

CA-603 SANTA MARIA / SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE WRITTEN STANDARDS

Updated April 4, 2019

This document summarizes the policies and procedures that govern the provision of assistance to individuals and families by the providers within the CA-603 Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC), under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH).

Introduction

The County of Santa Barbara Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is a regional crisis response system designed to assist individuals (including unaccompanied youth) and families experiencing homelessness. It will provide the services needed to help such people develop a housing plan and move into transitional or permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability. More broadly, the program is designed to promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources to address homelessness; improve coordination and integration with mainstream resources and other programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness; improve data collection and performance measurement; and allow each community to tailor its program to the particular strengths and challenges within that community.

The CoC promotes a community wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. It provides funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities effected by homelessness. It promotes access to and effective utilization of assistance programs and optimizes self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The geography of the CoC encompasses the area within Santa Barbara County, including eight incorporated cities, and all unincorporated areas. This is referred to as the CoC Region. Various subdivisions are recognized within the CoC Region, including the cities of Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, and Goleta. The CoC Region contains other HUD-designated program jurisdictions, including the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara and the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara, four HUD CoC service areas^{one} Federal and State local Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Area, one HOME consortium, and federally-designated Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement areas. Programs within the CoC Region also receive funding from Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) and the Veterans Administration.

The CoC is designed to:

- Promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources and programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness;
- Improve data collection and performance measurement; and
- Allow each community within the CoC Region to tailor its program to the particular strengths and challenges within that community.

Centralized and collaborative leadership of homeless services will increase regional participation, service coordination, and programmatic efficiencies. The CoC will enhance accountability of program delivery, supporting a community-wide commitment to end and prevent homelessness in all parts of the region.

Purpose of These Written Standards

The HEARTH Act requires the CoC to have written policies and procedures that govern the provision of assistance to individuals and families. These Written Standards provide guidance to local providers with assistance in the following areas:

- Policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive Transitional Housing assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive Rapid Re-Housing assistance;
- Standards for determining what percentage or amount of rent each program participant must pay while receiving Rapid Re-Housing assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive Joint Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing - Rapid Re-Housing assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive Permanent Supportive Housing assistance; and
- Policies and procedures for administering Homeless Prevention, Street Outreach, and Diversion.

These Written Standards are not intended to replace state and federal funding source regulations, but are intended to clarify local decisions regarding program administration. Funded providers must follow state and federal regulations in their entirety. Further, the CoC recognizes that it often takes multiple funding sources to fully support a program, and these Written Standards do not supersede the regulations of other funding sources. Fund recipients are responsible for administering their programs in accordance with their respective funding sources.

The overarching goal of these standards is to synthesize key elements of the HUD regulations with the processes and priorities of the Santa Barbara County CoC to ensure that CoC programs are administered fairly and methodically.

Specific goals of these Written Standards are to:

- Assist with the coordination of service delivery across the CoC Region. This will be the foundation of the county-wide Coordinated Entry System;
- Assist in standardizing assessment of individuals and families consistently to determine program eligibility and prioritization;
- Assist in administering programs fairly and methodically;
- Establish common performance measures for all CoC Components;
- Provide the basis for the monitoring of all CoC and ESG funded projects and activities.

These Written Standards include policies and procedures for the following programs:

- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
- Transitional Housing (TH)
- Joint RRH and TH
- Homeless Prevention (HP)
- Emergency Shelter (ES)
- Diversion/Raid Resolution/Problem Solving
- Street Outreach (SO)

Coordinated Entry and Collaboration

Coordinated Entry is a powerful component of a CoC that ensures people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness can readily find and navigate crisis intervention assistance. It is designed to ensure that people experiencing a housing crisis are identified, prioritized, and matched with the most appropriate housing intervention as quickly as possible. It aims to standardize the access, assessment, and referral process across all providers in communities.

The CoC shall coordinate policies and procedures among Emergency Shelter providers, Essential Services providers, Homelessness Prevention, and Rapid Re-Housing assistance providers; other homeless assistance providers; and mainstream services and housing providers to the maximum extent practicable. This coordination shall include the integration of ESG-funded activities with other programs targeted to homeless people in the CoC Region to provide a strategic, community-wide system to prevent and end homelessness for Santa Barbara County. The coordination also shall integrate ESG-funded activities with mainstream housing, health, social services, employment, education, and youth programs for which families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness may be eligible. The CoC's Coordinated Entry System will fully comply with all of the requirements in HUD Notice CPD-17-01, and all programs receiving funding through the CoC will cooperate with and fully participate in this Coordinated Entry System.

Moreover, all CoC- and ESG-funded programs are required to coordinate with local education authorities and school districts to ensure all children are enrolled in early childhood programs or in school and connected to appropriate educational services in the community and so that children and families at risk of homelessness may be connected to appropriate intervention.

Definition of Key Terms

Case Management

The Santa Barbara County CoC has defined case management as a collaborative process that assesses, plans, implements, coordinates, monitors, and evaluates the options and services required to meet the client's health and human service needs. Case Managers focus on addressing service and housing barriers and connecting clients with mainstream resources. It is characterized by advocacy, communication, and resource management and promotes quality and cost-effective interventions and outcomes. Case management focuses on housing stability and placement, with an emphasis on the arrangement, coordination, monitoring, and delivery of services related to housing needs and improving housing stability. They will actively pursue client engagement even when met with resistance.

Chronically Homeless

1. A homeless individual with a disability as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 is a person who:
 - a. Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and
 - b. Has been homeless and living as described above continuously for at least 12 months or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living as described above. Stays in institutional care facilities for fewer than 90 days will

not constitute as a break in homelessness, but rather such stays are included in the 12-month total, as long as the individual was living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter immediately before entering an institutional care facility.

2. An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than 90 days and met all of the criteria in paragraph 1 (a) of this definition, before entering the facility.

