

ESG CARES Orientation for Returning Grantees

January 26, 2021

Training Presenters

Dr. Alonzo Peterson

ESG CARES Trainer

Natalie Burtzos, LMSW

ESG CARES Specialist

Naomi Cantu

Homeless Programs Manager

Questions

- Enter questions into Question panel of GoToWebinar
 - Questions will be addressed at the end of each section
- If have questions after the webinar, email esg@tdhca.state.tx.us

3

Training Objectives

- To gain a better understanding of the ESG Annual Program
- To gain a better understanding of the ESG CARES Program
- To better understand the eligible uses of ESG Annual and CARES funds
- To gain a better understanding of the waivers and additional eligible activities now provided by the HUD Notice and how they might impact your program

4

Areas of Analysis

- ESG Basics
- ESG CARES Basics
- ESG Eligible Uses
- Program Delivery Waivers/Requirements
- Additional Eligible Activities
- Documentation
- FAQ

5



ESG Contract Process

6

Contracting Process

- Board Action Request for awards passed January 14, 2021
- Contracts sent via docusign
 - Contract contact asked to initial budget and performance via docusign
 - Executor asked to sign via docusign

7

Can we start spending funds?

- Contract dates January 14, 2021-March 31, 2022
- Pre-award cost are eligible on most activities from March 13, 2020
 - Project based rental assistance can only start drawing funds based on environmental clearance date
- ESG CARES is reimbursement based
- Will receive Housing Contract System access to submit monthly reports

8

ESG Basics



9

What being funded through ESG means

- Your organization submitted an application to address a problem in your community
- Your organization designed a program to address the problem in your community using one of the ESG program components
- Your agency submitted documentation to show your agency is up to task of addressing this problem in your community
- Your local CoC recommended your organization's application and approach to addressing the problem in your community

10

Eligible households for Homeless Prevention or Rapid Re-housing

- Meet at-risk of homelessness definition:
 - Webinar: At-risk of Homelessness Definition and Recordkeeping
- Meet homeless definition:
 - Webinar: Homeless Definition and Recordkeeping
- <https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/video-library.htm>
- Updates since webinars:
 - Income level at 50% Area Median Income for Homeless Prevention
 - Re-evaluation once every six months for Homeless Prevention (not annually or every 3 months)

11

Eligible Units for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing

- Meet rent reasonableness standard
 - Webinar: ESG and HOME TBRA Rent Reasonableness
<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/video-library.htm>
 - Meet habitability requirements
 - Webinar: Minimum Habitability Standards
- Updates since webinars:
- Fair Market rate does not apply for ESG CARES.
 - Habitability can be virtual until safe to do in person.

12

Reminder: Homeless prevention and eviction moratorium

- Eviction moratoria acts as a resource to prevent the loss of housing.
- Household may not qualify for Homelessness Prevention under:
 - At Risk of Homelessness -- Category 1c (“Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance”) or
 - Homeless—Category 2 definition (“The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance.”)
- A household may still qualify for homelessness prevention under these definitions without an eviction action.
- Legal Aid protections may exist (case by case basis)

13

Reminder: Homeless prevention and eviction moratorium (cont'd 2)

- Familiarize yourself with the CDC Eviction Moratorium and Declaration
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-eviction-declaration.html>
 - Consider connecting clients who are ineligible to the Declaration Form
 - Prepare for how your agency will prepare to handle the end of the moratorium

COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Eligibility During Eviction Moratoria

During an eviction moratorium, Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) homelessness prevention resources for COVID-19 response may be used for individuals or families.

Those incomes do not exceed Very Low Income for the area. **AND**

Who do not have sufficient resources or support networks to avoid emergency. **AND**

Who meet ONE of the following criteria described below.

Multiple Moves
Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance. OR

Doubled-Up
Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship. OR

Hotel/Motel
Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals. OR

Overcrowded Housing
Lives in a single room occupancy (SRO) or efficiency apartment unit where two or more persons reside or where there are more than one-and-a-half persons per room. OR

Exiting Institution
Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care (e.g., jail, prison, psychiatric hospital, etc.). OR

Other Situations of Housing Instability
Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved Consolidated Plan.

A child or youth (as well as their parent(s) or guardian(s), if living with them) may also qualify as eligible if considered homeless under other federal statutes and meet additional criteria (see "homeless" definition at § 8.02 (b)(2)).

