



Office Hours: COVID-19 Planning and Response

June 12, 2020



Housekeeping

- A recording of today's session, along with the slide deck and a copy of the Chat and Q&A content will be posted to the HUD Exchange within 2-3 business days
- Event information for upcoming Office Hours, along with copies of all materials can be found here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/#covid-19-webinars-and-office-hours>

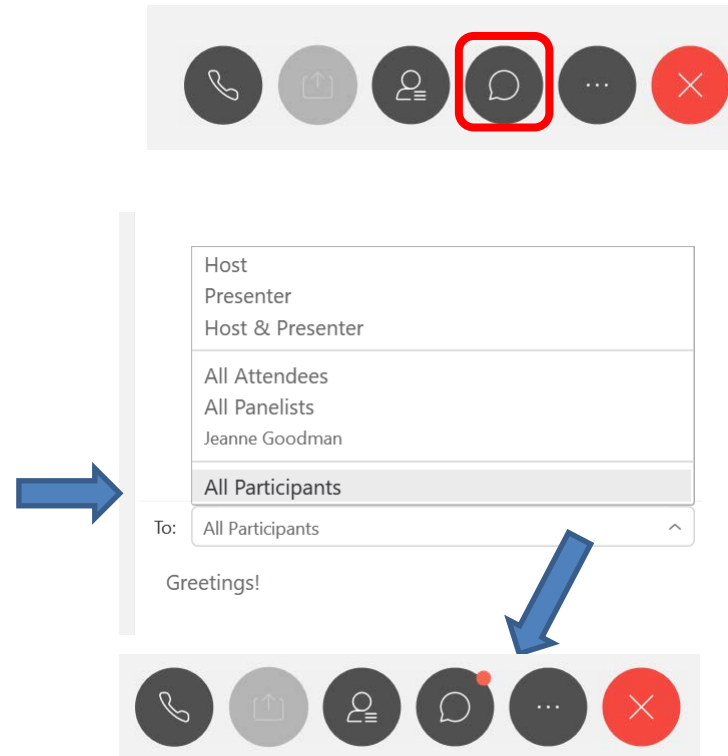
- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:
1-855-797-9485 Access code: 610 976 677

Chat Feature

Select the Chat icon to make a comment or ask a question.

Be certain the To field is set to **All Participants**

An orange dot on the Chat icon indicates that you have unread messages.



Speakers & Resource Advisors

Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
 - Norm Suchar
 - Brett Esders
 - Marlisa Grogan
 - Ebony Rankin
- Todd Richardson, General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy Development and Research
- Jessie Handforth Kome, Director, Office of Block Grant Assistance
- Aaron Weaver, Senior CPD Representative, Chicago Field Office

Speakers & Resource Advisors

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Emily Mosites, PhD MPH- COVID-19 At-Risk Population Task Force, Senior Advisor on Health and Homelessness

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

- Barbara DiPietro, PhD, Senior Director of Policy

Department of Veterans Affairs

- Dina Hooshyar, MD, MPH, Director, National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans (the Center), VHA Homeless Program Office
- Jillian Weber, PhD, RN, CNL, Homeless-PACT National Program Manager, VHA Homeless Program Office

HUD UPDATES



ESG-CV Second Allocation

- HUD announced \$2.96 Billion in ESG-CV awards on June 9, 2020
- HUD developed a new formula for these awards
- [Review explanation of HUD's formula methodology for this second allocation](#) on HUD.gov.
- The first allocation of \$1 billion was based on HUD's FY 2020 formula allocation.

ESG CARES Act Round 2 Allocation

Todd Richardson
General Deputy Assistant Secretary
HUD Office of Policy Development and Research
June 12, 2020



Statutory Language (parsed)

“for the benefit of

- unsheltered homeless,
- sheltered homeless, and
- those at risk of homelessness,

to geographical areas with the greatest need based on factors to be determined by the Secretary, such as

- risk of transmission of coronavirus,
- high numbers or rates of sheltered and unsheltered homeless, and
- economic and housing market conditions as determined by the Secretary”

