

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Request for Letters of Interest
Information Document

June 14, 2024

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) is charged by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) to submit a community-wide application for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. The CoC anticipates that NC DHHS will allow the Charlotte-Mecklenburg CoC to apply for approximately \$496,300 in this competition, which is slightly less than the CoC's allocation last year.

This announcement serves as the opportunity for agencies to submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) to express their interest in submitting a project application through this ESG funding competition.

Information about ESG activities and requirements can be found at HUD Exchange, Emergency Solutions Grant Program (<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/>).

The CoC Governing Board has approved the following priorities for this funding and gives discretion to the Ranking Committee to recommend strong proposals that may change the final breakdown:

60% (\$297,780) toward Housing Stability (1st priority Homelessness Prevention, 2nd priority Rapid Re-Housing)

40% (\$198,520) toward Crisis Response (1st priority Emergency Shelter, 2nd priority Street Outreach)

INTRODUCTION:

Eligible ESG Activities:

- **Street Outreach:** Essential services related to reaching out to unsheltered homeless individuals and families, connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and providing them with urgent, non-facility-based care. Eligible costs include engagement, case management, emergency health and mental health services, transportation, and services for special populations.
- **Emergency Shelter:**
 - **Services**, including case management, childcare, education services, employment assistance and job training, outpatient health services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, and services for special populations.
 - **Operations**, including maintenance, rent, repair, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter. Where no appropriate emergency shelter is available for a homeless family or individual, eligible costs may also include a hotel or motel voucher for that family or individual. Renovation of shelters is also an eligible activity.
- **Rapid Re-Housing Assistance:** Housing relocation and stabilization services and/or short-and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help individuals or families living in shelters or in

places not meant for human habitation move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

- **Homelessness Prevention:** Housing relocation and stabilization services and short-and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to prevent the individual or family from moving to an emergency shelter, a place not meant for human habitation, or another literally homeless situation.
- **Homeless Management Information System** (or comparable database if Domestic Violence Provider). *eligible activity only if in conjunction with another eligible activity: ESG funds may be used to pay for the costs of participating in and contributing to the HMIS designated by the Continuum of Care for the area.

Note: Contracts will be effective January 1 – December 31, 2025

Submission of a Letter of Interest does not constitute an application, nor does it constitute approval for funding by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg CoC or by NC DHHS.

WHO CAN SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTEREST:

Agencies that:

- Are a local government and/or private nonprofit organization with current 501(c)(3) status, that operates in Mecklenburg County
- Have experience providing outreach, shelter and/or housing services to individuals or families experiencing homelessness
- Utilize a Housing First approach: Housing First is a model of housing assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing that does not have service participation requirements or preconditions (such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold).
- Are prepared to utilize or already utilize the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to record client level data (or comparable database if Domestic Violence Provider).
- Have the infrastructure and capacity to process payments and reimbursements in accordance with NC DHHS guidelines

PROCESS:

1. All interested agencies must complete the LOI via Microsoft Forms.
2. LOIs will be reviewed and evaluated according to the criteria stated in this announcement. Agencies will be notified if they are or are not recommended to submit a full application for funding consideration.
3. Agencies recommended to submit a full application will receive an invitation via email to submit a full project application including instructions. Agencies that are not recommended will be provided a written explanation of the reason(s) the project was not recommended.

LOI SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

All LOIs must be submitted electronically no later than 5:00pm on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, via Microsoft Forms. LOIs submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed or considered.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Questions may be directed to charmckcoc@mecknc.gov or by phone at 704-975-9177.

Budget Template:

Eligible Activity	Requested Funding
Street Outreach	
Emergency Shelter	
Homelessness Prevention	
Rapid Re-Housing	
HMIS	
Total	