

NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABLE
Northlake Homeless Coalition
November 19, 2012

The Northlake Homeless Coalition, the regional Continuum of Care of agencies serving persons living in homelessness, is pleased to announce the availability of funds to be used for a new permanent housing project that exclusively serves chronically homeless individuals and families, particularly those who have the longest history of homelessness and live in the parishes of Region IX (Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington). As part of the 2012 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs grant application, coordinated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Northlake Homeless Coalition will be allowed to submit one proposal.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is affordable rental housing linked to supportive services and designed to enable the participant to remain stably housed. National studies show that PSH is a cost-effective solution to chronic homelessness and that it can successfully house and stabilize vulnerable persons living on the street who previously often were believed to be beyond help.

The intent of this Region IX NOFA is to serve chronically homeless individuals and/or families. It is highly recommended that interested applicants read the 2012 Notice of Funding Availability for the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program that can be found at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa12/coccomp

HUD defines a person who is chronically homeless as “*an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member who has a disabling condition who has either 1) been continuously homeless for a year or more OR 2) has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. living on the streets) and/or in an emergency shelter during that time. An episode is a separate, distinct, and sustained stay on the streets and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.*”

Disabling condition is defined as (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes an individual’s ability to live independently, and of such a nature that the disability could be improved by more suitable conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agent for acquired immune deficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.

A total of **\$78,662** is available to be awarded through the HUD Continuum of Care Supportive Housing Program funds allocated through the 2012 HUD NOFA CoC competition. This amount will fund one project for a one-year grant period beginning in mid to late 2013. It is anticipated that future funds for this project would be renewed annually assuming that the project is housing and serving clients effectively and spending funds appropriately.

- ◆ HUD has changed the definition of leasing. The Applicant will need to determine whether it is setting up a Leasing or Rental Assistance program. Information regarding the differences between leasing program vs a rental assistance program can be found on the www.hudhre.info website. A brief description is below.

- In a Leasing program the Applicant must enter into the lease with the landlord and pay 100% of the rent. The program participant must be either the sub-lessee of the Applicant or have an Occupancy Agreement with the Applicant. There is no match requirement for the leasing dollars.
- For Rental Assistance Programs, the Applicant but can be a State or local government or PHA. The program participant must be the sole party on the lease. The Applicant must have a written agreement with the landlord governing the payment of rental assistance. The program participant pays their portion of rent directly to the landlord with the Applicant paying the remaining balance of the rent. The Applicant must provide match for rental assistance funds.

The Supportive Housing Project (SHP) funding amount request cannot exceed \$78,662 for leasing, operations and supportive services, and grant administration costs, which must be used over one (1) year, beginning in mid to late 2013. HUD request budgetary restrictions are as follows:

- ◆ Leasing /Rental/Operations: No more than \$58,813 of the total SHP request can be used for tenant-based rental housing leasing and operations. Applicant must provide a 25% cash match for the annual operating costs. There is no match requirement for leasing dollars.
- ◆ Supportive Services / Case Management: No more than \$14,703 of the total SHP request can be used for supportive services [case management] costs. Applicant must provide a 25% cash match for the annual supportive services costs.
- ◆ Administration: No more than \$5,146 of total SHP request can be used for administration costs. There is no match requirement for administration dollars.
- ◆ Leveraging: The applicant must demonstrate a capacity for accessing a **two-to-one ratio** of SHP requested dollars to non-SHP dollars, including the statute 25% cash match dollars for operations, supportive services and rental assistance (leasing does not require 25% cash match). Note: special consideration will be given to project applications that leverage one or more of the following - CDBG-R, TCAP, HUD-VASH, or any other HUD-managed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

Deadlines / Logistics:

Any interested applicant must complete an NHC Preliminary Proposal (see attached) by December 3, 2012, 5:00 PM (CST), by submitting it via e-mail to Erin.Matheny@selu.edu. One applicant will be selected from the eligible proposals be included in the 2012 Continuum of Care grant competition. All applicants who submitted a proposal will be notified by e-mail of final applicant selection no later than December 7, 2012 by 5:00 pm CST. The selected applicant must be prepared to complete the full Exhibit II: Project Application in *e-snaps* by December 18, 2012.

Applicant Eligibility Criteria:

- (1) Agency/organization must already be serving chronically homeless persons;
- (2) Agency/organization must have the ability to provide housing that meets HUD standards, including scattered site properties;
- (3) Agency/organization must have been an active participant in Northlake Homeless Coalition activities, including attending four meetings between November 2011 and October 2012;
- (4) Agency/organization must have participated in the 2010 Homeless Census (Point-in-Time survey) and;

(5) Agency/organization is required to become an active participant in the Northlake Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) computer network upon notification of award.

Resources:

For further information about assisting chronically homeless persons, supportive housing programs, housing first programs, the following websites may offer useful information:

www.pathwaystohousing.org; www.csh.org; www.naeh.org, or www.hudhre.info

Questions / Comments: Contact the Northlake Homeless Coalition Co-Chairperson, Erin Matheny by e-mail, Erin.Matheny@selu.edu, or by telephone, 985-549-5373.