



## **News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (11/4/22)**

### **California Faces Triple Threat of Respiratory Illnesses**

[CalMatters reports](#) forget “twindemic” — California may be in for a three-headed Cerberus of respiratory illnesses this winter as the flu, respiratory syncytial virus and COVID-19 collide.

Orange County on Monday [declared a local public health emergency](#) over RSV, a common cause of pneumonia in babies that’s contributed to a record number of pediatric hospitalizations and daily emergency room visits in the county.

Early phases of RSV can present flu-like symptoms, and young children and seniors are most at risk of complications, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

San Diego health officials [warned last week](#) that “a sharp increase of flu and RSV cases” could have “a severe impact on people’s lives and the county’s medical resources this fall and winter.” At one point in October, about 1,000 of 2,600 students at a local high school were absent due to an outbreak of respiratory illnesses.

To read *CalMatter’s* closer look at where California stands on the RSV, flu, and COVID fronts, [visit the full article](#).

### **The U.S. is Officially in a Flu Epidemic, Federal Health Officials Say. They’re Preparing to Deploy Troops and Ventilators if Necessary**

[Fortune Well reports](#) the U.S. has “crossed the epidemic threshold” when it comes to flu, federal health officials said Friday, as they outlined plans to deploy troops and FEMA personnel, and supplies like ventilators, if needed, in response to a nationwide surge of respiratory illnesses that also includes RSV and COVID.

U.S. flu hospitalizations are higher now than they’ve been at this point in every other flu season since 2010-2011, officials with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on a press call.

The country is seeing a resurgence of non-COVID respiratory illnesses like flu, RSV, rhinovirus, and enterovirus, with background levels of COVID, according to Dr. José Romero, director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases.

Federal officials are monitoring hospital capacity throughout the U.S. and are “standing by to deploy additional personnel and supplies as needed,” Dawn O’Connell, assistant secretary of the

Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, said on the call.

If a state or jurisdiction exceeds its ability to care for patients, a team from the National Disaster Medical System may be deployed, she said, adding that response might also include personnel from the Department of Defense and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA.

If extra supplies like ventilators or personal protective equipment are needed, they're available upon request from the Strategic National Stockpile, she added. No states had requested this level of support as of Friday.

Federal health officials on Friday painted a picture of some respiratory illnesses like flu surging in some areas of the country, with other areas seeing peaks of RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus infection. Cases of COVID and flu-like illnesses are occurring all areas, they said.

For further details, [visit the full article](#).

### **U.S. Pandemic Reprieve Over as Numbers Rise**

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) the number of new weekly coronavirus cases in the U.S. rose for the first time since late July last week, from 261,315 to 265,983, according to updated data from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

The 7-day daily average for confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations has also stopped declining, with a small rise from 3,217 to 3,249. The number of weekly deaths climbed to 2,649 from 2,591 in the same period.

While the upticks are relatively slight, they come after three months of steadily improving COVID-19 trends nationwide.

Federal health officials have long warned of a potential winter surge, especially in light of waning vaccine immunity and the emergence of newer, more evasive omicron subvariants such as BQ.1 and BA.5.2.6.

Uptake of the bivalent vaccine booster remains sluggish and 49.3% of the total booster-eligible population has not yet received any booster dose, [according to the CDC](#).

The number of people receiving boosters last week rose by just 0.1 percentage point.

“If people went out and got their vaccines, we could really get through this without getting into a lot of trouble,” Dr. Ashish Jha, the White House COVID response coordinator, said in an [interview](#) last week with CBS News.

### **Heart Inflammation Risk Remains Low After Third Vaccine Dose, Study Finds**

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) a third dose of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine does not increase the risk of heart inflammation more than a second dose, according to a [preprint study](#) being presented Saturday at the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions.

Cases of acute myocarditis were rare according to the study, which collected data from millions of patients in Southern California between Dec. 2020 to Feb. 2022.

