**2019 ESG Application Technical Assistance**

**Questions and Answers**

1. **QUESTION**

The application looks different this year. What changes were made?

**ANSWER**

In order to make the application easier for applicants to enter data and to reduce confusion, all pass-through information was removed, some compound questions were split up, and the form was saved and distributed in a PDF format. Also, all attachments and the application are posted on our website, [www.wvcad.org/resources](http://www.wvcad.org/resources) for ease in access.

1. **QUESTION**

Section 4 D3, “Specify the average time between client intake and start of service delivery.”

**ANSWER**

This refers to the amount of time it takes your organization to consider someone a “client” and begin creating a client file or entering the individual into HMIS and the actual start of providing them with any services funded with Emergency Solutions Grant dollars.

1. **QUESTION**

Attachment C – Affirmatively Further Fair Housing; what does this entail.

**ANSWER**

Affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics.

The 1968 Fair Housing Act prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, or disability — the “protected classes”. Client must be aware of these rights and evidence that they have been made aware must exist within their intake packet.

1. **QUESTION**

Under Emergency Shelter, eligible expenses, what is in included in “services for special populations”?

**ANSWER**

This can include populations such as domestic abuse victims, veterans, youth, LGBTQ+, etc. We encourage new and innovative uses for ESG funds with special populations.

1. **QUESTION**

What is Street Outreach and what can it be used for?

**ANSWER**

Street Outreach refers to those services related to reaching out to unsheltered homeless individuals and families, connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and providing them with urgent, non-facility-based care.

You can refer to the application for a general list of eligible uses, but this is intended for use by workers to get out into the community and engage the homeless population to close the gaps between them and housing.

1. **QUESTION**

When assessing how much to budget for HMIS costs, where do applicants get cost estimates?

**ANSWER**

When assessing cost, the CoC should be your contact for licensing and operations. This should be done prior to submitting your budget but amendments can be submitted later if costs change. Remember to have your CoC complete the required Attachment B – “Certification of Continuum of Care Participation and Coordination.” This will be your point of contact to discuss HMIS license fees and additional CoC requirements and expectations.

1. **QUESTION**

Do we need a board resolution?

**ANSWER**

We encourage everyone to inform their board of the application process and involve them, but attachment C serves as your certification and when the Executive Director or Board member signs it you are certifying that the information and requirements have been met. A review of board minutes and interviews should show that the board has been made aware and are active in all processes of the agency.

1. **QUESTION**

Can housing authorities apply for ESG?

**ANSWER**

According to HUD CPD-17-10 yes, they can.

1. **WVCAD COMMENTS**

Applications are due April 26, 2019 by 5:00pm and sent electronically to [lee.g.tabor@wv.gov](mailto:lee.g.tabor@wv.gov). All required attachments are to be included with your application submission. Any incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be reviewed or considered. Questions on the application or the grant program can be sent to [lee.g.tabor@wv.gov](mailto:lee.g.tabor@wv.gov) up until the application deadline.

All attachments are weighted higher than the rest of the application when scoring and should be completed in full when submitted.