better stabilize.

Final Considerations

Keep in mind...

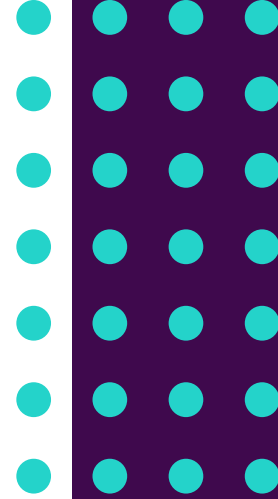
- People may be assigned to providers they aren't familiar with for ECM or Community Supports. Request providers where possible and ensure warm handoffs to unfamiliar providers.
- For Transitional Rent specifically:
 - Additional layers for authorization can be complicated
 - Requirement for TR to cover 100% of rent may require more planning about post-TR plan
 - Need to ensure receipt of TR won't compromise eligibility for post-TR programs

Upcoming & Potential Changes

- Changes to Medi-Cal access resulting from H.R. 1, including:
 - “community engagement”/work requirements
 - increased renewal frequency
 - people with certain immigration statuses excluded from managed care (and therefore ECM & Community Supports)
- Upcoming guidance from DHCS regarding authorization/re-authorization periods and “graduation” criteria for HTNS and HTSS
- CalAIM renewal request submitted to federal government

Next Steps

- Talk to other providers and partners in your community to better understand these resources and set the stage for coordination to support your clients
- Make sure your clients are connected to Medi-Cal and managed care plans + help ensure they stay enrolled



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Questions?

Resources

- **DHCS ECM and Community Supports Resource Page**
 - Community Supports Policy Guide V2
 - ECM Policy Guide
- **Homebase's Health Care website**
 - CalAIM Toolkit
 - Accessing and Maintaining Medicaid resources
 - Transitional Rent resources
 - Stay Covered Coalition page