Coordinated Entry System

The Coordinated Entry System (CES) minimizes barriers to housing access and ensures timely placement of individuals and families into appropriate services and housing. The County of Santa Barbara CoC has chosen to use a “no wrong door” approach for the CES in which a homeless individual who engages with any agency within the Santa Barbara County CoC is entered into the system using a standardized assessment tool. This system ensures that every homeless individual is known by name, is provided assistance based on unique needs, and is matched with services and housing that fit their current situation.

Diversion

Diversion/Rapid Resolution/Problem Solving is a ‘light touch’ strategy that prevents homelessness for people seeking shelter by helping them identify immediate alternate housing arrangements and, if necessary, connecting them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing. A client and case manager should work together to develop creative solutions to the current housing problem if possible.

Equal Access Requirement

The Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care has a non-discrimination policy in line with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) final rule regarding equal access to funded programs regardless of race, color, disability, religion, sex, familial status, or national origin. This also includes sexual orientation, gender identity, and marital status.

Fair Market Rent (FRM)

HUD establishes FMRs to determine payment standards or rent ceilings for HUD-funded programs that provide housing assistance. ESG funded programs must adhere to published FMR’s.

Habitability and Housing Quality Standards (HQS)

Housing Quality Standards (HQS) are used to evaluate CoC funded units. HQS define “standard housing” and establish the minimum criteria for the health and safety of program participants. Current HQS regulations consist of 13 key aspects of housing quality, performance requirements, and acceptability criteria to meet each performance requirement. HQS includes requirements for all housing types, including single and multi-family dwelling units, as well as specific requirements for special housing types such as manufactured homes, congregate housing, single room occupancy, shared housing, and group residences.

Habitability Standards govern ESG-funded units and are different from the HQS used for COC programs. Because the HQS criteria are more stringent than the Habitability Standards, a grantee could use HQS for either program.

Housing First

A model of housing assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing that does not have service participation requirements or preconditions for entry (such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold). HUD strongly encourages all recipients of CoC Program and ESG funds to follow a Housing First approach to the maximum extent practicable.

Individual Services Plan (ISP)

The Individual Service Plan (ISP) is the written details of the supports, activities, and resources required for the individual to achieve personal goals. The Individual Service Plan is developed to articulate decisions and agreements made during a person-centered process of case planning and information gathering.

Problem Solving Conversation

A problem solving conversation includes exploring any potential resources a household may have to stay where they are currently residing or move to another housing opportunity. This is most often used during a Diversion or Rapid Resolution conversation.

Rapid Resolution

A term used by the Veterans' Administration that replaced Diversion for their programs. Rapid Resolution includes efforts to return participants to a previous residence, seeks to avoid shelter entry or resolve homelessness within days of entry into the homeless system, eliminate and reduce trauma, supports family reunification, and mediates causes of housing loss.

Rent Reasonableness

HUD's rent reasonableness standard is designed to ensure that rents being paid are reasonable in relation to rents being charged for comparable unassisted units in the same market, complex, or building. Recipients and subrecipients should have a procedure in place to ensure that compliance with rent reasonableness standards is documented prior to a executing the lease for an assisted unit. Under the CoC Program, all units and structures for which rent is paid must be reasonable.

Resident and Residency

For the purpose of this document, a resident of Santa Barbara County has the mindset of being a Santa Barbara County resident and is available to meet with a case manager in person. The CoC uses a "Day 1" approach to establishing residency, meaning a client need only be in the County for 1 day to be considered a resident. However, if the "Day 1" approach is in conflict with another funding source utilized by the organization, the organization should follow the guidelines of the other funding source

Universal Assessment – VI-SPDAT

All individuals will be evaluated using a comprehensive, universal assessment tool called the Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). CoC members use this tool for triage, entry, and referrals. This tool guarantees that individuals' and families' levels of need and eligibility determinations are made in an informed and objective manner.

Universal Data Management and Sharing – HMIS

All subrecipients are required to participate in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) per the ESG and CoC Interim Rule. HMIS provides an opportunity to document individuals experiencing homelessness and helps to ensure coordination between service providers while avoiding duplication of service and client data.

Eligibility and Documentation Standards

The HEARTH Act sets out 4 Categories of eligibility:

- 1) Literally Homeless
- 2) Imminent Risk of Homelessness
- 3) Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes*
- 4) Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence

*Category 3 is specific to unaccompanied youth providers and not typically accessed by non-youth providers.

Required Documentation for Categories of Eligibility

- 1) Literally Homeless (in order of preference)
 - a. Third party verification (HMIS print-out or written referral/certification by another housing or service provider); or*
 - b. Written observation by an outreach worker; or
 - c. Certification by the individual or head of household seeking assistance stating that (s)he was living on the streets or in shelter;

* If the provider is using anything other than a Third Party Verification, the case file must include documentation of due diligence to obtain third party verification.
- 2) Imminent Risk of Homelessness
 - a. A court order resulting from an eviction action notifying the individual or family that they must leave within 14 days; or
 - b. For individual and families leaving a hotel or motel – evidence that they lack the financial resources to stay; or
 - c. A documented and verified written or oral statement that the individual or family will be literally homeless within 14 days; and
 - d. Certification that no subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - e. Self-certification or other written documentation that the individual lacks the financial resources and support necessary to obtain permanent housing.
- 3) Homeless Under Other Federal Statute
 - a. Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not meet any of the other categories but are homeless under

other federal statutes, have not had a lease and have moved 2 or more times in the past 60 days and are likely to remain unstable because of special needs or barriers.