Among the 2.9 million people in the study who received a second dose of an mRNA vaccine, 26 developed myocarditis that required hospitalization. Among the 1.4 million who received the third dose, nine were hospitalized for myocarditis.

The majority of cases happened within seven days of vaccination, most were mild, and the symptoms resolved without extensive intervention.

“It is an important question because with additional doses of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines being recommended, it is essential to monitor its safety,” said Dr. Mingsum Lee, the study’s senior researcher and a cardiologist at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center, [in a statement](#).

Other studies have shown the risk of myocarditis is much higher after COVID-19 infection than after vaccination.

### **‘We are Not Trying to Scare You’: Fentanyl is Now Behind 1 Out of Every 5 Youth Deaths**

[The Mercury News reports](#) fentanyl overdoses are leaving their toll not only in tragically familiar places like San Francisco’s gritty Tenderloin district but also inside teenagers’ bedrooms in some of the Bay Area’s most upscale neighborhoods. More and more often, users have no idea the drugs they are taking include fentanyl.

As a precaution, schools are stocking up on medication that reverses the effects of overdoses, and experts are recommending teens shopping for illicit painkillers and study drugs also buy test strips that detect if the pills are mixed with fentanyl.

“We are not trying to scare you,” said Chelsea Shover, an assistant professor of epidemiology and health services research at UCLA, who co-authored a 2020 [study on fentanyl’s spread to the West Coast](#). “But we are trying to tell you what’s happening now, and it is different than what was happening a few years ago.”

The scourge of fentanyl’s dramatic rise in California shows up in 2020 as a startling spike in the state’s death records alongside another now-familiar entry: COVID-19.

Fentanyl overdoses killed about 4,000 people in California in 2020 – more than double the previous year – as trafficking routes from Mexico hardened and the unusually cheap drug began penetrating local drug markets.

And last year, for the first time, California’s death rate from all drug overdoses surpassed that of lung cancer and ranked just below hypertensive heart disease. The increase was due almost entirely to fentanyl. It killed a record 5,722 Californians in 2021, according to preliminary data from the California Department of Vital Statistics. That’s more than the [estimated](#) 4,258 people who died in auto accidents on California roads and more than double the 2,548 killed in homicides.

For teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19, the opioid death rate increased more than fourfold from 2018 to 2021. For 20- to 24-year-olds, the rate shot up nearly seven times. The spikes in death have occurred even as the overall drug use rate among teenagers has remained stable, experts say.

But here’s what’s really telling: Prior to fentanyl’s rise, the total number of yearly deaths for Californians ages 15 to 24 typically hovered around 3,000. Since 2020, that number has

skyrocketed to nearly 4,000 deaths per year. And fentanyl accounted for more than 750 of those deaths in each of the past two years.

For further details, including the varying severities of this crisis by county, [visit the full article](#).

### **Tragic Teen Deaths Spur California Schools to Finally Battle Fentanyl Crisis**

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) Laura Didier has lost count of the number of times she's described her son's death.

On a December early afternoon in 2020, Zach's dad found him slumped over his desk and tried to revive him until paramedics arrived, but it was already too late. The screaming father told the emergency responders not to give up, reaching for their defibrillator to try to bring his son back to life. When he finally looked up, saw the firefighters and paramedic crying, he curled into a fetal position on the floor.

Didier got the phone call shortly after.

That day, Zach became one of an exponentially growing number of young people accidentally overdosing on a drug they can't see, taste or smell, hidden in a pill they thought was something else.

Yet many schools across California are only just now addressing the fentanyl crisis, officials scrambling to respond with mentions of the deadly drug in health classes or with boxes of the overdose-reversal drug Narcan stocked in administrative offices.

The most pro-active districts have been spurred to act by tragedy.

The Rocklin mom still cries when she shares Zach's story, which she does every chance she gets. She speaks at school assemblies or parent information nights, delivering an emotional gut-punch to convey the risk.

"It's very hard to retell it and relive it. It is very, very hard," she said. "What's harder is hearing about more kids dying."

Since this school year started, she has recounted her son's death to about 18,000 students in Placer and neighboring counties at school assemblies she helped organize.

