

# ESG & ESG-CV Office Hours



# How to ask a question...

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- Webinar questions:
  - Click “Q & A” chat bubble to submit a question to the team
  - Please insert your name, organization and region associated with your question, you will need to type it in the “Your Name” box
  - The team will read questions out loud throughout the presentation and will provide answers if possible
  - All questions will be saved and recorded as part of the public record



# ESG Updates

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- 2021 ESG NOFAs (BoS and CoC) and online applications were released on August 17th
- **All 2021 ESG applications are due by 5:00pm, October 19, 2021**
  - Applications can be submitted in both allocations on a 'rolling' basis
  - Applications must be submitted through the eCivis Grants Network System. You can access the link on the ESG Webpage.
- **Webinars were conducted on August 24th**
  - Webinars were recorded and will be posted on the ESG webpage under 'Technical Assistance' within a few days
  - **FAQs** are being prepared and will be posted on the ESG webpage and in the eCivis Solicitations no later than September 10th.

# ESG Updates

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- **What's New in the 2021 NOFAs:**

- **Applications must be submitted through the eCivis online grants network system. (No paper/binders will be accepted this year)**

- **Resolution Template – must be used by all applicants. Please refer to the BoS or CoC NOFAs for information on submitting Resolutions.**

'The application must include a completed Authorizing Resolution (AR) approved by the Applicant's governing board. The AR designates a person or persons responsible for, and authorized to execute, all documents related to the application for ESG funds and submittal of funds requests. Please see the instructions for completing the AR, along with AR form (template) on the ESG website. Failure to use the AR form provided by HCD will require execution of a corrected AR and may delay execution of HCD's Standard Agreement for ESG funds.'

'If a governing body must prepare a separate resolution concurrently that conforms to its local standard, it may do so, so long as the AR (authorizing resolution) form provided by HCD is completed in full.'

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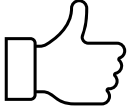
# ESG Updates

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- **The ESG team is here to assist you with your questions.**
  - **Please submit your questions to the [ESGNOFA@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:ESGNOFA@hcd.ca.gov) inbox.**

# ESG-CV Updates

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- All ESG-CV Contracts have been amended and executed! 
- An email has or will be sent out from your Grant Administrator requesting verification that your approved budget in eCivis matches your community's ESG-CV funding allocations
  - If your community's ESG-CV funding allocations differ than the approved budget, then you will need to submit a request for a budget revision
- The recording and slides of Monday's webinar on ESG-CV Eligible Costs will be sent out within the next couple of weeks
- Reminder - Please submit Request for Funds for all expenses through July 31, 2021, by August 30, 2021

# SAVE THE DATE!

## Webinars to Support ESG-CV Rollout

### Who should attend?

All grantees and staff from their ESG-CV sub-recipient partners are encouraged to attend—front line staff, supervisors, program directors, finance staff

### Webinar #2 Topic:

Building Staff Capacity with ESG-CV & Creative Uses of ESG-CV Funds

**Date:** Monday, September 20, 2021, from 9:30 to 11:00am

Registration information to come later this month

**Look for an email with this information that you can forward to sub-recipients**

# ESG-CV Funding for COVID Response





# Equity Framing

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- CARES Act resources are designed to prevent the spread of COVID and to reduce the harm caused by COVID.
- The safest place for people to be during the epidemic is in housing. COVID-19 has amplified the historic and current racial biases and discrimination embedded in our systems, processes, and practices.
- People most harmed by COVID, housing instability, and homelessness include racial minorities, especially Black and Indigenous people, those who are elderly, and those who have health problems, especially respiratory problems.



## Housing is the safest place during a pandemic

- Maximize the use of Rapid Rehousing
- Rapid Rehousing can serve high need households and those with zero income. If needed they can be bridged to other housing.
- Create housing focused shelter to move as many people out of congregate shelter as possible—support all staff to encourage the movement to housing including helping guests connect with family and friends for housing options.
- Train Street Outreach staff to connect unsheltered households to coordinated entry and housing options

# Spend ESG-CV to Support Faster Movement to Housing

Provide maximum amount of landlord incentives to each landlord.

Incentives can total 3x cost of rent charged for the unit and can cover:

Signing bonuses up to 2x rent	Repair damages not covered by security deposit
Additional months of security deposits	Maintenance to expedite turnover
Referral bonuses for landlords who recruit other landlords	Cleaning units

Find rooms for rent, not just units (aka shared housing):

Eligible use of rental assistance funds for both HP and RRH

Cannot rent a room from members of the same household

Program participant must have their own separate lease with the property owner.