Variables and Weights

- **Share of all homeless.** Total Homeless Count from the 2019 Point-in-Time count. 50% weight
- **Share of unsheltered homeless.** Also from the 2019 Point-in-Time count. 10% weight
- **Share of at risk for homelessness – Total Very Low-Income (VLI) Renters.** From the American Community Survey special tabulation CHAS Data. 15% weight
- **Share of at risk for unsheltered homelessness – VLI renters overcrowded or without kitchen or plumbing.** From the American Community Survey special tabulation CHAS Data. 25% weight
- *Economic and Housing Market Conditions - All variable counts adjusted upward up to 20% for 1-BR FMR's above the weighted national average on each variable.*

Correlations

- The closer you get to 1.0, the better the targeting

	CARES Act ESG Formula per capita
Overall homelessness rate per capita	.941 ^{**}
Sheltered homeless rate per capita	.647 ^{**}
Unsheltered homeless rate per capita	.771 ^{**}
Percent homes occupied by VLI renters	.564 ^{**}
Percent of VLI renters overcrowded or without complete kitchen or plumbing	.466 ^{**}
1-Bedroom Fair Market Rent	.515 ^{**}

Next Steps for Accessing Funds

- Submit your substantial amendment(s) – If you have not yet submitted an amendment for Round 1, you may include both Rounds 1 and 2 in your submission. Don't wait!
- Scope of Amendments – the [Setting Up a Substantial Amendment for CARES Act Funding](#) instructions indicate that recipients should provide a high-level summary of all eligible activities that will be funded in response to COVID-19.
 - Project description can be at the component level (emergency shelter, street outreach, rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, HMIS)
 - Subrecipients are not required to be identified at this point
 - Provide yourself flexibility to adjust funding decisions

COVID-19 Second Mega Waiver

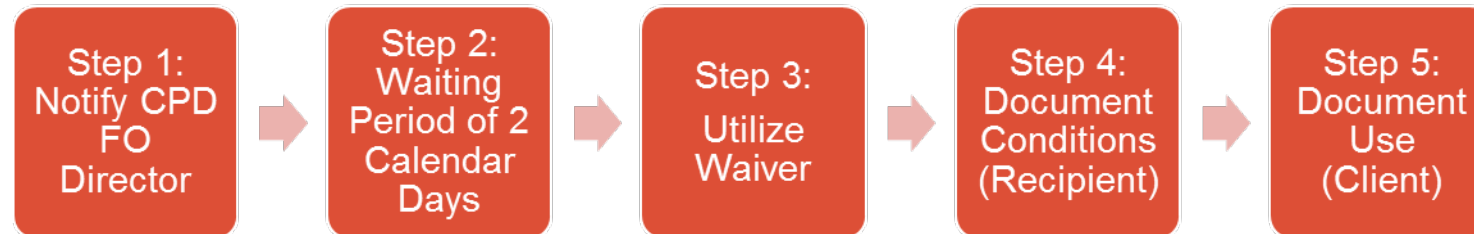
Regulatory Waivers for CPD Grant Programs and Consolidated Plan Requirements

Background

- On May 22, 2020, HUD issued a memorandum providing **regulatory waivers** for certain requirements associated with:
 - Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
 - Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)
 - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program
 - Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program
- Effective date is **May 22, 2020**.
- The waivers are intended to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and **to facilitate assistance to eligible communities and households economically impacted by COVID-19**.

Submitting and Documenting Waivers

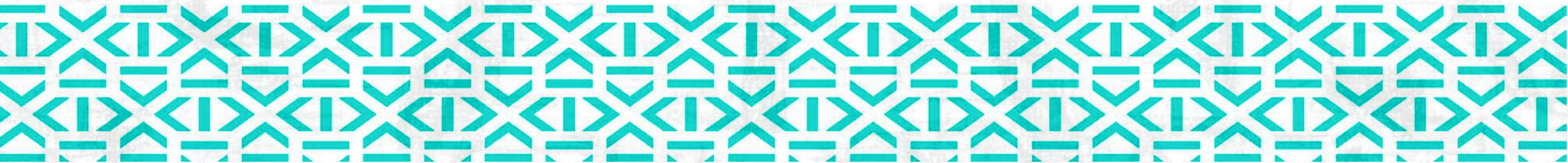
- Recipients wishing to utilize any of the waivers provided should **notify their local CPD Director, by email**, of their intent to utilize a specific waiver **two days** before they anticipate using the flexibility.
- Grantees are strongly encouraged to establish a set of **emergency policies and procedures** for use during the COVID situation. This should outline the waivers they are utilizing and describe the records they will maintain to support those waivers.