This resource is prepared by technical assistance providers and intended only to provide guidance. The contents of this document, except when based on statutory or regulatory authority or law, do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

14

Reminder: Homeless prevention and eviction moratorium (cont'd 3)

- HUD on other forms of eligibility
 - There may be other ways that clients may qualify for HP services
 - <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Homeless-System-Response-Eligibility-During-Eviction-Moratoria.pdf>

COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Eligibility During Eviction Moratoria

During an eviction moratorium, Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Homelessness Prevention resources for COVID-19 response may be used for individuals or families:

- ☐ Whose incomes do not exceed Very Low Income for the area; **AND**
- ☐ Who do not have sufficient resources or support networks to avoid emergency; **AND**
- ☐ Who meet ONE of the following criteria described below.

☐ Multiple Moves
Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance, OR

☐ Doubled-Up
Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship, OR

☐ Hotel/Motel
Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals, OR

☐ Overcrowded Housing
Lives in a single room occupancy (SRO) or efficiency apartment unit where two or more persons reside or where there are more than one-and-a-half persons per room, OR

☐ Exiting Institution
Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care (e.g., jail, prison, psychiatric hospital, etc.), OR

☐ Other Situations of Housing Instability
Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved Consolidated Plan.

A child or youth (as well as their parent(s) or guardian(s), if living with them) may also qualify as eligible if considered homeless under other federal statutes and meet additional criteria (see "homeless" definition at 24 CFR 57.323-2).

This resource is prepared by technical assistance providers and intended only to provide guidance. The contents of this document, except when based on statutory or regulatory authority or law, do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

15

Legal Service Providers

- Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas:
<https://internet.lanwt.org/locations>
- Texas RioGrande Legal Aid:
<https://www.trla.org/offices>
- Lone Star Legal Aid:
<https://lonestarlegal.blog/offices/>
- Please assist with documentation for:
 - the definition of homelessness/at-risk of homelessness met
 - income level documentation
 - habitability inspection
 - and evidence of receipt of lead-based paint disclosures.

16

ESG Regulations

Key Reference Material

Code of Federal Regulations, 24 CFR Part 576

§576.400-409—Program Requirements

§576.500-501—Grant Administration

Texas Administrative Code, 10 TAC §7.2, §7.8, §7.42, §7.44

ESG Program Guidance Page: <https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/guidance-solutions.htm>

24 CFR §§91, 582 and 583

<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/guidance-solutions.htm>

ESG Contract

Uploaded in the Housing Contract System

Other regulations referenced in the contract

17

CARES BASICS



18

Eligible Uses of ESG CARES

- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Homelessness Prevention*
- Rapid Re-housing*
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)*
- Administration*
- *Eligible for CARES II funding

19

Grant Administration

- Recipients may use up to 5% of the grant for administrative costs
- The match requirement is waived for ESG CARES
- Match still applies to annual contracts
- For ESG CARES first allocation, no cap on emergency shelter or street outreach



20

Grant Administration: Program Income

- Program income includes any gross income received by the Subrecipient, its Affiliate, or their subcontractor directly generated by a grant-supported activity, or earned only as a result of the grant agreement during the Contract Term.
- 10 TAC §7.43(c): Security and utility deposits must remain with the Program Participant, and if returned, is to be returned only to the Program Participant.
- PI may be treated as an addition to the recipient's or subrecipient's grant; otherwise, it must be deducted from allowable costs as provided by 2 CFR 200.307(e)(1).

21



Program Delivery Requirements and Waivers

22

Program Delivery Requirements and Waivers Overview

- Time limit for rental assistance
- Low barrier assistance
- Fair Market rent requirements waived
- Maximum periods of assistance waived
- Housing Stability Case Management (HP and RR) waived
- Coordination with other homeless and mainstream service providers waived
- Re-evaluation for HP

23

Program Delivery Requirements: Time Limit for Rental Assistance

- ESG CARES First Allocation: 24 months of rental assistance
 - Rental arrears of up to 6 months are included in the 24 months of assistance
- ESG CARES Second Allocation: 12 months of rental assistance
 - Rental arrears of up to 6 months are allowed in addition to the 12 months of assistance.



24

If a participant receives rental assistance in CARES I
can they get assistance in CARES II?



25

YES!!!!