Yet it wasn't until last week that the state's top education official alerted district officials to the crisis and urged them to act.

Parents and drug experts have joined a growing call to educate children, teens and families about the dangers of fatal overdoses from fentanyl, particularly the black market of counterfeit pills made to look like other drugs.

In Los Angeles Unified, the second largest district in the country, officials acted only after nine students overdosed on fentanyl within the first two weeks of school this fall, including one who died. Each of LAUSD's 1,400 schools will soon stock Narcan, a nasal spray that reverses the effects of the drug, in addition to the development of student and parent awareness programs.

In San Francisco, the word fentanyl is not found in a search of the district's web site, although officials said high school students learn about opioids, overdoses and specifically fentanyl in a required health class. Middle school students are not exposed to that information.

The district is working to get Narcan in middle and high schools, which requires staff training and safe storage sites, among other legal requirements.

Many other districts in California have only recently started to acknowledge the crisis, scrambling to stock Narcan or inserting information on fentanyl into health class lessons on tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

Santa Clara County Superintendent Mary Ann Dewan started worrying about fentanyl even before the pandemic, with talk of “pill parties” and overdoses among local children.

For more details on how other school districts are responding, [visit the full article](#).

### **Four Airport Workers Fall Ill at LAX Airport from Apparent Gas Leak**

[CNN Travel reports](#) a terminal at Los Angeles International Airport has been cleared and deemed safe after an apparent gas leak that sickened four people in Terminal 8, according to a tweet from the airport.

The four people hurt in the incident Monday were all airport employees, according to an update provided by the Los Angeles Fire Department.

The condition of the most severely sickened victim was upgraded from grave to critical earlier Monday.

A woman and three men were working in or near a utility room “when a popping sound was heard, and the apparent release of Carbon Dioxide vapor took place,” an LAFD report said.

A deluge of carbon dioxide from a fire suppression system inside a subterranean utility room displaced all of the oxygen inside the area, LAFD Capt. Erik Scott said in a news conference.

The most seriously injured man, described as being in his 50s, was found not breathing and without a pulse inside the utility room. CPR was immediately performed, and advanced life support given by emergency responders as he was taken to a nearby hospital, the Fire Department said in an incident report.

“The carbon dioxide displaced the oxygen in his bloodstream, and he went into cardiac arrest,” Scott said of the man seriously injured in the incident.

This appears to be an isolated incident, Scott added, noting that there was no explosion or fire.

The incident occurred in Terminal 8 near the baggage area. The terminal was cleared of passengers after the incident. The area reopened around 1 p.m. ET (10 a.m. PT), according to a tweet from LAX airport.

A Federal Aviation Administration ground stop for arriving United Airlines was also lifted, the airport said.

All other terminals and flights were operating normally, according to a tweet from LAX airport.

“Check your flight status with the airline directly for the best information,” the airport tweeted earlier on Monday.

United told CNN it was “temporarily consolidating” its operations to Terminal 7 and was contacting impacted customers with new departure time and gate information.

Passengers passing through security bound for Terminal 8 were being held in Terminal 7 after screening, Transportation Security Administration spokesperson Lorie Dankers said earlier on Monday.

Dankers said all TSA employees are OK, and the incident did not involve a TSA checkpoint.

### **California Calls Power-Transmission Emergency on High Winds**

[Bloomberg reports](#) California's power-grid operator declared a transmission emergency for the northern part of the state as high winds buffet the region.

[PG&E Corp.](#), which provides electricity to much of Northern California, asked officials to declare the emergency Tuesday for Humboldt County after stormy weather caused outages to a power line serving the area, according to a company spokesman.

The declaration allows PG&E to prepare a power generator to provide electricity locally if needed, the spokesman said.

The National Weather Service issued a gale warning off the Northern California coast as a storm approaches shore with winds of about 40 miles (64 kilometers) per hour.

About 19,400 homes and businesses in Northern California were without power at 3:20 p.m. local time, according to [Poweroutage.us](#).

