



Federal Resources That Can Fund Rapid Re-Housing

Ending Family Homelessness

Connection to stable, permanent housing is key to ending family homelessness. Many families will be able to attain that stable housing through time-limited rental assistance, housing navigation, employment supports, and help with connecting to community-based services. Some families experiencing homelessness will also need non-time-limited rental assistance—such as a Housing Choice voucher or a subsidized housing unit—along with connection to an array of services. In addition, when longer-term rental assistance is not immediately available, communities must also orient their response to homelessness to help families exit homelessness and connect to permanent housing as rapidly as possible, rather than letting families remain homeless while on a waiting list.

[Rapid re-housing](#) is a critical element of a system-wide response that helps families secure housing as quickly as possible and connects them to mainstream and community resources. Rapid re-housing seeks to reduce the time families spend homeless in shelters or transitional housing by helping families find permanent housing quickly, providing time-limited rental assistance, and connecting families to existing community-based services to help them maintain housing and maximize self-sufficiency. The core components of rapid re-housing include (1) housing search and landlord negotiation, (2) short-term financial and rental assistance, and (3) the delivery of home-based housing stabilization services, as needed.

Currently, most communities fund their rapid re-housing capacity by relying upon Federal resources that are targeted to addressing homelessness, such as the Emergency Solutions Grants, Continuum of Care program, or Supportive Services for Veteran Families funding. **However, there are many sources of Federal assistance that communities can use to fund the three core components of rapid re-housing.** These include resources administered by mainstream public systems like human services agencies, child welfare agencies, and housing agencies, who all play a key role in efforts to end homelessness.

This guide can help you identify potential Federal funding sources that could expand rapid re-housing capacity in your community. Engage the state or local agencies that administer these Federal resources and share with them the [core components of rapid re-housing](#) and the eligibility guidance listed below.

Federal Homelessness-Specific Funding Sources:

Funding Source	Federal Agency	Funding Recipients	Eligible Uses	Eligible Populations	Other Considerations/ Limitations
<p>ESG (Emergency Solutions Grants)</p> <p>Contact</p>	<p>HUD</p>	<p>Public Jurisdictions (metropolitan cities, urban counties, territories, and states)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Search/Placement/Relocation • Utility Payments • Rental Application Fees • Security Deposits/First/Last Month Rent • Moving Costs • Rental Assistance (short- and medium-term, tenant-based or project-based) up to 24 months, including rental arrears up to six months • Tenant/Landlord Services (negotiation and legal services) 	<p>Individuals or families who meet the criteria under paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in § 576.2 or who meet the criteria under paragraph (4) of the “homeless” definition and live in an emergency shelter or other place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition</p> <p>See the ESG interim rule for full details on eligibility, definitions, and other requirements.</p>	<p>There are five eligible uses for ESG funds--street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS--as well as administrative activities.</p> <p>Decisions regarding how ESG funds are used are made by the recipient and/or eligible sub-recipients. Recipients are required to consult with local Continuum(s) of Care (CoC) on certain topics.</p>
<p>CoC (Continuum of Care Program)</p> <p>Contact</p>	<p>HUD</p>	<p>Private nonprofit organizations, states, local government, instrumentalities of state and local government, and PHAs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Assistance (short- and medium-term, tenant-based rental assistance) • Supportive Services • HMIS (for costs of entering data into the CoC’s HMIS) • Project Administration 	<p>Individuals and families meeting the HUD definition of homeless and any additional requirements for eligibility based on the NOFA under which the project was originally awarded (e.g. new RRH projects funded with FY 2013 funds are required to serve families with children residing in emergency shelters or places not meant for human habitation)</p> <p>See the CoC program interim rule for full details on eligibility, definitions, and other requirements.</p>	<p>Decisions regarding the use of CoC Program funds for rapid re-housing are made by CoCs through their written standards and recipients through their written policies and procedures. Any requests for rapid re-housing funds (new or renewal) must be made through the annual CoC program competition.</p>