- 4) Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence
 - a. For victim service providers:
 - i. An oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance which states: they are fleeing, they have no subsequent residence, and they lack resources. Statement must be documented by a self-certification or a certification by the intake worker.
 - b. For non-victim service providers:
 - i. Oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing. This statement is documented by a self-certification or by the caseworker. Where the safety of the individual or family is not jeopardized, the oral statement must be verified; and
 - ii. Certification by the individual or head of household that no subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - iii. Self-certification or other written documentation, that the individual or family lacks the financial resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

Prioritization and Targeting

The SB CoC prioritizes chronically homeless individuals and families. The SB CoC knows that homeless services are not one size fits all and should be offered to those households that truly need that level of support. In order to use our limited resources in the most effective means possible, the Santa Barbara County CoC is committed to prioritizing those in need through an established order of priority. Information is gathered to determine the “best fit” intervention to prioritize individuals and families for more intensive services. **The CoC has crafted the CES Policies and Procedures to be consistent with the recommended Order of Priority from HUD’s Notice CPD 16-11.**

1. Homeless Families with Children

The CoC seeks to mediate/prevent homelessness whenever possible, reduce the duration of the homeless episode for families through Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) and shelter/transitional housing focused on moving families from homelessness to permanent housing as soon as possible, and permanently house the most vulnerable families, as resources are available. Rapid Re-Housing projects serving homeless families with children will strive to place clients into permanent housing within 30 days of entering homelessness, and will not screen out families based on criteria that will not impact future housing success.

2. Those Most at Risk of Dying on the Street

CoC members will use the VI-SPDAT to identify those most at risk of dying on the street and prioritize placement and services for those highest in need.

If individuals are not chronically homeless, they will be targeted for the most appropriate Rapid Re-Housing, Transitional Housing, Permanent Housing, or income-based housing based on their needs and situation. Non-chronically homeless individuals who identify a substance abuse and/or mental health disorder and interest in receiving services for

these concerns will be referred to the appropriate residential treatment programs. Prior episodes of homelessness will be noted and considered during assessments.

Priority 1 - Chronically Homeless

Priority 1.1 – Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the Longest History of Homelessness and with the Most Severe Service Needs.

- i. A chronically homeless individual or head of household as defined in 24 CFR 578.3 as can be found in Definition of Key Terms Section of this document. The length of time in which households have been homeless should also be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority;
- ii. The chronically homeless family or individual has been identified as having severe service needs according to their VI-SPDAT.

Priority 1.2 – Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the Longest History of Homelessness.

A chronically homeless individual or head of household for which both of the following are true:

- i. The chronically homeless individual or head of household of a family who fits the chronically homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3. The length of time in which households have been homeless should also be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority; **and**
- ii. The chronically homeless family or individual has not been identified as having severe service needs according to their VI-SPDAT.

Priority 1.3 – Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the Most Severe Service Needs.

A chronically homeless individual or head of household for whom both of the following are true:

- i. The chronically homeless individual or head of household of a family who fits the chronically homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3; **and**
- ii. The chronically homeless family or individual has been identified as having severe service needs according to their VI-SPDAT.

Priority 1.4 – All Other Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families.

A chronically homeless individual or head of household for whom both of the following are true:

- i. The chronically homeless individual or head of household of a family who fits the chronically homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3; **and**
- ii. The chronically homeless family or individual has not been identified as having severe service needs according to their VI-SPDAT.

Priority 2 - Not Chronically Homeless

Priority 2.1 – Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability with Long Periods of Episodic Homelessness and Severe Service Needs.

An individual or family who has experienced fewer than four occasions where they have been living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter but where the cumulative time homeless is at least 12 months and has been identified as having severe service needs.

Priority 2.2 – Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability with Severe Service Needs.

An individual or family who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter and has been identified as having severe service needs. The length of time in which households have been homeless should also be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority, but there is not a minimum length of time required.

Priority 2.3 – Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability Coming from Places Not Meant for Human Habitation, Safe Haven, or Emergency Shelter Without Severe Service Needs.

An individual or family who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter where the individual or family has not been identified as having severe service needs. The length of time in which households have been homeless should be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority, but there is not a minimum length of time required.

Priority 2.4 – Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability Coming from Transitional Housing.

An individual or family who is currently residing in a transitional housing project, where prior to residing in the transitional housing had lived in a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, or safe haven. This priority also includes individuals and families residing in transitional housing who were fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and prior to residing in that transitional housing project even if they did not live in a place not meant for human habitation, an emergency shelter, or a safe haven prior to entry in the transitional housing.

VAWA / Emergency Transfer Plans

Per the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) 2013, no survivor will be evicted, or assistance denied or terminated by a CoC-funded program because he/she is a survivor of domestic violence. Nor shall any survivor be denied tenancy or occupancy rights due to adverse factors caused by being a survivor. The CoC has an Emergency Transfer Plan (as required by 24 CFR 5.2005 and 24 CFR 578.99(j)(6)) to protect victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking serviced by the CoC. This plan is being implemented through the Coordinated Entry System and all CoC- and ESG-funded agencies and related staff. Agencies will provide emergency transfers for domestic violence survivors receiving rental assistance or otherwise residing in CoC- or ESG-funded units. To exercise their rights under VAWA, a survivor need only to self-certify. Lease provisions will also include protections required under VAWA.

The emergency transfer plan allows persons who are already living in permanent housing and who need to move to a new location to escape from an abuser or stalker will receive the highest priority for housing in the Coordinated Entry System. Because these people are

already in permanent housing, transferring them to different housing will protect their safety and will not consume an additional unit of housing.

Maintaining Family Unity

CoC- and ESG-funded programs may not deny admission to any household on the basis that there is a child under the age of 18, deny admission to any member of the family, or otherwise separate family members, with the following exceptions:

- Projects that serve a limited demographic approved by HUD or HCD will not be required to expand their client base as a result of this policy.

Program participants may contact a CoC representative if they believe involuntary separation has occurred.

