Emergency Housing Vouchers Update

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EHV Overview

EHV Overview

- 6,800 vouchers available through American Rescue Plan
- Vouchers with no services attached
- Require direct referrals from CES
- Must use Equity Lens for Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC)
- Expenditure deadline of 9/30/2023 with 95% lease up by summer 2022
- Same criminal background criteria as CoC vouchers
  - No manufacturing methamphetamines in federal housing
  - No active registry as sex offender
  - One household member must have documentation status
- Waivers:
  - Fair market rent (FMR)
  - Self -certifications for owner inspections
 - Self -certifications for: client ID, social security number, date of birth, income

LAHSA

EHV Allocations

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY	VOUCHERS ALLOCATED	PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY	VOUCHERS ALLOCATED
HACLA	3,295	Norwalk	46
LACDA	1,964	Pasadena	107
Baldwin Park	43	~~Pico Rivera~~	~~31~~
Burbank	67	Pomona	78
Compton	53	Redondo Beach	29
Glendale	225	Santa Monica	104
Hawthorne	66	South Gate	34
Inglewood	91	Torrance	33
Long Beach	570	Total LA County Vouchers	6,836

6,805 EHVs accepted by PHAs in LA County
5,903 EHVs in the LA CoC

EHV Implementation Process
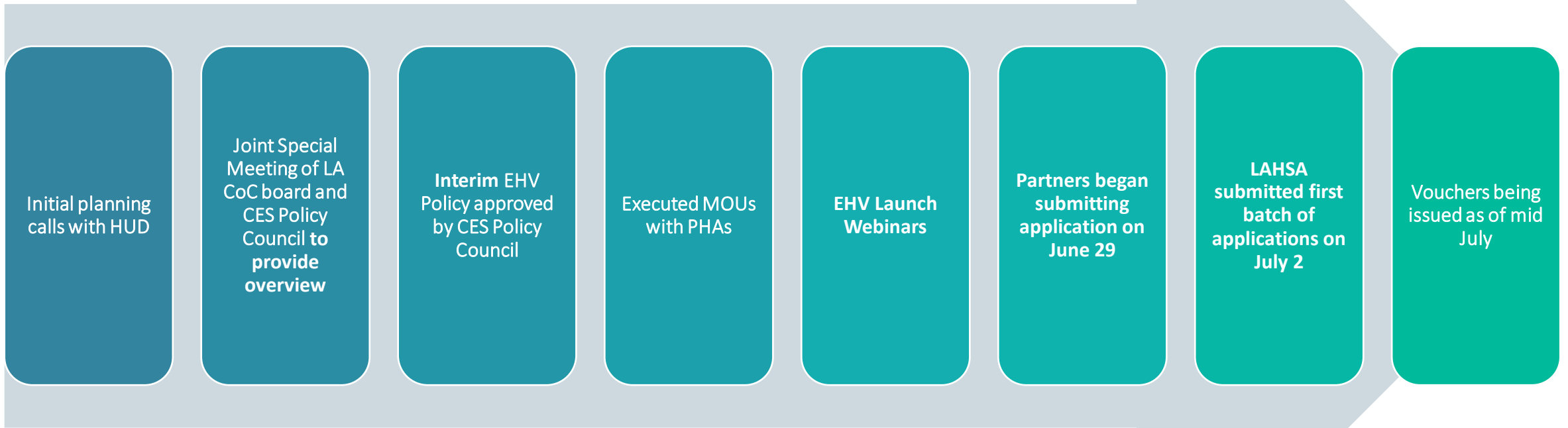
| Initial planning calls with HUD | Joint Special Meeting of LA CoC board and CES Policy Council **to provide overview** | **Interim** EHV Policy approved by CES Policy Council | Executed MOUs with PHAs | **EHV Launch Webinars** | **Partners began submitting application on June 29** | **LAHSA submitted first batch of applications on July 2** | Vouchers being issued as of mid July |

