

Meeting Agenda

**Continuum of Care (CoC)
Data. Performance & Evaluation Committee
September 6, 2018**

**County Executive Office, Pt Mugu Room (4th floor)
800 S. Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA 9300**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review Funding recommendations for CA Emergency Solutions Grant Funding as part of the California Emergency Solutions & Housing Program.
3. Review feedback from Regional Priority Setting workshop held on August 28, 2018 and develop recommendations for the CoC Board on funding priorities for State funding including the Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP) and California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (CESH)

September 6, 2018

CoC Data Committee

SUBJECT: Approval of preliminary recommendations for 2018-19 State of California Housing & Community Development (HCD) Emergency Solutions Grant funding and authorization of staff to adjust funding recommendations upon final award from HCD after review and approval by CoC Data Committee.

DISCUSSION: The CoC staff have received six applications for the 2018 State HCD ESG allocation. The preliminary award is \$356,277 of which 40% or \$142,511 must be dedicated to Rapid Re-Housing activities. ESG funds may be used for four primary activities: Street Outreach, Rapid Re-Housing Assistance, Emergency Shelter, and Homelessness Prevention. In addition, ESG funds may be used for associated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) costs and some administrative activities. CoC staff expect to receive an adjusted final allocation from HCD before the application deadline in August 2018, due to the addition of disencumbered funds from 2015-16.

CoC staff have reviewed the 2018 applications for each project, prioritizing based on the population to be served, prior project success, proposed outcomes, and cost per successful housing placement. The detailed ranking and analysis is attached for review. All of the recommended beneficiaries are actively participating in the CoC Pathways to Home and are committed to using HMIS for data and referrals. The following are staff funding recommendations:

Rank	Applicant/Activity Type	Funding Request	Recommended Funding	Beneficiaries to be Served
1	The Salvation Army Rapid Re-Housing	\$86,674	\$83,000	100 households
2	Turning Point Foundation Rapid Re-Housing	\$65,000	\$62,000	25 households
3	Turning Point Foundation Our Place Safe Haven	\$75,000	\$60,000	65 individuals
4	The Salvation Army Emergency Shelter (ES) & Street Outreach (SO)	\$191,432	\$105,000	59 individuals (ES) 60 individuals (SO)
5	Lutheran Social Services Street Outreach	\$50,000	\$28,463	100 individuals
6	The Kingdom Center Emergency Shelter	\$20,000	\$0	120 individuals
	Administrative		\$17,814	
	TOTAL		\$356,277	

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of preliminary funding recommendations for 2018-19 State ESG;

Authorize CoC staff to readjust the funding recommendations based upon the final CA ESG allocation from HCD, after review and approval by the CoC Data Committee.

VC CoC Data Committee

September 6, 2018

Homeless Emergency Assistance Program: One-time funding administered by the CoC. Ventura County will receive approximately 4.8 million dollars. HEAP funds are intended to be used to provide immediate emergency assistance to people experiencing homelessness. The parameters of the program are intentionally broad to allow local communities to be creative and craft programs that meet the specific needs identified. All activities must directly benefit the target population.

Program funds must be fully expended by June 30, 2021.

Each jurisdiction that plans to apply for funds or wishes to have a nonprofit apply for funds to directly benefit their constituents must declare a "Shelter Crisis". If a city does not declare a crisis they will be ineligible to apply for HEAP funds. Nonprofits in a city that does not declare a shelter crisis will also be ineligible to apply. Homeless persons within a jurisdiction that does not declare a crisis may have limitations on what services/programs they are eligible to receive.

Setting priorities for Homeless Emergency Assistance Program funding (Proposed Timeline)

- 1) Housing and Services Committee –gaps and needs report completed summer of 2017
- 2) Housing and Services Committee report submitted to CoC Board with request to declare emergency declaration to meet the needs of the unsheltered homeless population
- 3) Regional Priority Setting Workshop
- 4) Community/Stakeholder Input gathering
- 5) CoC Data Committee input and review
- 6) Present information to CoC Board for approval.
- 7) Release local RFP (funding competition) for HEAP dollars
- 8) CoC Board approval of funding recommendations/allocations
- 9) Submit application to State

Summary of Regional Priority Setting (priority needs/uses of funding)

- 1) Emergency Shelter—facilities and operations
- 2) Dedicated Housing Navigation/Housing Location services tied to Coordinated Entry system (countywide coverage)
- 3) Countywide coverage of coordinated entry (2-1-1)
- 4) Street Outreach dedicated to homeless persons (expanded hours; provide connections to services)
- 5) Safe sleep, expanded River Haven
- 6) Motel vouchers
- 7) Pilot master leasing program to utilize rental assistance vouchers (VASH, etc)

Other priority needs not covered by HEAP funding:

Affordable housing inventory

Ventura County Continuum of Care

REGIONAL PRIORITY SETTING

Setting Priorities for New Funding

- No Place Like Home (NPLH)
- Housing for a Healthy California
- California Emergency Solutions & Housing Program (CESH)
- CA Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)

