

ESG-CV Office Hours call October 29, 2020



Agenda

- Review of Frequently Asked Question
- Review of Waivers
- Written Standards Addendum
- HMIS/CAPERS Set-up
- Contract Amendment Update
- Questions/Concerns



Introductions

- Shannon Piotrowski, Deputy Director, Office on Homelessness, *Florida Department of Children and Families*
- Tera Bivens, Contracted Programs, Chief, *Florida Department of Children and Families*
- Jim Yates, Senior Consultant, *Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc.*
- Christine Campbell, Housing & Health Program Consultant, *Collaborative Solutions, Inc.*



Review of Frequently Asked Question

Although the state amendment wasn't approved until after September 1, can Rapid rehousing be used?

ESGCV funds may be used for Rapid Re-housing, Homelessness Prevention, Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, HMIS activities, and Admin costs. The ESGCV Notice provided additional stipulations and activities that may be charged to ESGCV. As of September 1, 2020, Rapid Rehousing funded by ESGCV may be provided for up to 12 months, as opposed to 24 months. The expectation would be that CoCs consider all available resources to provide additional funding if Rapid Rehousing is needed for longer than 12 months. Additional guidance will be provided to discuss how to prioritize funding. Additionally, ESGCV funds used for temporary emergency shelters may be supported with funds through January 31, 2022. For CoCs that receive ESGCV funds through local county or city government, these limitations may not be applicable if their substantial amendment was approved prior to September 1, 2020.



Review of Frequently Asked Question

HUD makes it explicit that every homeless household can be rehoused with ESG-CV and ESG as a way of preventing the spread regardless of whether the household is specifically impacted by COVID. Does this also apply to targeted prevention efforts as well?

Yes. All households to some degree may be impacted by COVID in their communities. The targeted prevention efforts should consider how to demonstrate a correlation between the efforts and COVID. Consider how the community that is being targeted is impacted by COVID. This information should also be incorporated into updated written standards to document how these efforts are targeting COVID related risk factors.

Regarding targeted prevention, are zip codes with high instances of COVID related factors sufficient to demonstrate a correlation between the targeted efforts and COVID?

Yes, The Urban Institute Tool has some COVID resources, as well as public health departments. If zip codes of high instances of COVID are used to target efforts, that information should be outlined in the updated written standards. CoCs should also consider using an assessment tool or a screening tool I think that's an important piece, if you do have an assessment tool or a screening tool for targeted prevention, may be incorporating in COVID factors as well



Review of Frequently Asked Question

Can ESG or ESG-CV be used for a Housing Navigator position?

This is a nuanced question and it depends what the CoC wants to do – ie system wide or program specific (only supporting ESG CV RRH participants). The responsibilities of the Navigator typically included both (1) Landlord engagement and unit identification and (2) housing search assistance. HUD is leaning to allow LL engagement and Unit ID across the system but only allowing housing search assistance specifically to a program (e.g. ESG RRH). So it will very much depend on their program design and who they are offering the services to – across the system or specifically to ESG. If there is a specific CoC that had this question, it might make sense to talk through it.

HUD will provide additional guidance.



Review of Frequently Asked Question

What is acceptable documentation to demonstrate an impact on households.

Client records should document how COVID impacted a household, they may be impacted by a loss of employment, increased costs for housing expenses, etc. The goal is to connect how and why the expenses and household needs are related to COVID and the impact on the individual and family. To assist with the documentation, consider using a self-certification that each recipient would sign certifying that their household has been impacted by COVID.



Review of Frequently Asked Question

Can CoCs submit budget revisions with ESGCV?

If funds need to be reallocated to rapid rehousing or other ESGCV activities, CoCs may contact their contract manager and provide a revised budget. As a reminder, funds cannot be reallocated across grants (i.e. from ESG to ESGCV).

Invoices/Advances

Invoices are submitted as outlined in the contract, all monthly. If an advance was requested, it is available as outlined in the amendment. Need to refer to amendment.



Review of Frequently Asked Question

How will reallocation work if a CoC is projected to not spend ESGCV1 by June 30, 2021?

