



Homelessness Prevention- Maintaining Housing to Decrease Homelessness

Tuesday Cool
California Housing & Community Development
Federal Programs Specialist, ESG



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Emergency Solutions Grants

- Provides funds to address homelessness
- California receives approx. \$11 million in HUD ESG funding
- 40% must be spent on RRH
- Limited to 10% for HP

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California Housing Challenges

- California provides services and housing for many households experiencing homelessness
- The number of homeless households continues to increase
- California's high rents and low housing numbers cause housing instability

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2020 Disencumbrance

- \$1.7 million was disencumbered from 2020 ESG grant
- California received \$319 million in Covid Response funds
- Rapid Rehousing challenging to spend
 - Fair Market Rent
 - Difficult to identify housing supply
 - Rapidly increasing rents
 - Lack of flexibility with ESG funds

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Remediation to NOFA

- Homelessness Prevention targeted to decrease people entering homelessness
- Worked with HUD to develop remediation plan
- Developed NOFA for Homelessness Prevention activities

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Homelessness Prevention NOFA

- NOFA for \$1.7 million
- California providers recommended by CoC
- Issued January 2024 with expiration in November 2024
- Awarded February 2024

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Application Support

- Met directly with interested grantees
 - Describe scope of project
 - Discuss limitations of project
- Provided extensive technical assistance
 - Worked directly with grantee to develop and approve required policies and procedures
 - Worked directly with grantee in application process

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Grant Management Support

- Provided extensive technical support
 - Email
 - Online meetings
- HUD advisors, ICF, for guidance
- HUD Exchange AAQ for guidance
- Provided forms for grantees to document client and expense eligibility
- All supporting documentation was reviewed prior to processing payments

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Common Issues

- Medical and employment common causes of instability
- Unconventional housing situations
 - Couch surfing
 - Room rental
 - Living in motel
 - Previous homelessness

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Notes

- Particularly useful for rental and utility arrears
- Able to quickly relocate clients with eviction orders
- Able to pay security deposit to move into subsidized housing
- Landlords frequently eager to work with clients
- Useful to help bridge short-term financial issues
- Previous experience with ESG HP was helpful

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Conclusion

- \$1.7 million NOFA
- 6 Homelessness Prevention grants awarded
- 125 Households, 260 adults and children prevented from homelessness

Tuesday Cool

HCD Specialist I, Federal Programs Housing & Community Development, ESG
 May Lee State Office Complex - Southwest Tower
 651 Bannon Street, Suite 700
 Sacramento, CA 95811
 Cell: 916-776-7542

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