

ARRA-FUNDED RESOURCES FOR AT-RISK TENANTS

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

The Recovery Act includes \$1.5 billion in funding for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing programs. HUD will administer the funds as the **Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)** through the McKinney-Vento Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program. The funds are intended to target individuals and families who would be homeless “but for” this assistance and determining eligibility is very important. Allowable activities include short- and medium-term rental assistance; housing relocation and stabilization services such as housing search, mediation and outreach to owners, credit repair, security or utility deposits, utility payments, rental assistance for a final month, and moving cost assistance; or other appropriate homeless prevention activities. According to HUD regulations, households must earn less than 50% of Area Median Income, and can receive up to 18 months of assistance. Local HPRP rules can be more restrictive. Shelter operations and rehabilitation, which ESG normally funds, are not permitted.

For information about HPRP funding in your community, the following link provides a list of local HPRP contacts for the Entitlement Jurisdictions that received funding directly from HUD: <http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HPRPContactInfoJul09.pdf>

Additional HPRP funds were awarded through an RFP process by the CA Department of Housing and Community Development, and the State-funded programs are listed in the link below: <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/econrecov/ARRAhomelesspreventionchart.pdf>.

TANF Emergency Contingency Fund

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program is a State block grant program designed to assist needy families, and promote job preparation and self-sufficiency. \$5,000,000,000 in additional funding for TANF was included in the Stimulus bill to address the increase in demand for services among needy families. Under the new TANF regulations, States can receive a match in Federal dollars equal to 80% of spending increases that the State incurs in FYs 2009 and 2010 (when compared to FYs 07 and 08) in three categories of assistance: basic assistance, non-recurrent benefits, and subsidized employment, including increases in spending of the main TANF block grant as well as TANF supplemental grants and TANF contingency funds. Even though the grant amount is calculated according to expenditures in those three categories, the funds granted can be used for any TANF program.

The Federal match will be calculated on a quarterly basis according to calculations of increased expenditures (and caseloads) and distributed to States accordingly. In most jurisdictions, these funds are administered locally through Social Services or Human Services Agencies.