

1. How were the buckets determined? Should the percentage of funds align with the population's needs?

The Board met on 4/13/22 to evaluate current funding allocations and population needs. ESG Street Outreach was previously funded at \$7,118 and the PIT unsheltered count has increased which lead the Board to increase Street Outreach funding from 3% to 10% of the total award. Funding for Rapid Rehousing was also increased due to the increase in the unsheltered population. To counter the increase in funding for these projects, prevention was reduced as there are other funding streams to support that activity (i.e. Our Florida, TANF, Challenge). Emergency shelter was also decreased by .8% in order for the increase in Rapid Rehousing. This decision was made with consideration to the decrease in sheltered homeless in the PIT results. Another factor in the funding determination was the 60% cap on Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach. Currently they account for 54% of the total.

2. Is there consideration of “buckets” that may be overlapping in TANF and Challenge Grant, when determining the amount allocated in ESG? Maybe even looking beyond CoC funds?

Please see answer above. The Board considered other sources of grant funding (i.e. TANF, Challenge, and Our Florida) which influenced the current ESG project allocation.

3. When viewing the scoring tool, it appears the competition is for the makeup and design of the program and not the performance of the program. Is this correct?

The scoring tool has both program design and performance components. However, there is a focus on program design as to welcome, not penalize, new applicants who may have innovative ideas but may not have previous performance with ESG funded projects.

Reports will be provided to scoring and review for consideration but will not be factored into score this year. Due to the expedited process, incremental changes are being made for each competition as we progress into a high performing community.

4. Could the funds be used to write down 12 months’ worth of rent for someone? What is “short and/or medium term rental assistance”?

Funds may be used to provide a program participant with up to 24 months of rental assistance during any three-year period. This assistance may be short-term rental assistance, medium-term rental assistance, payment of rental arrears, or any combination of this assistance as allowed by federal regulation. The determination of length of assistance, and any adjustments to the assistance over time, will be made as a result of each participant's individual needs. Short and/or medium term rental assistance is an eligible expense under prevention and rapid rehousing.

5. A fatal flaw is "if the proposals do not include the required number of copies and have not been sent electronically". The application says, "all submissions must be set electronically". Is this the only copy required or are additional hard copies required?

One emailed electronic copy is required. Necessary signatures can be scanned and included in the document.

- 6. Another fatal flaw is "application is not signed by agency official designated to execute contracts". There is no signature page provided. What should we submit to meet this requirement?**

The agency official can sign anywhere on the RFP. This was an oversight and a signature line should have been provided.

- 7. Can you provide some clarity around "Ability to prove planned versus actual services provided"?**

This question is referencing project ability, outcomes and performance. For example, compare the number of individuals who applied for services and the number of individuals that were eligible for services to the number of individuals who were actually served as part of the activities funded under this solicitation. This can be addressed in narrative responses.

- 8. On the scoring tool, number 8, we are scored on adequate cash flow. The application does not ask for any agency financials. Should we include our cash position in our narrative? How do we support this?**

This can be addressed in the Budget Summary section. A written statement regarding cash flow is sufficient.

- 9. Does this funding exclude local government agencies?**

The ESG program is awarded to the State of Florida through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The State of Florida is required to distribute the grant for projects operated by local government agencies or private non-profit organizations. Clarification will be posted on the CoC website.