Development of a Regional Plan to Address Homelessness

- Using data to inform funding decisions
- Integration of best practices/core components
- Engage CoC stakeholders to develop, implement, monitor and update plan
- Focused on housing as the solution to homelessness

Align Resources with System Performance Goals

- Decrease total number of homeless people
- Decrease length of time homeless (length of stay)
- Decrease number of persons who become homeless for the first time
- Increase number of housing placements
- Increase Income/Employment
- Decrease Returns to Homelessness

No Place Like Home Program

-Counties must use funds to develop permanent supportive rental housing-

- approximately \$190 million in Noncompetitive Allocation funds;
- Estimated VC allocation: \$1,566,826
- Provides deferred payment loans to counties or their Development Sponsors for the development of permanent supportive rental housing for people with serious mental illness, who are homeless, chronically homeless, or at-risk of chronic homelessness;

No Place Like Home Program

- Purpose is to acquire, design, construct, rehabilitate, or preserve permanent supportive housing for persons who are experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness or who are at risk of chronic homelessness, and who are in need of mental health services.
- All counties are eligible for NPLH Noncompetitive Allocation
- Availability of NPLH Project funds is contingent on voter approval of the No Place Like Home Act of 2018, Proposition 2 on the November 2018 ballot

Housing for a Healthy California

-Counties must tie rental subsidies to health care services-

- Assembly Bill 74 (AB 74) Housing required the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to establish the Housing for a Healthy California Program (HHC Program) on or before January 1, 2019. Funding for the program was made available through California Senate Bill 850 Housing (SB 850)
- SB 850 requires 50% of the funds collected under *Senate Bill 2 Building and Jobs Act* (SB 2) on and after January 1, 2018, and before December 31, 2018, to HCD for the HHC Program. Year 1 breakdown of funds from SB 2 includes \$57.5 million for the program.

Housing for a Healthy California

- The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be released during the spring, 2019.
- Estimated VC allocation: \$ not yet released
- Funds must be used to address the problem of high costs incurred by health system for homeless persons while living on the streets. Funds must be used to implement a solution that ties rental subsidies to health care service funds included in the final 1115 Medicaid Waiver, which includes the Whole Person Care pilot program and the Health Home Program.

CA Emergency Solutions & Housing Program (CESH)

- Year 1 breakdown of funds from SB 2 includes \$53.3 million;
- Round 1 estimated VC CoC allocation: \$701,401
- NOFA released on August 15, 2018. Applications due by October 15, 2018

CA Emergency Solutions & Housing Program (CESH)

- Funds can be used for one or more of the following eligible activities:
 - Rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services
 - Operating subsidies
 - Flexible housing subsidy funds

CA Emergency Solutions & Housing Program (CESH)

- Administrative entities **cannot “use more than 40 percent of any funds . . . in a fiscal year for operating support for emergency housing interventions** as described in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a), as noted in 50490.4 (6f). Paragraph (4) states
- “Operating support for emergency housing interventions, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Navigation centers (provide shelter with case managers who work to connect homeless individuals and families to income, public benefits, health services & permanent housing)
 - Street outreach services
 - Shelter diversion (including homelessness prevention activities and other service integration for alternate housing arrangements, services & financial assistance)

Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)

- Purpose of providing localities with one-time flexible block grant funds to address their immediate and emergency homelessness challenges;
- Program funds shall be expended on one-time uses that address homelessness;
- VC Allocation : \$4,831,856
- Administered by Administrative (CoC Collaborative Applicant—County Executive Office)

Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)

Round 1

NOFA Release	September 5, 2018
Early Applications Reviews Start	Starting in September 2018
Early Applications Awarded	Starting in September 2018
Early Distribution of Funds Begins	Starting in late October 2018
Round 1 Application Cut-off Date	No later than December 31, 2018
Standard Applications Awarded	No later than January 2019
Standard Distribution of Funds Begins	April 2019

Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)

Round 2

NOFA Release	February 15, 2019
Early Applications Reviews Start***	Starting in February 2019
Early Applications Awarded	Starting in February 2019
Early Distribution of Funds Begins	Starting in late March 2019
Round 2 Application Cut-off Date	No later than April 30, 2019
Standard Applications Awarded	No later than May 2019
Standard Distribution of Funds Begins	July 2019

Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)

- Declaration of Emergency Shelter Crisis:
 - A county may only declare a shelter crisis in the unincorporated areas of the county.
 - Each city within a county must declare a shelter crisis within the geographic boundary of its jurisdiction to be eligible for funds.
 - The County acting as an administrative entity may **not** declare a blanket shelter crisis for the entire county and all its jurisdictions.