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<p>SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families)</p> <p>Contact</p>	VA	VA awards grants to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives who can provide supportive services to eligible populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Assistance • Utility Payments • Moving Costs (including bedding, utensils, other supplies) • Supportive Services (including child care payments to licensed care providers) • Housing Search/Assistance/Placement/Relocation • Application and Brokerage Fees • Security Deposits/First/Last Month Rent • Tenant/Landlord Services (includes legal services) • Supportive Services (health, financial planning, transportation, etc.) • Emergency Housing • Employment-Related Costs and Emergency Needs • Special Provisions for Persons Fleeing Domestic Violence <p>For more information on the SSVF program, visit the VA website.</p>	<p>Very low-income (50% of AMI or below) Veteran families living in or transitioning to permanent housing.</p> <p>Under SSVF’s newly published Final Rule (38 CFR 62), a higher level of financial support may be available to households with an AMI below 30%.</p> <p>Family must include at least one Veteran at the commencement of services and be homeless or imminently at risk of literal homelessness.</p> <p>See the SSVF Eligibility Screening form for more information.</p>	A portion of a grantee’s funds, not to exceed 40%, may also be used for homelessness prevention. However, VA has established a national performance target that grantees will use at least 70% of funds for rapid re-housing, although targets in local communities will vary based on need.

Federal Mainstream (Non-Homeless Specific) Funding Sources:

Funding Source	Federal Agency	Funding Recipients	Eligible Uses	Eligible Populations	Other Considerations/ Limitations
<p>TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)</p> <p>Contact</p>	<p>HHS/ACF</p>	<p>State/Tribal/Territory TANF office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supportive Services • Rental Assistance (including hotel and motel vouchers) • Utility Payments • Moving Costs • Case Management • Financial Planning • Legal Services • Security Deposit/First/Last Month Rent • Housing Search Assistance/Placement/Relocation • Program Administration 	<p>Families eligible for TANF are eligible for housing assistance through TANF non-recurrent short term benefits (NRST) at the discretion of the jurisdiction. TANF eligibility is determined by jurisdiction based on income level and family size.</p> <p>See the Federal TANF Information Memorandum describing the use of TANF funds to serve families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>Families do not have to be receiving TANF cash assistance in order to qualify for NRST housing services, although those receiving a cash grant may use TANF assistance to pay for housing.</p> <p>Rental/financial assistance under TANF NRST is limited to four months. Services are not time-limited.</p> <p>The use of TANF funds for housing is at the jurisdiction’s discretion.</p> <p>Note: TANF funds can be used in coordination with HUD’s targeted homeless assistance grant programs – the CoC program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program – to maximize the impact of both resources. For example, TANF could be used to pay for rental assistance alongside ESG funding being used to pay for supportive services to help a family remain housed.</p>

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<p>HOME (HOME Investment Partnerships Program)</p> <p>Contact</p>	HUD	Public Jurisdictions (cities, urban counties, territories, and states)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Stability/Support Generally (includes rental assistance and security deposits) 	<p>For rental assistance, households must be at 80% AMI or below and such households must spend 30% income on rent. (24 CFR 92.209(h))</p> <p>See HUD's CDBG/HOME guidebook for more information about uses and eligibility.</p>	<p>HOME can be used by a public jurisdiction to create a tenant-based rental assistance program (TBRA). The program options are highly flexible, from a housing choice voucher model to a security deposit-only program.</p> <p>However, the cost to administer a HOME TBRA program cannot be charged as a project cost and must be paid out of the jurisdiction's administrative budget and subject to the 10% cap of HOME funds that may be spent on administrative costs.</p> <p>Note that HOME funds cannot be used for non-housing-related activities.</p>
<p>PSSF (Promoting Safe and Stable Families) through Title IV-B funding</p> <p>Contact</p>	HHS	Child Welfare Agencies and Eligible Indian Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental Assistance (time-limited and includes arrearage) Utility Payments 	Any individuals or families otherwise involved with or receiving services from child welfare systems.	<p>PSSF services are designed to help state child welfare agencies and eligible Indian Tribes establish and operate integrated, preventive family preservation services and community-based family support services for families at risk or in crisis. Funds go directly to child welfare agencies and eligible Indian Tribes to be used in accordance with their 5-year plans.</p> <p>In addition to housing costs, funds may also be used to prevent placement in foster care or expedite family reunification.</p> <p>States often pool these funds with other child welfare resources.</p>