Resources

- [Mega Waiver #1](#): Description of available waivers and the notification procedure
- [Mega-Waiver #2](#): Description of available waivers and the notification procedure
- [Waiver-Specific CPD Director Contact Information](#): Specific email addresses that must be utilized to notify CPD Directors of the intent to utilize available waivers

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program



ESG Program Waivers

The following waivers are available for the ESG Program:

- To the extent that funding provided under the CARES Act for the ESG program is subject to the same requirements in 24 CFR part 576 that apply to ESG funding provided through annual appropriations, **the waivers made available on March 31, 2020 for ESG are made available with respect to the CARES Act funding for the same justifications and subject to the same conditions.**

Additionally, the following waiver is made available with respect to all ESG grants:

1

Housing Stability Case Management

24 CFR 576.401(e)

Housing Stability Case Management

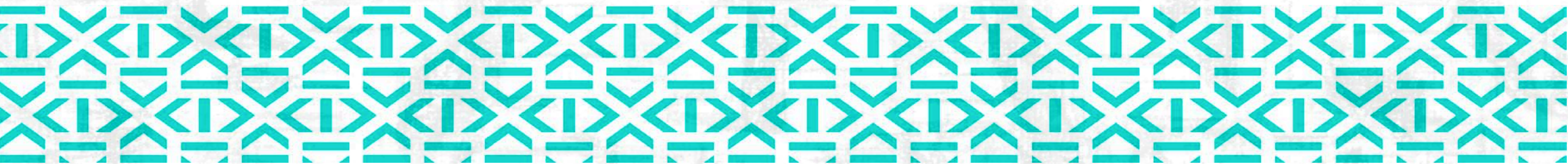
Requirement	Applicability
Program participants receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance must meet with a case manager not less than once per month, unless certain statutory prohibitions apply.	This waiver is in effect for an additional three months beginning on the date of this memorandum (8/22/20).

Housing Stability Case Management

Suggested Recipient Documentation	Suggested Client Level Documentation
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Documentation of limited staff capacity, shelter-in-place order, or similar COVID-19 related impediment;2) Copy of waiver notification sent to HUD;3) Emergency recordkeeping policies and procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) A note in the files of affected clients.

*NOTE: If a grantee has utilized the Housing Stability Case Management waiver from the April 1, 2020 Memorandum, this documentation would be maintained **in addition to** the documentation from the use of the prior waiver.*

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program



CoC Program Waivers

The following waivers are available for the CoC Program:

2

Permanent Housing Rapid Re-housing Limit to 24 Months of Rental Assistance

24 CFR 578.37(a)(1)(ii), 24 CFR 578.37(a)(1)(ii)(C), and 24 CFR 578.51(a)(1)(i)

3

Limit to be Eligible for DedicatedPLUS Project When Coming from Transitional Housing Being Eliminated

Section III.C.3.f.(2) of the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA and Section III.C.2.g.(2) of the FY 2019 CoC Program Competition NOFA.

4

Assistance Available at Time of Renewal

24 CFR 578.33(c)

5

Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing Monthly Case Management

24 CFR 578.37(a)(1)(ii)(F)

PH RRH Limit to 24 Months of Rental Assistance

Requirement	Applicability
CoC Program funds may be used to provide short-term (up to 3 months) and/or medium-term (for 3 to 24 months) tenant-based rental assistance.	<p>a) Participants in a PH RRH project who will have reached 24 months of rental assistance (RA) beginning on the date of the memorandum and lacks the resources and support networks to retain housing without additional RA.</p> <p>b) Participants can continue receiving additional RA for up to 3 months after a state or local public health official has determined that special measures are no longer necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19.</p>

PH RRH Limit to 24 Months of Rental Assistance

Suggested Recipient Documentation	Suggested Client Level Documentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Copy of waiver notification sent to HUD;2) Emergency recordkeeping policies and procedures that outline the state or local public health official whose determination shall be utilized to mark the end date of the waiver's applicability;3) a copy of the aforementioned public health determination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Documentation of the number of months the participant has been provided rental assistance;2) a note to file identifying the date of the Second Mega Waiver Memorandum and its application to the participant;3) for applicable clients, documentation they lack the resources and support networks to retain housing without additional RA.