- Only up to 12 months of rental assistance in ESG CARES 1 plus ESG CARES 2.
- Rental arrears of up to 6 months can be in addition to the 12 months of assistance through ESG CARES 2.



Program Delivery Waivers: Max Periods of Assistance

- Program Participants reaching the 24-month maximum during the period beginning January 21, 2020 and ending February 28, 2021 may receive an additional 6 months of assistance for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services costs and rental assistance.
- This applies to homeless prevention and rapid-rehousing participants



27

Key Reminders: Rental Arrears

- ESG CARES and ESG Annual both allow rental arrears payments
- ESG Annual and CARES will allow a one-time payment of up to 6 months of assistance along with associated late fees
- If you have not offered rental arrears in the past or offered them, but offer fewer than six months you may want to consider adjusting your written standards to address this community need



28

Program Delivery Waivers: Low Barrier Assistance

- Individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of being homeless may not be required to receive treatment or perform any other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter, rental assistance, or other services.



29

Program Delivery Waivers: Case Management

- The Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing requirement that case managers must meet on a monthly basis with program participants receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance is waived.
- However, recipients must continue to make housing stability case management and other appropriate services available and accessible.

30

Key Reminder: Area Median Income

- ESG Annual: Homelessness Prevention has an Area Median income of 30% AMI
- ESG CARES: Area Median Income limit increased to Very Low-income limit for the area (50% AMI) in the definition of "at risk of homelessness."
- This change allows more participants to receive assistance to address the rental concerns created by the pandemic
- Reminder:
 - No income requirement for rapid re-housing upon entry
 - Upon re-evaluation, income requirement is still 30% AMI for rapid re-housing

31

Program Delivery Waivers: Fair Market Rent

- The requirement that rent not exceed the Fair Market Rent is waived
- Rent must still comply with HUD's standards of rent reasonableness
- ESG and HOME TBRA Rent Reasonableness training:
<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/video-library.htm>

32

Program Delivery Waivers: Coordination with other targeted homeless services

- To ensure funds are deployed quickly to address the immediate public health crisis and prevent the spread of coronavirus, the coordination requirements at 24 CFR 576.400(b) are waived
- System and program coordination with mainstream resources are waived to ensure funds are deployed quickly to address the immediate public health crisis and prevent the spread of coronavirus, the coordination requirements at 24 CFR 576.400(c) are waived.

33

Program Delivery Waivers: Re-evaluation every six months for HP

- Re-evaluations for homelessness prevention will be required not less than once every six months, instead of every three months.
- Applicable until March 31, 2022.



34



Additional Eligible Activities

35

HUD Notice 20-08: Additional Eligible Activities Overview **

- Landlord Incentives*
- Hazard Pay*
- HMIS Lead Activities
- Volunteer Incentives*
- Disease Prevention and Mitigation Training*

*Must be tracked separately on Monthly Expenditure Report

(Available under ESG CARES 1: Handwashing Stations and Portable Bathrooms, Hotel/Motel Cost Expansion, Temporary Emergency Shelter)

**Updated since original presentation.

36

Additional Eligible Activities: Landlord Incentives

- Landlord Incentives

- Eligible in the amount of up to 3 months of rent:
 - (i) Signing bonuses equal to up to 2 months of rent;
 - (ii) Security deposits equal to up to 3 months of rent;
 - (iii) Paying the cost to repair damages incurred by the program participant not covered by the security deposit or that are incurred while the program participant is still residing in the unit; and,
 - (iv) Paying the costs of extra cleaning or maintenance of a program participant's unit or appliances.

The landlord incentives can be charged under homeless prevention or rapid re-housing.

37

How to use landlord incentives

- Signing Bonuses
 - For new (initial) leases or lease renewal only
 - Up to 2 months of contract rent
- Security Deposits
 - For new (initial) leases or lease renewals only*
 - Equal up to 3 months of contract rent

*Updated since original presentation.