Eligible Target Population

Target Population – Priority A. Groups 1 & 2

Priority Level	Eligible Households	LA CES Targeted Groups
A. Group 1	Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking	- Households seeking an emergency transfer through the Interim LAHSA Emergency Transfer Plan under Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) or through the Emergency Transfer Plan of another CoC that participates in the LA CES. - Unhoused or housed households who are fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
	Recently Homeless <u>and</u> for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the household's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability	- Households enrolled in time-limited subsidy programs who need a permanent housing resource in order to achieve or maintain housing stability. This includes, but is not limited to, households for whom a "lease-in-place" strategy could be used. - Households that are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined under <u>Homeless Emergency</u> <u>Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act)</u>, <u>the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)</u> and <u>Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)</u>
A. Group 2	Homeless	- Households that are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined under <u>Homeless Emergency</u> <u>Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act)</u>, <u>the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)</u> and <u>Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)</u> - Households in interim housing whose sites are closing - Households with long-term enrollment in interim housing - Households enrolled in programs that offer navigation, case management, and/or post-lease up retention services

Target Population – Priority B & Priority C

Priority Level	Eligible Households	LA CES Targeted Groups
B	Recently Homeless <u>and</u> for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the household's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability Or Homeless	- Recently homeless and homeless households not identified in Priority Level A-Group 2
C	At risk of homelessness	- Households that are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined under <u>Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act)</u>, <u>the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)</u> and <u>Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)</u> - Households that have received or are receiving DHS or LAHSA-funded homelessness prevention resources Households receiving prevention services that are targeted towards households that have a history of homelessness and are at very-high risk of homelessness

Matching

- Priority Level A- Group 1 processed first (fleeing DV and VAWA transfers)

- If no Level A- Group 1 applications are present, Level A- Group 2 will not be delayed.

- The EHV Program applications are matched in the following order:

  - Priority Level A- Group 1

  - Priority Level A- Group 2

  - Priority Level B

  - Priority Level C

Equity

- Equity tools/frameworks include:

  - Provider and partner strategies

  - Data informed prioritization and matching strategies

    - Please note that based on fair housing laws, we cannot prioritize/match based on race, and thus we must identify other strategies to bring equity to resource distribution/utilization.

- Provider/Partner Outreach conducted thus far:

  - Outreach to smaller providers in SPA 6

  - Outreach to AIAN providers

  - Targeted application fairs to be implemented in September

  - Outreach to Interim Housing Providers in LA City which have high representation of Latinx
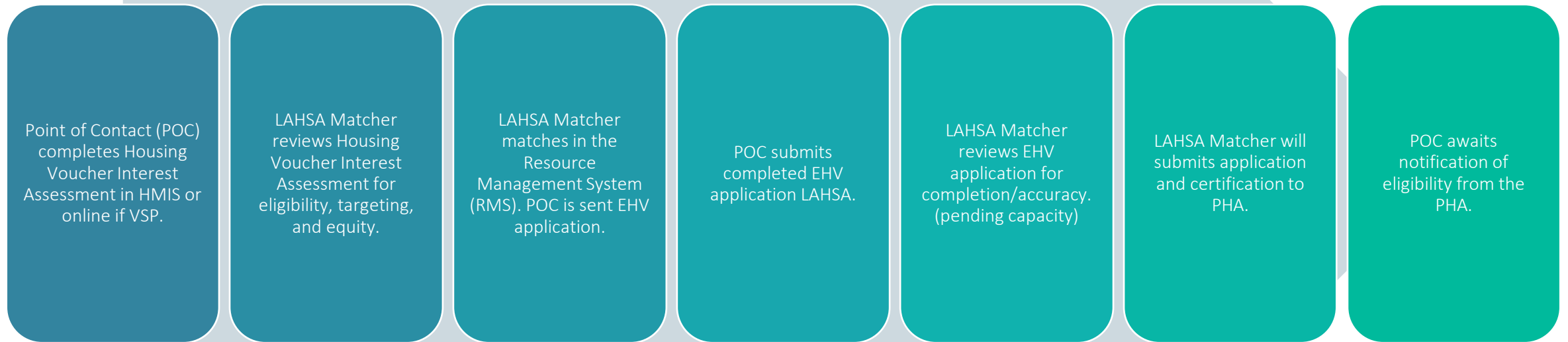
Equity

