National Mortgage Settlement Housing Counseling Program



California Housing Finance Agency

Quarterly Report January 1 - March 31, 2024

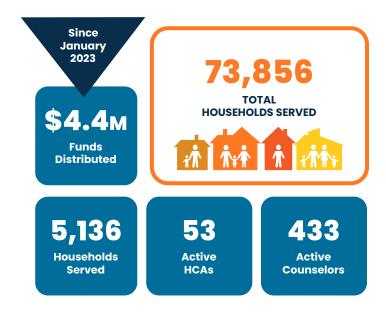
#### Introduction

California's Fiscal Year 2020-21 State Budget directed \$300 million in National Mortgage Settlement (NMS) funds to the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) for housing counseling and mortgage assistance. Through its NMS Housing Counseling Program, CalHFA has allocated \$122.7 million for HUD-certified housing counselors throughout the state to provide free, confidential counseling services to California residents who are in danger of eviction or foreclosure.

## NMS Housing Counseling Program Details

CalHFA allocates NMS funds to participating housing counseling agencies (HCAs) through HUD-approved Intermediaries: UnidosUS and BALANCE. Additionally, HomeFree USA participated in the program, as an intermediary, through the second quarter of 2023. The HCAs are reimbursed \$750 for a client's first one-on-one counseling session, or up to \$750 worth of legal services.

An additional \$750 will be allowed if the same client returns for a second one-on-one session or a more in-depth level of counseling is needed (i.e. loan modification assistance). The maximum per household limit is \$1,500.

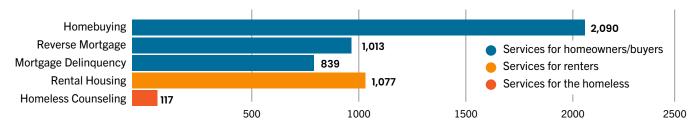


Intermediaries and HCAs also received funds upfront to be used for oversight, program support and capacity building. The upfront investment into building capacity was designed to improve and extend the life of the counseling services by ensuring that agencies can modernize their technology to accommodate more virtual meetings, have adequate staffing with updated training to improve customer service and expand the availability of languages offered.

## **Types of Services**

The HCAs provide counseling services grouped into these categories: services for the homeless, rental housing, mortgage delinquency, reverse mortgage, and homebuying (pre- and post-purchase).

The chart below shows how many clients received counseling in each of these categories during the first quarter of 2024:



### **Fund Disbursement Summary**

Allocated Funds	Total Funds Allocated		Funds Disbursed 1/1 – 3/31 2024		Total Funds Disbursed	
Counseling Services	\$	122,725,000	\$	4,444,750	\$	83,523,253
One-Time Grants	\$	200,000		-	\$	200,000
Marketing and Coordination Set-Aside	\$	2,500,000		-		-
Administrative Fees	\$	5,675,000		-	\$	3,675,000
Total		\$ 131,500,000		\$ 4,444,750		\$ 87,398,253

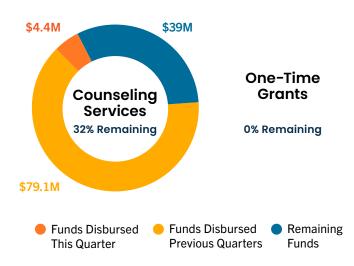
#### NMS Fund Allocations & Disbursements

To begin the program in 2020, an allocation of \$50 million was approved by the CalHFA Board of Directors to fund the National Mortgage Settlement (NMS) Housing Counseling Program.

Subsequently, the Board approved additional requests to increase funding to the program. In October of 2021 the Board approved \$23.5 million, \$18 million in July of 2022, and up to \$50 million in May of 2023 to continue the program through December of 2025. In total, up to \$141.5 million has been approve for the counseling program, and currently \$122.7 million has been allocated to HUD-Approved Intermediaries.

Of the allocated funds, 89% has been designated for counseling services and capacity building, 1% for one-time grants to nonparticipating HCAs, 5% for a marketing and coordination set-aside to ensure reach to disadvantaged, underserved, and ethnically diverse communities, and, per legislation, the remaining 5% to CalHFA for program administrative fees. The unique investment into

building capacity was designed to improve and extend the life of the counseling services in California by ensuring that agencies can modernize their technology to accommodate more virtual meetings, have adequate staffing with updated training to improve customer service and expand the availability of languages offered.

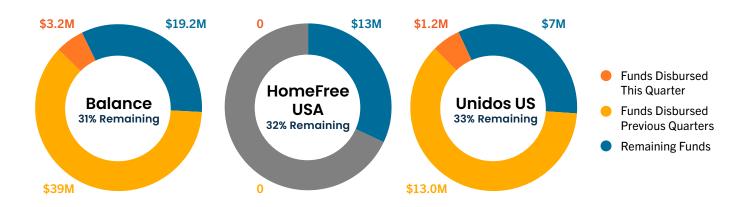


# NMS Counseling Services Fund by Intermediary

In the first quarter of 2024, \$4.4 million was distributed among the two Intermediaries for a combination of counseling fees and oversight fees, bringing the total disbursement to \$83.5 million in funds to date as of March 31, 2024.