38

Signing Bonus in Rent Restricted Units

- Signing Bonuses and Rent Restricted Units
 - Rent Restricted program must allow for signing bonuses
 - For lease renewal, the lease must be within sixty days of the lease term or in month-to-month tenancy.
 - Landlord must provide written documentation of a current lease violation that would serve as good cause not to renew the lease

39

How to use landlord incentives (cont. 2)

- Paying the cost to repair damages incurred by the program participant
 - That are not covered by the security deposit, or
 - That are incurred while the program participant is still residing in the unit
- Paying the costs of extra cleaning or maintenance of a program participant's unit or appliances
- Costs of repairs, cleaning, and maintenance cannot be caused by normal wear and tear
- Cost breakdowns of charges for repairs, cleaning, and maintenance are required before a payment can be made to a landlord.

40

How to use landlord incentives (cont. 3)

- Using the Landlord Incentive Form
 - An addendum to the Rental Assistance Agreement Form
 - Includes fields to list out the contract rent and amount for each type of landlord incentive
 - Signed by Subrecipient, Landlord, and Program Participant(s)

41

Additional Eligible Activities: Hazard Pay

- Provide hazard pay for subrecipient staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
- Must be tracked separately
- The hazard pay can be charged under each program component: street outreach, emergency shelter, homeless prevention or rapid re-housing



42

Additional Eligible Activities: HMIS Costs

- HMIS costs may be used beyond where they are related to collecting data on ESG program participants and ESG program activities to the extent they are necessary to help the geographic area prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
- Recipients that are not the HMIS Lead may pay for eligible HMIS costs either directly or by sub-granting to the HMIS Lead if the HMIS Lead is an eligible Subrecipient to the extent that costs are necessary to help address coronavirus.

43

Training on Disease Prevention and Mitigation

- CARES funds may be used for training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation for staff
- The training can be charged under each program component: street outreach, emergency shelter, homeless prevention or rapid re-housing



44

Additional Eligible Activities: Volunteer Incentives

- Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Re-Housing, and Homelessness Prevention funds may be used to provide reasonable incentives to volunteers (e.g., cash or gift cards) who have been and are currently helping to provide necessary services during the coronavirus outbreak.
- The ESG Subrecipient should take into account the Volunteer Protection Act and any liability issues.
- The volunteer incentives can be charged under each program component: street outreach, emergency shelter, homeless prevention or rapid re-housing.

45

Differences between ESG CARES 1 and 2

ESG CARES 1

- Up to 24 months of rental assistance
 - Six months of rental arrears included
- Hotel/motel cost expansion
 - Receiving RRH or PSH and charged under emergency shelter
- Use of emergency shelter until September 30, 2022

ESG CARES 2

- Up to 12 months of rental assistance
 - Six months of rental arrears in addition
- Hotel/motel cost expansion not eligible
- Emergency shelter not eligible under current contracts

46

ESG CARES Documentation



47

Documents to Have in Place

- Program Level Documentation and Forms
- Client Level Documentation and Forms

TDHCA ESG Video Library: <https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/video-library.htm>

- ESG Documentation

48

Program Level Documentation and Forms OVERVIEW

- Written Standards
- Termination Policy
- Language Access Plan
- Affirmative Outreach
- Reasonable Accommodation
- Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan
 - Project-Based Rental Assistance only
- Emergency Transfer Plan
- Single Audit
- Environmental Clearance
 - Done by TDHCA unless local government
- Inventory List
- Other documentation in 24 CFR §576.500

49

Client Level Documentation & Forms OVERVIEW*

Required TDHCA Form

- Rental Assistance Agreement
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Notice of Occupancy Rights
- VAWA Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking
- Lead Based Paint Hazards Disclosure
- Lead Based Paint Hazards Brochure
- Landlord Incentive Agreement Form – New!

*Updated since original presentation.

Additional Required Documentation

Subrecipient can create their own version

- Intake Application, Including Homeless and At-Risk Definition
- Documentation of Ineligibility
- Income Determination Forms
 - Declaration of Income Statement
 - Certification of Zero Income
- Income Certification
- Income Screening Tool
- Rent Reasonableness
 - Includes Utility Allowance Worksheet
- Request for Unit Approval
- Lease
- Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights

50

Finding Program and Client Level Forms on the Program Guidance Page

<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/guidance-solutions.htm>

Home » HOME DIVISION » ESGP » ESG - Program Guidance for Solutions Funds

Emergency Solutions Grants Program

ESG Main

NOFAs

Program Guidance: Solutions Funds

ESG Subrecipient Menu

Join Subrecipient Email List

TDHCA Housing Contract System

Compliance Division

Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program: Guidance for TDHCA Subrecipients

After reviewing the guidance on this page, ESG Subrecipients requiring technical assistance may email esg@tdhca.state.tx.us with their questions.

