

Substantial Amendment
**Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community
Development**

2011 ACTION PLAN AND 2012 ACTION PLAN

Emergency Solution Grant Program

APRIL 2012



Submitted by:

Akron, Ohio

Department of Planning and Urban Development

Donald L. Plusquellic, Mayor

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF AKRON, OHIO
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE
2011 AND 2012 CONSOLIDATED PLANS FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Date: April 9, 2012

The City of Akron, Ohio has prepared a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 Action Plan and the 2012 Action Plan, which includes the budget for the 2011 and 2012 federal Community Development Block Grant, the HOME Partnership Program and the Emergency Solutions Block Grant Program.

The City of Akron is soliciting comments on the substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 Action Plan and the 2012 Action Plan. There will be a 30-day review period from the date of this notice. Please submit your comments in writing to Ms. Helen Tomic, Department of Planning and Urban Development (see address below). A public hearing before Akron City Council will be held on April 23, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Third Floor Municipal Building, 166 South High Street, Akron, Ohio.

The City of Akron has been allocated \$168,650 in 2011 and \$239,330 in 2012 ESGP funding for financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 Action Plan and the 2012 Action Plan are due to HUD by May 15, 2012.

Draft copies of the 2011 and 2012 substantial amendments are available in Suite 201, 161 South High Street, Akron, Ohio, 44308. For additional information please call the Department of Planning and Urban Development at 330-375-2090.

Donald L. Plusquellic, Mayor
City of Akron, Ohio



**Substantial Amendment
Consolidated Plan
2011 Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP)
and
2012 Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP)**

Grantee Name	City of Akron
Name of Entity or Department Administering Funds	Department of Planning and Urban Development
ESGP Contact Person (person to answer questions about this amendment and ESGP)	Helen Tomic
Title	Comprehensive Planning Manager
Address Line 1	161 S. High St Room 201
Address Line 2	
City, State, Zip Code	Akron, OH 44308
Telephone	330-375-2090
Fax	330-375-2387
Email Address	Tomiche@ci.akron.oh.us
Authorized Official (if different from Contact Person)	John O. Moore
Title	Director
Address Line 1	166 S. High St Room 400
Address Line 2	
City, State, Zip Code	Akron, OH 44308
Telephone	330-375-2370
Fax	330-375-2387
Email Address	

Amount Grantee is Eligible to Receive*	\$ 168,650 (2011) \$ 239,330 (2012)
Amount Grantee is Requesting	\$ 168,650 (2011) \$ 239,330 (2012)

Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 AND 2012 Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP)

Required Contents of Substantial Amendments

1. SF-424

2. Summary of Consultation Process

The City of Akron has established a strong working relationship with the Continuum of Care, area homeless and supportive service providers and encourages providers to expand services in an effort to reach all homeless populations. Over 100 individuals, representing over 40 organizations, are involved in the Continuum of Care process. Representatives of homeless housing providers, supportive service agencies and funding organizations are part of various councils, networks and committees in the community. These committees and networks meet on a regular basis to discuss various homeless issues, policies, and other homeless related issues.

The City of Akron consulted and collaborated with Continuum of Care Community Committee in developing the policies and procedures for the implantation of the new ESGP program rules. The City of Akron held several meetings with the Continuum of Care to establish basic written standards for the provisions of the ESGP assistance. Additional meetings will be held to create a comprehensive policy and procedure manual for the ESGP program and the Continuum of Care as a whole. In August, 2006, Info Line, Inc and the Continuum of Care established a HMIS policy and procedures manual. The HMIS Advisory Committee meets bi-monthly to review the document and make appropriate changes. Last full review was completed in November of 2010 and the next full review will be completed upon release of the CoC/HMIS regulations within the HEARTH Act.

3. Summary of Citizen Participation Process

As consistent with the City of Akron Citizen Participation Plan, any substantial amendment to an Action Plan that is more than ten percent (10%) of the City's allocation must be presented and approved by Akron City Council. The City of Akron solicited comments from various segments of the community in the preparation of the Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP) and 2012 Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP). The City conducted meetings with homeless providers, social service agencies, and the Akron / Summit County Continuum of Care.