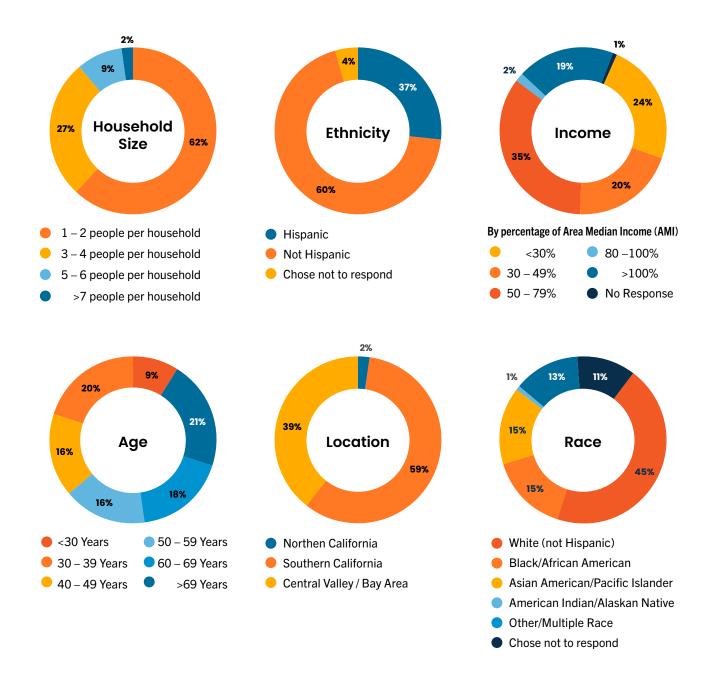
NMS Intermediary	Total Funds Allocated		Funds Disbursed for 10/1 – 12/31 2023		Total Funds Disbursed	
BALANCE						
Counseling Fees	\$	48,830,258	\$	2,963,250	\$	31,326,008
Capacity Building	\$	4,943,329		-	\$	4,943,329
Oversight Fees	\$	7,681,941	\$	249,375	\$	5,936,316
Balance Total	\$	61,455,528	\$	3,212,625	\$	42,205,654
HomeFree USA						
Counseling Fees	\$	33,951,358		-	\$	22,839,750
Capacity Building	\$	3,300,281		-	\$	1,457,460
Oversight Fees	\$	2,750,234		-	\$	2,750,234
HomeFree USA Total	\$	40,001,873		-	\$	27,047,444
Unidos US						
Counseling Fees	\$	16,844,009	\$	1,149,000	\$	10,857,750
Capacity Building	\$	1,765,140		-	\$	1,335,830
Oversight Fees	\$	2,658,450	\$	83,125	\$	2,076,575
Unidos US Total	\$	21,267,599	\$	1,232,125	\$	14,270,155
Total		\$ 122,725,000		\$ 4,444,750		\$ 83,523,253

NOTE: Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar.



## **Demographic Data**

To help CalHFA ensure that assistance is equitable and effective, HCAs are required to track demographic data, income levels, location and household size for each client. The charts below provide data on households that received counseling in the first quarter of 2024:



Note: Charts may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

## **HCA Recipients of NMS Counseling Funds**

In the first quarter of 2024, NMS funds were disbursed to the following HCAs as reimbursement for one-on-one counseling sessions.

A-1 Community
Housing Services

Asian Incorporated

Asian Law Alliance

Centro Familiar Nueva

Esperanza

Coachella Valley Housing Coalition

Community Housing Counsel of Fresno

Consumer Credit

Counseling Service of San Francisco, DBA Balance

Credit.org

East LA Community Corporation

**ECHO Housing** 

Fair Housing Foundation

Fresno Interdominational

Refugee Ministries

**Greater Sacramento** 

**Urban League** 

**Greenpath Financial Wellness** 

HomeOwnership OC

Inland Empire Resource Center

Inland Fair Housing and

**Mediation Board** 

Korean Resource Center

Lutheran Social Services of Southern California

Mission Economic Development

Agency (MEDA)

Money Management

International

Montebello Housing

Development Corporation

Navicore Solutions

Neighborhood Housing Service

of the Inland Empire

**Neighborhood Housing Services** 

of Los Angeles County

Neighborhood Partnership

**Housing Services** 

Neighborworks Home

**Ownership Center Sacramento** 

Region

**Neighborworks Orange County** 

**New Economics for Women** 

Orange County Community

**Housing Corporation** 

Project Sentinel

San Francisco LGBT

Community Center

Self-Help Enterprises

**Shalom Center** 

The Carolyn E. Wylie Center

UnidosUS Counseling

Connection

Union of Pan Asian

Communities

Urban League of San

**Diego County** 

**USA** Homeownership

Foundation DBA Veterans Association of Real Estate

Duefeccionale (MADED)

Professionals (VAREP)

Ventura County Community

**Development Corporation** 

Visionary Home Builders

of California, Inc.

West Angeles CDC