### **Nearly a Third of Southern Sierra Forests Killed by Drought and Wildfire in Last Decade**

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) as climate change continues to transform California's landscape in staggering and often irreversible ways, researchers have zeroed in on yet another casualty of the shift: the forests of the southern Sierra Nevada.

Between 2011 and 2020, wildfires, drought and bark beetle infestations contributed to the loss of nearly a third of all conifer forests in the lower half of the mountain range, according to a recent study published in the journal [Ecological Applications](#). Eighty-five percent of the southern Sierra's high-density mature forests either lost density or became non-forest vegetation.

The losses could have grave consequences for California wildlife, including protected species such as spotted owls and Pacific fishers that rely on mature tree canopies for their habitats. Researchers said the findings not only are another indication of the state's shifting climate regime, but also offer new insights that could help guide forest management and conservation strategies.

"Thirty percent of conifer forests in the southern Sierra Nevada are no longer considered forests," said Zachary Steel, a research scientist with the United States Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Research Station and the lead author of the study. "They're either sparsely treed landscapes or, more often, are transitioning either in the short term or long term to more of a shrubland-type system."

The Sierra covers about a quarter of California's land area, with the southern portion of the range running from Lake Tahoe to Tehachapi. Hundreds of plants and animals call the region home, and the forest helps sequester carbon and store water for the state's residents.

Steel, who conducted the study as a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley, said the numbers were alarming.

The problem is multifaceted, he said. For starters, human-caused climate change is contributing to warmer, drier conditions that are turning once-green forests into brittle tinder and lengthening the window of time in which wildfires can burn each year.

What's more, thirsty trees are weaker and more susceptible to [deadly attacks from bark beetles](#), which bore into them and chew away at their inner cores. The study found that the combination of drought and beetle attacks caused even greater declines than areas where drought and wildfire overlapped.

But forest management is also part of the story, Steel said, because a century of suppressing wildfires and outlawing Indigenous burning practices has allowed for an unnatural buildup of vegetation in the landscape. While wildfires once regularly simmered along the forest floors, today's "megafires" are burning at high severity and searing some trees up to the top.

"One of the important takeaways is if we're going to still have old forests on the landscape, we need to manage what's left to be more resilient," Steel said. That includes [prescribed burns](#), mechanical thinning and allowing naturally occurring fires to play out on the landscape when it is safe to do so, he said.

For further information, [visit the full article](#).

### **Aging Infrastructure May Create Higher Flood Risk in L.A., Study Finds**

[The New York Times reports](#) hundreds of thousands of people in Los Angeles could experience at least a foot of flooding during a 100-year disaster, a new scientific study has found, highlighting the hazards of aging infrastructure in America's second-largest city.

This is a much higher estimate of flood exposure in Los Angeles than the one produced by the federal government. That estimate classifies areas of the city containing about 23,000 residents as being at high risk in a 100-year event, or an event with a 1 percent chance of occurring in any year.

The discrepancy is explained, in part, because the new study takes a more realistic view of the city's water infrastructure, said the report's lead author, Brett F. Sanders, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of California, Irvine.

Many of Los Angeles's flood control channels have become clogged with sediment and vegetation, reducing the amount of water they can transport, Dr. Sanders said. Rather than assume these channels are good as new, he and his colleagues used survey data collected with lidar, a technology for creating detailed 3-D maps, to examine how well the city's waterways would handle a severe storm in their actual state.

"Let's not assume perfect performance from our infrastructure; let's look at the most likely performance," Dr. Sanders said. "When we do this in Los Angeles, the second largest city in the United States, the risk is actually more than an order of magnitude bigger than what FEMA said it was," he said, referring to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FEMA declined to comment directly on [the study](#), which was published on Monday in the journal *Nature Sustainability*. In a written statement, David I. Maurstad, senior executive of the

agency's National Flood Insurance Program, said all homeowners should learn about flood exposure on their property, whether or not they live in areas FEMA considers high risk.