Quick Links (Links to information on this page)

- [COVID-19 Federal and State Resources and Guidance](#)
- [Regulations](#)
- [Subscribe to Email List](#)
- **Forms**
- [Data Collection and Reporting](#)
- [Tools and Guides](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Forms

Program Administration

- [Audit Certification Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [ESG Annual Budget and Match Amendment Form \(XLS\)](#)
- [ESG CARES Budget Amendment Form \(XLS\)](#)
- [Housing Contract System Access Request Form for Homeless Programs \(DOC fillable\)](#)
- [Indirect Cost Rate Worksheet \(XLS\)](#)
- [ESG Inventory List, Tools and Equipment \(DOC fillable\)](#)
- [ESG Public Referral Information Form \(DOC fillable\)](#)
- [Texas Identification Number \(PDF\)](#)
- [Vendor Agreement \(DOC\)](#)
- [Direct Deposit Authorization Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [ESG CARES 2 Certifications \(DOC fillable\)](#)

Client and Unit Forms

Required Forms as applicable

- [Declaration of Income Statement Form \(DOC\) and Guidance \(DOCX\)](#)
- [Lead-Based Paint Hazards Disclosure \(PDF\)](#)
- [Lead-Based Paint Hazards Brochure \(www.epa.gov\)](#)
- [Rental Assistance Agreement \(DOCX\) \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)
- [Violence Against Women Act – TDHCA's Notice of Occupancy Rights based on HUD Form 5380 \(DOCX\) \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)
- [Violence Against Women Act – Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking \(HUD Form 5382\) \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)

Subrecipient May Create own Versions of Forms Below

- [Certification of Zero Income \(DOC\) \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)
- [Income Certification \(Spanish\) \(DOC\) and Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
- [Income Screening Tool \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)
- [Request for Unit Approval \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)
- [Violence Against Women Act – Notification Certification \(Spanish\) \(DOC\)](#)

51

COVID-19 Documentation

- Per HUD, connection to coronavirus response is at the activity level, not the household level
- Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing can accomplish one or all three of the COVID response categories: prevent, prepare and respond.
- Consider both public health needs as well as addressing economic impact caused by coronavirus

52

ESG Documentation Addition

- ESG Subrecipients that are faith-based organizations must provide the “Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights” described in 24 CFR 5.109 (g) to applicants or program participants
- The written notice must be given to prospective beneficiaries before the program participant enrolls in any HUD program or activity

Update since the webinar: Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights

53



Reporting updates

54

ESG CARES 2 First Draw Request Options

ESG CARES 2 Subrecipients have two options for their first report:

- Service dates January 14, 2021*-February 28, 2021. Due March 31, 2021.
- Service dates January 14, 2021* - January 31, 2021. Due February 28, 2021.

*Service start date may vary. Pre-award costs are eligible from your first COVID-19 response as early as March 13, 2020

- Email esg@tdhca.state.tx.us for approval and instructions on how to submit your first Draw Request

MER Updates – HP & RRH

3	Homeless Prevention - Financial
4	Homeless Prevention - Project-based rental assistance
5	Homeless Prevention - Services
6	Homeless Prevention - Tenant-based rental assistance
7	HP (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
8	HP (COVID-19) - Landlord Incentives
9	HP (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
10	HP (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives
11	Rapid Re-Housing - Financial
12	Rapid Re-Housing - Project-based rental assistance
13	Rapid Re-Housing - Services
14	Rapid Re-Housing - Tenant-based rental assistance
15	RRH (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
16	RRH (COVID-19) - Landlord Incentives
17	RRH (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
18	RRH (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives

