



# EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) OVERVIEW

Presented: May 2022



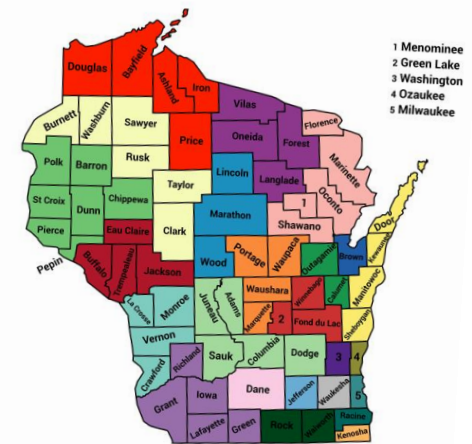
# WONDERING ABOUT THE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT?

- The goal of this presentation is to answer the following questions:
  - What is the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)?
  - What can this funding support (covered services, eligible clients)?
  - Who is eligible to apply?
  - What is the application process like?
  - What determines awards?
  - Where can I find more information?
  - Who can I reach out to with questions?



# WHAT IS THE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT?

- Commonly referred to as “ESG”
- Authorized by 1991 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, amended by Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009
- Federally administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- HUD awards ESG funding to the State of Wisconsin to distribute
- Funds are distributed via formula to the HUD Continua of Care (HUD CoCs) and Local Coalitions (LCs). These groups select a Lead Agency and distribute the funding to agencies in their areas.
- In 2021, about \$3.8 million was awarded to grantees



# WHAT CAN THIS FUNDING SUPPORT?

- ESG funding can support four (4) types of programs as well as reporting and administrative costs. The details of each program and how each piece works together will be shown in the following slides.

Street Outreach



Emergency Shelter



Reporting Costs



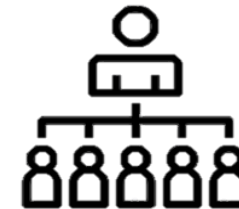
Rapid Re-Housing



Homelessness Prevention



Administrative Costs



# WHAT CAN THIS FUNDING SUPPORT? STREET OUTREACH (AKA SO)

- ESG funding can be used to provide the following services to the following clients. This is not an exhaustive list.

## Covered Services



Engagement



Case Management



Emergency Health Services  
(Physical & Mental)



Transportation

## Eligible Clients (HUD Definitions)

Literally Homeless - Category 1

*Note: Individuals and families must be living on the streets (or other places not meant for human habitation) and be unwilling or unable to access services in emergency shelter. Please see HUD's homeless definitions for a full description of each category.*

# WHAT CAN THIS FUNDING SUPPORT? EMERGENCY SHELTER (AKA ES)

- ESG funding can be used to provide the following services to the following clients. This not an exhaustive list.

## Covered Services



Shelter Stay &  
Hotel/ Motel Costs



Case  
Management



Employment Assistance/  
Job Training



Legal  
Services



Outpatient Health Services  
(Including Mental &  
Substance Abuse)



Life Skills Training



Transportation



Education Services



Childcare

## Eligible Clients (HUD Definitions)

Literally Homeless - Category 1

Imminent Risk of Homelessness – Category 2

Homeless Under Other Federal Statues –  
Category 3

Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic  
Violence – Category 4

*Note: Please see HUD's homeless definitions for a full  
description of each category.*

# WHAT CAN THIS FUNDING SUPPORT? RAPID RE-HOUSING (AKA RRH/RAPID)

- ESG funding can be used to provide the following services to the following clients. This is not an exhaustive list.

## Covered Services



Rental Assistance  
Monthly Rent  
Arrearages  
Security Deposit  
Application Fees  
Last Month's Rent



Housing Search  
& Placement



Utility Deposits  
& Payments



Housing Stability  
Case Management



Credit Repair



Moving Costs



Legal Services/  
Mediation

## Eligible Clients (HUD Definitions)

Literally Homeless - Category 1

*Note: Please see HUD's homeless definitions for a full description of the category.*

*After 12 months of assistance revaluation of client's income (must be below 30% Average Median Income) and other resources is required in order to continue assistance*



# WHAT CAN THIS FUNDING SUPPORT? HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (AKA HP/PREVENTION)

- ESG funding can be used to provide the following services to the following clients. This is not an exhaustive list.

## Covered Services



Rental Assistance  
Monthly Rent  
Arrearages  
Security Deposit  
Application Fees  
Last Month's Rent



Housing Search  
& Placement



Utility Deposits  
& Payments



Housing Stability  
Case Management



Credit  
Repair



Moving  
Costs



Legal Services/  
Mediation

## Eligible Clients (HUD Definitions)

Imminent Risk of Homelessness – Category 2  
Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes – Category 3  
Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence –  
Category 4  
OR At Risk of Homelessness

PLUS client's annual income must be below 30%  
Average Median Income (AMI)

*Note: Please see HUD's homeless definitions for a full description of  
each category.*

*After 3 months of assistance reevaluation of client's  
income (below 30% AMI) and other resources is  
required in order to continue assistance*



# WHAT CAN THIS FUNDING SUPPORT?

## REPORTING & ADMINISTRATION

- ESG funding can also be used to support agency costs related to reporting and administration. Descriptions are not exhaustive.

