

**COVID-19 Office Hours: Chat and Q&A
February 12th, 2021**

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February 12, 2021 2:30 PM from Thomas Bednar to everyone: To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:

+1-415-655-0002 Access code: 610 976 677

(If you need to call in toll-free, call 1-855-797-9485)

February 12, 2021 2:33 PM from Kexin Ma to everyone: Do we know what new project categories will be eligible in this upcoming NOFA? Will they be the same as previous years?

February 12, 2021 2:35 PM from DAVID CANAVAN to everyone:
<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7007e1.htm>

February 12, 2021 2:36 PM from Ebony Rankin to everyone: @Kexin - we can't comment on what will be in the next CoC NOFA; I don't anticipate new project categories/components though

February 12, 2021 2:36 PM from Alex Dunn to everyone: On masks: how does the medical and cloth effectiveness compare to cloth only?

February 12, 2021 2:37 PM from Nick Cassaro to everyone: can we have emily's links posted in chat?

February 12, 2021 2:37 PM from Lauren Pareti to everyone: @ Ebony - Can you clarify: "I don't anticipate new project categories/components though"

February 12, 2021 2:37 PM from DAVID CANAVAN to everyone:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/vaccination-guidance.html>

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February 12, 2021 2:37 PM from Alex Dunn to everyone: What about medical mask only?

February 12, 2021 2:38 PM from DAVID CANAVAN to everyone:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

February 12, 2021 2:38 PM from DAVID CANAVAN to everyone:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/vaccine-faqs.html>

February 12, 2021 2:38 PM from Lynette Freeman to everyone: How is the homeless population being informed where and when vaccines are being provide. What if they don't meet the age dictates?

February 12, 2021 2:39 PM from Brian Roccapriore (he/him) to everyone: All HMIS lead series tools can be found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6261/hmis-lead-series/>

February 12, 2021 2:39 PM from Emily Mosites to everyone: @alex- good question. they didn't include that comparison in this particular study but there have been other studies that have compared cloth to medical alone. Let me see if I can find one to send you.

February 12, 2021 2:40 PM from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: on previous office hours, it was mentioned that there were be separate NOFAs for the 2020 Bonus and 2020 DV Bonus funding. Should CoCs anticipate those NOFAS being released in the near future in advance of the 2021 NOFA?

February 12, 2021 2:40 PM from Brenda Chamberlain to everyone: For coordinated entry elements in HMIS, when will start seeing more information on them? Last February in a listserv message from HUD it was mentioned TA and further trainings would be coming out. We all understand the world blew up soon after that, but now we have an APR due soon after 10-1-21.

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February 12, 2021 2:41 PM from Alex Dunn to everyone: On all HUD TA sessions that are offered, is there any consideration of that in a future competitive NOFA? Or is it okay for future NOFAs to bow out of intensive TA sessions because of COVID response, vaccine response, etc.?

February 12, 2021 2:41 PM from Lauren Pareti to everyone: @Ebony. Sorry. I read your initial response too quickly. I get it now.

February 12, 2021 2:42 PM from Andrea Hurley to everyone: One of the current waivers for PSH/RRH is the waived monthly case management, but the reporting requirements have not been waived, and providers are feeling backed up and unable to catch up as the pandemic continues. Are there any plans for a waiver for this, or ways that will help to reduce this backup in data collection. Something similar to how the documentation for disability was waived in the second round of waivers would be helpful.

February 12, 2021 2:44 PM from William Snow to everyone: @Brenda - We continue to offer information on the HMIS Lead calls each 3rd Wednesday of the month. If you're not on those, or if you have ideas for what would be helpful from TA, please submit an HMIS AAQ. Thanks!

February 12, 2021 2:44 PM from Brenda Chamberlain to everyone: Thanks William.

February 12, 2021 2:44 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: @Andrea - recipients are always going to have to document that they expended funds following the rules. That being said we have provided flexibility around both disability and income documentation. If you want to send us an email with particular recordkeeping standards you think we should provide additional flexibility around that would be helpful.

February 12, 2021 2:45 PM from Ebony Rankin to everyone: @Lauren - we currently do not have a timeline of when future NOFAs will be released. We do keep in mind the workload and time that it takes for CoC/applicants apply to various NOFAs

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February 12, 2021 2:45 PM from John Summerlot to everyone: @WilliamSnow could there be (or was there) a PIT Office Hours to talk about strategies CoCs used if they did conduct a 2021 Unsheltered PIT?

February 12, 2021 2:46 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: How do we hold agencies accountable if they receive no funding from us, and just contribute data?

February 12, 2021 2:46 PM from John Summerlot to everyone: @ThomasBates Charm?

February 12, 2021 2:47 PM from William Snow to everyone: @ John - we have not done a PIT count office hours after the fact. We know that many CoCs are busy preparing the data for submission in April. I think that is a great idea though. We used to do PIT count office hours throughout the year. We will revisit that idea in a few months (considering where we are with the COVID response).