DRAWS FOR PROJECT	
Item #	Category
1	Administration
2	Data Collection/Reports
3	Homeless Prevention - Financial
4	Homeless Prevention - Project-based rental assistance
5	Homeless Prevention - Services
6	Homeless Prevention - Tenant-based rental assistance
7	HP (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
8	HP (COVID-19) - Landlord Incentives
9	HP (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
10	HP (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives
11	Rapid Re-Housing - Financial
12	Rapid Re-Housing - Project-based rental assistance
13	Rapid Re-Housing - Services
14	Rapid Re-Housing - Tenant-based rental assistance
15	RRH (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
16	RRH (COVID-19) - Landlord Incentives
17	RRH (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
18	RRH (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives
19	Shelter - Conversion
20	Shelter - Essential Services
21	Shelter - Major Rehab
22	Shelter - Operations
23	Shelter - Renovations
24	Shelter - URA Assistance
25	Shelter (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
26	Shelter (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
27	Shelter (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives
28	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Acquisition
29	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Essential Services
30	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
31	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Lease
32	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Operations
33	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Other Shelter Costs
34	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Renovations
35	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
36	Shelter Temp (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives
37	Street Outreach - Essential Service
38	Street Outreach (COVID-19) - Handwashing/Bathrooms
39	Street Outreach (COVID-19) - Hazard Pay
40	Street Outreach (COVID-19) - Training on Disease Prev/Mit
41	Street Outreach (COVID-19) - Volunteer Incentives
Total	

Performance Field Update: Tracking Households using Landlord Incentives

When to report in the MPR: When landlord incentives are first utilized

Value entered: The unduplicated number of households enrolled in Homeless Prevention / Rapid Re-Housing using landlord incentives.

Rapid Rehousing			
RRH Persons Served	0	RRH Adults Served	0
RRH Income Increase	0	RRH Less Than 60 Days To MoveIn	0
RRH Permanent Housing	0	RRH HHS COVID19 FMR Waiver	0
RRH Households Served	0	RRH Greater Than 60 Days To MoveIn	0
		RRH Households Rental Assistance	0
		RRH Non-Cash Benefits Increase	0
		RRH Maintained 3+ Months	0
		RRH HHS Using Landlord Incentives	0

Homelessness Prevention			
HP Persons Served	0	HP Adults Served	0
HP Income Increase	0	HP Maintained 3+ Months	0
HP Households Rental Assistance	0	HP HHS CARES <30% AMFI	0
		HP Households Served	0
		HP Permanent Housing	0
		HP HHS CARES 30-50% AMFI	0
		HP Non-Cash Benefits Increase	0
		HP HHS COVID19 FMR Waiver	0
		HP HHS Using Landlord Incentives	0

57

Performance Field Update: Parenting Youth

Parenting Youth (Under 25)

- Previously labeled "Parenting Children and Youth (Under 25)"
- The unduplicated number of Program Participants who are under the age of 25 and parenting. Parenting youth are individuals ages 24 and under who are parenting a child/children.

Remember – when reporting Parenting Youth, there must also be Children of Parenting Youth reported in the MPR

Persons in at least one special population		0	Chronically Homeless	0	HIV/AIDS	0
Chronic Substance use disorder	0	Severe Mental Illness	0	Children of Parenting Youth (Under 18)	0	Parenting Youth (Under 25)
Unaccompanied Children (Under 18)	0	Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)	0	Veterans	0	Victims of Domestic Violence

58

Transitioning from a previous ESG Contract to ESG CARES 2 Contract

- For the MPR, Program Participants that are assisted continuously as a Contract ends and a new Contract begins in the same program will count as new Program Participants for the new Contract.
- However, the start of a new Contract does not require new eligibility determination or documentation for Program Participants, except as required by federal rule for ESG.

59
59

FAQ

60

Does TDHCA have any other webinars I should listen to?



61

Does TDHCA have any other webinars I should listen to

- YES!!!!
- Webinars are available on:
 - At-Risk of Homelessness Definition and Recordkeeping
 - ESG CARES HUD Notice 20-08
 - ESG Compliance Monitoring
 - ESG Documentation
 - ESG Written Standards
 - Homelessness Definition and Recordkeeping
 - Language Access Plans
 - Minimum Habitability Standards
 - Income Eligibility

62

Possible Written Standards Updates



63

Suggested Written Standards Updates

- Rental Arrears
- Low Barrier Assistance
- Case Management Waiver
- 50% AMI for Homelessness Prevention
- 12 months of rental assistance
- 6 month re-evaluation for HP rental assistance
- Landlord Incentives

64

How do I do inspections in a COVID world?



65

Habitability

- Inspections do not have to be done in person
- Staff or staff designee must be able to virtually inspect evidence of the unit's condition and document compliance in the program participant's file
- Staff should resume full in person inspections once it is safe to do so

66

Is personal protective equipment an eligible expense?



