

OFFICE OF Homeless SERVICES



1

State of Utah

\$12.9mm allocation

State population 3,338,000

PIT Count 2023: 2,922 Humans

- 2,061 Sheltered
- 861 Unsheltered

Welcome



Utah Took a Different Path from Traditional HOME Funds

- Traditional, recurring HOME funds DO NOT go through the Office of Homeless Services (OHS)
 - Administered by the Utah Housing and Community Development Division
 - \$3.8mm in 2023. Funds only used for affordable housing development activities. Typically paired with National Housing Trust Fund awards in one application process



3

Why OHS and not established HOME funds process?

- Qualifying Populations of HOME-ARP
 - OHS administers ESG and other homeless focused funding
 - Existing system of service providers across the state that engage with
 OHS for funding and coordination
 - Continuum of Care (CoC)
 - Local Homeless Councils (Utah Specific)
 https://jobs.utah.gov/homelessness/stateorg.html



Different than HOME and can be used for different purposes

4

OHS Outreach Process

- Conducted by OHS staff only (no consultants)
- Began with a simple Google Form survey
 - Had each respondent:
 - Rank activities by priority for them specifically
 - Estimate the number of individuals who would qualify for HOME-ARP
 - List other groups in their area that they coordinate with
- Followed up on surveys with in-person/virtual meetings
- Held multiple in-person and virtual public hearings
 - Advertised beyond what is required by HUD. Utilized Facebook, Twitter,
 and coordinated to have a story published in local newspapers



5

How the State of Utah is Using HOME-ARP

Activity	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 973,403.80		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 5,840,422.80		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0.00		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 2,920,211.40		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 648,935	5%	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 648,935	5%	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 1,946,807	15 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$12,978,715		



Application and Award Process

- Opened applications in January of 2023
 - 22 applications received (excludes Non-profit operating and capacity building)
 - \$24.7mm in total request (\$9,734,000 available in actual program funds)
- · Prioritized projects to rural areas when possible
- Awarded 13 projects
 - 5 supportive services
 - 6 rental housing
 - o 2 Non-congregate shelter



7

Lessons Learned

- Some project types are more difficult to administer than others
 - Non-congregate shelter is especially hard to find operations funding for. Saw much smaller demand than outreach predicted
- Capacity is lacking in rural areas even with the possibility of non-profit operating and capacity-building funds
- Confusion between HOME and HOME-ARP
 - o Flexibility with per-unit amounts was not fully understood
 - Should have encouraged smaller projects that could be 100% HOME-ARP funded
- Institutional hesitancy to try new things
 - Two other largest PJs in Utah not using HOME-ARP for anything other than traditional HOME activities





DWS-OHS Program Manager (HOME-ARP, HOPWA) Russell Goodman; <u>Russellgoodman@utah.gov</u> Cell; 801-231-1339

DWS-OHS Program Manager (ESG) Meredith Vernick; <u>Mvernick@utah.gov</u>

DWS-OHS Program Manager (HMIS)
Joseph Jensen; Josephmjensen@utah.gov



9