

COVID-19 Office Hours: Chat and Q&A September 4th, 2020

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September 4, 2020 from Natalie Matthews to everyone: 2:31 PM
<https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/courses/esg-cv-notice-webinar/>

September 4, 2020 from William Higgins to everyone: 2:34 PM Hello AI, William Higgins Maine CoC Board, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/williamhigginsjr/> 207-272-1099

September 4, 2020 from Natalie Matthews to everyone: 2:34 PM To join by phone, please dial: 1-855-797-9485, 610-976-677

September 4, 2020 from Barbara DiPietro to everyone: 2:36 PM Here is the link to the data dashboard that Emily is talking about: <https://nhchc.org/cdc-covid-dashboard/home/>

September 4, 2020 from Denise Albertson to everyone: 2:37 PM There was a mass testing event done in Sturgis, SD last week following the 80th annual motorcycle rally where an estimated 470,000 people were in attendance. Does that information get submitted to CDC through Dept. of Health?

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 2:37 PM Will Emily be able to speak to the CDC order halting evictions through December 31st?

September 4, 2020 from Julie McFarland (she/her) to everyone: 2:38 PM
<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Landlord-Engagement-Reset-Your-Communitys-Critical-Partnerships-During-COVID-Response.pdf>

September 4, 2020 from Maria Davis to everyone: 2:39 PM For Emily, does the rate of positivity in homeless shelters vary with the types of social distancing measures being implemented?

September 4, 2020 from Norm Suchar to everyone: 2:39 PM @Lauren, we will not be able to answer questions about the eviction moratorium today. We are gathering questions, and we will try to get answers as soon as possible. If you have a question you want us to research, please drop it in the chat. Thanks.

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September 4, 2020 from Barbara DiPietro to everyone: 2:39 PM @Denise: If your Dept of Health can put the testing data into that dashboard (the submission process is pretty quick), that would be very helpful!

September 4, 2020 from Lisa Worth to everyone: 2:39 PM What advice should we give to ESG Homelessness Prevention subrecipients who need to spend their funds by 12/31/2020? The eviction moratorium is making it tough for them to spend those funds.

September 4, 2020 from Torrie Kopp Mueller to everyone: 2:40 PM How does the new CDC moratorium affect the use of ESG prevention funds?

September 4, 2020 from Torrie Kopp Mueller to everyone: 2:41 PM I see that ESG-CV funds can be used for bathrooms. Would a shower truck that goes out to people experiencing unsheltered populations to provide showers count as an eligible expense?

September 4, 2020 from Shaye Rabold to everyone: 2:42 PM My question is not directly related to the presentations at this moment, so I apologize. I have submitted this as an AAQ, but haven't received a response. Can ESG-CV funds (and regular ESG) be used under the "Food" cost to provide gift cards purchased from restaurants (e.g., Wendy's) to participants staying in hotels/motels with the assistance of hotel/motel vouchers. In this specific instance, we're talking about a rural area where there is no shelter staff on site of the hotel and providing food on daily basis directly is not an easy task. Again, this would be a gift card to a place where only food could be purchased.

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 2:43 PM Thanks Norm! Question #1 for the CDC Eviction Order - Does it apply to the entire eviction process — barring landlords from sending a tenant notice of an eviction — or only to the final step, when tenants must leave the property or be removed?

September 4, 2020 from Natalie Matthews to everyone: 2:44 PM Link to suite of Landlord Engagement resources, including the document Julie just discussed:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6035/covid-19-homeless-system-response-landlord-engagement/>

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September 4, 2020 from Julie McFarland (she/her) to everyone: 2:44 PM
Strategies for Working with Landlords Toolkit T
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mcteh/Landlord_tool_kit_549020_7.pdf

September 4, 2020 from Brett Esders to everyone: 2:45 PM @Torrie - This document provides some information about eligibility for homelessness prevention under the ESG Program when eviction moratoria are in place -
<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Grants-Management-ESG-Homelessness-Prevention-Eligibility-During-Eviction-Moratoria.pdf>

September 4, 2020 from Don Watt to everyone: 2:45 PM Please confirm that ESG-CV funds can be used for Street Outreach. The Notice at Section I.A. last paragraph specifically excludes Street Outreach (paying for staff and other costs associated with outreach). It's alluded to being eligible with the waiver of the limits on the outreach and shelter cap, but just want to be sure.

September 4, 2020 from William Snow to everyone: 2:47 PM @ Don - yes, street outreach is eligible

September 4, 2020 from Don Watt to everyone: 2:47 PM Thanks William. Thought so, but wanted to double check.