The City of Akron Department of Development and Urban Planning placed an advertisement soliciting public comments in the Akron Beacon Journal

Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 AND 2012 Action Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP)

April 9, 2012 and The Reporter, the largest minority weekly newspaper. Copies of the Consolidated Plan ESGP amendments were made available for public review and comment for 30 days. Copies of these documents were made available through the City office and the Akron Summit County Public Library. Copies were provided to community homeless providers and the Continuum of Care. The document was placed on the City of Akron website on April 9, 2012.

A summary of the proposed plan was presented at a public hearing of the City of Akron Planning Commission on April 13, 2012. The Planning Department presented the substantial amendments to the Planning Committee of the Akron City Council on April 23, 2012 and approved on by City Council on April 28, 2012.

The City of Akron Department of Planning and Urban Development placed an advertisement in the Akron Beacon Journal April 9, 2012 and The Reporter, the largest minority weekly newspaper, outlining the Amendment to the 2008 Consolidated Plan.

Comments:

4. Match

The City of Akron has allocated \$72,900 in State of Ohio Housing Stability Program funds and \$100,000 of HOME funds to be used for "Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing" thru the implementation of the Emergency Solutions Grant Program.

5. Proposed Activities and Overall Budget

a. Proposed Activities

The City of Akron will not re-program Phase I ESGP Fiscal Year 2011 funds. ESGP Phase II funds will be allocated to Central Intake, Rapid Re-Housing, Homeless Prevention and Administration activities. Please refer to Table 3C - Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects.

b. Discussion of Funding Priorities

See Table 3C

c. Detailed Budget

See 2011 and 2012 Detailed Budget Table

Table 3C
Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects

Jurisdiction's Name City of Akron

Priority Need

1

Project Title

ESGP –Rapid Re-Housing

Description

Provide rapid re-housing rental assistance, relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families that are literally homeless. Expect to assist 47 families or 113 persons in family.

Objective category: ☒ Suitable Living Environment ☐ Decent Housing ☐ Economic Opportunity
Outcome category: ☒ Availability/Accessibility ☐ Affordability ☐ Sustainability

Location/Target Area

City of Akron

Street Address:

City, State, Zipcode:

Objective Number	Project ID
HUD Matrix Code	CDBG Citation
Type of Recipient	CDBG National Objective
Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy) July 1, 2012	Completion Date (mm/dd/yyyy) June 30, 2013
Performance Indicator # households assisted	Annual Units 47
Local ID	Units Upon Completion

Funding Sources:

CDBG

ESG

HOME

HOPWA

Total Formula

Prior Year Funds

Assisted Housing

PHA

Other Funding

Total

The primary purpose of the project is to help: ☒ the Homeless ☐ Persons with HIV/AIDS ☐ Persons with Disabilities ☐ Public Housing Needs

Table 3C
Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects

Jurisdiction's Name City of Akron

Priority Need

2

Project Title

ESGP – Homeless Prevention

Description

Provide homeless prevention rental assistance, relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families that are about to become homeless. Expect to assist 32 families or 80 persons in family.

Objective category: ☒ Suitable Living Environment ☐ Decent Housing ☐ Economic Opportunity
Outcome category: ☒ Availability/Accessibility ☐ Affordability ☐ Sustainability

Location/Target Area

City of Akron

Street Address:

City, State, Zipcode:

Objective Number	Project ID
HUD Matrix Code	CDBG Citation
Type of Recipient	CDBG National Objective
Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy) July 1, 2012	Completion Date (mm/dd/yyyy) June 30, 2013
Performance Indicator # households assisted	Annual Units 32
Local ID	Units Upon Completion

Funding Sources:

CDBG

ESG

HOME

HOPWA

Total Formula

Prior Year Funds

Assisted Housing

PHA

Other Funding

Total

The primary purpose of the project is to help: ☒ the Homeless ☐ Persons with HIV/AIDS ☐ Persons with Disabilities ☐ Public Housing Needs

Table 3C
Consolidated Plan Listing of Projects

Jurisdiction's Name City of Akron

Priority Need

3

Project Title

ESGP – Administration

Description

Provide administrative activities for the implementation of the Emergency Solutions Grant Program.