Unaccompanied and Parenting Youth

In compliance with orders of priority for ESG-funded and CoC-funded housing and services, and using an assessment protocol, the CoC will prioritize housing and services for unaccompanied youth under age 18 and 18 to 24 based on factors such as vulnerability to victimization, length of time homeless, severity of service needs, high risk of continued trauma or harm, unsheltered homelessness history, and lack of access to family and community support networks. Unaccompanied youth under age 18 may be referred to the local child welfare agency; youth over age 18 will be referred to local youth housing/services providers and also will have access to the full range of CoC/ESG resources for which they are eligible.

Additional Safeguards for Special Populations

Households with children will be prioritized for services based on need, as indicated by factors such as vulnerability to victimization, number of previous homeless episodes, unsheltered homeless, criminal history, and bad credit or rental history. Veterans determined to be ineligible for federal Department of Veterans Affairs services will be eligible for CoC- and ESG-funded resources as appropriate. Providers shall make every effort to ensure that their services are accessible and appropriate for individuals and families with the highest barriers to housing and who are likely to be homeless the longest.

Standards for Administering Assistance

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing is designed to reintegrate this highly vulnerable population into the community by addressing the basic needs for housing and providing ongoing support. The two key elements are permanent housing and supportive services.

Goals

Permanent Supportive Housing is community-based housing without a designated length of stay. Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry.

Eligibility

Permanent Supportive Housing is limited to HEARTH Act Categories 1 and 4 listed under Eligibility and Documentation Standards of this document.

Category 1 participants may enter from:

- A place not meant for human habitation: cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings;
- An emergency shelter or government/charity-funded motel (emergency voucher);
- A Safe Haven (as defined by HUD);
- One of the above places but temporarily – for no more than 90 days– in an institution;

Category 4 participants may enter from:

- The streets;
- Emergency Shelter;
- Transitional Housing; or
- An institution if their stay was no more than 90 days.

Length of Stay/Lease

- All CoC funded PSH programs must enter into a lease agreement with tenants that must be at least one year in duration and is renewable. The lease agreement must observe Fair Housing regulations;
- Participants must be reevaluated once per year;
- Participants in leasing programs may be charged an occupancy charge up to 30% of the monthly adjusted income; 10% of the family's gross income; or a portion of the family's welfare assistance.

Rent and Utility Calculation

Participants in PSH rental assistance programs are expected to pay the higher of 30% of their income (monthly, adjusted) or 10% of their gross monthly income toward rent (including utilities). If the participant has zero income, the participants are not required to pay rent, but their supportive services partner is expected to work with them to secure income (either earned or unearned) as soon as possible.

Under no circumstance can a tenant be charged an amount above the FMR established by HUD for ESG-only-funded programs or the Rent Reasonableness standard for CoC-only-funded programs. For programs receiving both ESG and CoC, the grantee should abide by the lesser of the 2 rents.

Rapid Re-Housing

Rapid Re-Housing is permanent housing. Rapid Re-Housing is an intervention designed to move homeless individuals and families into permanent housing as quickly as possible. Rapid Re-Housing programs focus on eliminating barriers to moving individuals and families quickly into permanent housing by providing housing location services, supportive services, and financial assistance for housing related expenses. This section provides a standard of service for local providers. However, please refer to the federal regulation that pertains to your specific funding for a comprehensive list of eligible services. A chart has been included at the end of this document, but should not be used as a definitive source.

Goals

After receipt of assistance, a household is able to remain stably housed.

Eligibility

Rapid Re-Housing is limited to HEARTH Act Categories 1, 2, and 4 for CoC-funded programs, and Categories 1 and 4 for ESG-funded programs listed under Eligibility and Documentation Standards of this document. Please refer to Eligibility and Documentation Standards for a list of acceptable proof of eligibility.

All households receiving prevention or Rapid Re-Housing assistance must be residents of Santa Barbara County (as defined by these Written Standards) at the time of application.

Participants must enter from:

- A place not meant for human habitation;
- An emergency shelter or government/charity-funded motel (emergency voucher);
- A Safe Haven (as defined by HUD);
- One of the above places but temporarily – for no more than 90 days– in an institution;
- Transitional Housing for homeless people who originally came from the streets or emergency shelter;
- Being evicted within fourteen days and no subsequent residence has been identified and lacks resources and support network to access housing;
- Fleeing domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, etc. and no other residence has been identified and lacks resources and support network to access housing.

Length of Assistance/Lease

In compliance with HUD requirements, the program participant in a CoC-funded project must be the tenant on a lease for a term of at least one year that is renewable and is terminable only for cause. The lease must be renewable for terms that are a minimum of one month long. ESG and CESH/HEAP projects should have a goal of a one-year lease, but the length of the lease should not be a barrier to obtaining permanent housing. HUD has determined that requiring a lease for a term of at least one year that is renewable and terminable only for cause assists program participants in obtaining stability in housing, even when the rental assistance is temporary.

CoC Funded Programs	Minimum 1 Year Lease
ESG Funded Programs	Goal of 1 Year Lease, but may be less if this is a barrier to housing
CESH/HEAP Funded Programs	Goal of 1 Year Lease, but may be less if this is a barrier to housing

The goal is for households to “graduate” from the program once they no longer meet the eligibility requirements of the program’s funding source and/or a Case Manager determines assistance can be terminated, whichever comes first. An assessment tool shall be used regularly to determine the need for ongoing assistance.

Funded programs may provide financial supportive services and/or short-term (minimum of 3 months) and/or medium-term (3-12 months) rental assistance as necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability. If the household does not attain any of these goals, assistance ends at 12 months, or earlier based on funding availability. Rare exceptions can be made to the 12 month limit, but assistance cannot exceed 24 months. The lease agreement must observe Fair Housing regulations.

Rental subsidies provided are based on client income. The total cost of the unit must be manageable so that the tenant could become self-sufficient and maintain their housing when assistance ends. This path to sustainability will begin with initial assistance of 100% of rent and will be stepped down over a period of 3 months.

