



CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR FRESNO COUNTY PROGRAM YEARS 2025-2029

(INCLUDING ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2025-2026)

PREPARED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Executive Summary

ES-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The County of Fresno (County) is an Urban County entitlement participating jurisdiction that receives federal funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to invest into the local community. The 5-Year Consolidated Plan provides information about the County's housing and community development needs and describes how HUD program funds will be used to address those needs over the next five-year period within the Urban County area. The Consolidated Plan covers five Federal Program Years 2025-2029, which align with activities carried out between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2030.

The Consolidated Plan is a strategic planning requirement, as described in 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 91, for jurisdictions participating in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs, of which the County of Fresno is a current recipient. Other entities' applications for HUD-funded programs – including large-scale grants supporting the Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC), the Housing Authority of Fresno County, CA (HAFC), and the County's lead-based paint mitigation activities carried out by the Department of Public Health (DPH) -- must be determined consistent with the Consolidated Plan in order to successfully apply for HUD funding, helping ensure the jurisdiction's efforts are aligned.

The County of Fresno is centrally located within the State of California. It encompasses over 6,000 square miles and is comprised of one large central city (Fresno), one medium-sized adjacent city (Clovis), 13 smaller cities, and approximately 35 unincorporated communities. It is the tenth largest county in California with a population of approximately 1,024,125, based on the 2024 U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program. According to the County's Annual Crop and Livestock Report, the County has 1.88 million acres of farmland, covering 48.9% of its total 3.84 million acres. Forests and woodlands cover 1.28 million acres (33.4% of the County), according to an analysis performed by CalFire, with much of the underlying terrain being foothills and mountains.

The Urban County area receives funding as a group, with the County acting as the lead entity. The jurisdiction is identified as the combination of the unincorporated portions of the County and all cities participating in the County's Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the administration

of HUD-funded programs. As of July 1, 2025, the Urban County consists of the unincorporated portions of the County of Fresno and the cities of Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma. The City of Fresno receives and administers HUD funding separately. Non-participating cities (Clovis, Coalinga, Huron, and Parlier) may seek funding directly from HUD if their populations are large enough (as is the case for Clovis and CDBG), or cities may apply for HUD funding administered by the State. Non-participating cities are invited to participate in the JPA each year.

The focus of the Consolidated Plan is on describing the need for and intended utilization of three Federal programs – CDBG, HOME, and ESG. Throughout this document, you will see references to Area Median Income (AMI). HUD determines AMI for the County by reviewing all incomes earned by households and identifying the income in the middle of that list. HUD limits participation in CDBG and HOME to households earning 80% or less than the County's AMI. HUD updates the limits annually. By way of example, effective June 1, 2025, a household of four people would need to earn \$75,100 or less to meet the 80% AMI income eligibility criteria. A household of 8 people would need to earn \$99,150 or less to qualify. The ESG program utilizes a limit of 30% AMI (\$28,150 for a household of four) for certain activities, but not all ESG-funded activities carry this restriction as they focus more on a household meeting a defined status of homelessness.

The primary objective of the CDBG Program is to develop viable communities through the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Fresno County's Urban County Program utilizes CDBG to provide a public facility and infrastructure improvement grants program for both the participating cities and the unincorporated area; a housing rehabilitation loan program; and community-based public service programs.

HOME funds are dedicated to housing activities that meet local housing needs to preserve or create affordable housing. Efforts may include supporting homeownership and rental housing opportunities, subsidize rental costs, and reserve 25% of funds reserved for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs).

The ESG Program supports outreach to and shelters for homeless individuals and families and supports programs that prevent homelessness or rapidly re-house the homeless. The County's ESG funds are utilized to support these types of programs consistent with regional efforts such as the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) and other efforts to address homelessness.

The County of Fresno's Department of Public Works and Planning (PWP) is the lead agency overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and is responsible for administering the

CDBG and HOME programs. The County's Department of Social Services (DSS) is responsible for administering the ESG program. Together, DSS and the County Administrative Office are both on the Board of Directors as the County's representatives to the local Continuum of Care. Another key contributor to the information contained in the Consolidated Plan is the Housing Authority of Fresno County, CA (HAFC), which administers public housing programs in the County. The HAFC operates a different legal entity to carry out activities within the City of Fresno. While the County's HUD grant funds are not utilized for public housing activities, the County and the Housing Authority are strategic partners in meeting the affordable housing needs of low- and moderate-income County residents.

During federal program years 2025-29, the County will continue to leverage funding from HUD in support of the activities described in this Consolidated Plan and further specifically outlined in each Annual Action Plan.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

The County continues to face affordable housing and community development needs Countywide. The County strives to meet the needs of the low- and moderate-income residents and communities through the implementation of activities that will assist the homeless, preserve, increase and improve affordable housing, and provide community development activities that improve and sustain livability. The County will continue to provide programs and activities that have the greatest impact given the limited resources available.

Housing Needs (See NA-10)

Fresno County, mirroring trends across California, faces a significant imbalance where the production of affordable housing units has consistently lagged behind the escalating demand. This persistent gap highlights a critical need for increased development and resources to meet the housing needs of its residents, while also emphasizing the crucial role of preserving existing affordable housing to sustain the momentum of past efforts.

Public Housing (See NA-35)

Public housing needs identified by the Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC) include the provision of additional public housing units and funding for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. In Fresno County there are over 11,000 families on the public housing waiting list. Additionally, there is a need for the rehabilitation of existing and construction of new affordable housing units, with emphasis on households with five or more members, the elderly, and the disabled.

Homeless Needs (See NA-40)

Homeless needs include outreach to homeless individuals and families living on the street, increasing the number of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families, providing emergency shelter and essential services to shelter residents, and rapid re-housing services (including case management and rental subsidies) in support of homeless individuals and families.

Non-Homeless Special Needs (See NA-45)

The County's primary non-homeless special needs populations are the elderly and the physically disabled. The greatest need of these populations identified is for affordable, safe, decent and sanitary housing. The majority of seniors and disabled households also require repairs and/or modifications to their homes as accommodation features. Fixed incomes frequently prohibit such repairs and modifications from occurring.

Non-Housing Community Development Needs (See NA-50)

There are critical needs for public facility and infrastructure improvements throughout the Urban County area. Public facilities and infrastructure in these smaller communities and cities are ageing and deteriorating. The most significant needs include preservation and expansion of water and sewer systems, storm drainage, wastewater treatment facilities, street and sidewalk improvements, and street lighting. There is also a need for new and improved neighborhood parks, senior centers, community centers, and fire stations. Existing public facilities and infrastructure are also in need of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant improvements to ensure accessibility for everyone.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The County is responsible for ensuring compliance with all rules and regulations associated with the three HUD entitlement grant programs – CDBG, HOME and ESG – and meeting the goals established identified in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. The achievements of these programs are identified annually in the County's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER).

CDBG: Through the completion of the 2020-2023 program years, the County of Fresno has already exceeded identified goals for Public Services, Public Facility Infrastructure (Unincorporated) and Public Facility & Infrastructure (Cities) identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. Completion of activities during the 2024-2025 Program Year will further increase the accomplishments. Two goals identified have not been achieved and will not be

achieved before the completion of the 2024-2025 program year. The Housing Rehabilitation & Commercial and Façade – Homeowner and Housing Rehabilitation & Commercial and Façade – Businesses have had no accomplishments, as Community Development staff have had challenges with staffing (loss of experienced staff working in these areas), adverse market conditions regarding home valuation and income limits, and impacts from COVID-19. The County has opted to eliminate the Commercial Facade program for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan period, based on the minimal interest from community outreach efforts, and instead focus on only homeowner rehabilitation. This will also allow the County to better address the regional housing needs.

Although the County has met accomplishment objectives identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, the County has struggled with timely expenditure of CDBG funds. Various factors impacted the failure of the County to meeting annual expenditure requirements. In addition to the factors previously mentioned, infrastructure projects have been significantly impacted by long procurement times for much of the equipment needed for infrastructure projects. The County is working with our partner agencies to develop processes to minimize these delays. The County also administered one-time CARES Act funding (through the CDBG-CV program) to address impacts related to Coronavirus (COVID-19). The County successfully achieved all goals and expenditure requirements of the CDBG-CV program, but the added workload and inability to increase staffing levels based on one-time funding impacted performance of the regular CDBG program.

HOME: As affordable housing projects take extensive planning prior to the commitment of funds and can take up to four years for completion, the County did not successfully predict when HOME-funded affordable housing projects would be completed, but it did largely complete its affordable housing objectives. The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan identified the following goals for HOME: rehabilitate 13 owner-occupied homes, build 33 new rental units, build 10 new single-family homes, and provide homebuyer assistance to 8 households. By June 30, 2025, the County will have: completed 1 rehabilitated owner-occupied home and 1 rehabilitated rental home (15% of goal), built 33 new rental units (100% of goal), built 18 owner-occupied single-family homes (180% of goal), and did not directly finance any homebuyer assistance. The additional 8 homes constructed were originally intended to satisfy the County's goal of homebuyer assistance, but County staff inadvertently structured the legal documents in alignment with program requirements for the construction of owner-occupied housing, instead of as a subrecipient agreement to provide homebuyer assistance. When analyzed within the context of HUD reporting where an activity is either housing construction or downpayment assistance, HUD reporting mechanisms are too rigid to capture that the project subsidized construction and provided homebuyer assistance to the households who

purchased the homes constructed. By subsidizing the construction of the 8 homes, the efforts achieved the same effect – 8 low-income households were able to achieve their dream of homeownership because of the HOME subsidies in the project. Unfortunately, the County plainly missed its goal of rehabilitating owner-occupied housing. Although HOME funding for this activity was earmarked each year, the loss of the County's rehabilitation specialist staff member in 2019, the Covid-19 Pandemic following in 2020, increasing construction costs, and the inflexibility of the HOME rehabilitation requirements which by statute require more improvements than low-income homeowners are wanting to incur – all made administration of the HOME-funded rehabilitation program unsuccessful. In recognition that HOME-funded owner-occupied housing rehabilitation is not aligned with the needs of the Urban County area, this 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan has eliminated HOME as a funding source, but will pivot to utilizing CDBG for owner-occupied housing repairs – ensuring that low-income households have access to funds for critical repairs, without the requirement to address all issues with their home and incur the associated long-term financial costs.

ESG: The County has met all expenditure deadlines for funding from Program Years 2020-2023 and is on track to meet the expenditure deadline for 2024. More importantly, through May of 2025, the County has utilized its ESG funding to partner with five local organizations to serve 23 individuals with homeless prevention; 408 individuals with emergency shelter; and 409 individuals with rapid rehousing – with 131 of these individuals being survivors of domestic violence and 110 being chronically homeless individuals who received a combination of rapid rehousing and State-subsidized advocacy services. The County has prioritized utilizing all available ESG funding, including additional ESG CARES Act and State homelessness grants California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP), to maintain and grow a continuum of services across the County and FMCOC area. This unified approach supports efforts to serve all who are experiencing a housing crisis.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The County's citizen participation process is guided by its Housing and Community Development Citizen Participation Plan. The Plan describes the process by which citizens may become involved in the preparation of the Consolidated Plan and specifies the activity selection process for funding under the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs.

The County works through citizen committee groups to encourage participation of all its residents. These communities are representative of the County's low- and moderate-income residents, minorities, non-English speaking persons and persons with disabilities.

The Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of 19 members appointed by the Board of Supervisors as representatives of the County's unincorporated area. This committee meets with citizens groups and reviews and recommends public facility and infrastructure improvement projects for CDBG funding. This Committee is also consulted as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors for any changes or additions to the County's housing and community development programs. In preparation for the 2025-26 Action Plan, the CAC held a public meeting to seek public participation and testimony, and review and discuss proposed CDBG activities for the unincorporated area. The CAC recommendations for funding are included in the 2025-2026 Action Plan as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Consolidated Plan Committee (CPC) serves as the advisory group for the County's Consolidated Plan process and also holds a public hearing to receive comments regarding the preparation of the Consolidated Plan and each annual Action Plan. This Committee includes all the members of the CAC along with representatives from each of the eight cities participating in the County's Urban County Entitlement Program. The CPC held a noticed public hearing in October 2024 to provide recommendations and receive public comment on areas of concern that should be considered during preparation of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, including the 2025-26 Action Plan.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires the local Continuum of Care to be consulted in determining allocation of ESG funds. The County's Department of Social Services works in close partnership with the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) to determine ESG funding allocations. The funding plans are developed in coordination with the availability of other funding in the continuum and are presented to both the FMCoC Board of Directors and General Membership prior to being published for public comment and presented to the County Board of Supervisors. All public comments received are presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration. The Board is then responsible for acting on the recommendations and approving the 5-Year Consolidated Plan and the Year 1 Annual Action Plan.

Additionally, the County's staff from the Department of Public Works and Planning and the Department of Social Services consulted with individuals and agencies with whom they collaborate in implementing their CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. Those included the Fresno County Housing Authority, the FMCoC, special districts, and other community partners.

5. Summary of public comments

This is a draft document presented for public comment. As of the date of the draft's publication, the County has not received comments on the draft document. This section will be later revised to summarize public comments received.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

This is a draft document presented for public comment. As of the draft's publication, no comments or views were not accepted. The County will make every effort to address all comments received for the draft Consolidated Plan.

7. Summary

The County will utilize its annual allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Grant (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a variety of eligible programs and activities over the five-year consolidated planning period, Federal Program Years 2025-2029 (which runs July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2030), to address the priority needs identified in the this document's Strategic Plan. The County and its partners consider these programs and activities to be the best utilization of these limited grant funds to meet the ongoing needs within the Urban County program area related to affordable housing, community development, and homelessness.

DRAFT

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	FRESNO COUNTY	Department of Public Works & Planning, Community Development Division
HOME Administrator	FRESNO COUNTY	Department of Public Works & Planning, Community Development Division
ESG Administrator	FRESNO COUNTY	Department of Social Services

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning (PWP), Community Development Division is the lead entity for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entitlement grant programs. PWP administers the CDBG and HOME programs, while the County's Department of Social Services (DSS) administers the ESG program.

During the preparation of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, PWP and DSS collaborated with the County Administrative Office, the Department of Behavioral Health, and the Department of Public Health. Jointly, PWP and DSS are responsible in subsequent years for the preparation of the Annual Action Plans and Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)

1. Introduction

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I)).

The Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning Community Development Division (Comm Dev) is the lead agency preparing the Consolidated Plan. Comm Dev partnered with the Fresno County Administrative Office (CAO) and Fresno County Department of Social Services (DSS), who in turn consulted with the Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) for the mental health components of the Consolidated Plan.

The County of Fresno regularly meets with the Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC) to coordinate on the alignment of public housing with available resident supports through governmental and private health and services agencies. This includes coordinating on the implementation of tenant- and project-based vouchers for supportive services housing projects administered through DBH, ensuring stable housing for households with acute mental health service needs. As one of the few public housing authorities that also operates as a housing developer, HAFC is a critical partner in maintaining public and assisted housing capacity.

Fresno County has representation on the FMCoC through the DSS, the County of Fresno Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), and the CAO. As the primary social service agency in the community, DSS is actively involved in serving marginalized and unrepresented families and individuals through numerous social services programs. Both DSS and DBH play an important role in the coordination between agencies by actively participating in the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) meetings and subcommittees as well as facilitating meetings and planning efforts for funding and services across the continuum.

ESG funding is integrated into the overall plans to serve the homeless community. The County has a close partnership with the FMCoC and serves as the Administrative Entity (AE) for several State grants awarded to the FMCoC, including the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Rounds 1-6. In its role as the AE, the County of Fresno DSS provides grant oversight and administration for these funding sources, including developing and procuring services in coordination with the FMCoC.

Through FMCoC membership, there is the opportunity to build and enhance relationships with various organizations and agencies that may otherwise be out of reach. With the continued

expansion of the CoC membership, the FMCoC can receive input from local housing developers, as well as partnering providers, including hospitals and managed care plans (MCP).

Members of the FMCoC Board of Directors and cross-jurisdictional partners are collaborating with CalViva Health and Anthem Blue Cross to utilize funding awarded through the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP). To build consensus around the proposed strategies and gain community input for the HHIP County Local Homelessness Plan, MCPs jointly met with members of the FMCoC and presented proposed strategies at CoC meetings and stakeholder forums. This allowed for engagement with multiple community stakeholders including government representatives, social service and housing agencies, and community providers. As the funds are being used, the partner entities meet regularly to provide updates and address questions or adjust plans as needed.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

The FMCoC membership is established consistent with 24 CFR 578.5 (B), with representation from government, homeless service providers, emergency response, health care, housing providers, business community, faith community, and homeless/formerly homeless persons. The FMCoC not only focuses on enhanced cooperation and collaboration, but makes regional funding decisions and recommendations for federal, state, and local funds. Funding decisions are aligned with improving system performance with a strong focus on reducing the length of time households experience homelessness and facilitating more placements into permanent housing. The County is an active member of the FMCoC, with DSS and the CAO serving on the Board of Directors as the Chair and Regional Representative respectively. As active members on the Board of Directors, the County participates in the larger strategy to end homelessness in the Fresno/Madera region. Representatives of the County of Fresno and the FMCoC participate in a number of subcommittees which include Coordinated Entry System (CES), HMIS, Leadership and also attend weekly CES Community Coordinator office hours. All County homelessness activities are coordinated with the FMCoC. The FMCoC meets regularly through monthly meetings where members can discuss challenges facing our homeless populations and developing strategies to overcome those challenges.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS

The County of Fresno consults and coordinates with the FMCoC regarding ESG allocations, performance standards, evaluation, and HMIS policies and procedures. HMIS data on the

homeless served in the continuum, as well as outcomes from various programs is shared at the FMCoC General Membership meetings. As funding for homelessness is allocated, members of the FMCoC Board and the General Membership meet to assess the need for services and develop integrated funding plans that maximize available funding and fill gaps in service delivery. The FMCoC partners with Homebase, a nonprofit public interest law firm dedicated to homelessness; to provide recommendations and input regarding FMCoC policies and procedures, the use and coordination of HMIS data, and the evaluation of CoC programs including ESG.

The County of Fresno and FMCoC are committed to improving the quality of data collected and shared in the CoC's HMIS. The Fresno Housing Authority, which serves as the CoC's lead HMIS agency, provides training and technical assistance to anyone using the HMIS for the CES needing assistance with entering complete and accurate data, and may recommend and/or require technical assistance for service providers who receive a low score on automated data quality reports. All HHAP and ESG funded programs report client data into HMIS to further strengthen data and information sharing between regional co-applicants.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

{table appears on the next page}

Agency/Group/Organization	Agency/Group/Organization Type	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?
Fresno County, Department of Social Services	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Homeless Child Welfare Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Grantee Department	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth	Fresno County's Department of Social Services administers the ESG program and provided responses to sections regarding homelessness within the jurisdiction. This information was used to develop recommendations for the plan. The Department continues to work with the FMCoC to ensure that the services administered by the County, City, and the FMCoC are coordinated to develop a cohesive strategy for the community.

Fresno County, Department of Behavioral Health	Services-Health Health Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Grantee Department	Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	The Department of Behavioral Health was consulted regarding mental health needs related to homelessness and has provided responses to sections of regarding the same. The Department of Social Services works closely with the Department of Behavioral Health regarding these efforts.
Fresno County, Department of Public Health	Services-Health Health Agency Grantee Department	Lead-Based Paint Strategy	The Department of Public Health was consulted regarding lead-based paint abatement. The Department of Public Works & Planning works closely with the Department of Public Health regarding these efforts.

City of Fresno	Housing Services - Housing Services - Children Services - Elderly Persons Services - Persons with Disabilities Services - Persons with HIV/AIDS Services - Victims/Survivors of Domestic Violence or Human Trafficking Services - Homeless / Unhoused Persons Services - Victims Agency - Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other Government - Local	Housing Needs Assessment Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth	County staff coordinates with the City of Fresno on a regular basis, and also provided an online survey created to gather information on the responsibilities and specific challenges facing partnering agencies. Relevant sections were reviewed by City staff who provided feedback on the areas of their expertise, which will be used to further guide the County's coordination with the City and other agencies going forward.
Fresno Housing Authority	Housing Public Housing - (i.e. Housing Authority of the County of Fresno / Housing Authority of the City of Fresno) Services - Housing Services - Children Services - Elderly Persons Services - Persons with Disabilities Services - Homeless / Unhoused Persons Other Government - County Grantee Department	Housing Needs Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy	County staff contacted Fresno Housing Authority with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing public housing and its services. Relevant sections were reviewed and FHA provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.

Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging	<p>Services - Elderly Persons</p> <p>Services - Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide</p> <p>Other Government - County</p> <p>Other Government - Local</p>	<p>Public Housing Needs</p> <p>Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs (including persons with disabilities)</p>	<p>County staff contacted FMAAA with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and FMAAA provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.</p>
Kerman Police Department	<p>Other Government - Local</p>	<p>Housing Needs Assessment</p> <p>Public Housing Needs</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Families with children</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Veterans</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> <p>Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs (including persons with disabilities)</p> <p>Anti-Poverty Strategy</p>	<p>County staff contacted Kerman PD with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and Kerman PD provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.</p>

Alliance for Medical Outreach and Relief	<p>Services - Children</p> <p>Services - Elderly Persons</p> <p>Services - Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Services - Health</p> <p>Services - Education Foundation</p> <p>Non-Profit / Community-Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization</p>	Housing Needs Assessment	County staff contacted the Alliance for Medical Outreach and Relief with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and the Alliance provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.
Central Valley Regional Center	<p>Housing</p> <p>Services - Housing</p> <p>Services - Children</p> <p>Services - Elderly Persons</p> <p>Services - Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Services - Persons with HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Services - Homeless / Unhoused Persons</p> <p>Services - Health</p> <p>Services - Education</p> <p>Services - Employment</p> <p>Regional Organization</p>	<p>Housing Needs Assessment</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs (including persons with disabilities)</p>	County staff contacted Central Valley Regional Center with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and CVRC provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.

Cultural Brokers, Inc.	Services - Children Agency - Child Welfare Agency Non-Profit / Community-Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization advocacy services and support for families navigating the child welfare system	Housing Needs Assessment Homelessness Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Anti-Poverty Strategy	County staff contacted Cultural Brokers, Inc. with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and CB provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.
CVRCS Corp DBA Connect the Valley	Non-Profit / Community- Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization	Housing Needs Assessment Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Economic Development Anti-Poverty Strategy	County staff contacted CVRCS Corp DBA Connect the Valley with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and CVRCS provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.

Downtown Fresno Partnership	Non-Profit / Community-Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization	Homelessness Strategy	County staff contacted Downtown Fresno Partnership with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and Partnership provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.
Fresno County Probation- James Rowland Crime Victim Assistance Center	Services - Victims/Survivors of Domestic Violence or Human Trafficking Services - Victims Other Government - County	Housing Needs Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Families with children	County staff contacted Fresno County Probation with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and Probation provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.

Goodwill Industries of San Joaquin Valley, Inc.	Services - Employment	Housing Needs Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Economic Development	County staff contacted Goodwill with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and Goodwill provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.
Habitat for Humanity Greater Fresno Area	Housing Services - Persons with Disabilities Services - Fair Housing Non-Profit / Community-Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization	Market Analysis & Fair Housing Anti-Poverty Strategy Home Ownership	County staff contacted H4H with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and H4H provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.

The Fresno Center	Non-Profit / Community-Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization	Market Analysis & Fair Housing Economic Development CDBG	County staff contacted The Fresno Center with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed, and The Fresno Center provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.
The Light House Recovery Program Inc.	Non-Profit / Community-Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization substance abuse/mental health provider	Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless	County staff contacted Light House Recovery with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed, and Light House Recovery provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.

Valley Dream Center Community Development Corp.	Non-Profit / Community- Based Organization / Neighborhood Organization	Housing Needs Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless Economic Development	County staff contacted VDCCD with an online survey created to gather information on the specialties and specific challenges facing partnering agencies and non-profits. Relevant sections were reviewed and VDCCD provided feedback to help guide the County's coordination going forward.
Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)	Business and Civic Leaders Community Members Neighborhood Organization	Housing Needs Assessment Economic Development Anti-Poverty Strategy	The Citizens Advisory Committee consists of 19 citizen members, appointed to the Committee by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, to annually review applications for CDBG funds for public facility and infrastructure improvements, and score the projects submitted. Based on the scoring by the Committee, County staff prepares a draft funding order list for unincorporated area infrastructure improvements, which is recommended by the Committee to the Board of Supervisors.

Consolidated Plan Committee	Other Government-Local Business Leaders Community Members	Housing Needs Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-Poverty Strategy	The Consolidated Plan Committee consists of the members of the Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee, and representatives from each of the six participating cities in the Urban County program. The Committee holds a public hearing annually to provide comments on community needs and the preparation of the Consolidated Plan and/or Annual Action Plan, to provide comments and allow members of the public to provide comments, and to recommend approval of the Plan by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.
Fresno Count, Department of Public Works & Planning, Water & Natural Resources	Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas	Housing Need Assessment	Staff and management within the Water & Natural Resources Division provide periodic updates on issues related to groundwater sustainability, fire and flood emergency management, and public lands and associated impacts on housing development

State of California, Housing and Community Development	Other government - State	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Families with children	Staff periodically consult with California HCD regarding affordable housing, public housing, homeless and supportive housing
National Association for County Community and Economic Development (NACCED)	Planning organization	Other – Community Development	County regularly participates in online discussions, case study analysis, and trainings regarding housing, community development, and economic development
US Department of Housing and Urban Development	Other government – Federal	Other – Community Development Housing Need Assessment Economic Development	County staff meet monthly with our assigned HUD field representative regarding all HUD funded programs, as well as related state and other federal programs related to existing HUD programs.
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fresno County Fire Protection District	Agency - Emergency Management	Other – Emergency Management and Climate Resilience	County staff work with CalFire staff on CDBG funded fire protection projects, and discuss the different firefighting needs by the various specific characteristics of topography, existing infrastructure, and geography

North Central Fire Protection District	Agency - Emergency Management	Other – Emergency Management and Climate Resilience	County staff work regularly with NCFPD staff on CDBG funded fire protection projects, and discuss the different firefighting needs by the various specific characteristics of topography, existing infrastructure, and geography
AT&T	Services – Broadband Internet Service Providers	Other – Broadband Internet Access	County staff consulted with broadband ISPs with the aim of expanding access to broadband internet services for rural and low-income households.
Frontier Internet	Services – Broadband Internet Service Providers	Other – Broadband Internet Access	County staff consulted with broadband ISPs with the aim of expanding access to broadband internet services for rural and low-income households.
UnWired Broadband	Services – Broadband Internet Service Providers	Other – Broadband Internet Access	County staff consulted with broadband ISPs with the aim of expanding access to broadband internet services for rural and low-income households.
Fresno County Office of Education (FCOE)	Services-Education	Homeless Needs - Families with children	County staff consulted with FCOE regarding status of students experiencing homelessness

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

None.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Fresno Madera Continuum of Care	The goals of the Counties of Fresno and Madera, the City of Fresno, and the FMCoC are all considered in preparing the plan for ESG funding to ensure funding is used effectively and gaps in services are addressed.
County of Fresno General Plan & 6th Cycle Housing Element	County of Fresno	The Affordable Housing goals in the plan overlap with the overall housing goals of Fresno County, as outlined in the Fresno County Housing Element.
Permanent Local Housing Allocation 5-Year Plan	County of Fresno	
FCOG Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan	Fresno Council of Governments	
Housing Authority of Fresno County Agency Plan	Housing Authority of Fresno County	The Affordable Housing goals in the Strategic Plan overlap with the goals outlined in the Housing Authority of Fresno County's Agency Plan.
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)	County of Fresno & Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (EDC)	The 2025-2030 plan, currently in development, prioritizes workforce development, housing and infrastructure investment, and quality of life improvement initiatives in alignment with the Strategic Plan.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))

The County of Fresno collaborates with all participating cities in the Urban County Entitlement Program for CDBG, HOME, and ESG during the planning and implementation of the Consolidated Plan. The cities meet with the County no less than annually to provide input into the annual plans, and formally participate in the Consolidated Plan Committee, which reviews and approves the Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Additionally, for Consolidated Plan preparation, public meetings were held at each participating City's city council meeting to receive input from the city representatives as well as local citizens and community groups. The participating cities included during the preparation of this Consolidated Plan are: Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma. Changes to the cities participating in the Urban County Joint Powers Agreement will modify the cities consulted.

PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation

{tables begin on next page}

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Nontargeted/ broad community	12 members of the CPC and 16 members of the public in attendance	Community needs consisted of housing, infrastructure and public facility improvements .	There were no comments not accepted.	

2	Internet Outreach	Nontargeted/ broad Community Community Partners Survey - Housing & Supportive Services	41 survey responses provided	Community needs for members of the following, as identified by housing and supportive services providers: Housing Needs Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth	There were no comments not accepted.	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCYX2W3
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
				Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy (HIV/AIDS - County is not eligible for HOPWA funds) Market Analysis & Fair Housing Economic Development Lead-Based Paint Strategy Anti-Poverty Strategy		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Internet Outreach	Nontargeted/ broad Community Builders and Developers	12 survey responses provided	Needs, issues, and obstacles for the development of affordable housing	There were no comments not accepted.	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D2SLMGR

4	Internet Outreach	Nontargeted/ broad Community	<p>271 survey responses provided:</p> <p>Auberry/Tollhouse/ Prather 9, Biola 7, Calwa 4, Cantua Creek 1 ,Caruthers 13 Unincorporated County Island within the City of Clovis 1, Del Rey 1, Easton 8, Unincorporated County Island within the City of Fresno, 17, Fowler 7, Friant 1, Kerman 6, Kingsburg , 6,Laton 1, Malaga 1, Mendota 20, Orange Cove 2,Raisin City 5, Reedley 8, Riverdale 13, Sanger 36, Selma 16, Yokuts Valley / Squaw Valley / Dunlap 2, Other unincorporated Fresno County community 10</p>	Community needs consisted of housing, infrastructure and public facility improvements .	There were no comments not accepted.	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KQR98TD
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			Non-participating cities: 76			
5	Public Meeting	Nontargeted/ broad Community Communities of Laton, Lanare, and Riverdale	17 members of the public were in attendance. 7 County staff were in attendance, and provided information and literature on various County programs	Community needs consisted of housing, infrastructure and public facility improvements .	There were no comments not accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The goals of the Consolidated Plan represent high priority needs for the County of Fresno and serve as the basis for the programs and activities the County will implement to meet these needs. All of the program activities funded with the County's HUD entitlement grant funds benefit low- to moderate-income persons in the eligible areas of Fresno County.

The specific areas of priority needs are: Housing activities that increase and improve affordable housing for very low and low- to moderate-income households; Community Development activities to improve and sustain livability for low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons in neighborhoods and communities; and Homeless Needs/Non-Homeless Special Needs activities to meet the needs of these two distinct populations.

The needs of these two distinct populations are addressed by the County with activities funded through the Department of Social Services utilizing the Emergency Solutions Grant funds. These activities and programs of assistance are closely intertwined with the efforts of the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care, and the Housing Authority of Fresno County.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)**Summary of Housing Needs**

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Population	285,605	289,505	1%
Households	84,985	86,305	2%
Median Income	\$45,233.00	\$57,109.00	26%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	11,654	11,718	15,316	8,312	39,290
Small Family Households	3,581	4,216	6,581	3,785	19,785
Large Family Households	1,840	2,809	3,544	1,837	6,267
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	2,720	2,511	3,509	1,841	10,906
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	2,085	2,141	2,229	1,156	3,606
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	2,815	3,250	4,121	1,572	4,417

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables**1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)**

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	172	115	84	8	379	55	54	53	34	196
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	710	260	273	152	1,395	8	98	44	44	194
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	650	1,154	905	545	3,254	158	134	627	338	1,257
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	3,986	1,252	440	19	5,697	1,944	1,948	1,258	245	5,395

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	747	2,045	1,889	266	4,947	605	1,228	2,170	1,064	5,067
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	504	0	0	0	504	513	0	0	0	513

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2016-2020 CHAS

Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	5,541	2,785	1,716	725	10,767	2,175	2,232	1,986	657	7,050
Having none of four housing problems	2,129	3,528	5,078	2,221	12,956	1,822	3,182	6,536	4,703	16,243
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2016-2020 CHAS

Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	2,225	1,979	1,459	5,663	643	1,024	1,530	3,197
Large Related	1,330	1,343	519	3,192	282	697	595	1,574
Elderly	1,598	658	197	2,453	1,432	1,436	1,177	4,045
Other	921	329	326	1,576	345	179	321	845
Total need by income	6,074	4,309	2,501	12,884	2,702	3,336	3,623	9,661

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2016-2020 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	0	0	733	733	554	585	0	1,139
Large Related	0	0	360	360	278	489	108	875
Elderly	1,225	318	88	1,631	936	763	497	2,196
Other	0	823	92	915	321	0	0	321
Total need by income	1,225	1,141	1,273	3,639	2,089	1,837	605	4,531

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2016-2020 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	1,251	1,204	736	563	3,754	126	204	525	74	929
Multiple, unrelated family households	69	210	416	124	819	40	28	147	322	537
Other, non-family households	40	0	34	4	78	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	1,360	1,414	1,186	691	4,651	166	232	672	396	1,466

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present								

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

In Fresno County, it is assumed that a large portion of single-family households are elderly households. An estimated 12% of residents in the Fresno County Urban County area are senior citizens (American Community Survey 2011-2015). Elderly households in all income categories and housing tenure (owner/renter) sub-categories were identified as having priority housing needs. These households continue to experience some type of housing problem or “cost burden” (mortgage or rental cost) that absorbs 30% to 50% of their household income.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking remain contributing factors to housing instability in the County of Fresno.

Within the project jurisdiction, Marjaree Mason Center (MMC), remains a prominent local provider of domestic violence shelter and support services. Based upon law enforcement reporting records collected and [presented](#) to the public by MMC, within the Urban County area (excluding Fresno City Police Department, Clovis Police Department, and reports taken by non-participating cities), a total of 2,259 domestic violence reports were collected by local law enforcement entities over a two-year period between January 2023 and December 2024. A total of 17,893 domestic violence reports were taken by all reporting entities throughout the entire County. Each individual report represents one or more impacted families, with the understanding that a significant portion of instances of violence go unreported. (Source: <https://mmcenter.org/domestic-violence-dashboard> last accessed May 2025) Domestic violence within the Urban County area impacted at least 3,683 (75%) females, 1,219 (25%) males, and 16 persons of unknown gender. Of those, 14.5% were minors under the age of 18, 15.7% were aged 18-24, 29.6% were aged 25-34, 23.3% were aged 35-44, 2.1% were 45-54, 14.3% were aged 55+, and 0.5% were of unknown age.

The most-recent report on Human Trafficking in the Central Valley was authored by Fresno Pacific University and [released](#) by Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC) in January 2023, analyzing data collected in 2022. A total of 465 reports were collected across the Central Valley from entities including: Alliance Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault, Breaking the Chains, Central Valley Against Human Trafficking, Central Valley Justice Coalition, and Centro la Familia Advocacy Services. Source: <https://fresnoeoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2022-HT-Summary-Report.pdf>)

An estimated 9.3% of Fresno County residents under the age of 65 have a disability, which equates to approximately 95,244 residents in the Fresno County living with disabilities (2019-2023 U.S. Census data), with a substantially lower percentage experiencing homelessness per data from the local continuum as noted in the table above.

What are the most common housing problems?

The most common housing problems facing households in Fresno County are high housing cost burden and low vacancy rates. As of 2023 Census data, 18.7% of the Fresno County population fell below the poverty level, making the average rent of \$1,595 difficult to afford. Also in 2023, the Fresno County vacancy rate was 3.6%. This combination makes it difficult to find an affordable housing unit and difficult to maintain one as households often find themselves

precariously housed. Additionally, once housing is lost, additional factors such as evictions and poor credit make households less desirable for an already tight rental market.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

The disabled and elderly often see a more significant impact by these problems as they have limited opportunities to increase their earnings and increased challenges in finding viable roommates to share the burden. Only limited information is available about the general housing stock available to serve persons with disabilities, and the precarious nature of fixed and limited income for many disabled residents, this population is among the most vulnerable of Fresno County residents. However, as households apply for housing assistance to rehabilitate their principal place of residence, the physical condition of the clients and their needs are addressed, and any accessibility issues are addressed as part of the scope of work for the project. Additionally, the County of Fresno offers the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) wherein participants are given housing and disability advocacy toward a future with stable income and housing.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

Low-income families with children with extremely low income are in continual risk of remaining in shelters or losing their permanent housing. Contributing factors include damaged credit and insufficient income, which make it difficult to remain housed and more difficult to obtain housing once homeless. The needs of children and youth living in low- and very low-income families are a priority for Fresno County. The County of Fresno has focused funding from the state to decrease the number of unsheltered families with dependent children through diversion and homeless prevention, emergency shelter, and rapid rehousing. Households nearing termination of rapid-rehousing assistance are assisted with connections to all available resources to help ensure housing retention post-exit. Follow-ups with families are conducted as a requirement for tracking retention, which enables case managers to identify and address immediate needs which could put households at-risk of returning to homelessness.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

N/A

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

High housing costs, overcrowding, rent-burdened households, poor housing quality, cancellation of homeowner's insurance due to the home being located in a hazard zone or due to a failing roof, inability to afford ADA modifications to a primary residence, inability to pay property taxes or address code enforcement issues (e.g. reduce dry grasses and weeds which pose a fire hazard to neighbors), and destruction of homes due to wildfires.

Discussion

Over the past five years, the FMCoC has seen an increase in the number of families experiencing homelessness as demonstrated by family shelter counts and the annual point in time data. Due to the high housing costs and limited rental inventory, families are often precariously housed at best. Large families find it increasingly difficult to find suitable affordable housing and once losing housing, it becomes increasingly difficult to find new housing, struggling with credit and eviction histories. The elderly and disabled are also at increasing risk from high housing costs, and rent-burdens, with poor housing quality as they often lack the resources to make needed repairs to their homes. Physical limitations make it difficult to navigate the benefits available to increase income or skills toward employment and maintain housing.

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction**0%-30% of Area Median Income**

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,441	1,210	1,053
White	1,693	459	399
Black / African American	109	20	0
Asian	236	62	29
American Indian, Alaska Native	42	45	4
Pacific Islander	30	0	0
Hispanic	5,212	540	590

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	9,007	2,769	0
White	2,095	1,133	0
Black / African American	34	4	0
Asian	191	126	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	26	37	0
Pacific Islander	14	0	0
Hispanic	6,522	1,442	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	8,113	6,444	0
White	2,021	2,226	0
Black / African American	148	4	0
Asian	424	322	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	63	49	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	5,316	3,756	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,922	4,809	0
White	922	1,687	0
Black / African American	14	50	0
Asian	197	263	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	42	8	0
Pacific Islander	30	0	0
Hispanic	1,688	2,724	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

The 2016-2020 CHAS data identified 9,704 households earning 0%-30% of the Area Median Income (AMI) living in the Urban County. Of those, 7,441 (76.7%) live in housing with one or more of the four housing problems surveyed by the CHAS – (1) housing lacks complete kitchen facilities; (2) housing lacks complete plumbing facilities; (3) individuals in the household must live with more than one person per room; (4) the household's housing cost burden is greater than 30% of their income. Although the data set detailing specifically which of the four housing problems is experienced by each household does not seem to be available in the CHAS data, other data sources, such as those [available](https://chpc.net/) from the [California Housing Partnership](https://chpc.net/) (https://chpc.net/) assert that in 2023, across the entire County of Fresno (not just the Urban County jurisdiction), 83% of Extremely Low-Income households are paying more than half of their income on housing costs, compared to just 4% of Moderate-Income households. It is reasonable to conclude that of the four housing problems surveyed by the CHAS, the driver of the data is the household's housing cost burden.

