



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC & HOUSING STABILITY

Lori A. Shibanette
Commissioner

Christinae L. Santanillo
Director

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August 26, 2020

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
And the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Informational Item

Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47, and Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Order 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15 and 2020-16, Governor Sununu has authorized the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Economic and Housing Stability, Bureau of Housing Supports, to accept and expend Emergency Solutions Grants Program funds under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act in the amount of \$4,797,314, and allocate of these funds in the accounts below.

05-95-42-423010-79270000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS, HHS: HUMAN SERVICES, HOMELESS & HOUSING, HOUSING - SHELTER PROGRAM

Class/Object	Class Title	Current Authorized Budget	Requested Change	Adjusted Budget
Revenue				
000-408072	Federal Funds	\$ 10,165,983	\$ 4,797,314	\$ 14,963,297
	General Funds	\$ 5,052,892	\$ -	\$ 5,052,892
	Total Revenue:	\$ 15,218,875	\$ 4,797,314	\$ 20,016,189
Expense				
010-500100	Personal Services Perm Class	\$ 360,542	\$ -	\$ 360,542
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ 5,040	\$ -	\$ 5,040
022-500255	Rent/Lease Office Equipment	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
026-500251	Organizational Dues	\$ 1,750	\$ -	\$ 1,750
030-500301	Equipment - New	\$ 1,200	\$ -	\$ 1,200
039-500190	Telecommunications	\$ 2,200	\$ -	\$ 2,200
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$ 12,960	\$ -	\$ 12,960
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$ 10,265	\$ 4,797	\$ 15,062
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$ 27,451	\$ -	\$ 27,451
050-500109	Personal Service Temp Appoi	\$ 38,583	\$ -	\$ 38,583
057-500535	Books Periodicals Subscriptions	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ 1
060-500602	Benefits	\$ 179,445	\$ -	\$ 179,445
070-500704	In State Travel	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
080-500714	Out of State Travel	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
102-500731	Contract for Prog Svcs	\$ 14,558,881	\$ 4,792,517	\$ 19,351,398
211-501530	Catastrophic Casualty Ins	\$ 57	\$ -	\$ 57
	Total Expense:	\$ 15,218,875	\$ 4,797,314	\$ 20,016,189

The Department of Health and Human Services' Mission is to join communities and families in providing opportunities for citizens to achieve health and independence.

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The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman
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EXPLANATION

This request is being made to accept the additional grant funds available for SFY 2020 to administer the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) under Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136. These special ESG-CV funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) among individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or receiving assistance for housing instability and/or homelessness; and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. The ESG program focuses on addressing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness in emergency or transitional shelters to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. The notice of grant award was received in June 2020.

Funds are being budgeted in Contracts for Program Services (Class 102) to provide grant money to New Hampshire programs to carry out the objectives of the ESG program. Funds are also being budgeted for Audit costs (Class 041) per state requirements.

Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: 100% Federal Funds.

If Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support the program expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shibanette
Commissioner



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

June 9, 2020

The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu
Governor of New Hampshire
State House
107 N Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu:

I am pleased to inform you of the second allocation of Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program funds HUD is awarding to your jurisdiction in the amount of \$4,797,314, as authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136. These special ESG-CV funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance; and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19.

President Trump signed the CARES Act on March 27, 2020 to help the Nation respond to the coronavirus outbreak. The CARES Act made available an additional \$4 billion in ESG-CV funds to supplement the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 ESG funding provided under the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94). Of this amount, the Department previously allocated \$1 billion for ESG-CV grants based on the FY 2020 ESG formula and set aside \$40 million for technical assistance.

An additional \$2.96 billion in funding for ESG-CV grants is now being allocated directly to States or units of local government by a separate formula developed by the Secretary. The formula approved by the Secretary includes variables that quantify the population currently experiencing and at risk of homelessness, including:

- Total Homeless Population
- Unsheltered Homeless Population
- Total Very Low Income (VLI) Renters
- VLI Renters that are Overcrowded or without a Kitchen or Plumbing

The variables were further weighted to adjust for fair market rents. HUD's formula methodology for this second allocation can be found at [https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/ESG CARES Act Round 2 Allocation Methodology rev.pdf](https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/ESG%20CARES%20Act%20Round%20Allocation%20Methodology%20rev.pdf)

As with the first allocation, this second allocation of ESG-CV funds is subject to the following flexibilities and conditions provided by the CARES Act:

