

ESG & ESG-CV Office Hours



How to ask a question...

- 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 at the end of the presentation and will provide answers if possible
 - All questions will be saved and recorded as part of the public record



Agenda

- ESG Updates
- ESG-CV Updates
- Equity Framing & Building
- Street Outreach
- Resources
- Q&A

ESG Updates

- 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.
- FAQs are posted on the ESG Webpage (Technical Assistance header)
**also posted in the eCivis Files Tab

ESG Updates

- **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)
 - Racial Equity Questions in the eCivis online grants network (required)
 - Stella or HMIS data can be used
 - **Resolution Template** – must be used by all applicants (Refer to the NOFAs)
 - ESG will not be preapproving Resolutions
 - If you are unable to get your Resolution signed by the October 19th due date, you can submit a 'draft' Resolution with your application.
- The ESG team is here to assist you with your questions: ESGNOFA@hcd.ca.gov

ESG-CV Updates

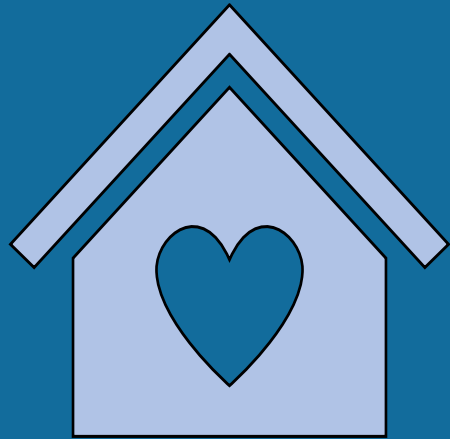
- Thank you for submitting your Spending Plan for July, August, and September!
 - Your Grant Administrator will be sending you a new Spending Plan later this month to ask for spending projections in October, November, and December
- Monitoring will begin near the end of October. Grantees will receive an email prior to the monitoring date informing them of the monitoring date
 - Grantees should start gathering their policies and all back-up documentation for expenses reimbursed to date
- August Request for Funds is due September 30th- monthly submission is highly encouraged
 - Remember to black out any staff PII other than their name AND all client PII

Equity Framing

- CARES Act resources are designed to prevent the spread of COVID and to reduce the harm caused by COVID. ESG-CV funds can be used to make approaches to housing and services more equitable, sustaining and humane.
- 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.

Building Blocks for Equity

- Expand trusted partnerships with people with lived experience, they will be critical at engaging vulnerable people and developing a more comprehensive approach to planning and program design.
- Collect quantitative data and track outcomes by demographic data to examine if there are disparities that need to be addressed. Add to this, qualitative data and experience. It's critical to have a diverse group analyzing the data including people with lived experiencing.
- Partner with community-based organizations that can provide culturally competent services and expertise to shape planning that can lead to more equitable access and outcomes.
- Across all positions, hire a diverse staff that is representative of the people being served—this includes hiring people with lived experience of homelessness. Then train and support them.
- More information and tools available at [Racial Equity](#)



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.
- **Train Street Outreach staff to connect unsheltered households to coordinated entry and housing options and/or have housing staff accompany them.**
- 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.

ESG Program – FIVE CORE COMPONENTS

Components	Program Serves Those Who Are:
1. Street Outreach	Homeless
2. Emergency Shelter	
3. Rapid Re-Housing	
4. Homeless Prevention	At Risk of Homelessness
	Collect & Maintain Data On:
5. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	Homeless and At Risk of Homelessness

Street Outreach

Participants

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Assistance provided must **serve unsheltered homeless persons** who are unwilling or unable to access housing, emergency shelter, or an appropriate health facility.

Eligible participants must qualify under paragraph (1)(i) of the **definition of “homeless”**, which includes individuals and families 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 campground.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Essential Services necessary to **reach out to** unsheltered homeless individuals and families, **connect them with** ES, housing or critical services and provide them with urgent, non-facility-based care.

Component services:

- Engagement
- Case Management
- Emergency Health & Mental Health Services
- Transportation
- Services to Special Populations

Street Outreach

Services

24 CFR 576.101

Street Outreach Essential Services

Essential Services – Engagement

Activities to locate, identify, and build relationships with unsheltered homeless people and engage them for the purpose of providing immediate support, intervention, and connections with homeless assistance programs and/or mainstream social services and housing programs. These activities consist of:

- Assessment of needs
- Providing crisis counseling
- Addressing urgent physical needs, such as providing meals, blankets, clothes, or toiletries
- Providing portable handwashing stations/showers/bathrooms
- Actively connecting and providing information and referrals to housing programs, emergency shelter, and community-based services

Essential Services –

Case Management

- Assessing housing and service needs and providing connection to coordinated entry
- Developing a housing and service plan
- Arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the program participant including referrals to housing, benefits, medical care and other essential services

Essential Services -

Emergency Health Services

Outpatient treatment of medical conditions provided by licensed medical/mental health professionals operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered homeless people are living.*

Eligible treatment consists of:

- Assessing a program participant's health problems and developing a treatment plan
- Assisting program participants to understand their health needs
- Providing directly or assisting program participants to obtain appropriate emergency medical treatment
- Providing medication and follow-up services

*ESG funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the area

Essential Services -

Emergency Mental Health Services

Outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered people are living.*

Eligible treatment includes:

- Crisis interventions
- Prescription of psychotropic medications
- Explanation about the use and management of medications
- Combinations of therapeutic approaches to address multiple problems

*ESG funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate mental health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the area

Essential Services –

Transportation

Transportation covers travel by outreach workers, social workers, medical professionals, or other service providers providing street outreach services and travel by unsheltered people to emergency shelters or other service facilities.

