



**Missouri Housing**  
Development Commission

# Application Training

2023 Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG-23)

[MHDC.com](https://www.mhdc.com)

# Agenda

## **Part 1: ESG Program Guidance**

- ESG Program Overview
- ESG Program Timeline
- Program Requirements
- Program Design

## **Part Two: ESG Application Guidance**

- Application Overview
- Application Guidance
- Application Evaluation
- Application Submission
- Grant Interface
- Contact Information



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# Part 1

ESG Program Guidance

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# Program Overview

- Collaborative administration of ESG program between Missouri Department of Social Services and Missouri Housing Development Commission
- Emergency Solutions Grant Program
  - HEARTH Act of 2008 amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, including major revisions to the Emergency Shelter Grant program, which is now called the Emergency Solutions Grant program
  - ESG Interim Rule published January 4, 2012
    - [24 CFR Part 576](#)
  - Federally funded formula grant program

# Program Overview

- Assists households to quickly regain stability in permanent housing
- Prevents households from becoming homeless
- Seeks to reduce the overall length of homelessness, the number of households that become homeless, and households returning to homelessness
- Supports targeted and coordinated shelter, prevention, and rapid rehousing activities of homelessness providers and homeless prevention providers

# Program Overview

The goals of the ESG program include efforts to:

- Reduce the number of individuals/households who become homeless
- Shorten the length of time an individual/household is homeless
- Reduce the number of individuals/households that return to homelessness
- Provide rental assistance payment to people at risk of being homeless

# Program Overview

- Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): \$2,839,037.00
- Allocation Plan:

| Missouri Continua of Care                                 | Distribution Percentage |
|---|-------------------------|
| Missouri Balance of State                                 | 53.50%                  |
| Joplin  | 8.00%                   |
| Kansas City/Independence/Lee's Summit/Jackson County      | 5.50%                   |
| Springfield   | 7.50%                   |
| St. Charles   | 7.25%                   |
| St. Joseph  | 7.25%                   |
| St. Louis City  | 5.50%                   |
| St. Louis County  | 5.50%                   |
| <b>Total Amount to be Funded by Geographic Allocation</b> | <b>\$2,839,037.00</b>   |

# Program Timeline

| 2023 ESG Timeline                         | Relevant Dates             |
|---|----------------------------|
| Application Available on Grant Interface: | July 5, 2022               |
| Application Deadline:                     | August 5, 2022 at 11:59 PM |
| Staff Recommendations to Board:           | September 2022             |
| Awards Notification:                      | October 2022               |
| Funded Training:                          | November 2022              |
| Grant Term Begins:                        | November 1, 2022           |
| Grant Term Ends:                          | October 31, 2023           |
| Closeout Due:                             | November 30, 2023          |



# Program Requirements

## Eligible Beneficiaries

- HEARTH Definition of Homelessness
  - Category One
    - Literally homeless
  - Category Two
    - Imminent risk of homelessness
  - Category Three
    - Homeless under other federal statutes
  - Category Four
    - Fleeing/Attempting to flee domestic violence

# Program Requirements

## Eligible Program Components

- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Homelessness Prevention
- Rapid Rehousing
- HMIS/Comparable Database
- Administration

**Review 2022 Desk Guide**

# Program Requirements

## Street Outreach

- Essential 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

## Emergency Shelter

- To provide services within the shelter and operation expense

## Homeless Prevention

- Focus is to provide short to medium term assistance for housing relocation and stabilization services. Not eligible for projects in the Kansas City, St. Louis City, or St. Louis County Continuums of Care (CoCs)

# Program Requirements

## **Rapid Rehousing**

- Eligibility with category 1 or 4. Short, medium, or long term assistance for housing relocation and stabilization services

## **HMIS/Comparable Database**

- Costs of participation in HMIS/comparable databases for data collection and analysis of homeless or at-risk individuals and families

## **Administration**

- General management, oversight, and coordination

# Program Requirements

## Match

- All ESG recipients must provide a 100 percent match to supplement the ESG funds awarded
  - Cash or in-kind
  - Matching contributions must meet all HUD ESG requirements
  - Must be expended within the ESG grant period
  - Contributions used to match a previous ESG grant may not be used to match a subsequent ESG grant
  - Contributions that have been or will be counted as satisfying a matching requirement of another federal grant or award may not count as satisfying the match of the ESG award

# Program Requirements

## Participation in HMIS/Comparable Database

- Data on all persons served and all activities assisted under ESG must be entered into the HMIS system designated by the CoC for the area in which ESG activities will take place
- Victim service providers or legal services providers may use a comparable database
  - Comparable databases must be approved by the HMIS-lead agency for the CoC and meet all requirements listed in the [Comparable Database Manual](#)

# Program Requirements

## Continuum of Care

- Participation in the local Continuum of Care
  - Required attendance at a minimum of 75 percent of the Continuum of Care meetings held in the CoC where the majority of funding is received
- Participation in the Coordinated Entry system as developed by the CoC for the area
  - Continuums are required by HUD to be in compliance with Coordinated Entry as of January, 2018

# Program Requirements

## Homelessness Participation

- Participation of not less than one homeless individual or formerly homeless individual on the board of directors or other equivalent policy making entity of the recipient, to the extent that the entity considers and makes policies and decisions regarding any facilities, services or other assistance that receive ESG funding.



