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THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT



FLEXIBLE RESOURCES, DATA-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS:  
USING HMIS AND HEARTH TO END HOMELESSNESS

# The Future of McKinney-Vento Act Programs at HUD

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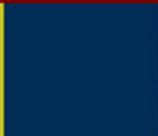
## Agenda

- History of HUD's McKinney-Vento Programs
- Guiding Values for HUD's Homeless Programs
- Moving Towards Implementation of the HEARTH Act
- Overview of the HEARTH Act
- 2011 Budgets
- The Future of the McKinney-Vento Act Programs





# History of the McKinney-Vento Programs at HUD





## History of the McKinney-Vento Programs at HUD

- Enacted in 1987
- First major federal legislative response to homelessness
- Includes ESG, S+C, SHP and Section 8 SRO Mod Rehab Programs





## History of the McKinney-Vento Programs at HUD

- The Continuum of Care Concept
  - Has been phased in administratively, through CoC NOFAs, beginning in 1994
  - Encourages communities to address homelessness in a coordinated and comprehensive manner





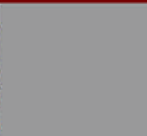
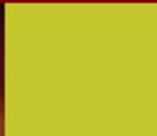
## The Role of the CoC NOFA

- The CoC concept has been implemented through an annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
- Through NOFAs and annual competitions, HUDs values have guided CoC development and governance
- Guidance and policy has been scattered amongst variety of resources





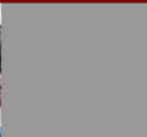
# HUD's Guiding Values





## Guiding Values

- The following values have guided HUD's development of the CoC concept:
  - Best serving people who are homeless
  - Comprehensive local collaboration, coordination and decision making
  - Data collection and performance







## Guiding Values

### Collaboration and Coordination

- HUD provides flexibility so that communities can meet unique local needs
- HUD encourages homeless assistance grantees to coordinate HUD housing funds with mainstream supportive services from other Federal agencies
- HUD incentivizes local strategies that involve accessing mainstream resources through scoring





## Guiding Values

### Data Collection and Performance

- HUD's homeless programs have become performance driven.
- HUD uses the data collected to:
  - Understand the extent and nature of homelessness throughout the country
  - Provide Congress with information on housing and services provided as well as gaps that have been identified
  - Report to Congress and OMB on performance
  - Make funding decisions





## Guiding Values

### Data Collection and Performance

- Grantees use the following tools to collect data and report to HUD:
  - Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)
  - Annual Performance Report (APR)
  - Point-in-time Count
  - Housing Inventory Chart (HIC)





## Guiding Values

### Data Collection and Performance

- To help communities collect and report reliable and valid data, HUD has made available a variety of resources
- Many CoCs have implemented additional methods and procedures to improve data quality at the local level
- Many CoCs have integrated data collection with other community system's to obtain a truer, more detailed picture of homelessness





# Moving Towards Implementation of the HEARTH Act





## Moving Towards Implementation

- The data driven and performance based targeting and leveraging of federal resources at the local level is reflected in the HEARTH Act
- The Act codifies the CoC Program as a core HUD program and creates a solid foundation that communities can build upon
- The Act reinforces the success that the CoC process has achieved nationwide





## Moving Towards Implementation

- Program regulations are in the process of being developed
- HUD is using the input solicited through the discussion groups while developing the program regulations
- The McKinney-Vento Act, as amended by the HEARTH Act, and the subsequent program regulations, will maintain local flexibility to best meet the needs of those homeless and at-risk of homelessness





# Overview of the HEARTH Act







## HEARTH Act Overview

- Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act
  - Signed into law on May 20, 2009
  - Reauthorizes HUD's McKinney-Vento Programs





## HEARTH Act Overview

- The HEARTH Act is organized in four sections:
  - Subpart A – General Provisions
  - Subpart B – Emergency Solutions Grant Program
  - Subpart C – Continuum of Care Program
  - Subpart D – Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program





## General Provisions

- Definition of ***Homeless Individual or Family*** includes:
  - An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence;
  - An individual or family 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;
  - An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements;
  - An individual who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;





## General Provisions

- Definition of ***Homeless Individual or Family*** includes:
  - An individual or family who will imminently lose their housing within 14 days;
  - Unaccompanied youth and homeless families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes who:
    - Have experienced a long term period without living independently in permanent housing;
    - Have experienced persistent instability as measured by frequent moves over such period; and
    - Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time.





## General Provisions

- Definition of ***Homeless Individual or Family*** includes:
  - Any individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions in the individual's or family's current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized, and who have no other residence and lack the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.