Month 1	100% paid by RRH
Month 2	50% paid by RRH
Month 3	25% paid by RRH

If it is determined that a client needs further assistance after a re-evaluation using the assessment tool at 3 months, rental assistance may continue to decline in steps based upon a fixed timeline based on funding availability. The maximum amount of time assistance is provided should be no more than 12 months. Rare exceptions can be made to the 12-month limit, but assistance cannot exceed 24 months.

Please refer to the regulation specific to your funding source to determine the maximum level of rent permitted. For programs receiving a combination of HEAP, CESH, ESG, and CoC funds, the grantee should abide by the lesser of the of the rent requirement.

Please see Attachment A: ‘Rent Reasonableness and Fair Market Rent Under the Emergency Solutions Grant Program’ at the end of this document. Attachment B: ‘Rent Reasonableness Checklist and Certification’ should be used to determine if the rent being charged for a unit is considered reasonable under CoC and HUD standards.

Case Management and Supportive Services

Case Management must be provided as described in the Definition of Key Terms section of this document. Clients should meet with their case manager once per month for the duration of assistance plus an additional 6 months. The total length of case management should be no less than 9 months, with the goal of at least 1 year. Some organizations might have a screening, intake, assessment and eligibility determination process that precedes assignment to a case manager, while other organizations will have case managers performing the eligibility task. Regardless of the arrangement, the meeting with the case manager should be regarded not only as a program requirement, but also as an early opportunity to help a household improve its housing stability during and beyond the period of RRH assistance.

Some examples of eligible service may include:

- Arranging for utilities
- Making moving arrangements
- Assessment of housing barriers, needs, and preferences
- Development of an action plan for locating housing
- Outreach to and negotiation with owners
- Assessment of housing for compliance with requirements for habitability, lead-based paint, and rent reasonableness
- Mediation with property owners and landlords
- Credit counseling, accessing a free personal credit report, and resolving personal credit issues

Limitations

Rental assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is already receiving rental assistance, or living in a housing unit receiving rental assistance or operating assistance through other federal, State, or local resources. Assistance cannot exceed 24 months (CFR 578.51).

Transitional Housing

Supportive, yet temporary housing that is meant to bridge the gap between homelessness and permanent housing. Program participants sign a lease or occupancy agreement, the purpose of which is to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within 24 months.

Goals

Transitional Housing facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within 24 months of entering Transitional Housing.

Eligibility

Transitional Housing is limited to HEARTH Act Categories 1, 2, and 4 listed under Eligibility and Documentation Standards of this document.

Participants must enter from:

- A place not meant for human habitation;
- An emergency shelter or government/charity-funded motel (emergency voucher);
- A Safe Haven (as defined by HUD);
- One of the above places but temporarily – for no more than 90 days– in an institution;
- Transitional Housing for homeless people and originally came from the streets or emergency shelter;
- Transitional Housing for homeless people, but did not originally come from the streets or emergency shelter;
- Being evicted within fourteen days and no subsequent residence has been identified and lacks resources and support network to access housing;
- Fleeing domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, etc. and no other residence has been identified and lacks resources and support network to access housing.
 - In the 2015 NOFA, HUD clarified that persons fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking, including sex trafficking, qualify under this category.

Length of Stay

All CoC funded Transitional Housing programs must enter into a lease or occupancy agreement with tenants that must be at least one month in duration and that ends in 24 months. The lease agreement must observe Fair Housing regulations.

Allowable charges

Participants in Transitional Housing rental assistance programs are expected to pay the higher of 30% of their income (monthly, adjusted) or 10% of monthly gross income toward rent (including utilities). If the participant has zero income, the participants are not required to pay rent, but their supportive services partner is expected to work with them to secure income (either earned or unearned) as soon as possible. Under no circumstance can a tenant be charged an amount above the FMR established by HUD for ESG only funded programs or a Rent Reasonableness standard for CoC only funded programs. For programs receiving both ESG and CoC, the grantee should abide by the lesser of the 2 rents.

Rents collected from residents of Transitional Housing may be reserved in whole or part to assist the residents from they are collected to move to Permanent Housing.

Participants in leasing programs may be charged an occupancy charge up to 30 percent of the monthly adjusted income; 10% of the family's gross income; or the portion of the family's welfare assistance.

Homeless Prevention

Activities or programs designed to prevent the incidence of homelessness, including, but not limited to:

- Short-term subsidies to alleviate rent and utility arrears;
- Mediation programs for landlord-tenant disputes;
- Legal services programs that enable representation of low-income tenants in eviction proceedings;
- Other innovative programs and activities designed to prevent the incidence of homelessness.

Goals

Homelessness Prevention programs will use supportive services and direct financial assistance to prevent individuals or families from becoming homeless in a shelter or an unsheltered situation. Funding may also be used to help such individuals or families regain stability in their current housing or other permanent housing.

Eligibility

Homeless Prevention assistance will be targeted to households who are at risk of losing their present housing and becoming homeless. The household must receive at least an initial consultation and will be evaluated using the TBD assessment with a case manager or other authorized representative who can determine eligibility and the appropriate type of assistance. Clients must meet one of the following definitions of homelessness:

- At imminent risk of homelessness (see Attachment C);
- Homeless under federal status;
- Fleeing/attempting to flee domestic or dating violence.

Please refer to Eligibility and Documentation Standards for a list of acceptable proof of eligibility.

Housing Status

Case files must document the current housing status at the time of the application. Housing status should be verified through third party verification whenever possible. Self-certification of housing status will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Residency

All households receiving prevention or Rapid Re-Housing assistance must be residents of Santa Barbara County (as defined by these Written Standards) at the time of application.