# Program Design – Application Evaluation

- With limited amount of funding, MHDC must ensure the funding is used in the most effective way possible
- Organizations should evaluate projects to ensure that best practices are utilized
- Use measurable performance standards to monitor and evaluate progress of the project
  - Key Performance Measures
    - Prevention
    - Length of Stay
    - Housing Outcomes
    - Cost Effectiveness
    - Recidivism

# Program Design – Focus on Outcomes

- Length of time homeless
- Return to homelessness
- Access/coverage (thoroughness of reaching persons who are homeless)
- Overall reduction in number of persons who experience homelessness
- Job and income growth for persons who are homeless
- Reduction in first time homelessness

# Program Design – Coordinated Projects

- Projects should be coordinated within the community with the goal of ending homelessness
- Coordinated Entry
  - Transforming homeless services into crisis response systems that prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing
- Mainstream Resources
  - Increase program access to mainstream benefits and services through agency partnerships

# Program Design – Targeted Projects

- Projects should be targeted to practices that make homelessness rare, brief, and non-reoccurring
- Prioritization
  - Households with the greatest need receive priority for housing interventions
  - Prioritize based on vulnerability and severity of service needs
  - Decision making method for determining who receives assistance and services

# Program Design – Best Practices

## Housing First

- Spend more time on housing and less on integrating into shelter
- Everyone is ready for housing, regardless of the complexity or severity of their needs
- People should be returned to or stabilized in permanent housing as quickly as possible
- People should be connected to resources necessary to maintain permanent housing
- Issues that may have contributed to a household's homelessness can best be addressed once they are housed

# Program Design – Best Practices

## **Diversion**

- Strategy to help households determine if it is possible for them to safely stay somewhere other than shelter

## **Triage**

- Method for determining what services and level of assistance a household needs

## **Progressive Engagement**

- Getting the right intervention, at the right level, according to the individual's housing barriers
- Customized levels of assistance, preserving the most expensive interventions for households with the most severe barriers to housing success

# Program Design – Street Outreach

- The initial and most critical step in connecting or re-connecting a homeless individual to necessary health, mental health, recovery, social services, and housing services
- Use harm reduction approach to promote safety and relationship building
- Collaboration with law enforcement and other outreach providers, such as the Veteran's Administration, health care providers, and mental health workers

# Program Design – Emergency Shelter

- Temporary, short-term shelter with services to alleviate people's immediate housing crisis as a first step to being quickly and permanently rehoused
- Immediate and easy access to safe and decent shelter to anyone who needs it
- Aims to rehouse people as quickly as possible
- Housing First
  - Everyone is ready for housing, regardless of the complexity or severity of their needs



# Program Design – Homelessness Prevention

- Difficult to strategically target
- Focused on shelter diversion; targets resources effectively by addressing those who are about to become homeless “but for” this assistance
  - Assistance should be targeted to people that have the same profile as people who have entered shelter in the past

# Program Design – Rapid Rehousing

- Reduce the length of time program participants are homeless
- Financial assistance should be flexible and individualized
- Progressive engagement approach maximizes the number of households you can assist
- Strong case management should focus on helping participants navigate barriers to tenancy and build a support system by connecting them with people and programs in the community



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# Part 2

ESG Application Guidance

MHDC.com

# Application Overview

- Forms currently available [here](#)
- Notice of Funding Availability
- Allocation Plan
- Application Guidance
- Application Logon Guide
- Desk Guide (to be updated by November 2022)
- Funded Agency Forms (to be updated by November 2022)

# Application Overview

## Cities/Counties

- Eligible to apply for up to \$50,000

## Direct Non-profits

- Eligible to apply for up to \$50,000 per grant application
- If agency serves multiple counties, may apply for up to \$50,000 per county up to \$100,000 total
- Applicants may only submit one application per Missouri Continuum of Care
- Applicants applying for emergency shelter funds may only request funds for the county in which the shelter is located

# Application Overview

## Eligible Applicants

- Units of local government
  - Cities/Counties
  - Directly administer funding
- Non-profit agencies
  - Must be 501(c)(3) organization

# Application Overview

- All applications will be submitted on [Grant Interface](#)
- Applicants must respond to each question on the application
- Each answer should be clear and concise and not refer to any other area of the application

# Application Guidance

- Proposal Information
- ESG Requirements
- Attachments
- Components
- Resource Data



# Application Guidance

## Proposal Information

- Basic Agency information
- Type of Applicant
- Funding request

# Application Guidance

## ESG Requirements

- Match
- Coordinated Entry
- Homeless Participation Certification
  - Upload
- HMIS or Comparable Database

# Application Guidance

## Attachments

- Board of Directors/Decision-Making Body
- Organization Budget
- Match Summary
- Sources and Uses
- Program Guidelines
- Letters of Support
- Certificate of Good Standing
- 501(c)(3) Status
- Organization Audit/Financials

# Application Guidance

## Grant Components

- Homeless Prevention
- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Rapid Rehousing
- Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)

