



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program Webinar

April 1, 2009

Co-sponsored by the National Law Center on
Homelessness & Poverty and the National
Alliance to End Homelessness

Presentations

- ◆ Overview of HPRP - Mark Johnston, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- ◆ Coordinating Services - Peggy Bailey, Health Policy and Program Analyst, National Alliance to End Homelessness
- ◆ Comparison and Coordination of HPRP with Other Federal, State, and Local Homeless Prevention Programs - Laurel Weir, Policy Director, National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty

Homelessness Prevention Programs

- ◆ Existing models:
 - FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program
 - HUD Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program
 - State and local government programs
- ◆ New program
 - HUD Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

- ◆ Funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- ◆ \$1.5 billion to communities for homeless prevention and rapid-rehousing activities
- ◆ Funding distributed under the Emergency Shelter Grant formula but HPRP funds are different than ESG

FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program

- ◆ Authorized as Title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- ◆ Formula grant administered through a National Board
 - Member agencies: The American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; the Salvation Army; United Jewish Communities; and United Way of America
- ◆ Funds distributed to local boards and State Set-Aside Committees that substantially mirror National Board

FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program

- ◆ Eligible uses of homeless prevention funds include one month's back payment of rent or utility bills
- ◆ Homeless preventions funds spend out differently in different communities – quarterly vs. up front
- ◆ Funded through annual appropriations but received an additional \$150 million under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

HUD McKinney-Vento ESG Program

- ◆ Authorized under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- ◆ Funds distributed by formula block grant to states and entitlement communities
- ◆ State and local governments may subgrant
- ◆ Funded by annual appropriations

Eligible ESG homeless prevention activities under HUD Regulations (24 CFR 576.3)

- ◆ **Short-term subsidies** to defray rent and utility arrearages for families that have received eviction or utility termination notices;
- ◆ **Security deposits** or first month's rent;
- ◆ **Mediation programs** for landlord-tenant disputes;
- ◆ **Legal services** programs for the representation of indigent tenants in eviction proceedings;
- ◆ **Payments to prevent foreclosure** on a home; and
- ◆ **Other innovative programs** and activities designed to prevent the incidence of homelessness.



State Homeless Prevention Programs



- ◆ NLCHP report: An Ounce of Prevention
- ◆ Reviews 25 state homelessness prevention programs that help people avoid foreclosure and eviction
- ◆ Includes an overview of forms of assistance, results, and source of program funding

Issues

- ◆ **Targeting/eligibility**
 - Wide variation in who is eligible, e.g. must be unemployed to receive assistance in ME, must meet income guidelines in FL
 - State programs not as deeply targeted as HPRP
- ◆ **Range of services**
 - Mortgage assistance
 - Supportive services
- ◆ **Duration**
- ◆ **Coordination**
- ◆ **Reporting**

Resources

- ◆ HUD Homelessness Resource Exchange -
<http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewHPRP>
- ◆ NLCHP Report on State Homeless Prevention Programs -
http://www.nlchp.org/view_report.cfm?id=294
- ◆ Today's Webinar -
http://www.nlchp.org/program_multimedia.cfm?prog=5

More Resources

- ◆ FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program: <http://www.efsp.unitedway.org/>
- ◆ Sen. Harry Reid's ARRA Resource Guide - http://reid.senate.gov/issues/upload/reid_arra_guide.pdf