

# Stanislaus County Community Development Building Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) June 3, 2020 Grant Technical Workshop Questions

#### Question: Can we use the funding sources for any Stanislaus County resident, whether they are from the unincorporated area or incorporated cities?

The State CA-ESG CARES funding can be used for all residents county-wide. CDBG and ESG CARES are only for the residents of the unincorporated communities of Stanislaus County and the cities of: Ceres, Hughson, Newman, Oakdale, Riverbank, Patterson and Waterford. There are three (3) applications on the Stanislaus County Community Development Division website (http://www.stancounty.com/planning/cdbg/plans-and-reports.shtm), one for each funding source.

#### Question: Is there a recording of the Skype call?

No, the Skype call was not recorded. However; we will keep that option in mind for future workshops.

## Question: Can the funds be used for personal protective equipment (PPE)?

Yes, the CA-ESG, ESG, and CDBG-CARES funds can be used for PPE. The Federal ESG on the other hand cannot be used for PPE.

#### Question: Can the funds be used for motel vouchers?

Yes, all three funding sources can be used for motel vouchers. Both the Federal ESG and CA-ESG funds can be used for motel vouchers under the Shelter operations and services category.

#### Question: Can the funds be used to address staffing shortages? If yes, what kind of documentation do you need? Timecard? Copy of paycheck?

Yes, funds are eligible for hiring, training, staff time related to or as an impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19). Documentation that is required, but not limited to, are: timecards and copy of paychecks that are clearly labeled for the charges to the grant funds. HUD and HCD are still in the process of providing guidance for the documentation they will be requiring for these funds. Agency that are awarded funds will also be notified of any additional federal and/or state requirements.

#### Question: Do the funds apply to the unincorporated area?

Yes, **all three funding sources** can be used for residents that live in the unincorporated area of Stanislaus County.

#### Question: Do the funds apply to City of Turlock?

Unfortunately, CDBG CARES funds cannot be used for services within the City of Turlock. The City of Turlock has received a separate amount of CDBG CARES funding.

Federal ESG funds can be used to provide services within the City of Turlock as long as Turlock residents are not the only recipients who benefit from the funds (i.e., residents from other cities/areas must be assisted).

CA-ESG funds can be used for services within the City of Turlock.

#### Question: Where can I download the application?

To download a copy of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and/or Emergency Solutions (ESG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) applications please view the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFAs) section of the Stanislaus County Community Division web page:

http://www.stancounty.com/planning/cdbg/plans-and-reports.shtm

## Question: Can the funds be used before the year period is up?

Yes, funds from all three sources can be completely used prior to the end of the agreement expiration date.

#### Question: Can the funds be used to start a new program?

Yes, funds from all three sources can be used to start a new program.

# ✤ Question: Is there information on the application on how to submit the application electronically?

Information on how to submit the application electronically is provided in the *CDBG CARES 2019 Allocation Guidelines and Scoring Criteria* and the *ESG CARES 2019 Allocation Guidelines and Scoring Criteria*. Both documents are available for review online in the NOFA section of the Stanislaus County Community Development web page:

http://www.stancounty.com/planning/cdbg/plans-and-reports.shtm

Question: Can we apply for funding for technological upgrades for our facilities that are needed to be able to continue to serve clients and operate our programs. Specifically, can we purchase laptops/desktops with cameras and pay for the installation/connection?

Yes, CARES funding is intended to not only provide services to clients affected by Coronavirus (COVID-19) but also:

- Provide effective solutions to respond/adapt to COVID-19
- Provide immediate operating needs related to COVID-19

# Question: Are supplies for staff training/development to comply with various and changing requirements by local, state, and federal authorities as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19) eligible?

Yes, staff training, supplies, etc. that are needed to comply with requirements as a result of COVID-19 are eligible.

# Question: If the awarded funding is not spent before the agreement ends, do the funds return to Stanislaus County?

Yes, any unused funds by the agreement expiration date will be returned to Stanislaus County.

## Question: Can CDBG be utilized in unincorporated areas, but not the City of Modesto, etc.?

CDBG CARES is for Stanislaus County's unincorporated communities and the cities of: Ceres, Hughson, Newman, Oakdale, Patterson, Riverbank, and Waterford.

ESG CARES is for Stanislaus County's unincorporated communities and the cities of: Ceres, Hughson, Newman, Oakdale, Patterson, Riverbank and Waterford.

CA-ESG CARES is for county-wide services.

## Question: Will you please confirm that the CA-ESG funding performance period will be the same as Federal (7/2020-12/2021)?

The funding performance period for these grants is: March 19, 2020 - December 30, 2022.

# Question: Are the unincorporated areas in Modesto eligible for CDBG funding request?

Yes, the unincorporated areas in Modesto are eligible service areas for CDBG funding.

# What do I do if my question isn't listed?

If you have a question that is not listed above then please send an email to <u>Planning@stancounty.com</u> and include **NOFA CARES Technical Workshop** in the subject line.

**NOTE:** Please keep in mind that the CDBG, ESG, and CA-ESG CARES funding has to adhere to the CDBG and ESG program regulations. In addition, the awarded proposals must meet the following objectives:

- Provide effective solutions to respond/adapt to Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- Provide immediate operating needs related to COVID-19 (COVID-19)

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is requiring documentation on these objectives for all CARES funding.