



Attachment D
State of California
Emergency Solutions Grant Program
Notice of Funding Availability • 2017 Operating Year

The County of Santa Barbara, Division of Housing and Community Development is pleased to issue this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to inform eligible organizations about available Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds through the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development for the 2017 Operating Year.

General Information

TITLE: State of California Emergency Solutions Grant Program – 2017 Operating Year
CONTACT: Stacy Rowe, Consultant
CONTACT EMAIL: srowe@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
CONTACT PHONE/FAX: 805-568-3524 / 805-560-1091
ISSUE DATE: February 16, 2017

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Objective
- 3 Funding Available
- 4 Program Requirements
- 5 NOFA Schedule
- 6 Application
- 7 Method of Evaluation
- Exhibit A Resources
- Exhibit B State ESG Application Scoring Criteria
- Exhibit C Homeless Definition

Application Deadline:
Friday, March 3, 2017
5:00 pm

County of Santa Barbara
Community Services Department
Housing and Community Development Division
123 E. Anapamu St., Second Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
www.countyofsb.org/housing

1. Introduction

The State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (State HCD) receives an annual allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant Program (State ESG) funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The State HCD distributes State ESG funds to qualifying cities and counties, which are responsible for administering State ESG funds for their respective service areas. State HCD designated the County of Santa Barbara (County) as the Administrative Entity (AE) for the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care Service Area (CoC Service Area), which geographically encompasses Santa Barbara County. The Housing and Community Development Division (County HCD) will administer State ESG funds on behalf of the County and announces the availability of these funds to support homelessness assistance projects throughout the CoC Service Area.

2. Objective

The ESG program provides funding to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; (3) help operate these shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents; (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families; and (6) prevent families/individuals from becoming homeless. State ESG funds may be used for five program components:

- Street outreach (SO),
- Emergency Shelter (ES),
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS),
- Rapid Re-housing (RR), and
- Homeless Prevention (HP) - in conjunction with Emergency Shelter or Rapid Rehousing activities.

This NOFA should be read in conjunction with the following regulations, which establish HUD and State HCD requirements (See Exhibit A – Resources):

- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 24, Part 576; and
- Department of Housing and Community Development Emergency Solutions Grants Program State Regulations, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 25, Division 1, Chapter 7, Subchapter 20.

3. Funding Available

Approximately \$507,826 is available for distribution for the 2017 Operating Year. The table in Section 4.3 below summarizes the program components, eligible activities and funding limitations.

3.1 Rapid Re-housing Activities

Per State guidelines at least \$211,000 (40%) of State ESG funds will be allocated to rapid re-housing activities across the continuum of care.

3.2 Grant Amounts

The minimum request amount per application is \$100,000.

3.3 Grant Terms

The grant term is anticipated to be 24 months. However because State ESG funds are awarded annually, the description of activities, goals, and budget submitted under this NOFA should be for one, 12-month operating year. Any 2017 Operating Year funds unspent after 12 months can be reallocated to the 2018 Operating Year, subject to approval by the County.

3.4 Grant Renewal

Conditional on State HCD approval, activities selected for funding under the 2017 State ESG Program will automatically be renewed for the 2018 State ESG Program subject to the following:

- Demonstration of adequate program and administrative capacity;
- Demonstration of adequate program performance with respect to numbers served, outcomes, and quality service delivery consistent with State ESG Program Objectives, Requirements and Core Practices;
- Continued participation in the Santa Barbara County HMIS or comparable database (as determined by the County);
- Adjustments necessary based on the availability and allocation of 2018 State ESG funds for the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care; and
- Approval by the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors.

It is anticipated that a Notice of Funding Availability will be issued for the 2019 State ESG Program.

4. Program Requirements

4.1 State ESG Requirements

The use of State ESG funds is governed by 24 CFR Part §576 and 25 CCR §8400 et seq. (See Exhibit A – Resources).

4.2 Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are private non-profit organizations and units of general purpose local government defined in 24 CFR §576.2.

4.3 Eligible Activities

The following activities are eligible, and funding limitations apply to the corresponding components:

Component	Description	Funding
Street Outreach	<p>Essential Services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless individuals and families, connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and provide them with urgent, non-facility-based care. Component services generally consist of engagement, case management, emergency health and mental health services, and transportation. For specific requirements and eligible costs, see 24 CFR §576.101.</p> <p>Limitations: An Emergency Shelter or Repaid Re-housing provider can use up to 10% of State ESG funds for Street Outreach activities in conjunction with their core activity. Stand-alone Street Outreach activities are permitted.</p>	Max. \$293,826