- Equity tool/framework currently being used:

  - Most Disadvantaged Communities, as defined through LAHSA analysis of CalEnviroScreen data

- Other tools/frameworks currently being explored for prioritization/matching:

  - Assessment of increased vulnerability to severe illness and/or death if the household contracts COVID-19 due to age and/or underlying medical conditions, regardless of vaccination status

  - Service Planning Areas (SPAs) subregions with high rates of homelessness

  - Justice involvement

- LAHSA welcomes suggestions for additional equity tools/framework.

- Upon completion of a more complete equity proposal, LAHSA will seek additional community feedback.

Process Flow & Progress

EHV Process Flow

| Point of Contact (POC) completes Housing Voucher Interest Assessment in HMIS or online if VSP. | LAHSA Matcher reviews Housing Voucher Interest Assessment for eligibility, targeting, and equity. | LAHSA Matcher matches in the Resource Management System (RMS). POC is sent EHV application. | POC submits completed EHV application LAHSA. | LAHSA Matcher reviews EHV application for completion/accuracy. (pending capacity) | LAHSA Matcher will submit application and certification to PHA. | POC awaits notification of eligibility from the PHA. |

* Timelines with vary depending on volume of assessment/applications and LAHSA/PHA capacity

LACDA Applications as of August 27

PHA applications submitted:

- Weekly EHV applications submitted: 82

- Total EHV applications submitted to date: 503

Applications and Assessments Pending Processing:

- EHV Applications pending submittal to LACDA: 92

- EHV Assessment Form submitted, pending review for application stage: estimated 200+

Vouchers Issued: 44

HACLA Applications as of August 27

PHA applications submitted:

- Weekly EHV applications submitted: 174

- Total EHV applications submitted to date: 1,357

Applications and Assessments Pending Processing:

- HACLA EHV Applications pending submittal to HACLA: 198

- EHV Assessment Form submitted, pending review for application stage: estimated 4000

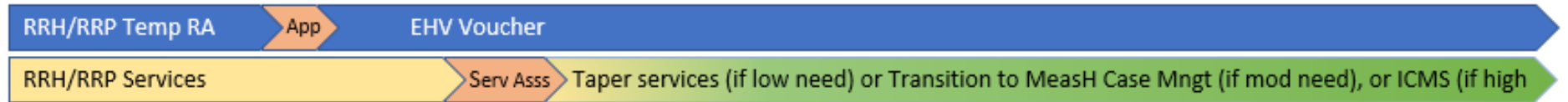**Vouchers Issued: 44**

Services Funding & System Challenges

Subsidy + Services Funding Approach
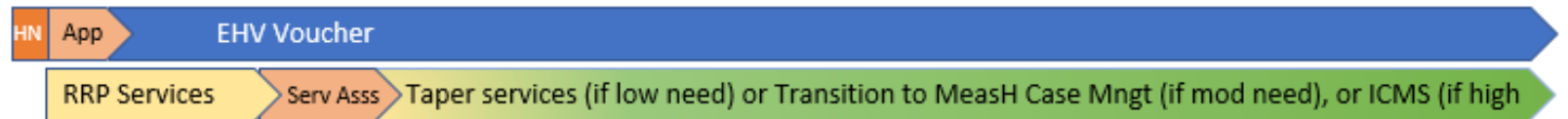
System Challenges

External/System Challenge	Solutions
Provider staffing capacity	Leveraging all existing service provision for EHV; RFI in August; LAHSA taking on more active role in recruitment and training;
Service deficit	
Unit acquisition	Working with Brilliant Corners to expand tenancy supports
Communication to **entire** system	Landing page; EHV email address
Ongoing services beyond one-time funding	Progressive engagement to allow for ongoing services beyond time-limited; air traffic control pilot with DMH and DHS
Limited ICMS services	
Monitoring and correcting for equity issues	Policy allows for flexibility; currently prioritizing MDCs and working on more comprehensive strategy

LAHSA