**Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network**

MI-516 Norton Shores, City of Muskegon & County CoC

 **RE-ALLOCATION of HUD FUNDS**

This is a public notice to inform the community that the Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network has determined that it will be re-allocating the Transitional Housing Dollars in this round of HUD funding. There will be $234,168 available for new projects. The rationale for the re-allocation of the funds is as follows:

1. The commitment of the Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network is to end homelessness for chronically homeless individuals and families using practices that are evidence based and demonstrate that the projects meet or exceed the national success rate in maintaining housing stability.

2. The commitment of the Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network to the Housing First Model.

3. Permanent supportive housing vouchers used by agencies in the Continuum have resulted in a 90% success rate in housing stability for those using the vouchers as indicated by the HMIS data for the last five years. The HUD rate for success in housing stability is 85% and the use of permanent supportive housing vouchers by Muskegon CoC agencies exceed the national success rate.

4. The last five years of data indicate that the success rate of housing stability ranges between 57% - 68% for the transitional housing program – the Transitional Living Center. This rate is below the national standard of 85% for housing stability. Attempts have been made over the five years to improve but have not been successful.

The priority for new projects using the re-allocated funds will be those projects according to HUD:

1. that will create new permanent supportive housing projects where all beds will be dedicated for use by chronically homeless individuals and families
2. rapid re-housing projects for homeless individuals and families who enter directly from the streets or emergency shelters, youth up to age 24 and persons who meet the definition of homelessness,
3. SSO project specifically to create a centralized assessment system – please see a discussion of this in the following paragraphs or
4. A new HMIS project

A discussion of the re-allocation process will be held at the Permanent Supportive Housing Committee meeting on October 6, 2015.

The Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network will also be applying for a planning grant to address several issues in our community including a discussion of the development of a centralized assessment system. While there is a system that is currently in use by the HARA for ESG funds, it is not used for other housing funds. The Continuum will be seeking planning dollars to work with entities in the community to determine if a centralized assessment system will be put into place or if the coordinated assessment system that is currently in use will be maintained and or enhanced.

Applications for funding must be submitted to the CoC Coordinator by **5:00 pm** on **October 15, 2015.** Applications can be dropped off at the Muskegon Community Health Project Office at 565 W. Western Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49440 to the attention of Judy Kell. The Review Committee will meet to review the projects and rank them. The applicants will be notified by **November 1, 2015** as to whether their projects will be submitted to HUD through the Collaborative Applicant process. If a project is rejected, there is an appeals process and a solo application can be submitted.

If the project is accepted by the CoC for submission to HUD, the project application must be uploaded by **5:00 pm** on **November 17, 2015** in e-snaps. This will allow sufficient time for the Collaborative Applicant to complete the application and apply in time to meet the deadline to allow the CoC to be eligible for an additional three points.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

The applications to be submitted must include the following information:

Name of Applicant

Duns Number of Applicant

SAM Registration of Applicant – screen shot of active registration

Project Narrative

Definition of population and sub-populations to be served

Type of housing

Mainstream Resources that will be made available to the tenants/clients

Description of how the project is consistent with the CoC’s Housing First Policy

Type of services to be provided to the tenant/client and who will provide the services

Copies of APRs or other reports that show success in housing

Description of the Agency’s experience in housing

Description of any audit findings related to the use of federal or state funds

Description of experience in managing HUD or any other federal funds to ensure the capacity to manage such funds

Source of Match – with letter of commitment attached to the application

Source of Leveraged Funds – with letter of commitment attached to the application

Description of use of standardized tools to identify and assess eligible tenants/clients by the Agency itself and/or in conjunction with the HARA

Description of experience with e-snaps system

Length of grant term requested for new projects

Budget for the Project

Description of the Agency’s role on the Continuum of Care

Description of the Agency’s compliance and participation in the HMIS system

Explanation for any late of slow LOCCS draws

Explanation for any late APRs

Explanation of how the project is consistent with the Consolidated Plan for the municipality in which the projects are located

Completed SF 424

Completed and dated correctly the following forms:

* Form HUD-2880
* SF-LLL
* Applicant Code of Conduct
* Form HUD-50070

The successful applicant must submit a completed and signed HUD Form -2991 no later than **November 10, 2015** to the CoC Coordinator.

Please note that HUD is requiring that the CoC rank all projects in two tiers due to potential funding restrictions. Tier One projects will be equal to 85% of our Annual Demand and Tier 2 is the difference between Tier One and the CoC’s Annual Demand plus any amount available for the Bonus dollars. As soon as the CoC is notified by HUD of our final dollar amount, it will be posted on the website.

Additional information can be found by reviewing the CoC Program NOFA on the HUD Exchange website.

Posted: October 4, 2015