



- ACTION -

DATE: March 6, 2019
TO: Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN)
FROM: Staff, Office of Community Development *JHP*
SUBJECT: Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Consultation

Washington County Office of Community Development (OCD) is required to consult with members of the Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN), the Continuum of Care (CoC) body for the area, to discuss the activities to be funded under regulatory guidelines of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Today's discussion will fulfill the requirement to consult with our CoC body on ESG program policies as well as determine the distribution of an estimated \$169,025 in PY 2019 ESG funding. Please note that this consultation applies to ESG funds administered through Washington County OCD, not ESG funds administered through the State of Oregon.

In previous years, ESG funds administered through Washington County OCD were used for combination of street outreach, emergency shelter operations, homeless prevention, and rapid re-housing administered through Community Action. However last year, the proposed allocation was shifted to prioritize ESG funds for rapid re-housing activities. This was done to reduce the administrative burden associated with these funds. It is important to note that Community Action Organization receives a variety of State funds to address homelessness, including Emergency Housing Assistance (EHA), State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP), Low Income Rental Housing Fund (LIRHF), and the Document Recording Fee (DRF) for veterans. The reduction in County ESG funds from previous years used for street outreach, emergency shelter operations, and homeless prevention was offset by a comparable increase in State funds administered through Community Action for these activities so that the total distribution of funds administered by Community Action relative to these different activities to address homelessness in the Washington County Continuum of Care network remained approximately the same. OCD is proposing to maintain the allocation of ESG funds to support rapid re-housing rental assistance in FY 2019.

For the estimated \$169,025 in PY 2019 ESG funding, Washington County OCD proposes to allocate 7.5 percent, an estimated \$12,676, for administration and the remaining estimated total of \$156,349 to Community Action for Rapid Re-housing activities. Community Action will be responsible for providing proof of an equal amount of "match" funding for the program. Please refer to Attachment A for a more detailed description of the proposed funding activities and levels of funding and Attachment B for the proposed performance standards.

Final consultation with the entire HSSN is intended to seek approval of the proposed ESG funding distribution for inclusion in the 2019 Action Plan. Should the HUD allocation be less or more than what is estimated here, 7.5% of the ESG allocation will be applied to administrative activities and the remaining amount will be allocated to rapid re-housing. Following the formal public comment period for the 2019 Annual Action Plan (March 12th - April 11th), it will be taken to the Washington County Board of Commissioners for final approval on or around May 7, 2019.

The Office of Community Development presented this information to the Work Group on February 8th. There were no changes requested.

ACTION REQUESTED: The HSSN recommend approval of the allocation amounts for the Emergency Solutions Grant activities as further described in Attachment A, "FY 2019 Funding Amounts for Eligible ESG Activities"; and recommend approval of the proposed performance standards as described in Attachment B.