Objective category: ☐ Suitable Living Environment ☐ Decent Housing ☐ Economic Opportunity
Outcome category: ☐ Availability/Accessibility ☐ Affordability ☐ Sustainability

Location/Target Area

City of Akron

Street Address:

City, State, Zipcode:

Objective Number	Project ID
HUD Matrix Code	CDBG Citation
Type of Recipient	CDBG National Objective
Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy) July 1, 2012	Completion Date (mm/dd/yyyy) June 30, 2013
Performance Indicator	Annual Units
Local ID	Units Upon Completion

Funding Sources:

CDBG
ESG
HOME
HOPWA
Total Formula
Prior Year Funds
Assisted Housing
PHA
Other Funding
Total

The primary purpose of the project is to help: ☒ the Homeless ☐ Persons with HIV/AIDS ☐ Persons with Disabilities ☐ Public Housing Needs

FY 2011 Detailed Budget Table					
First Allocation	\$299,823.00	<u>FY 2011</u> <u>Emergency Shelter Grants/Emergency Solutions Grants</u> <u>Program Allocations</u>			
Second Allocation	\$168,650.00				
Grant Amount					
Total Administration	\$0.00				
		First Allocation		Second Allocation	Total Fiscal Year 2011
	Eligible Activities	Activity Amount	Reprogrammed Amount	Activity Amount	Activity Amount
Emergency Shelter Grants Program	Homeless Assistance	\$276,451.00	\$0.00		\$276,451.00
	Rehab/Conversion	\$38,415.00			\$38,415.00
	Operations	\$171,691.00			\$171,691.00
	Essential Services	\$66,345.00			\$66,345.00
	Homelessness Prevention	\$22,000.00			\$22,000.00
	Administration	\$3,049.00			\$3,049.00
	Emergency Shelter Grants Subtotal	\$301,500.00	\$0.00		\$301,500.00
Emergency Solutions Grants Program	Emergency Shelter**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Renovation**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Operation**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Essential Service**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	URA Assistance**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Street Outreach - Essential Services**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	HMIS			\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
	Rapid Re-housing		\$0.00	\$93,000.00	\$93,000.00
	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services			\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance			\$58,000.00	\$58,000.00
	Project-Based Rental Assistance			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Homelessness Prevention		\$0.00	\$57,000.00	\$57,000.00
	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services			\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00
	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance			\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
	Project-Based Rental Assistance			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Administration			\$11,650.00	\$11,650.00
	Emergency Solutions Grants Subtotal		\$0.00	\$168,650.00	\$168,650.00
		Total Grant Amount:		\$470,150.00	

**Allowable only if the amount obligated for homeless assistance activities using funds from the first allocation is less than the expenditure limit for emergency shelter and street outreach activities (see Section III.B. of this Notice).

FY 2012 Detailed Budget Table					
First Allocation	\$299,823.00	<u>FY 2012</u> <u>Emergency Shelter Grants/Emergency Solutions Grants</u> <u>Program Allocations</u>			
Second Allocation	\$168,650.00				
Grant Amount					
Total Administration	\$0.00				
		First Allocation		Second Allocation	Total Fiscal Year 2012
	Eligible Activities	Activity Amount	Reprogrammed Amount	Activity Amount	Activity Amount
Emergency Shelter Grants Program	Homeless Assistance	\$271,774.00	\$0.00		\$271,774.00
	Rehab/Conversion	\$38,415.00			\$38,415.00
	Operations	\$167,014.00			\$167,014.00
	Essential Services	\$66,345.00			\$66,345.00
	Homelessness Prevention	\$22,000.00			\$22,000.00
	Administration	\$3,049.00			\$3,049.00
	Emergency Shelter Grants Subtotal	\$296,823.00	\$0.00		\$296,823.00
Emergency Solutions Grants Program	Emergency Shelter**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Renovation**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Operation**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Essential Service**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	URA Assistance**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Street Outreach - Essential Services**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	HMIS			\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
	Rapid Re-housing		\$0.00	\$122,500.00	\$122,500.00
	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services			\$42,500.00	\$42,500.00
	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance			\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
	Project-Based Rental Assistance			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Homelessness Prevention		\$0.00	\$89,500.00	\$89,500.00
	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services			\$34,500.00	\$34,500.00
	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance			\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
	Project-Based Rental Assistance			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Administration			\$13,830.00	\$13,830.00
	Emergency Solutions Grants Subtotal		\$0.00	\$239,330.00	\$239,330.00
		Total Grant Amount:		\$536,153.00	