# Application Evaluation

- Completeness and organization of the grant application
- Extent to which the applicant demonstrates an understanding of the ESG program and HUD priorities
- Extent to which the applicant demonstrates an understanding of USICH “Home, Together”
- Past performance in ESG programs
- Amount of funds requested
- Eligibility of funds requested
- Value of applicant match contributions

# Application Evaluation

- Strength of program design and implementation strategy
- Extent to which programs result in increased housing stability and permanent housing outcomes for clients
- Consistency with local need, collaboration with local plans, participation in Coordinated Entry, and service delivery strategies
- Demonstrated ability to move homeless individuals into housing or demonstrated ability to increase housing stability of individuals and families
- Coordination and participation with local Continuum of Care

# Application Evaluation

- Extent to which project approach makes homelessness rare, brief, and non-reoccurring
- Use of best practices for provision of services
- Past performance
- Data supporting need in the community including sub-population information if applicable

# Application Submission

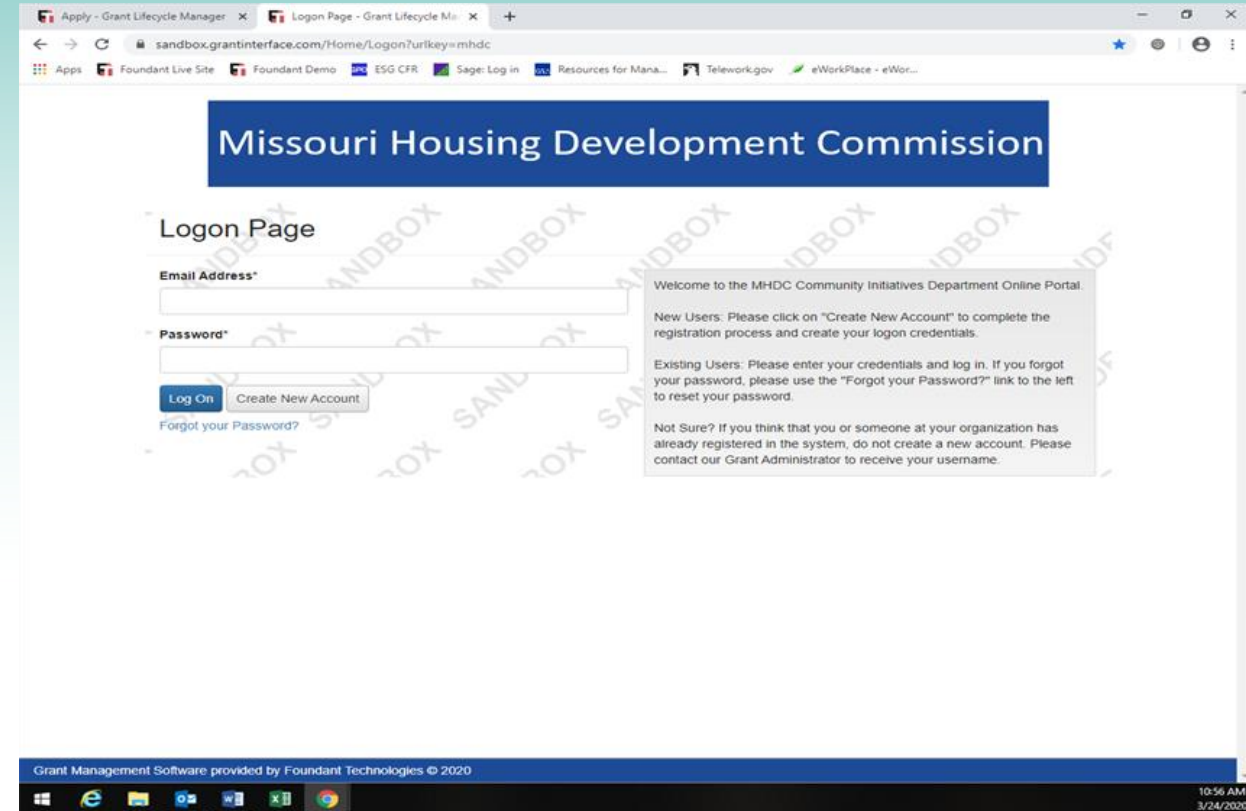
## **Electronic Application**

- Once submitted, an auto-response will confirm receipt of application
- Due 11:59 p.m. Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# Grant Interface

- If you have been awarded funds in a previous grant year from MHDC, you will already have a profile created. Use your email to reset your password.
- Google Chrome is the recommended internet browser.
- For further guidance on logging in please visit MHDC website for the log in guide instructions.



[grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?URL=mhdc](http://grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?URL=mhdc)

# Resources

- HUD Exchange ESG Page
  - <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/>
- HUD Regulations for ESG
  - [https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title24/24cfr576\\_main\\_02.tpl](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title24/24cfr576_main_02.tpl)
- MHDC ESG Information Page (New Site)
  - <https://mhdc.com/programs/hud-programs/emergency-solutions-grant/>
- MHDC ESG Information Page (Old Site)
  - <http://mhdc-legacy.mhdc.com/ci/esg/index.htm>

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