- Program participant travel on public transportation
- Mileage allowance for service workers to visit program participants
- Car or van purchase or lease for transporting participants or staff serving program participants
- Travel costs for staff to assist program participants to use public transportation

Essential Services – Services for Special Populations

Otherwise eligible essential services tailored to address the special needs of homeless youth, victims of domestic violence and related crimes/threats and people living with and related crimes/threats, and people living with HIV/AIDS HIV/AIDS and being served by street outreach.

- Engagement
- Case Management
- Emergency Health Services
- Emergency Mental Health Services
- Transportation

NEW ESG-CV Notice Flexibilities

2021 ESG-CV Notice

- Cell Phones
 - Cost of cell phone and wireless plan loaned to participants
- Laundry
 - Ability to provide laundry services (including laundry trucks to outdoor locations where people live)
- Vaccine Incentives
 - Ability to provide \$50 per dose vaccine incentive to people experiencing homelessness for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

ESG-CV Notice Flexibilities

2020 ESG-CV Notice (still eligible)

- Handwashing Stations & Portable Bathrooms
 - Install and maintain handwashing stations and bathrooms in outdoor locations for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- PPE
 - Costs to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) for program participants within essential services
 - Examples: masks, disposable gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.
- Hazard Pay for staff
- Training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation (including vaccines)

Building Equity: Street Outreach

Hire diverse street outreach staff that is representative of the people being served—this includes hiring people with lived experience of homelessness. Then train and support them.

- **TIP:** Hire people with lived experience of homelessness to be Vaccine Ambassadors

Examine who street outreach teams are reaching and the geographic areas the teams cover. Examine where shelter is located and who is coming into shelter and who is not. Ask: Who are we missing? Where else should we be going to reach people that need our assistance?

- **TIP:** Expand trusted partnerships with people with lived experience, they will be critical at engaging vulnerable people and determining where outreach should happen.
- **TIP:** Partner with community-based organizations that have trusted relationships with underserved groups and can provide expertise on reaching and engaging them, including broadening your partnerships to contract with them for essential services.

Program Design Priorities: Street Outreach

- Address urgent needs by providing PPE, toiletries, food and other supplies to those who are unsheltered
- Provide linkage to medical and behavioral health services
- Build community partnerships to improve outreach to traditionally underserved populations
- Balance outreach across different times of day to ensure coverage including early morning and into the evening

Program Design Priorities: Street Outreach

Deploy housing-focused services, increase effectiveness of engagement, and improve the speed of exit from the homelessness system through strategies such as:

- Engage unsheltered individuals to connect them to coordinated entry, non-congregate shelter, and immediate rehousing options through housing problem-solving/diversion strategies whenever possible. Train street outreach staff on how to do this.
- Mobile assessment either done by the street outreach team or housing staff accompanying the street outreach team
- Transportation and accompaniment to housing-related appointments

ESG-CV Funds to Support Street Outreach for Infection Control

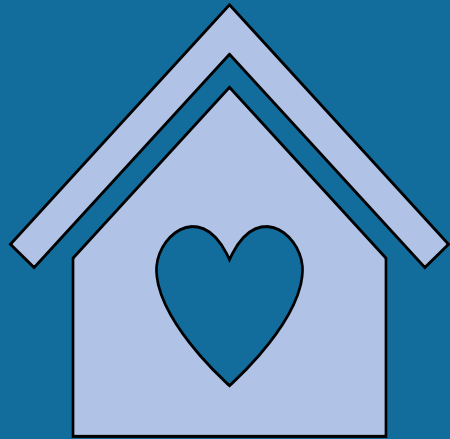
- Bolster street outreach staffing and coverage – on-the-ground presence is essential to linking people to health care, reducing spread, and ensuring vaccine access
- Continue supporting mobile vaccination and testing events in coordination with public health
- Provide access to sanitation to help with 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

Street Outreach Critical for Vaccine Efforts: Use ESG-CV Funds to Support Vaccination Efforts

Eligible Cost	Billed under
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)
New! Vaccine Incentives	Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, HP or RRH

Use ESG-CV Funds for Vaccination Incentives

- 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



Questions?

ESG Resource Links

[ESG Regulations](#) - (update published April 2017)

[ESG-CV Notice](#)

General ESG Information

- [HUD ESG Landing Page](#)
- [ESG Program Overview](#)
- [ESG Program HMIS Manual](#)
- [ESG Minimum Habitability Standards ES and Permanent Housing](#)

TA Resources:

- [Disease Risks and Homelessness](#) - landing page for resources on a wide range of topics
- [ESG-CV Notice Summary](#)
- [Flexibilities/Waivers Granted by the CARES Act + Mega Waiver and Guidance](#) - applicable Waivers on pages 11-14
- [Strategies to Design and Implement a Successful ESG-CV Program](#)
- [IDIS Fact Sheet for ESG and ESG-CV Funds Setup](#)
- [ESG-CV Quarterly Reporting Calendar](#)

Street Outreach to Housing Resources

- Special Population Rehousing Strategy—People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness
- Housing Surges—Special Considerations for Targeting People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness
- Lessons Learned from Street Outreach Workers

COVID Response Resources

- [Protecting Health and Well-being of People in Encampments During an Infectious Disease Outbreak](#)
- [Creative Staffing Solutions \(See Appendix 1\)](#)
- [COVID Informational Flyers](#)
- [Vaccine Messaging Toolkit](#)
- [Eligible ESG Program Costs for Infectious Disease Preparedness](#)
- [Strategies for Proactive Universal Testing](#)
- [CDC—Interim Considerations for Health Departments for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Homeless Shelters and Encampments](#)



Questions?

Contact Us...

- If you have any further questions, please contact us:
 - Annual ESG – Please reach out to your ESG Representative or ESG@hcd.ca.gov
 - ESG-CV – Please reach out to your Grant Administrator