**Allowable only if the amount obligated for homeless assistance activities using funds from the first allocation is less than the expenditure limit for emergency shelter and street outreach activities (see Section III.B. of this Notice).

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6. Written Standards for Provision of ESG Assistance

- a. Standard policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance under Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).**

Central Intake

Home Again Central Intake will interview each client to prioritize household needs based on the severity of the housing crisis and target the most appropriate response. Determination of eligibility for Emergency housing, Rapid Re-Housing or Homeless Prevention Program based on HUD Program Criteria will be made. Refer individuals and families ineligible for ESGP to the appropriate resources or service provider that can assist them. If eligible, clients will be referred to a Housing Resource Specialist.

Program Description:

- Families and individuals most likely to sustain stable housing following receipt of short-term assistance, whether subsidized or unsubsidized, after the ESGP assistance concludes
- Determine housing stability to see if referral to homeless prevention program is warranted

To be eligible for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program, all individuals and households must meet the HUD definition of homelessness.

SEC. 103. [42 USC 11302]. General Definition of Homeless individual means:

(a) IN GENERAL – For the purposes of the ACT, the term “homeless”, “homeless individual”, and “homeless person” means -

(1) an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;

(2) an individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;

(3) an individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including hotels and motels paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and transitional housing);

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(4) an individual who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;

(5) an individual or family who—

(A) will imminently lose their housing, including housing they own, rent, or live in without paying rent, are sharing with others, and rooms in hotels or motels not paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, as evidenced by—

(i) a court order resulting from an eviction action that notifies the individual or family that they must leave within 14 days;

(ii) the individual or family having a primary nighttime residence that is a room in a hotel or motel and where they lack the resources necessary to reside there for more than 14 days; or

(iii) credible evidence indicating that the owner or renter of the housing will not allow the individual or family to stay for more than 14 days, and any oral statement from an individual or family seeking homeless assistance that is found to be credible shall be considered credible evidence for purposes of this clause;

(B) has no subsequent residence identified; and

(C) lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing; and

(6) unaccompanied youth and homeless families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes who—

(A) have experienced a long term period without living independently in permanent housing,

(B) have experienced persistent instability as measured by frequent moves over such period, and

(C) can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse, the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or multiple barriers to employment. (

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Plan for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP)**

(b) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND OTHER DANGEROUS OR LIFE-THREATENING

CONDITIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary shall consider to be homeless any individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or lifethreatening conditions in the individual's or family's current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized, and who have no other residence and lack the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.—The term 'at risk of homelessness' means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family—

(A) has income below 30 percent of median income for the geographic area;

(B) has insufficient resources immediately available to attain housing stability; and

(C) (i) has moved frequently because of economic reasons;

(ii) is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;

(iii) has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated;

(iv) lives in a hotel or motel;

(v) lives in severely overcrowded housing;

(vi) is exiting an institution; or

(vii) otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

Such term includes all families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes.

