



DATE: November 2, 2022
TO: Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN)
FROM: Staff, Office of Community Development
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 the CoC body on ESG program policies as well as determine the distribution of the \$161,798 in Program Year (PY) 2022 ESG funding and the estimated \$161,798 in Program Year (PY) 2023 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.

For several years, ESG funds administered through Washington County OCD have been used for rapid rehousing activities contracted through Community Action. In response to HUD feedback as well as local feedback from consultations, the Office of Community Development took a step back to reassess how to allocate future ESG funding.

For the \$161,798 in PY 2022 ESG funding and the estimated \$161,798 in PY 2023 ESG funding, Washington County OCD proposes to allocate 7.5 percent of each PY, an estimated \$12,134, to administration which will remain with the County and the remaining estimated total of \$149,663 will be allocated to rental assistance programming. The decision to allocate to rent assistance is based on prior consultations as well as a recognition that there are thousands of households still needing rent assistance as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Depending on need in year two, a percentage of the ESG funding could go toward rapid re-housing. The County will put out a competitive process to select one agency to administer the ESG funds.

The ESG regulations require a dollar-for-dollar match. The Department of Housing Services' Supportive Housing Services program will provide the matching funds for two years of programming (FY 22/23 and FY 23/24).

Final consultation with the entire HSSN is intended to seek approval of the proposed ESG funding distribution for inclusion in the 2022 Amended Action Plan. Please refer to Attachment A for a description of the proposed funding activities and levels of funding and Attachment B for the proposed performance standards.

The Office of Community Development presented this information to the CoC Board on October 6th. 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, "PY 2022 and PY 2023 Funding Amounts for ESG Eligible Activities" and approve the proposed performance standards as described in Attachment B.

**FY 2022 and FY 2023
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.		n/a	n/a	n/a	7.5% cap on amount available for Admin.
FY 2022 ESG: \$161,798 FY 2023 Estimate: \$161,798	\$0	\$0	\$149,663.15 This amount includes rent assistance and financial assistance for program participants. Year 1 will focus on prevention \$99,663.15 (estimate) This amount includes rent assistance and financial assistance for program participants. Year 2 will focus on prevention and may allow for re-housing funding	\$50,000 (estimate)- This amount includes rent assistance and financial assistance for program participants. Year 2 only. The amount above is an estimate. The amount between prevention and re-housing in year 2 will be dependent on where the greatest need is.	\$0	FY 2022: \$12,134.85 FY2023 Estimate: \$12,134.85
Matching Funds (dollar for dollar match) Please cite all possible sources			Supportive Housing Services funding (Metro Levy)	Supportive Housing Services funding (Metro Levy)		Match for admin costs will be made from SHS funding.
Performance Indicator (# and Types of People to be served)	Number: 0 Type: Individuals	Number: 0 Type: families, individuals and youth	Number: 35 Type: families and individuals *This number is dependent on length of assistance, short-term vs. medium term	Number: Minimum of 7 individuals Type: families and individuals *This number is dependent on length of assistance, short-term vs. medium term	n/a	n/a
Performance Objective (OCD uses HUD standards)	Objective: Suitable Living Environment Outcome: Avail/Access	Objective: Suitable Living 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 return to homelessness Percentage of individuals retaining housing 6 months after exit. 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: * Average number of days from intake to housing * Percentage of households exiting to permanent housing * Percentage of households retaining housing six months after exit *Percentage of households returning to homelessness after 2 years	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 return to homelessness, percentage of individuals retaining housing 6 months after exit.	Reduce the time spent homeless Measurement: Average duration of episodes of homelessness, permanent housing retention. Percentage of households returning to homelessness after 2 years
Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness 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 A Road Home: Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness Goals	Goal 3: Link people to appropriate services and remove barriers.	Goal 1: Prevent people from becoming homeless.	Goal 1: Prevent people from becoming homeless.	Goal 2: Move people into housing.
Consolidated Plan Objective	C.7.s Provide outreach services to homeless persons and families. C.7.m Provide assessment and referral services through 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.7.b Provide supportive services and case management to vulnerable populations including homeless, mentally ill, persons with HIV/AIDS.	C.7.e Provide one-time or short-term rental support for low-income persons at risk of becoming homeless. C.7.t Provide housing navigation and case management services to homeless families or those at risk of becoming homeless including those fleeing from domestic violence. C.7.r 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.	
*Note: Objective and outcomes reporting is not applicable for Administration and HMIS activities.				