February 12, 2021 2:47 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: That's worked for pretty incomplete data so far!

February 12, 2021 2:48 PM from John Summerlot to everyone: @William Sounds good! Thanks!

February 12, 2021 2:48 PM from John Summerlot to everyone: @Thomas I agree! =)

February 12, 2021 2:49 PM from DAVID CANAVAN to everyone: @Thomas some communities have found traction with other funders adding HMIS to their requirements, working with local philanthropy, and highlighting via local dynamics how data is driving policy decisions... I'm sure others on the call have some good examples though.

February 12, 2021 2:49 PM from William Snow to everyone: @ Thomas - I like John's suggestion of charm. We have seen a mix of carrots and sticks. Some CoCs have incentivized data participation because of the ability to get a better picture of their own performance and outcomes.

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Other CoCs have worked with other funders to include HMIS participation as their own funding processes. Many states and philanthropic organizations now require HMIS participation as well.

February 12, 2021 2:49 PM from Mandy Reagan to everyone: Great way to start the presentation!

February 12, 2021 2:50 PM from Barbara DiPietro to everyone: This is great data!

February 12, 2021 2:50 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: Thanks; we have them participating, we just don't get very high quality data.

February 12, 2021 2:52 PM from William Snow to everyone: @Thomas - another approach I have seen is that CoCs publish their data. When an organization has to account for their data in a more public way it can encourage them to update their data. If you are going to do that I would recommend a phased in approach where you look at data for a year or so within the community to address those issues before publication. That does not work for everyone but it can be very effective.

February 12, 2021 2:54 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: @William - that is a great idea! We were recently looking at publishing data through an interactive dashboard but couldn't find a way to pay for it. I'll see if I can raise that again

February 12, 2021 2:56 PM from John Summerlot to everyone: @William That's so true. If stakeholders can see that good data is resulting in good results, they're WAY more likely to make sure that the data is good. They have to see that good data matters. We've seen that here in MD-600

February 12, 2021 2:57 PM from Brian Roccapiore (he/him) to everyone: @Thomas Bates - even if it's in a PDF emailed to stakeholders - that is a great first step, and gets people used to seeing data. No need to wait for a fancy interactive dashboard (speaking from my personal experience).

February 12, 2021 2:59 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: Great ideas, thanks everyone

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February 12, 2021 3:03 PM from Suzie Tolmie to everyone: William Snow- can you review how HUD will be broadcasting homeless PIT numbers for 2021, given that several CoCs elected to either modify or cancel their unsheltered counts?

February 12, 2021 3:03 PM from David Stevens to all panelists: from Alex Dunn to all attendees: 3:00 PM

Why are emergency shelters not phase 1? Isn't the risk of spread higher there?

February 12, 2021 3:05 PM from Blair Harrison to everyone: That is a great question Alex! We should mention- these are not discrete phases. We know in many settings the plan is to vaccinate emergency shelters at the same time as drop-in centers/encampments.

February 12, 2021 3:05 PM from William Snow to everyone: @ Suzie - great question. We don't know yet. We anticipate using the HIC data more than ever so that we can tell the story of how systems were built up (and decompressed as well) to address COVID-19. What we say about unsheltered homelessness will absolutely be very limited but without seeing precisely what we have we just don't know. It is doubtful that we will say anything about unsheltered homelessness across the entire country. We hope to be able to speak a little about trends in geography types (but we shall see).

February 12, 2021 3:05 PM from Mark Johnston to everyone: Elizabeth/Blair: Could mentioned having a Tribal Response Team. Could you elaborate more on what you are doing for this needy population. Sounds like specific outreach team and perhaps a targeted housing project to address their needs?

February 12, 2021 3:05 PM from Blair Harrison to everyone: Our experience in MN had been that because there tend to be more barriers to serving those outside, if they aren't intentionally centered/prioritized, there is a risk that they get left behind as people/teams try to problem solve.

February 12, 2021 3:05 PM from Blair Harrison to everyone: Versus addressing first.

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February 12, 2021 3:13 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: We've been able to organize some local vaccination clinics for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness or who use the overnight emergency shelters. The severe weather and extended drop-in center hours helped significantly

February 12, 2021 3:15 PM from Mandy Reagan to everyone: Excellent presentation. Very clear, concise and outcome focused. Impressive work- well done MN.

February 12, 2021 3:20 PM from Lynette Freeman to everyone: Are youth in shelters a traget group for early vaccinations? Here in AL have not hearf anythiong on this subject.

February 12, 2021 3:20 PM from A Lewis to everyone: Regarding spending/drawing funds: It's still the case that we can't use ESG-CV Prevention funds in most cases during the moratorium, correct?