FY 2019
Funding Amounts for ESG Eligible Activities

Eligible Activities	Street Outreach	Emergency Shelter	Homeless Prevention	Rapid Re-Housing	HMIS	Admin
Regulatory Limits	Combined street outreach and emergency shelter expenditures cannot exceed the greater of 60% of the Recipient's fiscal year grant (\$99,608).		n/a	n/a	n/a	7.5% cap on amount available for Admin.
FY 2019 ESG: \$169,025	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$156,349 - This amount includes rent assistance, financial assistance, and housing relocation and stabilization staff.	\$0	\$12,676
Matching Funds (dollar for dollar match) Please cite all possible sources	Private donations Foundation support	Shelter Levy funding (local) Private donations Foundation support	State Funding: Emergency Housing Account Supportive Housing Assistance Program	State Funding: Emergency Housing Account Supportive Housing Assistance Program	Any combination of those listed.	Match for admin costs will need to be made up by eligible activities.
Performance Indicator (# and Types of People to be served)	Number: 0 Type: Individuals	Number: 0 Type: families, individuals and youth	Number: 0 Type: families and individuals	Number: Minimum of 60 households Type: families and individuals	n/a	n/a
Performance Objective (OCD uses HUD standards)	Objective: Suit Liv Envir Outcome: Avail/Access	Objective: Suitable Liv Environment Outcome: Avail/Access	Objective: Decent Housing Outcome: Affordability	Objective: Decent Housing Outcome: Affordability		
Performance Standards	Entry and exit measures Destination at exit: * Number of individuals who participate in Community Connect * Number of individuals entering emergency shelter, transitional housing or permanent housing	Reducing the time spent homeless: * Average shelter stay. Average shelter stay for individuals exiting to permanent housing. Length of time families spent on the shelter wait list last year	Reduce the time spent homeless: * Reduction in new incidences of homelessness and a reduced recidivism rate. The Community Connect assessment will gather information about whether the household has been homeless in the past. Track the rate of recidivism for past recipients of homeless prevention assistance. * Number of individuals exiting the program in permanent housing.	Reduce the time spent homeless: Reduction in new incidences of homelessness and a reduced recidivism rate. * Average number of days from intake to housing * Percentage of households exiting to permanent housing * Percentage of households retaining housing six months after exit	n/a	n/a

ESG Performance Objectives and Standards by Activity

Eligible Activities*	Street Outreach	Emergency Shelter	Homeless Prevention	Rapid Re-Housing
Performance Objectives (HUD standards)	Objective: Suitable Living Environment Outcome: Availability/Accessibility	Objective: Suitable Living Environment Outcome: Availability/Accessibility	Objective: Decent Housing Outcome: Affordability	Objective: Decent Housing Outcome: Affordability
Performance Standards	Entry and exit measures Destination at exit Measurement: Number of individuals who participate in Community Connect, Washington County's Coordinated and Centralized Assessment System	Reducing the time spent homeless Measurement: Average shelter stay for families exiting to permanent housing Measurement: Length of time families spent on the shelter wait list last year	Reduce the time spent homeless Measurement: Reduction in new incidences of homelessness and a reduced recidivism rate.	Reduce the time spent homeless Measurement: Reduction in new incidences of homelessness and a reduced recidivism rate.
<i>Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness</i> Objectives (U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness)	Objective 10: Transform homeless services to crisis response systems that prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing.	While funding to support Emergency Shelter activities cannot be directly linked to a goal identified in the federal strategic plan, the need for shelters is still recognized as a crucial component of the County's homelessness crisis response system.	Objective 6: Improve access to mainstream programs and services to reduce people's financial vulnerability to homelessness.	Objective 3: Provide affordable housing to people experiencing or most at risk of homelessness Objective 4: Provide permanent supportive housing to prevent and end homelessness.
Washington County's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness Goals	Goal 3: Link people to appropriate services and remove barriers	While funding to support Emergency Shelter activities cannot be directly linked to a goal identified in Washington County's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness, the need for shelters is still recognized as a crucial component of the County's homelessness crisis response system.	Goal 1: Prevent people from becoming homeless	Goal 2: Move people into housing
Consolidated Plan Objective	C.8.v Provide outreach services to homeless persons and families. C.8.n Provide services through "Community Connect", Washington County's Coordinated and Centralized Assessment System (CCAS), to provide a central point of referral for homeless and at-risk households to prevent and end episodes of homelessness.	C.8.b Provide supportive services and case management to vulnerable populations including homeless, mentally ill, persons with HIV/AIDS.	C.8.e Provide one-time or short-term rental support for low-income persons at risk of becoming homeless. C.8.w Provide case management services to homeless families or those at risk of becoming homeless including those fleeing from domestic violence. C.8.u Provide supportive services to homeless individuals and families (and those at risk of homelessness) that would include, but not be limited to, child care, housing education (e.g. Rent Well), mental health and addiction counseling, employment training, information and referral, parenting skills, accessing housing, and homeless prevention services.	
<i>*Note: Objective and outcomes reporting is not applicable for Administration and HMIS activities.</i>				