



National Alliance to
END HOMELESSNESS

Child Welfare Agencies:

**Using Homelessness
Prevention and Rapid
Re-housing Resources**

Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-housing (HPRP)

- \$1.5 billion allocated on formula basis to state and local jurisdictions
- 60 percent of funds must be spent within two years, 100 percent within three
- Each community must file amendment to consolidated plan by May 18 and have funds committed by September 30
- Check your community's allocation:
<http://www.hud.gov/recovery/homelesspreventre cov.xls>

HPRP Basics: Eligible Providers

- Cities, urban counties, or any agency of local government may directly carry out activities
- Some or all of the grant may be re-granted to private, non profit agencies to carry out activities
- Local governments may subgrant to another local government to carry out this program (e.g. when another local government has greater capacity to carry out activities)

HPRP Basics: Eligible Program Participants

- Persons still housed but at risk of becoming homeless or persons who are already homeless; AND
- At or below 50 percent of AMI
- *Further targeting of prevention resources is recommended to those most at risk*

HPRP Basics: Eligible Activities

- Administration Costs/Data Collection/Evaluation
- Financial Assistance
 - Short- & Medium-Term Rent Assistance, security deposits, moving cost assistance, utility payments/deposits, motel vouchers
 - Broad flexibility in structuring rent assistance by state/local grantee
- Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services
 - Case Management related to meeting housing needs, Outreach and engagement, Housing search and placement, Legal Services, Credit Repair

Promising Practices Responding to Homelessness

- Prevention
 - Improving targeting to higher risk groups
 - Outreach strategies and Partnerships
 - Enriching interventions – both service/financial
 - New strategies
 - Revisit eligibility standards
- Rapid Re-housing
- Targeted use of Richer Interventions
 - Permanent Supportive Hsg/Transitional Hsg

Use of Funds by CW Agencies for Youth

- Provide housing search assistance, rental assistance and housing based case management to youth who are exiting foster care
- Contract with non-profit to provide outreach services to youth who have aged out of foster care within last 1-2 years and provide housing relocation assistance as needed
- Bridge subsidy for youth who have a permanent source of rent assistance identified

Use of Funds by CW Agencies for Families

- Provide short-term rental assistance and landlord negotiation to prevent housing loss and removal of child from home
- Provide housing relocation and rental assistance for families who must be re-housed in order to remain intact or children reunified
- Bridge subsidy
- *Target HPRP resources to reduce CW costs – capture data to build case for future investments*

Making the Case...to CW Directors

- Homelessness and poor housing increases risk of family separation and delayed reunification
- CW agencies can use HPRP funds to prevent homelessness AND prevent unnecessary family separations and delayed reunification while reducing costs to the community
- Child welfare workers are among the first to encounter families in dire housing situations and with proper tools could resolve quickly
- Greater resources to help youth locate and sustain housing can promote better outcomes for youth

Making the Case.....to Housing Providers

- Child welfare workers regularly collect information about housing problems but rarely have access to resources to prevent homelessness.
- Child welfare workers are often better positioned to prevent homelessness than shelter workers.
- Training child welfare workers and arming them with housing resources will improve a community's ability to prevent and end homelessness – and reduce costs.
- Housing services are cheaper than many other interventions including foster care, residential treatment, and long term shelter.

HPRP – Learning More

- HUD Homeless Resource Exchange:
<http://hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewHPRP>
- National Alliance to End Homelessness
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/section/prevention/>
- National Center for Housing & Child Welfare
- www.nchcw.org