Types of Assistance

Financial services typically include short- to medium-term rent/utility assistance, deposit assistance, and/or relocation assistance. Eligible activities for financial assistance will depend on the project's funding source(s).

Financial Assistance	Services
Moving Costs	Housing Search and Placement
Rental Application Fees	Housing Stability Case Management meeting of once per month for the duration of assistance and a minimum of 3 months <i>after</i> financial assistance has ended
First/Last Months' Rent	Mediation/Dispute Resolution
Utility Payments/Arrears	Credit Repair
Security Deposits – No more than 2 Mos. Rent	Legal Services
Utility Deposits	Referrals to Other Social or Government Services

Type of Rental Assistance	Length of Assistance
Short Term Rental Assistance	Minimum of 3 Months
Medium Term Rental Assistance	4-24 Months
Payment of Rental Arrears, Including Late Fees	One Time Payment of Up to 6 months in Arrears

Lack of Resources and/or Support Networks

In order to receive rental financial assistance, applicants must also demonstrate the following:

- No appropriate subsequent housing options have been identified;
- The household lacks the financial resources to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing; and
- The household lacks support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing.

Once it is determined that the household meets the basic eligibility guidelines noted above, the household will be assessed for the appropriate form(s), level, and duration of financial assistance. The results of this assessment should be formalized in an assistance plan that is signed by both the applicant and the case manager. The goal is to provide the least amount of assistance possible to help stabilize the individual or family and prevent them from becoming homeless. The assistance may be variable on a month-to-month basis, but must be set out in the ISP developed by the client and the case manager.

Limitations of Assistance

While there are many people who are housed and have a great need for rental assistance, not everyone will become homeless without assistance. A TBD assessment should be used to assess the household's level of crisis and prioritize those who are at greatest risk of becoming homeless.

Homeless Prevention and rental assistance is intended to stabilize individuals and families who have recently endured difficult financial circumstances that have led them into homelessness or who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless. For Homeless Prevention assistance, the rental assistance would normally be provided for a single month and could only be provided for a maximum of 3 months.

Rental assistance is not a substitute for Section 8 rental assistance or a permanent rental subsidy, but a tool to help stabilize families or individuals who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless and lack any other resources to help them stabilize their housing situation.

Emergency Shelter

Using a Housing First approach, Emergency Shelter will be provided to homeless individuals and families including individual adults, families with children, unaccompanied youth, and those fleeing from domestic violence.

Goals

To provide a safe, clean, and warm place to sleep for families and individuals who would otherwise have to find nighttime shelter in a place not meant for human habitation.

Eligibility

Emergency Shelter is limited to HEARTH Act categories 1, 2, 3, and 4 listed under Eligibility and Documentation Standards of this document.

Case managers or other shelter staff will use the VI-SPDAT to determine eligibility and learn the specific issues or events that led to the loss of housing. The assessment will provide staff with the data and direction to begin the process of determining the appropriate type of intervention and length of assistance.

Prioritization/Referral

Per the CoC's Coordinated Policies and Procedures, access to emergency services, such as entry to emergency shelter, shall not be prioritized based on severity of service need or vulnerability.

The CoC's Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures establish rules for admission, diversion, referral, and discharge by emergency shelters assisted under ESG. They also include safeguards to meet the safety and shelter needs of special populations, e.g., victims of

domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and individuals and families who have the highest barriers to housing and are likely to be homeless the longest.

Also note the following:

- Emergency Shelters cannot discriminate per HUD regulations;
- There are no requirements related to identification, income, or employment;
- Transgender placement is based on self-identification of gender.

Length of Stay

The maximum length of stay for an individual/family at an emergency shelter is 90 days.

Limitations/Supportive Service

Emergency Shelters must abide by Housing First policies. The Emergency Shelter must prioritize rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and not have service participation requirements or preconditions for entry - such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold.

Diversion/Rapid Resolution/Problem Solving

Diversion methods are to be used for individuals or families who do not require extensive financial assistance or case management to maintain their current housing or secure another secure housing unit. Considered a 'light touch' approach, diversion typically costs less and takes less time to get families successfully housed. This strategy has been formerly described as a fractional housing resource by the CoC. Family reunification is often a first line strategy when safe.

A term used by the Veterans' Administration that replaced Diversion for their programs. Rapid Resolution includes efforts to return participants to a previous residence, seeks to avoid shelter entry or resolve homelessness within days of entry into the homeless system, eliminate and reduce trauma, supports family reunification, and mediates causes of housing loss.

A problem solving conversation includes exploring any potential resources a household may have to stay where they are currently residing or move to another housing opportunity. This is most often used during a Diversion or Rapid Resolution conversation.

Goals

The goal of diversion is to prevent a household's entry into a shelter or the streets by diverting them to other safe, appropriate options or resources provided by the household's social support network and/or community resources.

Eligibility

The diversion process takes place during an individual or family's initial contact with a provider. An exploratory conversation should take place between the individual or family and a provider staff member to determine if their current housing issue could be solved using this approach. Diversion assistance conversations should be had with all households seeking homeless service assistance.

Samples of Assistance

- Flexible funding to assist with items such as car repairs, childcare, bus tickets, etc.
- Security deposit or first month's rental assistance;
- Relocation assistance;
 - Clients may be provided with funds to move outside of Santa Barbara County on a case-by- case basis.
 - The CoC caps relocation assistance outside of Santa Barbara County at 10% of the total number of persons served/year.
- Landlord/Tenant mediation;
- Referral to mainstream resources;
- Legal Services;
- Other creative methods deemed appropriate and effective for keeping a particular individual or family housed.

Street Outreach

Goals

Street Outreach will provide essential services necessary to reach out to and engage unsheltered homeless people; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent, non-facility-based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility.

Eligibility

Street Outreach is limited to HEARTH Act category 1 listed under Eligibility and Documentation Standards of this document.