September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 2:48 PM For homelessness prevention under ESG CV, does a CoC need permission from HUD to use Category 3 of the homeless definition to determine eligibility?

September 4, 2020 from Brett Esders to everyone: 2:50 PM @Tim - to use ESG Program funds to serve Category 3 with homelessness prevention assistance you do not need approval from HUD.

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September 4, 2020 from Lisa Snipes to everyone: 2:50 PM What if no one has re-contacted the SBE location in our CoC? I think this is why the CoC has reached out to the U.S. Census to offer assistance.

September 4, 2020 from Crystal Miller to everyone: 2:51 PM CoC can reach out to their Area Census Office

September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 2:51 PM @Brett-excellent! thanks!

September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 2:52 PM Under emergency shelter, is transportation cost for subcontracting with a private transportation services eligible?

September 4, 2020 from Lisa Snipes to everyone: 2:52 PM Thank you. We've done that.

September 4, 2020 from Crystal Miller to everyone: 2:52 PM there is a link on the last that shows how you can find your local regional Census Center

September 4, 2020 from Heidi Smith to everyone: 2:52 PM The guidance states that recipients are encouraged to use ESG-CV funds to provide services that promote self-sufficiency. With the exceptional rise in mental health issues, is providing mental health services to Domestic Violence Survivors (as part of offering emergency shelter and related services) considered an allowable cost?

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 2:53 PM @Sarah - yes, transportation costs are eligible under the emergency shelter component, including subcontracting with private transportation services.

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September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 2:55 PM @Heidi - yes, mental health services under the emergency shelter component are eligible to the extent that other appropriate MH services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community

September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 2:56 PM @ Marisa, thank you for the response about transportation cost. For ESG-CV, how about subcontracting with private transportation services for RRH or prevention clients? If not, are bus tickets or cab rides eligible cost for RRH or prevention clients/

September 4, 2020 from Greta Guarton to everyone: 2:56 PM is this also true to agency outreach staff who are working with people on the street or other locations?

September 4, 2020 from Don Watt to everyone: 2:57 PM We are a State. Are Certifications of Consistency with local consolidated plans required for CV activities? Are local governmental approvals of shelter activities required for ESG-CV shelter activities?

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 2:58 PM @Sarah, no, transportation costs aren't eligible under the RRH or HP components

September 4, 2020 from Robin Bachman to everyone: 2:58 PM @Greta does this slide answer your Q?

September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 3:00 PM If an existing emergency shelter renovates office space or storage space to create additional space for temporary emergency shelter, then when the period of temporary emergency shelter ends, will the Recipient have to repay the renovation funds to HUD...or do anything else pursuant to 2 CFR 200.311?

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 3:00 PM @Don - Local governments do need to approve state-funded emergency shelter activities when states directly subaward to nonprofits

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September 4, 2020 from Greta Guarton to everyone: 3:02 PM yes. thanks.

September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 3:03 PM Two more ESG-CV eligible activity questions: 1) building shower and laundry truck (purchasing truck and supply and converting into a shower or laundry truck) eligible cost? 2) could we use tiny houses as temporary emergency shelters and if so, purchase and rehab of tiny houses eligible cost for ESG-CV?

September 4, 2020 from Aaron Weaver to everyone: 3:04 PM @Don - to add to Marlisa's response, the CDBG-CV notice waived the consistency requirements for the strategic plan portion of the consolidated plan. See pgs. 20-21 of the Federal Register Notice for the following: "As part of the application submission, HUD is temporarily waiving the requirements (found at 42 U.S.C. 12706 and 24 CFR 91.325(a)(5) and 91.225(a)(5)) that grantees certify that the housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan portion of the consolidated plan. HUD is imposing a related alternative requirement that allows grantees to submit those certifications when the grantee submits its next full (3-5 year) consolidated plan due after the 2020 program year. Grantees may not have considered the needs associated with CDBG-CV funds when developing their current consolidated plan strategic plan and needs assessment."

September 4, 2020 from Aaron Weaver to everyone: 3:05 PM Here's the link to the CDBG-CV FR - <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6113/fr-6218-n-01-notice-of-program-rules-waivers-alt-requirements-under-cares-act-cdbg/>

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 3:05 PM Will Census ask about income level or is it assumed low income because experiencing homelessness?

September 4, 2020 from Don Watt to everyone: 3:05 PM @Aaron; @Marlisa - Thank you!