Similarly, of the 11,776 households in the Urban County earning 30%-50% of the AMI, 9,007 households (76.5%) face one or more housing problems. The prevalence of housing problems slightly decreases for households earning 50%-80% AMI, with 8,113 households out of 14,557 (55.7%) having identified housing problems. As incomes increase, housing problems remain, though the percentage of households affected is lower even still. Of the 7,731 households earning 80%-100% AMI, 2,922 households (37.8%) identify one or more housing problems.

The problems faced by households – whether a lack of a functional kitchen or bathroom, two families sharing a space intended for one family, or a housing cost burden vastly exceeding a household's income – remain widespread challenges impacting the health and wellness of our local community members.

An analysis of these data sets, one aligned with the original intent of the question presented in this section, was also performed and is available upon request, but is not included pursuant to Executive Order 14151.

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,486	2,152	1,053
White	1,347	808	399
Black / African American	109	20	0
Asian	196	102	29
American Indian, Alaska Native	42	50	4
Pacific Islander	30	0	0
Hispanic	4,669	1,085	590

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,037	5,746	0
White	1,045	2,178	0
Black / African American	14	24	0
Asian	161	155	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	22	41	0
Pacific Islander	14	0	0
Hispanic	4,681	3,272	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2016-2020 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,838	10,713	0
White	803	3,443	0
Black / African American	114	38	0
Asian	282	465	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	63	49	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	2,500	6,572	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2016-2020 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,257	6,489	0
White	179	2,434	0
Black / African American	0	70	0
Asian	63	408	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	38	12	0
Pacific Islander	30	0	0
Hispanic	928	3,464	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2016-2020 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

Discussion

Within the 2016-2020 CHAS data the four severe housing problems are – (1) housing lacks complete kitchen facilities; (2) housing lacks complete plumbing facilities; (3) individuals in the household must live with more than 1.5 people per bedroom; (4) the household's housing cost burden is greater than 50% of their income. The County is unable to comment on why the total household populations identified in the CHAS data identify different total population sizes between NA-15 and NA-20, but are likely attributed to some survey respondents not answering both questions.

At the lowest income tier, 0%-30% AMI, two-thirds of households face severe housing problems. Out of 9,704 total households, 6,486 (66.8%) face one or more severe housing issues. This high percentage underscores the acute vulnerability of extremely low-income households, and is likely driven by the households experiencing a severe housing cost burden greater than 50% of their income. Severe housing problems also impact over half of households earning 30%-50% AMI. Of the 11,776 households in this band, 6,037 (51.3%) face at least one severe housing problem. The number of households earning in the 50%-80% range facing severe housing challenges decreases, but remains of significant concern. Out of 14,557 households, 3,838 (26.4%) have one or more severe housing problems. Even at the highest income tier of 80%-100% AMI, severe housing problems are still present. Of the 7,731 households, 1,257 (16.3%) are identified as having one or more severe housing problems. This shows that even for households approaching the area median income, a notable segment faces critical housing conditions.

Addressing severe housing needs through programs to assist with critical repairs or defray the costs of housing remain crucial for improving housing stability and reducing vulnerability across the Urban County.

An analysis of these data sets, one aligned with the original intent of the question presented in this section, was also performed and is available upon request, but is not included pursuant to Executive Order 14151.

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction:**Housing Cost Burden**

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	55,664	15,695	13,345	1,109
White	26,461	5,918	3,407	403
Black / African American	507	94	227	0
Asian	2,491	761	616	34
American Indian, Alaska Native	336	20	151	4
Pacific Islander	0	30	44	0
Hispanic	24,790	8,548	8,688	615

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Discussion:

Within the Urban County area, utilizing 2019-2020 CHAS data, 13,345 households (15.5%) experience a severe cost burden, with housing requiring over 50% of the household's total income; while 15,695 households (18.3%) spend 30-50% of their income on housing costs.

An analysis of the data set, one aligned with the original intent of the question presented in this section, was also performed and is available upon request, but is not included pursuant to Executive Order 14151.

Housing cost burdens remain a driver of housing instability within Fresno County.

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

Yes, within the group of households experiencing a housing cost burden exceeding 50% of the household's income, there are over-represented groups – the fourth population in the list comprises 1.13% of the households experiencing severe housing cost burdens, despite being only 0.60% of the population. Additionally, the last population in the list comprises 65.1% of the households experiencing severe housing cost burdens, while comprising just 49.7% of the population. A full analysis of the data set is available upon request.

If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

Households experiencing severe housing cost burdens face many economic hardships and generally have reduced access to resources and community supports – though the County is continually attempting to improve access to supportive services. Unfortunately, like the households, the County also lacks sufficient revenues to adequately address all needs.

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

The Urban County jurisdiction currently includes the unincorporated areas of the County and the cities of Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma – covering over 6,000 square miles. Based upon analyses conducted for the Housing Element, these populations are not notably concentrated in specific areas or neighborhoods – a pervasive and widespread need exists throughout the Urban County.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

The Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC) is the largest affordable housing provider within Fresno County. HAFC works with non-profit and for-profit developers to expand the supply of affordable housing, and purchases and manages numerous affordable multi-family housing developments throughout the County of Fresno. Through the Housing Choice Voucher, Affordable and Public Housing programs, HAFC provides rental housing to residents throughout the County of Fresno, enabling qualified individuals and families to identify and reside in an array of housing options. HAFC owns and manages multiple units throughout a variety of over 80 complexes and administers Housing Choice Vouchers. Some of the properties are managed by a 3rd party property management company retained by HAFC. Due to limited funding and high demand, the county-wide interest list for Housing Choice Voucher recipients continues to be lengthy. Currently, the interest list opens to the public periodically depending on available funding and demand. The list is open for a two-week period and applicants are selected via lottery and placed on a waiting list. Generally, applicants can expect to be on the waitlist for at least 2 years. The interest lists for affordable and public housing are site-based and vary in size depending on interest for each property; however, they are also substantial.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	455	1,008	11	764	119	19	95

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	\$15,539.67	\$0	\$22,390	\$17,737.87	\$14,885.47	\$20,650.27	\$22,301.41	\$21,007.26
Average length of stay	1.71 yrs	0 yrs	6 yrs	13 yrs	2 yrs	11 yrs	3 yrs	12 yrs
Average Household size	1	0	3	3	2	3	2	4
# Homeless at admission	6	0	41	217	80	137	38	1
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	1	0	97	702	217	485	26	2
# of Disabled Families	7	0	91	1,119	432	687	25	7
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	71	5,466	0	5,233	0	175
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Program Type										
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers						
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher			
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *	
White	1	0	53	889	392	497	33	21	13	

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Black/African American	3	0	157	585	86	499	4	24	3
Asian	0	0	41	225	23	202	5	5	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	0	9	66	20	46	0	8	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	1	8	4	4	1	0	0
Other	0	0	26	161	7	154	1	1	1
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	2	868	964	2797	398	2399	21	83	15
Not Hispanic	5	0	0	1632	186	1446	44	59	20
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:

Public housing residents with a disability generally require units which have been modified for mobility impairments. These units are referred to as accessible units. Additionally, if an applicant or resident has a need for hearing or vision accessibility features, such items are provided through the HAFc's Reasonable Accommodation Policy. In some instances, additional unit renovations may be needed to ensure that units are fully handicapped accessible. HAFc continues to address this matter through the RAD conversions wherein a percentage of the units are fully accessible upon completion at converted properties. Additionally, in a recent survey applicants identified the following needs: Hearing access – 14 households; Mobility Access – 37 households; Sight Access – 20 households

Public Housing families on the Waitlist –7,427 (Elderly – 5%, Disabled –18%, Veterans –7%)

Housing Choice Voucher # on the Waitlist – 4259 (Elderly/Disabled- 884, Residency – 3068, Veterans – 134, Families with Minors- 1769)

City	Housing Choice Voucher Applicants							
	Zip	Total Applicants	Elderly or Disabled	Residential Preference	Veterans Preference	Family w Minors	Didn't Select Residential Preference	Didn't select a Household with Minor Preference
Auberry	93602	16	5	13	1	7	3	2
Biola	93606	24	3	16		10	8	5
Big Creek	93605	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Bowles, Calwa, Easton, Monmouth	93725	9	1	8	0	3	1	3
Caruthers	93609	53	13	40	2	26	13	7
Clovis	93611	294	64	215	13	121	79	26
Clovis	93612	812	214	567	32	304	245	82
Clovis	93613	31	7	22	0	7	9	0
Clovis	93619	154	42	100	2	53	54	12
Coalinga	93210	59	9	39	0	30	20	6
Del Rey	93616	30	3	23	0	19	7	6
Dunlap	93621	3	1	3	1	1	0	1

City	Housing Choice Voucher Applicants							
	Zip	Total Applicants	Elderly or Disabled	Residential Preference	Veterans Preference	Family w Minors	Didn't Select Residential Preference	Didn't select a Household with Minor Preference
Firebaugh	93622	60	10	48	1	29	12	10
Five Points	93624	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Fowler	93625	110	22	84	4	47	26	15
Friant	93626	7	1	4	2	1	3	2
Helm	93627	7	2	6	0	3	1	2
Huron	93234	50	8	40	1	20	10	13
Kerman	93630	204	37	139	5	86	65	33
Kingsburg	93631	118	37	85	3	43	33	12
Laton	93242	9	0	4	1	6	5	1
Mendota	93640	85	14	57	3	39	28	17
Miramonte	93641	3	1	0	1	1	3	0
Orange Cove	93646	100	21	69	4	54	31	18
Parlier	93648	231	24	151	3	95	80	51
Piedra	93649	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

City	Housing Choice Voucher Applicants							
	Zip	Total Applicants	Elderly or Disabled	Residential Preference	Veterans Preference	Family w Minors	Didn't Select Residential Preference	Didn't select a Household with Minor Preference
Prather	93651	4	1	4	0	1	0	1
Raisin City	93652	2	0	1	0	0	1	2
Reedley	93654	164	35	125	5	78	39	16
Riverdale	93656	31	5	24	2	13	7	4
San Joaquin	93660	44	2	35	2	21	9	14
Sanger	93657	484	99	356	14	206	128	73
Selma	93662	398	83	307	10	180	91	51
Shaver Lake	93664	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Tollhouse	93667	11	3	7	0	3	4	1
Tranquility	93668	3	1	2	0	1	1	2
Total		3,614	769	2,597	111	1,510	1,017	488

Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders

Low-income households receiving public housing or Housing Choice Voucher assistance need access to safe and affordable housing that is in close proximity to public transportation, schools and other quality of life amenities that offer services designed to increase

self-sufficiency and vibrant neighborhoods. It is important that voucher holders have access to units throughout Fresno County in their neighborhood of choice, and that affordable housing options are safe and able to accommodate families of various sizes. HAFC continues to focus on efforts that recognize place matters, offering services for mobility to high opportunity areas.

While safe and stable housing continues to be an immediate need, resident empowerment services are so essential. HAFC provides a robust variety of resident services, workshops and trainings to support residents and voucher holders. HAFC also continues to seek funding and grant opportunities for housing subsidies and development for low to very low-income households, including elderly and non-elderly disabled households.

Recent surveys of residents request additional community space and programming, confusion with different application processes for different programs (Housing Choice Vouchers versus other affordable housing), programs (including solar) to assist with rising utility costs, investments to enhance feelings of safety, additional housing units (particularly for low-income and elderly individuals), a greater ability to “gently off-board supports” without losing all support when slightly over income, access to public transportation, in-unit laundry facilities, and other neighborhood amenities like grocery stores.

Preservation of affordable housing stock is a high priority throughout Fresno County as well, recognizing that construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing units are both important factors to consider.

How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

The needs of public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher holders do not differ significantly from the needs of the general population, and safe and stable housing remains a common need. There are, however, additional programs and social services provided to public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher holders, as they typically have less income and less ability to meet their needs with their own resources.

Discussion

No additional discussion.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)**Introduction:**

Homeless needs include providing street outreach to those unsheltered, in need of housing, increasing the number of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families, providing essential services to shelter residents, and rapid rehousing homeless individuals and families.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	339	22	4,140	304	2,393	86
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	2	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only	927	2236	9,980	2,494	6,282	154

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Adults						
Chronically Homeless Individuals	461	1143	3,225	461	297	306
Chronically Homeless Families	19	13	114	16	26	214
Veterans	65	170	974	182	480	176
Unaccompanied Child	0	2	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	19	24	105	21	21	159

Data Source Comments: 2023-2024 HMIS, Data for all of Fresno County

Rural Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	55	7	1,252	92	724	86
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	161	738	3,017	754	1899	154
Chronically Homeless Individuals	75	377	975	139	90	306
Chronically Homeless Families	3	4	35	5	8	214
Veterans	11	56	294	55	145	176
Unaccompanied Child	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	3	8	32	6	6	159

Data Source Comments: 2023-2024 HMIS, Data for Rural Fresno County

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

N/A

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered:
White	1177	1965
Black, African American, or African	329	372
Asian or Asian American	78	49
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	74	238
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	12	48
Multiple Races	65	86
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered:
Hispanic	872	1436
Not Hispanic	863	1322

Data Source Comments: 2023 Point in Time County

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

HMIS Data from 2023-24 in the tables above indicate approximately 4,140 persons in households with children in Fresno County will experience homelessness each year, with an additional 114 families experiencing chronic homelessness. In the rural areas of Fresno County approximately 1,252 persons in households with children in Fresno County will experience homelessness each year. On average, these households will experience homelessness for 86 days. Additionally, an estimated 974 veterans will experience homelessness each year, with the episode of homelessness lasting approximately 176 days.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

As seen in the above chart, among sheltered and unsheltered persons, those who identify as Hispanic/Latino comprise 51% of homeless individuals; while Non-Hispanic/Latino comprise 49% of this population. Specific racial groupings break down as White – 70%; Black/African American – 16%; Asian – 3%; American Indian/Alaskan Native – 7%; and Pacific Islander – 1%; and multiple races – 3%.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

As seen in the above chart, sheltered homeless represent approximately 46% of the homeless population with 64% unsheltered homeless, indicating the county has increased the percentage of those experiencing homelessness who are sheltered, with an overwhelming need for shelter still present. This speaks to the ongoing need for prevention and diversion as the ability to prevent homelessness is a key strategy in the homelessness response system. It also speaks to an increased need for street outreach, ensuring that services toward ending homelessness are available to those who are unable to receive a shelter bed. Finally, this speaks to the need for continued rapid rehousing services in the community as having the ability to move households from shelter to housing makes shelter beds available for those on the streets.

Discussion:

As a means of identifying the needs of the region, a local survey of homeless persons is conducted by the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) biannually. This count enables the community to evaluate the trends and allow any necessary programmatic changes to be made. Additionally, HMIS data combined with state Homeless Data Information System (HDIS) data is utilized to identify and evaluate these trends.

In 2023, like with most Continuums of Care in California, the overall number of persons experiencing homelessness increased. In the past, it has been difficult to find homeless individuals in rural Fresno County due to limited volunteers and unknown locations of the

homeless. However, the FMCoC has been able to increase the number of volunteers and has gained insight on common areas where homeless reside due to rural outreach services for better data resulting in increased numbers.

DRAFT

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Introduction:

Households vary in characteristics and unique needs, while many don't have specific special needs, several households may require special accommodations and may have difficulty obtaining housing that meets their needs. The groups that have special housing needs in Fresno County include the elderly, people with disabilities, people with HIV/AIDS, female headed households, large households, farmworker households and person's at-risk of becoming homeless.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Elderly: According to the 1-year 2023 American Community Survey (2023 ACS) estimates, approximately 13% of the Fresno County population is 65 years of age or older.

Disability: The percentage of the population in Fresno County living a disability is 13.4%, according to the 2023 ACS. In addition, 6.3% of the Fresno County population has an independent living difficulty situation. Another 6.3% have an ambulatory difficulty, 2.8% have a vision difficulty, 6.6% have a cognitive difficulty, 3.4% have a hearing difficulty and 3.2% have a self-care difficulty.

Large Households: Households are considered large when they have five or more members residing in one household. In Fresno County the percentage of large households is approximately 18% with about 9.4% being owner occupied, according to the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau.

← ↻ <https://data.census.gov/table/DECENNIALDP2020.DP1?q=Fresno+County+Households+with+Children>

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

United States Census Bureau

Fresno County Households with Children

All **Tables** Maps Charts Profiles

DP1 | PROFILE OF GENERAL POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Decennial Census 2020: DEC Demographic Profile

Filters Results

Label	Fresno County, California	
	Count	Percent
▼ RELATIONSHIP		
▼ HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE		
▼ Total households	319,296	100.0%
▼ Married couple household	148,035	46.4%
With own children under 18 [3]	67,707	21.2%
▼ Cohabiting couple household	25,846	8.1%
With own children under 18 [3]	13,218	4.1%
▼ Male householder, no spouse or partne...	57,041	17.9%
▼ Living alone	30,099	9.4%
65 years and over	10,175	3.2%
With own children under 18 [3]	7,677	2.4%
▼ Female householder, no spouse or part...	88,374	27.7%
▼ Living alone	35,316	11.1%
65 years and over	18,379	5.8%
With own children under 18 [3]	23,794	7.5%
Households with individuals under 18 ye...	130,455	40.9%
Households with individuals 65 years an...	96,140	30.1%

<https://data.census.gov/table/DECENNIALDP2020.DP1?q=Fresno+County+Households+with+Children>

The 2020 decennial census identified a total of 319,296 households living in the County of Fresno. Parenting male heads of house with no spouse or partner account for 7,677 households (2.4%), while parenting female heads of house with no spouse or partner account for 23,794 households (7.5%). In total, single parent households account for 31,471 (9.8%) of all households, or just over 24.1% of all households with children (130,455).

Single Parent Headed Households: Approximately 10% of households (U.S. Census, 2020) in Fresno County are comprised of a single parent situation with no spouse present. Specifically, 7.5% of households consist of single female-headed households. Single-parent households with children may have unique housing needs such as ease of access to childcare, health care, and other supportive services.

Agricultural Laborer Households: In May 2024, the most recent period for which data is available, over 27,680 individuals were employed as "Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse (45-2092)" within the Fresno metropolitan area. This represents 5.9% of the total workforce captured in the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, with these workers earning an average annual wage of \$36,710 (<https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/area/0023420>). Throughout the year, the number of agricultural laborers may increase to over 42,000 in times of peak agricultural activity. The nature of agricultural work is changing with time. In the past, there were significant numbers of migratory laborers, often single men, who made up a large portion of California and Fresno County's seasonal agricultural labor force. However, statistical trends from U.S. Department of Labor show that the number of migrant laborers has dwindled and now more than 90% of California agricultural laborers are settled in state. (<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-labor>) Those that are still migrant are increasingly a makeup of men and women, often full families, with housing and services needs more similar to that of the permanent workforce – but whose wages fall far below those employed in other occupations. The Sacramento Bee surveyed migrant laborers in 2023 and found that 80% of those migrant laborers would permanently locate if affordable housing opportunities were available. (<https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article282393553.html>) The County's own 2023 survey identified that these families overwhelmingly wanted to participate in the American Dream of affordable homeownership rather than their only affordable housing path being limited to subsidized rental housing.

Persons Living with AIDS/HIV and their Families: In Fresno County, a total of 1,292 new and existing cases of HIV were reported in 2023. During the same time period, a total of 1,178 new and existing AIDS cases were reported. This data is tracked by the Fresno County Department of Public Health Sexually-Transmitted Infection (STI) Epidemiology reports. Stable and affordable housing is essential for ensuring that those living with AIDS/HIV have consistent access to the medical care and supportive services needed for their health and welfare. Additional needs for those living with AIDS/HIV and their families include housing assistance, such as short-term help with rent or mortgage payments; and/or supportive services, especially for those with multiple diagnoses such as mental health, substance abuse, or other health challenges.

Please note that under HUD's guidelines for minimum population size, the County of Fresno is not an eligible recipient of HUD's Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) funding. The County continues to work closely with the City of Fresno (who administers HOPWA funds for the area) to serve impacted households.

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

Please see the discussion above.

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:

Please see the discussion above for the housing and supportive service needs of the population with AIDS/HIV and their families.

If the PJ will establish a preference for a HOME TBRA activity for persons with a specific category of disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness), describe their unmet need for housing and services needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2) (ii))

N/A

Discussion:

Please see the discussion above.

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

The County of Fresno currently has eight partner cities and approximately 35 unincorporated communities and special districts, and the needs for each city/community vary. Public facilities and infrastructure in these smaller communities and cities is aged and deteriorating. Most of the public facility needs identified include new and/or improved parks, senior centers, community centers, and fire stations. There are also needs for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance related improvements to existing public facilities.

How were these needs determined?

Feedback was gathered from community needs surveys where residents and stakeholders of the County provided input on community needs.

In addition, public meetings were held for unincorporated communities and participating cities to provide citizen input on each area's needs and prioritization of those needs. Professional staff, management, and consulting engineers at the community services districts and participating cities also provided input, based on operational and regulatory compliance needs.

Citizens, neighborhood groups and local agencies submit project proposals to the County for review during an annual open application period. Proposals that meet HUD eligibility criteria under the CDBG Program are presented to the County's Housing and Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) for review and priority ranking. The CAC reviews, ranks, and recommends for funding public facility and infrastructure improvement projects within the unincorporated area. The CAC's recommendation is then brought to the County's Board of Supervisors (BOS) for final approval. The BOS conducts a public hearing to invite public comment before a project funding order is adopted by the BOS.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

To determine community needs and gain insight on prioritization, the County solicited feedback from residents and partner agencies on infrastructure needs in their communities. Of nearly 300 responses received, 78% came from residents located outside of the Fresno/Clovis metropolitan area, helping ensure the needs of rural County residents are well identified. While residents' responses were more generalized than Urban County area partner cities and community services districts, both groups' highest priorities were for street repairs, improved sidewalks, and street lighting. Partner entities also prioritized storm drainage and flood control as a great or critical need in their respective jurisdictions. Partners further identified that infrastructure supporting water and sewer improvements as increasing priorities, with most interested in applying additional funding to the expansion and replacement of lines and valves. Both residents and partners were in alignment with their desires to fund new public spaces like

parks, playgrounds, libraries, and community/senior centers. Residents and partners both viewed public services, like substance and mental health programs as a continuing high priority, with residents also wanting increased access to low-cost health clinics in their community.

How were these needs determined?

Feedback was gathered from a community needs survey where residents and stakeholders of the County provided input on community needs.

In addition, public meetings were held in both unincorporated communities and participating cities to solicit citizen input on each area's needs and prioritization of those needs. Professional staff, management, and consulting engineers at the community services districts and participating cities also provided input, based on operational and regulatory compliance needs.

Citizens, neighborhood groups and local agencies submit project proposals to the County for review during an annual open application period. Proposals that meet HUD eligibility criteria under the CDBG Program are presented to the County's Housing and Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) for review and priority ranking. The CAC reviews, ranks, and recommends for funding public facility and infrastructure improvement projects within the unincorporated area. The CAC's recommendation is then brought to the County's Board of Supervisors (BOS) for final approval. The BOS conducts a public hearing to invite public comment before a project funding order is adopted by the BOS.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

Public input meetings were held in order to engage stakeholders and identify areas that were in need of improvement. Participants ranked code enforcement as their top priority for public services. To gain insight on high-priority needs, a community survey was conducted.

Respondents rated the level of need for nine public facilities types in their neighborhood. Both residents and public service providers overwhelmingly report that access to mental health and substance abuse and low-cost healthcare services are great need in their communities, as well as services for people experiencing domestic violence of human trafficking, and crime awareness and prevention programs.

How were these needs determined?

Feedback was gathered from community needs surveys where residents and stakeholders consisting of housing & supportive services providers within the County provided input on community needs.

In addition, public meetings were held for residents, unincorporated communities, and participating cities to provide input on each area's needs and prioritization of those needs.

Professional staff, management, and consulting engineers at the community services districts and participating cities also provided input.

DRAFT

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

Data prepopulated by HUD within the Consolidated Plan, which reflects information collected between 2016 and 2020, consistently lags behind current market conditions. This renders much of the automatically generated data less relevant to existing circumstances within the County.

According to data provided by the National Association of Realtors (NAR) (Q4 2024), in Fresno County, the median home value is \$419,383. The HOME program prohibits acquisition of single-family homes (SFH) that do not meet the definition of “modest” – less than 95% of the median value – in this case, \$398,413. This is marginally higher than the recently published 2025 Homeownership Value Limits of \$390,000 for existing SFH and \$394,000 for newly-constructed SFH, which went into effect on September 1, 2024. Yet, the Homeownership Value Limit is not the barrier to utilizing HOME funds for homeownership.

Consider a modest home, priced at just \$350,000.

Under the County’s homeownership assistance program guidelines in effect during the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan term, an assisted household would need to contribute 1.5% of the purchase price (\$5,250) and could be assisted with up to 20% of the purchase price (\$70,000). According to the [Fannie Mae Mortgage Calculator](#), a \$350,000 home, with a 21.5% downpayment, a 30-year loan term, a 6% interest rate, homeowner’s insurance at 0.75% of the home value (\$2,625) as County policies require maintaining insurance levels sufficient to reconstruct the home, no fees for Homeowners’ Associations, and Property Taxes at 1.25% of the home’s value (\$4,375) – would require a monthly mortgage payment including principal, interest, taxes, and insurance of \$2,231. (Note that the \$2,231 is excluding electricity, water, sewer, trash, and internet, which can collectively increase overall housing costs by over \$500 each month, in-part due to this region experiencing extreme heat for much of the year.)

To keep housing costs at 30% of their income – a long-held standard of affordability, a household with a monthly housing expense of \$2,231 would need an annual income of \$89,240. The HOME program limits eligibility to households earning 80% or less of the Area Median Income (AMI). Under the 2025 HOME Income Limits that went into effect June 1, 2025, a family of 6 people or fewer, earning \$89,240 a year, would be ineligible due to being over-income. Only households of 7 or more people earning \$89,240 would be eligible for assistance. However, if a 7-person family earned just \$93,151 a year, they too would be ineligible due to being over-income.

The ability to qualify for a primary mortgage, while remaining at or below 80% AMI, remains a very narrow target in California. And if assisted, households would subsequently lack the resources to cover costly repairs that might become necessary over the next 30 years or navigate a major job loss or health crisis.

As of May 30, 2025, HUD's Region IX San Francisco Field Office (which has oversight jurisdiction over the County of Fresno) was utilizing the 2024 Maximum Per-Unit Subsidy Limits which went into effect on February 13, 2024. Under these limits, the County could theoretically provide assistance of up to \$327,293 for a single HOME-assisted household to purchase a 3-bedroom SFH.

This ability, however, must also be balanced against the fact that the County's 2024 HOME allocation was just \$1,216,973.75. Assistance at the maximum permissible amount (\$327,293) would comprise 26.9% of the County's annual HOME allocation – meaning just a handful or two of households would benefit. (The County would, of course, underwrite the transaction to ensure it was not over-subsidizing the household.) But even assistance at \$70,000 (as provided in the \$350,000 home purchase scenario above) would constitute 5.7% of an average annual allocation – meaning fewer than 20 household could receive a similar benefit and no other HOME-funded activities could occur.

The County will have to blend its approach towards affordable housing by (1) preservation of existing affordable housing – whether rehabilitating existing rental units or helping homeowners ensure their home is decent, safe, and sanitary; (2) increasing options for affordable rental housing – whether through new construction or TBRA; (3) increasing options for homeownership through the construction of affordable homes; (4) increasing the number of homeless facilities within the Urban County area; and (5) ensuring services to unhoused persons and those with special needs have access to supports and services.

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

Introduction

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	77,630	80%
1-unit, attached structure	1,752	2%
2-4 units	5,518	6%
5-19 units	3,524	4%
20 or more units	1,200	1%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	7,311	8%
Total	96,935	100%

Table 26 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	274	1%	911	3%
1 bedroom	573	1%	3,355	11%
2 bedrooms	6,694	12%	11,257	36%
3 or more bedrooms	47,572	86%	15,612	50%
Total	55,113	100%	31,135	100%

Table 27 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Housing Authority of Fresno County - Public Housing Units			
	<30% AMI	30-50% AMI	50-80% AMI
SRO	0	0	0
1-bedroom	28	7	1
2-bedrooms	83	23	22
3-bedrooms	114	27	23
4-bedrooms	41	10	9
5-bedrooms	5	2	2
Total	271	69	57

Data Source: Housing Authority of Fresno County

Housing Authority of Fresno County - Housing Choice Vouchers			
	<30% AMI	30-50% AMI	50-80% AMI
SRO	44	4	2
1-bedroom	1068	155	36
2-bedrooms	1340	432	185
3-bedrooms	554	320	228
4-bedrooms	95	71	76
5-bedrooms	19	16	10
6-bedrooms	3	2	2
Total	3123	1000	539

Data Source: Housing Authority of Fresno County

Housing Authority of Fresno County - Misc. Housing Units					
	<30% AMI	30-40% AMI	40-45% AMI	45-50% AMI	50-60% AMI
SRO	0	0	0	0	
1-bedroom	30	38	55	64	55
2-bedrooms	29	42	26	94	50
3-bedrooms	13	41	23	110	61
4-bedrooms	5	11	6	6	16
5-bedrooms	0	0	0	0	0
Total	77	132	110	274	182

Data Source: Housing Authority of Fresno County

Below is a list of all public housing units in Fresno County:

BoxScore Summary County PHA - LIPH and ACC Units Date 10/10/2024			
Availability			
Code	Name	City	Units
211803	LIPH Sunset I - County ...	Reedley, CA	20
211806	LIPH Cazares Terrace - ...	Huron, CA	24
211807	LIPH Helsem Terrace - C...	Kerman, CA	40
211808	LIPH Mendoza Terrace - ...	Firebaugh, CA	44
211809	LIPH Taylor Terrace-28 ...	San Joaquin, CA	27
211810	LIPH Marcelli Terrace -...	Highway City, CA	24
211811	LIPH Mendoza Terrace II...	Firebaugh, CA	28
211815	LIPH Del Rey Complex - ...	Del Rey, CA	29
211816	LIPH Firebaugh Elderly ...	Firebaugh, CA	30
211817	LIPH Laton Apartments -...	Laton, CA	20
211818	LIPH San Joaquin Apartm...	San Joaquin, CA	20
211819	LIPH Biola Apartments -...	Biola, CA	12
211824	LIPH Pinedale Apartment...	Pinedale, CA	41
211829	LIPH Cardella Courts - ...	Firebaugh, CA	32
211832	LIPH Pinedale Apts 28-3...	Pinedale, CA	16
211835	LIPH DeSoto Gardens - C...	Fresno, CA	40
613003	ACC Granada Commons (Kerman...	Kerman, CA	8
Total			455

Below is a list of the most recent Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) inspection score for each public housing development:

REAC Scores		
County PHA - LIPH and ACC Units		
Date 10/10/2024		
Availability		
Code	Name	Most Recent
211803	LIPH Sunset I - County ...	90
211806	LIPH Cazares Terrace - ...	77
211807	LIPH Helsem Terrace - C...	91
211808	LIPH Mendoza Terrace - ...	82
211809	LIPH Taylor Terrace-28 ...	77
211810	LIPH Marcelli Terrace -...	91
211811	LIPH Mendoza Terrace II...	82
211815	LIPH Del Rey Complex - ...	90
211816	LIPH Firebaugh Elderly ...	82
211817	LIPH Laton Apartments -...	90
211818	LIPH San Joaquin Apartm...	77
211819	LIPH Biola Apartments -...	91
211824	LIPH Pinedale Apartment...	84
211829	LIPH Cardella Courts - ...	82
211832	LIPH Pinedale Apts 28-3...	84
211835	LIPH DeSoto Gardens - C...	84
613003	ACC Granada Commons (Kerman...	93
Average Score		85

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

Both Public Housing units and Housing Choice Vouchers are funded by the Federal government. All the units or vouchers are available to low-income households, some of which may be designated senior or disabled units. The Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC) has also collaborated with the Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) in the pursuit of state funds for special populations. Among the most notable is the partnership with DBH in

seeking Homekey+ state funds to provide permanent supportive housing for families and individuals with behavioral health challenges that are experiencing homelessness. Additionally, HAFC has previously partnered with DBH to secure No Place Like Home state funds to develop supportive housing for homeless and at-risk of homeless families and individuals. HAFC is also exploring ways of utilizing Project-Based Vouchers as another tool to increase the number of affordable housing units and partnerships with other interested developers. The tables labeled Public Housing Units and Housing Choice Vouchers show units assisted by these two programs.

Additional housing units were funded from an array of sources including Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC's), Federal Home Loan Bank AHP Funds, County of Fresno HOME Funds, Low-Income Public Housing (LIPH) Capital Funds, CalHFA subordinate loans, and land donations and/or deferral of impact fees from local jurisdictions. The table labeled "Misc. Housing Units" includes units assisted using these various funding sources.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

HAFC seeks to maintain or grow affordable housing units within its purview. As developments are re-positioned, efforts are made to ensure ongoing affordability. With that said, 20 units at San Joaquin Apartments, are expected to be converted from Public Housing to Section 8 contracts (RAD conversion, LIPH to RAD PBV/TC). However, these units will remain affordable.

Additionally, the Voucher Incentive Program with the City of Fresno which helped encourage and support the acceptance of vouchers, expired in December 2024. This program provided some assurances and supports to landlords to encourage participation in the Housing Choice Voucher program. The discontinuation of this program may affect the availability of affordable housing for voucher holders. Funding uncertainty from Federal resources may also impact landlord participation.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

Fresno County does not have sufficient housing to meet the needs of the population. The need for affordable housing is significant. In 2024, the U.S Census reported that the nationwide average vacancy rate was 6.9% and Fresno had the lowest vacancy rate among the top five largest metropolitan areas in California at 2.8%. The demand for both rental and homeownership housing remains high. The length of the waiting list maintained by HAFC, and the number of applications received for HOME funding of affordable housing developments indicates that there is not enough very low- and extremely low-income housing to meet the needs of County residents.

According to the California Housing Partnership, Fresno County needs 35,357 additional affordable rental units. While this need is for both very low income and extremely low-income families, the need is largest for extremely low-income households. For extremely low-income families, 83% are paying half of their income or more for housing costs compared to 4% of moderate-income households.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Most of the housing units in Fresno County are single-family homes (70%). The second largest inventory is multi-family units with five or more units, however these units only make up 15.8% of the total number of residential properties in Fresno County. Affordable and conventional rentals are in great demand as the long waiting lists demonstrate. The demand is greatest for 2- and 3-bedroom units particularly for families in rural areas, homes for purchase with financial support, and studio/one-bedroom units for unhoused, elderly, or disabled persons.

Discussion

There is a high demand for affordable housing in the County as evidenced by the length of the HAFC waiting list. Recent experience with the conventional market indicates a shortage of housing in general. The HAFC is the largest provider of affordable housing in Fresno County. HAFC is a federally funded agency that administers housing assistance programs to qualified very low-income families, the disabled, and seniors. The HAFC publicizes and disseminates information on the availability of housing units and housing-related services for very low-income families on a regular basis. The HAFC communicates the status of housing availability to other service providers in the community and advises these providers of housing eligibility factors and guidelines to allow the providers to make proper referrals for those seeking housing.

HAFC has expanded the services it provides by building affordable housing developments that are not funded by traditional Housing Authority funds. The HAFC has been successful in obtaining other funds such as Tax Credit and HOME funds to expand the availability of affordable units.

The County of Fresno is supportive of strategies that address the prevention of homelessness for all individuals including families and families with children.

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

Introduction

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Median Home Value	194,600	271,000	39%
Median Contract Rent	752	854	14%

Table 28 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	7,658	24.6%
\$500-999	16,270	52.2%
\$1,000-1,499	5,706	18.3%
\$1,500-1,999	1,033	3.3%
\$2,000 or more	350	1.1%
Total	31,017	99.5%

Table 29 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Housing Affordability

Number of Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	2,231	No Data
50% HAMFI	7,552	2,451
80% HAMFI	19,003	9,321
100% HAMFI	No Data	15,329
Total	28,786	27,101

Table 30 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	991	997	1,258	1,772	2,029
High HOME Rent	668	769	929	1,065	1,169
Low HOME Rent	567	608	730	842	940

Table 31 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Insufficient inventory of affordable housing remains a major barrier to homeownership.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

Over the next five years, affordability of housing will continue to remain a pressing concern for the majority of County residents. Housing markets can be difficult to predict, particularly in times of economic disruption or if a household loses assistance or subsidies they are accustomed to receiving. During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the rise of remote work saw high-earning workers traveling to lower cost-of-living areas, which Fresno County used to be. The influx of higher income households had the effect of driving up housing prices across the County. Due to their scarcity and insufficient quantities, home values and rents are expected to increase each of the next five years.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

HOME rents, particularly the Low HOME rent for those at or 50% AMI, fall substantially below Fair Market Rents. The County's new endeavor for HOME-funded TBRA may be impacted if landlords are unwilling to rent at or below the Low HOME rents. In that event, TBRA funds will be utilized for the development of new affordable housing to help increase the supply of housing affordable to those at or below 50% AMI.

Discussion

On May 30, 2025, County staff reviewed homes for sale in the Urban County utilizing public online real estate marketplaces (Zillow and Redfin). The following quantities of SFH priced at or below \$350,000 were observed for sale (erring towards the higher number if discrepancies were noted between the two sites): Fowler (2), Kerman (2), Kingsburg (1), Mendota (0), Orange Cove (1), Reedley (3), Sanger (0 for sale, 3 up for auction with actual sales prices expected to run higher), Selma (8), Unincorporated County – rough estimates (1 near Malaga, 3 near Riverdale, 1 near Burrell, 1 near Caruthers, 1 near San Joaquin, 1 near Del Rey, 2 near Gravesboro, and then 10+ homes near communities like Shaver Lake and Dunlap – which could reasonably be attributed to properties in these communities being at extreme-risk of wildfires and the recent mass cancellation and non-renewal of homeowner's insurance policies across the entire State – making them uninsurable and infeasible for purchase by a low-income homebuyer).

With the exception of Mendota – which has zero homes listed regardless of price, this lack of housing inventory only exists in the affordable housing price range. The following quantities of SFH priced at or above \$351,000 were observed for sale (erring towards the higher number if discrepancies were noted between the two sites): Fowler (24), Kerman (10), Kingsburg (35), Mendota (0), Orange Cove (3), Reedley (19), Sanger (32), Selma (20). Home prices above

\$351,000 in the Unincorporated County trended in excess of \$700,000 due to larger homes and larger parcels of land. Unsurprisingly, many homes were priced at or above NAR's median home value of \$419,383. Prices in Kingsburg started around \$525,000, while prices in Fowler started around \$448,000, and homes in Sanger started around \$405,000 – all in excess of HUD's maximum home values.

Although the County could perform its own price analysis of home values to submit to HUD to use in lieu of HUD's limits, the home priced at \$350,000 was already unaffordable to households at 80% AMI. This assessment applies specifically to homeownership activities. There remain many retirement-age households who purchased their homes when they were affordable, but cannot afford the cost of a roof replacement or ADA modifications to help them age in place. The County will closely monitor rehabilitation activities to identify whether HUD's after-rehabilitation home value limitations prove a barrier to qualifying needy low-income households for owner-occupied rehabilitation assistance.

The County further acknowledges that advertised sales prices do not always translate to final sales prices, but the observations made in May 2025 align with NAR data from December 2024 and the inability of a HOME-eligible household to qualify for a primary mortgage without multiple lines of government subsidy has been a long-term barrier to the County's downpayment assistance program.