# Why Shared Housing?

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- Rising cost of housing
- Lack of adequate housing stock
- Not enough affordable housing
- Stagnant incomes
- Shrinking resources
- Can be a great diversion strategy
- More affordable
- Can reside in better neighborhoods
- More sustainable
- Built in supports
- Families of choice
- Can house more than one person/family at a time
- A way to more quickly move folks out of shelter
- Step up to more independent living

## Roommate (aka shared) housing cont'd...

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### **To calculate rent reasonableness:**

- Room = \$400/month in a 3-bedroom unit
- Compare the proposed unit with other comparable 3-bedroom units, not one-bedroom units.
- If reasonable rent for a 3-bedroom is \$1,600, then  $\$1,600/3=\$533$ .
- Since \$400 is less than \$533, the rent is reasonable

## Increase Health & Safety Measures

### Continue or re-active COVID Health and Safety Measures

- Vaccination efforts for clients & staff
- Maintain & increase non-congregate shelter beds
- Ensure spaces for Isolation & Quarantine
- Implement COVID symptom screenings
- Have adequate PPE available
- In congregate settings: use mitigation strategies
- Support staff with Hazard Pay

# Use ESG-CV Funds for Hazard Pay

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Provide a **one-time hazard pay bonus** to new and existing staff\* who come into contact with households served.

- Emergency Shelter staff and staff providing essential services (housing navigators, mental health staff)
- Can include maintenance, kitchen and security staff

Can also tack a percentage or amount increase to employee paychecks and administer over time.

# Provide Hazard Pay Cont'd....

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## Hazard Pay Policy should include:

- Amount, length of time
- Who is eligible, how is this determined
- Recordkeeping procedures: timesheets, job descriptions, etc.

## Example Policy:

*“Hazard pay is equitably provided in the form of a lump sum bonus payment of \$250 per pay period to all employees who come into direct, regular, contact with individuals experiencing homelessness, and employees who provide core operations support for congregate living programs (security, kitchen staff, etc.). The date of the increase began on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and will cease when the locally certified public health official ends the state of emergency.”*



# Use ESG-CV Funds to Support Vaccination Efforts

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<b>Eligible Cost</b>	<b>Billed under</b>
Vaccine Ambassador(s)	Case Management (Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Rapid Rehousing)
Transport to vaccine events	Transportation (Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, HP, RRH)
PPE for vaccination events	Operations (Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, HP, RRH)
Staff training on vaccination and rollout strategies	Training (Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, HP, RRH)
<b>New!</b> Vaccine Incentives	Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, HP or RRH

# Use ESG-CV Funds for Vaccination Incentives

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- Can provide payments up to \$50 PER DOSE to each program participant (**cash ok!**)
- Must first check to see if adequate vaccine incentives are already accessible to program participants in community
- Program participant must meet ESG-CV eligibility requirements (Homeless Definition Categories: 1, 2 or 4)
- **Recordkeeping:**
  - Document that the \$50/dose per program participant wasn't exceeded
  - The participant receiving the dose is eligible
  - That the participant received the vaccine

# ESG-CV Funds to Support Street Outreach for Infection Control

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- Bolster street outreach staffing and coverage – on-the-ground presence is essential to linking people to health care, reducing spread, and ensuring vaccine access
- Continue supporting mobile vaccination and testing events in coordination with public health
- Provide access to sanitation to help with infection control: hand washing stations, portable showers, laundry service, provide hand sanitizer, soap and supplies to support sanitation
- Meal service (ex. boxed lunches) and meal delivery

# Use ESG-CV Funds to Increase Utilization of Hotel/motels & Other Non-Congregate Settings

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- Use for those who are exposed/sick from COVID and need to isolate or quarantine
- Place individuals at high risk for severe illness from COVID or not eligible into hotels/motels where Project Roomkey funds are not sufficient. [CDC high-risk definition](#)

## Use ESG-CV Funds for PPE

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Costs to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks, disposable gloves and hand sanitizer for program participants as an essential service under emergency shelter and street outreach and for program participants receiving homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing.

# Use ESG-CV for Shelter Infection Control

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- Continue supporting on-site vaccination and testing events in coordination with public health
- Use ESG-CV emergency shelter funds to continue infection control protocols, maintain social distancing
  - Renovation to increase I&Q space/overflow
  - room dividers & cots
  - ventilation systems air filters
  - Handwashing stations
  - Meal service (ex. boxed lunches) and meal delivery
- Begin to rethink approaches to emergency shelter and implement corresponding improvements for the long term – to continue building on progress made as part of COVID response, such as:
  - Improved infection control measures
  - Increased bed spacing
  - Enhanced sanitation practices
  - Close coordination and partnerships between local public health, health centers

## Reminders . . .

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- PPR tieback documentation does NOT need to be maintained at the program participant level.
- To be eligible, program participants do NOT have to prove loss of income or housing is due to COVID.
- Needs that existed prior to COVID (e.g. shelter roof repairs, ongoing shelter operating costs, program participant homelessness prior to COVID) are also eligible.
- For more information:  
<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Homeless-System-Response-ESG-CV-Prevent-Prepare-and-Respond-Tieback-Flexibilities-Quick-Guide.pdf>

# Resources

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## Standing Up Infection Control Measures:

- [Alternative Approaches to Sheltering](#)
- [Shelter Preparedness Checklist](#)
- [Creative Staffing Solutions \(See Appendix 1\)](#)
- [COVID Informational Flyers](#)
- [Vaccine Messaging Toolkit](#)
- [Eligible ESG Program Costs for Infectious Disease Preparedness](#)

## CDC and NHCHC Guidance:

- [Strategies for Proactive Universal Testing](#)
- [Guidance for Service Providers to Respond to COVID](#)



# Questions?

