

## State of the Safety Net: Stakeholder Input Sessions

### **Background**

In 2014 and 2017, the Human Services Coordinating Council, an advisory board appointed by the Board of Supervisors, solicited input from selected groups with specific knowledge of community needs and conditions. The intent was to help the Board of Supervisors better understand urgent issues facing safety net providers and service recipients in Sacramento County. Input was compiled and assessed to identify themes and priorities, and key findings were shared with the Board of Supervisors.

### **Summer 2022 Stakeholder Input Sessions**

Throughout summer 2022, the Council intends to continue this discussion with the community by hosting listening sessions and asking the following questions:

1. Which safety net services are most critical in your community?
2. Which safety net services are most successful in your community?
3. What are the biggest gaps in the safety net?
4. Aside from more funding, what improvements could be made to safety net services to most positively impact those in need?

*"Safety net" is defined as those services that meet the most fundamental needs of individuals and families, such as food, shelter, clothing, and safety from victimization.*

### **About the Human Services Coordinating Council**

This Council is comprised of community volunteers and serves as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors on matters relating to human service planning and policy issues. Human services are broadly defined as community services that support and protect individuals and families.

The responsibilities of the Council include the following:

1. Working cooperatively with related departments and advisory bodies;
2. Ensuring integrated human services planning (including the human services element of the County General Plan);
3. Reviewing and make recommendations on human services budget and policy issues;
4. Serving as a forum for community concerns;
5. Prioritizing community needs and develop appropriate plans for addressing those needs;
6. Serving in an oversight capacity for county-provided or county-funded human services programs;
7. Providing information and education on human services issues.