

# Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

**FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 (FY 24-25)**

**EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG) PROGRAM**

Welcome

The Workshop Will Begin Momentarily (Approximately 90 Minutes)

Having Technical Difficulties? Please Let Us Know By Using The Chat Function

# Staff Introductions

Ana San Nicolas, Community Development Deputy Director

Christine Smith, Associate Planner

Caitlin Bell-Espinoza, Staff Services Coordinator

James Rodacy, Staff Services Technician

# Questions During the Presentation

Should you have questions during the presentation, please place them in the chat box.

Questions not addressed in real-time will receive a follow-up response.

Please remember to include your contact information so that we can provide a direct response.

# Agenda

## **ESG Background and Entitlement Program**

- Purpose and Funding Source
- Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan

## **ESG Application Guidelines**

- Objectives and Eligible Activities
- Important Dates and Deadlines -Tentative Grant Application Schedule for Fiscal Year 2024-2025
- Required Application Information
- Panel Presentations
- Scoring and Ranking

# Agenda Continued

## **Online Application Process**

- Overview of accessing the portal
- Overview of entering and saving data

## **Questions and Answers Session**

- Applicants may ask questions regarding the application process

# Emergency Solutions Grants Program

- Stanislaus County annually receives Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) federal funding from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer to eligible non-profit organizations in Stanislaus County
- ESG funding provides shelter and services to help persons experiencing homelessness or persons at-risk of homelessness regain housing stability with the following components:
  - Emergency Shelter (ES)
  - Homeless Prevention (HP)
  - Rapid Re-housing (RRH)
  - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

# ESG Purpose

- Engage homeless individuals and families living on the street
- Improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families
- Help operate shelters
- Provide essential services to shelter residents
- Rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families
- Prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless

# Housing First

HUD strongly encourages ESG subrecipients to adopt Housing First Practices and remove unnecessary barriers to receiving assistance.

Housing First is a proven approach in which all people experiencing homelessness are believed to be housing ready and are provided with permanent housing immediately and with few to no preconditions, behavioral contingencies, or barriers.

Examples of common barriers imposed on participants outside of Housing First practices include:

- Having too little or no income
- Active or history of substance abuse
- Having criminal histories
- Fleeing domestic violence



# Program Service Area



Stanislaus Urban County

Grant applications must identify the service area for their program

# ESG Workshop

## **The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan**

# Plans and Reports

## **Every 5 Years**

- New Consolidated Plan (Con Plan)
  - Adopted May 12, 2020 - Con Plan Fiscal Year 2020-2025

## **Every 3-5 Years**

- Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI)
  - Updated May 12, 2020

## **Annually**

- Annual Action Plan (AAP)
- Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

# Consolidated Plan (Con Plan)

## **Consolidated Plan 5 Year Objectives:**

- Public Infrastructure and Facilities Improvement
- Affordable Housing
- Community and Economic Development
- Public Services

*The Stanislaus Urban County and City of Turlock Consortium Consolidated Plan Fiscal Year 2020-2025 is available online via Stanislaus County Community Development Services Plans and Reports web page.*

# ESG Workshop

## **Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Applications**

# FY 2024-2025 Grant Application Tentative Schedule

January 11, 2024 .....	Application Release Date
January 31, 2024.....	Application Submission Deadline
March 2024.....	Funding Recommendations to Be Announced
May 2024 .....	Final Awards Approved by Board of Supervisors
June 2024 .....	Award/Denial Notification
June 2024.....	Grantee Award Training
June 2024.....	Agreements to be Released

# Applications

## **Application Submission Period:**

**January 11, 2024 – January 31, 2024, 4:30 p.m.**

Applications **must** be submitted through the Neighborly Participant Portal:

<https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/STANISLAUSCOUNTYCA/Participant>

Incomplete and or late applications will **not** be accepted.

# ESG Laws and Regulations 24 CFR 576

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program is a program administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that provides formula-based block grant funding to states and eligible localities.

ESG - 24 CFR 576

[2011-30938.pdf \(govinfo.gov\)](#)

Updated [Code of Federal Regulations \(govinfo.gov\)](#)

[The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act As Amended by S.896](#)

[The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing \(HEARTH\) Act of 2009 \(hud.gov\)](#)

[HEARTH Final Rule: Defining Homeless & Chronically Homeless](#)





# Applicants of the FY 2024-2025 ESG Program

- Non-Profit agencies are eligible and must apply through the Neighborly Software Participant Portal.
- Annual ESG allocated funding is a competitive grant, it is not to be automatically renewed.
- Applicants will be selected yearly based on the strength of their application.
- Applicants must be able to match their award dollar for dollar with other funding sources, volunteer hours and/or donations.
- Applicants are required to utilize the Coordinated Entry system set forth by the CoC. Only two exceptions: Victim Service Providers and Legal Service Providers may use a comparable database



# ESG Eligible Activities

## Emergency Shelter- Essential Services

- Case Management
- Childcare
- Education Services
- Employment Assistance and Job Skills Training
- Outpatient Health Services
- Legal Services
- Life Skills Training
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Client Transportation
- Services for Special Populations

## Emergency Shelter-Shelter Operations

- Maintenance
- Rent
- Security
- Fuel
- Equipment
- Insurance
- Utilities
- Food
- Furnishings
- Supplies Necessary for Shelter Operation
- Hotel/Motel Vouchers

