

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS- CORONAVIRUS

ESG-CV



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Background

- Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Stimulus (CARES) Act enacted March 27, 2020, California Department of Housing and Community Development has the availability of approximately \$42 million in federal funds for the Emergency Solutions Grants program.
- The estimated allocation for Imperial is \$1,028,100 of which **\$974,000** is available for application
- Single, direct allocation method (Executive order N-66-20 issued May 29, 2020 provides partial waiver of the California State ESG regulations)
- This CARES act funding is supplemental to the annual funding awarded to the COCs

Objectives

- The ESG-CV Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) provides funding for the following objectives:
 - ✓ Prevent, Prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or receiving homeless assistance
 - ✓ Support additional homeless assistance and homeless prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by the coronavirus

Funded activities

- For purposes of the ESG-CV Request for Proposal (RFP), the coronavirus initial impact date will be June 1, 2020. ESG-CV funding may be used to cover or reimburse allowable costs to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus as of the impact date.
- Funds are a Single, Direct Allocation Method:
 - ✓ Imperial County's estimated allocation is \$1,028,100 of which \$974,000 will be available for funding
 - ✓ Eligible activities include Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Rehousing, and HMIS
 - ✓ Applications once scored/ ranked, will be presented by the Administrative Entity to the Imperial County Board of Supervisors

Eligible Activities

➤ ESG-CV funds are earmarked for the following eligible activities:

- ✓ Emergency Shelter

- ✓ Homeless prevention

- ✓ Street Outreach

- ✓ Rapid Rehousing

- ✓ Homeless Management

Immediate priorities

- HUD has strongly recommended recipients focus on rapid re-housing and non-congregate emergency shelter for the populations most at risk for exposure to or contraction of COVID-19
- Rapid Rehousing is the first priority investment as it has the greatest capacity of all ESG activities to end homelessness
 - ✓ Need to employ Rapid Rehousing efforts for all that are in overflow/congregate/non-congregate shelter and those that are unsheltered
 - ✓ There should be high intensity service models for those who will need significant support
- An immediate priority for Emergency Shelter funding investments is non-congregate shelter
 - ✓ Options can include hotels/motels, converted spaces where people can isolate or quarantine in individual rooms

Housing First Approach

- Permanent supportive housing models that use a Housing First approach have been proven to be highly effective for ending homelessness, particularly for people experiencing chronic homelessness who have higher service needs¹
- Agencies applying for this funding are required to use a Housing First Approach
 - ✓ No ESG-CV funds provided under the CARES act may be used to require people experiencing homelessness to received treatment or perform other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter

¹ <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Housing-First-Permanent-Supportive-Housing-Brief.pdf>

Examples of Expenses

Emergency Shelter

Supplies	Cleaning supplies such as bleach, disinfectant wipes, scrubbers , mops, Protective Equipment such as masks. Disposable gloves; Program participant needs such as bed linens, towels, hand sanitizer, soap, tissue packets, medicine etc.
Furnishings	Cots, Room Dividers
Equipment	Washers, Dryers, portable handwashing stations
Transportation	Necessary for program participant travel to and from medical care, service provider etc.

Examples of Expenses (cont.)

Street outreach

Engagement (Urgent Physical Needs)	Hand Sanitizer, soap, tissue packets, medical care
Engagement (Equipping Staff)	Masks, disposable gloves, hand sanitizer, other person protective equipment
Case Management (Referrals)	Coordinating medical care and other support services
Transportation	Necessary for program participant travel to and from medical care, service providers etc.

Homeless prevention

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services

Short and Medium Term Rental Assistance

Examples of Expenses (cont.)

Rapid Rehousing

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services

Short and Medium Term Rental Assistance

Fees

Application Fees, Security Deposits

Housing Stability Case Management

HMIS

HMIS reporting

Expanded Staffing

Hiring additional staff to support infectious disease preparedness

(This type of expense would qualify under multiple eligible activities.)

NOTE

- **Rental Assistance due to job loss due to COVID-19 is an allowable cost**
- **The CARES act increases eligible participants income limit up to 50% of the AMI from 30% AMI for regular issuance of ESG**

Special Features of the ESG-CV

- Rapid Rehousing does not have a minimum and there is no spending cap on Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention or Street Outreach activities
- There is no matching funds requirement
- ESG-CV funding amounts can be used to provide temporary emergency shelters (through leasing of existing property, temporary structures, or other means) to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus, and that such temporary emergency shelters shall not be subject to the minimum periods of use.

