Homeless Housing Funds, Programs, and Process

October 26, 2021
What hat are we wearing?

- **RCW 43.185C.050** and **RCW 36.22.179** – Counties are lead entities/accountable for addressing homelessness in their community
  - 5 Year Plan
  - Affordable Housing for All Surcharge (Local and State $$)

- What are we measuring? – HOUSING outcomes/program efficiency
  - 5 Year Plans should be aimed at eliminating homelessness
    - Performance measures not inconsistent with Department of Commerce statewide measures
      - Prioritizing services for unsheltered individuals and prioritize highest need
      - High rates of exit to permanent housing
    - Can include additional local measures of performance
      - Decreasing unmet need
      - Decrease length of time homeless
      - Decrease returns to homelessness
Process

- Legislative Authority/Plan
- Provider
- Funding
What funds do we control?

**Emergency Solutions Grant** - ~$1.1 Million
- Must be spent by June 2022
- Outreach, hygiene services, homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, emergency shelter
- Allowable expenses and service models: [ESG Guidelines](#)

**Emergency Shelter Fund** - $343,087
- Must be spent by June 2023
- Capital/operating for *new* shelter beds
- Proposal for use must be in coordination with City of Aberdeen
- Allowable expenses and service models: [ESF Guidelines](#)

**Local Homeless Housing Funds** - ~$120,000 annual operation dollars/ ~$1,500,000 one-time grants
- Ongoing/no timeline
- Funds goals/strategies outlined in 5 Year Plan
- Allowable expenses and service models: [5 Year Plan](#)
Considering program models and fund sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Shelter A</th>
<th>Emergency Shelter B</th>
<th>Emergency Shelter C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to the shelter is not contingent on sobriety or participation in specific services other than case management although access and motivational interviewing is encouraged. Shelter rules can prohibit onsite drug use, verbal/physical assault, etc. and those can be cause for exit.</td>
<td>Access to shelter is contingent on sobriety and/or commitment to recovery (i.e. engaging in Tx/UAs). Positive UAs/lack of engagement in treatment can be cause for exit.</td>
<td>Seasonal/weather dependent shelter. Access to the shelter is not contingent on sobriety or participation in specific services other than case management although access and motivational interviewing is encouraged. Shelter rules can prohibit onsite drug use, verbal/physical assault, etc. and those can be cause for exit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Solutions Grant: ✓</td>
<td>Emergency Solutions Grant: X</td>
<td>Emergency Solutions Grant: ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Homeless Housing Funds: ✓</td>
<td>Local Homeless Housing Funds: ✓</td>
<td>Local Homeless Housing Funds: ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ideas from October 12$^{th}$ workshop for ESG $\$: 

- Existing shelter capacity – youth
- Hygiene support
- Extending Cold Weather Shelter past March 31$^{st}$ (if applicable)
Other Emergency Solutions Grant-eligible programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Outreach</th>
<th>Hygiene Support</th>
<th>Rapid Rehousing</th>
<th>Prevention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff time to connect with unsheltered clients.</td>
<td>Hygiene services could be portable restrooms, handwashing stations, shower/laundry facilities or cards.</td>
<td>Damage deposits, rental assistance, case management</td>
<td>Rental/utility assistance, case management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pros:</strong> Leverages existing services, easy to scale up, many potential providers for outreach, could align with 5 Year Plan (CE)</td>
<td><strong>Pros:</strong> Provide basic needs for unsheltered population, could be potential avenue for access to services</td>
<td><strong>Pros:</strong> Easily scalable/integrated into current system, clear need, best practice and produces positive outcomes</td>
<td><strong>Pros:</strong> Easily scalable/integrated into current system, prevention helps reduce homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cons:</strong> Limited housing and other immediate service needs available if client engages (detox, inpatient treatment), need to use HMIS</td>
<td><strong>Cons:</strong> Resource oversight/management, inventory of showers/handwashing stations unknown with COVID</td>
<td><strong>Cons:</strong> Few units available, many already on existing wait lists</td>
<td><strong>Cons:</strong> Other prevention/assistance programs currently ongoing, scale of need/gaps unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unfunded programs outlined in 5 Year Plan

- Develop Affordable Housing units for extremely low-income to middle-income households
- Transitional/Work Release Housing
- Expand accessibility of Coordinated Entry throughout the County
- Supports to lower barriers to existing shelters
- Robust low barrier shelter
- Transitional shelter for clients enrolled waiting for housing unit
- Dedicated FTE for SOAR
Next Steps/Process – ESG/Homeless Housing Funds

1. Finalize Request for Proposals to identify potential provider(s)
2. BOCC review/approve publishing RFP
3. Review/evaluate proposals
   - Name apparently successful bidder(s)
   - Negotiate contracts
   - BOCC review/approve contracts
4. Services begin
Next Steps/Process – Emergency Shelter Fund

- Consensus from BOCC re: Emergency Shelter gaps/needs
- Revise proposal/application and bring to City of Aberdeen for review/approval
- Submit revised proposal to Commerce for approval
- Finalize Request for Proposals to identify potential provider(s)
- BOCC review/approve publishing RFP
- Review/evaluate proposals
  - Name apparently successful bidder(s)
  - Negotiate contracts
  - BOCC review/approve contracts
- Services begin