Target population:

- Families and individuals
- Must be at or below 30% of Area Median Income
- Lacks financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing

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- Eviction within 2 weeks from a private dwelling
- Residency in housing that has been condemned by housing officials and is no longer meant for human habitation
- Sudden and significant loss of income
- Current or past involvement with child welfare
- Pending foreclosure of rental housing
- High Overcrowding
- Sleeping in an emergency shelter
- Sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (cars, parks, abandoned buildings)
- Graduating from or timing out of a transitional housing program
- Staying in a hospital or other institution for up to 90 days but sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for human habitation prior to hospital or institution stay
- Victim on domestic violence
- Income to sustain housing after subsidy
- Moderate barriers to obtaining market housing

Contract agency will provide:

- Initial consultation with a case manager to determine the appropriate type of assistance to meet client needs
- Conduct housing barrier assessment
- Based on housing assessment make referral to contracted agency to provide individualized assistance to locate and secure housing
- Housing Coordinator - Develop an inventory of existing affordable rental housing opportunities

b. Policies and procedures for coordination among emergency shelter providers, essential service providers, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance providers, other homeless assistance providers, and mainstream service and housing providers.

During intake and assessment, Housing Resource Specialists will determine client eligibility for all virtually programs available within the community. Home Again partner agencies have established working relationships with area agencies that serve the homeless and clients at imminent risk of losing their housing.

Case managers have also worked closely with agencies that serve clients with special needs, such as victims of domestic violence, Victims Assistance clients

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and clients served by Community Support Services and Tri-County Independent Living Center. In addition, Housing Resource Specialist have established working relationships with hundreds of area landlords, who are aware of homeless prevention services their tenants may be eligible for.

Homeless prevention and rapid re-housing case managers are trained to use the Benefit Bank and routinely use the Directory of Health and Human Services for Summit County and the Akron Street Card Guide to Resources in the Community to assist their clients in finding available resources to meet their needs. The Ohio Benefit Bank is an Internet-based, counselor assisted service that connects low- and moderate-income families in determining eligibility for food assistance (formerly known as food stamps), Medicaid, child care and home every assistance (HEAP), along with many other forms of community supports.

- c. Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible families and individuals will receive homelessness prevention assistance and which eligible families and individual will receive rapid re-housing assistance**

Rapid Re-Housing Program

Rapid Re-Housing is available to those who are literally homeless, per the November 15 HUD definition. The program is designed to assist homeless people in transitioning out of the shelter system quickly. The primary goal is to stabilize a client in permanent housing as quickly as possible. The funding and services provided should assist clients in addressing their barriers to housing stability. The immediate and primary focus is on helping homeless people quickly access and then sustain housing—housing comes first, then services. A Rapid Re-Housing approach rests on two central premises:

- a) rehousing is the central goal of working with people experiencing homelessness; and b) providing housing assistance and follow-up case management services after a family or individual is housed can significantly reduce the time people spend in homelessness.

Assistance may include housing location, short-term financial assistance and case management. Linkage with other service providers in the community ensures that clients have access to all eligible services.

Program Description:

- Resources targeted and prioritized to serve households that are most in need of temporary assistance and are most likely to achieve stable

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housing, whether subsidized or unsubsidized, outside of HPRP after the program concludes

- Focus on housing for homeless
- System to collaborate with other agencies

Target population:

- Families and individuals
- Must be at or below 30% of Area Median Income
- Lacks financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing
- Sleeping in an emergency shelter
- Sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (cars, parks, abandoned buildings)
- Graduating from, or timing out of a transitional housing program
- Staying in a hospital or other institution for up to 180 days but was sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for human habitation
- Victim on domestic violence
- Income to sustain housing after subsidy
- Moderate barriers to obtaining market housing

Contract agency will provide:

- Direct financial assistance
 - Security deposit
 - Rent
 - Utility deposits and payments
- Other household "start up costs"
- Case management to resolve issues that are barriers to achieving housing stability
- Certify eligibility at least one every three months
- Conduct initial and follow-up inspections meeting local habitability standards

Homeless Prevention

Actions proposed to prevent the occurrence of homelessness among eligible persons including but not limited to:

- a) short-term rent and utility assistance for families that have received eviction or utility termination notices;
- b) security deposits or first month's rent to permit a non-homeless family to move;

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c) legal assistance to prevent eviction d) housing location assistance.