67

PPE

- PPE is an eligible expense under the street outreach and emergency shelter components
- Please contact your local health department to see if your community has PPE available for free to conserve you ESG resources

68

Final Suggestions

- Review your written standards and make any updates to needed to better describe your program and your processes
- Send TDHCA a copy of any written standards updates made
- Spend some time on the TDHCA website reviewing guidance and the webinars
- Be responsive to all TDHCA communication
- Sign up for our list serv to stay up to date on all things TDHCA
- Feel free to reach out if you have questions by using the esg email address

69

THANK YOU

Questions?

EMAIL US AT: ESG@TDHCA.STATE.TX.US



TDHCA

Questions and answers from ESG CARES 2 Implementation from Returning Subrecipients

#	Topic	Question:	Answer:
1	Eligibility	Can you go over the housing memorandum again?	<p>When the Center for Disease Control (CDC) declares eviction moratoria, many households would not qualify for ESG/ESG CARES homelessness prevention assistance because the eviction moratoria acts as a resource to prevent the loss of housing. The eviction moratoria could affect the following eligibility definitions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At Risk of Homelessness -- Category 1c (“Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance”) or 2. Homeless—Category 2 definition (“The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance.”) <p>However, please keep in mind that there are other situations in which a household may qualify for homelessness prevention under these definitions without an eviction action. HUD issued this guidance on homelessness prevention during eviction moratoria and ESG/ESG CARES eligibility requirements: https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Grants-Management-ESG-Homelessness-Prevention-Eligibility-During-Eviction-Moratoria.pdf</p>

Questions and answers from ESG CARES 2 Implementation from Returning Subrecipients

2	Eligibility	Can you provide us a county coverage list of all the Legal Aid providers?	<p>Note that the legal aid agencies have many different offices, so there is not one single phone number or location for the providers below.</p> <p>Legal Aid of Northwest Texas: Andrews, Archer, Armstrong, Bailey, Baylor, Borden, Briscoe, Brown, Callahan, Carson, Castro, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Collin, Collingsworth, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Cottle, Crane, Crosby, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Denton, Dickens, Donley, Eastland, Ector, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Glasscock, Gray, Grayson, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hockley, Hood, Howard, Hunt, Irion, Jack, Johnson, Jones, Kaufman, Kent, King, Knox, Lamb, Lipscomb, Loving, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Mills, Mitchell, Montague, Moore, Motley, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Palo Pinto, Parker, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Reagan, Roberts, Rockwall, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Somervell, Stephens, Sterling, Stonewall, Swisher, Tarrant, Taylor, Terry, Throckmorton, Tom Green, Upton, Ward, Wheeler, Wichita, Wilbarger, Winkler, Wise, Yoakum, And Young</p> <p>Lone Star Legal Aid: Anderson, Angelina, Austin, Bell, Bowie, Bosque, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Colorado, Coryell, Delta, Falls, Fayette, Fort Bend, Franklin, Freestone, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Hamilton, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Henderson, Hill, Hopkins, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Lamar, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Matagorda, McLennan, Milam, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Orange, Panola, Polk, Rains, Red River, Robertson, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Smith, Titus, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Van Zandt, Walker, Waller, Washington, Wharton, and Wood</p> <p>Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc.: Aransas, Atascosa, Bandera, Bastrop, Bee, Bexar, Blanco, Brewster, Brooks, Burnet, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cameron, Comal, Crockett, Culberson, DeWitt, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, El Paso, Frio, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzalez, Guadalupe, Hays, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jackson, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kendall, Kenedy, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Kleberg, LaSalle, Lavaca, Live Oak, Llano, Mason, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Nueces, Pecos, Presidio, Real, Reeves, Refugio, San Patricio, Starr, Sutton, Terrell, Travis, Uvalde, Val Verde, Victoria, Webb, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Zapata, and Zavala</p>
---	-------------	---	---

Questions and answers from ESG CARES 2 Implementation from Returning Subrecipients