Extreme droughts and wildfires may have been the climate threats at the top of Californians' minds in recent years. But, because hotter air can carry more moisture, global warming is also causing the state to experience fiercer winter rainstorms — in particular, the ocean-born storms known as atmospheric rivers, so named for their long, sinuous shape and the prodigious amount of water they convey.

Moderate atmospheric rivers typically provide California with much of the precipitation it receives. But strong ones that come in quick succession can cause catastrophic flooding, as occurred in the winter of 1861-62, when relentless rain and snow across California and the Pacific Northwest wrecked homes and turned valleys into lakes.

Today, California has a roughly 1-in-50 chance each year of experiencing another weekslong megastorm of comparable intensity, [scientists estimated recently](#). Global warming has roughly doubled those odds compared with a century ago, they found. And, as the planet warms further, the risk will continue to grow.

For further details, [visit the full article](#). To view the full study, [click here](#).

### **How are California's Cities Managing the Drought?**

[The Public Policy Institute of California reports](#) the 2022 water year just ended, and the numbers confirm our suspicions: The 2020–22 drought has been the driest three-year period on record. The drought has harmed [California's freshwater ecosystems](#), dried up [thousands of drinking water wells](#) in small communities, and led to fallowing of [hundreds of thousands of acres of cropland](#). Cities, however, have fared better: As in the 2012–16 drought, they have avoided major supply disruptions. But you wouldn't know this from the news, where the main story is that urban water agencies have failed to meet Governor Newsom's July 2021 call for a [15% voluntary reduction in water use](#). So, are cities failing to manage the current drought? Or are we focusing on the wrong metrics?

A bird's-eye view of water conservation across the state suggests that Californians did fall significantly short of Governor Newsom's 15% goal: As of August 2022, water agencies collectively reduced their use by just 4% since July 2021. Just a handful of agencies (4%) had met or exceeded the 15% mark.

But as explained in a [blog post](#) last December, urban water savings are not actually so low when put in context: Most communities went into this drought using much less water than they did in the early years of the 2012–16 drought. Especially in places where water use is already very low—like much of the Central Coast—this makes additional savings harder to come by.

Furthermore, statewide averages can be misleading. The current drought initially [hit Northern California hardest](#). A drought emergency was not declared in Southern California—home to roughly 60% of the state's population (and urban water use)—[until fall 2021](#), months after the governor's call for savings. Such regional differences in drought conditions affected the alignment of local conservation policies with the governor's statewide call. Initially, water agencies in the North Coast and parts of the Bay Area pushed hardest for belt tightening, reflecting local shortages (see figure above). [A similar pattern occurred](#) at the start of the last



drought, where agencies in the Central Coast and Sacramento regions were the first to take action.

By summer 2022, when drought impacts were more widespread, so were local agency calls for conservation. Statewide savings jumped dramatically—by 9% compared to 2020. More than 91% of all agencies were saving more than in the prior summer, and 23% were exceeding the 15% voluntary goal.

Asking customers to conserve more water when supplies are tight is a key component of urban drought resilience. But managing demand is only one side of the equation; the other side is maintaining robust supplies. Having access to a diversified portfolio of water sources—including water in storage—can help avoid the need for severe water rationing during droughts. Urban agencies are generally in decent shape—despite the drought—because [they have made massive investments](#) to reduce long-term demand and improve supply reliability over the past few decades.

A closer look at water use in summer—when demand is highest—shows that agencies facing acute supply constraints reduced use significantly during this drought (see figure below). Agencies in the top row—from the North Coast and Bay Area—called for big water savings in 2021 to address local shortages. Agencies in the bottom row—Southern California communities that rely heavily on the drought-challenged State Water Project—adopted major use restrictions in June 2022. In all cases, customers responded to these local drought actions. For most of these agencies (and for 27% of all agencies statewide), recent savings were even larger than in the summer of 2015, when a statewide conservation mandate was in effect.

Of course, some communities may need to save more, particularly if it remains dry next year. But focusing only on the cumulative conservation levels since July 2021 can give the mistaken impression that urban water agencies are not prepared to manage this drought.