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

Describe the jurisdiction's definition of "standard condition" and "substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation":

A standard condition home is one which satisfies all requirements of the HUD NSPIRE standards (<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/nspire/>) and does not have any violations of health and safety codes. Homes that are substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation will require no more than 75% of the home's value to remediate all issues.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	15,771	29%	13,902	45%
With two selected Conditions	443	1%	2,540	8%
With three selected Conditions	84	0%	50	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	38,837	70%	14,640	47%
Total	55,135	100%	31,132	100%

Table 32 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	11,019	20%	4,168	13%
1980-1999	12,770	23%	8,400	27%
1950-1979	24,398	44%	13,396	43%
Before 1950	6,971	13%	5,197	17%
Total	55,158	100%	31,161	100%

Table 33 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	31,369	57%	18,593	60%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	9,224	17%	4,747	15%

Table 34 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Total Units) 2016-2020 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units			
Abandoned Vacant Units			
REO Properties			
Abandoned REO Properties			

Table 35 - Vacant Units

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Homeowners on fixed incomes often lack the resources for costly repairs – such as replacement of roofs and HVAC units – both of which are necessary for the home to remain healthy for human habitation.

There are also an anticipated 7 rental properties (public housing converting to private market rate, or affordable housing created by rehabilitating or converting existing structures) which are anticipated to need sustaining or new commitments of local funds.

Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

168 units are expected to need assistance during the next five years.

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

Introduction

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available			455	1,008	11	764	119	19	95
# of accessible units			4						
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 36 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data PIC (PIH Information Center)
Source:

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

BoxScore Summary			
County PHA - LIPH and ACC Units			
Date 10/10/2024			
Availability			
Code	Name	City	Units
211803	LIPH Sunset I - County ...	Reedley, CA	20
211806	LIPH Cazares Terrace - ...	Huron, CA	24
211807	LIPH Helsem Terrace - C...	Kerman, CA	40
211808	LIPH Mendoza Terrace - ...	Firebaugh, CA	44
211809	LIPH Taylor Terrace-28 ...	San Joaquin, CA	27
211810	LIPH Marcelli Terrace -...	Highway City, CA	24
211811	LIPH Mendoza Terrace II...	Firebaugh, CA	28
211815	LIPH Del Rey Complex - ...	Del Rey, CA	29
211816	LIPH Firebaugh Elderly ...	Firebaugh, CA	30
211817	LIPH Laton Apartments -...	Laton, CA	20
211818	LIPH San Joaquin Apartm...	San Joaquin, CA	20
211819	LIPH Biola Apartments -...	Biola, CA	12
211824	LIPH Pinedale Apartment...	Pinedale, CA	41
211829	LIPH Cardella Courts - ...	Firebaugh, CA	32
211832	LIPH Pinedale Apts 28-3...	Pinedale, CA	16
211835	LIPH DeSoto Gardens - C...	Fresno, CA	40
613003	ACC Granada Commons (Kerman...	Kerman, CA	8
Total			455

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

In Fresno County, HAFC currently operates 455 Public Housing units. Unit sizes at each location vary from 1-4 bedrooms, with 2-and 3-bedroom units being the most common sizes. There is a heavy demand for all unit types. Below is a list of the Public Housing properties in Fresno County:

Public Housing Condition

REAC Scores		
County PHA - LIPH and ACC Units		
Date 10/10/2024		
Availability		
Code	Name	Most Recent
211803	LIPH Sunset I - County ...	90
211806	LIPH Cazares Terrace - ...	77
211807	LIPH Helsem Terrace - C...	91
211808	LIPH Mendoza Terrace - ...	82
211809	LIPH Taylor Terrace-28 ...	77
211810	LIPH Marcelli Terrace -...	91
211811	LIPH Mendoza Terrace II...	82
211815	LIPH Del Rey Complex - ...	90
211816	LIPH Firebaugh Elderly ...	82
211817	LIPH Laton Apartments -...	90
211818	LIPH San Joaquin Apartm...	77
211819	LIPH Biola Apartments -...	91
211824	LIPH Pinedale Apartment...	84
211829	LIPH Cardella Courts - ...	82
211832	LIPH Pinedale Apts 28-3...	84
211835	LIPH DeSoto Gardens - C...	84
613003	ACC Granada Commons (Kerman...	93
Average Score		85

Table 37 - Public Housing Condition

Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

Public Housing units operated by HAFC receive biannual inspections and all inspections are currently up to date. HAFC was unable to enter units during the COVID-19 pandemic and there were some delays in bringing inspections back on schedule. Units are inspected once at the time of annual recertification and again to check coolers and HVAC before the summer months. If a unit has a swamp cooler, staff will return to the unit a third time to shut off the water supply to the cooler in the winter when it is not needed.

The available funding is not adequate to properly maintain the aging Public Housing inventory in Fresno County. Most properties were built in the 1950s and need substantial capital improvements. In addition to unit upgrades, the properties need asphalt, roofs, gates, and additional or upgraded irrigation systems. Based on inspections, most units are experiencing regular issues with plumbing, inadequate cooling systems for the extreme Central Valley heat, and foundation issues due to shifting soil in cities such as Firebaugh and San Joaquin. Cosmetic upgrades to windows, flooring, and cabinets are also in high demand but are often low-priority due to more urgent repairs. Above is a list of the most recent Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) inspection score for each public housing development.

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

HAFC strategy includes biannual inspections and a preventative maintenance schedule that helps to identify routine and capital improvements needed. HAFC maintains a current list of target properties that may benefit from improvements over the next few years, including public housing within the Urban County jurisdiction.

HAFC's Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) program serves residents of public housing by providing linkages to local resources through case-management services. Services are offered through public and private resources, for supportive services and resident empowerment activities. The goal of the program is to assist families to increase their earned income, eliminate the need for cash-aid, and make progress toward achieving economic independence. Place-based services are offered onsite public housing properties to eliminate barriers to transportation and childcare.

HAFC also offers the Sherwin Williams "Home Work" Painter training program, a 5-day course of intense training and testing for the Environmental Protection Agency Renovation and Repair and Painting Certifications, to residents of public housing. Participants received hands-on experience by working in groups and using the skills they learned to paint apartment units. The training included discussions on ethics, responsibility, dedication, and commitment to apply in any new employment and training opportunities. At graduation, a representative from local workforce development centered programs provide information on their opportunities. Opportunities presented included soft-skills employment workshops, training opportunities and employment linkages. All program participants receive a Sherwin Williams certificate of completion and are placed in the FH skills assessment database to inform them of future employment and training opportunities.

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

Introduction

A variety of homeless facilities and services continue to be added to the community. Inventory currently consists of emergency shelters, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing options. There remains a shortage of emergency shelter beds, the existing beds have a high utilization rate, and still, many remain unsheltered. The County of Fresno is supportive of strategies that address the diversion of individuals and families from the homeless response system, as well as the prevention of homelessness for all individuals including families and families with children.

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	297	0	59	257	
Households with Only Adults	1234	0	126	1176	
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	1099	
Veterans	39	0	60	668	
Unaccompanied Youth	10	0	12	0	

Table 38 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source

2023-2024 Housing Inventory Chart

Agencies and facilities providing services to the homeless or those threatened with homelessness.

The following is a list of agencies and facilities that provide services to the homeless or those who may be at-risk of homelessness:

Catholic Charities Diocese of Fresno – ccdof.org: Provides emergency food, clothing, diapers, and rent/mortgage assistance.

Central California Legal Services, Inc. – centralcallegal.org: Assist the homeless with legal problems related to health, welfare, and public benefits.

Evangel Home, Inc. – evangelhome.com: Provides temporary emergency shelter to single women and women with children.

Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health – <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/behavioral-health>: Provides permanent supportive housing for men and women counseling, advocacy, street outreach, substance abuse treatment, life skills, mental health counseling and transportation.

Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC) – fresnoeoc.org/housing: Provides permanent supportive housing for men, women and families; bridge housing, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing for transitional aged youth (18-24); Youth Shelter to at-risk, runaway, and homeless youths.

Fresno County Office of Education, Homeless Youth Education Services – fyes.fcoe.org: Provides services to homeless school age children. The goal is to provide access to educational opportunities.

Housing Authority of Fresno County – (559) 443-8400 – Provides permanent supportive housing to men, women, families, veterans and veteran families, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, counseling, advocacy, life skills, street outreach and mental health counseling. Housing choice vouchers, public housing and conventional housing programs to assist income eligible residents.

Fresno Rescue Mission – fresnorm.org: Provides temporary housing, food, and clothing to men, women, and children; residential substance abuse treatment program for men.

Holy Cross Health and Wellness Center – <https://www.samc.com/location/holy-cross-health-and-wellness-center>: Services include rapid rehousing services, parenting and financial literacy programs that promote self-sufficiency and family cohesion, diversion services to prevent

homelessness, short-term case management to formerly incarcerated individuals and outpatient treatment for substance use and behavioral health.

Marjaree Mason Center – mmcenter.org: Provides safe house for victims of domestic violence including counseling, case management, advocacy and life skills.

Poverello House – poverellohouse.org: Provides meals, emergency clothing, showers, referrals, residential substance abuse treatment for men; temporary housing for men and women; advocacy, counseling, life skills, street outreach and transportation.

Naomi's House – poverellohouse.org: Provides temporary housing for single women only, case management, life skills, street outreach, advocacy and transportation.

Salvation Army – fresnoarc.salvationarmy.org: Provides emergency food, some utility and rental assistance, substance abuse treatment for men and women.

Turn Behavioral Health Services – turnbhs.org: Provides permanent supportive housing for women and children; counseling, advocacy, substance abuse treatment, life skills and mental health counseling.

Turning Point of Central California – tpocc.org: Provides permanent supportive housing for men, women and families with counseling, advocacy, education, life skills, street outreach and mental health counseling.

United Way - uwfm.org: Provides guidance to local service organizations and trusted resources.

VA Central California Health Care System – fresno.va.gov: Provides services to veterans and their families, permanent supportive housing, counseling, advocacy, substance abuse treatment, health care, life skills, street outreach, mental health counseling and transportation.

WestCare California – westcare.com: Provides permanent supportive housing for families, rapid rehousing for men, women and families; services to veterans and their families; counseling, advocacy, residential substance abuse treatment, life skills, street outreach, mental health counseling and transportation.

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons

Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) service providers refer homeless persons to all appropriate and available ancillary services in Fresno County. Some of the mainstream services available through the Department of Social Services include Medi-Cal, CalFresh, General Relief, CalWORKs and various other programs. Persons may also be referred to mental health services through the Department of Behavioral Health. Clients may also be referred to CalFresh Employment & Training program (CFET) which is a voluntary program that helps people on CalFresh gain skills, tools, basic education, training and work experience to increase access to better jobs and higher wages. There are also various community partners that provide employment and training services, substance abuse treatment, and food commodities among other services. Each of the individuals and families assisted through the FMCoC is evaluated for referrals to mainstream services to address barriers to housing stability and ensure the most basic needs are met along with the appropriate housing interventions.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

The County continually accesses the services available in the community and funds services that are missing or available minimally to assist those experiencing homelessness. Through its ESG, Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP), and other state funds, the county is able to provide a wide continuum of services including street outreach, emergency shelters, rapid rehousing, diversion, and landlord engagement services. Additionally, the County funds emergency shelter and rapid rehousing services available specifically to youth ages 18-24.

The County's strategy for eliminating chronic homelessness begins with its participation in the FMCoC and continues through its support of activities that reduce instances of chronic homelessness. One source of funds provided by the County to lend financial support to end chronic homelessness comes through its allocation of State funds provided through the California Department of Social Services for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP). HDAP provides temporary shelter, housing navigation, and disability advocacy that will provide clients with income to maintain their permanent housing.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)

Introduction

The County will make CDBG and HOME funds available to assist non-homeless special needs populations to remain housed and/or provide opportunities and tools to access the services needed to maintain an independent, quality lifestyle. Non-homeless special-needs populations identified for Fresno County include the elderly, disabled and large family households. The specific objective identified is to assist these populations to remain housed in safe and sanitary housing. This will be accomplished by providing housing assistance for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing. Additionally, for those who need affordable housing, the County will continue to provide HOME funds to qualified Community Housing

Development Organizations (CHDOs) or other eligible affordable housing developers for the continued development of affordable housing.

Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs

Supportive housing and services for the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and public housing residents are provided on a County-wide basis by a variety of non-profit and/or local agencies. Non-homeless special needs populations identified for Fresno County include the elderly, farmworkers and large family households. The specific objective identified is to assist these populations to remain housed in safe and sanitary housing. This will primarily be accomplished by providing housing assistance for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing. Additionally, for those who need affordable housing, the County will continue to provide HOME funds to qualified Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) and to other developers for the continued development of affordable housing. All the developments are required to provide an array of supportive/social services to the residents such as English as a Second Language Classes (ESL), computer classes or tutoring.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

An inventory of facilities that provide services for non-homeless persons with special needs is provided below. The inventory focuses specifically on sub-populations: persons with AIDS and related diseases, alcohol and other drug abuse problems, developmentally disabled persons, the elderly, physically handicapped, and persons with severe mental illness.

Inventory of facilities providing services for non-homeless persons with special needs.

The Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA) – fmaaa.org: In addition to providing a list of assisted subsidized housing, FMAAA offers an extensive website of senior services. Available subsidized assisted-living housing facilities provide either studios or one-bedroom units that may include meals, transportation, security, housekeeping services, call systems, and assisted living.

DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

The Central Valley Regional Center – cvrc.org: The Center provides diagnosis, evaluation, and case management. Through the coordination of a developmentally disabled agency resource directory, the Center can arrange a variety of services for the developmentally disabled throughout central California. Any time a client cannot be placed in Fresno County, the CVRC can place the client through its statewide network of 26 regional centers. CVRC also maintains an extensive website of information for Elderly Residential Care.

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE

Fresno County Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services, Inc. – www.hispaniccommission.org: Provides a 3-month to 1-year in-patient program for first and second time DUI offenders. The program also provides outpatient treatment for persons with alcohol abuse only.

Fresno Rescue Mission – www.fresnorm.org: Provides a 1-year residential program with six months spent in transitional housing. The program is for men impacted by homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction and physical and mental abuse.

Salvation Army – fresnoarc.salvationarmy.org: Provides shelter, medical care, counseling, vocational training and social services to help men recover from alcohol and other social handicaps. Offers housing, work, and group/individual therapy to prepare men with a substance abuse problem to be rehabilitated and return to society with gainful employment.

Sierra Tribal Consortium – sierratribal.org: Provides a 90 day and nine-month treatment and recovery program for Native Americans, including individual treatment plans to promote healing. Applicants must be able to provide documentation of their American Indian ancestry.

VA Medical Center, Chemical Dependency Treatment Program – fresno.va.gov: Veteran-centered care providing assessment, diagnosis and treatment for successful recovery from addiction. Provides a 16- week outpatient program that includes relapse mode to individuals ages 25-70, in a group therapy setting. Emphasis is placed on relapse prevention, behavioral skills training and motivational training.

Family and Youth Alternatives – turnbhs.org: Offers substance abuse treatment through Juvenile Drug Court and Post-Release Outpatient (court-ordered programs) and Outpatient Drug Free (available to any adolescent wanting to attend).

WestCare California – westcare.com: Provides substance abuse programs including outpatient and residential sober living programs.

Kings View Behavioral Health – kingsview.org: Serving rural communities, provides behavioral health and social services to those with limited resources in the road to recovery from drugs and alcohol.

Baart Programs – baartprograms.com/baart-e-street: Provides medically assisted treatment for opioid addiction.

AIDS AND RELATED DISEASES

The Living Room – westcare.com: Provides a drop-in advocacy and referral center for persons with HIV, AIDS, and AIDS-related illnesses. Services include case management, food pantry, housing opportunities for people with AIDS (HOPWA), and linkage to medical care.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

The County will continue to use its Federal resources in collaboration with other compatible resources that may be provided to the County in the coming year to support and fund eligible activities that advance HUD's objectives for the CDBG, HOME and ESG Programs.

The County's Department of Public Works and Planning, Community Development Division will continue to administer the Urban County Program. The Community Development Division oversees project development and product delivery of the CDBG and HOME funds and is also charged with seeking other outside funding sources to supplement CDBG and HOME for the various eligible activities. The Affordable Housing Programs administered by the Division is the umbrella program for all housing activities, and includes activities such as Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction, Homebuyer Assistance, and Affordable Housing Development. All affordable housing developments funded with County funds must ensure that a portion of the units are accessible units. Housing rehabilitation assistance includes physical home improvements designed to assist the elderly, frail elderly, and the disabled to remain in their homes.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

The County will continue to use its Federal resources in collaboration with any other compatible resources that may be provided to the County in the coming year to support and fund eligible activities that advance HUD's objectives for the CDBG, HOME and ESG Programs.

The County's Department of Public Works & Planning, Community Development Division, will continue to administer the Urban County Program. The Community Development Division oversees project development and product delivery of the CDBG and HOME funds and is also charged with seeking other outside funding sources to supplement CDBG and HOME for the various eligible activities. The Affordable Housing Programs administered by the Division is the umbrella program for all housing activities, and includes activities such as Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction, Homebuyer Assistance, and Affordable Housing Development. The County's Affordable Housing Programs are available to all eligible low- to moderate-income persons. Special Needs populations are encouraged to utilize the programs and services provided. These programs and their goals annually are included in the Annual Action Plan.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

There are significant barriers to affordable housing expected during the next five-year planning period including the availability of affordable residential properties for rent or purchase and the high cost of new construction. Additionally, public policies, though often well-intentioned, can unintentionally create barriers to affordable housing and residential investment. These policies can disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, exacerbating challenges for those who are already struggling to secure stable housing. Below is an analysis of specific factors that negatively impact access to affordable housing:

Family Size - Larger families, especially in rural areas, face significant challenges due to the limited availability of larger rental units. Housing developers and landlords are often hesitant to invest in building or maintaining larger units, resulting in insufficient options for families requiring three or more bedrooms.

Citizenship Impacts on Family Housing Subsidies – Families with mixed immigration statuses face unique difficulties in accessing housing subsidies. Federal policies restrict subsidies to citizens or qualifying non-citizens, often leaving mixed-status families unable to cover the remaining rent portion. This financial gap places them at a higher risk of housing instability.

Rental History – Tenants with past evictions, gaps in rental history, or no previous rental experience can be excluded from housing opportunities, regardless of their current financial stability or behavior.

Credit Checks – Credit checks are often used as a criterion for tenant selection, disproportionately affecting low-income individuals and those with a history of financial hardship. This practice can unfairly penalize tenants who might otherwise be responsible renters.

Criminal Background Checks – The federal mandate allowing criminal background checks for housing applicants poses one of the most significant barriers to housing access for low-income households. Individuals with prior convictions, even for minor offenses, are frequently excluded from housing opportunities. This barrier perpetuates cycles of homelessness and instability, particularly for those attempting to reintegrate into society after incarceration.

Income Requirements – Income requirements for non-Low-Income Public Housing (LIPH) units often exceed what many low-income families can afford. These thresholds can disqualify applicants even when they have subsidies or other means to cover rent. This creates a gap in the housing market for those who do not meet strict income criteria but are still in need of affordable options. Additionally, many landlords require renters to maintain a monthly income

of three to five times the monthly rent, while using this requirement to exclude renters seeking to utilize a Housing Choice Voucher or other rental subsidy. Effective January 1, 2020, California prohibited discrimination based on source of income, but landlords remain who fail to understand that for a subsidized household, the required amount of income is calculated based off of the household's share of the rent. The County continues to look for ways to educate landlords and property owners to ensure compliance with State and Federal antidiscrimination laws.

Definition of Homelessness – The narrow federal definition of homelessness excludes many individuals and families from qualifying for housing assistance. For instance, those living temporarily with friends or family (commonly referred to as “couch-surfing”) or in overcrowded conditions are often not considered homeless, leaving them without critical housing support.

AB 1482 Rent Caps – California Assembly Bill 1482, which is designed to stabilize rents by capping annual increases, but may inadvertently discourage some new landlords from entering the market. The law's protections, while aimed at preserving affordability, can deter investment in residential properties by limiting potential returns.

Just Cause Eviction Policies – Just cause eviction requirements, which aim to protect tenants from unjust evictions, have created barriers for landlords attempting to end leases. These restrictions can discourage property owners from renting to tenants in the first place, fearing the legal and financial complexities involved in removing problematic occupants.

Environmental Regulations – Although the State of California has relaxed or waived many environmental regulations that could be used to delay or deny the construction of affordable housing, Federal regulations remain in place. While it is very important for low-income populations to have affordable housing sited in locations that promote long-term health and wellbeing, Federally-funded projects have added paperwork, regulatory burdens, and costs that would not otherwise be incurred but for the inclusion of Federal dollars.

While public policies often aim to address housing inequities and tenant protections, they can inadvertently create barriers to affordable housing and residential investment. These challenges highlight the need for a balanced approach that considers both tenant protections and the incentives required for landlords and developers to invest in affordable housing solutions. Addressing these issues through thoughtful policy revisions and enhanced support systems is essential to fostering a more inclusive and equitable housing market.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

Introduction

This report provides a detailed analysis of Fresno County's economic landscape, incorporating data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. The report highlights major employment sectors, workforce and infrastructure needs, economic impacts from planned investments, workforce skills alignment, training initiatives, and strategic economic development efforts. These findings aim to support sustainable growth and align with Fresno County's Consolidated Plan.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	8,601	13,471	22	40	18
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	3,725	2,768	10	8	-1
Construction	2,114	833	5	2	-3
Education and Health Care Services	6,679	4,745	17	14	-3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,204	555	3	2	-1
Information	322	147	1	0	0
Manufacturing	4,059	3,102	10	9	-1
Other Services	985	437	3	1	-1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	1,346	400	3	1	-2
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	4,211	3,695	11	11	0
Transportation and Warehousing	1,484	783	4	2	-1
Wholesale Trade	2,255	1,787	6	5	0
Total	36,985	32,723	--	--	--

Table 39 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Workers), 2020 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	126,588
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	116,305
Unemployment Rate	8.08
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	15.06
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.25

Table 40 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	20,689
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	7,589
Service	11,414
Sales and office	22,880
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	24,288
Production, transportation and material moving	8,006

Table 41 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	69,570	66%
30-59 Minutes	29,432	28%
60 or More Minutes	7,106	7%
Total	106,108	100%

Table 42 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	56,112	7,982	37,066
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	81,667	5,641	33,695
Some college or Associate's degree	114,387	5,820	32,894
Bachelor's degree or higher	106,961	3,796	16,511

Table 43 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	402	2,970	5,789	12,431	7,528
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,798	3,670	3,463	6,955	3,582
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	9,251	11,055	8,840	15,814	8,436
Some college, no degree	10,345	11,193	7,290	14,308	9,401
Associate's degree	1,537	4,248	3,214	5,327	2,720
Bachelor's degree	1,400	5,073	4,660	7,763	5,342
Graduate or professional degree	30	1,352	1,953	4,450	3,350

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	\$30,746.00
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	\$40,103.00
Some college or Associate's degree	\$41,351.00
Bachelor's degree	\$70,236.00
Graduate or professional degree	\$85,476.00

Table 45 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

The major employment sectors in Fresno County include agriculture and food processing, healthcare and education services, retail trade, and professional services. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, educational services, healthcare, and social assistance represent the largest sector, employing 24.7% of the workforce (100,999 workers). Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting account for 8.8% (36,163 workers), highlighting the county's strong agricultural roots. Retail trade employs 10.6% of workers (43,380), while professional, scientific, management, and administrative services contribute 9.1% (37,345). Together, these sectors illustrate the diversity of Fresno's employment base and its reliance on both traditional and emerging industries.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

The business community in Fresno County faces a variety of workforce and infrastructure needs. According to the Census Bureau data, the unemployment rate is 8.9%, indicating that while many individuals participate in the labor force, there is room to better align skills with industry needs. Workforce gaps include shortages in skilled labor for manufacturing and logistics as well as advanced technical roles in healthcare and STEM fields. Educational attainment data shows that only 22.0% of adults aged 25 and over hold a bachelor's degree or higher, suggesting a need for enhanced educational pathways. Notably, educational attainment varies significantly by age group. For example, 84.7% of adults aged 25 to 34 are high school graduates, and 22.2% hold a bachelor's degree, whereas those aged 45 to 64 have lower high school graduation rates (74.0%) and slightly lower rates of bachelor's degrees (21.0%). On the infrastructure side, Fresno's businesses require improved water and sewer capacity, modernized electricity systems, and expanded broadband to support technological growth. Enhanced transportation networks, including public transit, are also critical to ensuring workforce mobility and access to employment centers.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

Fresno County is undergoing significant changes that may impact its economy. Business closures in the agricultural sector have increased as firms face rising costs of inputs, interest rates, and labor, among other factors. Public sector investments, such as upgrades to water infrastructure and transportation systems, aim to address long-standing challenges. High-speed rail and other local transit improvements are expected to enhance connectivity. Private sector

initiatives, including the expansion of the logistics sector and ag-tech innovations, are likely to create job opportunities in specialized fields. The county's participation in renewable energy projects further positions it as a leader in sustainable development. However, these changes also create needs for workforce development in areas like logistics and renewable energy, as well as infrastructure upgrades to support increased demand for utilities and broadband access.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

The skills and education levels of Fresno County's workforce reflect both strengths and challenges in meeting employment opportunities. Among residents aged 25 and over, 77.3% are high school graduates or higher, and 22.0% hold a bachelor's degree or higher. Educational attainment by age group reveals disparities, with younger populations (25 to 34 years) achieving higher levels of education (84.7% high school graduates, 22.2% bachelor's degree) compared to older age groups like 65 years and over (74.8% high school graduates, 23.6% bachelor's degree). These differences highlight ongoing shifts in educational access and achievement. Fresno's employment landscape, dominated by agriculture and service-oriented sectors, aligns well with the 31.2% of workers engaged in management, business, science, and arts occupations and the 19.5% in service roles. Yet, there is a mismatch for industries requiring advanced technical skills, suggesting the need for expanded STEM and vocational training programs.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

Fresno County supports several workforce training initiatives to address skills gaps. Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) offer programs in logistics, healthcare, and manufacturing, while community colleges provide certifications in AgTech and renewable energy, collaborating with Fresno State and the industry-focused Fresno County FAME (Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education)

The Fresno County Economic Development Corporation's Good Jobs Challenge project, supported by partners like the Department of Social Services and the California High-Speed Rail Authority, focuses on upskilling residents for high-quality jobs in sectors like manufacturing, logistics, and construction, contributing to inclusive economic growth.

The Fresno County Workforce Board aligns training with regional economic needs, partnering with employers and educational institutions. Key initiatives include Valley Build and the Greater Sierra Forestry Corps, both aimed at building a skilled workforce and enhancing the regional economy.

The F3 AgTEC program, part of the \$65 million F3 Initiative, strengthens the agricultural technology workforce. Its Ag Systems Certificate program provides training in digital literacy, precision agriculture, and equipment operation.

Nonprofits also play a role, offering soft skills training to underserved populations. These efforts, aligned with Fresno County's Consolidated Plan, address the low educational attainment among young adults (only 6.9% with a bachelor's degree) and aim to bridge the gap between workforce capabilities and industry demands.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Yes, Fresno County actively participates in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Fresno County is currently leading the development of the 2025-2030 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in partnership with the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and consulting firm TIP Strategies. Through an additional grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), this CEDS development process involves extensive stakeholder engagement through roundtable discussions with municipal entities, workforce development organizations, key businesses, and community groups. These discussions aimed at identifying workforce, infrastructure, and business needs. To date, the Fresno County CEDS 2025-2030 planning process has convened 16 community meetings and 24 roundtable discussions, resulting in over 200 unique participants. An online community vision survey received over 600 responses.

A SWOT analysis has been conducted to evaluate the county's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. This holistic approach will culminate in the creation of a strategic direction for economic development. The planning process is expected to conclude in Summer 2025, with an aim for the resulting strategy to be inclusive, actionable, and digitally integrated, as well as accessible in multiple languages.

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

The drafted Fresno County CEDS 2025-2030, developed in partnership with EDC, has identified four main objectives: (1) Business Growth, (2) Workforce Development, (3) Infrastructure & Real Estate, and (4) Quality of Place, and details several objectives and recommendations that coordinate with the Consolidated Plan, and with broader HOME, CDBG, and ESG objectives.

Particularly within Objective 4. Quality of Place, several draft strategies outline opportunities to bolster economic development that can leverage federal housing and community development programs:

“Elevate the region’s quality of place by creating vibrant, resilient communities that attract talent and visitors and support local businesses.

4.1. HOUSING. Support affordable, diverse, and sustainable housing development in Fresno County to support workforce growth, attract new residents, and drive long-term economic vitality.

4.1.1. Expand and diversify the housing stock by leveraging financial tools, zoning adjustments, and public-private partnerships to support the development of attainable housing options that meet the needs of a growing workforce.

4.1.2. Encourage housing development near commercial centers to improve access to jobs, reduce transportation challenges, and align residential growth with employment hubs.

4.1.3. Strengthen pathways to homeownership by promoting financial literacy programs, supporting down payment assistance initiatives, and encouraging diverse housing options that accommodate first-time and moderate-income buyers.”

Discussion

Fresno County faces both challenges and opportunities as it moves toward a diversified and resilient economy. Strategic investments in infrastructure, education, and workforce development are essential to address current gaps. Collaboration among public, private, and nonprofit sectors will be critical to achieving the vision outlined in the CEDS and Consolidated Plan. By leveraging its strengths in agriculture, logistics, and innovation, Fresno County can build a prosperous and inclusive economic future.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

No, the Urban County area spans over 6,000 square miles and excludes the two major population centers, the City of Fresno and the City of Clovis. The four housing problems – lack of kitchen, lack of plumbing, overcrowded living conditions, and severe housing cost-burden persist in all communities served by the Urban County.

The County's 6th Cycle Housing Element, prepared as part of the County's General Plan, identified a critical need for additional housing at all income levels.

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

This data was not assessed pursuant to Executive Order 14151. Comparable analysis may be found in the County's publicly-posted Housing Element.

With regard to low-income families, poverty is present throughout the Urban County, but it may exist in a crowded row of unpermitted mobile homes on the edge of a property belonging to a comparably wealthy farmer or rancher making its identification using statistical data with mean averages instead of medians difficult. It is also reasonable to conclude that a chilling effect in the 2020 Census resulted in a substantial undercount of low-income households with mixed status. Low population density throughout the unincorporated portions of the County also makes concentrated areas of low-income persons difficult to identify.

Within cities, housing insecurity is more hidden, as it may be disguised by families sharing overcrowded housing and making it more difficult to track. An approximation of need can be determined by waiting lists for Housing Choice Vouchers (also known as Section 8) and County staff also sought information collected by the Fresno County Office of Education (FCOE). At the beginning of each school year, parents of school-age children identify their housing situation share whether they have housing difficulties. The amount of households living in a doubled-up situation vastly exceeds the number of households identified as literally homeless.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

The housing market throughout the Urban County remains one where any affordable housing will be rented or sold in days, due to the overwhelming needs of cost-burdened residents. Beginning in 2020, with the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Fresno County has attracted affluent remote-workers leaving very high cost of living areas who are understandably seeking more affordable housing. However, with an influx of new, high-income earners who don't work

locally, the local housing market has been impacted by new construction sold for higher and higher prices – which those moving to Fresno County can afford, but which are impossibly priced for the typical long-term County resident. Housing ownership is largely out of financial reach, even for households at 100% AMI.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Because of the County's vast size, long-standing County policies have encouraged growth of the incorporated cities, where access to municipal water systems and public services are more accessible than in rural areas of the County. Individuals in need of ongoing supportive services who reside in the most distant parts of the County must often choose between going without services, regularly travelling long distances, or relocating to a more metropolitan area – which can disconnect them from supports offered through their families and neighbors.

Throughout the Urban County area, like in nearly all locations within California, affordable housing is in high demand. Build it and they will come. To accommodate the needs of low-income households with limited access to transportation, affordable housing should ideally be sited in close proximity to public transportation, health care services, pharmacies, grocery stores, and parks.

Assets and public services in the unincorporated areas of the County are more limited, with most households needing to travel to nearby cities for better access – but affordable housing construction in these communities is still desirable as it may be an improvement to housing that already exists in the community in close proximity to agricultural work, or the household may have a private vehicle and is willing to drive for employment in order to obtain a below-market rate home price.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The County continues its efforts to partner with community-based organizations and advocate groups, affordable housing developers, cities, and community service districts to improve resources and quality of life in all cities and unincorporated communities, while seeking additional State and Federal funding resources to support those efforts.

A critical barrier to growth in unincorporated communities outside of the cities' sphere of influence is the limited access to potable water. Residents in these areas typically lack the financial capacity to bear the substantial costs associated with developing such essential infrastructure. Compounding this challenge, the public funding available to address water

access needs represents only a fraction of what is required to serve all significantly affected areas.

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MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

The County of Fresno (County) reviewed data (current as of May 31, 2023) collected by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as part of its Broadband for All program within the California Department of Technology (<https://broadbandforall.cdt.ca.gov/>). California collects information on fixed terrestrial broadband availability and adoption, compiling information at the census block level, and makes information publicly available.

Fresno's Urban County covers approximately 5,850 square miles. A review of the State's Broadband for All data shows 2,675 square miles, approximately 45% of Fresno County, as unpopulated. This is largely due to the rural nature of the County and the existence of undeveloped areas in national forests and national parks in the eastern portion of the County. Since 2015, the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) standard used for broadband service speeds is the availability of a minimum 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download speed and a minimum 3 Mbps upload speed. In 2024, the FCC raised its speed benchmark for broadband to 100 Mbps download speed and 20 Mbps upload speed.

Census Designated Place	Mass Market Unserved Locations	Total Locations	Percentage of total locations affected
Auberry	1,715	1,718	100%
Big Creek	143	143	100%
Biola	241	341	71%
Bowles	46	46	100%
Cantua Creek	104	104	100%
Caruthers	759	759	100%
Centerville	154	154	100%
Coalinga	501	3,988	13%
Del Rey	30	355	8%
Easton	678	678	100%
Firebaugh	202	1,964	10%
Fowler	172	2,063	8%

Census Designated Place	Mass Market Unserved Locations	Total Locations	Percentage of total locations affected
Fresno	5,270	142,275	4%
Friant	13	270	5%
Huron	953	1,025	93%
Kerman	251	3,781	7%
Kingsburg	132	3,995	3%
Lanare	142	142	100%
Laton	82	529	16%
Malaga	15	233	6%
Mendota	490	2,317	21%
Millerton	52	263	20%
Minkler	395	395	100%
Monmouth	42	42	100%
Orange Cove	109	1,820	6%
Parlier	166	2,873	6%
Raisin City	97	97	100%
Reedley	214	6,279	3%
Riverdale	105	985	11%
San Joaquin	34	803	4%
Sanger	249	7,085	4%
Selma	358	6,449	6%
Shaver Lake	2,062	2,325	89%
Squaw Valley	1,664	1,664	100%
Three Rocks	61	61	100%
Tranquillity	178	280	64%
West Park	292	292	100%
Westside	31	31	100%

Utilizing census data provided by the CPUC for mass market broadband availability for 38 communities in the County of Fresno, approximately 18,202 out of 198,624 households (approximately 10%) within the County lack access to broadband internet. When the data for the metropolitan City of Fresno is removed, the census block data shows that approximately 12,932 out of 56,349 households (approximately 23%) remain unserved by broadband.

The FCC also collects broadband availability information (<https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>), but differs from the State of California in that it includes providers that deliver broadband via satellite as well as fixed terrestrial wireless connections.

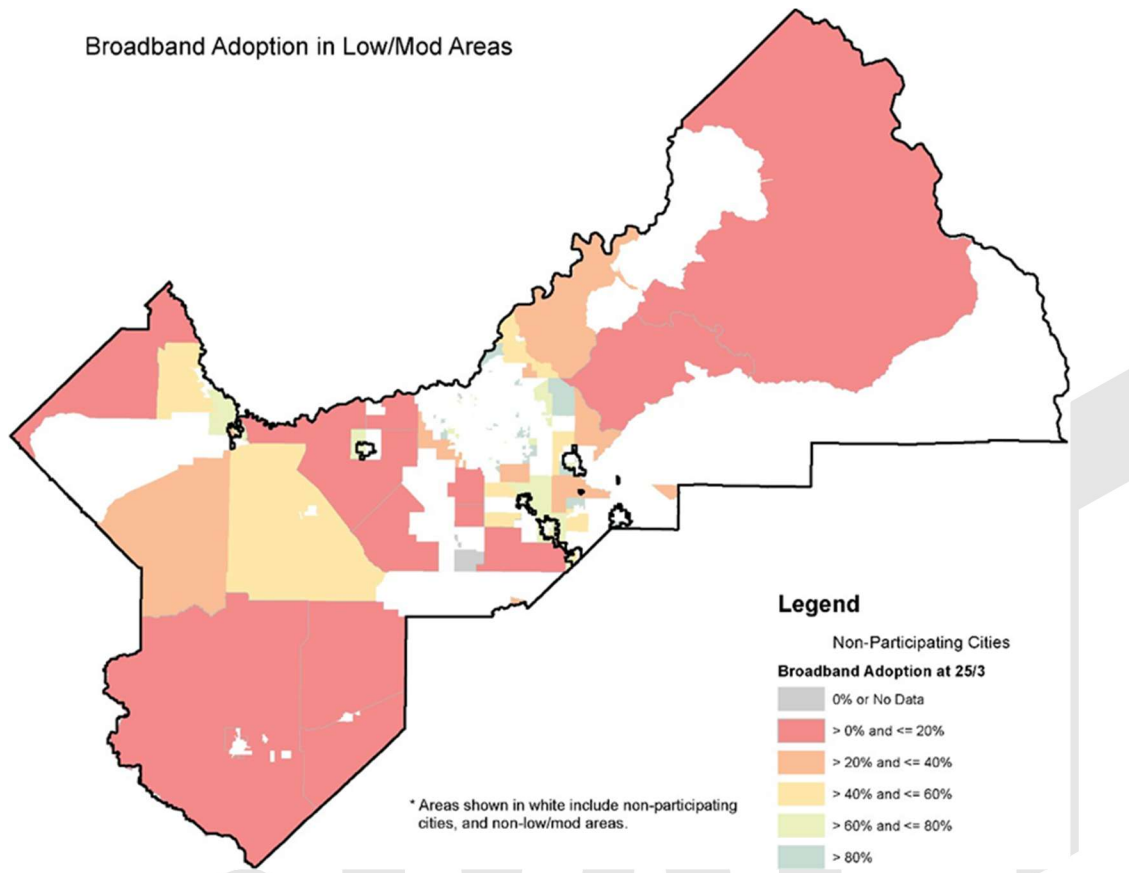
A review of FCC data shows that all areas of the Urban County are served by at least one provider at broadband speeds.

The County will share information with the County's Community Development about State and Federal initiatives aimed at lowering the cost of broadband internet for the Community Development team to communicate those programs with applicants for first time homebuyers and housing rehabilitation. The County's Community Development team will also update the Affordable Housing Development Loan application to indicate that units supported by the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) must include a proposal for how residents will have access to a broadband internet connection.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

The cost of broadband internet, especially for low- and moderate-income households, is likely reducing the rate of broadband adoption in Fresno County. Using data from the State of California's Broadband for All program, the map below shows the rate of adoption for internet service meeting broadband speeds in low- and moderate-income areas, prior to the FCC updating their standard used for broadband service speeds as the availability of Broadband from 25 Mbps download speeds and 3 Mbps upload speeds, to the new standard of 100 Mbps download speeds and 20 Mbps upload speeds. Most of the Urban County area is in census tracts with broadband adoption of less than 40%.