Emergency Shelter	<p>Essential Services for individuals and families in emergency shelter. Component services generally consist of case management, child care, education services, employment assistance and job training, outpatient health services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, substance abuse treatment services, and transportation.</p> <p>Shelter Operations, including maintenance, rent, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, and furnishings.</p> <p>For specific requirements and eligible costs, see 24 CFR §576.102.</p> <p>Limitations: State ESG funds cannot be used for renovation, conversion, or major rehabilitation activities pursuant to 24 CFR §576.102. Minor repairs to an ESG-funded emergency shelter that do not qualify as renovation, conversion, or major rehabilitation are an eligible use of State ESG funds.</p>	
HMIS	<p>Grant funds may be used for certain HMIS and comparable database costs, as specified at 24 CFR §576.107.</p> <p>Limitations: HMIS activities must not exceed 10 percent of the requested amount.</p>	
Homeless Prevention	<p>Housing relocation and stabilization services and/or short- and/or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent the individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition at 24 CFR §576.2. Component services and assistance generally consist of short-term and medium-term rental assistance, rental arrears, rental application fees, security deposits, advance payment of last month’s rent, utility deposits and payments, moving costs, housing search and placement, housing stability case management, mediation, legal services, and credit repair. For specific requirements and eligible costs, see 24 CFR §576.103, §576.105, and §576.106.</p> <p>Limitations: An Emergency Shelter or Rapid Re-housing provider can use up to 10% of State ESG funds for Housing Prevention activities in conjunction with their core activity. Stand-alone Homeless Prevention activities are <i>not</i> permitted.</p>	
Rapid Re-housing	<p>Housing relocation and stabilization services and short and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help individuals or families living in an emergency shelter or other place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition at 24 CFR §576.2 move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Component services and assistance generally consist of short-term and medium-term rental assistance, rental arrears, rental application fees, security deposits, advance payment of last month's rent, utility deposits and payments, moving costs, housing search and placement, housing stability case management, mediation, legal services, and credit repair. For specific requirements and eligible costs, see 24 CFR §576.104, §576.105, and §576.106.</p>	Min. \$211,000
Total		\$507,826

4.4 Eligible Populations

The minimum eligibility criteria for State ESG participants are as follows (See Exhibit C – Homeless Definition):

- For Essential Services related to Street Outreach, participants must meet the criteria under paragraph (1)(i) of the “homeless” definition under 24 CFR §576.2;
- For Emergency Shelter, participants must meet the “homeless” definition in 24 CFR §576.2;
- For Essential Services related to Emergency Shelter, participants must be “homeless” and staying in an emergency shelter (which could include a day shelter);
- For Homeless Prevention assistance, participants must meet the “at risk of homelessness” definition in 24 CFR §576.2 or meet the criteria in paragraphs (2), (3), or (4) of the “homeless” definition in 24 CFR §576.2.
- For Rapid Re-housing assistance, participants must meet requirements described in 24 CFR §576.104.

Homeless subpopulations, including, but not limited to, chronically homeless individuals, veterans, developmentally disabled individuals, and victims of domestic violence, who meet the aforementioned minimum eligibility criteria may be served with State ESG funds. Note that State regulations prohibit subpopulation targeting with ESG funds in Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing programs except under specific conditions outlined in 25 CCR §8408.

4.5 Match

Applicants must demonstrate their ability to provide a 100 percent match for their requests of State ESG funds in accordance with 24 CFR §576.201.

4.6 Core Practices

Applicants must adhere to the Core Practices established by State HCD that include:

- Comprehensive and coordinated access throughout the CoC Service Area;
- Prioritized access to services for people with the most severe needs;
- Low barrier access to services and consistency with housing first practices; and
- Use of a progressive engagement approach to services and financial assistance.

See 25 CCR §8409 for a full description of the Core Practices.

5. NOFA Schedule

NOFA Published and Applications Available On-line	February 16,2017
Applicant Workshop	February 21,2017
Applications Due to County HCD	March 3, 2017
Continuum of Care Review and Rank Committee Meeting to Develop Funding Recommendations	March 17, 2017
County Board of Supervisors Hearing to Consider Funding Recommendations	May 9, 2017
Funding Decisions Submitted to State HCD	June 30, 2017

The NOFA Schedule is subject to change.

6. Application

Applications are available on-line to download at <http://www.countyofsb.org/housing>. Resources available to assist applicants with completing the application are listed in Exhibit A.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all required materials listed below are submitted by the deadline identified in this NOFA and in the format described in this section.

- One (1) complete original, wet-signature application that includes all required attachments
- Nine (9) copies of the following documents and attachments printed double-sided:
 - Application Form
 - Budget Workbook
 - Board of Directors Roster
 - Application Certification
 - Organization Chart
- An electronic copy of the complete application, including all required attachments.

The electronic copy of the complete application, including all required attachments must be submitted via email to srowe@co.santa-barbara.ca.us no later than 5:00pm on March 3, 2017.