Street Outreach will target individuals or families that are literally homeless, meaning those with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed or ordinarily used for regular sleeping accommodation for human beings including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.

Types of Assistance

Engagement

Unsheltered persons are engaged for the purpose of providing immediate support, intervention, and connections with homeless assistance programs and/or mainstream social services and housing programs. Eligible engagement activities may include:

- HMIS Data collection and document readiness for entry for CES;
- Diversion, Problem Solving Conversation, and Rapid Resolution;
- Making an initial assessment of needs and eligibility (VI-SPDAT);
- Addressing urgent physical needs, such as providing meals, blankets, clothes or toiletries;
- Actively connecting and providing information and referrals to programs targeted to homeless people and mainstream social services and housing programs, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, community-based services, permanent supportive housing, and rapid re-housing programs.

Case Management

Case management includes assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the program participant.

- Conducting the initial VI-SPDAT;
- Verifying and documenting program eligibility;
- Developing an ISP;
- Developing, securing and coordinating services;
- Obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits;
- Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress;
- Providing information and referrals to other providers;
- Developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability.

Emergency Health Services

Emergency health services include direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions and are provided by licensed medical professionals operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered homeless people are living. ESG funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the area.

Eligible treatment consists of:

- Assessing a program participant's physical and mental health problems and developing a treatment plan;
- Assisting program participants to understand their physical and mental health needs;
- Providing directly or assisting program participants to obtain appropriate emergency physical medical treatment or connection with Behavioral Wellness or similar agency;
- Providing medication and follow-up services.

Transportation

Transportation includes travel by outreach workers, social workers, medical professionals, or other service providers are eligible, provided that this travel takes place during the provision of eligible Street Outreach activities. The costs of transporting unsheltered people to emergency shelters or other services are also eligible.

Eligible transportation costs include:

- The cost of a program participant's travel on public transportation;
- If service workers use their own vehicles, mileage allowance for service workers to visit program participants;
- The cost of purchasing or leasing a vehicle for the recipient or subrecipient which staff transports program participants and/or staff serving program participants, and the cost of gas, insurance, taxes, and maintenance for the vehicle;
- The travel costs of recipient or subrecipient staff to accompany or assist program participants to use public transportation;

Record Keeping

SB CoC members will maintain evidence of implementing the prioritization requirements in these Written Standards. Evidence of following these orders of priority may be demonstrated by:

Evidence of Severe Service Needs and a Standardized Assessment Tool

Evidence of severe service needs should be shown using the result of the VI-SPDAT. The documentation should include any information pertinent to how the determination was made, such as notes associated with case-conferencing decisions.

Evidence of Rent Reasonableness When Applicable

Please refer to Attachments A and B for rent reasonableness definition and assessment. This assessment should be maintained as part of the client file.

Evidence that the Member is Following the CoC's Written Standards for Prioritizing Assistance

In accordance with the CoC's adoption of Written Standards for prioritizing assistance, members shall document that the priorities have been incorporated into their intake procedures and document that efforts were made to connect individuals or families to appropriate services. This could be in the form of a written intake process, standardized management plan, and/or uniform data management procedures. Case management efforts must also be documented.

Evidence that there are no Households Meeting Higher Order of Priority within the CoC Region

- When non-chronically homeless households are served, the CoC member must document how it was determined that there were no chronically homeless households identified for assistance within the CoC Region. This documentation shall include evidence of the outreach efforts that had been undertaken to locate eligible chronically homeless households within the defined region. Where chronically homeless households have been identified, but have not yet accepted assistance, the documentation shall specify the number of persons that are chronically homeless that meet this condition and the attempts that have been made to engage the individual or family. Where a CoC is using a single prioritized list, the CoC member may refer to that list as evidence.
- When non-dedicated and non-prioritized funds are used to serve an eligible individual or family that meets a lower order of priority, the CoC member must document how the determination was made that there were no eligible individuals or families within the CoC Region that met a higher priority. Where a CoC is using a single prioritized list, the CoC member may refer to that list as evidence that there were no households identified within the CoC's geographic area that meet a higher order of priority.

Written Process for Termination of Assistance

All programs that offer assistance to individuals or families funded by the Continuum of Care must provide a written explanation of an enrolled participant's rights and responsibilities that includes an explanation of program requirements and the consequences and appeal rights should a violation occur. The violation notification must be provided in writing to the participant with an accompanying right to an independent hearing (where the review officer is not directly involved in the program administration) to review the program's decision to terminate assistance to the recipient. Written notification of the outcome of the hearing/final decision will be provided within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the hearing.

These charts are meant for quick reference only. Please consult the regulations specific to your funding source for exact requirements and restrictions.

Summary of Eligible RRH Supportive Services		
	ESG and Other County Administered Funds	COC
Housing Services & Related	<p>Assist participants in locating, obtaining, and retaining suitable permanent housing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing search • Tenant counseling • Understanding leases • Arranging for utilities • Making moving arrangements • Assessment of housing barriers, needs, and preferences • Development of an action plan for locating housing • Outreach to and negotiation with owners • Assessment of housing for compliance with ESG requirements for habitability, lead-based paint, and rent reasonableness • Assistance with submitting rental applications 	<p>Assist participants in locating, obtaining, and retaining suitable housing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing search • Tenant counseling • Understanding leases • Arranging for utilities • Making moving arrangements • Mediation with property owners and landlords • Credit counseling, accessing a free personal credit report, and resolving personal credit issues • Payment of rental application fees
Case Management	<p>Assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to facilitate housing stability for a program participant who resides in permanent housing or to assist a program participant in overcoming immediate barriers to obtaining housing by, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting the initial evaluation, including verifying and documenting eligibility • Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system • Counseling • Developing, securing, and coordinating services • Obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits • Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress • Providing information and referrals to other providers • Developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability • Conducting re-evaluations 	<p>Assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of program participant(s), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing ongoing risk assessment and safety planning with victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking • Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system • Counseling • Developing, securing, and coordinating services • Obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits • Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress • Providing information and referrals to other providers • Developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability • Conducting required annual assessment of service needs.

