



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC)  
Special Meeting Board Agenda for  
July 21, 2021 1:00pm-3:00pm Pacific Time**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Packet Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Time</b>
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
1.	Approve Agenda (ACTION ITEM)	Agenda	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Letter of Support / Youth Action Board (ACTION ITEMS)	DRAFT Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Letter of Support	Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager, CDC & Youth Action Board Representative	1:10pm
3.	Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)s and Policy Amendment to Coordinated Entry System for EHV Program (ACTION ITEMS)	DRAFT Emergency Housing Voucher MOUs* & DRAFT Policy*  <i>*Will be sent when available</i>	Rebecca Lane, City of Santa Rosa, & Thai Hilton, CDC	1:20pm
4.	Recommendation from Workgroup on Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (Round 2) Program [ESG-CV (Round 2) Funding (ACTION ITEM with recusals)	Application Summary & Workgroup Recommendations*  <i>*Will be sent when available</i>	Workgroup Representative	1:40pm
5.	Public Comment			2:55pm

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email [Madison.Murray@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Madison.Murray@sonoma-county.org). Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.*

DRAFT LETTER

July 21, 2021

Marcia Fudge, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20410

RE: Participation of Continuum of Care Homeless Program in Sonoma County Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (CFDA 14.276) Planning & Implementation

Dear Secretary Fudge,

This letter is to confirm the active participation of the Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Program in this application for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program FY 2021 grant funding.

### **Project Description**

This proposed project focuses on the development and implementation of a comprehensive plan to achieve the goal of preventing and ending youth homelessness in Sonoma County. The intent is to create a well-designed system of care that goes beyond individual disconnected projects to serve the needs of this population. The plan will seek to address the unique challenges facing specific sub populations of homeless youth, including pregnant and parenting youth, LGBTQ, minor age youth, youth experiencing mental illness, and other groups. The plan will include strategies to provide safe and stable housing and needed services by partnering with a broad range of youth homelessness stakeholders that provide resources and services, advocacy and policy development on behalf of homeless youth.

Following the longstanding practice of the CoC, the planning process will actively incorporate the experiences of homeless and formerly homeless unaccompanied youth in order to fully understand the needs, strengths, and perspectives of youth in the community. A key feature of this plan will be the development of innovative strategies designed to prevent and end youth homelessness that can be evaluated and then replicated in other communities across the country. The final phase of the project will be an implementation phase, in which grant funds are distributed among the most promising strategies that are included in the plan.

In signing this agreement, we affirm that:

- We are committed to engaging in the development of this application for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Grant Funding;
- We are committed to playing an active role in the planning of the coordinated community response;
- We will play a direct role in the implementation of the plan;

- We will endeavor to promote services that are trauma-informed and culturally and linguistically appropriate;
- We will assist in the development of sustainable systems needed to prevent and end youth homelessness in Sonoma County.

Through the execution of this agreement, the undersigned partners reinforce their commitment to serving people who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator  
Sonoma County Community Development Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Leroi, Chair  
Continuum of Care Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Executive Summary**

**Item:** 4 - Recommendation from Workgroup on Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (Round 2) Program [ESG-CV (Round 2) Funding (ACTION ITEM)]

**Date:** July 21, 2021

**Staff Contact:** Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager

[Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org)

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Agenda Item Overview

In this item, the ESG-CV Working Group will provide a recommendation for allocation of approximately \$1,155,557 in ESG-CV funds under the purview of the CoC Board that must be expended by September 30, 2021. A Letter of Intent was issued on June 29, 2021 requesting non-profit providers who have experience with operating successful ESG-funded and federal programs in the past or which can clearly demonstrate their ability to meet ESG tracking and reporting requirements, apply for funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by the pandemic. The following is a summary of the applications received. Recommendations from the workgroup will follow.

