

# Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program Substantial Amendment Overview

## Allocation of funds for eligible activities

- MaineHousing will allocate ESG funds for providers to use for housing relocation and stabilization services that will provide rapid re-housing to individuals and families who are living in shelters and on the streets in the three Regions of the state. Allocations will be based upon data on the number of homeless clients served in the previous calendar year for each Region:
  - Region I            55% of the available funds
  - Region II          20% of the available funds
  - Region III         25% of the available funds
  
- MaineHousing will also make available a limited number of rental subsidies for providers to give clients an avenue to access permanent housing. Stability Through Engagement Program (STEP) coupons and Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) will be allocated to link rental subsidies with the housing relocation and stabilization services.
  
- MaineHousing will offer a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the ESG funds, STEP coupons, and HCV. Grantees will assist homeless clients seeking permanent housing with individualized services to help clients to overcome barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing.
  
- MaineHousing will evaluate RFP applicants based upon the following criteria:
  - Capacity to deliver housing relocation and stabilization services and to account for the use of grant funds and experience in addressing the housing and service needs of the target population;
  - Proposed program strategies that address the structure, staffing, types of services that will be provided, including comprehensive assessments, and readiness to deliver the program;
  - Program feasibility that demonstrates that proposed budgets, commitments from collaborating partners, and data collection plans are likely to achieve outcomes in program strategies; and
  - Capacity to collect HMIS data based on prior performance. Applicants that are restricted from entering data into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), must demonstrate how they will come into compliance with using the HMIS data elements.
  
- Each provider's potential allocation is capped based upon the number of homeless clients served by the applicant in the previous calendar year.

- MaineHousing will use HMIS, or if HMIS information is not available, other data provided by the applicant to determine how many homeless persons the applicant served in 2012. The following are the maximum allocations based on numbers of clients served:

# Clients Served	ESG Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services	Stability Through Engagement Program	Housing Choice Vouchers
250 or Less	Up to \$25,000	Up to \$25,000	Up to 3
251-500	Up to \$50,000	Up to \$50,000	Up to 6
501-1,000	Up to \$75,000	Up to \$75,000	Up to 8
>1,000	Up to \$100,000	Up to \$100,000	Up to 12

### **Program Performance Outcomes**

Performance outcomes will be established and assessed and tracked over time to establish benchmarks and performance expectations for future funding. Providers should meet the following standards:

- 100% of program participants provided a comprehensive assessment of their needs and barriers that threaten housing stability and a plan of action to achieve housing stability will be created.
- 100% of program participants assisted with search and placement for adequate housing, including subsidized housing programs.
- 100% of program participants provided with coordination of services and advocacy as determined by the housing stability assessment and plan of action.
- 100% of program participants provided ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure implementation of the housing stability plan of action and positive outcomes.
- No more than 15% of program participants return to emergency shelter.
- A percentage to be determined of HCV referrals that are accepted into the program.
- A percentage to be determined of HCV participants who complete one year of program requirements.
- A percentage to be determined of STEP participants who obtain adequate income resources to maintain stably housed.
- A percentage to be determined of STEP participants who receive the necessary support services to maintain stably housed.