

# **EASTERN SIERRA CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) SPECIAL MEETING**

## **June 24, 2020 -- 10:00 a.m.**

Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc.  
Zoom Conference Meeting

137 E. South Street, Bishop, CA 93514

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### **AGENDA**

Public Notice: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact the IMACA Human Resources Coordinator at 760-873-8557, Extension 111. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable Agency staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

- 1.0 Call Meeting to Order and Introductions –**
- 2.0 Public Comment:** This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda.
- 3.0 2020 Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program for Balance of State –** This is consideration by the Continuum of Care of ESG applications submitted in response to the solicitation for proposals to address homelessness in the Eastern Sierra. The ESG Program provides grant funding to (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street, (2) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, (3) help operate and provide essential services in emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families, and (4) prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless. IMACA proposes three applications including Rapid Rehousing (noncompetitive allocation) for \$58,052, Emergency Shelter (competitive) for \$125,000, and Street Outreach (competitive) for \$125,000.
- 4.0 2020 Emergency Solutions Grants Coronavirus (ESG-CV) Program –** This is the review and approval of projects and preliminary budget for the ESG-CV Program. The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) released a Notice of Funding Availability earlier this month for the program and applications are due from CoC Administrative Entities no later than July 20, 2020. IMACA is requesting direction from the CoC membership on priorities for the allocation of funds for eligible activities which include Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Homelessness Prevention, and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The ESG-CV Program is a special allocation in response to the coronavirus pandemic and provides additional flexibility in the administration of projects.
- 5.0 Roundtable –**
- 6.0 Set Next Meeting Date –**
- 7.0 Adjournment –**

# EASTERN SIERRA CONTINUUM OF CARE

## AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: 2020 Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program  
FROM: Larry Emerson  
DATE: June 24, 2020

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) [https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/esg/docs/2020\\_ESG\\_Balance\\_of\\_State\\_NOFA.pdf](https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/esg/docs/2020_ESG_Balance_of_State_NOFA.pdf) for the 2020 federal ESG Program on February 28, 2020. The Balance of State allocation for the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care (CoC) is \$116,104 based on estimated award of funds to the state from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Homeless service activities eligible for funding under this program include Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach. Homelessness Prevention, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and indirect costs are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of each application total. There is a dollar for dollar match requirement for all awarded funds and administering agencies must enter information into HMIS for each approved project.

The CoC may recommend up to two applications of between 40 and 50 percent of the total allocation for the noncompetitive Rapid Rehousing set-aside. In addition, up to two applications between \$75,000 and \$200,000 may be recommended by the CoC for the Central and Imperial Valley Regional Competition. The Eastern Sierra CoC initiated the local provider selection process in earlier this month, and IMACA submitted funding requests to continue Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Homelessness Prevention, and HMIS Projects in the tri-county service area:

1. Rapid Rehousing (RRH) (50% of non-competitive allocation-currently \$58,052);
2. Emergency Shelter (ES) (\$125,000); and
3. Street Outreach (SO) (\$125,000)

Applications are due to HCD no later than July 10, 2020 and award announcements are expected in August or September. Funding is estimated to begin in November of 2020 and the length of the new ESG contracts is 22 months.

### Recommended CoC Action:

Approve proposed RRH, ES, and SO applications for the 2020 ESG Balance of State Program

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## AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: 2020 Emergency Solutions Grants Coronavirus (ESG-CV) Program

FROM: Larry Emerson

DATE: June 24, 2020

In late March of this year, Congress approved, and the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. To protect people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress appropriated \$4 billion for the Emergency Solutions Grant program from the CARES Act (ESG-CV). The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently awarded \$42 million in federal funds to the State of California for homeless activities. The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is allocating these funds to the Continuums of Care and released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) [https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/esg/docs/2\\_ESG-CV\\_NOFA\\_Signed.pdf](https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/active-funding/esg/docs/2_ESG-CV_NOFA_Signed.pdf) on June 1, 2020. ESG-CV applications are due from the CoC Administrative Entities no later than July 20, 2020.

### ESG-CV NOFA Summary

The state has allocated ESG-CV funds to eligible Continuum of Care Service Areas, including the Eastern Sierra CoC to:

- Prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or receiving homeless assistance; and
- Support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus.

The Eastern Sierra CoC's allocation based on the state formula is \$365,200 and the grant period is two years. Eligible ESG-CV activities are the same as for the ESG Balance of State Program except that many of the burdensome federal and state requirements have been waived. For example, there is no dollar for dollar match requirement for the funds and no minimum or maximum grant limitations. Projects that may be administered by service providers with ESG-CV funds include Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Homelessness Prevention, and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Grantees are responsible for awarding ESG-CV funds to eligible service providers through a fair and open process that avoids conflicts of interest.

### Current CoC Projects and Expenditures

HCD requires that Continuums provide evidence with the application and during grant administration that there is no duplication of benefits and that assistance from multiple

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sources does not exceed a particular funding need. The Counties are administering the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Program (HMIOT) Programs. The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program, Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP), California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program and Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program are being managed by IMACA. The nonprofit agency SHINE is also operating a homeless youth program and Mammoth Lakes Housing received funding from the CoC for operating subsidies for permanent housing and the Town of Mammoth Lakes and County of Mono for a rent payment assistance program.

While there is more than one funding source for some homeless activities in the Eastern Sierra, the need for services exceeds the available resources. This is readily demonstrated from the results of the most recent count of people experiencing homelessness, the needs assessment conducted with the Strategic Plan, and demand for services during the pandemic. The greatest need for people experiencing homelessness in Alpine, Inyo, and Mono Counties is permanent affordable housing. Rapid rehousing funding available through this program may be used rental assistance, subsidies, deposits, and other eligible costs.

Based on the demand, previous successful placement rate, and need to quickly house individuals and families following the pandemic, we are recommending that about 36 percent (\$130,000) of the funds be expended for rapid rehousing projects. Non-congregate emergency shelter is also necessary for stabilizing some of our homeless population and should be available for hotel and motel contracts. About 19 percent (\$70,000) of the funds should be reserved in the budget for emergency shelter. Street Outreach is an important component of the CoC's homeless service programs and funding could be used to pay for monitors at safe parking lots or staff at navigation/crisis centers. Approximately 19 percent (\$70,000) of the allocation should be allocated to outreach activities. The balance of the ESG-CV grant should be expended on homelessness prevention (\$40,000), HMIS (\$36,000), and administrative costs (\$19,200). HUD and the State recommend that arrears and other payments assisting people at imminent risk of homelessness be a lower priority than permanent and other types of housing. These budget amounts may be adjusted subsequent to the award by HCD of the ESG-CV grant.

### Recommended CoC Action:

That the CoC approve submittal of an ESG-CV application by IMACA for the full allocation of \$365,200 with a preliminary budget as outlined in the discussion above.