- The funds may be used to cover or reimburse allowable costs incurred by a State or locality before the award of funding (including prior to the signing of the CARES Act) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19;
- The funds are not subject to the spending cap on emergency shelter and outreach under 24 CFR 576.100(b)(1);
- Up to 10 percent of funds may be used for administrative costs, as opposed to 7.5 percent as provided by 24 CFR 576.108(a);
- The funds are exempt from the ESG match requirements, including 24 CFR 576.201;
- The funds are not subject to the consultation and citizen participation requirements that otherwise apply to the Emergency Solutions Grants, however each recipient must publish how its allocation has and will be used, at a minimum, on the Internet at the appropriate Government web site or through other electronic media;
- The funds may be used to provide homelessness prevention assistance (as authorized under 24 CFR 576.103 or subsequent HUD notices) to any individual or family who does not have income higher than HUD's Very Low-Income Limit for the area and meets the criteria in paragraphs (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) of the "at risk of homelessness" definition in 24 CFR 576.3;
- That recipients may deviate from applicable procurement standards when using these funds to procure goods and services to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, notwithstanding 24 CFR 576.407(f) and 2 CFR 200.317-200.326;
- While we encourage you to offer treatment and supportive services when necessary to assist vulnerable homeless populations, individuals and families experiencing homelessness must not be required to receive treatment or perform any other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter, housing, or other services for which these funds are used, notwithstanding 24 CFR 576.401(e).

In addition, the Act authorizes the Secretary to grant waivers of and specify alternative requirements for statutes and regulations the Secretary administers in connection with the use of ESG funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment). These waivers and alternative requirements can be issued when necessary to expedite and facilitate the use of funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. HUD has made available the following waivers that are applicable to ESG-CV funding:

- CPD Memo: Availability of Additional Waivers for CPD Grant Programs to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and Mitigate Economic Impacts Caused by COVID-19 (5/22/2020)
 - **Waiver Applicability to ESG-CV** - Made all ESG waivers provided in 3/31/2020 memo applicable to ESG-CV

- **Housing Stability Case Management** – Original waiver (see below) is extended an additional 3 months beginning on the date of the memorandum (5/22/2020)
- CPD Memo: Availability of Waivers of CPD Grant Program and Consolidated Plan Requirements to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and Mitigate Economic Impacts Caused by COVID-19 for CoC, ESG, and HOPWA (3/31/2020)
 - **HMIS Lead Activities** - Allows any recipient to use ESG funds to pay costs of upgrading or enhancing its local HMIS to incorporate data on ESG Program participants and ESG activities related to COVID-19
 - **Re-evaluations for Homelessness Prevention Assistance** - For up to the 2-year period beginning on the date of the waiver memorandum (3/31/2020), the required frequency of re-evaluations for homelessness prevention assistance under section 576.401(b) is waived
 - **Housing Stability Case Management** - For the 2-month period beginning on the date of the waiver memorandum (3/31/2020), the required frequency of housing stability case management for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance is waived
 - **Restriction of Rental Assistance to Units At or Below FMR** - For the 6-month period beginning on the date of the waiver memorandum (3/31/2020), the FMR restriction is waived for any individual or family receiving Rapid Re-housing or Homelessness Prevention assistance who executes a lease for a unit

The Department is developing a notice that will further lay out the CARES Act provisions and other waivers and requirements to enable swift implementation of ESG-CV grants. This notice and any subsequent notices of waivers and alternative requirements will be made available on HUD's website and distributed to recipients. The Department will also support recipients with technical assistance.

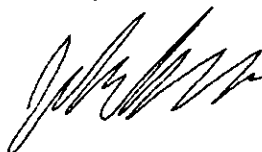
As your jurisdiction continues to develop its plan to use these grant funds, HUD encourages approaches that prioritize the unique needs of persons experiencing homelessness and the development of partnerships between all levels of government and the private for-profit and non-profit sectors. Your jurisdiction should coordinate with State and local health authorities as you support state or local pandemic response. HUD encourages you to share successes that may help other recipients. Like other supplemental funding, ESG-CV grants are subject to oversight and tracking. We look forward to working with you to achieve the best possible outcomes for people experiencing and at risk of homelessness and to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse.

Importantly, proper reporting in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) is critical to ensuring recipients are complying with program requirements and policies, providing demographic and income information about the persons who benefit from funded activities, and allowing HUD to monitor recipients. Your jurisdiction's ongoing attention is essential to ensuring complete and accurate reporting of performance measurement data.

All ESG recipients must ensure they maintain active Dun and Bradstreet Numbering System (DUNS) numbers in the System for Award Management (SAM) system. Entities must have an active and unexpired DUNS before execution of grant agreements to avoid delays in the obligation of funds which will delay your ability to drawdown funds in IDIS. Recipients are required to maintain an active SAMs registration by re-activating their DUNS number annually in the SAM system for the entire drawdown period of their grants. DUNS numbers can be registered and renewed each year at the following website: <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>.

HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) is looking forward to working with your jurisdiction to successfully meet the urgent and complex challenges faced by our communities. If you or your staff have questions, please contact your local CPD Field Office Director or CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Gibbs", written in a cursive style.

John Gibbs
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Community Planning and Development
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development