February 12, 2021 3:21 PM from Lynette Freeman to everyone: Are there grants/funds applications forthcoming for youth shelters benefits?

February 12, 2021 3:22 PM from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: Correct - During the moratorium, ESG HP can't be used for eviction prevention in response to a landlord-initiated eviction action for nonpayment of rent

February 12, 2021 3:23 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: @A Lewis - this document covers how eviction moratorium impacts eligibility for homelessness prevention - <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Grants-Management-ESG-Homelessness-Prevention-Eligibility-During-Eviction-Moratoria.pdf>.

February 12, 2021 3:23 PM from David Stevens to all panelists: from Grant Allen to all attendees: 3:23 PM

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If a client is housed in a CoC RRH project but the project's funding is now exhausted and the client still needs assistance, can they be transferred into ESG-CV RRH?

February 12, 2021 3:23 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: There are other populations that qualify for homelessness prevention, though, and you could absolutely use your funds to serve those populations (e.g., those being evicted for reasons other than non-payment of rent). And of course you can always provide RRH assistance to people experiencing homelessness

February 12, 2021 3:23 PM from Beth Sharber to everyone: Can ESG CV1 Funds be used for Transitional Housing?

February 12, 2021 3:24 PM from Natalie Burtzos to everyone: This is on page 12 of the CDC moratorium re: ESG-cv <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/pdf/CDC-Eviction-Moratorium-01292021.pdf> : "Hud's grantees and partners play a critical role in prioritizing efforts to support this goal. As grantees decide how to deploy CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds provided by the CARES Act, all communities should assess what resources have already been allocated to prevent evictions and homelessness through temporary rental assistance and homelessness prevention, particularly to the most vulnerable households." Our subrecipients have not found the one page Eligibility During Eviction Moratoria to be helpful and folks need more guidance on what this means in the CDC Declaration

February 12, 2021 3:24 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: @Beth - no. ESG-CV funds cannot be used for transitional housing

February 12, 2021 3:24 PM from Beth Sharber to everyone: @Brett, thank you, that's what I thought.

February 12, 2021 3:27 PM from Angela Susten to everyone: I agree with @Natalie
We need more HP Guidance

February 12, 2021 3:27 PM from Edina Chester to everyone:
<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Grants-Management-ESG->

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Homelessness-Prevention-Eligibility-During-Eviction-Moratoria.pdf. This link does not appear to be working, is there a way to get to this document on the HUD exchange

February 12, 2021 3:28 PM from Edina Chester to everyone: I was able to access the link, thank you!

February 12, 2021 3:30 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: This is another resource to help determine if someone meets the definition of at risk of homelessness during an eviction moratorium: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Homeless-System-Response-Eligibility-During-Eviction-Moratoria.pdf>

February 12, 2021 3:30 PM from Megan Stuart to everyone: Our data consistently shows that many people enter shelter from staying with friends/family so we're trying to target homeless prevention funds to people who are being asked to leave friends/families.

February 12, 2021 3:31 PM from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: @Megan - great idea - thanks for sharing!

February 12, 2021 3:31 PM from A Lewis to everyone: Request to HUD to consider: Our subgrantee service providers really need more training, especially on HP since this is still new to most of them. Also on all the various waivers/differences in place now. Normally we as grantee would try to provide this. But we've had our hands full just getting out the funds and meeting our absolute requirements, and have not had capacity to offer training. If HUD or a TA partner could offer some training webinars targeted to service providers doing HP, that could help.

February 12, 2021 3:32 PM from Lynette Freeman to everyone: Where can we get the visual tools/resources?

February 12, 2021 3:32 PM from Angela Susten to everyone: @Megan - yes - we have been encouraging our sub-recipients to use HP for doubled up

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February 12, 2021 3:32 PM from Rosemary Lockett to everyone: During the Eviction Moratorium, can ESG Prevention funds be used to provide CM to Prevention Eligible clients that are trying to work with their LL (mediation) on the understanding the client's rights under the EM?

February 12, 2021 3:33 PM from Natalie Burtzos to everyone: There should be a TA webinar on the CDC moratorium and declaration page since it seems like HP providers should be directing clients ineligible because of the moratorium to utilize the declaration if they qualify

February 12, 2021 3:33 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: @Rosemary - if a household qualifies for homelessness prevention they would qualify for any of the eligible activities that go along with prevention - services and rental assistance. You don't need to be providing rental assistance in order to provide case management. In fact, we absolutely would advise providing only the assistance necessary to help households retain their housing.

February 12, 2021 3:35 PM from Natalie Burtzos to everyone: the assistance necessary to help households retain housing once the moratorium lifts is going to be more than it would have been today

February 12, 2021 3:36 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: It's potentially going to be too much for ESG-CV's 12 month limit if we don't provide assistance now.