## General Provisions

- The definition of ***at-risk of homelessness*** means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family—
  - Has income below 30 percent of median income for the geographic area;
  - Has insufficient resources immediately available to attain housing stability; and





## General Provisions

- The definition of ***at-risk of homelessness*** means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family—
  - Has moved frequently because of economic reasons
  - Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship
  - Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated;
  - Lives in a hotel or motel;





## General Provisions

- The definition of ***at-risk of homelessness*** means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family—
  - Lives in severely overcrowded housing;
  - Is exiting an institution; or
  - Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness







## General Provisions

- The term ***chronically homeless*** means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family—
  - Is homeless and lives or resides in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter;
  - Has been homeless or living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years; and





## General Provisions

- The term ***chronically homeless*** means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family—
  - Has an adult head of household (or minor head of household) with a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, PTSD, cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability





## Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

- The ESG Program is essentially a combination of the current ESG Program and the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)
- Allocations done by formula based on 20 percent of the available grant funds in the appropriation, if funding allows





## Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

- A recipient may use up to **7.5 percent** of funds received for administrative purposes
  - State recipients shall share administrative funds with local governments
- The Act **requires** that recipients of ESG participate in HMIS
- Recipients of ESG funds will be required to coordinate with recipients of CoC Program funds





## Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

- Combines SHP and S+C into one program
- Codifies the CoC structure and process
- Creates one match requirement of 25 percent cash or in-kind across all line items, except leasing
- Allows for funding of administrative costs related to designing a collaborative process for the development of an application under the CoC Program





## Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

- The statute requires CoCs to participate in the Consolidated Plan for the geographic area
- The statute requires CoCs to ensure operation of, and consistent participation by, project sponsors in a community-wide HMIS
- CoCs will be required to evaluate the outcomes of ESG- and CoC-funded projects within their geographic area





## Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program

- The Rural Housing Stability Program is designed to assist individuals and families who are homeless, in imminent danger of losing housing, or in the worst case housing situations in the geographic area
- Applicants from rural areas will be required to choose between receiving funding through the CoC Program or receiving funding through the Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program





## Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program

- Creates selection set-asides for communities of less than 10,000 and communities less than 5,000 with priority given to communities that are not receiving significant Federal assistance
- Allows for funding of capacity building activities
- Introduces eligible activities that have not historically been available







## HEARTH Funding Requirements

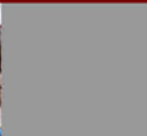
1. 20% to ESG;
2. CoC Renewals;
3. If CoC Renewals cannot be covered with remaining funds, ESG is reduced;
4. If ESG is funded at 20% and there is funding left; then
5. Remaining funds are for new competitive projects under CoC and Rural.

The President's 2011 budget reflects the program priorities of HEARTH, but not this order.





# FY2011 Proposed Budgets





## President's FY2011 Budget

- The President's Budget proposes \$2.055 billion for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants
- What are the program priorities articulated in HEARTH?
  - Funding ESG at a higher level to allow communities to continue prevention and RRH projects
  - Protecting renewals of existing programs that work
  - Continuing with the important work of developing permanent supportive housing
  - Meeting the needs of rural communities





## President's FY2011 Budget

Program	Amount Available
ESG Program	\$200,000,000
CoC Program Competitive Renewal Projects	\$1,700,000,000
New Competitive Projects and CoC Planning Funds	\$160,000,000*
PH Requirement	Approximately \$600 million

\*The amended McKinney-Vento Act *requires* that 30 percent of the amounts made available for the CoC and ESG Program must be used to create new permanent supportive housing until we reach 150,000 units created since 2001. We have created about 80,000 through 2009.

Renewal funding is not counted towards meeting the goal.





## Comparison of FY2011 Budgets: Administration, House and Senate

	President's FY2011 Budget	U.S. Senate's FY2011 Budget	U.S. House of Representatives Budget
<b>ESG Program Projects</b>	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000
<b>CoC Program Competitive Renewal Projects</b>	\$1,700,000,000	\$1,700,000,000	\$1,700,000,000
<b>New Competitive Projects and CoC Planning</b>	\$160,000,000	\$160,000,000	\$300,000,000





## The Federal Strategic Plan and HUD's Budget

- Internally at HUD, we are working across programs to implement the FSP:
  - CPD and PIH are coordinating resources to meet Federal Strategic Plan goals
  - Using the VASH and HHS demonstration vouchers as a launching pad for a closer working relationship
  - Coordination on planning processes like the Consolidated Plan and PHA plans





# The Future of the McKinney-Vento Act Programs





## Developing the Program Regulations

- In the development of the program regulations HUD will consider the Federal Strategic Plan and HUD's Strategic Plan to determine the role of each program in meeting the goals defined in each Plan
- HUD continues to acknowledge that allowing flexibility and building capacity at the local level will best meet the needs of homeless, at-risk of homelessness, and those in worst case housing scenarios nationwide







## What's Next?

- HUD will release draft regulations for public notice and comment
- HUD will issue final regulations based on comments received
- HUD will implement a phase-in strategy for major requirement changes in CoC and ESG Programs





## HUD's Expectations of its Grantees

- Design plans and projects that have as their top priority ensuring that program participants are able to obtain and maintain housing
- Demonstrate effectiveness at reducing the rates and length of time homeless locally
- Collect quality data in HMIS





## Resources to Help Communities

- To assist community's in meeting HUD's expectations, HUD has planned:
  - Intensive regional sessions to occur after publication of the final regulations
  - Intensive TA to assist CoCs, ESG recipients and Rural Housing Stability recipients with program implementation
  - Revised policy documents, including Desk Guides and online training opportunities





## Resources to Help Communities

- Up to date information regarding the HEARTH Act, including a copy of the McKinney-Act amended by the HEARTH Act, can be found at <http://www.hudhre.info/hearth/>
- Notification of the availability of future information will be released via HUD's Homeless Assistance listserv. To join HUD's listserv, go to <http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/maillinglist.cfm> and click on "Homeless Assistance Program"