In sum, conservation is important, but it is only part of a spectrum of actions that lead to true drought resilience—and the 4% statewide conservation number is misleading when you dig into local details. Local action has worked for most agencies during this drought: When locals need to save, they do. Another top priority going forward is to continue building supply resilience in our changing climate—a key to reducing drought risks for California cities and suburbs.

### **California Program Offers Money for Earthquake Protection**

[KAKE reports](#) there is a new program where people can get cash to pay for earthquake protection. The 'Brace and Bolt' program gives eligible homeowners money to pay for what is known as a 'seismic retrofit.' The idea is to lessen the potential for damage during an earthquake.

Like most California homeowners, Olivia Winter worries about earthquakes and the damage they could do to her Watsonville home.

“I think earthquakes are a real possibility, especially a big one that can be catastrophic,” said Winter.

This is exactly why Winter applied for funding from the California Earthquake Authority’s Brace and Bolt program.

“It feels like a no-brainer. It's just such a cheap way to make your house more stable,” said Winter.

The program provides up to \$3,000 to homeowners for the retrofit of the crawlspace of older houses.

“We define older as pre-1980,” said Janiele Maffei with the California Earthquake Authority. “I tell people that if you have a pre-1980 house, you might have this vulnerability. If your house is pre-1940, you do have this vulnerability.”

The program pays for the foundation to be bolted to the frame of the house and puts plywood around the crawl space.

“When we do this retrofit, we significantly decrease the likelihood that (the house) will come off its foundation,” said Maffei. “(It) increases the likelihood that you can shelter in place after an earthquake.”

The Brace and Bolt program received \$80 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and has retrofitted 17,000 houses with plans to do another 17,000.

“We're talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage reduced to hopefully cosmetic damage, not earthquake-proof by any stretch, but certainly increase the likelihood of being able to stay in that house after an earthquake,” Maffei said.

Winter says the process of getting approved involved a few steps. She applied, was approved, went through a search process for a contractor and got some bids. Winter had to front the money first but says the Brace and Bolt program reimbursed her.

“Once the inspection was done and the work was complete, we submitted that information back to the earthquake Brace and Bolt program and they reimbursed us within a couple of months.”

In order to qualify, you need to own your home. Qualifying also depends on the location of your home when it was built and if your house has a raised foundation or crawl space under the house. You can learn more about qualifying at [earthquakebracebolt.com](http://earthquakebracebolt.com).

## **Governor Newsom Calls for More Aggressive Action on Homelessness, Pauses Latest Round of State Funding**

[Governor Newsom announced](#) Thursday that he will convene local leaders in mid-November to review the state's collective approach to homelessness and identify new strategies to better address the growing homelessness crisis. Until this convening, the state will hold on providing the remaining third round of Homelessness Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants.

“Californians demand accountability and results, not settling for the status quo,” said Governor Newsom. “As a state, we are failing to meet the urgency of this moment. Collectively, these plans set a goal to reduce street homelessness 2% statewide by 2024. At this pace, it would take decades to significantly curb homelessness in California – this approach is simply unacceptable. Everyone has to do better – cities, counties, and the state included. We are all in this together.”

All together, the plans result in just a 2% decrease of homelessness over four years statewide. While some plans show local leaders taking aggressive action to combat homelessness, others are less ambitious – some plans even reflect double-digit increases in homelessness over four

years. The Governor is calling all local jurisdictions together for a meeting in mid-November to coordinate on an approach that will deliver more substantial results. This meeting will be an opportunity to learn from one another about what works, as well as to identify barriers that inhibit the progress, we all want to make and strategies to remove them.

The third round of HHAP grants provides a share of \$1 billion to every county, Continuum of Care, and the 13 largest cities in the state, on the condition that each local government has a plan approved by the state that reduces the number of unsheltered homeless individuals and increases permanent housing.