The original application and nine (9) printed copies must be received at the address below by 5:00 pm on March 7, 2017. Post-marked applications will not be accepted.

County of Santa Barbara
Community Services Department, Housing and Community Development Division
123 E. Anapamu St., Second Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Attn: Stacy Rowe, Consultant

The original application and printed copies should be paper-clipped on the top left corner and submitted to the address below. Please do not staple.

7. Method of Evaluation

7.1 County HCD Evaluation

State ESG applications will be evaluated by County HCD for the following (See Exhibit B – Application Scoring Criteria, for details):

- ESG Program Eligibility,
- Alignment with Consolidated Plan Priority,
- Administrative Capacity, and
- Financial Capacity.

In addition, applicants must demonstrate capacity to participate in the county-wide HMIS, unless a domestic violence (DV) victim services provider.

7.2 Continuum of Care Review and Rank Committee

Applications will be evaluated by the Continuum of Care Review and Rank Committee (CCRRC) based on the criteria below (See Exhibit B for details). Applicants will be required to attend an interview with the CCRRC at their March 17, 2017 meeting to briefly present their proposal and answer questions.

- Applicant Capacity,
- Financial Feasibility and Capacity,
- Need, and
- Approach.

The Continuum of Care Review and Rank Committee will make funding recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors, which will exercise approval over funding decisions.

EXHIBIT A
Resources

- 1) **County HCD Web Page**
<http://cosb.countyofsb.org/housing/>
- 2) **ESG Program Interim Rule (24 CFR Part 576)**
https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HEARTH_ESGInterimRule&ConPlanConformingAmendments.pdf
- 3) **ESG Program: State of California Regulations (25 CCR §8400 et seq)**
<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/financial-assistance/emergency-solutions-grant-program/docs/state-esg-regulations-effective-april-1-2016.pdf>

EXHIBIT B

State ESG Application Scoring Criteria



Community Services Department
Housing and Community Development Division

State of California Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Application Scoring Criteria

Housing and Community Development Division (HCD) Staff Evaluation	
ESG Program Eligibility	Proposed activity and clientele are eligible
Alignment with Consolidated Plan Priority	<p>Proposed activity meets one of the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote projects that provide permanent supportive housing to address the needs of homeless individuals and families, households at imminent risk of homelessness and/or persons with special needs (<i>High Priority</i>) Provide funding for essential services and programs that provide needed resources for homeless persons and households at imminent risk of homelessness (<i>High Priority</i>) Prioritize funding for operations of principal emergency shelters throughout Santa Barbara County (<i>High Priority</i>)
Administrative Capacity	<p>Rated Good, Fair, or Poor, based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCD's experience with applicant and any known issues Previous audits or program reviews Availability of progress reports Contract modifications and their impact on cost and/or period of performance
Financial Capacity	<p>Rated Pass, Concern, or Fail, based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liquidity Measurements of vulnerability (e.g. net profit margin, fundraising efficiency, and dependency on the County or a single entity for financial strength) Debt and other long-term obligations Regulatory (e.g. unresolved financial audit findings and outstanding litigation/legal issues) Cash match
Continuum of Care Review and Rank Committee Evaluation	
Applicant Capacity <i>Scoring Scale: 1-5</i> <i>Weight: 3</i> <i>Max. Score: 15</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience providing similar services and assistance Experience addressing the needs of the target population(s) Sufficient capacity for project oversight and administration Adequate capacity for data collection and reporting Participation in the Santa Barbara County Homeless Management Information System or a comparable database (as determined by the County)
Financial Feasibility and Capacity <i>Scoring Scale: 1-5</i> <i>Weight: 3</i> <i>Max. Score: 15</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sufficient capacity to operate the project based on its budget Sufficient capacity to effectively manage the finances of the project Timely audited financial statements Outstanding and/or unresolved financial audit findings Reasonable project costs Degree to which applicant leverages its Board of Directors and other resources

<p>Need</p> <p><i>Scoring Scale: 1-5</i></p> <p><i>Weight: 6</i></p> <p><i>Max. Score: 30</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fills what would otherwise be a gap in homeless services in its service area • Clear demand for the project in its service area • Special features that would enhance its ability to meet the needs of the target population • Credibility of evidence used to support the need • Demonstration of need for the requested funding
<p>Approach</p> <p><i>Scoring Scale: 1-5</i></p> <p><i>Weight: 8</i></p> <p><i>Max. Score: 40</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with other activities and funding sources in the area • Project is based on proven methods and/or able to demonstrate good outcomes • Project outcomes and objectives appear reasonable • Project supports ESG Objectives and Requirements, State Core Practices and County of Santa Barbara Consolidated Plan priorities.

EXHIBIT C

Homeless Definition