A successful homeless prevention program allows people to avoid entering the homeless system. Prevention requires outreach to identify people at risk of becoming homeless and targeting.

Program Description:

- Resources targeted and prioritized to serve households that are most in need of temporary assistance
- Families and individuals most likely to sustain stable housing following receipt of short-term assistance, whether subsidized or unsubsidized, after the HPRP program concludes
- Focus on housing for households at-risk of becoming homeless
- System to collaborate with other agencies

Target population:

- Families and individuals
- Must be at or below 30% of Area Median Income
- Lacks financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in existing housing and no appropriate subsequent housing has been identified
- Eviction within 2 weeks from a private dwelling
- Residency in housing that has been condemned by housing officials and is no longer meant for human habitation
- Sudden and significant loss of income
- Sudden and significant increase in utility costs
- Current or past involvement with child welfare
- Pending foreclosure of rental housing
- Income to sustain housing after subsidy

Contract agency will provide:

- Direct financial assistance
 - Security deposit
 - Rent
 - Utility deposits and payments
 - Other household "start up costs"
- Legal assistance
- Case management to resolve issues that are barriers to achieving housing stability
- Certify eligibility at least one every three months

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- Conduct initial and follow-up inspections meeting local habitability standards

d. Standards for determining the share of rent and utilities costs that each program participant must pay, if any, while receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance.

Initially, homeless prevention case managers focus on payment of client rent arrears, in order to keep the individual or family housed. Many clients only need assistance with their arrears and do not require further assistance. Each eligible household has a predetermined homeless prevention block allowance available to them, dependent on the size of their household. Clients and case manager's work together to develop a Housing Stability Plan for each household with measurable objectives that the client agrees to work on in order to be able to sustain their housing without assistance. In addition, the case managers use a barrier assessment tool to determine if the household has barriers that can be overcome with short-term assistance and to determine the least amount of financial assistance needed.

e. Standards for determining how long a particular program participant will be provided with rental assistance and whether and how the amount of assistance will be adjusted over time.

Homeless prevention case managers use the barrier assessment results, client's income/expenses and support networks to determine how long a particular client will be provided with rent assistance. If clients need additional assistance after initial rent arrears are paid, they must complete a Request for Additional Assistance Form detailing the reason they need additional rent assistance and what portion of the rent the household can pay. They must also demonstrate that their income went towards an unforeseen emergency expense and that they are making progress on their Housing Stability Plan objectives. If a client requires financial assistance beyond 90 days, the case manager conducts a re-assessment of client's income/expenses, barriers and support networks to determine if more assistance can be given.

f. Standards for determining the type, amount, and duration of housing stabilization and/or relocation services to provide a program participant, including the limits, if any, on the homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance that each program participant may receive, such as the maximum amount of assistance, maximum number of months the program participant receives assistance; or the maximum number of times the program participant may receive assistance.

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- Level of service will be determined by the minimum funds required in order to prevent homelessness or rapidly re-house a homeless household. The exact amount of funds will vary based on individual need, and will be negotiated with the landlord. After discussions with our Continuum of Care providers and the Home Again Team, the CoC continues to recommend that the City of Akron place a cap on ESGP – Rapid Re-Housing and Homeless Prevention financial assistance provided to the client. Assistance amount (for 2012):

Family Size	Block Amount
1	Up to \$3,000
2	Up to \$3,675
3	Up to \$3,975
4	Up to \$4,275
5	Up to \$4,575
6	Up to \$4,875

- Duration of service will again be determined by the minimum funds required in order to prevent homelessness or rapidly re-house a homeless household.

Again, the assistance provided is sufficient to assist clients from homelessness or at-risk of homelessness to sustaining a permanent housing situation. Appropriate case management services and stabilization services will be provided to assist individuals and families in maintaining housing stability.