September 4, 2020 from Natalie Matthews to everyone: 3:05 PM Information on census materials:

Conducting the Count: <https://2020census.gov/en/conducting-the-count.html>

Service-Based Enumeration: <https://2020census.gov/en/conducting-the-count/gq/sbe.html>

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Group Quarters Advance Contact: <https://2020census.gov/en/conducting-the-count/gq/gqac.html>

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19: <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html>

To find the RCC for your area: <https://2020census.gov/en/contact-us/rcc.html>

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whitleigh to everyone: 3:05 PM our household size, for families experiencing homelessness?

September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 3:06 PM What would make new shelter essential services (e.g. case management) eligible in terms of prevent/prepare for/respond to under ESG CV?

September 4, 2020 from Aaron Weaver to everyone: 3:07 PM @Tim, the definition for PPR is outlined in the ESG-CV notice

September 4, 2020 from Shaye Rabold to everyone: 3:08 PM @tim west -- i am not with HUD but I believe the case management eligible activities include those to get people into permanent housing, which is needed always, but especially during a pandemic where having your own place to be healthy is the best way to prevent the spread.

September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 3:09 PM @shaye & aaron-- thanks!

September 4, 2020 from Aaron Weaver to everyone: 3:09 PM See pages 5-6 for the definition of PPR. Here's the link: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCHCO/documents/20-08cpdn.pdf>

September 4, 2020 from Shaye Rabold to everyone: 3:10 PM @tim west: we are limiting ESG ES essential services to just the activities that justifiably fit the prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID (e.g., we aren't letting folks use the funds for LifeSkills, but definitely for Case Management, Transportation, Outpatient Medical Care...)

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- September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 3:11 PM Thanks Shaye!
- September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 3:14 PM ESG, under street outreach,
- September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 3:15 PM ESG, under street outreach, activities "addressing urgent physical needs" are eligible. Would purchasing shower and laundry trucks considered meeting urgent needs, therefore eligible? (Sorry for keep asking. We have an RFP process open and received these project applications and want to figure out if they are eligible before making the funding decisions!)
- September 4, 2020 from Tim West to everyone: 3:16 PM This presentation shows comprehensive thinking and planning to respond to the needs. Very timely presentration.\
- September 4, 2020 from Beth Sharber to everyone: 3:17 PM Under ESG can an ES provider require people to produce proof of negative test for COVID-19 or MD Note? Drug screens?
- September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 3:19 PM Thanks Dora! What about household type/ number of household members to capture families experiencing homelessness?
- September 4, 2020 from Renee Pope to everyone: 3:20 PM Thanks Michele and Gabby!! Just wanted to mention that Prince George's is also standing up a Learnig Village in our largest congregate shelter for families for the fall semester to reduce the educational divide for these students while in a remote learning environment. The Learning Village starts Tuesday and is designed to ensure homeless students enrolled in K-12 attend distance-learning courses per each student's individual class schedule, receive assistance with completing in-class and homework assignments and after school enrichment programming from 2 pm to 6 pm, and other tutorial and supplemental activities throughout the day.

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September 4, 2020 from Norm Suchar to everyone: 3:20 PM @Beth, for shelters and other programs funded by ESG-CV, you may not require proof of negative test or drug screens.

September 4, 2020 from Beth Sharber to everyone: 3:21 PM @Norm, to clarify, under regular ESG they are able to?

September 4, 2020 from Monica Porter to everyone: 3:22 PM Thank you for the Census presentation! Could you please clarify the last date for a SBE/TNSOL location to connect with Census ACOs to be included in SBE/TNSOL? Sept. 22 (noted on the slides) or Sept. 11 (noted in chat Q&A)?

September 4, 2020 from Aaron Weaver to everyone: 3:22 PM @Beth - to add to Norm's response, The ESG-CV Notice page 11 Section (E)(3)(a)(g) Temporary emergency shelters states the following: "Program participants cannot be required to sign leases or occupancy agreements, receive treatment, or perform any other prerequisite activities as a condition for staying in any shelter or receiving services;"

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 3:22 PM In our BoS CoC, shelters have been requiring folks to be from "in-county" to mitigate spread. It is my understanding this is not allowed per ESG. Please confirm. Thanks!

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 3:23 PM @Beth, please see CDC guidance on testing in homeless shelters and encampments - CDC does not recommend entry testing for homeless service sites and encampments. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/testing.html>

September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:24 PM I just got that message from Robin. Testing

September 4, 2020 from Norm Suchar to everyone: 3:24 PM @Beth, for regular ESG funding, it's more complicated. Depending on the circumstances, the shelter could be subject to

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protections under the Fair Housing Act and other individual protections. If you submit a question to the AAQ, we can work with you to address the specific circumstances you're facing.

