FISCAL YEAR 2025
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG) PROGRAM

GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP

JUNE 24, 2025

Staff Introductions

Ana San Nicolas, Community Development Deputy Director

Christine Smith, Associate Planner

Caitlin Bell-Espinoza, Staff Services Coordinator

Tiffany Mejia, Staff Services Technician

Questions

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
- Required Application Information
- Panel Presentations
- Scoring and Ranking

Online Application Process
- Overview of the grant portal

Questions and Answers Session
- Applicants may ask questions

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.

Shelters that are not based in the Stanislaus Urban County service area may still apply for funding as long as they serve all homeless individuals within the County that they have the capacity to assist.

The Consolidated Plan
and
Annual Action Plan

Plans and Reports

Every 5 Years

- Consolidated Plan (Con Plan)
  - Adopted May 13, 2025 - Con Plan for 2025-2029

Annually

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

Consolidated Plan

Consolidated Plan 5 Year Objectives:

- **Public Infrastructure and Facilities Improvement**

- **Accessible Housing Options**

- **Addressing Homelessness**

- **Public Services**

The Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Years 2025-2029 is available online via the Stanislaus County Community Development Services Plans and Reports web page

Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

Fiscal Year 2025 Applications

FY 2025 Tentative Schedule

- June 24, 2025..Application Release Date

- July 8, 2025...Application Submission Deadline

- August 2025...........................Funding Recommendations to Be Announced

- August 2025..........................Final Awards Approved by Board of Supervisors

- August 2025..Award/Denial Notification

- August 2025..Grantee Award Training

- August 2025...Agreements to be Released

Applications

Application Submission Period:

June 24, 2025 – July 8, 2025, 5:00 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 Regulations

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 Regulations

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program is administered by the U.S. 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

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 Available Funding

Fiscal Year 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

FY 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

Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

**Neighborly Software and Application Details
"A Live Demonstration"**

Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

Neighborly Account Registration – Registration Issues

•Access the Stanislaus County Neighborly Participant Portal:

• https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/stanislauscountyca/participant

•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 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 **July 8, 2025, 5:00 p.m.**

Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

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

Grant Application Process

- 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:**

  - Capacity and Experience
  - Need/Extent of the Problem
  - Collaboration
  - Accomplishments and Program Evaluation
  - Financials
  - Performance and Risk Assessment
  - Project Innovation
  - Grant Submittal

Questions and Answers Sessions

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

- Session 1 – June 30, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

- Session 2 – July 2, 2025, 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

- PowerPoint Presentation

Grant Technical Assistance Workshop

Questions?

Stanislaus County
Department of Planning and Community Development
1010 10th Street, Suite 3400
Modesto, CA 95354

Phone: (209) 525-6330

Email: CommunityDevelopment@stancounty.com