DCF must expend 20% of funds by September 30, 2021, and 80% of funds by March 31, 2022. The Department reserves the right to re-allocate funding to communities and ensure funds are spent prior to the deadlines. Consideration for spending trends will be incorporated into ESGCV2, as well as the utilization of other resources to provide services. CoCs should consider all funding sources within their community and provide information about whether other funds were prioritized before using DCF funds. For example, funds through another entity may have a spending deadline of 12/31/2020. Those funds may be used for homelessness prevention instead of using ESGCV. In this case, after 12/31/2020 those funds will no longer be available and the CoC may choose to start using ESGCV. This would show a low spending pattern prior to 12/31/2020, but a projected higher pattern after that date, because of the prioritization of available funding. Reallocations would be based on projected spending and available funding for each budget year.



Eligible Activities

ESG-CV funds include the same activities as standard ESG:

- emergency shelter,
- street outreach,
- rapid re-housing,
- homelessness prevention,
- HMIS, and
- administration.

Allowable costs are outlined in 24 CFR Part 576, and the [Emergency Solutions Grant \(ESG\) Program Components Quick Reference](#) . Additionally, HUD released the [Eligible ESG Program Costs for Infectious Disease Preparedness](#) that outlines essential supplies and services that may be purchased to reduce the spread of infectious disease.



Waivers and Notice of Eligible Activities

Activity	IDIS Activity/Budget Category	Recordkeeping tips	Expiration date
Temporary Emergency Shelter	Shelter	Must also have records that structure/portion of structure met definition. For example: Recipient could document that property is typically a hotel and is only being used as TES for the period public health officials determine special measures needed to prevent coronavirus spread	1/31/2022
Training	Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing, Shelter, Street Outreach	Maintain agendas and meeting notes to support eligibility of expense	9/30/2022
Hazard Pay	Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing, Shelter, Street Outreach	Records could include job descriptions, policies and procedures or other program records that detail positions receiving hazard pay	9/30/2022



Waivers and Notice of Eligible Activities

Activity	IDIS Activity/Budget Category	Recordkeeping tips	Expiration date
Handwashing Stations and Portable Bathroom	Street Outreach	Can use procurement flexibilities to obtain (document flexibility used)	9/30/2022
Landlord Incentives	Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing	Program records should document that costs are reasonable	9/30/2022
Volunteer Incentives	Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing, Shelter, Street Outreach	Program records should document that costs are reasonable	9/30/2022
Temporary Stays in Institutions		DCF will apply for this waiver	9/30/2022

Waivers and Alternative Requirements

- Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach Expenditure Limit Waived
- Administrative Costs will be increased to allow a higher rate in CV2
- Recipients may pay for HMIS Lead activities even if they are not an HMIS Lead
- Recipients (*not subrecipients*) may deviate from federal procurement standards; must establish alternative written procurement standards
- Federal Match Requirement is waived
- 24-month limit on rental assistance and supportive services costs under RRH & HP extended for 6 months for households who reach max between 1/21/2020 and 2/28/2021
- Monthly case management waived



Written Standards Addendum

- Each CoC needs to create an addendum to the written standards which includes activities approved in the CV1 amendment and budget amendments as it relates to ESG-CV activities.
- Incorporate in the Emergency Procedures/written standards update the date in which COVID related services begin.
- Self-certification – Participants must self-certify that they are not receiving assistance from another source (an example certification will be provided at a later date).
- Please submit these to me for review by **November 30.**



Outline requirements for each Project to be Setup in HMIS

- HMIS is required for all ESGCV grantees to track client level data.
- CAPER is due Quarterly for ESG-CV funds/activities, there is no change in due dates:
 - October 15
 - January 15
 - April 15
 - July 15
- Files submitted to the Office should be separate csv files for ESG activities and ESG-CV activities
- There will be a dedicated webinar to offer/review additional information regarding this reporting and upload process



ESG-CV Guidance

- HUD to continue to offer further clarifying guidance on ESG-CV Notice
- Nuanced Questions from CoC
- Use of HUD guidance as well as HUD's ESG-CV AAQ Help Desk
- Use DCF Office Hours to work through questions/issues as they emerge



Contracts Update

All but 3 contracts are fully executed!



Questions



Shannon Piotrowski

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