

# California's Managed Care Plans: Addressing Homelessness and Housing Insecurity



## Caring for California's Unhoused Population Through a Whole-Person Approach

Homelessness and health are inextricably linked. People experiencing homelessness often face extensive physical and behavioral health needs which can be further complicated by living in a car or on the streets.

California Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans understand the unique challenges faced by those who are experiencing homelessness. Through targeted initiatives, including field medicine, social services, and addressing food insecurity, health plans are working to provide tailored support for those who are unhoused in California.



To help assist those experiencing homelessness or on the verge of losing stable housing, health plans are providing social services and support programs that address the unmet needs of this vulnerable community.



Managed Care Plans are offering free transportation for medical, mental health, and social service appointments, ensuring access to care without barriers.



One California health plan is sending social service teams into temporary housing locations to enroll their members in enhanced care management services – services covered under Medi-Cal through the CalAIM program – to speed up the process of getting them into stable housing.



When a Medi-Cal member is homeless and in the hospital, many Managed Care Plans will notify a social worker to begin working directly with that member to facilitate access to housing and other critical services.



With growing concerns about youth homelessness, California's Managed Care Plans are focusing on providing tailored support for this vulnerable population by funding initiatives that offer youth educational support, access to health care, academic and career counseling, and supportive services, including help with permanent housing.



Health plans are funding initiatives that provide hands-on job training to homeless individuals.

For more information,  
please visit [YourPlanYourAdvocate.com](https://YourPlanYourAdvocate.com)



## Managed Care Plans recognize the connection between hunger and homelessness, and are continuing their efforts to address food insecurity.



Managed Care Plans are building partnerships with local organizations across the state, including food banks and free food markets, and providing funding to bolster the efforts of these organizations to provide fresh and nutritious groceries to individuals and families facing homelessness or housing instability.



Some plans are conducting specified outreach to ensure that community members have access to CalFresh (California's food stamp program).



Other Managed Care Plans have built community-wide programs that have distributed thousands of meals in collaboration with community-based nonprofits and food vendors.

## Managed Care Plans are investing millions into street medicine initiatives to serve those experiencing homelessness by meeting them where they are.



Through street medicine initiatives, Managed Care Plans are deploying medical professionals, including doctors and nurses, into encampments to provide medical care directly on the streets. Once there, they provide immediate medical interventions, including care for wounds and infections, as well as prescription refills, hygiene items, sun-blocking hats, hand sanitizer, and more.



Other street medicine services offered by Managed Care Plans include enhanced care management, preventive screenings, on-site care for chronic illness, vaccinations, screenings for severe mental illness, and referrals to shelters, housing programs, and treatment centers.



Some Managed Care Plans are taking street medicine beyond immediate medical interventions. "Field Medicine" programs provide access to primary care services, specialty care, and other medically necessary services.



California Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans are committed to addressing the unique needs of those who are unhoused or housing insecure. Through investments in addressing food insecurity, field medicine, and social programs and services, health plans are promoting better health outcomes for the unhoused, and in turn, communities throughout California.

For more information,  
please visit [YourPlanYourAdvocate.com](https://YourPlanYourAdvocate.com)

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