### Reporting

The costs associated with maintaining the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and HMIS comparable databases (subscription fees, database tech support), adding new reporting modules, and staff time for inputting data.



### Administration

The costs associated with shared services (example: accounting, HR), office space, office supplies that directly relate to providing ESG funded services (SO, ES, RRH, HP).



# WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- Applicants must meet the following requirements:
  1. Have current, direct experience in delivering services to people experiencing homelessness.
  2. Be either a local unit of government OR a private non-profit.
  3. Have the capacity to offer or connect clients to services that will increase their stability and link them to safe, affordable and permanent housing.
  4. Use HMIS or an HMIS comparable database.
  5. Participate in Coordinated Entry.



# WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS LIKE?

- ESG has a consolidated application process.
  - The goal of this is to increase coordination of services and help avoid duplication of efforts.
- Each HUD CoC (Milwaukee, Dane, Racine) and LC (representing the Balance of State HUD CoC) submits one application for all their members.
- Each group selects one agency to be the lead applicant. The lead will hold the contract with DEHCR, and will act as the fiscal agent. All other agencies will have a contract with the lead.
- If your agency is interested in applying but is not yet in touch with your HUD CoC or LC please reach out to DEHCR. We will help make the introduction.



# WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS LIKE? (CONTINUED)

- Each HUD CoC or LC is given an estimated award and develops their own process to split the dollars amongst member agencies using local data and ESG guidelines.
  - The goal is for local experts to play a key role in determining how funds will be used.
- ESG guidelines provide maximum/ minimum allocations and match requirements:
  - Maximum Guidelines: Administration 3% (of total award); ES and SO combined 60%
  - Minimum Guidelines: RRH 30% (of total award)
  - Match: 100% of the dollars must be matched; however, the match can be for the entire HUD CoC/LC and does not have to be matched on a project basis.
    - Example: If an emergency shelter project has excess match, the excess can be used to support a rapid re-housing project.
- The lead agency will apply for funding. In the application they will outline the agencies, projects, and project types that will be supported.



# WHAT DETERMINES THE AWARDS?

- A **funding formula** is used to provide fair unbiased funding decisions statewide using objective measures of need and performance.
- Each year DEHCR is required by statute to solicit feedback from the HUD CoCs and can also include other stakeholders.
- DEHCR, using the feedback provided, determines a final formula often including measures of need, performance, and clients served, plus adjustments to increase equity and minimize negative funding swings.

## EXAMPLES OF METRICS RECENTLY USED



Total Clients  
Served Annually  
(per HMIS)



Avg. # Clients  
Served Monthly  
(per Housing Inventory Chart)



% of People  
Below 30% Area  
Median Income



% Returns to  
Homelessness  
within 2 years



% Exits to  
Permanent  
Housing



# People on  
Coordinated Entry  
Priority Lists



# WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

- DEHCR's Supportive Housing page has more information including the program manual, application, and estimated awards.
- ESG information can be found in the Emergency Solutions Grant/Housing Assistance Program/Homelessness Prevention Program (EHH) section
- <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/LocalGovtsGrants/SupportiveHousingPrograms.aspx>

**Supportive Housing Programs**  
Bureau of Supportive Housing

Contact Us

**Mailing Address**  
Supportive Housing  
PO Box 7970  
Madison, WI 53707-7970

**Physical Location**  
101 E Wilson Street  
Madison, WI 53703

**Phone**  
(608) 266-7531

**Email**  
doasupportivehousing@wisconsin.gov

<b>Critical Assistance (CA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Program Description</li><li>• Eligible Activity</li></ul>	<b>Interest Bearing Real Estate Trust Accounts (IBRETA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Program Description</li><li>• Forms</li><li>• Resources</li><li>• Statutes &amp; Rules</li><li>• Contact</li></ul>	<b>Homeless Case Management Services Grant Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Program Description</li><li>• Application</li><li>• Application Supplement</li><li>• 2021-2022 Recipients List</li><li>• Homeless Case Management Services Grant Program Manual</li></ul>
<b>Emergency Solutions Grant/Housing Assistance Program/Homelessness Prevention Program (EHH)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Program Description</li><li>• Legislation</li><li>• Manuals</li><li>• Client File Checklist</li><li>• Monitoring Packet</li><li>• Forms</li><li>• HMIS-Point in Time</li></ul>	<b>Emergency Solutions Grant/Housing Assistance Program (ESG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Program Description</li><li>• Request for Proposal Form</li></ul>	<b>Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Program Information</li><li>• TBRA Competitive Application</li><li>• TBRA Waiver Suspension</li></ul>

# WHO CAN I REACH OUT TO WITH QUESTIONS?

- Sarah Isaak

Title: Grants Specialist-Advanced

Email: [sarah.isaak@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.isaak@wisconsin.gov)

Mobile: (608) 445-6201

Phone: (608) 261-6256

Pronouns: she, her, hers







*Thank you*