7. Describe Process for Making Sub-awards

In response to the ARRA HPRP funds, the Akron/Summit County/Barberton Continuum of Care and the City of Akron recognized an opportunity to create a homeless delivery system that would meet the current needs of the homeless as well as creating a centralized in-take system for HPRP and future homeless programs. The City of Akron sponsored a meeting of organizations and community service providers in June 2009. The City reviewed the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) program requirements, outlining the City's funding goals as agreed upon by the Continuum of Care, and reviewed the process and criteria for selecting subgrantee(s). The City solicited proposals from all interested parties, allowing approximately 45 days for application submission. The application conveyed the basic information on HPRP requirements regarding program description, eligible activities,

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eligible program participants, homeless risk factors, and rapid re-housing. The proposal were submitted on July 15, 2009.

City of Akron staff reviewed the application to ensure compliance with threshold criteria. Applications meeting threshold were reviewed and evaluated by a disinterested panel, the Continuum of Care Ad Hoc Review and Ranking Subcommittee.

The Continuum of Care Ad Hoc Review and Ranking Subcommittee is made up of individuals who are involved in the Akron/Summit County Continuum of Care but are not individual project applicants. The Review and Ranking Subcommittee represents a range of governmental, housing and homeless advocacy groups, social service providers, and hospital representatives who participate in the Continuum of Care. The role of the Review and Ranking Subcommittee was to review the HPRP applications and make recommendations to the City of Akron for the final subrecipient selections. The Ad-Hoc committee reviewed the proposals to help determine its eligibility, project feasibility, applicant experience, capacity to undertake the project in a timely manner, and measurable outcomes. The City of Akron Department of Planning and Development made recommendations for final approval of the grant award to the Mayor and City Council.

As a result, the Home Again program was created in 2010. Home Again incorporates central intake, homeless prevention, rapid re-housing and supportive services. The City of Akron will continue to support the Home Again program thru the implementation of the new ESGP program.

8. Homeless Participation Requirement

9. Performance Standards

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care recognize the need to develop performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum of Care projects (SHP and S+C). Listed below are basic standards identified by the City of Akron and the Continuum of Care, and they will continue to work on further developing these standards.

Emergency Shelters

- # Households served
- # New households served
- 90% of clients will meet with a case manager within 48 hours of their intake.

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- 90% of clients will meet with case manager weekly to discuss housing goals, life skills goals, job readiness goals and referrals.
- 70% of the clients entering emergency shelters and who have successfully completed the program will attain safe housing following their stay.
- 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults).
- 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 16 to 61).
- Reduce average length of stay by 5 days.

Transitional Housing

- # Households served
- # New households served
- Increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional housing to permanent housing to at least 78%
- Increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 51%
- 90% of clients will meet with the case manager within 48 hours of intake.
- 90% of clients will complete a comprehensive service plan within two weeks of their intake.
- 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults).
- 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 18-61).

Rapid Re-Housing

- # Households served
- # New households served
- 75% of households will maintain housing for at least 6 months.
- 90% of clients will meet with case manager within one week of referral from central intake.
- 90% of clients will meet with case manager twice a month.
- 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults).
- 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 18-61).

Homeless Prevention

- # Households served
- # New households served
- At least 75% will maintain or obtain housing for at least 6 months.
- ≤5% of those who obtain housing will return to shelter.

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Permanent Supportive Housing

- # Households served
- # New households served
- Increase the percentage of homeless persons staying in permanent housing for at least 6 months to at least 78%
- Increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 20%

Central Intake

- At least 30% of those contacting the central point of access will be directed to other community resources.
- At least 80% of those referred for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing will be housed.
- 100% of clients will be assessed for housing options

H.M.I.S.

- H.M.I.S. Performance Standards apply to all agencies receiving the following:

Emergency Solutions Grant Program
Supportive Housing Program (Continuum of Care)
Shelter Plus Care (Continuum of Care)

Unless exempt by Federal or State law.

- Enter live data into H.M.I.S. as part of the normal intake process within a 2-day period of time.
- All HUD-required data elements will not exceed five percent (5%) null responses.

10. Certification