## Shelter Operations and Services

- Engagement
- Case Management
- Emergency Health Services (if otherwise unavailable to client)
- Emergency Mental Health Care (if otherwise unavailable to client)
- Transportation
  - Related to emergency shelter
  - Related to street outreach

## Rapid Re-Housing\*/Homeless Prevention

### Housing Relocation and Stabilization Activities

- Financial Assistance Costs
  - Rental Application Fees
  - Security Deposits
  - Last month's rent
  - Utility Deposits
  - Utility Payments
  - Moving Costs

### Housing Relocation and Stabilization Activities

- Service Cost
  - Housing Search and Placement (*staff time spent assisting clients*)
  - Housing Stability Case Management (*staff time spent assisting clients*)
  - Mediation (*between client and landlord*)
  - Legal Services
  - Credit Repair (*cannot be used to pay down client debt*)

### Rental Assistance

- Short-term Rental Assistance (*up to 3 months*)
- Medium-term Rental Assistance (*4-24 months*)\*
- Payment of Rental Arrears (*one-time payment for up to 6 months of rental arrears, including applicable late fees*)

\*ONLY Pertains to RRH



# ESG Requirements

100% Matching Funding

Required participation in HMIS and Coordinated Entry

30% or below AMI, RRH re-certify after 12 months

*Specific to RRH\* & HP:*

- Termination Procedures
- Case Management
- Habitability Standards
- FMR and Rent Reasonableness Calculations
- Rental agreement for property manager/landlord
- Rental agreement or lease in client's name
- Landlord/property owner agreement with agency

Income verification is required for Homeless Assistance at intake and at annual reassessment, not upon program entry

Client Data

Agency is required to obtain, update, and maintain individual client files documenting program eligibility

Agency is required to collect statistical data

Race

Ethnicity

Disability

Female Head of household

Client 62 years of age and older



# ESG Estimated Grant Limits

**Fiscal Year 2024-2025 ESG Allocation Estimate: \$200,000**

- Emergency Shelter Activities
  - \$120,000 Maximum Amount
- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing
  - \$80,000 Estimated Minimum Available
  - No Cap on Award Request
- HMIS
  - \$15,000 Maximum Amount



# Understanding Application Submission 24 CFR Part 576

Prior to submission, Applicants should be aware that by applying for ESG funding; agencies must follow all applicable laws and regulations related to any funds awarded.

There are many regulations that must be followed.

Please refer to the program regulations at 24 CFR Part 576 for complete information about all eligible costs and program requirements.



# FY 2024-2025 Grant Process

- Grant Technical Assistance Workshop
- Neighborly Application & Required Document Submittal
- Grant Review Panel Presentation
- Scoring & Ranking Process
- Awards Notification
- Grantee Assistance Workshop
- Agreements
- Program in Progress
- Quarterly Monitoring and Reporting
- Project Closeout



# ESG Workshop

## **Neighborly Software and Application Details “A Live Demonstration”**



# Technical Assistance

## Neighborly Account Registration – Registration Issues

- Please check your spam/junk email if you do not receive a verification email from Neighborly.
- Enter your email into the Neighborly registration option and click to send verification code again.
- Double check the spelling of your email address that is entered as misspellings can also be the issue.
- If you have already registered with Neighborly in the Stanislaus County portal previously there is no need to register again, please proceed to signing in.
- Any other technical issues, please e-mail [communitydevelopment@stancounty.com](mailto:communitydevelopment@stancounty.com) and please ensure your subject includes: “Neighborly Technical Assistance: and the Issue”.





# Application Submission

- All applications must be submitted through the Neighborly Participant Portal.
- All applications are screened for completeness and eligibility to make sure the applicants meet the basic ESG criteria.
- Application submission deadline is **January 31, 2024, 4:30 p.m.**



# ESG Workshop

## **Panel Presentations, Scoring Criteria and Ranking Process**



# Grant Application Presentations

- Applicants schedule presentations
- Presentations will be conducted via Zoom
- Applicants will have the opportunity to give a 15-minute presentation about the proposal to the Grant Review Panel
- Applicants will have an opportunity to answer questions presented by the Grant Review Panel



# Grant Review Panel

- ESG Grant Review Panel - One representative from the local CoC, one County representative and one city representative from each of the seven Stanislaus Urban County City members.
- County Staff provides the Grant Review Panel training for scoring criteria and evaluation process via Zoom .
- Review and scoring will be completed through the Neighborly Participant Portal.
- The Grant Review Panel will have the opportunity to ask the applicant questions about the proposal.



# Panel Presentations and Application Scoring

## Ranking Factors:

1. Capacity and Experience
2. Need/Extent of the Problem
3. Collaboration
4. Accomplishments and Program Evaluation
5. Financials
6. Performance and Risk Assessment
7. Project Innovation
8. Grant Submittal



# Question and Answer Sessions

To assist applicants with the application process County staff will be hosting two **OPTIONAL** Question and Answer sessions via Zoom\*

- Session 1 – January 16, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.
- Session 2 – January 23, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.



# Important Links & Information

Important Links and Information will be sent to your participant e-mail address which was utilized during registration.

Please be on the lookout for an e-mail containing:

- Application Guidelines
- Neighborly Participant Portal Link
- CFR Information and Link
- Playing by the Rules Link
- PowerPoint Presentation



# ESG Workshop

## Questions?

Stanislaus County  
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Modesto, CA 95354

Phone: (209) 525-6330

Email: [CommunityDevelopment@stancounty.com](mailto:CommunityDevelopment@stancounty.com)