The state has so far provided over \$1.5 billion of flexible emergency aid to address homelessness through the Homeless Emergency Aid Program and the first two rounds of HHAP funding. Now, for the first time, recipients of the third round of HHAP funding have new requirements and must create a Homelessness Action Plan that addresses, in detail, local actions to prevent and reduce the number of individuals experiencing homelessness at the community level. The plans must include a landscape analysis that assesses the current number of people experiencing homelessness in a given community and identify all existing programs, and all sources of funding aimed at tackling this crisis. Additionally, the plans must include outcome-driven results and strategies for achieving these goals using clear metrics to track success.

The HHAP program is part of a \$15.3 billion, multi-year state effort to turn the tide on homelessness – an all-of-the-above approach that includes cutting red tape and funding the largest expansion of homeless housing in California history. Governor Newsom has taken unprecedented steps to address homelessness and housing statewide, providing local governments more money than ever before to address this crisis. Groundbreaking programs like Homekey and Project Roomkey have become national models for getting people off the streets, faster than ever before and at a fraction of the usual cost. In partnership with cities and counties throughout the state, Project Roomkey has sheltered more than 60,000 people since the pandemic began, and Homekey has funded 12,500 units since its inception in late 2020.

Additionally, since September 1, 2021, Caltrans has cleared over 1,600 encampments, cleaning up 2,227 tons of trash, enough to fill more than 40 Olympic-sized swimming pools. The budget Governor Newsom signed earlier this year includes \$700 million for encampment resolution grants with \$350 million earmarked for assisting those living on state right-of-way property. Also, through Clean California, the Governor has invested \$1.1 billion to revitalize streets and public spaces through litter abatement and local beautification projects – generating an estimated 10,000 jobs, including for people exiting homelessness, at-risk youth, veterans, formerly incarcerated people, local artists and students.

### **ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon**

- **State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) – Pilot for Water Savings Focused Projects Limited to the Southern Desert Region; agriculture; environment & water**
  - **Funded by:** CA Department of Food and Agriculture
  - **Deadline: Tuesday, November 8, 2022**
  - **Total Estimated Funding:** \$2 million
  - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
    - **Online Application:** [linked here](#)

- **Division of Boating and Waterways Local Assistance Floating Restroom Grant Program FY22;** *environment & water; parks & recreation*
  - Funded by: Department of Parks and Recreation
  - Deadline: **Thursday, November 10, 2022**
  - Total Estimated Funding: \$1.104 million
  - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
    - **Online Application:** [linked here](#)
- **Biologically Integrated Farming Systems (BIFS);** *agriculture*
  - Funded by: CA Department of Food and Agriculture
  - Deadline: **Friday, November 11, 2022**
  - Total Estimated Funding: \$2 million
  - **Full Grant Guidelines:** [linked here](#)
    - **Online Application:** [linked here](#)

## Funding Opportunities

### Nita M. Lowey's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) and After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETs) Grant Program

[The CA Department of Education](#) created the 21st CCLC Program supports community learning centers for elementary and middle school students that provide academic enrichment opportunities who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The 21st Century ASSETs Program is to support community learning centers for students in grades nine through twelve with academic enrichment opportunities and activities designed to complement students' regular academic program.

The purpose of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Program, as described in federal statute, is to provide opportunities for communities to establish or expand activities that focus on:

1. Improved academic achievement
2. Enrichment services that reinforce and complement the academic program, and
3. Family literacy and related educational development services

Entities eligible to apply for funding include: local educational agencies (LEAs), cities, counties, community-based agencies, other public or private entities (which may include faith-based organizations), or a consortium of two or more such agencies, organizations, or entities. Applicants are required to plan their programs through a collaborative process that includes parents, youth, and representatives of participating schools or local educational agencies, governmental agencies (e.g., cities, counties, parks and recreation departments), community organizations, and the private sector.

While the California Department of Education (CDE) anticipates awarding grant funding for the California 21st CCLC Program on a regular basis, it is important to note that grant funding for each fiscal year is contingent upon the availability of federal funds and the enactment of each respective federal and state Budget Act. When grant funding is available, the CDE Expanded Learning Division will conduct a competitive grant process that begins with the release of an RFA(s).