Summary of Eligible RRH Supportive Services		
	ESG and Other County Administered Funds	COC
Legal Services	<p>Costs of resolving a legal problem that prohibits a program participant from obtaining or retaining permanent housing.</p> <p>Legal services or activities include client intake, preparation of cases for trial, provision of legal advice, representation at hearings, and counseling. Filing fees and other necessary court costs are also eligible. Legal services are subject to the following provisions:</p> <p>(a) <u>Eligible Billing Arrangements</u>. ESG funds may be used only for legal advice from and representation by licensed attorneys and by person(s) under the supervision of licensed attorneys.</p> <p>Costs may be based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hourly fees • Fees based on the actual service performed (i.e., fee for service) but only if the cost would be less than the cost of hourly fees <p>(b) <u>Ineligible Billing Arrangements</u>. Funds must not be used for legal advice and representation purchased through retainer fee arrangements or contingency fee arrangements.</p> <p>(c) <u>Eligible Subject Matters</u>. Landlord/tenant matters; child support; guardianship; paternity; emancipation; legal separation; orders of protection and other civil remedies for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; appeal of veterans and public benefit claim denials; resolution of outstanding criminal warrants.</p> <p>(d) <u>Ineligible Subject Matter</u>. Legal services related to immigration and citizenship matters or related to mortgages.</p>	<p>Costs of legal advice and representation in matters that interfere with the homeless individual's or family's ability to obtain and retain housing.</p> <p>Legal services or activities include receiving and preparing cases for trial, provision of legal advice, representation at hearings, and counseling. Filing fees and other necessary court costs are also eligible. Legal services are subject to the following provisions:</p> <p>(a) <u>Eligible Billing Arrangements</u>. CoC funds may be used for legal advice from and representation by licensed attorneys and by person(s) under the supervision of licensed attorneys.</p> <p>Costs may be based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hourly fees • Fees based on the actual service performed (i.e., fee for service) but only if the cost would be less than the cost of hourly fees <p>(b) <u>Ineligible Billing Arrangements</u>. Funds must not be used for legal advice and representation purchased through retainer fee arrangements or contingency fee arrangements.</p> <p>(c) <u>Eligible Subject Matters</u>. Landlord tenant disputes; child support; guardianship; paternity; emancipation; legal separation; orders of protection and other civil remedies for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; appeal of veterans and public benefit claim denials; resolution of outstanding criminal warrants.</p> <p>(d) <u>Ineligible Subject Matter</u>. Legal services related to immigration and citizenship matters or related to mortgages and homeownership.</p>

Moving	Costs such as truck rental or hiring a moving company, including payment of temporary storage fees for up to 3 months	Reasonable one-time moving costs, including truck rental and hiring a moving company
Utility	Standard utility deposit that the utility company requires of all customers	Payment of utility deposit, which constitutes a one-time fee paid to utility companies

Summary of Eligible RRH Supportive Services		
	ESG and Other County Administered Funds	COC
Mediation	Mediation between the program participant and the owner or person(s) with whom the participant is living	Mediation with property owners and landlords on behalf of eligible program participants
Credit Repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit counseling • Accessing a free personal credit report • Resolving personal credit problems • Other services needed to assist with critical skills related to household budgeting and money management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit counseling • Accessing a free personal credit report • Resolving personal credit issues
Additional Supportive Services Eligible under CoC ONLY		
Child Care		
The costs of establishing and operating child care and providing child care vouchers for children from families experiencing homelessness		
Education Services		
The costs of improving knowledge and basic educational skills		
Employment Assistance and Job Training		
The costs of establishing and operating employment assistance and job training programs		
Food		
The cost of providing program participants with meals or groceries		
Life Skills Training		
The costs of teaching critical life management skills that may never have been learned or have been lost during the course of physical or mental illness, domestic violence, substance abuse, and homelessness but that are necessary to function independently in the community		
Mental Health Services		
The direct outpatient treatment of mental health conditions by licensed professionals		
Outpatient Health Services		
The direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions by licensed medical professionals		
Outreach Services		
Activities to engage persons for the purpose of providing immediate support and intervention and for identifying potential program participants		

<p>Substance Abuse Treatment Services</p> <p>The costs of program participant intake and assessment, outpatient treatment, group and individual counseling, and drug testing</p>
<p>Transportation</p> <p>Costs of program participant's travel on public transportation or in a vehicle provided by the recipient or subrecipient to and from medical care, employment, child care, or other eligible services</p>

Eligible Expenses and Assistance Calculation for Rapid Re-Housing

Eligible Costs Summary		
	ESG and Other County Administered Funds	CoC
Rental Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term rental assistance (up to 3 months) • Medium-term rental assistance (4 to 24 months) • Rental arrears (one-time payment of up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term rental assistance (up to 3 months) • Medium-term rental assistance (4 to 24 months)
Eligible	<p>Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services</p> <p>Financial assistance costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental application fees • Security deposits (up to 2 months) • Last month's rent • Utility deposits and payments (up to 24 months, including up to 6 months for payments in arrears) • Moving costs <p>Service costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing search and placement • Housing stability case management • Mediation • Legal services • Credit repair 	<p>Financial assistance (eligible under rental assistance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security deposits (up to 2 months) • First and last month's rent • Property damage <p>Supportive services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management • Child care • Education services • Employment assistance and job training • Food • Housing search and counseling services, including mediation, credit repair, and payment of rental application fee • Legal services • Life skills training • Mental health services • Moving costs • Outpatient health services • Outreach services • Substance abuse treatment services • Transportation • Utility deposits