September 4, 2020 from Robin Bachman to everyone: 3:24 PM hi Dora, I'm seeing you now...in chat

September 4, 2020 from Shaye Rabold to everyone: 3:24 PM In our BoS, we've had local govs pass ordinances that covid-tests have to be conducted prior to shelter entry! And of course that ole' "residency requirement"...

September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:24 PM I responded to several questions from attendees. I will attempt to repeat those responses.

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 3:25 PM @Lauren, HUD strongly encourages minimizing barriers to shelter, including any residency requirements. The ESG regs also prohibit limiting access to shelter due to lack of documentation

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 3:25 PM Thanks! That's what I thought and keep telling folks

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 3:26 PM @Lauren - including *not requiring* residency requirements

September 4, 2020 from Crystal Miller to everyone: 3:26 PM Could you please clarify the last date for a SBE/TNSOL location to connect with Census ACOs to be included Sept is the last day to add new SBE locations but your local Area Census Office might have an earlier date when they want to stop adds

September 4, 2020 from Beth Sharber to everyone: 3:26 PM @Norm @Aaron @Marlissa Thanks so much for your responses! We are a CoC with a shelter that is requiring these things. Will submit in AAQ for assistance. Unfortunately our CoC does not have a low barrier shelter.

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September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:26 PM The ACOs will be reaching out to SBE location facility managers through September 11. Therefore, some locations may have not yet been reached but if you know of anyone who states they have not been called, please share the contact name and contact information; email and phone number to me.

September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:27 PM In terms of questions being asked during the SBE operation; only the questions/ data items on the ICQ that is in the slide deck are questions we ask during this operation. Therefore we do not ask about income level or family members.

September 4, 2020 from Crystal Miller to everyone: 3:27 PM We are doing SBE Rescheduling from now until 9/11. But if we missed your facility we can still add you up until 9/22

September 4, 2020 from Monica Porter to everyone: 3:28 PM Thank you!

September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:29 PM Sept 22 is the last date that anyone can provide an address location for the 2020 Census SBE operation. This means we must get that address into our frame on that date to make sure that this location is in the 2020 Census. This is only the address information. We can still collect the response data until 9/24.

September 4, 2020 from Christiana Tugman to everyone: 3:30 PM Dora, can you provide your contact information please.

September 4, 2020 from Angela Susten to everyone: 3:30 PM @Lauren -Hi! - following the chat regarding residency requirements

September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 3:31 PM With ESG funds, are case management related costs such as staff mileage for home visits and office supplies eligible under Rapid rehousing?

COVID-19 Office Hours: Chat and Q&A September 4th, 2020

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September 4, 2020 else have an echo?	from Whitney McGinniss to everyone: 3:32 PM	Does everyone
September 4, 2020 bad.	from Robin Bachman to everyone: 3:32 PM	My sound just went
September 4, 2020	from Crystal Pitt to everyone: 3:32 PM	I do
September 4, 2020 background noise	from allie atkeson to everyone: 3:32 PM	there is a terrible
September 4, 2020	from Christina Yasav to everyone: 3:32 PM	yes
September 4, 2020 everyone	from Norm Suchar to everyone: 3:32 PM	Sorry about that
September 4, 2020	from Denise Albertson to everyone: 3:32 PM	Yes
September 4, 2020	from Kari Schultz to everyone: 3:32 PM	That is terrible
September 4, 2020	from Norm Suchar to everyone: 3:32 PM	We're working on it.
September 4, 2020	from Whitney McGinniss to everyone: 3:32 PM	Ok - better!
September 4, 2020	from edna white to everyone: 3:32 PM	better
September 4, 2020	from Crystal Pitt to everyone: 3:32 PM	Next slide

COVID-19 Office Hours: Chat and Q&A September 4th, 2020

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September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:33 PM Thank you

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 3:34 PM @Sarah - yes, Housing Stability Case Management is eligible under RRH and HP along with overhead costs such as staff mileage, office supplies, etc.

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whitleigh to everyone: 3:34 PM Hey Angela! I was on a call with someone earlier who was sharing that vets have been being turned away from shelters for not being "in-county". Not sure if the shelters are ESG funded or not, so wanted to ask the question in this forum to confirm this is not allowed before finding out more about the situation.

September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 3:35 PM @Karen and Marlisa, thank you SO MUCH!