Funding Source	Federal Agency	Funding Recipients	Eligible Uses	Eligible Populations	Other Considerations/ Limitations
Title IV-E Contact	HHS/ ACF	Child Welfare Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Housing Support • These are child welfare funds that can be used for housing support even if a child is not currently in the CW system, provided a state Title IV-E waiver is in place. 	<p>May or may not include families that are already involved with and potentially receiving services from child welfare.</p> <p>Funds for housing are targeted to families experiencing housing instability.</p>	Currently Title IV-E funds may only be applicable for housing support if there are extra funds and a waiver is in place, but most states have the waiver. The President’s 2016 proposed budget would remove the need for such a waiver.
CSBG (Community Services Block Grant) Contact	HHS	States (CSBG lead agencies), Territories, Community Action Agencies, Indian Tribes, Migrant Worker Agencies, Other State-selected Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Assistance (specifically all rapid re-housing uses) • Supportive Services (employment, health, credit counseling, etc.) 	<p>State agencies determine eligibility and how the funds are targeted. State plans are Federally approved.</p> <p>Eligibility is tied to income, so families experiencing homelessness or at-risk would likely be eligible.</p>	Funding is often coordinated with other funding sources and block grants. See CSBG Information Memorandum #135, Federal Matching Requirements, HUD McKinney Vento , which addresses whether Federal CSBG funds can be used to match the Homeless Assistance grants under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, including ESG, CoC Supportive Housing, and Shelter Plus Care programs.
SSBG (Social Services Block Grant) Contact	HHS	States and Territories (states may allocate funds directly or sub-grant to local providers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supportive Services (including daycare, protective services, services to disabled persons, adoption, foster care, substance abuse help, employment services, meal delivery and health-related services) • Case Management • Housing Assistance (including independent/transitional living) • Housing Stability/Support Generally 	Each state determines which services to provide and who is eligible to receive these services.	<p>Funding is often coordinated with other funding sources and block grants.</p> <p>Note: States may transfer up to 10% of their TANF funds to SSBG.</p> <p>SSBG supports programs that allow communities to achieve or maintain economic self-sufficiency to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency on social services.</p>

Funding Source	Federal Agency	Funding Recipients	Eligible Uses	Eligible Populations	Other Considerations/ Limitations
<p>CFCIP (Chafee Foster Care Independence Program)</p> <p>Contact</p>	HHS	States (note some states sub-grant to other local entities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Assistance (typically time-limited to one year, but varies by state) • Utility Payments • Supportive Services • Security Deposits/First/Last Month Rent • Housing Search/Placement/Relocation • Financial Planning/Counseling 	CFCIP room and board funds may be spent by states on housing for youth ages 18-21 who have left foster care.	<p>Program funds are flexible. States determine how CFCIP room and board funds will be spent and details vary from state to state.</p> <p>Learn more about the program and how states are using CFCIP funds.</p>
<p>Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking</p> <p>Contact</p>	DOJ/OVW	States, Local Governments, Indian Tribes, and Non-profit and Non-governmental Organizations that have a documented history of effective work concerning sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitional Housing (either to support existing transitional housing or through short-term rental assistance) • Utility Payments • Security Deposit/First/Last Month Rent • Housing Search/Placement/Relocation 	Adults (and their dependents) who are homeless, or in need of transitional housing or other housing assistance, as a result of a situation of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and for whom emergency shelter services or other crisis intervention services are unavailable or insufficient	<p>Learn more about the program guidelines and the application process.</p> <p>Note that funded programs must provide both housing and supportive services but may limit their use of OVW Transitional Housing Assistance Grant Program funds for either housing or supportive services provided they can document availability of funds from another source to support whichever is not being provided by the OVW Grant.</p> <p>All projects must offer housing and/or supportive services for between six and 24 months. All projects must include a plan to provide follow-up services for a minimum of three months after a victim has secured permanent housing. Follow-up services are limited to advocacy, support groups, case management, minimal financial assistance (e.g., security deposit, first month's rent, or childcare while a survivor is establishing permanent housing).</p>