Organization	Project Type	Amount Requested	In Current Contract?	ESG Experience?	Project Summary
Catholic Charities	Emergency Shelter	\$227,818	Yes	Yes	Provide Covid 19 related health and safety services at the Sam Jones Hall emergency shelter for adult individuals from throughout the county experiencing homelessness. All COVID 19 emergency shelter services are in support of participant and staff health and wellbeing and are aligned with and informed by County Public Health Officer, CA Dept of Health, and CDC guidelines. Sam Jones Hall is Sonoma County's largest emergency shelter serving adults experiencing homelessness, and serves participants from throughout the county.
Catholic Charities	Rapid Rehousing	\$249,108	Yes	Yes	This accelerated ESG CV 19 Rd 2 RRH Emergency Housing Voucher Coordination project will help Sonoma County individuals and families impacted by COVID 19 currently enrolled in Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing and or Master Leased programs, or referred via Coordinated Entry, to gain access to EHV earmarked in this round of funding., thereby securing long-term housing under their own leases. Additionally, this will enable Catholic Charities to repurpose the CDC funds currently used to pay for rental properties to going forward provide enhanced, ongoing supportive services to EHV participants, further bolstering permanent housing retention and reducing returns to homelessness
City of Santa Rosa	Emergency Shelter	\$416,312	Yes	Yes	Both facilities are co-located on the same property at 4020 Finley Avenue, owned by the City and operated as one consolidated program by Catholic Charities. In March 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City and Catholic Charities reduced shelter capacity within the existing facility (SJH Homeless Shelter) by 60 beds in compliance with social distancing requirements and relocated at-risk shelter clients to a non-congregate shelter (NCS) site. The SJH Homeless Shelter has operated under strict COVID-19 prevention measures since that time. In January 2021, the City completed construction of a new facility (SJH Annex) to restore shelter capacity by 60 beds to pre-COVID levels of 213 beds total while maintaining social distancing requirements.

COTS	Emergency Shelter	\$47,014	Yes	Yes	Grant funds will support personnel at MIC-ES to ensure safe operations in the shelter and kitchen during COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery. COTS' MIC-ES provides shelter and services to more than 300 people experiencing homelessness every year; Mary's Table, the shelter's kitchen, provides more than 50,000 healthy meals each year to shelter guests and community members experiencing food insecurity. Increased sanitation and safety measures have been made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic so that we may continue to serve an at-risk population. Also note that COTS has a spenddown of ESG by October.
SAY	Rapid Rehousing	\$90,681	Yes	Yes	This funding would allow SAY to support Transitional Age Youth (18-24) experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic achieve permanent housing. SAY is the designated enrollment site for Sonoma County/City of Santa Rosa Housing Authority's emergency housing vouchers for Transitional Age Youth. This project will focus on supporting youth with access to vouchers and supporting the additional costs of housing not covered by vouchers in order to ensure voucher units are leased by September 1.
SAY	Emergency Shelter	\$110,115	Yes	Yes	SAY would use these funds to expand emergency shelter services for youth ages 18-24 experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities will include: providing shelter, supporting clients with access to COVID testing, maintaining CDC safety guidelines, providing safe quarantine space, providing PPE, facilitating access to vaccinations, preparing and serving meals, and providing access to housing services.
TCE Consulting		\$39,600	No	No	TCE Professional Services will provide, thru Thomas Ells, RCE, Housing Negotiator Services to SoCo Shelter Providers. Thomas Ells has both VI-SPDAT/SPDAT experience at 211, and ESG experience while at the Task Force for the Homeless (became accountant for Task Force, completed EFSG accounting audits for several years of Grants, current payments were 2.5 years in arrears, while more recent grants were being authorized). Thomas Ells has 30 years Fair Housing experience in Real Estate, Mortgage, Appraisal Inspection, and Brokerage; by selling, consulting, inspecting, and independent Real Estate title ownership research. Thomas Ells will be communicating the benefits of voucher payments over rental risks in the current eviction climate. Thomas Ells had HMIS entry experience at 211 for VI-SPDAT, and at SAVS for HMIS update training.

HAS		\$1,223,900	No	No	End homelessness as we know it in Sonoma, CA. There are four prongs to our efforts: Educate, Integrate, Innovate, and Create. A cooperative working relationship between all aspects of the community and homeless people will transform current dynamics into one which affords transitioning most of the homeless back into sustainable self-care off of the streets. Due to the Covid-19 shutdown, HAS's work has been delayed. It is now time for us to fully catch up.
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**Total Requested: \$2,404,548**

Total Requested with ESG Experience **\$1,141,048**

Total needed to expend: \$1,155,557

**ESG-CV Expected Expenditure in FY 21/22 Contracts by September**

RRH/ES	<b>\$163,293</b>
<b>Difference needed:</b>	<b>\$14,509</b>

Emergency Shelter Total: \$801,259

Rapid Rehousing Total: \$339,789

Remaining Funds Breakdown:			
Emergency Shelter	\$1,960,938.71	(\$801,259)	\$1,159,679.71
Rapid Rehousing	\$1,981,193.69	(\$339,789)	\$1,641,404.69