Broadband Adoption in Low/Mod Areas



The cost of broadband internet for low- and moderate-income households has been helped by the implementation of the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The ACP began on January 1, 2022, and replaced the Emergency Broadband Benefit program, which had begun during the COVID pandemic to help low-income households pay for broadband service. Eligible households enrolling in the ACP receive a discount of up to \$30 per month for internet service from participating internet providers. California's Broadband for All program lists information regarding the ACP in California, but only at the County level, which includes the City of Fresno and other cities not participating in the Urban County program. The data shows that 57% of households in Fresno County are eligible to participate in the ACP. However, as of February 2024, ACP enrollment in Fresno County totals 95,774 households (approximately 55% of all eligible households), indicating a lack of awareness of the program.

Fixed broadband service can generally be provided either through cable lines originally developed and installed for cable television, fiber optic cables installed to the home, or digital subscriber line (DSL) using telephone lines to deliver broadband service. Satellite internet and terrestrial fixed wireless can also deliver broadband service without requiring a direct connection to the home. Increased competition by the addition of new broadband service providers can help to reduce prices for broadband internet. Based on research by

BroadbandNow, average broadband pricing is 15% lower for those living in areas with at least three service providers.

The following table focuses on fixed broadband service providers and uses data collected by the FCC on providers serving census blocks in the Urban County. Due to differences in reporting between the FCC and the State of California, the total number of households in the Urban County differs from that listed previously.

Fixed Broadband Service Providers at Broadband Speeds:	Area of County (Square Miles)	Number of Low/Moderate Income Households
Only served by non-fixed broadband (Satellite or wireless)	2,157	26,081
One service provider available	1,174	23,128
Two service providers available	2,518	37,121
Three service providers available	< 1	8

As part of the County of Fresno’s broadband initiatives, the County conducted a survey of 15 local rural communities to gather feedback regarding broadband availability, adoption, and challenges.

Although approximately 74% of respondents reported having access to internet at home, 10% of respondents reported having a fiber optic connection at home, 34% have internet access through their cable provider, and 33% can only access the internet through mobile hotspot or cellular devices.

Approximately 70% of respondents reported that “cost” was the primary reason for not having internet at home, while 50% of respondents reported that “availability in my area” was their primary challenge. Equitable broadband access for low- and moderate-income households within the communities surveyed are essential for employment opportunities and schooling as well as accessing critical services such as healthcare, banking, and other public services.

The County of Fresno has also faced challenges obtaining interest from local Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in recent public bid opportunities related to available broadband grant funding, as the cost to reach many remote communities frequently become cost prohibitive without additional financial incentives.

Coupled with the sunseting of the ACP program on June 1, 2024, the lack of competition between ISPs in these remote communities often leave residents with little to no choice in selecting ISPs.

MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

The County of Fresno faces increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change in four (4) primary areas: (1) Increasing temperatures and extreme heat; (2) Inland flooding; (3) Wildfire; and (4) Drought.

To make these determinations, the PJ reviewed the Fresno County Hazard Mitigation Plan at <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/public-health/office-of-emergency-services-oes> and consulted with a member of the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services who had recently transferred to the Department of Public Works and Planning. Additional consultations with agencies involved in disaster mitigation were not possible due to the severe storm and flooding events experienced in the PJ in the months of December 2022 to March 2023. When emergency services agencies are less busy, the PJ will consult on areas for coordination of service.

To help mitigate the risks faced by low- and moderate-income households:

The PJ will update the applications for programs funded by HOME and CDBG to solicit information on possible natural disaster risks and any projects authorized shall include a plan to mitigate identified hazards, unless cost prohibitive.

Links to where applicants can understand their property's risks shall be provided in the application. For example, if a homeowner rehabilitation project is located in an area at risk for wildfires, the rehabilitation project might include work to harden the property to protect from a wildfire.

To support wildfire risk mitigation, the PJ will encourage all projects supported with HOME, CDBG, and ESG funds to follow best practices for brush clearance, defensible space, and fuel modification.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

The County was unable at this time to identify specific numbers of low- and moderate-income households with an increased risk of experiencing a natural hazard.

Increasing temperatures and extreme heat risk

Increasing temperatures and extreme heat risk can cause negative health impacts such as dehydration, heat stroke, and heat exhaustion can also occur. Children and elderly are most

susceptible and extreme cases can lead to death. Hotter temperatures can negatively impact health, energy use, and costs necessary to maintain a safe and habitable environment.

Low- and moderate-income households are particularly sensitive to extreme heat as those households bear an increased cost burden due to the expense of maintaining a residence cool enough to maintain their health. Those costs and the number of extreme heat events experience by the PJ region have increased in recent years and are expected to increase further in the upcoming years.

Older housing stock, built when the PJ experienced lower average maximum temperatures, may not have mechanisms other than windows and fans to reduce the temperature inside the home and lack resources to install an air conditioning system. Other homes which may have, up until now, relied on a less expensive and more energy-efficient swamp cooler instead of air conditioning have seen those swamp coolers become ineffective in higher temperatures. Homes with older, inefficient air conditioning pay higher energy costs than they would with a more efficient machine but lack the resources to replace an aging air conditioner.

Inland Flooding

Flood water releases from Millerton Lake and Pine Flat Lake as a result of large snowpack levels and extreme winter storms (including record-breaking atmospheric rivers in January and March 2023) threaten communities within the vicinity of the San Joaquin River, the Kings River, and numerous smaller channels that divert water. Low- and moderate-income households may be less able to prepare for, respond to, or recover from flooding events when there is damage to building or homes, displacement, loss of transportation or services, and workplace closures. Although the PJ provides multiple locations throughout the County where residents can obtain free sandbags and sand, learning about the resources, accessing the materials (due to the distance), and properly utilizing the materials may be more difficult for low- and moderate-income households. Many homes in identified floodplains lack flood insurance, due to cost and lack of awareness and the cost of rehabilitation after damage due to flooding is cost prohibitive.

Wildfire

Within the PJ, the unincorporated communities of Auberry, Big Creek, Centerville, Dunlap, Friant, Lakeshore (Huntington Lake), Miramonte, Piedra, Pinehurst, Prather, Shaver Lake, and Tollhouse have an increased risk of disaster due to wildfire. High fuel loads in the area, combined with natural weather conditions common to the area, including years of drought, low relative humidity, periodic winds, lightning storms, and bark beetle infestations which kill trees stressed by drought and turn them into tinder, results in frequent and sometimes catastrophic wildfires. Grass fires are also frequent occurrences and are more prevalent in areas where trees have died off. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource

Assessment Program (FRAP) assesses the amount and extent of California's forests and rangelands, analyzes their conditions and identifies alternative management and policy guidelines (<https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/>). Low- and moderate-income households are less resilient to recovering from the effects of wildfire, as it can result in total structure loss and displacement. Even a small amount of fire damage can be cost prohibitive to rehabilitate. Homeowners with limited income are less likely to carry insurance that can cover the full cost of replacing their home. Additionally, the areas most at risk to wildland fire are also the areas where insurance for fire is cost prohibitive to carry, or the home is uninsurable.

Drought

Nearly all low- and moderate-income communities in the PJ are experiencing a severe and prolonged drought (the storms of the past 4 months notwithstanding). In some areas, there is no access to potable water and drilling wells is cost prohibitive. But drought has an impact on the households in more subtle ways, too. Air quality often declines in times of drought which can affect those with respiratory ailments. Drought kills plants and vegetation, causing the area around a home to experience increased reflective heat and increased energy costs for cooling. Drought also requires more water to grow crops, increasing the cost of food. Demand for groundwater may continue to cause additional dry wells to occur in community water systems and private domestic wells.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The County will utilize its annual allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Grant (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to carry out eligible programs and activities over the five-year Consolidated Planning period (2025-2029), to address priority needs as identified. All programs and activities are designed to most efficiently address priority needs utilizing the grant funds from HUD to address as many priority needs and serve as many residents as possible.

Over the 2025-2029 Consolidated Strategic Planning period, funding for the various programs and activities is estimated to be distributed as shown on the table below, presuming the annual allocations of grant funding for CDBG, HOME, and ESG continue based on current trends.

Programs and Activities to Address Priority Needs

The County will utilize CDBG, HOME and ESG funds for a variety of programs and activities designed to address the priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. The County and its partners consider these programs and activities to be the best utilization of these limited grant funds to meet the ongoing needs within the Urban County program area related to affordable housing, community development and homelessness.

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Over the 2025-2029 Consolidated Strategic Planning period, funding for the various programs and activities is estimated to be distributed as shown on the table below, presuming the annual allocations of grant funding for CDBG, HOME, and ESG continue based on current trends.

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SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

Geographic Area

1	Area Name:	County of Fresno
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	Emergency Solutions Grants Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	The ESG Program supports outreach to and shelters for homeless individuals and families and supports programs that prevent homelessness or rapidly re-house the homeless. The County's ESG funds are utilized to support these types of programs in the County of Fresno consistent with regional efforts such as the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) and other efforts to address homelessness. HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance will address affordable housing need through the provision of tenant-based rental assistance. Other programs with less specific funding sources, including, but not limited to Lead-Based Paint Hazard grants, are also available to a broader jurisdiction than the Urban County Area.
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	

	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
2	Area Name:	Urban County Area
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Joint Powers Authority (JPA). The JPA may be updated as cities join.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
Identify the needs in this target area.	<p>Affordable housing needs will be met through the provision of CDBG and/or HOME funding to construct, rehabilitate, or reconstruct affordable housing, including the costs to provide for the delivery of eligible project costs associated with a specific project. Housing funds from both CDBG- and HOME-funded housing programs are available for eligible applicants and activities that are consistent with the Action Plan's goals and objectives within the unincorporated area of the County of Fresno and cities participating in the Urban County jurisdiction. While the County will promote and make every effort to fund its goals and objectives as stated in this document, it may be necessary at times to shift funds between programs based on need and in order to meet HUD's expenditure timeliness requirements.</p>	
What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?		

Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
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General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

The County of Fresno encompasses approximately 6,000 square miles and has people in need of housing assistance throughout the County. The amount of funds available is not sufficient to meet all of the housing needs of its residents. CDBG and HOME funds designated for housing are utilized on a first come, first served basis, with CDBG funding restricted to residents in the unincorporated areas of the County of Fresno while HOME funds are available to residents in the eight partner cities (Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger and Selma) and the unincorporated areas of the County of Fresno.

Public facility and infrastructure improvements needs of the County's unincorporated area communities are addressed via a formal application for funding, open from June through August, where communities are able to submit projects for CDBG funding. Applications are reviewed to determine eligibility and to determine whether the project meets a CDBG national objective. Eligible projects are presented annually to the Housing and Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee, which reviews the applications and scores the projects submitted and provides a recommended funding order list to the Board of Supervisors for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan. Partner cities receive proportional allocations of CDBG funds in accordance with a population-based formula prescribed by HUD, and annually submit public facility and infrastructure projects requested for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan. Partner city project are reviewed for eligibility and CDBG national objective, and approved by the County Board of Supervisors as part of the Annual Action Plan.

Public facility and infrastructure improvement needs exist in the County's unincorporated area communities and partner cities. Public facilities and infrastructure in these smaller communities and cities is aged and deteriorating. The most significant needs include water and sewer systems, storm drainage, wastewater treatment facilities, street and sidewalk improvements and street lighting. There is also a need for new and/or improved neighborhood parks, senior centers, community centers, and fire stations. Existing public facilities and infrastructure are also in need of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-required improvements.

Affordable housing needs will be met through the provision of CDBG and/or HOME funding to construct, rehabilitate, or reconstruct affordable housing, including the costs to provide for the delivery of eligible project costs associated with a specific project. Housing funds from both CDBG- and HOME-funded housing programs are available for eligible applicants and activities that are consistent with the Action Plan's goals and objectives within the unincorporated area of the County of Fresno and cities participating in the Urban County jurisdiction. While the

County will promote and make every effort to fund its goals and objectives as stated in this document, it may be necessary at times to shift funds between programs based on need and in order to meet HUD's expenditure timeliness requirements.

The ESG Program supports outreach to and shelters for homeless individuals and families and supports programs that prevent homelessness or rapidly re-house the homeless. The County's ESG funds are utilized to support these types of programs in the County of Fresno consistent with regional efforts such as the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) and other efforts to address homelessness.

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SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Table 46 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Persons with Physical Disabilities Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Jurisdiction
	Associated Goals	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements (Cities) Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements (Unincorporated)
	Description	Public facility and infrastructure improvements within the participating cities and unincorporated areas.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Promote sustainable communities and economic development by ensuring necessary infrastructure exists.
2	Priority Need Name	Public Service Activities
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Families with Children Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Jurisdiction
	Associated Goals	Public Services
	Description	Area-based crime prevention services, and community-based social service programs to special needs groups, including youth and victims of domestic violence.

	Basis for Relative Priority	Assist special needs populations and reduce incidence of crime.
3	Priority Need Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Low Moderate Families with Children Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	Urban County Area
	Associated Goals	Housing Rehabilitation
	Description	Provide loans to homeowners for home repairs, and loans for the rehabilitation of exterior commercial facades and any associated code violation corrections.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Promote safety, integrity and stability of existing housing for low- and moderate-income persons. Improve the overall living environment of low- and moderate-income unincorporated communities.
4	Priority Need Name	Affordable Housing Development
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Families with Children Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	Urban County Area
	Associated Goals	Affordable Housing Development
	Description	Loans for the development of new affordable housing.

	Basis for Relative Priority	Increase the supply of affordable housing units, particularly for households earning no more than 60% of area median income (AMI) and with units designed to accommodate elderly households, large family households and farmworker households.
5	Priority Need Name	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Low Moderate Families with Children Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	County of Fresno
	Associated Goals	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Description	Tenant-based rental assistance for eligible residents.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Promote affordable housing through the provision of tenant-based rental assistance.
6	Priority Need Name	Street Outreach
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Individuals; chronically homeless; families with children; victims of domestic violence.
	Geographic Areas Affected	County of Fresno
	Associated Goals	Street Outreach
	Description	Street outreach to connect individuals and families on the streets with resources for housing, health, and well-being, including connections to shelter beds when available and navigation when shelter beds are not available or accepted.

	Basis for Relative Priority	Upon review of available resources, street outreach prioritized in rural and unincorporated areas of the County places high on the priority listing because these clients have an urgent need and there are not sufficient shelter beds for everyone experiencing homelessness.
7	Priority Need Name	Rapid Rehousing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Individuals; chronically homeless; families with children; victims of domestic violence.
	Geographic Areas Affected	County of Fresno
	Associated Goals	Rapid Rehousing
	Description	Rapid rehousing activities including case management, financial assistance, rental assistance, security deposits, moving costs, and supportive services.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Upon review of available resources, rapid rehousing places high on the priority listing because these clients have an urgent need and movement from shelter beds to rapid re-housing programs creates vacancies in shelters for those experiencing homelessness on the streets.
8	Priority Need Name	Emergency Shelter
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Individuals; chronically homeless; families with children; victims of domestic violence.
	Geographic Areas Affected	County of Fresno
	Associated Goals	Emergency Shelter
	Description	Emergency shelter assistance for households identified through street outreach
	Basis for Relative Priority	Upon review of available resources, although there is significant state funded dedicated to this cause, there continues to be a need for emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness.

Narrative (Optional)

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SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	
New Unit Production	
Rehabilitation	
Acquisition, including preservation	

Table 47 – Influence of Market Conditions

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The County of Fresno anticipates continued receipt of Federal Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships Grant, and Emergency Solutions Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as its anticipated resources over the course of the Consolidated Plan period 2025-2029. The County would intend to apply for any other Federal and State grant funds that may become available in the future that would help further the goals of the Consolidated Plan.

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Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public-federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	3,172,269	1,207,500	1,051,150	5,430,919	13,689,076	CDBG funds will be used for public facility and infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation, and public services, as well as CDBG administration and housing program administration.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	Public-federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,162,933.95					HOME funds will be used for housing rehabilitation, tenant-based rental assistance, and affordable housing development projects, as well as HOME administration.
ESG	Public-federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	281,704	0	0	281,704	1,126,816	ESG funds will be used for street outreach, rapid rehousing, emergency shelter/transitional housing, as well as ESG administration and funding for the HMIS system.

Table 48 - Anticipated Resources

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The County leverages all state and federal funding, including funding awarded to the FMCoC and partnering jurisdictions to provide a continuum of services to meet the needs of the homeless in the community. ESG matching resources for ESG are derived from state funding for homeless services programs in the community. Typically, vendors the County contracts with for the provision of ESG funded services are required to match dollar for dollar all ESG funding utilized. As the County utilizes the total allocation amount, the dollar match will parallel ESG allocations provided to the County.

The HOME program requires the County of Fresno to provide matching funds towards affordable housing. The County's match requirement for HOME is satisfied through the County's waiver of recording fees for housing loans under its Homebuyer Assistance Program and Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Programs, and waived property taxes for HOME-funded affordable housing development loans. These two sources consistently provide significantly more match than is required for HOME.

If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Discussion

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Fresno County, Department of Social Services	Departments and agencies	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs public services	Rural and metropolitan areas of the County
Fresno Madera Continuum of Care	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Fresno and Madera Cities and Counties
Kings View	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	Rural and metropolitan areas of the County
WestCare California, Inc.	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	Metropolitan areas of the County

Table 49 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The County's institutional structure ensures that one or more agency is involved in fulfilling each institutional role. Public housing is provided through the Housing Authority of Fresno County, while help to ensure the availability of affordable housing is provided by the Affordable Housing Programs provided with the County's CDBG and HOME funds. Homelessness needs are addressed by the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC), the Fresno County Department of Social Services (DSS), and the non-profit agencies receiving ESG funds through DSS. Non-homeless special needs are primarily addressed by DSS, the County's participating cities, and the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC). Community development needs are primarily addressed by the participating cities, and special districts in the unincorporated communities, which receive CDBG funds to carry out eligible activities. Planning is performed by the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, and Fresno Council of Governments.

Gaps in the institutional structure exist primarily due to a lack of funding, as opposed to institutional structure to address needs if sufficient funds were available.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	
Legal Assistance	X	X	
Mortgage Assistance			
Rental Assistance	X	X	
Utilities Assistance	X	X	
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement			
Mobile Clinics	X	X	
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X		
Education	X		
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X	X	
HIV/AIDS	X		
Life Skills	X	X	
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	
Transportation	X	X	
Other			
Food, clothing	X	X	
Other			

Table 50 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

The culmination of the above available services within the County provide homeless persons residing in Fresno County valuable assistance by removing many barriers that would otherwise prevent such individuals from regaining stable housing.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

The Department of Social Services (DSS) manages the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding and the service delivery system for ESG has many strengths and some gaps. DSS is very involved with the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) which includes representatives from governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, and the recently added private industry.

A major strength of the ESG service delivery system is the partnership and collaboration among providers and partners in serving clients. Both funded and non-funded agencies share resources for the good of the clients. There is no possessiveness in regards to clients or services. A weakness is the ESG requirement of a dollar for dollar match for agencies to access ESG funding. This limits smaller organizations from participating as they don't have funding streams that can be utilized as match to obtain ESG. A strength however, is that larger organizations with rapid rehousing funds have agreed to partner and provide the match for community-wide ESG services.

The delivery system lacks continuing participation in a few areas including law enforcement and private industry. The local Police Department is very forward thinking and has a Homeless Task Force to prevent homeless encampments from forming and is instrumental in providing referrals and resources to homeless individuals/families they encounter on the street. Due to the nature of law enforcement, work schedules and limited resources, their full participation in the FMCoC has been limited. This in turn makes it difficult to sustain a daily partnership on a community-wide level.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

The primary obstacle to addressing underserved needs is the limited grant funds available. Each year, the County receives requests for eligible activities that far exceed available funds. The County will continue to seek additional sources of funds with which to address priority needs.

The County in collaboration with the FMCoC continues to work towards filling all gaps in the continuum of services for the homeless and particularly for clients accessing ESG services. Additional partners are continually being recruited, with the most recent addition of a Managed Care Plan representative serving on the Board of Directors as a member at large. This individual has brought in noteworthy insight related to managed care and services in general to those experiencing homelessness.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Facility & Infrastructure (Cities)	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$6,250,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25,000 Persons Assisted
2	Public Facility & Infrastructure (Unincorporated)	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$3,000,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15,000 Persons Assisted
3	Public Services	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction	Public Service Activities	CDBG: \$2,000,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 60,000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	CDBG Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Urban County Area	Housing Rehabilitation	CDBG: \$1,500,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 50 Household Housing Units Rental Units Rehabilitated: 11 Household Housing Units
5	HOME Rental Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Urban County Area	Housing Rehabilitation	HOME: \$6,000,000	Rental Units Rehabilitated: 33 Household Housing Units
6	HOME Affordable Housing Development	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Urban County Area	Affordable Housing Development	HOME: \$6,000,000	Rental units constructed: 33 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 10 Household Housing Unit
7	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (2yrs)	2025	2029	Affordable Housing Homeless	County of Fresno	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	HOME: \$1,500,000	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 45 Households Assisted
8	HOME-ARP Rental Unit Construction & Operating Subsidies	2025	2029	Affordable Housing Homeless	Urban County Area	Affordable Housing Development	HOME-ARP: \$2,950,000	Housing for Homeless Added: 20 Household Housing Unit Other: 1 Operating Subsidies

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	HOME-ARP Supportive Services	2025	2029	Homeless	Urban County Area	Public Service Activities	HOME-ARP: \$772,651	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1,500 Persons Assisted
10	HOME-ARP Operating Assistance & Capacity Building	2025	2029	Homeless	Urban County Area	Public Service Activities	HOME-ARP: \$495,200	Other: 1 Non-Profit Assisted
11	Street Outreach	2025	2029	Homeless	County of Fresno	Street Outreach	ESG: \$800,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 560 Street Outreach contacts to homeless individuals on the street
12	Rapid Rehousing	2025	2029	Homeless	County of Fresno	Rapid Rehousing	ESG: \$415,900	Tenant-based rental assistance/ Rapid Rehousing: 25 Households Assisted
13	Emergency Shelter	2025	2029	Homeless	County of Fresno	Emergency Shelter	ESG: \$32,385	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter 265 Bed nights

Table 51 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

Goal Name	Goal Description
Public Facility & Infrastructure (Cities)	Public facility and infrastructure improvements within the participating cities.
Public Facility & Infrastructure (Unincorporated)	Public facility and infrastructure improvements within the unincorporated area.
Public Services	Public services activities, including area-based policing and community-based social services to eligible recipients.
CDBG Housing Rehabilitation	Loans to homeowner for home repairs.
HOME Rental Housing Rehabilitation	Loans to property owners for rental home repairs.
HOME Affordable Housing Development	Loans for development of new affordable housing.
HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (2 yrs)	Tenant-based rental assistance to eligible residents
Street Outreach	Street outreach
Rapid Rehousing	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing: Assist homeless individuals, families and the chronically homeless to move from living on the street, etc., to a stabilized, permanent housing situation. Activities include case management, financial assistance, rental assistance, security deposits, moving costs, and supportive services.
Emergency Shelter	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing: Assist homeless individuals, homeless families and the chronically homeless to move from living on the street to a stabilized, permanent housing situation when no shelter bed is available or appropriate. Emergency Shelter Beds will bridge the gap from living on the street to living in a permanent housing situation. Activities include street outreach including navigation services, and supportive services.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

The County estimates the following number of households will be served by affordable housing activities.

Activity	Extremely Low-Income <30% AMI	Very Low-Income (HOME) 30%-50% AMI	Low-Income (HOME) & Moderate (CDBG) 50%-80% AMI	Total
Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	50			50
Rental Housing Rehabilitated		33	11	44
New Rental Units Built	20	33		53
New Homes Built			10	10
TBRA	25	20		45

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

Not applicable. The Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC) is not subject to a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

HAFC has a Resident Empowerment Division which identifies needs and, where possible, connects residents to available resources. HAFC residents are provided holistic services which include one-on-one case management and group education workshops to adult and youth residents. Resident Empowerment activities empower families by providing opportunities to develop skills for housing stability, academic advancement, employment stability, and wage progression. HAFC works in coordination with multiple community partners to provide direct services to onsite HAFC affordable housing and mixed use/tax credit developments. Youth activities focus on academic development, career awareness, physical fitness, financial education, and other self-development programs to assist them in becoming successful adults. Adult programs provide linkages to resources for education/career advancement awareness, access to job training and Section 3 training and employment opportunities, development of basic life skills, understanding tenant responsibilities, and financial education. Adult program activities are offered for elderly and disabled residents to assist them in aging in place. The Resident Empowerment programs also provide family bonding and neighborhood community building opportunities to assist residents in creating a healthy and safe environment. Resident meetings called “Learning Circles” are held to engage residents, develop resident leaders and discuss issues at the property and the surrounding neighborhood. Local officials and law enforcement are invited into the properties to connect with residents in meetings and events. The annual “National Night Out” event involves the residents and surrounding communities in an annual anti-drug and crime event.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

No.

Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation

Not applicable.

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The most significant barriers to affordable housing over the next five-year period will not be public policy so much as the availability of affordable housing properties for sale and the increasingly high cost of new construction of affordable housing.

Across California, there is an estimated shortage of 977,030 rental homes affordable and available to extremely low-income households (ELI), whose incomes are at or below the poverty guideline or 30% area median income (AMI). Many of these households are severely cost burdened, spending more than half of their income on housing. In 2023 Fresno County had a median household income of \$71,434 which is lower than the U.S. median annual income of \$75,149. The lower median income has resulted in a significant number of households still not able to afford to purchase a home. According to the State's Labor Market Information Division, the County's unemployment rate for March 2025 was 8.9% which is higher than the rate of 5.3% for the State of California and 4.2% for the nation during the same period. In Fresno County, the median estimated home value has increased to \$403,003, which is a 2.4% increase over the previous year due to the lack of housing units, high demand, and rising construction costs. Moreover, the 30-year fixed mortgage rates have increased significantly in the past five years, exacerbating housing affordability issues already impacted by increases in housing costs due to lack of housing stock and rising construction costs. Current changes to State policies have motivated developers and investors to explore the possibility of building affordable housing, however the rising cost of construction has also discouraged private investors from considering affordable housing development which tend to be less profitable than market rate housing developments.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

During the next five-year period the County will continue to exercise policies that promote a quality living environment for all existing and future residents of Fresno County. The County acknowledges that local policies and regulations can sometimes be viewed as constraints to affordable housing development. One of the fundamental policy directives of the County's General Plan is to direct intensive development to cities and unincorporated communities where public facilities and infrastructure are already available. The County continues to promote a wide variety of actions to encourage housing opportunities and housing affordability. Actions include policies and associated regulations designed to achieve desired land use patterns, coordinate development with infrastructure availability, finance capital improvements, distribute the cost of public services, maintain the character of existing neighborhoods, and preserve agricultural lands and open space.

The County is in the process of updating sections of its General Plan, zoning ordinances, and internal policies, procedures, and permitting workflow to increase the ease of affordable housing development and ADUs. The County's zoning ordinance will be updated to allow increased density in zone districts that can support higher density residential development and may include the development of an overlay zone where adequate urban services such as water, sewer, and public transportation are already available. The County will also complete an environmental analysis to support the decision-making process for the first two projects. The County will create pre-approved plans for three models of affordable dwelling units which will be available to the public at no cost. More detailed information on Land Use Controls, zoning ordinances, building codes and enforcement, subdivision ordinances, and building permits and land use application fees is in the County's Housing Element of the General Plan available at the Fresno County Central Library Branch.

In the next five years the County plans to increase development and actively work with developers to promote the County's established communities for new construction. The recent passage of several housing measures such as AB 531 – Behavioral Health Bond by the State of California will make funds available for local jurisdictions to access to increase the housing stock. The County's Department of Behavior Health has been awarded No Place Like Home funds to build housing for persons experiencing homelessness in Fresno County. Additionally, the County has applied for Behavioral Health Bond funding through the Homekey+ program to develop supportive affordable housing for unhoused individuals with behavioral health challenges.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The FMCoC and County of Fresno are dedicated to reducing and ending homelessness in the community. FMCoC partner agencies employ street outreach teams funded with state, federal, and private dollars, to make the initial contact with homeless individuals on the street. Continual contact through outreach efforts works to build trust between providers and the community and encourages homeless individuals to accept or seek out the services available to them. During the process, households are assessed and referred to immediate services as available, and ultimately assisted to become document ready and matched to permanent housing solutions.

In addition, the FMCoC and its partners are making progress on the development of a new assessment tool. The tool, which should more accurately identify vulnerabilities in underserved populations, is currently being tested.

The one-year goals of the jurisdiction include preventing the inflow of homelessness through diversion services and implementing more specific, timely goals around exits to permanent housing; improved connection to other available resources in the community to enhance housing placement and retention, including resources to increase household income; and an increased number exits to permanent housing for those currently in rapid rehousing and emergency shelter projects in the community.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The County of Fresno currently provides extended emergency shelter services to CalWORKs families who are unable to resolve their homelessness during the initial 16-day eligibility period as well as two triage emergency shelter programs and one youth bridge housing program. Additionally, there are multiple shelters being provided by the City of Fresno and local housing authority. The County (with both County and FMCoC awards) will continue to utilize HHAP funding to support three triage emergency shelter and one youth bridge/shelter project, as well as other homeless services for the community.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again.

As mentioned above, the goals of the jurisdiction include preventing the inflow of homelessness through diversion services and implementing more specific, timely goals around exits to permanent housing; improved connection to other available resources in the community to enhance housing placement and retention, including resources to increase household income; and an increased number of exits to permanent housing for those currently in rapid rehousing and emergency shelter projects in the community.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

Mainstream resources provided by the Department of Social Services through CalFresh, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, General Relief, and various other programs are at the forefront of serving the extremely low income and those in need of healthcare, food, and employment services. These programs provide a safety net to help low-income individuals and families who may be at risk of homelessness to retain their housing. Programs include youth-specific services as well providing shelter, rapid rehousing, case management and navigation.

The County's Department of Behavioral Health provides robust mental health services. The Department, in partnership with Fresno Housing Authority, oversees and administers several low-barrier, permanent supportive housing projects for persons experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness, or who are at risk of chronic homelessness who need of mental health and other individualized supportive services.

Additionally, the County currently provides diversion services for persons in the FMCoC jurisdiction. These services prevent homelessness by empowering persons experiencing homelessness identify immediate alternate housing arrangements and connects them with additional service and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing. The program is able to provide short term case management, financial assistance, housing search and placement, and mediation or conflict resolution.

Lastly, those who exit from publicly funded institutions and systems of care, will be connected with CalAIM resources to receive housing navigation and enhanced care management, as well as referral to other FMCoC programs, as appropriate, to ensure connection to resources as quickly as possible; in some cases, prior to exit.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

The County of Fresno will mitigate or abate all applicants seeking assistance under the County's Affordable Housing Programs for the purchase of an existing house that was constructed prior to 1978 are given a pamphlet on the hazards of lead-based paint (LBP). The pamphlet, Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home, is sponsored by the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). County staff also conducts a visual inspection of the property. If any chipping, peeling, or deteriorated paint is detected, the real estate agent is notified.

It is the responsibility of the agent to provide documentation from a certified LBP consultant that the property has passed a lead clearance exam. HOME funding approval is not granted until all supporting documentation satisfactory to the County is received.

In addition, all applicants seeking assistance under the County's Affordable Housing Programs for the rehabilitation of an existing dwelling that was constructed prior to 1978 are given a pamphlet on the hazards of lead-based paint. The pamphlet, Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home, is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). For each rehabilitation project, the County contracts with a local state certified LBP consultant to perform appropriate testing, risk assessments and clearance examinations. If testing indicates LBP is present, the consultant provides the County a written report detailing appropriate hazard reduction or remediation/stabilization specifications. The LBP specifications are included as a required component of the mandatory scope of work for the rehabilitation project that is provided to the general contractor overseeing the work. At the completion of the project, County staff along with the LBP consultant confirms the LBP hazards have been remediated in accordance with HUD regulations (24 CFR 35, Subpart J) and supporting documentation is inserted into the project file.

The Fresno County Department of Public Health (DPH), Environmental Health Division was awarded a \$3,000,000.00 grant (effective January 2018 through January 2021) from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to implement a Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control (LBPHC) Program to help low-income families remediate lead from pre-1978 dwellings with identified lead hazards. The Lead Hazard Control Program regulated this grant which is subject to Federal and State regulations pertaining to lead hazard remediation and all services must comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

The County's DPH investigates and monitors all reported cases of childhood lead poisoning.

When lead hazards are identified during a childhood lead poisoning investigation, HUD grant funds may be utilized to remediate identified lead hazards to qualified families. Based on maintained records, 776 children under the age of six with elevated blood lead levels were reported in 2023 (California Blood Lead Data, California Department of Public Health). This represented 5.85% of children under the age of six tested in Fresno County.

Outreach efforts by DPH also occur in zip codes targeted for high risk of contact with un-remediated lead-based paint, irrespective of the boundaries of the Urban County area. DPH's activities, as a public health entity, address needs throughout the entire County of Fresno.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

Lead-based paint (LBP) testing and education are requirements for each of the County's HUD-funded housing assistance programs – including those assisted only by rental subsidies. All housing units constructed in 1978 or earlier must be evaluated for unmitigated LBP hazards. The costs associated with LBP remediation are absorbed as project costs through HUD funding. These expenses are not passed on to the housing owners to encourage the long-term safety of the occupants.

The County strictly enforces all requirements for remediation of LBP hazards, as mandated by HUD, in conjunction with its funded programs. Housing financial assistance originating from HUD is required to comply with the Lead-Based Poisoning Prevention Act and HUD's LBP regulations, published September 15, 1999 at 24 CFR Part 35 Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention In Certain Residential Structures.

County staff facilitating rehabilitation of affordable housing will work with the DPH staff administering the LHRG to remediate identified LBP hazards in dwellings matching the DPH's targeting criteria in the LHRG. In the event housing with LBP hazards does not meet the criteria to participate in DPH's LHRG program, the County will utilize the same contractors for the remediation work, but use non-LHRG HUD funding.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

The County of Fresno, in partnership with the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation is currently in the public comment period of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the years 2025-2033. The goals, programs and policies for reducing the number of poverty level families in Fresno County are directly linked to the draft CEDS. In the event that the final executed CEDS, in part or in full, has goals that conflict with this document, the strategies in the final executed CEDS will prevail.

The draft CEDS, through its Action Plan, prioritizes initiatives in the critical areas of business growth, workforce development, real estate and infrastructure investment, and quality of life improvements. The Action Plan focuses on collaboration, accountability, and impact, this plan and aims to serve as a dynamic tool to guide policy, investment, and resource allocation, ensuring Fresno County's continued success as a thriving economic hub. The objectives in the Action Plan are as follows:

Objective 1. Business Growth

Foster a competitive business environment that supports the expansion of existing industries, attracts new investment, and drives innovation to create a resilient and diversified economy.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT. Advance business growth, retention, and expansion efforts throughout Fresno County by strengthening industry support, attracting investment, and fostering a competitive economic environment.

BUSINESS RECRUITMENT. Recruit new companies to Fresno County that offer high-quality jobs and are invested in the future of the region.

CBAs. Utilize community benefit agreements (CBAs) to attract and grow businesses while ensuring positive economic, workforce, and community impacts align with economic development priorities.

SMALL BUSINESS. Support the growth and success of Fresno County's small businesses by improving access to resources, strengthening local networks, and fostering a business-friendly environment.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & STARTUPS. Develop a strong entrepreneurial support ecosystem to ensure startups can grow and thrive in Fresno County.

COORDINATION & COLLABORATION. Develop strategic partnerships among businesses, educational institutions, and economic development organizations to align resources and drive economic growth.

Objective 2. Workforce Development

Build a skilled and adaptable workforce to drive Fresno County's economic growth and competitiveness.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT. Provide ongoing training and opportunities for workers to advance into high quality and living wage jobs.

WORKFORCE PIPELINE. Develop a robust workforce pipeline by fostering partnerships between education, industry, and community organizations to equip the future workforce with the skills to thrive in a dynamic economy.

WORKFORCE SUPPORT. Enhance workforce stability and productivity by addressing barriers to employment and ensuring access to essential resources for local talent.

TALENT ATTRACTION & RETENTION. Develop a talent attraction campaign that emphasizes Fresno County's unique opportunities and its commitment to creating an environment that supports long-term career growth.

COLLABORATION & COORDINATION. Foster a collaborative ecosystem that brings together public, private, and nonprofit partners to align workforce development efforts, enhance industry-education connections, and ensure access to career opportunities across Fresno County.

Objective 3. Infrastructure & Real Estate

Develop and enhance the real estate and infrastructure assets needed to support business growth and strengthen the regional economy.

COMMERCIAL SITES. Enhance the readiness and marketability of commercial sites by streamlining development processes, modernizing existing properties, and fostering mixed-use and flexible workspace solutions that support business attraction and expansion.

INDUSTRIAL SITES. Expand industrial site availability and readiness through strategic inventory development, targeted infrastructure improvements, and the repurposing of underutilized properties to attract investment and support long-term economic growth.

UTILITIES. Develop resilient infrastructure systems that ensure reliable and sustainable water, electric, and broadband services to support economic and community growth.

CONNECTIVITY. Improve regional mobility and economic access by expanding public transit, enhancing highway and rail infrastructure, and supporting the growth of Fresno Yosemite International Airport as a transportation hub.

Objective 4. Quality of Place

Elevate the region's quality of place by creating vibrant, resilient communities that attract talent and visitors and support local businesses.

HOUSING. Support affordable, diverse, and sustainable housing development in Fresno County to support workforce growth, attract new residents, and drive long-term economic vitality.

DOWNTOWNS. Strengthen the vitality and development of downtowns, central business districts, and Main Streets across the County.

COMMUNITY IDENTITY. Preserve and promote the authenticity of the community by supporting local culture, historic assets, and unique public spaces that strengthen identity and sense of place.

GREENSPACE. Integrate greenspaces into current and future developments to enhance recreation, connect popular destinations, and support sustainable development through parks, trails, and non-motorized corridors.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

The investment of Fresno County's federal housing funds into communities contributes to employment and the reduction of poverty by creating construction jobs and helps establish a foundation for sustainable economic growth. Job creation, diversifying the economy, and economic growth are all dependent on increasing the desirability of living, and locating businesses, in the region, which are fostered by improvements to quality of life for all area residents, including improving the affordability of housing and increasing the rate of homeownership. Fresno County's affordable housing programs, which rehabilitate and develop affordable housing and provide homeownership opportunities, establish this necessary foundation.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

In addition to referring to HUD-provided guidelines and handbooks governing the Federal grants, the County's monitoring standards and procedures are contained in its own procedural handbooks developed to implement the delivery of the CDBG and HOME programs. These handbooks are periodically reviewed and updated as needed to ensure consistent project and program monitoring and compliance with program requirements, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements.

The County monitors all Affordable Housing Programs clients annually to ensure compliance with HUD regulations. There are approximately 800 active loans in the County's loan portfolio funded through CDBG and HOME. Each individual client is contacted by mail and asked to verify occupancy and housing condition. The County also selects a minimum of 10% of random non-responsive clients for increased vetting which can include an onsite visit to the property. The County maintains an active database of all its affordable housing loans, so that the loans and associated clients can be appropriately monitored.

The County's large multi-unit affordable housing development projects are also monitored annually. The County requests and receives information from the project representatives (owner, non-profit, and property management company), which is evaluated by staff for consistency with program requirements and HUD regulations. Staff then visits each complex, evaluates tenant files to verify lease appropriateness and tenant income eligibility. Rents paid are also compared with HOME Program rent and utility allowances for compatibility.

Additionally, for the housing development projects, staff annually reviews the development's Management Plan – including tenant selection, participation, and grievance policies – and the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan. Staff also inspects the finances to compare with the management agreement, and interviews onsite managers for resident complaints. Finally, County rehabilitation staff inspects selected HOME units and the grounds to determine need for repair, and then monitors any necessary work to ensure appropriate completion.