Special Features of the ESG-CV

- ESG-CV funding amounts may be used for training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation and to provide hazard pay (including for time worked prior to the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and that such activities shall not be considered administrative costs for purposes of the administrative cap
- No ESG-CV funds may be used to require persons experiencing homelessness to receive treatment or perform other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter

Eligible Costs

- Costs charged to ESG-CV must be *allowable, allocable and reasonable costs*. Shifting cost between awards between awards to overcome funding deficiencies is not allowed.
- *Allocable costs* must conform to any limitation or exclusions set forth in the federal cost principles and the ESG-CV must comply with the policies and procedures afforded all activities within the grantee or subgrantee organization and treated consistently.
- *Allocable costs* are those treated consistently with other costs incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances
- *Reasonable costs* do not exceed in nature or amount of costs that would be incurred

Eligible Costs (cont.)

- *Eligible costs may be direct or indirect.* They must be incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances and must be treated consistently as either direct or indirect costs.
- *Direct costs* are those costs that can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective (such as the ESG-CV award) and can be directly assigned to an activity relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.
- *Indirect costs* are those that have been incurred for common or joint objectives and cannot be readily identified with a particular final cost objective or activity.

Program requirements

- Grantees are responsible for awarding ESG-CV funds to eligible service providers for ESG-CV eligible activities in their approved COC services areas
- Grantees shall select qualified service providers through a process that is consistent with the following requirements:
 - ✓ Is a fair and open process that avoids conflicts of interest
 - ✓ Follows the procurement requirements of 2 CFR 200, 24 CFR 84
 - ✓ Evaluates provider capacity and experience, including the ability to deliver services in non-entitlement areas

Program requirements

- ✓ Evaluates eligibility and quality of services, including adherence to Core practices pursuant to the Standard Agreement
- ✓ Utilizes data and considers community input to identify unmet needs considering other available funding and systemwide performance measures
- ✓ Considers project-level performance measures when evaluating proposals
- ✓ Collaborates with the local COC

Duplication of Benefits

- Duplication of Benefits (DOB) is not allowed
- The DOB occurs when a program beneficiary receives assistance from multiple sources totaling an amount that exceeds the need for a particular funding need.
- The duplication is the amount of assistance provided in excess of the need
- It is the Departments responsibility to ensure that each ESG-CV activity provides assistance only to the extent that the recipient's project's funding need has not been met by another funding source. As such, applicants will be required to complete DOB documentation with application and recipients will be required to continue to report DOB during the expenditure period of the ESG-CV funds.

Multiple Rounds of Funding/ End Date

- The current funding is part of ESG-CV Round 1 of funding
 - ✓ This funding must be expended by August 31, 2020
- A Round 2 of ESG-CV funding is expected
 - ✓ Expected arrival date and amount of funding available is unknown at this time

CARES act additional Information

- In addition to funding, the CARES act also provides other types of Homeless prevention assistance by enacting a temporary moratorium on evictions
 - ✓ Section 4024 of the CARES act imposed a temporary moratorium on evictions in certain circumstances
- Housing covered depends on its connection to Federal funding or tax credits or financing that is provided, backed or assisted by the Federal government
- FHA has halted Foreclosures for Single Family homeowners through August 31, 2020

CARES act additional Information

- For Housing covered by the moratorium, the housing provider or landlord **CANNOT**:
 - ✓ File any eviction during the period of March 27, 2020 through July 24, 2020
 - ✓ Charge fees, penalties or other charges (including assessing or allowing charges to accrue) during the period of March 27, 2020 through July 24, 2020 based on nonpayment of rent;
 - ✓ Issue a notice to vacate during the period of March 27, 2020 through July 24, 2020
 - ✓ Require a tenant to vacate due to unpaid rent or fees without providing a prior notice to vacate that gives the tenant at least 30 days to vacate