February 12, 2021 3:37 PM from David Stevens to all panelists: from Alex Dunn to all attendees: 3:36 PM

The hard part we are seeing on the moratorium is that landlords are just waiting for leases to expire and then kicking people out by not renewing the lease. Would that be eligible for HP?

February 12, 2021 3:37 PM from Norm Suchar to everyone: @Natalie, Thomas: These are great examples of how the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, recently announced by the Treasury Department, will be helpful. We will provide more information about that in a future office hours or perhaps a separate webinar.

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February 12, 2021 3:39 PM from Rosemary Lockett to everyone: @Brett, I just wanted to be clear that these clients would have protection under the EM, (and therefore not eligible for Prevention rental assistance or arrears) but need assistance from CM to advocate on their behalf to help them maintain their housing. Is that still okay?

February 12, 2021 3:39 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: @Norm, we're excited to learn more, but that program does not have enough funding to solve everything. ESG-CV HP still has an important role to play

February 12, 2021 3:39 PM from Natalie Burtzos to everyone: Thanks Norm, I am very familiar with the Treasury Department ERAP, but am more focused on how subrecipients who were awarded HP funds will expend those since they cannot in the way that they planned on months ago

February 12, 2021 3:39 PM from Thomas Bates to everyone: Second Natalie

February 12, 2021 3:40 PM from Brett Esders to everyone: @Rosemary - ah - no. If they don't qualify for homelessness prevention assistance under ESG (e.g., they aren't at risk of homelessness) then they don't qualify for any of the ESG-CV activities, including housing stability case management

February 12, 2021 3:40 PM from David Stevens to all panelists: from Alex Dunn to all attendees: 3:38 PM

Yes, please more information on Treasury funds!

February 12, 2021 3:40 PM from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: @Natalie - many recipients and subrecipients are reevaluating their initial budgeting decisions to respond in a strategic way based on the new available funding.

February 12, 2021 3:40 PM from Elizabeth Bioteau to everyone: Can you make any recommendations around vaccination within DV shelters? We are trying to reconcile our state's preregistration process for vaccination (which is strongly encouraged) with the need to protect survivor's confidentiality.

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February 12, 2021 3:42 PM from Thomas Bednar to Norm Suchar (privately): Emily is gone

February 12, 2021 3:43 PM from Michele Williams to everyone: @ Elizabeth Bioteau, Work closely wit your health partners on how to maintain confidentiality for survivors. In my community PH brought a mobile unit to our DV shelter and we did not have to pre-register people. They also accepted a shelter ID which allowed us to use an alias for those in the most danger.

February 12, 2021 3:44 PM from Lisa Coffman to everyone: @Elizabeth - we strongly recommend reaching out to your state coalition against domestic violence for recommendations.

February 12, 2021 3:45 PM from Brian Roccapiore (he/him) to everyone: @elizabeth - I'll also add that many states have the ability to opt-out of state vaccine data collection, but those are all determined locally.

February 12, 2021 3:45 PM from Lisa Coffman to everyone: You can find your state coalition against domestic violence here: <https://nnev.org/content/state-u-s-territory-coalitions/>

February 12, 2021 3:46 PM from Edina Chester to everyone: Earlier in the chat Marlisa had said "Correct - During the moratorium, ESG HP can't be used for eviction prevention in response to a landlord-initiated eviction action for nonpayment of rent". The link for the ESG Homelessness Prevention guidance states as part of the eligibility criteria for at risk that household has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days. Can you please clarify how this is a different situation than Marlisa's response? Thank you!

February 12, 2021 3:46 PM from Nili Soni to everyone: FQHC locator tool: <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>

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February 12, 2021 3:48 PM from Katie Peterson (she/her) to everyone:
<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Emergency-Rental-Assistance-Payments-to-States-and-Eligible-Units-of-Local-Government.pdf>

February 12, 2021 3:49 PM from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: @Edina - It sounds like you're referring to qualifying for ESG HP under the at risk of homelessness definition. the criterion affected by the CDC Moratorium in that case is resources preventing moves to shelter or unsheltered situations, which cannot be met while someone is protected by an eviction moratorium.

February 12, 2021 3:49 PM from Chris OHara to everyone: Is there ways to still steer the course on the treasury funds for rent assistance?

February 12, 2021 3:50 PM from Chris OHara to everyone: at least on the eligibility?

February 12, 2021 3:50 PM from Chris OHara to everyone: or go eligible costs or how referrals get captured?

February 12, 2021 3:50 PM from Rebekah Zahn-Pittser to everyone: Thank you!

February 12, 2021 3:50 PM from A Lewis to everyone: ---Thanks for the guidance and being responsive to the questions/needs in the chat here!

February 12, 2021 3:50 PM from Beth Sharber to everyone: Thanks to All!

February 12, 2021 3:50 PM from Michelle Everett to everyone: Thank you