The County maintains a CDBG Program Handbook which contains the procedures the County uses to monitor community development public facility and infrastructure improvement projects. These capital projects are monitored closely by staff through the development process, including site visits, for development appropriateness and labor compliance. The

County has also developed a Risk Analysis and Subrecipient Monitoring Procedures Handbook per HUD guidelines, which is used to monitor subrecipients.

The County conducts minority business outreach as a regular part of its affordable housing programs. County staff meet periodically with area contractors regarding participating in the County's Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Program and has had success in working with many minority-owned businesses. Additionally, information regarding minority-owned businesses is monitored and recorded as part of the County's labor compliance work effort for affordable housing development and public facility and infrastructure improvement projects.

Finally, the County's Citizen Participation Plan, which describes the process for citizen involvement in the selection of activities to be funded under CDBG, HOME and ESG, contains procedures that are followed to ensure compliance with the requirements of the programs involved, and details the County's comprehensive planning requirements and procedures. The Citizen Participation Plan, approved by the County Board of Supervisors, is updated periodically to reflect County and HUD mandated changes, as needed.

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The County of Fresno anticipates continued receipt of Federal Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships Grant, and Emergency Solutions Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as its anticipated resources over the course of the Consolidated Plan period 2025-2029. The County would intend to apply for any other Federal and State grant funds that may become available in the future that would help further the goals of the Consolidated Plan.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public-federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$3,172,269	\$1,207,500	\$1,051,150	\$5,430,919	\$13,689,076	CDBG funds will be used for public facility and infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation, and public services, as well as CDBG administration and housing program administration.
HOME	Public-federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	\$1,162,933.95	\$500,000	\$10,600,000	\$12,262,933.95	\$4,000,000	HOME funds will be used for rental housing rehabilitation, tenant-based rental assistance, and affordable housing development projects, as well as HOME administration.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME-ARP	Public-federal	Homeless	\$0	\$0	\$4,960,751	\$4,960,751	\$0	HOME-ARP funds will create new rental housing units for the HOME-ARP populations, provide supportive services, and operating assistance to non-profits in support of the HOME-ARP populations
ESG	Public-federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	\$281,704	0	0	\$281,704	\$1,126,816	ESG funds will be used for street outreach, rapid rehousing, emergency shelter/transitional housing, a as well as ESG administration and funding for the HMIS system.

Table 52 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The County leverages all state and federal funding, including funding awarded to the FMCoC and partnering jurisdictions to provide a continuum of services to meet the needs of the homeless in the community. ESG matching resources for ESG are derived from state funding for homeless services programs in the community. Typically, vendors the County contracts with for the provision of ESG funded services are required to match dollar for dollar all ESG funding utilized. As the County utilizes the total allocation amount, the dollar match will parallel ESG allocations provided to the County.

The HOME program requires the County of Fresno to provide matching funds towards affordable housing. The County's match requirement for HOME is satisfied through the County's waiver of recording fees for housing loans under its Homebuyer Assistance Program and Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Programs, and waived property taxes for HOME-funded affordable housing development loans. These two sources consistently provide significantly more match than is required for HOME. As HOME funds will not longer be used for downpayment assistance, the County will seek other funding sources, particularly State Department of Housing and Community Development Permanent Local Housing Allocation funds to carry out those efforts.

Additionally, the match requirement for the County has generally been reduced or eliminated by HUD, based on economic demographics for the County in comparison to the United States as a whole. For the 2023-24 Program Year, a HOME match reduction was applied to jurisdictions determined by HUD to be financially distressed. To be considered fiscally distressed the percentage of County residents living below the poverty level needed to be more than 16.44%, or the per capita income needed to be below \$26,375. The County of Fresno had a per capita income of \$25,432 and 18.28% of persons below the poverty level. Because Fresno County met both criteria, its Program Year 2023-24 Program Year HOME match requirement was reduced by 100%.

If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The County is currently in the process of developing a list of properties or land under its control that have been determined available and suitable for addressing needs identified in the plan. It is anticipated that this process, including formal actions that may be required, will be completed within the Consolidated Plan period of 2025-2029. For updates on the status of this list, please contact the Community Development Division of the Department of Public Works and Planning.

Discussion

DRAFT

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Facility & Infrastructure (Cities)	2025	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Urban County Area	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$2,054,685.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5,000 Persons Assisted
2	Public Facility & Infrastructure (Unincorporated)	2025	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	Urban County Area	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$1,050,000.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Public Services	2025	2026	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Urban County Area	Public Service Activities	CDBG: \$428,526.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 12000 Persons Assisted
4	CDBG Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2026	Affordable Housing	Urban County Area	Housing Rehabilitation	CDBG: \$776,755.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit Rental Units Rehabilitated” 8 Household Housing Units
5	HOME Rental Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2026	Affordable Housing	Urban County Area		HOME: \$5,062,933.95	Rental Units Rehabilitated: 33 Household Housing Units
6	HOME Affordable Housing Development	2025	2028	Affordable Housing	Urban County Area	Affordable Housing Development	HOME: \$4,000,000	Rental units constructed: 22 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 0 Household Housing Unit
7	HOME TBRA (2yrs)	2025	2027	Affordable Housing	County of Fresno	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	HOME: \$300,000	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 10 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	Street Outreach	2025	2027	Homeless	County of Fresno	Street Outreach	ESG: \$160,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 112 Street Outreach contacts to homeless individuals on the street
9	Rapid Re-housing	2025	2027	Homeless	County of Fresno	Rapid Rehousing	ESG: \$83,180	Tenant-based rental assistance/ Rapid Rehousing: 5 Households Assisted
10	Emergency Shelter	2025	2027	Homeless	County of Fresno	Emergency Shelter	ESG: \$6,477	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter 53 Bed nights

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Public Facility and Infrastructure Projects (Cities)
2	Public Facility & Infrastructure Projects (Unincorporated Areas)
3	Public Services
4	CDBG Administration
5	Housing Program Administration
6	Housing Rehabilitation
7	HOME Administration
8	Affordable Housing Development
9	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (2 yrs)
10	ESG2025 Fresno County
11	HOME-ARP Admin
12	HOME-ARP Rental Housing & Operating Subsidies
13	HOME-ARP Supportive Services
14	HOME-ARP Nonprofit Operating Assistance & Capacity Building

Table 54 – Project Information

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Public Facility and Infrastructure Projects (Cities)
	Target Area	Urban County Area
	Goals Supported	Public Facility & Infrastructure (Cities)
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$2,054,685
	Description	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements within the participating cities.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 5,000 persons living in primarily low/moderate income areas will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
2	Planned Activities	Installation of ADA improvements, park improvements, street improvements, and sidewalk improvements. Specific activities to be funded are listed in the Appendix. This project also includes funding from Fowler City-Generated Program Income. The amount of this program income is approximate and the City of Fowler will utilize 80% of any City-Generated Program Income for its activities, estimated here as \$766,000.
	Project Name	Public Facility & Infrastructure Projects (Unincorporated Areas)
	Target Area	Urban County Area
	Goals Supported	Public Facility & Infrastructure (Unincorporated)
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,050,000
	Description	Public facility and infrastructure improvements within the unincorporated area.
	Target Date	6/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 3,000 persons living in primarily low/moderate income areas will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
	Planned Activities	Funding of infrastructure improvements in unincorporated areas. Activities to be funded from Unincorporated Areas project list, in Appendix, in listed order as funding allows. Funding includes \$150,000 for project delivery costs.
3	Project Name	Public Services
	Target Area	Urban County Area
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Service Activities
	Funding	CDBG: \$428,526
	Description	Public services activities, including area-based policing and community-based social services to eligible recipients, including low-income youth and victims of domestic violence.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 12,000 low- and moderate-income persons, or persons living in primarily low/moderate areas will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
	Planned Activities	Public services activities will consist of Sheriff's Area-Based Policing (crime prevention), and funding for community-based social service programs provided by the Boys & Girls Club of Fresno County and Westside Youth, Inc., which provide services to low-income youth. Also included will be services provided to victims of domestic violence, by the Marjaree Mason Center.
4	Project Name	CDBG Administration
	Target Area	Urban County Area

	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$875,953
	Description	Administration of the CDBG program.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	0
	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
5	Planned Activities	Administration of the CDBG program. The funding level for CDBG Administration includes administration of the Fowler City-Generated Program Income. This amount is approximate and the County will utilize 20% of any City-Generated Program Income for its administrative costs, estimated here as \$191,500.
	Project Name	Housing Program Delivery
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$245,000
	Description	Funding for the staffing and related expenses (project delivery costs), to oversee, operate and process loan applications for the varied eligible CDBG & HOME funded housing programs such as Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation and Rental Rehabilitation Programs. Includes funding for temporary storage, relocation, lead based paint remediation, and asbestos remediation, if needed.
	Target Date	6/30/26
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	

	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
	Planned Activities	Assist renters and owners. Funding for the staffing, travel, materials and supplies to oversee and operate eligible housing programs.
6	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Urban County Area
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation
	Funding	CDBG: \$776,755
	Description	Loans to homeowners for home repairs, and loans to business owners for rehabilitation of exterior commercial facades and any associated code violation corrections. Housing rehabilitation loans funded with CDBG and HOME and commercial facade improvement loans funded with CDBG funds.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Up to 10 low- or moderate-income households will benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
	Planned Activities	
7	Project Name	HOME Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: \$300,000
	Description	Administration of the HOME program.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from	0

	the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Administration of the HOME program.
8	Project Name	Affordable Housing Development
	Target Area	Urban County Area
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Development
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Development
	Funding	HOME: \$4,000,000
	Description	Loans for development of affordable housing units. \$300,000 is set-aside for loans to developers proposing affordable housing projects that meet the CHDO requirements; \$4,700,000 is available exclusively for loans to developers proposing affordable housing projects whether they meet CHDO requirements or not. Specific projects are identified through an Action Plan Amendment once a project meets all requirements and the Board of Supervisors approves and executes an agreement awarding funds.
	Target Date	6/30/2028
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	22 low- or moderate-income households will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Unincorporated Areas of the County of Fresno + Cities Participating in the Urban County Area Project Jurisdiction
	Planned Activities	Loans for development of new affordable housing. (Rental and Homeownership)
9	Project Name	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Target Area	County of Fresno
	Goals Supported	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Needs Addressed	HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Funding	\$300,000
	Description	Tenant-based rental assistance to eligible residents
	Target Date	2027

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Up to 10 households at or below 80% AMI will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	HDAP clients may reside anywhere in County of Fresno; non-HDAP TBRA assisted clients must be in the Urban County Area
	Planned Activities	Tenant-based rental assistance to eligible residents
10	Project Name	ESG25 Fresno County
	Target Area	County of Fresno
	Goals Supported	Rapid Rehousing Emergency Shelter Homelessness Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Rapid Rehousing Emergency Shelter Homelessness Prevention
	Funding	ESG: \$281,704
	Description	ESG activities, to include Street Outreach (\$162,545); tenant based rental assistance/Rapid rehousing (\$88,738) overnight/emergency shelter/transitional housing (\$6,477) The project will also include HMIS (\$2,817) and ESG administration of 7.5% (\$21,127).
	Target Date	2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Households served will include chronically and non-chronically homeless individuals and families. Street Outreach will make 112 contacts for services; Rapid Rehousing will serve 5 households; and 53 households will receive emergency shelter.
	Location Description	Rural, unincorporated, and metropolitan areas of the County.
	Planned Activities	ESG activities, to include tenant-based rental assistance/rapid rehousing, overnight/emergency shelter/transitional housing, and homelessness prevention services. The project will also include ESG administration, and funding of the HMIS system.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Affordable housing needs will be met through the provision of CDBG and/or HOME funding to construct, rehabilitate, or reconstruct affordable housing, including the costs to provide for the delivery of eligible project costs associated with a specific project. Housing funds from both CDBG- and HOME-funded housing programs are available for eligible applicants and activities that are consistent with the Action Plan's goals and objectives within the unincorporated area of the County of Fresno and cities participating in the Urban County jurisdiction. While the County will promote and make every effort to fund its goals and objectives as stated in this document, it may be necessary at times to shift funds between programs based on need and in order to meet HUD's expenditure timeliness requirements.

Public facility and infrastructure improvement needs exist in the County's unincorporated area communities and partner cities. Public facilities and infrastructure in these smaller communities and cities is aged and deteriorating. The most significant needs include water and sewer systems, storm drainage, wastewater treatment facilities, street and sidewalk improvements and street lighting. There is also a need for new and/or improved neighborhood parks, senior centers, community centers, and fire stations. Existing public facilities and infrastructure are also in need of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-required improvements.

The ESG Program supports outreach to and shelters for homeless individuals and families and supports programs that prevent homelessness or rapidly re-house the homeless. The County's ESG funds are utilized to support these types of programs in the County of Fresno consistent with regional efforts such as the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) and other efforts to address homelessness.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
County of Fresno	11%
Urban County Area	89%

Table 55 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The County of Fresno encompasses approximately 6,000 square miles and has people in need of housing assistance throughout the County. The amount of funds available is not sufficient to meet all of the housing needs of its residents. CDBG and HOME funds designated for housing

are utilized on a first come, first served basis, with CDBG funding restricted to residents in the unincorporated areas of the County of Fresno while HOME funds are available to residents in the eight partner cities (Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger and Selma) and the unincorporated areas of the County of Fresno.

Public facility and infrastructure improvements needs of the County's unincorporated area communities are addressed via a formal application for funding, open from June through August, where communities are able to submit projects for CDBG funding. Applications are reviewed to determine eligibility and to determine whether the project meets a CDBG national objective. Eligible projects are presented annually to the Housing and Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee, which reviews the applications and scores the projects submitted and provides a recommended funding order list to the Board of Supervisors for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan. Partner cities receive proportional allocations of CDBG funds in accordance with a population-based formula prescribed by HUD, and annually submit public facility and infrastructure projects requested for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan. Partner city project are reviewed for eligibility and CDBG national objective, and approved by the County Board of Supervisors as part of the Annual Action Plan.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported
Homeless
Non-Homeless
Special-Needs
Total

Table 56 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through
Rental Assistance
The Production of New Units
Rehab of Existing Units
Acquisition of Existing Units
Total

Table 57 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Public housing within Fresno is administered by the Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC). The County coordinates with HAFC and shares information about their respective programs. HAFC receives an allocation from HUD, including an allocation through the Capital Fund program. The Capital Fund program will be used to repair, renovate and/or modernize the public housing developments and their physical inventory. The County also administers the Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) from which HAFC has received funding. The County also partners with HAFC on the administration of the HMIS homeless information management system for applicable homeless assistance programs administered by the County.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

It is anticipated that a series of Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program conversions will take place during this period to renovate a portion of the public housing in Fresno County. Applications to HUD for the conversions of other Public Housing units are expected to be submitted for funding approval. HAFC continues to explore options and development timelines, before submitting the remaining public housing units for approval.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

HAFC's Resident Advisory Board meets at least annually to review any changes to HAFC admissions policies. Two public housing residents sit on the Board of Commissioners for HAFC. The residents are able to make comments before the Board of Commissioners and their comments are solicited for all major policy changes.

HAFC participated in a homeownership program in previous years where over 200 foreclosed homes were renovated and sold to low-income residents and other individuals. Although there are no longer any homes or participants remaining, HAFC is exploring renewing similar homeownership activities in the future. HAFC refers families inquiring about homeownership to HUD-approved Local Housing Counseling agencies to pre-purchase housing counseling and financial management workshops.

The HAFC Resident Empowerment team works with local programs to offer workshops on financial literacy – with emphasis on budgeting and implementation of a family savings plan – to interested families who live in subsidized housing. Families are referred to resources regarding credit counseling and other homeownership ready workshops in the community as needed.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

Not applicable. HAFC is not designated as troubled.

Discussion

The County's plan includes working with responsible entities for the development of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income persons. The County will accomplish this goal by making funds available as gap financing loans through its HOME grant to construct eligible new affordable housing developments, and will provide homebuyer assistance loans to eligible residents ready for first-time homeownership. The County will continue to work with the Housing Authority of Fresno County (HAFC) and other qualified private nonprofit entities during the next Program Year to address the needs of housing within the County's jurisdiction. The County will actively market its Homebuyer Assistance Program (HAP) to public housing residents to encourage homeownership. The County fully supports the HAFC's efforts to ensure adequate affordable housing for all County residents.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

The one-year goals of the jurisdiction include preventing the inflow of homelessness through diversion services and implementing more specific, timely goals around exits to permanent housing; improved connection to other available resources in the community to enhance housing placement and retention, including resources to increase household income; and an increased number of exits to permanent housing for those currently in rapid rehousing and emergency shelter projects in the community.

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

As a member of the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC), the County of Fresno collaborates with agencies who perform outreach in the metropolitan area. Additionally, the County has expanded its outreach services in rural areas of Fresno County, ensuring that those experiencing homelessness with limited access to services are provided with a pathway to connect to available resources. The County has also initiated a pilot program to offer motel vouchers to unhoused individuals displaced by encampment resolutions in County jurisdiction, providing temporary shelter and an opportunity for continued engagement with the intent to connect the unhoused individuals to other resources. The County, along with the FMCoC, will continue to encourage the development of interpersonal relationships between the homeless and outreach team members in order to create an environment where clients are comfortable seeking out services.

The County also funds the Multi-Agency Access Program (MAP) at locations throughout the County. MAP serves as a Coordinated Entry Access Site and provides a single point of entry to help identify the needs of each individual or family, facilitates access to services, and links individuals to services relating to social and health services, public benefits, housing, and other immediate necessities. A screening tool is used to help individuals identify their needs and link them to a variety of resources and services. For those that are experiencing homelessness or report housing needs, the Vulnerability Index – Specialized Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) assessment is offered by MAP Navigation staff to assess individual need. The most vulnerable assessed are prioritized for assistance as it becomes available.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

It is a priority to continue to support emergency shelter services within the FMCoC jurisdiction. Shelter services are available in conjunction with other homeless assistance services in order to provide a safe location for clients to stay while they secure permanent housing. The County will be partnering with local agencies to provide ESG services during Consolidated Plan Program Years and ensure that emergency shelter continues to be available in the community for individuals that are experiencing homelessness. Since 2019, the County has partnered with the FMCoC to support emergency shelter and transitional housing capacity through State and Federal funding sources.

The County of Fresno, in partnership with the FMCoC, City of Fresno, and County of Madera are in the process of submitting a regional application for the sixth round of the State's Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program funding that will maintain the available emergency shelter portfolio for additional years as well as supporting ongoing homeless services needed in the community. As part of the application process the jurisdictions will develop an updated action plan to address and reduce homelessness in the region.

The County, through its Department of Behavioral Health, provides transitional housing for unhoused individuals with behavioral health challenges through the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing and Master Leasing programs. These programs provide between 6 and 24 months of transitional housing support intended to provide an opportunity for the residents to connect to long-term permanent housing options.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

Planned action steps for the coming year include continuing collaborative efforts aimed at reducing individual and family homelessness. The FMCoC is in the process of designing and implementing an assessment tool tailored to the needs of the community, which will replace the existing Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). The new assessment tool will be used uniformly throughout the FMCoC Coordinated Entry System and helps service providers determine the proper housing intervention for an individual or family. Those found to be the most vulnerable are assisted first. By having a better understanding of an individual's needs, appropriate housing and case management can be provided to ensure a shorter time experiencing homelessness and that those assisted are able

to maintain long-term housing. Homeless individuals benefit from case management during and after the transition to permanent housing by learning skills that are necessary to retain housing. The FMCoC's Housing First model and ongoing rapid rehousing services are evidence-based mechanisms that have been implemented in order to shorten the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, as well as to prevent returns to homelessness.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Those who exit from publicly funded institutions and systems of care, that meet the definition of chronically homeless prior to entry, and are income qualified, are eligible to receive ESG assistance in order to obtain housing upon discharge or exit from such programs. Additionally, the County funds the Belgravia Center, a transitional housing re-entry program for individuals exiting criminal justice institutions that are at risk of homelessness. The Belgravia Center program provides up to 6 months of transitional shelter and facilitates connections to long-term, stable housing through case management and housing navigation services. The County also funds shelter diversion services in rural and metro Fresno County, which are intended to assist individuals and families in identifying existing resources to avoid or reduce the length of time spent homeless.

Mainstream resources are provided by the Department of Social Services through CalFresh, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, General Relief, and various other programs. These programs provide a safety net to help low-income individuals and families who may be at risk of homelessness to retain their housing. Furthermore, through efficient coordination of agencies and programs through the FMCoC, homeless prevention services are available to those at risk of homelessness in the community through other member agencies.

Discussion

The County of Fresno will continue to work closely with the FMCoC in developing plans for ESG services that will benefit the community and align with the broader goals of the FMCoC. The County will continue to consult with the FMCoC on the allocation of ESG funds, utilizing HMIS, the Point-In-Time Count and other relevant data to ensure that services are readily available, appropriate, and accessible to the homeless in the community. The County continues to coordinate with the FMCoC and other regional partners to support ongoing HHAP-funded

services including emergency shelter, diversion/prevention, rapid rehousing, street outreach, and landlord engagement.

DRAFT

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

There are significant barriers to affordable housing expected during the next five-year planning period including the availability of affordable residential properties for rent or purchase and the high cost of new construction. Additionally, public policies, though often well-intentioned, can unintentionally create barriers to affordable housing and residential investment. These policies can disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, exacerbating challenges for those who are already struggling to secure stable housing.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

While the County has little control over market conditions that can influence and increase the cost of housing development, it acknowledges that local policies and regulations can sometimes be viewed as constraints to affordable housing development. One of the fundamental policy directives of the County's General Plan, is to direct intensive development to cities and unincorporated communities where public facilities and infrastructure are already available.

The County continues to promote a wide variety of actions to encourage housing opportunities and housing affordability. Actions include policies and associated regulations designed to achieve desired land use patterns, coordinate development with infrastructure availability, finance capital improvements, distribute the cost of public services, maintain the character of existing neighborhoods, and reserve agricultural lands and open space. Additionally, the County will explore making accessory dwelling units (ADUs) a by-right possibility for areas that have the necessary infrastructure and will not harm the environment. More detailed information on Land Use Controls, zoning ordinances, building codes and enforcement, subdivision ordinances, and building permits and land use application fees are available in Consolidated Plan the County's Housing Element of the General Plan. A printed copy of the Housing Element of the General Plan is available at the Fresno County Central Library Branch.

In the next five years the County plans to increase development and actively work with developers to promote the County's established communities for new developments. The recent passage of several housing measures such as AB 531 – Behavioral Health Bond by the State of California will make funds available for local jurisdictions to access to increase the housing stock. The County's Department of Behavior Health has been awarded No Place Like Home funds to build housing for persons experiencing homelessness in Fresno County. Additionally, the County has applied for Behavioral Health Bond funding through the Homekey+

program to develop supportive affordable housing for unhoused individuals with behavioral health challenges. The County will continue to pursue all available State and Federal funding to support the development of affordable housing.

Discussion:

The most significant barriers to affordable housing over the next five-year period will not be policy so much as the availability of properties for sale and the high cost of new construction. The County will continue to work with low-income housing developers to develop affordable rental units via HOME funds. The County will continue to make HOME funds available to eligible Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) and other qualified developers with feasible proposals for the development of affordable housing and will apply for any State funds that are identified to increase the housing stock in Fresno County.

Across California, there is an estimated shortage of 977,030 rental homes affordable and available to extremely low-income households (ELI), whose incomes are at or below the poverty guideline or 30% area median income (AMI). Many of these households are severely cost burdened, spending more than half of their income on housing. In 2023 Fresno County had a median household income of \$71,434 which is lower than the U.S. median annual income of \$75,149. The lower median income has resulted in a significant number of households still not able to afford to purchase a home. According to the State's Labor Market Information Division, the County's unemployment rate for March 2025 was 8.9% which is higher than the rate of 5.3% for the State of California and 4.2% for the nation during the same period. In Fresno County, the median estimated home value has increased to \$403,003, which is a 2.4% increase over the previous year due to the lack of housing units, high demand, and rising construction costs. Moreover, the 30-year fixed mortgage rates have increased significantly in the past five years, exacerbating housing affordability issues already impacted by increases in housing costs due to lack of housing stock and rising construction costs.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

A primary objective of the CDBG and HOME programs is the development of viable urban communities. The County intends to accomplish its goal and objective by providing available entitlement funds for improvements to eligible housing and public facilities and infrastructure activities in low- to moderate-income communities and neighborhoods; and by expanding economic opportunities that promote a suitable living environment. CDBG and HOME funds will be used to principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons within the County's Urban County jurisdiction.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The County's actions this next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs will be to distribute funds timely for eligible activities that are ready to proceed. Part of this effort will be to seek out qualified CHDOs and/or private and non-profit organizations with shovel-ready affordable housing development projects aimed at very low-income households. Additionally, the County will continue to pursue Federal, State, and private funding, when available, to assist in meeting the underserved needs of Fresno County residents.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The County has adopted three actions to foster and maintain affordable housing.

1. Support affordable housing development to increase the supply of affordable housing units.

The County is committed to the development of affordable housing and will set aside HOME funds for eligible CHDO projects during the 2025-26 program year. The County's focus is on proposals for the development of rental units affordable to households earning no more than 80% of area median income (AMI) and with units designed to accommodate elderly households, large family households and disabled households. Proposals for this type of housing development from private developers will also be considered. Non-CHDO developers may also submit proposals for HOME entitlement funds for eligible affordable housing development projects, as non-CHDO HOME funds are available. All applications are reviewed for eligibility, feasibility and readiness to proceed timely.

2. Promote safety, integrity and stability of existing housing for low- to moderate-income persons. Through continued funding of the Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Program (HARP), the County will utilize CDBG or HOME funds to provide assistance to owner-occupied households, with incomes at or below 80% of the AMI, in need of minor to substantial housing rehabilitation or reconstruction including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) modifications to

improve accessibility. These funds are also available for rehabilitation of qualified rental housing that is occupied by low- to moderate-income persons.

3. Promote homeownership for eligible low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers through continued funding of the Homebuyer Assistance Program (HAP). HOME funds will be made available to provide gap financing in the form of deferred loans that will assist eligible low-income, first-time homebuyers on the purchase of their homes. Additionally, the County will fund CHDOs or other affordable housing developers that are proposing to build single-family homes for sale to low-income residents or utilize the Self-Help method to promote homeownership.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The County's Affordable Housing Programs will actively continue to work in conjunction with the Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division, and Residential Housing and Lead Hazard Control Programs to reduce lead-based paint hazards. Through either the HARP Program, the Rental Rehabilitation Program (RRP), or the HUD Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant, staff will work with homeowners and landlords to remediate identified LBP hazards in housing units in the County's unincorporated area. The County contracts for the testing and abatement of lead-based paint hazards and asbestos hazards for homes rehabilitated through the County's housing rehabilitation program and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control program. The Lead Hazard Reduction Program staffed by the Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division and funded by a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant can remediate identified lead hazards in pre-1978 homes in incorporated cities within Fresno County or in the County's unincorporated area where low-income families with children under six reside or visit regularly.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The County of Fresno's Antipoverty Strategy, described in section SP-70 of the County's PY 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, focuses on four objectives:

1. Business Growth: Foster a competitive business environment that supports the expansion of existing industries, attracts new investment, and drives innovation to create a resilient and diversified economy.
2. Workforce Development: Build a skilled and adaptable workforce to drive Fresno County's economic growth and competitiveness.
3. Infrastructure & Real Estate: Develop and enhance the real estate and infrastructure assets needed to support business growth and strengthen the regional economy.

4. Quality of Place: Elevate the region's quality of place by creating vibrant, resilient communities that attract talent and visitors and support local businesses.

During the Program Year 2025-29, the County of Fresno will strive to reduce the number of families living in poverty by actively working toward and supporting these three goals in a number of ways, including the following:

The investment of Fresno County HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and CDBG funds for housing and public facility and infrastructure improvement activities into its neighborhoods and communities contributes to increased employment in the construction industry and related supporting businesses and services, assisting in the reduction of poverty.

The Fresno County FACE Program continues to improve the commercial areas of eligible communities as well as providing local businesses an opportunity for economic growth. The FACE Program generates an immediate increase in construction employment, and over the long term the business improvements will add to the impacted area's economic development and job creation.

The County of Fresno will continue to actively partner and support county-wide economic development efforts. Through partnerships, the County of Fresno seeks to increase employment, generate economic development opportunities, and retain and enhance current business and industry. Supporting public and private economic development efforts will strengthen all of Fresno County, and improve economic prosperity and quality of life. The County's CDBG Program is involved with various groups and agencies working to increase economic activity including the Yosemite/Sequoia Valley RC&D Area Council, the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno County Economic Development Corporation and the local Chambers of Commerce serving Fresno County cities and communities. Community Development staff also work through the Fresno County Film Commission to create jobs and increase economic development.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Community Development Division has opened its doors to new staff and will be investing time and resources in training staff on HUD policies and best practices. The Division will also focus on reviewing and updating policies and procedures. The County continues to take a proactive approach to program administration by sending staff to HUD training to maintain the level of expertise of existing staff and develop expertise in new staff.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social

service agencies

For each new program year, the County conducts a public workshop for cities, communities, non-profit agencies, engineers, and any other party interested in receiving CDBG funds for eligible activities. The workshop consists of CDBG Program guidance for eligible types of activities, and includes instructions for completing the County's CDBG application. The workshop is also used as a forum to solicit ideas and encourage participation from the public in the identification and development of needed CDBG activities.

In order to involve community residents in the CDBG application review process, the County relies on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC consists of nineteen (19) members appointed by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, representing unincorporated communities county-wide.

Annually, the County conducts a meeting with affordable housing developers and a second meeting geared toward all members of the public to address coordination and explore methods to partner with private developers and address the needs of the community. Representatives from the County's Affordable Housing Program and Departments of Social Services and Behavioral Health participate in these meetings.

The County's Department of Social Services (DSS) administers the ESG program and the CDBG-funded social service activities, as approved by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC), Fresno County's Department of Social Services (DSS) works hard to enhance coordination of homeless services in the community. Membership in the FMCoC spans across various agencies, including housing agencies, government agencies (city and county), health clinics, veterans' associations, and school districts. FMCoC members must pay membership fees, as set annually by the FMCoC Board of Directors, adhere to FMCoC bylaws, maintain good standing in the FMCoC, and meet attendance requirements.

The County will continue to work with the FMCoC to coordinate efforts and resources to meet the needs of underserved populations including the homeless of Fresno County. Through the FMCoC Coordinated Entry System (CES), families and individuals have an accessible means to connect to housing resources and move through the system faster by reducing the amount of time people spend moving from program to program before finding the right match. The CES has been found to reduce new entries into homelessness by consistently offering prevention and diversion resources upfront and reducing the number of people entering the system unnecessarily. FMCoC's CES employs a Housing First model that prioritizes individuals and families facing the highest vulnerability and needs for permanent, supportive housing. In addition, the FMCoC, in an effort to recognize the needs of the community and address the

racial disparities among those experiencing homelessness, has prioritized racially equitable solutions.

The County will seek additional opportunities to partner with private developers of low-income affordable housing and qualified CHDOs who, with investors and public agencies, are planning for the development of affordable rental and homeownership housing opportunities. The County also plans on conducting an array of presentations to social service agencies to educate the providers about the various housing programs available for their clients.

Discussion:

As described in the PY 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan's Five-Year Strategic Plan, during 2025-26, the Community Development Division will continue working to: Leverage County resources with private funding to address housing and non-housing community development needs; Enhance the coordination between assisted housing providers and social service agencies with the intention of fostering development of supportive housing options for special needs populations throughout the County; Lessen the number of poverty-level families through the use of CDBG and HOME, and local public and private sector resources, for projects that foster self-sufficiency in conjunction with housing and other public facilities.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan.	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
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HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

1. **A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:**

The County will not employ other forms of investment beyond those identified in Section 92.205.

2. **A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:**

The County of Fresno will continue to provide direct assistance in the form of HOME loans to assist low- to moderate-income homebuyer applicants afford homeownership under its Affordable Housing Programs. HOME loans are secured with a recorded trust deed and a promissory note and a HOME participation agreement between the borrower and the County. The County has elected to use the recapture option to comply with the Affordability requirements under §92.254 of HOME rules.

The initial buyer must reside in the home as his/her principal residence for the duration of the period of affordability. Pursuant to 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(ii), the County of Fresno requires that the amount of the direct HOME assistance to the buyer be recaptured if:

All or any part of the property or any interest in it is sold, conveyed or transferred during the prescribed Period of Affordability as described in Section 8 of the Homebuyer Participation Agreement.

The amount of direct HOME assistance is the total amount of HOME assistance that enables the buyer to purchase the unit, including: down payment and closing cost assistance and the amount that reduces the purchase price from fair market value to an affordable price. The total amount of HOME assistance is reduced by any payment the borrower makes towards the principal of the loan during the life of the loan.

The County shall recapture the direct HOME assistance loaned from the net proceeds available from the sale of the HOME-assisted property first before any funds are made available to the borrower.

The net proceeds are the sales price minus the repayment of all other mortgage debt senior to County's loan (other than the County funds) and closing costs. The direct HOME assistance will be recaptured from the net proceeds as set forth in the following example:

EXAMPLE --Resale of property by HOME-assisted owner of record:

Sales price: \$250,000

Superior Mortgage Debt: \$150,000

Closing Costs and/or Fees Incurred

for Resale of Property: \$5,000

County (HOME) Assistance: \$30,000

Owner's original contribution: \$10,000

$\$250,000$ (sales price) - $\$155,000$ (superior mortgage debt + closing costs/fees) = $\$95,000$ (net proceeds).

$\$95,000$ (net proceeds) - $\$30,000$ (HOME Assistance) = $\$65,000$ (owner's proceeds).

The amount to be recaptured will not exceed the amount of net proceeds available at the time the home is sold; if the net proceeds are insufficient for the County to recapture the full amount of the direct HOME assistance, the County will recapture only what is available from net proceeds. In the event of foreclosure, the amount subject to recapture is based on the amount of net proceeds (if any) from the foreclosure sale.

The County's recapture clause is referenced in the County's security documents, and the County's Homebuyer Participation Agreement. The terms of recapture are structured in compliance with the

HOME Program's Period of Affordability requirements and are based on the amount of direct HOME assistance provided to the borrower as follows:

Direct HOME Assistance to the Buyer Length of the Affordability Period

Less than \$15,000 5 years

\$15,000 – \$40,000 10 years

More than \$40,000 15 years

New Construction: 20 years

Noncompliance

The County annually conducts direct mailing to ensure compliance with occupancy and affordability requirements to all the HOME-assisted homebuyer assisted households. If the County suspects a household may not be compliant with the HOME requirements a site visit is conducted.

In the event of noncompliance with these requirements [that is, an owner (1) vacates the unit or rents the unit to another household during the period of affordability, or (2) sells the home without the County receiving recaptured funds due at time of sale], the borrower is subject to repay the full amount of the direct HOME assistance. This is enforceable through the County's loan security Documents.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

For HOME-funded affordable housing development projects, the County records a HOME Regulatory agreement against the property that places a covenant and use restriction. The covenants and restrictions are for the benefit and protection of the County, enforceable by the County, and bind the current borrower, its successors, assigns, transferees and future owner(s) of the property. The borrower agrees on behalf of itself and its successors and assigns, and each future owner of the property to adhere to all requirements of the HOME Program during the period of affordability. The requirements include, by way of example, but are not limited to: (1) requirements related to rent limitations; (2) requirements related to tenant income, and any required reporting and certification requirements; (3) requirements related to the provision of HOME Program-required tenant and participant protections; (4) requirements related to HOME Program nondiscrimination requirements and Affirmative fair housing marketing requirements; (5) requirements related to HUD required tenant protections as stated in The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. For HOME-funded homebuyer assistance loans, the Promissory Note, Deed of Trust, and Homebuyer Agreement stipulate the terms for early loan repayment or repayment due to default. The County chooses to recapture the funds if the repayment occurs during the affordability period, rather than to place continued affordability restrictions upon subsequent buyers/owners of the properties.

Noncompliance

The County annually conducts direct mailing to ensure compliance with occupancy and affordability requirements to all the HOME-assisted homebuyer households. If the County suspects a household may not be compliant with the HOME requirements direct contact will be established and a site visit may be conducted.

In the event of noncompliance with these requirements [that is, an owner (1) vacates the unit or rents the unit to another household during the period of affordability, or (2) sells the home without the County receiving recaptured funds due at time of sale] the borrower is subject to repay the full amount of the direct HOME assistance. This is enforceable through the County's loan security documents.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

The County of Fresno does not refinance existing debt for multifamily housing projects.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

The County is establishing a preference in HOME TBRA for households participating in the County's Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), which is administered by the County's Department of Social Services utilizing funding from the State of California, for households who reside outside of the service area covered by the City of Fresno's TBRA program – including in the Urban County's non-participating cities within the boundary of the County of Fresno. HDAP regulations require the presence of at least one person with a disability in the participating household. HDAP households must meet the definition of chronically homeless or homeless defined at [24 CFR Part 91.5](#). HDAP requirements are outlined in California [Welfare and Institutions Code section 18999 et seq.](#) and other guidance issued by the State, including All County Letter No. 19-104.

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

The County is not establishing a preference for a specific sub-category of individuals with disabilities.

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

To the extent permitted by laws listed at 24 CFR 5.105(a) and in accordance with 24 CFR Part 92, the County may prioritize rental housing projects which include the creation or preservation/rehabilitation of: (1) affordable mobile homes with permanent foundations and a minimum 99-year ground lease, (2) affordable housing which helps the County or the Urban County's participating cities make progress towards satisfying their targets under the State's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), (3)

affordable housing with a tenant preference for one or more of the following populations: homeless individuals/families, elderly households, agricultural laborers (when paired with USDA Section 514/516, California Joe Serna Jr., or similar funds), persons with disabilities including Serious Mental Illness (SMI), survivors of domestic violence/dating violence/sexual assault/stalking/human trafficking, veteran households, and households receiving permanent supportive housing or similar supportive services provided by a government agency. In accordance with 24 CFR 92.213, HOME funds may not be used in support of public housing units receiving assistance under Section 9 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (as amended).

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Reference 91.220(l)(4)

- 1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)**
In accordance with 24 CFR 91.220(l)(4)(i) and 567.400(e)(1), the County and FMCoC have developed Written Standards and Coordinated Entry Polies and Procedures for the provision of services with, and prioritization of, ESG funding. A copy of the current ESG Written Standards is included in the Appendix.

If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The FMCoC has a centralized and coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements. The community's Coordinated Entry System (CES) is led by the CES Management Entity and governed by the FMCoC CES Committee and the FMCoC Board of Directors. The CES committee was convened to achieve the following goals: 1) to bring the FMCoC in compliance with Federal Regulations regarding coordinated entry and assessment that require "a centralized or coordinated process designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referrals and services. A centralized or coordinated assessment system covers the geographic area, is easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool."; 2) to minimize barriers faced by individuals who are experiencing homelessness in accessing the most appropriate and effective housing services to address their needs; 3) to incorporate a Housing First philosophy in matching homeless individuals with services; 4) to use the Homeless Management Information System to maximize existing resources and simplify implementation. The ongoing role of the FMCoC CES Committee is to make recommendations on implementing and evaluating the CES. The committee makes recommendations based on input from all stakeholders and other FMCoC Committees. The FMCoC Board has final approval on all CES policies, forms, and tools.

The FMCoC CES Committee meets twice a month to review the coordinated entry processes including intake, assessment and referral. The coordinated entry process is evaluated by the FMCoC Evaluation Committee to ensure that it is operating at maximum efficiency and revisions are made. Implementation, success, and on-going evaluation of the FMCoC CES, specifically how the system triages

clients, prioritizes them for service, and tracks clients through the Continuum of Care are continually evaluated. The County of Fresno participates on the CoC's CES committee and all appropriate homeless services programs participate in the CES accepting referrals through CES and referring clients to CES access sites for linkages to additional services.