Request for Proposal Timeline

June 1, 2020	ESG- CV NOFA released by HCD
July 10, 2020	Post ESG-CV Request for Proposal (RFP) on IVCCC website: http://www.cociv.org .
July 17, 2020	ESG-CV Application Workshop is mandatory for anyone with intent to apply for funding. The Workshop will be held via Zoom. Interested applicants must register via the Zoom registration link
July 20, 2020	Technical Assistance questions from applicant due to Administrative Entity by 5:00 p.m.
July 20, 2020	Application from Administrative Entity DUE to State HCD by 5 :00 PM
July 21, 2020	Agency intent to apply due to Imperial County Department of Social Services via email.
July 27, 2020	Technical Assistance answers will be posted at the IVCCC and Imperial County Purchasing Department website.
July 30, 2020	Submit ESG-CV application to IVCCC administrative entity, 3 hard copies (1 original and 2 copies) and 1 USB copy to IVCCC at Imperial County Office of Procurement, 1125 W. Main Street, El Centro, Ca 92243.
Aug 3- 6, 2020	Scoring and Ranking Committee reviews and ranks projects
Aug 7, 2020	Discussion with IVCCC regarding recommendations.
Aug 11, 2020	Board of Supervisors approves IVCCC recommendations
Aug 12, 2020	IVCCC Executive Board posts ranking on COCIV.org website.

Scoring and Ranking

- In the slides to follow, some key points of the ranking criteria will be reviewed

- This following is not an all inclusive list of ranking criteria

- Those wishing to apply for the funding must:
 1. Review the Request for Proposal (RFP) in it's entirety;
 2. Attend the mandatory workshop listed on the RFP;
 3. Return completed Agency Interest form;
 4. Submit a proposal (Application).

Program Design

Ranking Criteria

- Quality of the program
- Description of the impact of coronavirus upon the applicant and the applicant's budget and response to needs
- Years of experience and qualified staff
- Number of persons served and the level of service provided since impact date of June 1, 2020

Applicant Experience

Ranking Criteria

- Length of experience implementing the proposed eligible activity or similar activity to the proposed activity
- Description of how experience with previous activity will allow the agency to transition to provide services with the additional factor of coronavirus
- With previous activities and grants that have been received, has agency been in compliance with funding requirements
- Scoring will be also based on agency program processing (intake process, availability of staff after hours) and successful exits from program

Impact, Ability and Effectiveness

Ranking Criteria

- Description of the impact that the agency has on the community and the level of services that have been provided since the impact date
- Description of staffing including a breakdown of how many staff will be providing services
- Financial capacity to provide services while waiting for reimbursement
- Description of communities that services will be offered and implemented in
- Description of client intake process, eligibility process and recordkeeping process. Does the recordkeeping process ensure protection of client's sensitive information
- Will the proposed activity use a Housing First approach as required?
- Is the plan effective? Effectiveness may be determined by successful completion and follow-up strategies reported

Utilization, Expenditure, Reporting and Quality Control

Ranking Criteria

- Applicant's ability to readily utilize and expend ESG-CV funds
- Feasibility of plan to appropriately utilize funding, collect data , report and analyze results
- Discussion of proposed monitoring and quality control procedures
- Adequateness/ Effectiveness of proposed quality control procedures

HMIS

Ranking Criteria

- Applicant should discuss their usage of HMIS
- If not using HMIS, do they use a comparable system
- If not using HMIS, describe if there is a plan to purchase HMIS

Factor	Max Points
Program Design	20
Applicant Experience	20
Impact, Ability and Effectiveness	35
Utilization, Expenditure and Reporting of ESG-CV funds	20
HMIS	5
TOTAL ESG-CV SCORE	100

Authorizing legislation/ relevant legal authority

- Funding under this NOFA is made available pursuant to the CARES Act, Title XII Homeless Assistance Grants Section of and as authorized by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 24, Part 576
- 24 CFR Part 91 relating to annual plan requirements
- 24 CFR Part 58 relating to environmental reviews
- Homeless Definition Final Review (Interim Rule published 12/4/2015)

Authorizing legislation/ relevant legal authority

- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requirements for the Universal Identifier and Central contractor Registration, 2 CFR Part 25, Appendix A to Part 25
- HUD issued Waiver related to CARES act funding
- If state or federal statutes or regulations, or other laws relating to the ESG program are modified by Congress, HUD, the Department, or the State Legislature, the changes may become effective immediately and impact the work that was awarded funding under this NOFA.

QUESTIONS