September 4, 2020 from rebecca Pfeiffer to everyone: 3:35 PM On ESG-CV Notice webinar yesterday mentioned that Substantial Amendments had to be accepted before Sept 1st to be eligible for all items. How do we confirm that a jurisdiction's amendment was accepted?

September 4, 2020 from Marlisa Grogan to everyone: 3:36 PM @Rebecca, please check with your local HUD Field Office for the date that they completed their review of your substantial amendment

September 4, 2020 from Norm Suchar to everyone: 3:36 PM @Rebecca, to be clear, you can take advantage of everything in the Notice, even if you submit your substantial amendment later than 9/1. The only issue is whether you are subject to the limitations, including 12 month limit on rental assistance. You can check with the field office to see if they finished review by 9/1.

September 4, 2020 from Aaron Weaver to everyone: 3:37 PM @Rebecca, if you're the jurisdiction and have access to IDIS, you can check the plan's status in the system. Otherwise, you'd have to contact the jurisdiction to find out if they were notified by HUD.

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September 4, 2020 from Angela Susten to everyone: 3:39 PM @Lauren Thumbs up

September 4, 2020 from rebecca Pfeiffer to everyone: 3:39 PM @Aaron, thank you

September 4, 2020 from Natalie Matthews to everyone: 3:41 PM File/Save
As/Chat

September 4, 2020 from Bonnie Campbell to everyone: 3:41 PM Can someone confirm whether or no ESG-CV funds be used for HP if a client has a lease on the property?

September 4, 2020 from Robin Bachman to everyone: 3:42 PM To find the RCC for your area: <https://2020census.gov/en/contact-us/rcc.html>

September 4, 2020 from William Snow to everyone: 3:44 PM @ Corey - the Census effort and PIT count will be separate. HUD is still evaluating the best way to move forward with the 2021 PIT count

September 4, 2020 from Catherine Huang to everyone: 3:47 PM What about the FMR waiver for CoC projects? Will that be extended?

September 4, 2020 from Dora Durante to everyone: 3:49 PM Thanks everyone for any assistance you can provide within the scope shared in the slide deck and about SBE locations you may think are not on our frame. I am dropping off the call.

September 4, 2020 from William Snow to everyone: 3:49 PM Thanks Dora!

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September 4, 2020 from Sarah Lim to everyone: 3:49 PM Is gift card for gas eligible then for ESG-CV? (if we obtain receipts from participant)?

September 4, 2020 from Brett Esders to everyone: 3:50 PM @ Catherine - we're aware the waiver flexibilities are expiring and looking into renewing them.

September 4, 2020 from Catherine Huang to everyone: 3:50 PM Thank you @brett!

September 4, 2020 from Shaye Rabold to everyone: 3:53 PM for gift cards that are from food establishments only (so not to a grocery or not a visa card), would receipts still be needed. In other words--the only item that could be purchased with the card would be food so there is no real need to make sure the receipt only included food or that only the portion that was for food could be reimbursed. Agency can certainly try to get the receipts for these food-only gift cards, but just trying to clarify if receipts are still needed in this scenario. I know they would be for cards that could be used for things other than food

September 4, 2020 from Mark Johnston to everyone: 3:53 PM Under the ESG CV notice, if funds are used for rental arrears for, say 6 months, does that limit how long rental assistance can be provided to the household?

September 4, 2020 from Robin Bachman to everyone: 3:54 PM We were so happy to join! #2020Census

September 4, 2020 from Crystal Miller to everyone: 3:54 PM thank you for inviting us

September 4, 2020 from Brett Esders to everyone: 3:54 PM @Shaye - yes, you'll need to document that the gift card was used to purchase food (usually with the receipt for the food) in order to be able to expend grant funds for food. A gift card to an establishment that primarily serves food is not enough.

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September 4, 2020 from Justin Marino to everyone: 3:54 PM NOFA Update???

September 4, 2020 from Lauren Whiteleigh to everyone: 3:55 PM Thank you!

September 4, 2020 from Shaye Rabold to everyone: 3:55 PM @brett - thanks so much! understood.

September 4, 2020 from Brett Esders to everyone: 3:55 PM @Mark - if the recipient is operating under the 12 month limitation on medium-term rental assistance, then no, the 6 months of arrears does not count towards that 12 months

September 4, 2020 from Robin Bachman to everyone: 3:55 PM Happy weekend!

September 4, 2020 from Ebony Rankin to everyone: 3:55 PM @Justin - no update on the CoC NOFA...we are working on it