Access to the CES is available throughout the entire geographic area of the FMCoC through access sites. Access points are widespread, including rural areas and are supported by a dedicated phone line and online resources that are accessible from any location. All outreach staff are trained to provide CES assessments and outreach teams travel across the counties regularly. The regional partners, City of Fresno, County of Fresno, and County of Madera fund additional outreach services, which allows more people to be connected.

2. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

The Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) and its general membership are consulted to determine the needs and services that would be most beneficial to the homeless in the community. The County reviews the information gathered by the FMCoC Point in Time count and other available data with the Board of Directors to prioritize homeless needs in Fresno County and fill gaps in service in the community. Once that process is complete, the County follows its procurement process and typically uses a Request for Proposal (RFP) to select vendors and award agreements. A notice regarding the release of funding is sent to a bidders list of FMCoC members. Additionally, the RFP notice is placed on the County website that is accessible to the public. A review committee may include the City, County, and FMCoC representatives, including those with lived experience, which rank the received proposals and make recommendations on which subrecipients to fund. Finally, the recommendations for funding are taken to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors for approval.

The County also utilizes Letters of Qualification and Suspension of Competition when appropriate. Following consultation with the FMCoC to determine the services will benefit the entire continuum, if only one provider is able to provide the service required, or to avoid an unnecessary delay in services, a Suspension of Competition may be utilized. If multiple providers are appropriate, Letters of Qualification may be utilized to enable the County to enter into a Master Agreement with multiple providers.

3. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The FMCoC has met the homeless participation requirement noted above. The County of Fresno, with the FMCoC, will continue to reach out to additional current or formerly homeless individuals from within the community to encourage them to be active participants in the FMCoC to provide their input regarding policies and funding recommendations.

4. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

When determining the effectiveness of the services provided with ESG, the following performance standards are reviewed:

The number of homeless families and individuals from the FMCoC Point in Time Count; the percentage of individuals and families exiting the street from street outreach; the percentage of individuals and families permanently housed from rapid rehousing; the percentage of individuals and families with a positive exit from emergency shelter; and the capacity utilization rate for emergency shelters. The County of Fresno, in partnership with the FMCoC, will be reviewing the performance standards during the year and may change or add performance standards in order to fully assess whether the services provided are meeting the needs of the homeless.

DRAFT

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Data Source Name Housing Authority of Fresno County data </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set. Housing Authority of Fresno County </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Provide a brief summary of the data set. This data set provides updated information regarding Public Housing and Housing Choice Vouchers for the Urban County area. Pre-populated numbers for the PIC (PIH Information Center) was for the Housing Authority as a whole, which included non-participating cities in Fresno County, including the cities of Fresno and Clovis, which are entitlement communities in their own right. </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> What was the purpose for developing this data set? This data was calculated to provide numbers accurate for the Urban County area. </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population? This data set covers the entire Urban County area, as of February 2015. </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set? This information is based on a point-in-time review of public housing and housing choice voucher utilization and demographics in February 2015. </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)? The data set is complete. </div>
2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Data Source Name FMCoC Point in Time Count </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set. Fresno Madera Continuum of Care </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Provide a brief summary of the data set. On January 27, 2014, volunteers counted and surveyed homeless persons in the County of Fresno. Data collected was reported to HUD on the HDX and analyzed for housing implications by the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care. </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> What was the purpose for developing this data set? Biennial HUD-mandated Homeless Point in Time Count </div>

	Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected. January 27, 2014
	Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection. Public place count with interviews on the night of the PIT count and interviews with unsheltered homeless persons on a later date. Sheltered data was taken from surveys with sheltered providers on the specific PIT and data from the Homeless Management Information System.
	Describe the total population from which the sample was taken. Data was taken from sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in the County of Fresno area.
	Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed. Respondents were majority white, non-Hispanic males. 76% white, 18% African American, and 6% other races.
3	Data Source Name FMCoC Information
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set. Information from FMCoC HMIS
	Provide a brief summary of the data set. Data maintained by homeless service providers in Fresno County
	What was the purpose for developing this data set? Information on homeless and homeless services
	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population? Covers Fresno County
	What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set? Maintained year to year
	What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)? In progress, as new data is entered. Past year's information is complete.
4	Data Source Name Fresno County Community Survey
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set. County of Fresno
	Provide a brief summary of the data set.

	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p>
	<p>Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.</p> <p>FY 2024-25</p>
	<p>Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.</p>
	<p>Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.</p>
	<p>Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.</p>
5	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>Housing Market Analysis</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p>
	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p>
6	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>Code Violation Data</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p>

	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p>
	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p>
7	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>6th Cycle Housing Element Data (2024, 8yr Plan)</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p>
	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p>
8	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>Service Providers Survey</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p>

	Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.
	Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.
	Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.
	Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.
9	Data Source Name Participating Cities Survey
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.
	Provide a brief summary of the data set.
	What was the purpose for developing this data set?
	Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.
	Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.
	Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.
	Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.

Appendix – Attached Documents



CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2025-2029

APPENDIX

2025-26 City Activities	
City/Activity	CDBG Amount
Fowler - Panzak Park ADA (City-Generated Program Income)	\$766,000
Fowler - Panzak Park ADA	\$212,408
Kerman - Kerckhoff Park Improvements	\$280,039
Kerman - Plaza Veterans Park Improvements	\$ 15,000
Orange Cove - Sheridan Park Improvements	\$303,614
Reedley - Rupert and Church Reconstruction	\$129,454
Sanger - Medrano Park Improvements	\$118,780
Selma - Sidewalk Connectivity, Phase III	\$ 87
Selma - Sidewalk Connectivity, Phase IV	\$229,303
Total	\$2,054,685

The cities of Kingsburg and Mendota also participate in the Urban County Area project jurisdiction and also received CDBG allocations, but the cities have loaned their FY 2025-26 allocations to other cities' CDBG projects in order to increase their available CDBG funds for a future project year.

****The dollar amount for Fowler City-Generated CDBG Program Income is approximate and the City of Fowler will utilize 80% of any City-Generated Program Income for its activities, estimated here as \$766,000.***

2025-26 Unincorporated Area CDBG Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvement Projects		
Rank	Project Name	CDBG Amount
1	Tranquillity Emergency Generator	\$300,000
2	Malaga Wastewater Treatment Plant Disposal Pond Rehabilitation	\$300,000
3	Del Rey Community Hall & Senior Center	\$300,000

Based on receipt of projected program income, \$1,050,000 of CDBG funding is recommended for Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvement Projects in the Unincorporated Area. These funds will be used for the listed individual infrastructure projects, with \$150,000 set-aside for the County's direct project delivery costs for new and existing public facility and infrastructure improvement projects.

2025-26 Public Services	
Project Name	CDBG Amount
Sheriff's Area-Based Policing	\$300,000
Community-based Social Services Programs	\$128,526

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

OPINION SURVEY

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!



HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL FUNDS



HOUSING NEEDS



COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS



HOMELESS SERVICES



The County of Fresno expects to receive over \$4 million dollars annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development to improve low-income communities.
Help create our 5-Year Consolidated Plan!



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CODE TO
TAKE SURVEY
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[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/
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Or call (559) 600-4292 to take
the survey over the phone.



ENCUESTA DE OPINIÓN

¡DEJA QUE TU VOZ SE ESCUCHE!



CÓMO USAR LOS FONDOS FEDERALES



NECESIDADES DE VIVIENDA



NECESIDAD DE SERVICIOS Y APOYOS
COMUNITARIOS



SERVICIOS PARA PERSONAS SIN HOGAR



El condado de Fresno espera recibir más de 4 millones de dólares anuales del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de los EE. UU. para mejorar las comunidades de bajos ingresos. ¡Ayúdenos a crear nuestro Plan Consolidado de 5 años!

ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO
QR PARA REALIZAR
LA ENCUESTA O
VISITE EL
ENLACE



[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/
KQR98TD](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KQR98TD)

O llame al (559) 600-4292 para
tomar la encuesta por teléfono.



Builder/Developer Survey

How can we help and advocate for you?



Contributors to housing costs?

Experiences with local planning departments?

Job skills, workers, & hiring?

How to encourage more affordable housing?

Interested in bidding on rehab work?

The County of Fresno expects to receive over \$4 million dollars annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development to improve low-income communities.

Help create our 5-Year Consolidated Plan!



SCAN QR
CODE TO
TAKE SURVEY
OR VISIT THE
LINK



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D2SLMGR>

Or call (559) 600-4292 to take the survey over the phone.



CDBG Infrastructure Funds

Fondos de infraestructura del programa CDBG

What is most needed?

¿Qué es lo que más se necesita?

Sidewalks, pedestrian paths, bike paths	Aceras, senderos para peatones, ciclovías
Street repair, improvements, street lights	Reparación de calles, mejoras, alumbrado público
Traffic control (traffic lights, signs, intersection redesign)	Control de tránsito (semáforos, señales, rediseño de intersecciones)
Water and sewer infrastructure	Infraestructura de agua y alcantarillado
Flood control / drainage (curbs, gutters, storm water basins)	Control de inundaciones/ drenaje (bordillos, cunetas, cuencas de aguas pluviales)
Public Transportation (local & regional)	Transporte público (local y regional)
Broadband Internet	Internet de banda ancha
Fire stations, trucks, and equipment	Estaciones de bomberos, camiones y equipos
Crime prevention / public safety	Prevención del delito/ seguridad pública
Downtown / commercial revitalization	Revitalización del centro/ comercial
Residential revitalization, remove abandoned buildings	Revitalización residencial, eliminación de edificios abandonados
Parks and greenspaces, tree planting, playgrounds	Parques y espacios verdes, plantación de árboles, áreas de juegos
Library, community center, senior center	Biblioteca, centro comunitario, centro para personas mayores
Head Start preschool	Preescolar Head Start

CDBG Public
Services Funds

Fondos de servicios públicos
del programa CDBG

What is most needed?

¿Qué es lo que más se necesita?

Access to mental health, substance abuse, and health care clinics	Acceso a clínicas de salud mental, abuso de sustancias y atención médica
Food Bank / Food Pantry	Banco de alimentos/despensa de alimentos
Services for people experiencing domestic violence or human trafficking	Servicios para personas que sufren violencia doméstica o trata de personas
Crime awareness / prevention, community resource officers in schools	Concientización/prevencción del delito, oficiales de recursos comunitarios en las escuelas
Legal aid clinics	Clínicas de asistencia legal
Emergency home repairs for low-income homeowners	Reparaciones de emergencia en el hogar para propietarios de bajos ingresos
Short-term neighborhood cleanup	Limpieza de vecindarios a corto plazo
Fair housing counseling / help understanding tenant rights	Asesoramiento sobre vivienda justa/ayuda para comprender los derechos de los inquilinos
Screening for lead poisoning	Examen de detección de envenenamiento por plomo
Employment and job skills training	Capacitación laboral y de habilidades laborales
Classes for adults to learn English, citizenship, how to read	Clases para adultos para aprender inglés, ciudadanía y cómo leer
Services for seniors	Servicios para personas mayores
Daycare & after-school programs for kids	Guardería y programas extraescolares para niños
Help for small businesses	Ayuda para pequeñas empresas



Necesidades de la comunidad de Laton
Laton Community Needs

HOME Funds

Fondos del programa HOME

What is most needed?

¿Qué es lo que más se necesita?

Build new homes and apartments for low-income families	Construir nuevas casas y apartamentos para familias de bajos ingresos
Help low-income families repair their homes (e.g. replace the roof)	Ayudar a familias de bajos ingresos a reparar sus hogares (por ejemplo, reemplazar el techo)
Help low-income families with a downpayment for a home mortgage	Ayudar a familias de bajos ingresos con un pago inicial para una hipoteca de vivienda
Help low-income families with up to 24 months of lower costs for rent	Ayudar a familias de bajos ingresos con hasta 24 meses de costos de alquiler más bajos
Support housing developed by entities like Habitat for Humanity & Self-Help	Apoyar viviendas desarrolladas por entidades como Habitat for Humanity y Self-Help
Help pay for the staff and expenses to run these programs	Ayudar a pagar el personal y los gastos para ejecutar estos programas



Necesidades de la comunidad de Laton

Laton Community Needs

ESG Funds

Fondos del programa ESG

What is most needed?

¿Qué es lo que más se necesita?

Emergency shelters for those with no place to stay overnight	Refugios de emergencia para quienes no tienen un lugar donde pasar la noche
Homeless prevention assistance for persons at-risk of becoming homeless	Asistencia para la prevención de la falta de vivienda para personas en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar
Housing for persons experiencing homelessness	Viviendas para personas sin hogar
Transitional housing for persons exiting foster care, the hospital, prison	Viviendas de transición para personas que salen de hogares de acogida, hospitales o prisiones
Outreach workers connecting with those on the streets and offering services	Trabajadores sociales que se conectan con las personas que viven en la calle y ofrecen servicios
Legal aid to fight evictions	Asistencia legal para luchar contra los desalojos
Cleanup of encampments	Limpieza de campamentos
Mental health / addiction services	Servicios de salud mental y adicciones



Necesidades de la comunidad de Laton

Laton Community Needs

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING NOTICES

THE BUSINESS JOURNAL

FRESNO | KINGS | MADERA | TULARE

P.O. Box 126

Fresno, CA 93707

Telephone (559) 490-3400

(Space Below for use of County Clerk only)

IN THE COUNTY OF FRESNO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

FRESNO COUNTY 2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FIRST YEAR ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

The hearing will be held on October 16,
2024, at 6:00 p.m.

DECLARATION OF PUBLICATION (2015.5 C.C.P.)

MISC. NOTICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF FRESNO

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of **THE BUSINESS JOURNAL** published in the city of Fresno, County of Fresno, State of California, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Fresno, State of California, under the date of March 4, 1911, in Action No.14315; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FRESNO COUNTY 2025-2029
**CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FIRST
YEAR ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**
The County of Fresno Consolidated
Plan Committee will hold a public
hearing on the preparation of the
County of Fresno's 2025-2029
Consolidated Plan and First Year
Annual Action Plan. The Consolidated
Plan includes an assessment of the
housing, community development, and
homeless needs of the unincorporated
portion of Fresno County, as well as
partner cities participating in Fresno
County's Urban County program for
the Community Development Block
Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment
Partnership Program (HOME), and
Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
programs, and offers a strategy for
addressing priority needs within
the five-year planning period using
CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds.
The First Year Annual Action Plan
identifies goals and proposed uses of
CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds during
the 2025-26 program year.
The public hearing will include
a review of prior year program

The hearing will also be held by
teleconference at (559) 494-4226
(Conference ID 108 092 001#), and
by Microsoft Teams, using Teams
or a web browser, at <https://tinyurl.com/42nrfxbu>

Members of the public wishing to
comment outside of the Consolidated
Plan Committee public hearing may
also do so by calling the Community
Development Grants Unit at (559) 600-
4292, by writing to the Community
Development Division, 2220 Tulare
St, 6th Floor, Fresno, CA 93721, or
by email at Comdev@fresnocountyca.gov. If you have any questions or
comments, please contact Jonathan
Avedian at (559) 600-4292.

The County of Fresno does not
discriminate on the basis of race, color,
religion, sex, national origin, disability,
or marital status. In accordance with
the Americans with Disabilities Act
(ADA) and Section 504, any request
for special needs will be considered.
To request accommodations, please
call Jared Nimer at (559) 600-4292, by
Wednesday, October 9th at 5:00 p.m.
09/13/2024

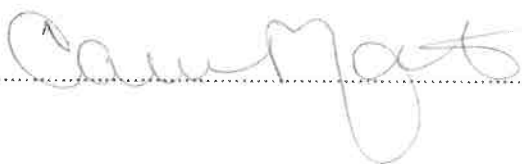
performance, housing and community
development needs, and related
housing and community development
programs, and request public comment
on housing, community development,
and homeless needs to be considered
during preparation of the 2025-2029
Consolidated Plan.

The hearing will be held on October
16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in Conference
Room A, on the 8th Floor, 2220 Tulare
St, Fresno, CA.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true
and correct and that this declaration was executed at Fresno,
California,

SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

ON



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Fresno, CA 93707

Telephone (559) 490-3400

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IN THE COUNTY OF FRESNO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

PLAN CONSOLIDADO DEL CONDADO DE FRESNO
2025-2029 Y PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL PARA EL PRIMER
AÑO

La audiencia se llevará a cabo el 16 de
octubre de 2024, a las 6:00 p.m.

DECLARATION OF PUBLICATION (2015.5 C.C.P.)

MISC. NOTICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF FRESNO

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of **THE BUSINESS JOURNAL** published in the city of Fresno, County of Fresno, State of California, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Fresno, State of California, under the date of March 4, 1911, in Action No.14315; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed at Fresno, California,

SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

ON



AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA
PLAN CONSOLIDADO DEL
CONDADO DE FRESNO 2025-2029
Y PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL PARA
EL PRIMER AÑO

El Comité del Plan Consolidado del Condado de Fresno llevará a cabo una audiencia pública sobre la preparación del Plan Consolidado 2025-2029 del Condado de Fresno y del Primer Año del Plan de Acción Anual. El Plan Consolidado incluye una evaluación de las necesidades de vivienda, desarrollo comunitario y personas sin hogar de la parte no incorporada del Condado de Fresno, así como de las ciudades asociadas que participan en el Programa del Condado Urbano del Condado de Fresno para los programas de Subvenciones en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG por sus siglas en Inglés), el Programa de Asociación de Inversión en vivienda (HOME por sus siglas en Inglés) y el programa de las Subvenciones para Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG por sus siglas en Inglés), y ofrece una estrategia para abordar las necesidades prioritarias dentro del período de planificación de cinco años utilizando fondos de CDBG, HOME y ESG. El Plan de Acción Anual del Primer Año identifica las metas y los usos propuestos de los fondos CDBG, HOME y ESG durante el año programático del 2025-26.

La audiencia pública incluirá una revisión del desempeño del programa del año anterior, las necesidades de vivienda y desarrollo comunitario, y los programas relacionados con la vivienda y el desarrollo comunitario. Se solicitarán comentarios públicos sobre las necesidades de vivienda, desarrollo comunitario y personas sin hogar que se considerarán durante la preparación del Plan Consolidado 2025-2029.

La audiencia se llevará a cabo el 16 de octubre de 2024, a las 6:00 p.m., en la Sala de Conferencias A, piso 8, 2220 Tulare St, Fresno, CA.

La audiencia también se llevará a cabo por teleconferencia al (559) 494-4226 (ID de conferencia 108 092 001#), y por Microsoft Teams, utilizando Teams o un navegador web, en <https://tinyurl.com/42nrxfbu>

Los miembros del público que deseen comentar fuera de la audiencia pública del Comité del Plan Consolidado también pueden hacerlo llamando a la Unidad de Subvenciones para el Desarrollo Comunitario al (559) 600-4292, escribiendo a la División de Desarrollo Comunitario y se encuentra en el 2220 Tulare St, 6th Floor, Fresno, CA 93721, o por correo electrónico a Comdev@fresnocountyca.gov. Si tiene alguna pregunta o comentario, comuníquese con Jonathan Avedian al (559) 600-4292.

El Condado de Fresno no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, origen nacional, discapacidad o estado civil. De acuerdo con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés) y la Sección 504, se considerará cualquier solicitud de necesidades especiales. Para solicitar adaptaciones, llame a Jared Nimer al (559) 600-4292, antes del miércoles 9 de octubre a las 5:00 p.m.

09/13/2024

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT – POLICIES & PROCEDURES

**Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
Program Policy and Procedures Guide**

March 2025

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The County of Fresno
*Emergency Solutions Grants
Policy and Procedure Guide*

Program Description

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program is designed to identify sheltered and un-sheltered homeless persons, as well as those at risk of homelessness, and provide services necessary to help those persons quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.

The County of Fresno is the recipient of an annual allocation of ESG funding. Through community input, consultation with the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care, and County Board of Supervisors approval, funding and program priorities are determined. Services are then procured through the County Purchasing standards, which may include releasing a request for proposal for awarding ESG funds to eligible subrecipients (providers).

All funded providers are required to follow federal guidelines in the implementation of ESG programs. ESG Program Policies and Procedures do not replace the regulations contained in 24 CFR Part 576 and subsequent amendments, nor any other applicable Federal, State, or local laws, ordinances or regulations pertaining to the program. The County of Fresno has written the following policies and procedures to facilitate providers in implementing the ESG guidelines as set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Target Population

The funds under this program are intended to target two populations of persons facing housing instability: 1) individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness (residing in emergency or transitional shelters or on the street) and need temporary assistance in order to obtain housing and retain it, and 2) individuals and families who are currently in housing but are at risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent or utility assistance to prevent them from becoming homeless or assistance to move to another unit.

Emergency Solutions Grants Policies and Procedures

1. County Administration of the Program

The County of Fresno administers the Emergency Solutions Grants Program and will provide updates as needed to this Policy and Procedures Guide. The County must consult with the Continuum of Care (CoC) operating within the jurisdiction in determining how to allocate ESG funds under 24 CFR 576.400(a). Although the County of Fresno may change program requirements from time to time to meet program objectives, all changes will meet ESG guidelines.

2. Match Requirement

The ESG Recipient (County of Fresno) must match grant funds with an equal amount of cash and/or noncash contributions, which may include real property, equipment, materials, or services as required under 24 CF 576.201. The match requirement may be passed down to the County's subrecipients, dependent on the County's ability to acquire the necessary match. The match requirement, if any, will be noted in the subrecipient's contract. The recipient must ensure the laws governing any funds to be used as matching contributions do not prohibit those funds from being used to match Emergency Solutions Grant funds. The matching funds must be provided and documented during a specified contract period.

3. Monitoring

County of Fresno staff will meet with all subrecipients to discuss performance, regulations, and processes; coordinate services; collaboratively exchange best practices; and discuss concerns in administering the program. County staff will conduct on-site or remote monitoring and audits of subrecipients as appropriate to ensure proper administration of the program. Monitoring activities will include reviewing subrecipients financials, compliance with regulations, and participant eligibility. Any negative findings from monitoring activities must be included in the monitoring report to the subrecipient, along with corrective actions to be taken by the subrecipient. Audits will review client files for initial and re-evaluation documentation and records of compliance with ESG regulations. Subrecipients must include the following in all client files based on program activities:

Emergency Shelter:

- HMIS Intake Form
- HMIS Release of Information Form
- Homeless Status Verification Documentation
- Emergency Shelter Documentation
 - Diversion and Rapid Exit ♦ Essential services ♦ Housing-focused services ♦ Housing stability plan / Case notes ♦ Service documentation
- Payment Documentation
- Termination of Assistance (if applicable)

Homeless Prevention:

- HMIS Intake Form
- HMIS Release of Information Form
- Homeless Status Verification Documentation
- Housing Stability Plan Documentation
 - Housing Stability Plan ♦ Case Management Documentation ♦ Rapid Exit Services Provided ♦ Other Service Documentation & Amounts (except as already documented in this section's Rental Assistance Agreement sub-section above; Payments sub-section below; and Financial Assistance in Financial Assistance Section)
- Income Eligibility and Rent Determination
 - Income evaluation form and verification documents
- Habitability Standards
- Lead Based Paint Disclosures
 - Lead Regulations Screening Worksheet must be used for verification of Lead-Based Paint compliance.
 - "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home" pamphlet
 - Passed inspection reports, compliance steps completed to ensure safe and decent housing units when children under six living in the unit, lead hazard information and documentation kept by landlords (Staff must review and understand HUDs Lead-Based Paint Disclosure Rule and Safe Housing Rule)
- Residential Lease Agreement (if rental or financial assistance provided)
- Type of Rental Assistance
- Payment Documentation
- Rental Assistance Agreement
- Rent Reasonableness Certification
- VAWA Documentation
 - VAWA Lease Amendment (must be an addendum to the residential lease agreement) ♦ VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights (HUD 5380 ♦ VAWA Victim Certification Form (HUD 5382) (if applicable) ♦ VAWA Emergency Transfer Request (HUD 5383)
- Financial Assistance Tracking
- Re-evaluation (if applicable)
- Termination of Assistance (if applicable)

Rapid Rehousing:

- HMIS Intake Form
- HMIS Release of Information Form
- Homeless Status Verification Documentation
- Housing Stability Plan and Services Documentation
 - Housing Stability Plan ♦ Related Case Management Documentation ♦

Rapid Exit Services Provided ♦ Other Service Documentation & Amounts (except as already documented in this section's Rental Assistance Agreement sub-section above; Payments sub-section below; and Financial Assistance in Financial Assistance Section)

- Income and Rent Determination Documentation
 - Income evaluation form and verification documents
- Habitability Standards Report
- Lead-Based Paint Disclosures
 - Passed inspection reports, compliance steps completed to ensure safe and decent housing units when children under six living in the unit, lead hazard information and documentation kept by landlords (Staff must review and understand HUDs Lead-Based Paint Disclosure Rule and Safe Housing Rule)
 - Lead Regulations Screening Worksheet must be used for verification of Lead-Based Paint compliance.
 - "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home" pamphlet
- Residential Lease Agreement
- Type of Rental Assistance
- Payment Documentation
- Rental Assistance Agreement
- Rent Reasonableness Certification
- VAWA Documentation
 - VAWA Lease Amendment (must be an addendum to the residential lease agreement) ♦ VAWA Notice of Occupancy Rights (HUD 5380) ♦ VAWA Victim Certification Form (HUD 5382) (if applicable) ♦ VAWA Emergency Transfer Request (HUD 5383)
- Financial Assistance Tracking
- Re-Evaluation Report (if applicable)
- Termination of Assistance (if applicable)

Street Outreach:

- HMIS Intake Form
- HMIS Release of Information Form
- Homeless Status Verification Documentation
- Street Outreach Activity Documentation:
 - Housing Stability Plan ♦ Case Management Documentation ♦ Diversion and Rapid Exit Services Provided ♦ Other Service & Assistance Documentation
- Termination of Assistance (if applicable)

All subrecipients will be required to submit monthly, quarterly, and yearly reports to the

County to ensure performance measures are being met. Additionally, the County will audit all requests for reimbursement of ESG funds before payments are made to service providers.

4. Subrecipient Administration of ESG

Each subrecipient must read and follow ESG guidelines as issued by HUD or HCD, and as may be amended from time to time. The procedures contained herein serve to simplify the implementation of HUD or HCD regulation as it relates to the programs administered by the County of Fresno.

Subrecipients will serve the designated populations and provide financial assistance and stabilization services as identified in the budget and scope of work in the County contract. The requirements for implementing ESG activities follow:

- Complete all documentation and recordkeeping as required by the HMIS lead of the Continuum of Care - currently the Housing Authority of the City of Fresno.
- Comply with the ESG contract with the County of Fresno.
- Develop appropriate guidelines specific to the activities being provided and how the program will be administered. These will be provided to the County at minimum, within one quarter of the program start date.
- Adhere to FMCoC standards for Coordinated Entry, HMIS, and member agreements.
- Evaluate individuals and families applying for or receiving assistance using the Coordinated Entry System (CES).

5. County Administration of ESG

County staff must read and follow ESG guidelines as issued by HUD or HCD, and as may be amended from time to time. The procedures contained herein serve to simplify the HUD regulations for the administration of ESG activities by the County of Fresno.

For all County agreements funded in whole or in part with ESG or ESG-CV funding, an award letter will include the Unique Entity Identifier number of the subrecipient, as well as the total amount of the ESG award being committed to the subrecipient within the agreement. In addition, the award letter will clearly stipulate which activities ESG funding is being allocated to, including a double billing clause to ensure that subrecipients do not charge goods and services more than once.

To ensure ESG funds are expended for eligible activities and allocable costs under the appropriate awarded budget line item, Fresno County will monitor its draws with internal controls allowing time for invoices to be reviewed by multiple parties to ensure costs are eligible and allowable.

Fresno County will review to ensure there are adequate supporting documentations for all costs charged to ESG grant when requesting for

reimbursement. The documentations should clearly show costs that are allowable, allocable, necessary, and reasonable.

The County and its Subrecipients must maintain supporting documentation for all costs charged to the ESG grant. While supporting documentation varies by cost-type, the following must be adhered to, at minimum, for personnel and non-personnel costs:

Personnel Costs:

- Timesheets that account for all hours worked during the week, specifically identifying the number of hours worked directly on each project/activity by funding source and are signed by the employee and immediate supervisor.
- Proof of payment (i.e., copy of the cancelled check, ~~or~~ bank statement or Payroll records).
- General ledger that verifies expenditures by project/activity and funding source.

Non-Personnel Costs:

- Verification of compliance with procurement requirements (if applicable).
- Invoices, receipts, or purchase orders.
- Proof of payment (i.e., copy of the cancelled check or bank statement).
- General ledger that verifies expenditures by project/activity and funding source.

All Fresno County staff authorizing ESG invoices must complete training regarding allowable costs prior to authorizing invoices. Trainings must be completed annually thereafter to ensure knowledge is current.

Before approving a HUD Drawdown, Finance Accountant will send the approval to the ESG analyst with a copy of the transactions, After the approval from ESG analyst, the Finance Accountant will send to another Finance Accountant to approve the drawdown who is also authorized to access IDIS to double-check and approve the Drawdown. Once approved, The Accountant will send an e-mail to the Treasurer's mailbox indicating the expected funds from HUD. When funds are received, the Treasurer's office will send an e-mail and the Accountant must prepare a deposit for those funds. Once deposit is prepared, the Accountant will send an e-mail to the Treasurer Mailbox asking to process the deposit (With Deposit ID), CC the ESG Analyst to inform him receipt of funds.

To request for reimbursement for HCD ESG, the ESG Analyst will need to complete a Request for Fund (RFF) form for the period the funds were spent and include supporting documentations. The Analyst will complete a financial report in E-Civis and upload the RFF and supporting documentations to E-Civis for the HCD Grant Administrator to review and approve.

6. Eligible Activities

Funding may be provided for the following eligible activities:

A. Rapid Re-Housing - Rental Assistance (An individual or family assisted must qualify according to the “homeless” HUD definition under 24 CFR 576.2.)

Eligible rental assistance includes:

- short-term rental assistance (up to 3 months)
- medium-term rental assistance (up to 24 months)
- one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, to include late fees

Eligible costs include rental application fees, security deposits, last month’s rent, utility deposits, utility payments (with a limit of 6 months in utility payment arrears) and moving costs (including storage costs up to 3 months).

B. Rapid Re-Housing - Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (An individual or family assisted must qualify according to the “homeless” HUD definition under 24 CFR 576.2.)

Eligible services include housing search and placement, housing stability case management mediation, legal services, and credit repair. Eligible services under case management include using the coordinated entry system, initial evaluation, counseling, and coordinating services (for a complete list of eligible case management activities please reference 24 CFR 576.105(b)(2)).

C. Homelessness Prevention - Rental Assistance (An individual or family assisted must qualify according to the “at risk of homelessness” HUD definition under 24 CFR 576.2.)

Eligible rental assistance includes:

- short-term rental assistance (up to 3 months)
- medium-term rental assistance (up to 24 months)
- one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, to include late fees

Eligible costs include rental application fees, security deposits, last month’s rent, utility deposits, utility payments (with a limit of 6 months in utility payment arrears) and moving costs (including storage costs up to 3 months).

D. Homelessness Prevention - Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (An individual or family assisted must qualify according to the “at risk homelessness” HUD definition under 24 CFR 576.2.)

Eligible services include housing search and placement, housing stability case management, mediation, legal services, and credit repair. Eligible services under case management include using the coordinated entry system, initial evaluation, counseling, and coordinating services (for a complete list of eligible case management activities please reference 24 CFR 576.105(b)(2)).

E. Emergency Shelter (An individual or family assisted must qualify according to the “homeless” HUD definition under 24 CFR 576.2.)

Eligible emergency shelter costs include costs of providing essential services to homeless families and individuals in emergency shelters, renovating buildings

to be used as emergency shelter for homeless families and individuals, and operating emergency shelters as identified in 24 CFR 576.102.

In emergency shelters, established policies exist for admission, diversion, referral, length of stay and discharge by the emergency shelters assisted under ESG. These policies include assessing, prioritizing, and reassessing individuals and families' needs for essential services related to emergency shelter as indicated in 24 CFR 576.400(e)(3)(iii) & (iv). A maximum of 60% of the total amount of the recipient's fiscal year grant may be used for street outreach and emergency shelter activities.

F. Street Outreach (An individual or family assisted must qualify according to the "homeless" definition under 24 CFR 576.2.)

Eligible street outreach costs include costs of providing essential services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless people; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent, non-facility based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility, as further identified in 24 CFR 576.101. Specific eligible costs consist of the following: engagement, case management, emergency health and mental health services, transportation, and services for special populations.

For the purposes of this section, the term "unsheltered homeless people" means individuals and families who qualify as "homeless" found in 24 CFR 576.2(1)(i). Combined Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter expenditures are limited to 60% of the recipient's fiscal year grant. Property acquisition and new construction are not eligible ESG activities as stated in 24 CFR 576.100 and 24 CFR 576.407(d)(2).

G. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

All agencies receiving ESG assistance will be required to participate in the local HMIS. All persons served and assisted under ESG must be entered in HMIS or a comparable database (if a domestic violence or legal services provider), equivalent to HUD's standards on participation, data collection, and reporting. The recipient or subrecipient may use ESG funds to pay the costs of contributing data to the HMIS lead agency designated by the Continuum of Care (equipment, software, staff salary, training, etc.).

H. Rental Assistance for Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention

Rent restrictions. Rental assistance cannot be provided unless the rent does not exceed the Fair Market Rent established by HUD, and complies with HUD's standard of rent reasonableness (refer to page 16).

For purposes of calculating rent under this section, the rent shall equal the sum of the total monthly rent for the unit, any fees required for occupancy under the lease (other than late fees and pet fees) and, if the tenant pays separately for utilities, the monthly

allowance for utilities (excluding telephone) established by the public housing authority for the area in which the housing is located.

Rental assistance agreement. The recipient or subrecipient may make rental assistance payments only to an owner with whom the recipient or subrecipient has entered into a rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must set forth the terms under which rental assistance will be provided, including the requirements that apply under this section. The rental assistance agreement must provide that, during the term of the agreement, the owner must give the recipient or subrecipient a copy of any notice to the program participant to vacate the housing unit or any complaint used under State or local law to commence an eviction action against the program participant. Each rental assistance agreement that is executed or renewed on or after *December 16, 2016* must include all protections that apply to tenants and applicants, except for the emergency transfer plan requirements. If the housing is not assisted under another “covered housing program”, the agreement may provide that the owner's obligations under Protection for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, expire at the end of the rental assistance period.

Late payments. The recipient or subrecipient is solely responsible for paying late payment penalties that it incurs with non-ESG funds.

Lease. Each program participant receiving rental assistance must have a written lease for the rental unit, unless the assistance is solely for rental arrears. The lease must be between the owner and the program participant. Where the assistance is solely for rental arrears, an oral agreement may be accepted in place of a written lease, if the agreement gives the program participant an enforceable leasehold interest under state law and the agreement and rent owed are sufficiently documented by the owner's financial records, rent ledgers, or canceled checks. Each lease executed on or after December 16, 2016 must include a lease provision or incorporate a lease addendum that includes all requirements that apply to tenants, the owner or lease regarding the protection for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking.

Tenant-based rental assistance.

(1) A program participant who receives tenant-based rental assistance may select a housing unit to live and may move to another unit or building and continue to receive rental assistance, as long as the program participant continues to meet the program requirements.

(2) The recipient may require that all program participants live within a particular area for the period in which the rental assistance is provided.

(3) The rental assistance agreement with the owner must terminate and no further rental assistance payments is made if:

(a) The program participant moves out of the housing unit for which the program participant has a lease;

(b) The lease terminates and is not renewed; or

(c) The program participant becomes ineligible to receive ESG rental assistance.

The records must include copies of all leases and rental assistance agreements for the provision of rental assistance, documentation of payments made to owners for the provision of rental assistance, and supporting documentation for these payments, including dates of occupancy by program participants.

7. Client Eligibility Verification

There is a three-step process for determining a client's eligibility, as noted below. Additionally, all subrecipients must evaluate and certify the eligibility of ESG program participants (per the steps below) a minimum of once every three months for all households receiving homelessness prevention assistance, and once annually for households receiving rapid re-housing assistance. The order of priority for obtaining evidence of homeless status is third-party documentation first, intake worker observations second, and certification from the person seeking assistance third.

A. FIRST STEP: Homelessness Verification

To receive assistance under Rapid Re-Housing, Emergency Shelter, or Street Outreach client(s) must be homeless at the time assistance is requested. To receive assistance under Homeless Prevention, client(s) must be at risk of becoming homeless and only rental assistance is necessary to prevent the individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or other place not meant for human habitation as identified in the ESG regulations. An individual or family must meet the homeless or at risk of homelessness definition as defined by HUD 24 CFR 576.2.

B. SECOND STEP: Initial Consultation

Subrecipients must conduct an initial evaluation to determine if ESG will be beneficial to the client(s) and help them regain stability in permanent housing as quickly as possible. These evaluations must be conducted in accordance with the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care CES PPGs. Documentation to verify the requirements of this section must be in the form of a client intake form. Subrecipients may use their own form and must keep verification of this requirement in each client file.

C. THIRD STEP: Income Verification

Verification of Income below 30% of the Area Median Income. See *Section 9. Income Determination*.

8. Documenting Client Eligibility

All subrecipients must maintain verification of clients' eligibility in each client file as described below.

- (1) Subrecipients are required to ensure that the client does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately available, as follows:

For Rapid Re-Housing and Emergency Shelter/Street Outreach clients: as needed to obtain other permanent housing.

For Homelessness Prevention clients: immediately available to attain housing stability and meets one or more of the conditions under paragraph (1) (iii) of the definition of “at risk of homelessness” in 24 CFR 576.2.

- (2) All subrecipients will ensure that all documentation is obtained and placed in the file in accordance with 24 CFR 576.500 “Recordkeeping and reporting requirements”, as required in the regulation for Rapid Re-Housing and/or Homelessness Prevention clients.
- (3) The most reliable evidence that should be used in addressing the documentation required in (1) and (2) above includes, in order of priority:
 - a. Source documents including check stubs, verification of employment, unemployment compensation, bank statement, award letters from Social Security Administration, utility bill showing arrears, health-care bill showing arrears, etc.
 - b. If source documents are unavailable: a written statement by the relevant third party, or a written statement by intake staff of the oral verification by the relevant third party of the required information and written verification by intake staff as to why source documentation could not be obtained.
 - c. If source documents AND written third party verification is unobtainable, a written statement by the client or client’s intake staff describing the efforts taken to obtain the required evidence AND self-certification by client, identifying the required information needed.

9. Income Determination

All subrecipients are required to determine a client’s annual income, to verify that the client is income eligible. To qualify for ESG Homelessness Prevention assistance persons and/or households must earn 30 percent or below the Area Median Income, as set annually by HUD, according to household size. Annual income limits will be provided to each subrecipient, as they are made available by HUD. They can also be found at <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5079/esg-income-limits/>. In determining the annual income of an individual or family, the subrecipient must use the standard for calculating anticipated annual income under 24 CFR 5.609.

- (1) Annual income means all amounts, monetary or not, that go to, or are on behalf of, the family head or spouse (even if temporarily absent) or to any other family member 18 years old or older, or all amounts anticipated to be received from a source outside the family, during the 12-month period following admission or annual reexamination effective date.
- (2) All subrecipients must keep income verification documents in a case file, for each client or household.
- (3) All subrecipients must have the client's household documented in the case file to verify the size of the client household and to assist in determining income eligibility.
- (4) Additionally, income or lack thereof should be documented in the client's case file.