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, November 16, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$40 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

### **Children's Crisis Continuum Pilot Program Request for Proposal (RFP)**

[The Department of Social Services](#) created this pilot program for counties or regional collaboratives of counties to develop a robust, highly integrated continuum of services designed to serve foster youth with complex needs served by multiple agencies.

The Children's Crisis Continuum Pilot Program(s) are to be highly integrated, trauma-focused, continuums of care for foster youth with the highest acuity and/or intellectual/developmental needs that allow for seamless transition between less and more restrictive levels of care that is not delayed by the need to arrange for appropriate supportive services. Non-family-based service settings within the pilot shall include a trauma-focused model of care, be unlocked, and have a high degree of qualified supervision and structure and be aligned with the goal of maintaining family and community connection while supporting the rapid and successful transition of the foster youth back into family-based settings.

This opportunity is open statewide. A single lead county applicant from either a county child welfare department, a county behavioral health department, a county mental health plan, or a probation department or a regional collaborative of counties who selects a lead county applicant may apply. Regional collaborative of counties must be composed of counties within the same region of California.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, December 1, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$61.3 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

### **Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program**

[The Board of State and Community Corrections](#) is the designated state administering agency for the JAG Program, which is federally funded through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The JAG program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. In general, JAG funds may be used for any one or more pre-identified Program Purpose Areas (PPA).

Proposals must be received by 5:00 P.M. (PST) on Friday, December 2, 2022. The JAG Program Application and all required attachments are available on the BSCC website. To apply, applicants must create a free Submittable account – or use an existing account – when prompted. After an account is established, applicants may apply and submit all required documents using the BSCC-Submittable Application. Additional application details are provided in the Proposal Narrative and Budget Instructions Section and on the BSCC website.

Applicants interested in applying for the JAG Program are asked (but not required) to submit a non-binding letter indicating their intent to apply. These letters will aid the BSCC in planning for the proposal evaluation process. Please submit the letter as a Microsoft Word or PDF file. Failure to submit a Letter of Intent is not grounds for disqualification. Prospective applicants that submit a Letter of Intent and decide later not to apply will not be penalized. Please email your non-binding Letter of Intent to Apply by Friday, November 18, 2022. Please identify the email

subject line as “JAG Program Letter of Intent to Apply” and submit the letter to: JAG2022@bscc.ca.gov.

California’s Multi-Year State Strategy, as updated in 2022, identifies the current priority PPAs. The Program Purpose Areas are law enforcement programs, prosecution and court programs, prevention and education programs, drug treatment and enforcement programs, and mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs.

Bases funding on local flexibility, on the needs of the juvenile and adult criminal justice communities, and on input from a balanced array of stakeholders.

Requires applicants to: a. incorporate evidence-based principles and programs for all funded projects. b. demonstrate a collaborative strategy based on the community engagement model that involves multiple stakeholders in the project or problem addressed.

Funded programs should: a. emphasize reducing recidivism, racial and ethnic disparities, and violence. b. incorporate trauma-informed care and be culturally informed, competent, and responsive. c. prioritize mental health needs and the avoidance of system involvement, within each PPA. d. prioritize community-based organizations as service providers.

Eligible applicants are California’s 58 Counties. Applications must be submitted by the Board of Supervisors or the Chief County Administrative Officer. Eligible applicants may not submit more than one (1) proposal for funding consideration. However, two (2) or more counties may submit a collaborative proposal. The jurisdictions comprising the collaborative application are not required to be contiguous.

Successful proposals will be funded for a three-year grant service period commencing on June 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2026.

This RFP makes \$47,316,384 available competitively.

Funding will be allocated across small, medium, and large sized counties based on county population. Small counties may apply for up to \$660,000. Medium counties may apply for up to \$2,145,000. Large counties may apply for up to \$3,136,875.

Eligible applicants are California’s 58 Counties.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Saturday, December 2, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$47,316,384. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).