3	Eligibility	Case management waiver- re-evaluation- If the client is not participating or communicating in the program despite attempts made by case manager would determination to exit the client at 6 months?	<p>Re-evaluations occur when a household is currently receiving assistance, such as case management or tenant-based rental assistance. If a household is receiving assistance, then they need to be able to be reached. If a case manager needs to exit a household from the program due to lack of response, please refer to your written standards.</p> <p>Please see the requirements regarding re-evaluations: 24 CFR §576.401 Note that the 3-month requirement for homelessness prevention has been replaced with a six-month requirement per the CARES Act and HUD notice 20-08.</p> <p>If a client is not communicating with Subrecipient staff after all efforts have been made and a re-evaluation is not able to be conducted, they would no longer be eligible for assistance because they have not met the requirements of the program.</p>
4	Eligibility	When do the recertification follow-ups occur: from move in and six months out? Reevaluation question- For clients that were in the program prior to the 6 month waivers would we conduct the evaluation 6 months from the last 3 month evaluation or from their last recertification?	<p>The requirement for recertification for homelessness prevention is not less than once every six months until March 31, 2022. The requirement for rapid re-housing is not less than once annually.</p>
5	Eligibility	For Rapid Rehousing- For clients that no longer meet program eligibility would we be able to exit the family at the re-evaluation or would the families remain until the end of the lease?	<p>Exiting ESG CARES does not mean that the household would have to vacate their unit. The household has an existing lease with the landlord which is in effect. The rental assistance agreement signed by the household, the landlord and the ESG CARES Subrecipient would end at the end of assistance.</p>

Questions and answers from ESG CARES 2 Implementation from Returning Subrecipients

6	Eligibility	For the Rental Assistance Agreement, how should the subrecipient communicate with the landlord if the participants rental subsidy changes throughout the participation in the project?	<p>Subrecipients have a few options for graduated payments and using the ESG CARES rental assistance agreement, which can be found online at https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/home-division/esgp/guidance-solutions.htm. Please refresh the page to make sure you are getting the most current version of the agreement.</p> <p>Option 1: Complete multiple rental assistance agreements with different terms under “A. Terms of Agreement” and “F. Rent Restrictions and Amounts Payable by Administer” to show the different amounts and time periods. Each version would need to be fully executed.</p> <p>Option 2: Complete the monthly rent fillable field in “F. Rent Restrictions and Amounts Payable by Administer” to describe the different amounts paid and the time periods for each amount. There is a very large character limit on this field, so you may describe the process of the graduated payments.</p>
7	Reporting	Are we able to assist clients who are currently receiving CARES funding for Rapid Re-Housing with this CARES 2 funding after their program end date in July 31, 2021?	<p>Program Participants could be assisted with both funding sources provided it is within the organization’s Written Standards, is within the time limit of assistance as stated in CFR, and there is no duplication of benefits.</p> <p>Note that the rental assistance that a Program Participant is assisted through ESG CARES 1 would count toward the 12 months of rental assistance and one time payment of up to 6 months worth of arrears under ESG CARES 2; ESG CARES 2 offers a shorter term of assistance than ESG CARES 1.</p> <p>For the Monthly Performance Report, Program Participants that are assisted continuously as a Contract ends and a new Contract begins in the same program will count as new Program Participants for the new Contract.</p> <p>However, the start of a new Contract does not require new eligibility determination or documentation for Program Participants, except as required by federal rule for ESG.</p>
8	Reporting	Does landlord Incentives have to report quarterly to ESG CV CAPER Report in SAGE?	<p>Sage reporting depends on what HUD requires, and may be incorporated into HMIS. All ESG CARES Subrecipients must ensure that data on all persons served and all activities are entered into the applicable HMIS or HMIS-comparable database. Data entered into HMIS or an HMIS-comparable database is required to be reported quarterly to SAGE.</p>

Questions and answers from ESG CARES 2 Implementation from Returning Subrecipients

9	Reporting	<p>For monthly reporting, can we cover the transition again? We have ESG CV 1 and 2. Will there be a separate link for ESG CV2 MPR? If not, how do we distinguish the two? We are currently working under one grant and now that we also were approved for this new grant. Do we operate separately and have two different reports or do we consolidate reports and grand funds?</p>	<p>There are separate contracts and separate links for reporting for ESG CARES 1 and 2. You will have two separate Contracts in the Housing Contract System and will report a separate Monthly Expenditure Report and Monthly Performance Report for each Contract monthly.</p>
10	Reporting	<p>Can agency request 10% upfront?</p>	<p>ESG CARES is a reimbursement program. Costs that have been paid or incurred may be reimbursed.</p>