10. Client's Share of Rent Costs

The County will enforce a graduated subsidy format for determining each ESG client's share of rental costs. A graduated subsidy will help reduce the destabilizing cliff effect of a deep subsidy suddenly ending. Declining subsidies allow the household to gradually take over the responsibility of paying rent and builds both a cushion and confidence along the way. Each subrecipient shall provide the County with the graduated subsidy scale and methodology to be applied to the funded activity as part of the activity guidelines.

Initial assistance can be as much as 100% of rental assistance, then decreasing monthly, or every other month, in accordance with individual client needs and case plan objectives developed by the client and the subrecipient case manager. Timelines are based on the maximum term of assistance; however, clients should be transitioned off assistance in as short of a timeframe as is appropriate for them to successfully obtain housing stability.

On a case-by-case basis, subrecipients may be authorized to increase rental assistance only when extenuating circumstances arise for a client. Some of these extenuating circumstances may include, but are not limited to, reunification with a child, loss of employment (income), drop in income, medical emergency/illness, and loss of other resources. In these cases, the subrecipient will verify and document in each file the reasons for increasing financial assistance.

11. Program Income

Program income collected from program participants must be used for ESG eligible activities. Rents and occupancy charges collected from residents of transitional housing may be reserved, in whole or in part, to assist the residents from whom they are collected to move to permanent housing.

12. Rent Reasonableness

Rental assistance paid cannot exceed the actual rental cost, which must comply with HUD's standard of "rent reasonableness". "Rent reasonableness" means that the total rent charged for a unit must be reasonable in relation to the rents being charged during the same time period for comparable units in the private unassisted market and must not be in excess of rents being charged by the owner during the same time period for comparable non-luxury unassisted units. Additionally, rental assistance cannot be provided unless the rent does not exceed the Fair Market Rent established by HUD, as provided under 24 CFR part 888.

To make this determination, subrecipients should consider (a) the location, quality, size, type, and age of the unit; and (b) any amenities, housing services, maintenance, and utilities to be provided by the owner. Comparable rents can be checked by using a market study, by reviewing comparable units advertised for rent, or with a note from the property owner verifying the comparability of charged rents to other units owned (for example, the landlord would document the rents paid in other units). All subrecipients will need to maintain document in the case file for each client assisted with rent and keep the record in the client file.

13. Rental, Security and Utility Payments

Subrecipients must not make payments directly to program participants, but only to third parties, such as landlords or utility companies. In addition, an assisted property may not be owned by the recipient, subrecipient or the parent, subsidiary, or affiliated organization of the subrecipient.

Subrecipients can only make rental payments and/or security deposits for clients that have a signed lease for their eligible unit. Additionally, the program participant must be named on the lease.

Please note that financial assistance for persons in a group home-type setting is limited to rent, security deposits, utility deposits, and utility payments. Service fee charges that might be applied at assisted living facilities are not eligible. In addition, if there is another rental subsidy being provided, ESG cannot be used for rent, and if there is a utility subsidy being provided, ESG cannot be used for utilities. If subrecipient incurs late fees due to a late submittal of a rental payment, these cannot be reimbursed by, or paid out of ESG funds.

14. Habitability Standards

Subrecipients providing rental assistance with ESG funds will be required to conduct initial and any appropriate follow-up inspections of housing units into which a program participant will be moving. Units should be inspected on an annual basis and upon a change of tenancy. Inspection of each unit must include completion and filing of the Permanent Housing section of attached Exhibit A: ESG Minimum Habitability Standards for Emergency Shelters and Permanent Housing. Subrecipients are to ensure that experienced staff perform all habitability inspections. When ESG funds are used for conversion, major rehabilitation, or other renovation, the building must meet the minimum standards for safety, sanitation, and privacy standards, as applicable. Any

emergency shelter that receives assistance for shelter operations must also meet these standards under 24 CR 576.403 and complete the Emergency Shelter section of Exhibit A.

15. Environmental Review

ESG activities are subject to environmental reviews under HUD environmental regulations in 24 CFR part 50. The County will work with subrecipients to meet the requirements of 24 CFR part 50 prior to the expenditure of any ESG funds. The subrecipient will provide at a minimum: the address and APN of location where services will be provided and a detailed program description.

16. Rental Payments in Arrears

Rental assistance may be used to pay up to six months of rental arrears for eligible program participants. Rental arrears may be paid if the payment enables the program participant to remain in the housing unit for which the arrears are being paid or move to another unit. If ESG funds are used to pay rental arrears, arrears must be included in determining the total period of the program participant's rental assistance. Utility payments may be made for up to 24 months (during any 3-year period) per program participant, per service, including up to six months of utility payments in arrears, per service.

17. Lead Based Paint Visual Assessment Requirements

Subrecipients are required to provide a visual assessment of each selected property for client habitability to ensure that there are no hazards related to Lead Based Paint. Visual assessments can be conducted by a HUD-Certified Visual Assessor under ESG and must meet the requirements as outlined in the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, as noted in Section VII.F of the Notice. A 20-minute online training course on conducting visual assessments can be found on HUD's website at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/training/visualassessment/h00101.htm>.

After successful completion of the online course, subrecipients will receive a certificate of completion, which qualifies them to conduct the assessments. All subrecipients are required to have at least one staff member qualified to conduct assessments.

Subrecipients are also required to complete and sign the ESG Lead Screening Worksheet, enclosed in Exhibit B, and the ESG Lead-Based Paint Document Checklist, as enclosed in Exhibit C, for each client receiving assistance.

Please note that the last page of the form requires staff signature and date. Subrecipients will ensure that the form is signed and dated properly.

Additionally, subrecipients must ensure compliance with the lead-based paint remediations and disclosures as described in 24 CFR 576.403(a).

18. Reporting Requirements

HMIS

Subrecipients are required to input client data into HMIS as soon as feasibly possible, and according to the minimum standard set by the FMCoC. County staff will work with the HMIS lead agency to pull data on a monthly basis and will contact subrecipients who have not utilized HMIS as required. This reporting requirement is set forth to facilitate subrecipient's quarter-end reporting process and to assist the County in its reporting to HUD. Subrecipients who fail to meet this requirement will be in default of their agreement, which will trigger a performance review by the County.

Monthly/Quarterly Reporting

Subrecipients are required to provide a monthly activity report to the County, as noted in the County contract.

19. Confidentiality

Each subrecipient must develop and implement procedures to ensure:

The recipient and its subrecipients must develop and implement written procedures to ensure:

- (i) All records containing personally identifying information (as defined in HUD's standards for participation, data collection, and reporting in a local HMIS) of any individual or family who applies for and/or receives ESG assistance will be kept secure and confidential;
- (ii) The address or location of any domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shelter project assisted under the ESG will not be made public, except with written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of the shelter; and
- (iii) The address or location of any housing of a program participant will not be made public, except as provided under a preexisting privacy policy of the recipient or subrecipient and consistent with state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

- (2) The confidentiality procedures of the recipient and its subrecipients must be in writing and must be maintained in accordance with this section.

Such procedures must be provided to the County before implementation of the program. All records pertaining to each fiscal year of ESG funds must be retained for the greater of five years or the period specified under 24 CFR 576.500(y). Copies made by microfilming, photocopying, or similar methods may be substituted for the original records.

20. Housing First

All subrecipients must adhere to the Housing First Model, which is an approach to

quickly connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to housing, such as sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements. For more information on Housing First, please visit: <https://endhomelessness.org/resource/housing-first/>.

21. Termination of Housing Assistance

A subrecipient may terminate assistance to a program participant who violates program requirements. Subrecipients may resume assistance to a program participant whose assistance was previously terminated. In terminating assistance to a program participant, the subrecipient must follow a formal process that recognizes the rights of individuals receiving assistance to due process of law.

This process, at a minimum, must consist of:

- (1) Written notice to the program participant containing a clear statement of the reasons for termination;
- (2) A review of the decision, in which the program participant is given the opportunity to present written or oral objections before a person other than the person (or a subordinate of that person) who made or approved the termination decision; and
- (3) Prompt written notice of the final decision to the program participant.

22. Non-Discrimination

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available through the County's ESG Program, or any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

23. Conflicts of Interest

Conflict of Interest is a real or apparent incompatibility between a person's private interest and his or her public or fiduciary duties. ESG assistance may not be conditioned on an individual's or family's acceptance or occupancy of emergency shelter or housing owned by the recipient, the subrecipient, or a parent or subsidiary of the subrecipient required under 2 CFR 200.318. For the procurement of goods and services, the recipient and its subrecipients must comply with 2 CFR 200.317 and 2 CFR 200.318.

24. Involuntary Family Separation

A child under age 18, must not be denied based on age for any family's admission to an emergency shelter that uses ESG funding or services that provides shelter to families with children under the age of 18 according to 24 CFR 576.102(b). The intent of the involuntary family separation provision in the ESG interim rule is to allow families with

children to remain in shelter together if they choose.

25. Appeals

If a subrecipient declines services for a referred applicant, the applicant may appeal, in writing, within sixty (60) days after the occurrence and must clearly state the reasons for the petition. The head of the Agency or the authorized designee must consider all pertinent justification and other material submitted by the person to ensure a fair and full review. However, the official shall not have been directly involved in the action appealed. If the appellant is not satisfied with the response of the subrecipient, it may be presented to the County of Fresno ESG Program Manager within thirty (30) days of the subrecipient's final response. The County will attempt to resolve the grievance within fifteen (15) days. The ruling of the County will be final.

26. Affirmative Outreach

The recipient or subrecipient must make known that use of the facilities, assistance, and services are available to all on a nondiscriminatory basis. If it is unlikely that the procedures that the recipient or subrecipient intends to use to make known the availability of the facilities, assistance, and services will reach persons of any particular race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, familial status, or disability who may qualify for those facilities and services, the recipient or subrecipient must establish additional procedures that ensure that those persons are made aware of the facilities, assistance, and services. The recipient and its subrecipients must take appropriate steps to ensure effective communication with persons with disabilities including, but not limited to, adopting procedures that will make available to interested persons information concerning the location of assistance, services, and facilities that are accessible to persons with disabilities. Consistent with Title VI and Executive Order 13166, recipients and subrecipients are also required to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to programs and activities for limited English proficiency (LEP) persons.

27. Communications

(a) The recipient shall take appropriate steps to ensure effective communication with applicants, beneficiaries, and members of the public.

(1) The recipient shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids where necessary to afford an individual with handicaps an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, a program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

(i) In determining what auxiliary aids are necessary, the recipient shall give primary consideration to the requests of the individual with handicaps.

(ii) The recipient is not required to provide individually prescribed devices, readers for personal use or study, or other devices of a personal nature.

(2) Where a recipient communicates with applicants and beneficiaries by telephone, telecommunication devices for deaf persons (TDD's) or equally effective communication systems shall be used.

(b) The recipient shall adopt and implement procedures to ensure that interested persons (including persons with impaired vision or hearing) can obtain information concerning the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities.

(c) This section does not require a recipient to take any action that the recipient can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens. If an action would result in such an alteration or burdens, the recipient shall take any other action that would not result in such an alteration or such burdens but would nevertheless ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, individuals with handicaps receive the benefits and services of the program or activity receiving HUD assistance.

Exhibit A:

ESG Minimum Habitability Standards for Emergency Shelters and Permanent Housing: Checklists

About this Tool

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program Interim Rule establishes different habitability standards for emergency shelters and for permanent housing (the Rapid Re-housing and Homelessness Prevention components).

Emergency Shelter Standards.

Emergency shelters that receive ESG funds for renovation or shelter operations must meet the minimum standards for safety, sanitation, and privacy provided in §576.403(b).

In addition, emergency shelters that receive ESG funds for renovation (conversion, major rehabilitation, or other renovation) also must meet state or local government safety and sanitation standards, as applicable.

Permanent Housing Standards. The recipient or subrecipient cannot use ESG funds to help a program participant remain in or move into housing that does not meet the minimum habitability standards under §576.403(c). This restriction applies to all activities under the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing components.

Recipients and subrecipients must document compliance with the applicable standards. Note that these checklists do not cover the requirements to comply with the Lead-Based Paint requirements at §576.403(a). For more discussion about how and when the standards apply, see **ESG Minimum Standards for Emergency Shelters and Permanent Housing**, located at <http://OneCPD.info/esg>.

The checklists below offer an optional format for documenting compliance with the appropriate standards. These are intended to:

1. Provide a clear summary of the requirements and an adaptable tool so recipients and subrecipients can formally assess their compliance with HUD requirements, identify and carry out corrective actions, and better prepare for monitoring visits by HUD staff.
2. Provide a tool for a recipient to monitor that its subrecipient is in compliance with HUD requirements. Where non-compliance is identified, the ESG recipient can use this information to require or assist the subrecipient to make necessary changes.

Prior to beginning the review, the subrecipient should organize relevant files and documents to help facilitate their review. For instance, this may include local or state inspection reports (fire-safety, food preparation, building/occupancy, etc.), or policy and procedure documents related to emergency shelter facility maintenance or renovations.

Carefully read each statement and indicate the shelter's or unit's status for each requirement (Approved or Deficient). Add any comments and corrective actions needed in the appropriate box. The reviewer should complete the information about the project, and sign and date the form. This template includes space for an "approving official," if the recipient or subrecipient has designated another authority to approve the review. When the assessment is complete, review it with program staff and develop an action plan for addressing any areas requiring corrective action.

Minimum Standards for Emergency Shelters

Instructions: Place a check mark in the correct column to indicate whether the property is approved or deficient with respect to each standard. A copy of this checklist should be placed in the shelter's files.

Approved	Deficient	Standard
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		(24 CFR part 576.403(b))
		<p>1. <i>Structure and materials:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The shelter building is structurally sound to protect the residents from the elements and not pose any threat to the health and safety of the residents. b. Any renovation (including major rehabilitation and conversion) carried out with ESG assistance uses Energy Star and WaterSense products and appliances.
		<p>2. <i>Access.</i> Where applicable, the shelter is accessible in accordance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. 794) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8; b. The Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100; and c. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12131 et seq.) and 28 CFR part 35.
		<p>3. <i>Space and security:</i> Except where the shelter is intended for day use only, the shelter provides each program participant in the shelter with an acceptable place to sleep and adequate space and security for themselves and their belongings.</p>
		<p>4. <i>Interior air quality:</i> Each room or space within the shelter has a natural or mechanical means of ventilation. The interior air is free of pollutants at a level that might threaten or harm the health of residents.</p>
		<p>5. <i>Water Supply:</i> The shelter's water supply is free of contamination.</p>
		<p>6. <i>Sanitary Facilities:</i> Each program participant in the shelter has access to sanitary facilities that are in proper operating condition, are private, and are adequate for personal cleanliness and the disposal of human waste.</p>
		<p>7. <i>Thermal environment:</i> The shelter has any necessary heating/cooling facilities in proper operating condition.</p>
		<p>8. <i>Illumination and electricity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The shelter has adequate natural or artificial illumination to permit normal indoor activities and support health and safety. b. There are sufficient electrical sources to permit the safe use of electrical appliances in the shelter.
		<p>9. <i>Food preparation:</i> Food preparation areas, if any, contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare, and serve food in a safe and sanitary manner.</p>
		<p>10. <i>Sanitary conditions:</i> The shelter is maintained in a sanitary condition.</p>
		<p>11. <i>Fire safety:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. There is at least one working smoke detector in each occupied unit of the shelter. Where possible, smoke detectors are located near sleeping areas. b. All public areas of the shelter have at least one working smoke detector. c. The fire alarm system is designed for hearing-impaired residents. d. There is a second means of exiting the building in the event of fire or other emergency.
		<p>12. If ESG funds were used for renovation or conversion, the shelter meets state or local government safety and sanitation standards, as applicable.</p>
		<p>13. Meets additional recipient/subrecipient standards (if any).</p>

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify that I have evaluated the property located at the address below to the best of my ability and find the following:

- ☐ Property meets all of the above standards.
- ☐ Property does not meet all of the above standards.

COMMENTS:

ESG Recipient Name: _____

ESG Subrecipient Name (if applicable): _____

Emergency Shelter Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ Date of review: _____

Evaluator Name: _____

Approving Official Signature (if applicable): _____ Date: _____

Approving Official Name (if applicable): _____

Minimum Standards for Permanent Housing

Instructions: Place a check mark in the correct column to indicate whether the property is approved or deficient with respect to each standard. The property must meet all standards in order to be approved. A copy of this checklist should be placed in the client file.

Approved	Deficient	Standard
		(24 CFR part 576.403(c))

		1. <i>Structure and materials</i> : The structure is structurally sound to protect the residents from the elements and not pose any threat to the health and safety of the residents.
		2. <i>Space and security</i> : Each resident is provided adequate space and security for themselves and their belongings. Each resident is provided an acceptable place to sleep.
		3. <i>Interior air quality</i> : Each room or space has a natural or mechanical means of ventilation. The interior air is free of pollutants at a level that might threaten or harm the health of residents.
		4. <i>Water Supply</i> : The water supply is free from contamination.
		5. <i>Sanitary Facilities</i> : Residents have access to sufficient sanitary facilities that are in proper operating condition, are private, and are adequate for personal cleanliness and the disposal of human waste.
		6. <i>Thermal environment</i> : The housing has any necessary heating/cooling facilities in proper operating condition.
		7. <i>Illumination and electricity</i> : The structure has adequate natural or artificial illumination to permit normal indoor activities and support health and safety. There are sufficient electrical sources to permit the safe use of electrical appliances in the structure.
		8. <i>Food preparation</i> : All food preparation areas contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare, and serve food in a safe and sanitary manner.
		9. <i>Sanitary condition</i> : The housing is maintained in sanitary condition.
		10. <i>Fire safety</i> :
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. There is a second means of exiting the building in the event of fire or other emergency. b. The unit includes at least one battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detector, in proper working condition, on each occupied level of the unit. Smoke detectors are located, to the extent practicable, in a hallway adjacent to a bedroom. c. If the unit is occupied by hearing-impaired persons, smoke detectors have an alarm system designed for hearing-impaired persons in each bedroom occupied by a hearing-impaired person. d. The public areas are equipped with a sufficient number, but not less than one for each area, of battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detectors. Public areas include, but are not limited to, laundry rooms, day care centers, hallways, stairwells, and other common areas.
		11. Meets additional recipient/subrecipient standards (if any).

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify that I have evaluated the property located at the address below to the best of my ability and find the following:

☐ Property meets all of the above standards.

☐ Property does not meet all of the above standards.

COMMENTS:

ESG Recipient Name: _____

ESG Subrecipient Name: _____

Program Participant Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Apartment: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ Date of review: _____

Evaluator Name: _____

Approving Official Signature (if applicable): _____ Date: _____

Approving Official Name (if applicable): _____

Exhibit B

ESG Lead Screening Worksheet

About this Tool

The *ESG Lead Screening Worksheet* is intended to guide recipients through the lead-based paint inspection process to ensure compliance with the rule. ESG staff can use this worksheet to document any exemptions that may apply, whether any potential hazards have been identified, and if safe work practices and clearance are required and used. A copy of the completed worksheet along with any additional documentation should be kept in each program participant's case file.

Instructions

To prevent lead poisoning in young children, ESG recipients must comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act of 1973 and its applicable regulations found at 24 CFR 35, Parts A, B, M, and R. Under certain circumstances, a visual assessment of the unit is not required. This screening worksheet will help program staff determine whether a unit is subject to a visual assessment, and if so, how to proceed. A copy of the completed worksheet along with any related documentation should be kept in each program participant's file.

Note: ALL pre-1978 properties are subject to the disclosure requirements outlined in 24 CFR 35, Part A, regardless of whether they are exempt from the visual assessment requirements.

Basic Information

Name of Participant:

Address:

Unit Number:

City: State: Zip:

ESG Program Staff:

Part 1: Determine Whether the Unit is Subject to a Visual Assessment

If the answer to one or both of the following questions is 'no,' a visual assessment is not triggered for this unit and no further action is required at this time. Place this screening worksheet and related documentation in the program participant's file.

If the answer to both of these questions is 'yes,' then a visual assessment is triggered for this unit and program staff should continue to Part 2.

1. Was the leased property constructed before 1978?

☐ Yes
☐ No

2. Will a child under the age of six be living in the unit occupied by the household receiving ESG assistance?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Part 2: Document Additional Exemptions

If the answer to any of the following questions is 'yes,' the property is exempt from the visual assessment requirement and no further action is needed at this point. Place this screening sheet and supporting documentation for each exemption in the program participant's file.

If the answer to all of these questions is 'no,' then continue to Part 3 to determine whether deteriorated paint is present.

1. Is it a zero-bedroom or SRO-sized unit?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Has X-ray or laboratory testing of all painted surfaces by certified personnel been conducted in accordance with HUD regulations and the unit is officially certified to not contain lead-based paint?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3. Has this property had all lead-based paint identified and removed in accordance with HUD regulations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Is the client receiving Federal assistance from another program, where the unit has already undergone (and passed) a visual assessment within the past 12 months (e.g., if the client has a Section 8 voucher and is receiving ESG assistance for a security deposit or arrears)?

☐ Yes (Obtain documentation for the case file.)

☐ No

5. Does the property meet any of the other exemptions described in 24 CFR Part 35.115(a).

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please describe the exemption and provide appropriate documentation of the exemption.

Part 3: Determine the Presence of Deteriorated Paint

To determine whether there are any identified problems with paint surfaces, program staff should conduct a visual assessment prior to providing ESG financial assistance to the unit as outlined in the following training on HUD's website at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/training/visualassessment/h00101.htm>. If no problems with paint surfaces are identified during the visual assessment, then no further action is required at this time.

Place this screening sheet and Lead-Based Paint Visual Assessment Certification Form in the program participant's file. If any problems with paint surfaces are identified during the visual assessment, then continue to Part 4 to determine whether safe work practices and clearance are required.

1. Has a visual assessment of the unit been conducted?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Were any problems with paint surfaces identified in the unit during the visual assessment?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Complete Lead-Based Paint Visual Assessment Certification Form)

Part 4: Document the level of identified problems

All deteriorated paint identified during the visual assessment must be repaired prior to clearing the unit for assistance. However, if the area of paint to be stabilized exceeds the de minimus levels (defined below), the use of lead safe work practices and clearance is required.

If deteriorating paint exists but the area of paint to be stabilized does not exceed these levels, then the paint must be repaired prior to clearing the unit for assistance, but safe work practices and clearance are not required.

1. Does the area of paint to be stabilized exceed any of the de minimus levels below?

- 20 square feet on exterior surfaces ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 2 square feet in any one interior room or space ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 10 percent of the total surface area on an interior or exterior component with a small surface area, like window sills, baseboards, and trim ☐ Yes ☐ No

If *any* of the above are 'yes,' then safe work practices and clearance are required prior to clearing the unit for assistance.

Part 5: Confirm all identified deteriorated paint has been stabilized

Program staff should work with property owners/managers to ensure that all deteriorated paint identified during the visual assessment has been stabilized. If the area of paint to be stabilized does not exceed the de minimus level, safe work practices and a clearance exam are not required (though safe work practices are always recommended). In these cases, the ESG program staff should confirm that the identified deteriorated paint has been repaired by conducting a follow-up assessment.

If the area of paint to be stabilized exceeds the de minimus level, program staff should ensure that the clearance inspection is conducted by an independent certified lead professional. A certified lead professional may go by various titles, including a certified paint inspector, risk assessor, or sampling/clearance technician. Note: the same firm that is repairing the deteriorated paint cannot conduct the clearance inspection.

1. Has a follow-up visual assessment of the unit been conducted?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

2. Have all identified problems with the paint surfaces been repaired?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

3. Were all identified problems with paint surfaces repaired using safe work practices?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable – The area of paint to be stabilized did not exceed the de minimus levels.

3. Did an independent, certified lead professional conduct a clearance exam?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable – The area of paint to be stabilized did not exceed the de minimus levels.

4. Did the unit pass the clearance exam?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable – The area of paint to be stabilized did not exceed the de minimus levels.

Note: A copy of the clearance report should be placed in the program participant's file.

LEAD-BASED PAINT VISUAL ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION

I, _____, CERTIFY THE FOLLOWING:
(PRINT NAME)

- I have completed HUD's online visual assessment training and am a HUD-certified visual assessor.

- I conducted a visual assessment at _____ on
(PROPERTY ADDRESS AND UNIT NUMBER)

_____.
(DATE OF ASSESSMENT)

- No problems with paint surfaces were identified in the unit or in the building's common areas.

(Signature)

(Date)

Exhibit C

ESG Lead-Based Paint Document Checklist

About this Tool

The following checklist provides ESG recipients with an overview of common documents that can be used to verify compliance with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act. Note that this checklist does not cover all of the documentation that providers would want to include in all instances. For example, additional documentation may be required if the property is found to meet exemptions listed under Part 2 of the Lead Screening Worksheet.

Document Name	Purpose	✓
Application	Documents age of children	
Screenshot of property record from online tax database	Documents age of property	
Lead Screening Worksheet	Documents exemptions (additional documentation will vary based on exemption)	
Lead-Based Paint Visual Assessment Certification	Documents that a visual assessment was conducted and problems with paint surfaces were not identified	
Owner Certification (if applicable)	Documents owner certification that any identified problems with paint surfaces have been repaired and that safe work practices were followed, as applicable	
Clearance Report (if applicable)	Documents that unit passed clearance	
Documentation of ongoing maintenance activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual Assessment Certification Forms Clearance report from each maintenance job involving painted surfaces above the de minimus threshold Notice of lead hazard reduction for each maintenance job involving painted surfaces 	Documents that a visual assessment is performed at least annually during the assistance period and that any deteriorated paint was appropriately addressed (including clearance and notice of lead hazard reduction)	
Documentation of response to EIBLL child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of risk assessment Abatement or clearance report Relocation documents Correspondence with health department 	Documents that if an EIBLL child was identified in the unit, the situation was addressed in accordance with the Lead Safe Housing Rule.	

FRESNO MADERA
CONTINUUM OF CARE

COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

FRESNO MADERA CONTINUUM OF CARE

WRITTEN STANDARDS



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Part 1: Overview

The HEARTH Act requires the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC or CoC) to establish and consistently follow Written Standards that govern the provision of assistance to individuals and families. These policies and procedures provide guidance to local providers in administering funding assistance in the following areas:

- Policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing eligible individuals and families for transitional housing assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing eligible individuals and families for rapid rehousing assistance;
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing eligible individuals and families for permanent supportive housing assistance;
- Standards for determining what percentage or amount of rent each program participant must pay while receiving rapid rehousing assistance; Policies for emergency transfer priority.

The policies and procedures are not intended to be in lieu of or in place of the Interim Regulations for the HEARTH Act, but are intended to clarify local decisions regarding program administration. All HUD funded providers must follow the Interim Regulations in its entirety. The Written Standards are subordinate to the Governance Charter. If the two documents conflict, then the Governance Charter takes precedence.

Part 2: Eligibility, Prioritization, and Standards for Assistance

Subpart A: Coordinated Entry

The CoC has established a Coordinated Entry System in compliance with HCD ESG regulations, 25 CCR 8409; HUD Coordinated Entry Notices CPD-17-01 and CPD-16-11; VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2013; and the CoC Program Interim Rule, 24 CFR Part 578. All State, CoC- and ESG-funded programs are committed to implementing this system. The full Policies and Procedures for the FMCoC's Coordinated Entry System are contained in a separate document. The CoC's Governance Charter includes additional information regarding the roles of the CES Committee and CES Management Entity.

The Coordinated Entry System promotes comprehensive and coordinated access to assistance regardless of where an individual or family is located in the CoC service area, and uses a standardized assessment tool that ensures that the community prioritizes assistance for people

with the most urgent and severe needs and to those who have been homeless for the longest period of time.

Per the CoC and ESG Program Interim Rules, 24 CFR § 578 and 24 CFR §§ 91 and 576 respectively, enrollment info CoC and/or ESG-funded programs shall follow the CoC's Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures with respect to assessment prioritization, matching, referral, and placement. Funds awarded by the State of California also follow the CoC's Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures. ESG recipients must consult with the CoC to ensure the CoC's Coordination Entry System is consistent with the written standards for determining ESG assistance.

Subpart B: Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)

The federal Emergency Solutions Grant program (ESG) provides funds for a variety of activities to address homelessness as authorized under the federal Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 and State program requirements. The ESG program provides grant funding to (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street, (2) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, (3) help operate and provide essential services in emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families, and (4) prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless. ESG funds may be used for four primary activities: Street Outreach, Rapid Re-Housing Assistance, Emergency Shelter, and Homelessness Prevention. In addition, ESG funds may be used for associated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) costs and administrative activities for some subrecipients.

The Fresno-Madera CoC adopts the recommended order of priority established in 25 CCR 8409 for ESG-funded activities. The CoC recommends that ESG recipients prioritize access to assistance for people with the most urgent and severe needs, including, but not limited to, survivors of domestic violence. ESG-funded activities should seek to prioritize people who:

- Are unsheltered and living in places not designed for human habitation, such as cars, parks, bus stations, and abandoned buildings;
- Have experienced the longest amount of time homeless;
- Have multiple and severe service needs that inhibit their ability to quickly identify and secure housing on their own; and
- For Homelessness prevention activities, people who are at greatest risk of becoming literally homeless without an intervention and are at greatest risk of experiencing a longer time in shelter or on the street should they become homeless.

For ESG, the recipient or its subrecipient must conduct an initial evaluation to determine the eligibility of each individual or family's eligibility for ESG assistance and the amount and types of assistance the individual or family needs to regain stability in permanent housing. These evaluations must be conducted in accordance with the centralized or coordinated assessment

requirements set forth under [§ 576.400\(d\)](#) and the written standards established under [§ 576.400\(e\)](#).

Subpart C: Eligible Clients

As set forth in the HEARTH Act, there are four categories of eligibility: 1) Literally Homeless, 2) Imminent Risk of Homelessness, 3) Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes (subject to cap), and (4) Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence. All CoC- and ESG-funded programs may serve only clients who meet federal definitions of homelessness, with the exception of homelessness prevention programs, which may serve persons “at-risk of homelessness” or “imminent risk.” Generally, the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care elects to only serve categories 1, 2, and 4 due to the shortage of resources for those priority populations and excessive demand.

Subpart D: Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is permanent housing in which housing assistance (e.g., long-term leasing or rental assistance) and supportive services are provided to assist households with at least one member (adult or child) with a disability in achieving housing stability. Permanent Supportive Housing is community-based housing without a designated length of stay.

1. All CoC funded PSH programs must enter into a lease agreement with tenants that must be at least one year in duration and renewable. The lease agreement must observe Fair Housing regulations.
2. PSH Projects operate as either rental assistance or leasing programs:
 - a. Participants in PSH rental assistance programs are **expected** to pay the higher of 30% of their income (monthly, adjusted) or 10% of their gross monthly income toward rent (including utilities). If the participant has zero income, the participants are not required to pay rent, but their supportive services partner is expected to work with them to secure income (either earned or unearned) as soon as possible. In no circumstance can a tenant be charged an amount above the rent calculation standard established by HUD.
 - b. Participants in leasing programs **may** be charged an occupancy charge **up to** 30% of the monthly adjusted income; 10% of the family’s gross income; or the portion of the family’s welfare assistance
3. Participants are encouraged to meet with a case manager once per month and must be reevaluated once per year.

Order of Priority from Notice CPD-16-11

The Fresno Madera Continuum of Care adopts the order of priority in HUD Notice CPD 16-11: Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing.

The full notice is available at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/notice-cpd-16-11-prioritizing-persons-experiencing-chronic-homelessness-and-other-vulnerable-homeless-persons-in-psh.pdf>

As a result of adopting Notice CPD 16-11, all PSH projects funded by the Fresno Madera CoC that have dedicated or prioritized any beds for the use of people experiencing chronic homelessness will assign those beds based on (a) the length of time in which an individual or family has been homeless, and (b) the severity of the individual or family's service needs. Likewise, all Fresno Madera CoC-funded PSH beds that are not dedicated or prioritized for use by people experiencing chronic homelessness will, whenever it is possible to do so in a manner consistent with current grant agreements, assign beds according to the following priority scheme:

First Priority: Households with a Disability, Long Periods of Episodic Homelessness, and Severe Service Needs

Second Priority: Households with a Disability and Severe Service Needs

Third Priority: Households with a Disability coming from Places Not Meant for Human Habitation, Safe Havens, or Emergency Shelters

Fourth Priority: Households with a Disability coming from Transitional Housing.

The assignments and priorities discussed above are mandatory for all CoC-funded PSH beds and will be made in collaboration with the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care's Coordinated Entry System, which will take the above priorities into account when making referrals and conducting case conferences. In some cases, the specific manner in which the Coordinated Entry System will take these priorities into account will include use of the CoC's standardized assessment tool, which collects information about the severity of a client's service needs and the amount of time for which a client has been homeless.

Other Eligibility Requirements for PSH

As defined in the HEARTH Act, eligibility for Permanent Supportive Housing within the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care is limited to categories 1 (Literally Homeless) and 4 (Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence).

To be eligible for PSH, participants must also enter from the street or shelter, or a transitional housing program to which they originally entered from the street or shelter (NOTE: if the project is designated for 100% chronically homeless persons, they may only enter from the street or shelter. Individuals may lose their chronically homeless designation after they enter a

transitional housing program), and at least one member of the household must have a disability of long duration, verified either by Social Security or a licensed professional that meets the state criteria for diagnosing and treating that condition. The program participant must also meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the NOFA/O under which the project was funded.

A DedicatedPLUS project is a PSH project where the entire project serves individuals and families that meet at least one of the following criteria* at project entry:

- Experiencing chronic homelessness (§ 578.3)
- Residing in a transitional housing project that will be eliminated and meets the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individuals or family entered the Transitional Housing (TH) project
- Residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and rapid re-housing (PH-RRH) component project and who were experiencing chronic homelessness as defined at § 578.3 prior to entering the project
- *For the full list of eligibility criteria see the [HUD FAQ: What is a DedicatedPLUS project?](#)

People who are at risk of chronic homelessness but who are not literally homeless may be considered for PSH funded by **No Place Like Home (NPLH)** after all priority groups in HUD Notice CPD-16-11 have been exhausted. For purposes of NPLH, those at risk of homelessness are:

1. Persons exiting institutionalized settings, such as jail or prison, hospitals, institutes of mental disease, nursing facilities, or long-term residential substance use disorder treatment, who were Homeless prior to admission to the institutional setting;
2. Transition-Age Youth experiencing homelessness or with significant barriers to housing stability, including, but not limited to, one or more evictions or episodes of homelessness, and a history of foster care or involvement with the juvenile justice system; and/or
3. Persons, including Transition-Age Youth, who prior to entering into one of the facilities or types of institutional care listed herein had a history of being Homeless as defined under this subsection (f)(3): a state hospital, hospital behavioral health unit, hospital emergency room, institute for mental disease, psychiatric health facility, mental health rehabilitation center, skilled nursing facility, developmental center, residential treatment program, residential care facility, community crisis center, board and care facility, prison, parole, jail or juvenile detention facility, or foster care.
4. Having a history of being Homeless means, at a minimum, one or more episodes of homelessness in the 12 months prior to entering one of the facilities or types of institutional case listed herein.

Subpart E: Rapid Rehousing

Eligibility and priority for rapid re-housing assistance through both the State, CoC and the ESG program must be determined in compliance with HUD requirements and the standards established by the FMCoC or a committee that the FMCoC has granted authority to make such a determination. The calculation of rental payments must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with HUD requirements.

RRH is permanent housing that provides short-term (up to three months) and medium-term (4-24 months) tenant-based rental assistance and supportive services to households experiencing homelessness.

Rapid re-housing assistance, operating in a Continuum of Care and/or Housing First model, is offered without preconditions (such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety) and the resources and services provided are typically tailored to the unique needs of the household.

Who Will Receive RRH Assistance

The FMCoC will use the prioritization outlined in the CES policies and procedures and standardized assessment tool scores to assign priority for the subsidy. Priority will be given to those households who score highest in need on the RRH score on the assessment tool.

In order to qualify for rapid rehousing, households must fall within the project's target population as well as satisfy the following criteria:

- Meet the current HUD definition of literally homeless for Rapid Re-housing services; or
- Meet the current HUD definition of fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence; or (Category 4)
- Reside in a Joint TH-RRH component project; AND
- Be the highest priority household available
- Other eligibility criteria created at the program level

People who are at risk of chronic homelessness but who are not literally homeless may be considered for RRH funded by **No Place Like Home (NPLH)** after all priority groups in HUD Notice CPD-16-11 have been exhausted. For purposes of NPLH, those at risk of homelessness are:

1. Persons exiting institutionalized settings, such as jail or prison, hospitals, institutes of mental disease, nursing facilities, or long-term residential substance use disorder treatment, who were Homeless prior to admission to the institutional setting;
2. Transition-Age Youth experiencing homelessness or with significant barriers to housing stability, including, but not limited to, one or more evictions or episodes of

homelessness, and a history of foster care or involvement with the juvenile justice system; and/or

3. Persons, including Transition-Age Youth, who prior to entering into one of the facilities or types of institutional care listed herein had a history of being Homeless as defined under this subsection (f)(3): a state hospital, hospital behavioral health unit, hospital emergency room, institute for mental disease, psychiatric health facility, mental health rehabilitation center, skilled nursing facility, developmental center, residential treatment program, residential care facility, community crisis center, board and care facility, prison, parole, jail or juvenile detention facility, or foster care.
4. Having a history of being Homeless means, at a minimum, one or more episodes of homelessness in the 12 months prior to entering one of the facilities or types of institutional care listed herein.

How Much Rental Assistance Will Be Provided via RRH

Rental subsidies provided are based on client income. Initial assistance can be as much as 100% of rent depending on client income. Client will pay a percentage of their income in rent based on the program's assessment of the client's financial and family situation. Rental assistance would decline in steps based upon a fixed timeline at the program's discretion based upon the client's financial and family situation.

The goal is for households to "graduate" from the program once they no longer meet the eligibility requirements of the program's funding source and/or a Case Manager determines assistance can be terminated, whichever comes first. Rental assistance provided will be consistent with the progressive engagement framework, i.e. amounts and limitations on assistance will be tailored to the needs and barriers of each household. An assessment tool is used regularly to determine the need for ongoing assistance. If the household does not attain any of these goals, assistance ends at 24 months (or earlier time as set by the program).

When Move-In Assistance Will Be Provided via RRH

Move-In Assistance, such as security deposits and utility deposits, will be targeted to households who are assessed as able to maintain their unit after the assistance. The amount of move-in assistance is determined by the program, within the limits set by the program's funding source. Move-In Assistance may be provided as one-time assistance or in tandem with Rental Assistance/Rental Subsidies.

Housing Requirements for Rapid Rehousing

All housing supported by rapid rehousing resources must meet all HUD requirements, including but not limited to, Housing Quality Standards, rent reasonableness standards, Fair Market Rent (FMR) (as relevant), and others.

Service Requirements/Components for Rapid Re-Housing

Case Managers will provide intensive case management services in order to assist households to successfully retain housing and move off the subsidy and into self-sufficiency. Services will be provided at the program offices and Case Managers will conduct home visits when appropriate. Services may include, but are not limited to:

- Intake and assessment as part of the uniform coordinated entry process
- A minimum of one monthly face-to-face case management meeting, as required and authorized by HUD for CoC-funded Rapid Re-Housing
- A minimum of one quarterly home visit
- Assistance with transportation, including accompaniment to appointments, home visits
- Verification of progress toward achievement of short and long-term client objectives
- Referral to behavioral health resources
- Job search assistance
- Benefits assistance and advocacy
- Referral to vocational and training programs
- Mediation and negotiation with landlords
- Crisis intervention
- Referral to child care resources
- Referral to other services and resources
- Assistance with housing applications
- Budgeting and money management assistance
- Social and organized activities

During the clients' participation in the program, clients must meet with a case manager not less than once per month to assist the program participant in ensuring long-term housing stability. The project is exempt from this requirement if the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925 et seq.) or the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) prohibits the recipient carrying out the project from making its housing conditional on the participant's acceptance of services.