Eligibility for DedicatedPLUS Project from TH Being Eliminated

Requirement	Applicability
To be eligible for a DedicatedPLUS project an individual or family must meet the criteria of DedicatedPLUS in the NOFA under which the grant was awarded. One of the possible criteria is residing in TH that will be eliminated and meeting the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individual or family entered the transitional housing project.	DedicatedPLUS projects funded in the FY 2018 and FY 2019 CoC Program Competitions to allow these projects to serve individuals and families residing in transitional housing, whether it is being eliminated or not, as long as the individual or family met the definition of chronically homeless upon entry to the TH.

Eligibility for DedicatedPLUS Project from TH Being Eliminated

Suggested Recipient Documentation	Suggested Client Level Documentation
<div>1) Copy of waiver notification sent to HUD;</div> <div>2) Emergency recordkeeping policies and procedures</div>	<div>1) Documentation that the family met the definition of chronically homeless upon entry into the TH project;</div> <div>2) a note in the files of affected clients outlining application of the waiver</div>

Assistance Available at Time of Renewal

Requirement	Applicability
With respect to program participant's debts, 24 CFR 578.53(e)(8)(ii)(B) only allows the costs of credit counseling, accessing a free personal credit report, and resolving personal credit issues. 24 CFR 578.53(d) limits the use of CoC Program funds for providing services to only those costs listed in the interim rule.	Projects that amend their grant agreement between March 31, 2020 & October 1, 2020 to move funds between budget line items in a project in response to the pandemic.

Assistance Available at Time of Renewal

Suggested Recipient Documentation

An executed grant agreement amendment will suffice as documentation for this waiver.

NOTE: Recipients do not need to follow the notification process in Attachment #1 of the Memo. HUD will consider the grant agreement amendment executed between as notification to HUD.

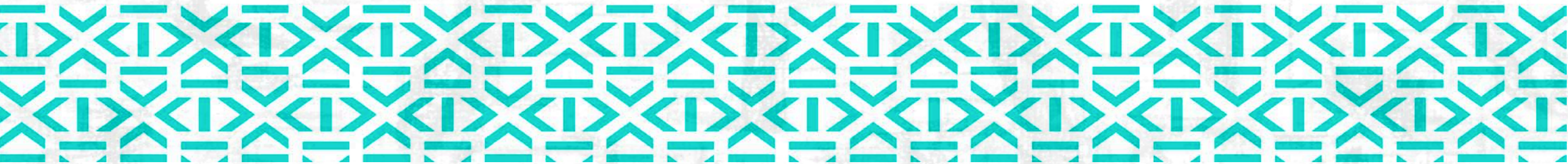
Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing Monthly Case Management

Requirement	Applicability
Recipients must require program participants of permanent housing – rapid re-housing projects to meet with a case manager at least monthly.	All PH RRH projects for an additional three months beginning on the date of the memorandum.

Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing Monthly Case Management

Suggested Recipient Documentation	Suggested Client Level Documentation
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Documentation of limited staff capacity, shelter-in-place order, or similar COVID-19 related impediment;2) Copy of waiver notification sent to HUD;3) Emergency recordkeeping policies and procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) A note in the files of affected clients outlining application of the waiver.

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)



YHDP Waivers

The following waivers are available to YHDP funding:

- The waivers made available on March 31, 2020 (Megawaiver #1) for the CoC Program with the same justifications and subject to the same conditions
- The waivers made available on May 22, 2020 (Megawaiver #2) for the CoC Program with the same justifications and subject to the same conditions

Key Websites

HUD: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/infectious-disease-prevention-response/>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/index.html>

NHCHC: <https://nhchc.org/clinical-practice/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/>

USICH: <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>

VA: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp>

HRSA: <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/emergency-response/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions.html>

Federal Partner Contacts

For additional information or assistance, contact:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/COVID19; 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636); TTY: 1-888-232-6348
- Department of Housing and Urban Development:
[HUD Exchange Ask-A-Question \(AAQ\) Portal](#)
- Department of Veterans Affairs High Consequence Infection (HCI) Preparedness Program:
vhahcigeneral@va.gov

Q & A

