

# Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

## Street Outreach & Emergency Shelters



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# Preliminaries

- Presenter: Susan Pourciau, Florida Housing Coalition, [pourciau@flhousing.org](mailto:pourciau@flhousing.org)
- Sponsor: State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Type your questions and comments in the control panel
- Download the handouts during the webinar

# Agenda

1. Super brief overview of ESG as a whole
2. Focus: Overview of costs that can be funded as Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter with ESG
3. Special shelter topic: Habitability standards for shelters
4. Special shelter topic: Equal Access Rule and Prohibition Against Involuntary Family Separation for shelters
5. FAQs and your questions

But first, two  
questions . . .

let us know  
who you are



# Super brief overview of ESG

# How ESG funding comes to local communities

ESG is federal funding from HUD



The State of Florida (DCF) is an ESG funding recipient

→ Nonprofits apply through local Homeless CoC Lead Agency for State ESG funding

Some local governments\* are ESG funding recipients

→ Nonprofits apply through local government's process

\*To find out which jurisdictions have ESG funding, and how much,

→ visit <https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/>

# ESG program components



- Street outreach\*
- Emergency shelter\*
- Homelessness prevention
- Rapid rehousing
- HMIS
- Admin

\* Our focus today

# Just a sampling of the overarching requirements of ESG funding

- 100% match requirement for recipients
  - May be cash or in-kind
  - Must be for an ESG eligible cost/activity
- Use HMIS and Coordinated Entry
- Local gov't recipients must consult with CoC
- Must have local written standards for ESG
- Limitation on recipients' ESG funding for shelter and outreach combined – the greater of:
  - 60% of the total ESG recipient grant
  - Amount in FY2010 grant for homeless assistance



# ESG Pro Tip



Terminating a person from ESG assistance is serious business.

Per the statute:

You must ensure that assistance is terminated

“**only in the most severe cases**” and

“all extenuating circumstances” are considered

# Authoritative sources

- Emergency Solutions Grant 24 CFR 576  
To access current federal statutes on ESG,  
click on this [link](#)
- See also lots of materials on HUD Exchange  
at this [link](#)



# Focus Street Outreach



# Overview: Street outreach

- Serves: **unsheltered** and homeless
- Eligible activities
  - Engagement
  - Case management
  - Emergency physical health services
  - Emergency mental health services
  - Transportation for staff and program participants
  - All of the above for “special subpopulations” too (youth, DV, HIV)



# Outreach Pro Tip



Remember . . . Serving *sheltered* households is not an eligible cost under the Street Outreach component



You must document outreach encounters to be able to show monitors that you are serving **unsheltered**, and not sheltered, households

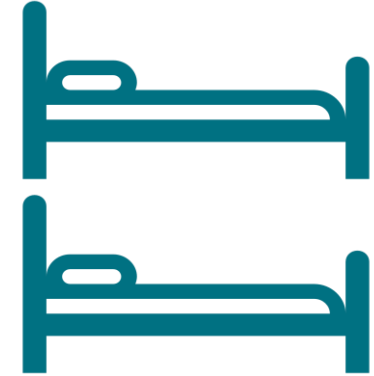
# Outreach Pro Tip



Even if you only use funding for one particular activity like outreach worker salary for engagement . . .



track the costs of the others (e.g., mileage) so you can account for that as part of your match requirement



# Focus Emergency Shelter

# Overview: Emergency shelter

- Serves: homeless and in emergency shelters\*
- Eligible cost categories
  - Essential services
  - Renovation
  - Shelter operations



\* May include day centers

\* May NOT require occupancy agreement or lease



# Shelter essential services: eligible costs (page 1)



- Case management
- Child care – center must be licensed
- Education services – when necessary to obtain or maintain housing
- Employment assistance and job training
- Outpatient health services – licensed pros and not otherwise available
- Legal services – licensed pro and related to obtaining or retaining housing and not otherwise available

# Shelter essential services: eligible costs (page 2)



- Life skills training
- Mental health services – licensed pros, not otherwise available
- Substance abuse treatment – licensed pros, not otherwise available
- Transportation – client bus passes, lease vehicle or staff mileage
- All of the above for “special subpopulations” too

# Shelter renovation: eligible costs and minimum use period

- Costs covered: Labor, materials, etc. to renovate an emergency shelter



Category	Valuation Trigger	Minimum Use Rqmt
Major rehab of existing shelter	If rehab costs > 75% of value of building <b>before</b> rehab	10 years
Conversion to create a shelter by rehabbing a building	If conversion costs > 75% of value of building <b>after</b> conversion	10 years
Other Renovation	Everything else	3 years

# Shelter renovation Pro Tip



If you use CDBG funding for shelter renovation,  
that triggers Davis-Bacon Act requirements



But using ESG funding for renovation does not!

# Shelter operations: eligible costs

- Maintenance
- Insurance
- Utilities
- Food
- Furnishings
- Supplies
- Safety and security
- And much more
- Also, motel vouchers IF no appropriate shelter is available for the household



Take a minute to download handouts  
while I check for questions



# Special Shelter Topic:

# Shelter Habitability Standards



# The application of habitability standards



Activity	On-site inspection timing	How long
Shelter renovation, rehab, conversion	Upon completion of renovation activities, with periodic updates	Throughout minimum use requirement
Shelter operations	Prior to providing ESG funding for operations	Throughout grant period for ESG grant



# Habitability standards



- Download attached standards
- Download attached checklist

# Shelter inspections Pro Tip



Habitability standards do not include lead-based paint inspection requirements



Remember to complete the required lead-based paint documentation *in addition to* habitability standards checklist

# Special Shelter Topic:

## Equal Access Rule & Prohibition Against Family Separation



# Basics and resources

- All programs receiving ESG funding must be compliant with HUD's Equal Access Rule (EAR) and Prohibition Against Family Separation and Discrimination



- No exceptions

- To view our previous webinar on this issue, click on this [link](#) and look for the Nov 19, 2016 materials

# Briefest explanation of EAR

HUD's Equal Access Rule requires equal access to HUD programs – including emergency shelters funded by ESG – without regard to a person's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.



# Briefest explanation of rule against family separation and discrimination

HUD funded programs – including family emergency shelters – cannot discriminate against anyone presenting as a family based on:

- the composition of the family
- the ages of family members
- disability status
- marital status
- actual/perceived sexual orientation
- actual/perceived gender identity



# EAR and family discrimination

## Pro Tip



These requirements are very tough  
for a lot of shelters



Send me an email if you want assistance  
determining whether a shelter is in compliance  
and, if not, how to become compliant

# Thanks!

Remember to register for our free full-day workshop:

**“Getting Rapid Rehousing Right”**

- June 6 Jacksonville
- June 15 Ft. Lauderdale
- June 20 Tampa

Find the registration link [here!](#)

And please respond to the incredibly short survey that follows this webinar.