

# Fight Funding Cuts to Homeless Adults with Severe Mental Illness



In his draft 2007-2008 budget, the governor proposes cutting \$55 million in funding for Integrated Services for Homeless Adults with Serious Mental Illness (AB 2034). This money cannot be replaced with Prop. 63/Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) dollars and may result in 4,900 mentally ill people becoming homeless overnight.

## People will lose their homes.

Eliminating funds for the AB 2034 program will have a devastating impact on the individuals currently in the program. 4,900 previously homeless, mentally ill individuals will be turned out on the street overnight. California already has more than 360,000 homeless people on any given night, with 90,000 of those people in Los Angeles. The governor should be expanding this program, not proposing to cut it!



## People will lose supportive services and cuts will cost taxpayers more.

This budget cut will result in higher costs due to increased hospitalizations, incarcerations, and loss of employment. The program has been very successful in reducing expenditures on costly emergency care and jails:

- Number of consumers hospitalized decreased 42.3% and the number of hospital days decreased 55.8%.
- Number of consumers incarcerated decreased 58.3% and the number of incarceration days decreased 72.1%.
- Number of consumers employed full time increased 19.6% with a 65.4% increase in the number of days employed.

There are real cost savings realized through AB 2034 that will be forfeited if we allow the AB 2034 foundation to crumble.



## TAKE ACTION!

Write a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger opposing proposed cuts to the AB 2034 program. Please join a coalition of mental service providers, homeless advocates, and others to voice your concern about this proposed cut.

(Download a sample letter at [www.housingca.org/action/send](http://www.housingca.org/action/send).)