2018 Homeless Count Data

	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total
	#	%	#	%	
2017 Homeless Count	488	42.4	664	57.6	1,152
2018 Homeless Count	478	36.8	821	63.2	1,299
Difference:	-10 -(2.0%)	-5.6	+157 +(23.6%)	+5.6	+147 +(12.8%)

2018 Homeless Count Data

- The cities of Oxnard and Ventura account for nearly two-thirds (65.4%) of the 1,299 homeless persons (515 persons representing 40.0% and 335 persons representing 26%, respectively).
- The City of Simi Valley again had the third highest population of homeless (143 persons representing 11%) followed by the City of Thousand Oaks (80 persons representing 6%).
- Together the four cities had 83% of the number of persons counted

2018 Homeless Count Data

Subpopulations:	#	%
Chronically Homeless Adults	229	28.3
Families including Chronically Homeless Families*	6	**
Persons Released from Prisons & Jails During Past 12 Months	230	28.4
Persons w/Chronic Health Conditions	213	26.3
Persons w/Mental Health Problems	228	28.2
Substance Users	213	26.3
Unaccompanied Women	214	26.4

1. Use information from Needs & Gaps report compiled by CoC Housing & Services Committee including frontline service providers
2. Use data from Point-In-Time Count and HMIS

3. Stakeholder input and feedback
4. Recommendations forwarded to CoC Data Committee and CoC Board
5. Release Request for Proposals based on locally adopted priorities



Implementing Housing-Focused Crisis Response System

1. Prevention! Prevention! Prevention!
2. Coordinated Entry, Assessment and Placement
3. Street Outreach
4. Crisis Housing (Shelter)
5. Inventory of affordable housing options (PH, RRH)
6. Prioritizing resources for those least likely to resolve on their own (most vulnerable)
7. Housing First/Low Barrier programs with on-site support services
8. Focus on obtaining, maintaining and increasing income
9. Distribution of resources to meet needs across the county
10. Focus on all Subpopulations
11. Increase in financial resources to create the housing and services needed

Gaps and Unmet Needs

Prevention

Coordinated
Entry

Outreach

Emergency Shelter

Income

HOUSING

HEAP –Eligible priorities

- Coordinated Entry
- Housing Navigation
- Housing Location Services
- Street Outreach
- Low Barrier Shelter

Pathways to Home (coordinated entry)

- *Coverage needed in all parts of the County for improved access*
- Dedicated **Housing Navigators**: staff to screen, assess and refer to allow providers to dedicate time to assist clients with housing plan
- Dedicated **Housing Locators**: staff to cultivate relationships with landlords and identify rental units

Street Outreach

- Dedicated **street outreach team** to engage with chronically homeless persons living on the streets and in encampments.
- Street Outreach should focus on engaging and linking persons to mainstream resources and temporary and permanent housing options.
- **Coverage in all areas of the County**

Low barrier emergency shelter

- Critical need for temporary placements to move persons off the street
- Year round-24/7 shelter with housing-focused services
- Focus on areas with high number of unsheltered persons and areas that lack access to any crisis beds.

Other Temporary Resources

- Designated safe sleep locations are needed across the county for persons living in cars.
- Motel Voucher programs

A photograph showing several hands of different skin tones holding up large, colorful letters that spell out the word 'FEEDBACK'. The letters are arranged in a horizontal line against a plain white background. The colors of the letters are: F (blue), E (orange), E (pink), D (yellow), B (blue), A (red), C (red), and K (pink). The hands are positioned below each letter, with some holding multiple letters. The overall composition is simple and emphasizes the word 'FEEDBACK' through a diverse group of people.

FEEDBACK

CESH—Eligible priorities

- Low barrier emergency shelter operations
- Street outreach
- Homeless prevention
- Rapid rehousing-rental subsidies and program services

Homelessness Prevention

- Increase availability of flexible funds to prevent homelessness by intervening early enough to keep persons most at-risk of homelessness in their own homes
- Coordinated prevention resources (in HMIS)

Rapid Re-Housing

- **Longer term rental subsidies** to assist low income families get back into housing
- Programs for transition aged youth



Feedback

NPLH Eligible Priorities

- Supportive Housing for persons who are chronically homeless/at-risk of chronic homeless AND have a severe and persistent mental illness diagnosis

More Supportive Housing!

- Chronic homeless population is increasing countywide—180 units needed immediately to serve those prioritized for PSH through Pathways to Home
- Need for Single Room Occupancy (SROs), Studios, 1 bedroom units
- Supportive services should be delivered on-site
- Additional capacity is needed for case management dedicated to providing supportive housing services in scattered-site models

FEEDBACK



Other Priority Needs

- Inventory of *Very Affordable Rental Housing* for all subpopulations (families, singles, veterans, youth)
- Opportunities to increase income/employment
- Beds/Housing/Services dedicated to youth (TAY)

Next Steps

- Compile recommendations and forward to CoC for approval
- Release RFP for HEAP & CESH funding
- NPLH RFP will be released in upcoming months

Providing Feedback

- CoC staff will accept input from stakeholders on feedback on priority setting via email: Tara.Carruth@ventura.org
- Recommendations will be presented to CoC Board on September 12, 2018
www.venturacoc.org