All clients may receive follow-up services for up to 6 months (if funding is available) to ensure stability and assess the effectiveness of RRH programs.

Subpart F: Transitional Housing (also called “Bridge Housing” locally):

1. Transitional Housing facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to PH within 24 months of entering TH.
2. All CoC funded TH programs (legacy projects only) must enter into a lease or occupancy agreement with tenants that must be at least one month in duration. The lease agreement must observe Fair Housing regulations.
3. TH Projects operate as either rental assistance or leasing programs:
 - a. Participants in TH rental assistance programs are expected to pay the higher of 30% of their income (monthly, adjusted) or 10% of monthly gross income toward rent (including utilities). If the participant has zero income, the participants are not required to pay rent, but their supportive services partner is expected to work with them to secure income (either earned or unearned) as soon as possible. In no circumstance can a tenant be charged an amount above the Rent Reasonableness standard established by HUD. Rents collected from residents of TH may be reserved in whole or part to assist the residents from they are collected to move to PH.
 - b. Participants in leasing programs **may** be charged an occupancy charge **up to** 30% of the monthly adjusted income; 10% of the family’s gross income; or the portion of the family’s welfare assistance.

Transitional Housing can be combined with Rapid Re-Housing using the Joint Transitional Housing / Rapid Re-Housing Program (Joint TH-RRH) Component Type.

The FMCoC defines “Bridge Housing” as housing for clients who already have a housing plan/have been accepted into a permanent housing situation and/or received a voucher and are waiting in “Bridge Housing” while they locate a unit. These “Bridge Housing” projects are sometimes classified as Transitional Housing and sometimes as Emergency Shelter. It is important for eligibility purposes, for a project to understand whether their “Bridge Housing” project is transitional housing or emergency shelter for client eligibility referrals to permanent housing (see project contract where applicable). If clients in Bridge Housing have a Permanent Supportive Housing project as their “housing plan” then agencies should enroll the client into that PSH project then into the Bridge Housing project while they are looking for housing. This will assist the client in staying eligible for the PSH project while waiting in Bridge Housing (if the Bridge Housing is considered Transitional Housing- see below). See [this resource](#) for additional information on eligibility.

Generally, to determine whether a client is eligible for a referral to permanent housing programs it is important to determine whether a project is actually operating as a Transitional Housing project, an emergency shelter, an institution (e.g., hospital, jail, short-term substance abuse treatment program, etc.), or something else.

To make this determination, the project should review the below definitions:

Transitional Housing: Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) [CoC Transitional Housing projects](#) are defined in [the CoC Program Interim Rule Section 578.3](#) as those “where all program participants have **signed a lease or occupancy agreement**, the purpose of which is to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within 24 months or such longer period as HUD determines necessary. **The program participant must have a lease or occupancy agreement for a term of at least one month** that ends in 24 months and cannot be extended.” Projects can provide services to former residents of transitional housing projects for up to six months after exiting transitional housing to assist in the household’s transition to independent living. Another way to determine whether a project is a Transitional Housing project is to look at how the project is defined in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC).

Emergency Shelter: The CoC Program Interim Rule refers to the [Emergency Solutions Grant \(ESG\) Interim Rule Section 576.2](#) for the definition of emergency shelter as “any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless **and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.**”

For additional information on Transitional Housing eligibility, see [this resource](#).

Subpart G: Joint Transitional Housing / Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH)

The Joint TH-RRH component project includes two existing program components- transitional housing and rapid rehousing- in a single project. When a participant is enrolled in the TH portion of a project, the TH section of the Written Standards above applies and when a participant is enrolled in the RRH portion of a project, the RRH section of the Written Standards above applies.

The Joint TH-RRH project is not intended to serve as a replacement for TH projects. The creation of Joint TH-RRH projects provides the following additional benefits to traditional TH projects:

- Creates an integrated sheltering and permanent housing approach to get people sheltered and safe and then quickly moved into permanent housing with resources to support that.
- By enabling RRH assistance, Joint TH-RRH projects provide expanded options for project participants beyond those currently available to TH participants, who are not eligible for CoC-funded RRH.

When a participant is enrolled in a Joint TH-RRH project, the project must be able to provide both components to all participants, subject to client choice. A program participant may choose to receive only the transitional housing unit or the tenant-based rental assistance provided through the RRH component, but the project must make both types of assistance available.

Additional Requirements:

1. The maximum stay in a Joint TH-RRH project cannot exceed 24 months total between both project component types. There is no minimum length of stay in the transitional housing portion of the project.
2. The project must provide enough RRH assistance to ensure that at any given time a participant can move from transitional housing to permanent housing.
3. Assistance in transitioning to and retaining permanent housing must be provided in a manner that meets participant needs.

Homeless Status Retention:

- RRH participants retain their chronically homeless status.
- Participants enrolled in the TH portion of the project remain “homeless” while enrolled in the TH portion of the Joint TH-RRH project and retain eligibility for entry into Dedicated Plus PSH projects.
- When participants are enrolled simultaneously in the same Joint TH-RRH project, eligibility is determined by looking at where the client is sleeping that night. If the participant is still sleeping in the TH portion of the project, they are still “homeless.”

HMIS Considerations:

Joint TH-RRH projects must be set up as two separate programs in HMIS. Clients will have one entry if they remain in one of the project components. Clients who move between program components within the same project will have two entries. An APR for each program component must be submitted to SAGE annually.

Subpart H: Emergency Shelter

Temporary and Basic Shelter Services

Temporary and basic shelters provide services coordinated to meet the immediate safety and survival needs of the individual or family served, including shelter, food, clothing and other support services. These services are provided in a minimally intrusive environment.

At a minimum, temporary and basic shelters provide the following services directly on- site:

- Sleeping accommodations;
- Personal hygiene supplies and facilities, including toilets and wash basins; and
- Showers and/ or bathtubs (temporary shelters may provide referrals to other facilities for these services).

Service Enriched Shelter Services

In addition to meeting basic needs, service-enriched shelters are designed to increase the client's coping and decision- making capacities and assist in planning for the client's reintegration into community living.

Program participants and staff understand that the primary goals of the emergency shelter are to:

- Provide temporary accommodation that is safe, respectful, and responsive to individual needs; and
- Re-house participants in permanent housing as quickly as possible, regardless of other personal issues or concerns.

Service enriched shelter programs are characterized by:

- Comprehensiveness, by directly providing a range of services or by serving as part of a network that provides a range of services;
- Immediacy, by providing for timely intervention and avoidance of delays in implementing a workable plan; and
- Continuity and linkage to after care (to the extent possible when funding is available), by providing services in cooperation with other resources and ensuring appropriate follow-up after the child, adult, or family has left the program.
- Participants are assisted with creating and updating individualized Housing Plans designed to re-house and stabilize participants as quickly as possible.
- Participants are expected to be actively working on rehousing plans and engaging in related assistance to overcome immediate and direct barriers to securing housing.
- Participants are provided or connected to housing location and placement assistance, including financial assistance for move-in costs, to achieve their Housing Plan goals.

Assistance is provided:

- For all participants who cannot otherwise exit on their own;
- Without additional preconditions, such employment or sobriety; and
- With understanding that housing may cost greater than 30% of participant income and be precarious.
- Participation in services unrelated to obtaining permanent housing is voluntary.

Eligibility & Screening for Emergency Shelters

In order to gain access to emergency shelter services, individuals or families must meet the HUD definition of homeless under Category 1, 2, or 4. Other eligibility criteria may be created at the program level, but shelters should generally be committed to a low barrier shelter model.

All persons seeking assistance must first be screened to identify whether they should be admitted to a shelter because of their homelessness status, diverted to a provider of other services, or referred for other mainstream resources. **Persons who have other safe and appropriate housing options or resources are diverted away from emergency shelter and instead offered problem-solving assistance and immediate linkage to homelessness prevention assistance, as needed, desired, and available.** Evidence of screening and eligibility shall be documented for all persons seeking assistance.

All persons seeking shelter are also screened for critical health and safety needs to identify people with more severe service needs and provide an appropriate response.

Program admission is prioritized for people with the most urgent and severe needs as defined in 25 CCR § 8409.

All referrals to emergency shelter, including screening for program eligibility and prioritization, occur through Fresno Madera County's Coordinated Entry system protocols.

Access to Shelter

Notwithstanding restraints on program capacity and resource limitations, shelters shall follow a Housing First model with low barrier admission policies: access is provided without precondition, such as sobriety or ability to pay program fees.

A shelter may turn away a prospective participant if:

- The shelter has no availability. If admission otherwise would be appropriate, the shelter may, at its discretion, provide one night of shelter or place the client in a motel, prior to referring them back to a System Access Site for routine placement.
- The household includes a child under the age of 18 and the provider operates a single adult shelter.
- Agreement with a legal guardian or appropriate authorities has not been secured for an unaccompanied minor.

Per federal requirements, the age and gender of a child under 18 cannot be used as a basis for denying any family's admission to a shelter.

A shelter may not turn away an individual or family qualifying under Category 4 (Domestic Violence) of HUD's definition of homeless except directly to a mutually agreed upon, more specialized next referral, suggested by a Coordinated Entry system entry point, via a "warm" hand-off with a phone call and transportation; or via other mutually agreed upon safe transition protocol.

Shelters serving children must check adult names with the State lifetime registration registry before allowing entry. Single-gender adult shelters may accept sex offenders registered according to Sex Offender Registration Act (California Penal Code 290). Offenders will be asked to make legally required disclosures and will be advised of youth programs in the vicinity so they can stay in compliance with requirements.

Having an outstanding warrant does not disqualify a person from entering a shelter. Shelters may provide a voluntary program to help resolve outstanding warrants.

Assessment & Intake

Shelters will provide a basic intake within 24 hours of accepting a client into services. Required intake documents include:

- Personal identification: at least one photo ID is preferred. If the client is unable to produce personal identification, the shelter may make a local decision about the necessity of pursuing ID;
- Documentation of homelessness status per federal guidelines;
- Income self-declaration (requirement varies based on funding source);
- An assessment to determine clients' needs;
- HMIS intake forms, except for individuals and households qualifying under Category 4 of HUD's definition of homeless; and
- Signed acknowledgement of receiving program rules or requirements.

Shelters are prohibited from denying assistance to clients for the refusal to permit the shelter to share their information with other providers. In cases where a client does not consent to having their information shared, the information must still be collected by the shelter to determine eligibility, but it must not be shared via the HMIS if the program client objects. The current recommendation for this situation is to enter a minimum amount of data into HMIS for the client using an alias, e.g., a fake name with no social security number and no date of birth. The fact that the client was, e.g., homeless and disabled is not considered "personally identifiable information" if no information is entered into HMIS that could be connected to the person by other agencies.

Emergency Shelter operators shall ensure that participants are given a “Needs Assessment” – that they are assessed for immediate health and safety needs, including identification of any barriers to obtaining housing, as well as provided with access to a wide array of community and housing services, including housing location and placement assistance. Participants are assisted with creating housing plans and are actively assisted in overcoming any barriers to securing housing, using a housing first, progressive engagement model.

Participant Needs Assessment focuses on:

- Immediate health and safety needs relevant to providing temporary accommodations; and
- Information relevant to securing housing, including: participant preferences; factors that would cause a landlord to reject the person’s application (past evictions, criminal history, etc.); factors that directly led to housing instability or homelessness in the past (failure to pay rent, lease violations, etc.); and other information necessary to link participants to financial assistance and housing-related resources.

Comprehensive Needs Assessments of admitted shelter program residents shall be conducted within one week of basic intake. Program participants will be continually reassessed throughout their stay at a shelter to determine the earliest possible time that a resident can be discharged to permanent housing. Shelters shall conduct a full assessment of residents before they leave the shelter. Shelters currently have discretion to use an assessment of their choice, but the FMCoC may develop a standard assessment in the future. Program participants will be referred to other forms of homeless assistance in the CoC service area according to the Fresno Madera Country’s Coordinated Entry system procedures.

Exits from Shelter

The initial length of stay for most shelters is 90 days. Shelters may then set agency and project-specific extension policies.

Participants only move to other emergency shelter or transitional housing when:

- They desire and choose (i.e., client choice when offered an alternative placement by a provider);
- They are matched to “bridge housing” (see above) ;
- Doing so is more appropriate to meet their health and safety needs (e.g., persons in early recovery; domestic violence survivors; transitional age youth, conflict with others at the shelter, those who need special accommodations); and
- Exits to other homeless situations are avoided, even when program rules are violated.

People who pose an imminent risk of harm to themselves or others may be exited to more appropriate assistance (i.e. a more intensive program, hospital, or other emergency responder).

Program participants are referred to other forms of homeless assistance in the CoC service area according to the CoC's Coordinated Entry System Policies and Procedures.

Coordination Among Providers

Emergency Shelter providers will coordinate with essential services providers, homeless prevention and rapid re-housing assistance providers, other homeless assistance providers, and mainstream service and housing providers by actively engaging in partnerships and through the CoC. Emergency Shelter staff are aware of and able to access a wide array of housing and services directly and through the CoC's coordinated entry system. Emergency Shelter providers, with the support of CoC members, will make every effort to leverage other programs, services, and resources targeted to address homelessness and poverty within Fresno County and Madera County.

Subpart I: Street Outreach

Street outreach is the provision of essential services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless people; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent, non-facility-based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility. Examples of street outreach include engagement, case management, emergency health services, emergency mental health services, transportation, and services for special populations.

Eligibility for and Targeting Outreach

State, ESG- and CoC-funded street outreach programs will target for services individuals who meet the criteria under paragraph (1)(i) of the "homeless" definition under 24 CFR §576.2 and under 24 CFR 578. The Fresno Madera CoC leverages multiple funding sources for Street Outreach programs and those activities may serve individuals qualified under other federal and state regulations.

Providing Essential Services

Street Outreach services providers will screen individuals with the CoC's standardized assessment tool to identify acuity of housing and service needs as a part of the coordinated entry system. They will then offer necessary and appropriate engagement, case management, emergency health and mental health, and transportation services.

Outreach Team's (OT) responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

- Receive diversion training;
- Responsible for learning about the different Community resources to better assist clients and continue to update information among teammates;
- Receive HMIS Training: data collection and data entry;
- Work in collaboration with the Law Enforcement when requested;
- Respond to encampment referrals from community providers and community constituents;
- Provide continuous coverage of the geographic area to maintain communications with clients upon referral or as needed.
- Receive “Scenarios” training, “engagement” training, etc.;
- Maintain continued communication with other OT members regarding high risk incidents in the field. i.e., areas to be cautious of and potentially dangers locations;
- Outreach teams should meet before scheduled event to discuss processes and guidelines; then spend at least 30 minutes to debrief about outreach event.

Recommendations:

- All OTs are to wear comfortable clothes and closed-toe shoes while in the field as you might find yourself going through rugged terrain such as, riverbanks, canal banks, rocky areas, etc.
- All OT’s are to wear mandated Personal Protective Equipment
- OTs should be alert of their surroundings and in the event that you feel uncomfortable you should leave the area and contact your supervisor/Community Coordinator.
- Outreach Teams should always be in teams of at least two people and be within sight of each other at all times.
- During coordinated events, the event leader will have an immediate communication system to notify all teams in the field of any emergency communication (i.e Text messages, via radios, telephone or IM).
- OTs are recommended to not wear expensive jewelry and or agency logos.
(Representing FMCoC rather than individual agencies.)
- OTs are recommended to use one of the recommended outreach logs to better record client contacts/engagement dates into HMIS.
- When transporting a client, a client’s belonging should be placed in the trunk of the vehicle until arrival at destination.

Subpart J: Prevention and Diversion

Homelessness Prevention assistance will be provided to families and individuals who fall under the federal definition of “at-risk” of homelessness or category 2 “imminent risk” of homelessness and who are eligible for such services under a provider’s criteria. Homeless prevention providers will prioritize services for families and individuals with the highest needs and barriers to retaining housing. Risk factors that determine who would be most in need of Homeless Prevention to avoid becoming homeless include but are not limited to the following: loss or imminent loss of employment or income, loss or imminent loss of housing, being “doubled up” in housing, and unstable family situation.

Individual prevention assistance cannot exceed 24 months in a three-year period, and Homelessness Prevention providers must conduct participant evaluations at least every three months.

At-Risk and Imminent Risk of Homelessness Definition (in addition to funding source’s income AMI requirements, generally 30-50% AMI):

Imminent Risk of Homelessness (Category 2): Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:

- Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance
- No subsequent residence has been identified; and
- The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

For full definitions and recordkeeping/documentation requirements, see Appendix E.

At Risk of Homelessness:

Individual or family that lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing; and meets one of the following:

- Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the past 60 days
- Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship
- Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after date of application for assistance
- Lives in a hotel or motel, cost NOT paid for by charity or other assistance
- Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons reside per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau
- Is exiting a publicly funded institution
- A child or youth who does not qualify as “homeless” under 24 CFR 576.2 but qualifies as “homeless” but qualifies under other definitions. See link for more information: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1975/criteria-for-definition-of-at-risk-of-homelessness/>
- Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the consolidated plan

For full definitions and recordkeeping/documentation requirements and additional ESG-HP policies, see Appendix E.

Diversion:

Diversion is a strategy that prevents homelessness for people seeking shelter by helping them identify immediate alternate housing arrangements and, if necessary, connecting them with services to help them return to permanent housing. Diversion engages households early in their homeless crisis so they can move quickly into safe housing. It is focused on helping households move past the immediate barriers they face in obtaining safe housing.

Diversion is pursued as a potential solution for households to become housed safely and quickly, without requiring more intensive services. If no realistic options for housing emerge through Diversion conversations, households continue with the Coordinated Entry System and are assessed and prioritized for deeper housing interventions.

The FMCoC will practice diversion at system entry and throughout the entire CES process.

Part 3: Equity and Non-Discrimination Policies

Subpart A: Family and Youth Policies

State, CoC- and ESG-funded programs may not deny admission to any household on the basis that there is a child under the age of 18, deny admission to any member of the family, or otherwise separate family members, except that projects that serve a limited demographic approved by HUD or HCD will not be required to expand their client base as a result of this policy.

The age and gender of a child under age 18 must not be used as a basis for denying any family's admission to a project that receives CoC or ESG funds. The gender and marital status of a parent or parents may also not be used as a basis for denying any family's admission to a project that receives CoC or ESG funds.

The CoC will work closely with providers to ensure that placement efforts are coordinated to avoid involuntary family separation, including referring clients for the most appropriate services and housing to match their needs.

A form should be made available on the CoC website for any client who believes that they or a family member have experienced involuntary separation to report it to the CoC.

In compliance with orders of priority for ESG-funded and CoC-funded housing and services, and using an assessment protocol, the CoC will prioritize housing and services for unaccompanied

youth under age 18 and 18 to 24 based on factors such as vulnerability to victimization, length of time homeless, severity of service needs, high risk of continued trauma or harm, unsheltered homelessness history, and lack of access to family and community support networks.

Unaccompanied youth under age 18 may be referred to the local child welfare agency; youth over age 18 will be referred to local youth housing/services providers and also will have access to the full range of CoC/ESG resources for which they are eligible.

All CoC and ESG projects assisting households with children or unaccompanied youth must comply with the requirements of CoC Program Interim Rule 24 CFR §578.23 including ensuring that individuals and families who become or remain homeless are informed of their eligibility for McKinney-Vento educational services.

Consistent with the CoC Program Interim Rule 24 CFR §578.23, it is important that all CoC and ESG programs collaborate with local education authorities in identifying and serving families that become homeless. All CoC and ESG programs assisting families with children or unaccompanied youth should aspire to:

- Take the educational needs of children into account when placing families in housing and will, to the maximum extent practicable, place families with children as close as possible to their school of origin so as not to disrupt such children's education
- Inform families with children and unaccompanied youth of their educational rights, including providing written materials, help with enrollment and linkage to McKinney Vento Liaisons as part of intake procedures.
- Not require children and unaccompanied youth to enroll in a new school as a condition of receiving services.
- Allow parents or the youth (if unaccompanied) to make decisions about school placement.
- Not require children and unaccompanied youth to attend after-school or educational programs that would replace/interfere with regular day school or prohibit them from staying enrolled in their original school.
- Post notices of student's rights at each program site that serves homeless children and families in appropriate languages.
- Designate staff that will be responsible for ensuring that homeless children and youth in their programs are in school and are receiving all educational services they are entitled to.
- Designate staff that will be responsible for coordinating with the CoC, the Department of Social Services, the County Office of Education, the McKinney Vento Coordinator, the McKinney Vento Educational Liaisons, and other mainstream providers as needed.

In order to ensure compliance and to assist providers in meeting these requirements, the CoC plans to provide training on these issues at least annually and will include compliance with these procedures these in their monitoring processes.

All CoC- and ESG-funded programs are expected to coordinate with local education authorities and school districts to ensure all children are enrolled in early childhood programs or in school and connected to appropriate educational services in the community and so that children and families at risk of homelessness may be connected to appropriate intervention. Each such program should keep a brief record of its annual efforts to coordinate with local education authorities, for example, calls or e-mails sent to educational officials, meetings attended, invitations sent, and so on. A short bulleted list is appropriate.

Subpart B: Domestic Violence Policies

The privacy and safety of families and individuals fleeing domestic violence situations is of utmost concern to the FMCOC. As such, all efforts shall be made to ensure protection of the privacy and safety of domestic violence survivors. Providers of housing and/or services to domestic violence survivors are prohibited from entering client-level data into the HMIS. A comparable database may be used if it is internal and does not compromise the privacy and safety of the client. The location of Domestic Violence housing and/or services shall be private and shall not be made public.

All efforts shall be made to protect the privacy and safety of domestic violence survivors and to uphold client choice by presenting a range of housing and service options. The following procedures are in place to do that.

Privacy and Safety

Programs which are primarily for survivors of violence are prohibited from contributing client-level data into the HMIS. However, these programs must record client-level data within a comparable internal database and be able to generate aggregate data for inclusion in reports. Non-victim service providers shall protect the privacy of individuals and families who are fleeing, or attempting to flee violence, by not including intake/treatment data in HMIS. The location of Domestic Violence shelters/programs shall not be made public.

Staff responsible for coordinated intake/assessment should receive training on protecting the safety and privacy of individuals who are fleeing or attempting to flee violence. This training should be requested from a local victim service provider and/or technical assistance provider. For each program participant who moved to a different Continuum of Care due to imminent threat of further violence under § 578.51(c)(3), the CoC program must retain:

Documentation of the original incidence of violence. This may be written observation of the housing or service provider; a letter or other documentation from a victim service provider, social worker, legal assistance provider, pastoral counselor, mental health provider, or other professional from whom the victim has sought assistance; medical or dental records; court records or law enforcement records; or written certification by the program participant to whom the violence occurred or by the head of household.

Documentation of the reasonable belief of imminent threat of further violence, which would include threats from a third-party, such as a friend or family member of the perpetrator of the violence. This may be written observation by the housing or service provider; a letter or other documentation from a victim service provider, social worker, legal assistance provider, pastoral counselor, mental health provider, or other professional from whom the victim has sought assistance; current restraining order; recent court order or other court records; law enforcement report or records; communication records from the perpetrator of the violence or family members or friends of the perpetrator of the violence, including emails, voicemails, text messages, and social media posts; or a written certification by the program participant to whom the violence occurred or the head of household.

Certification/Documentation of Homelessness (“Category 4”- Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV):

Category 4 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Definition was changed in the 2022 VAWA Reauthorization to:

Any individual or family who:

- (i) is experiencing trauma or lack of safety related to, or fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous, traumatic, or life-threatening conditions related to the violence against the individual or a family member in the individual’s or family’s current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized;
- (ii) Has no other safe residence; and
- (iii) Lacks the resources to obtain other safe permanent housing.

VAWA was also updated in 2022 to expand the definition of domestic violence to include “technological abuse” and “economic abuse” as forms of domestic violence.

For victim service providers:

An oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance which states: they are fleeing; they have no subsequent residence; and they lack resources. Statement must be documented by a self-certification or a certification by the intake worker.

For non-victim service providers:

Oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing. This statement is documented by a self-certification or by the caseworker. Where the safety of the individual or family is not jeopardized, the oral statement must be verified; and Certification by the individual or head of household that no subsequent residence has been identified; and Self-certification, or other written documentation, that the individual or family lacks the financial resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

Emergency Transfer Plan:

A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as provided in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 5, subpart L is eligible for an emergency transfer, if:

1. The tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same unit, and/or
2. If the tenant is a victim of sexual assault, the tenant may also be eligible to transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises within the 90-calendar-day period preceding a request for an emergency transfer.

The ability to request an emergency transfer is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation and regardless of whether the tenant is in good standing. There are no limits on the number of emergency transfers a client may request.

To request an emergency transfer, the tenant shall notify their housing provider by submitting a written request (see **Appendix A- Emergency Transfer Request Form**) for a transfer. The housing provider will then work with the Domestic Violence-Coordinated Entry System and CES Management Entity on the transfer. The CoC will provide reasonable accommodations to this policy for individuals with disabilities. The tenant's written request for an emergency transfer should include either: (a) a statement expressing that the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the same dwelling unit assisted under HP's program; OR (b) a statement that the tenant was a sexual assault victim and that the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant's request for an emergency transfer. This form should be treated as confidential. The housing provider should connect the client with immediate, emergency safe housing through a Victim Service Provider as needed, subject to client choice.

A tenant who is currently living in CoC or ESG-funded housing who qualifies for and requests an emergency transfer to avoid domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking will be given the highest priority for units they are eligible for as they become available through the Coordinated Entry System. Because moving a household from one CoC-funded home to another CoC-funded home does not result in a net decrease in the availability of CoC services, giving the highest priority to these emergency requests helps address the emergency nature of the tenant's needs without materially compromising the ability of other high-vulnerability clients to promptly receive housing opportunities.

The CoC cannot guarantee that a transfer request will be approved or how long it will take to process a transfer request. The CoC will, however, act as quickly as possible to move a tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to another unit, subject to availability and safety of a unit. If a tenant reasonably believes a proposed transfer would not be safe, the tenant may request a transfer to a different unit. If a unit is available, the transferred tenant must agree to abide by the terms and conditions that govern occupancy in the unit to which the tenant has been transferred. The CoC may be unable to transfer a

tenant to a particular unit if the tenant has not or cannot establish eligibility for that unit. If the CoC has no safe and available units for which a tenant who needs an emergency is eligible, the CoC will assist the tenant in identifying other housing providers who may have safe and available units to which the tenant could move. At the tenant's request, the CoC will also assist tenants in contacting the local organizations offering assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are attached to this plan.

The CoC will keep confidential any information that the tenant submits in requesting an emergency transfer, and information about the emergency transfer, unless the tenant gives the CoC written permission to release the information on a time limited basis, or disclosure of the information is required by law or required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance from the covered program. This includes keeping confidential the new location of the dwelling unit of the tenant, if one is provided, from the person(s) that committed an act(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the tenant.

Notice of Occupancy Rights under VAWA and Certification Forms:

All households applying for or receiving CoC and ESG funded assistance must receive a Notice of Occupancy Rights and Certification Form (**Appendix B and Appendix C**) at each of the following times:

- The household is denied assistance
- The household is admitted to the program
- The household receives notification of eviction
- The household is notified of termination of assistance

Evidence of compliance is not required to be kept in the case file but HUD encourages it. When feasible, proof that the household received the Notice of Occupancy Rights and Certification Form should be kept in the client case file.

Leases, Subleases, and Occupancy Agreements:

Lease Addendum: Any lease, sublease, or other occupancy agreement between a tenant and a housing provider being subsidized by CoC or ESG funds must permit the program participant to terminate the lease, sublease, or occupancy agreement without penalty if the housing provider determines that the program participant qualifies for an emergency transfer under the CoC's emergency transfer plan.

Housing providers that operate CoC or ESG tenant-based rental assistance must enter into a contract with the owner or landlord of the housing that requires the owner or landlord of the housing to comply with all provisions of VAWA regulations under 24 CFR part 5, subpart L. The FMCOC's lease addendum that meets these required standards is included as Appendix D. **If the Landlord requests it, the housing provider may edit the lease addendum to specify that the**

protections under 24 CFR part 5, subpart L only apply while the program participant receives tenant-based rental assistance under a CoC or ESG program.

If the unit is vacant after an emergency transfer, rental assistance terminates. If any family member(s) remain in the unit after the emergency transfer is effectuated, they may continue to do so, unless the Landlord determines the remaining family member(s) violated the terms of the lease by engaging in criminal activity directly related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking or if the housing provider determines they are unable to continue to provide rental assistance to the remaining family member(s) due to the budget/financial constraints of having to serve two households instead of one or due to eligibility reasons. The housing provider will determine if rental assistance can continue for the remaining family member(s) and the Landlord will be notified within 5 days. Otherwise, household members remaining in the unit may continue to receive assistance if they were eligible for assistance prior to moving into the unit. Household members have 90 days to establish this eligibility. If the housing provider terminates assistance for the remaining member(s) or the Landlord terminates the lease, the housing provider should connect the remaining member(s) to the Coordinated Entry System.

Lease Bifurcation: per the lease addendum in Appendix D, in order to effect an emergency transfer, landlords may also bifurcate a tenant-based rental assistance lease to remove a household member from the lease in order to evict, remove, terminate occupancy rights, or terminate assistance to such member who engages in criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, without evicting or terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing a victim of such criminal activity who is also a tenant or lawful occupant. Tenant-based rental assistance and any utility assistance shall continue for the family member(s) who are not evicted or removed.

If the lease is bifurcated, and the evicted tenant was the eligible tenant under the Housing Program, the Landlord and housing provider will provide the remaining tenants a period of 90 calendar days from the date of bifurcation of the lease to:

1. Establish eligibility for the same covered Housing Program under which the evicted or terminated tenant was the recipient of assistance at the time of bifurcation of the lease, or
2. Work with the Coordinated Entry System to establish eligibility under another Housing Program to cover rental assistance (the client should still be prioritized for the next open bed for which they are eligible), or
3. Find alternative housing.

The Housing Provider may extend the 90-calendar-day period and continue to pay rental assistance for an additional 60 calendar days, unless prohibited from doing so by statutory requirements of the program or unless the time period would extend beyond the expiration of the lease. **The client should be connected to the Coordinated Entry System as they exercise options 1-3 above.**

Subpart C: Safeguards for Special Populations

For providers serving special populations, such as survivors of domestic violence, families, seniors, mentally ill and disabled individuals, and veterans, safety and shelter safeguards shall be described in the service provider's policies and clearly communicated to program participants.

The FMCOC is committed to ensuring safe access to shelter, housing and services for survivors of domestic violence and works with local domestic violence providers to ensure safety planning and appropriate referrals. Per the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) 2013, no survivor will be evicted, or assistance denied or terminated by a CoC-funded program because he/she is a survivor of domestic violence. Nor shall any survivor be denied tenancy or occupancy rights due to adverse factors caused by being a survivor. The CoC has an Emergency Transfer Plan (as required by 24 CFR 5.2005 and 24 CFR 578.99(j)(6)) to protect victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking serviced by the CoC. This plan is being implemented through the Coordinated Entry System and all CoC- and ESG-funded agencies and related staff. Agencies will provide emergency transfers for domestic violence survivors receiving rental assistance or otherwise residing in CoC- or ESG-funded units. To exercise their rights under VAWA, a survivor need only to self-certify. Lease provisions will also include protections required under VAWA.

Households with children will be prioritized for services based on need, as indicated by factors such as vulnerability to victimization, number of previous homeless episodes, unsheltered homeless, criminal history, and bad credit or rental history. Veterans determined to be ineligible for federal Department of Veterans Affairs services will be eligible for CoC- and ESG-funded resources as appropriate. Providers shall make every effort to ensure that their services are accessible and appropriate for individuals and families with the highest barriers to housing and who are likely to be homeless the longest.

The FMCOC shall use all available resources and any leverage it may have with community partners to ensure that individuals discharged from the foster care system, the health care system, the mental health system, and the corrections system are not discharged into homelessness. The FMCOC will coordinate with state and local discharge planning efforts.

All CoC- and ESG-funded programs are committed to adopting a Housing First approach and reducing barriers for accessing their services.

Subpart D: CoC-Wide Anti-Discrimination Policy

The Fresno Madera Continuum of Care, the agencies funded by the CoC and/or ESG, the CoC's Coordinated Entry system, and their staff, volunteers, and interns are all committed to complying with all requirements regarding the HUD Final Rule on Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs

(9/21/16) (“HUD Final Rule on Equal Access”) , the Fair Housing Act, and all other all federal, state and local fair housing and non-discrimination and privacy laws.

Policy

CoC and ESG-funded providers shall not discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. CoC-funded housing shall be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status. The CoC and CoC agencies will:

1. Ensure equal access to programs for all individuals and their families;
2. Provide housing, services, and/or accommodations in accordance with each client’s gender identity, i.e., people who identify as men will be treated as men, and people who identify as women will be treated as women; *and*
3. Determine eligibility without regard to actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

The Rule applies to all recipients and subrecipients of HUD Community Planning and Development programs, and those who administer programs and services and provide temporary, emergency shelter funded by CPD programs. These programs include HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Continuum of Care program, Housing Trust Fund program, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, Emergency Solutions Grants, and Rural Housing Stability Assistance program

Procedures to Ensure Equal Access

- The CoC will provide training annually (and as needed) to CoC agencies and agency staff regarding the Equal Access Rule and related requirements.
- The CoC and CoC agencies will use appropriate, inclusive language in communications, publications, trainings, personnel handbooks and other policy documents that affirms the CoC’s commitment to serving all eligible clients in adherence with the HUD Equal Access Rule.
- To ensure clients are aware of their rights under the HUD Final Rule on Equal Access, CoC agencies shall post a notice of such in a conspicuous location and/or provide it to clients at time of program or project intake.
- Gender identity is not required to match the gender listed on the ID or documents.
- Agency intake materials will allow for clients to indicate their legal name and the name they prefer to be called.
- CoC agencies will support clients who need assistance in changing gender markers on identification cards or benefit applications.
- Clients with prescribed hormones or other medications as part of their gender-affirming healthcare regime will have access to those medications.

- In circumstances where an individual does not identify as male or female, and such information is relevant to placement and accommodation, the individual shall be asked which shelter space they would feel most comfortable and safest in. Shelter providers should be up front with the reason for asking a gender identity question, specifically how the answer is going to be used, so the person can answer in the way that makes them safest. E.g., “We have shelter beds/rooms that are separated by binary gender (men and women), but we know that is not how everyone identifies. That is why I’d like to ask you to select the gender identity(ies) that you most identify with (give inclusive list). Which shelter space would you feel most comfortable/safest in?”.

Procedures to Ensure Privacy

- CoC agencies will ensure all staff, volunteers and contractors (a) maintain the confidentiality of a client's legal name and gender at birth, and (b) understand the potential impact that disclosure can have on a client's progress to self-sufficiency.
- Agency staff will keep a client's transgender status confidential unless the client gives permission to share this information. Similarly, a client's legal name (when different from the client’s preferred name) will be treated as confidential information.
- When possible, CoC agencies will ensure that construction or property rehabilitation includes and promotes privacy and safety in sleeping areas, bathrooms, and showers.
- If a CoC program only offers congregate bathrooms or showers, that program will provide an appropriate number of individual stalls (at least one of each) for toilets and shower heads.
- Where feasible, CoC agencies will offer individual gender-neutral bathrooms and gender-neutral shower rooms.
- Agency staff shall not ask questions or seek information concerning a person's anatomy or medical history beyond elements necessary for the purpose of providing services.
- Agency staff will honor the request of an individual for a private space to complete intake and data collection.

Procedures to Prevent and Correct Discrimination

- CoC agencies will ensure that their staff, volunteers and contractors understand that a client may appear to have a gender or orientation that is different from the way the client identifies.
- CoC agencies will take immediate action to resolve inappropriate behavior, harassment, or equal access issues by any person (staff, volunteers, contractors or clients) and maintain relevant records documenting the action or intervention.
- Agency staff shall not consider a client or potential client ineligible because their appearance or behavior does not conform to gender stereotypes and will serve all individuals that are eligible for the project/program.

- If a client needs to be moved for harassment and safety concerns, agency staff will have a preference to move the client with a bias (e.g. move the individual who is having concerns towards the person who may not conform to mainstream gender expression/identity.)
- Agency staff will honor the request of an individual for accommodations based on their personal safety and privacy concerns, whenever feasible. Staff will not impose artificial requirements on transgender clients to force them to "accommodate" the prejudices of other residents, clients, or agency personnel.
- Agency staff and clients will use each client's preferred gender and pronoun and support each client's gender identity. Where agency personnel routinely do not comply with a client's stated preference in pronoun, the agency will ensure that appropriate personnel training and action is taken.
- When discussing levels of risk, agency staff will be alert to and correct any misinformation or inaccurate conclusions that transgender clients threaten the health or safety of other clients solely based on their non-conforming gender identity or expression.

The CoC encourages CoC agencies to be aware of and to educate their clients, as appropriate, about reporting options should they have experience discrimination impacting their equal access to programs and services.

Complaints and Grievances (FMCoC-Wide, not project-specific – see Part 6, Subpart B for project-specific grievance policy requirements).

For the process to appeal a Coordinated Entry decision, participants should reference the CoC's Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures.

For appeals of a termination of assistance received for a CoC-funded Permanent Supportive Housing Project, see Appendix F.

FMCoC recognizes that participants, participating provider agencies, or other parties may express dissatisfaction with aspects of its conduct other than those related to the Coordinated Entry System and welcomes the opportunity to respond to such complaints. To be sure of a response, the complaint or grievance may be anonymous but must be received in writing and must include a reliable form of contact information. The complaint or grievance may be written by the participant or by someone on the participant's behalf. Complaints or grievances may be submitted to the CoC email address.

When a discrimination complaint is received, the FMCoC Executive Board will complete an investigation of the complaint within 60 days by attempting to contact and interview a reasonable number of persons who are likely to have relevant knowledge, and by attempting to collect any documents that are likely to be relevant to the investigation. Within 30 days after completing the investigation, the FMCoC Executive Board will write an adequate report of the investigation's findings, including the investigator's opinion about whether inappropriate

discrimination occurred and the action(s) recommended by the investigator to prevent discrimination from occurring in the future. If relevant to the Coordinated Entry System, the findings of the investigation will be shared with the Coordinated Entry System Committee. If appropriate, the investigator may recommend that the complainant be re-assessed or re-prioritized for housing or services. The report will be kept on file for two years.

General complaints that are not related to discrimination, gross misconduct, gross negligence, or illegal activity should be addressed initially by the provider and following the provider's complaints procedure. All participating provider agencies must have a participant grievance policy in place, a copy of which should be made available to participant. The requirements for each agency's grievance policies are included in Part 6, Subpart B. Complaints that should be addressed directly by the provider staff member or provider staff supervisor include but are not limited to complaints about provider conditions, complaints about how the participant was treated by provider staff, and complaints about violations of confidentiality agreements. Ideally, the complainant and the provider will try to work out these types of problems directly with each other as a first step in the process.

Where direct conflict resolution is unsuccessful, or where the nature of the complaint makes it inappropriate to require the complainant to deal directly with the provider, complaints may be referred to the FMCoC Board by emailing the CoC's email address. The person filing the grievance has the right to be assisted by an advocate of his/her choice (e.g., agency staff person, co-worker, friend, family member, etc.) at each step of the grievance process. The filer has the right to withdraw his/her grievance at any time. The FMCoC's decision upon review of a grievance or complaint is final.

VAWA Complaints: HUD has established a website where individuals can file a complaint if they believe their VAWA rights have been violated - [Violence Against Women Act \(VAWA\) | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#)

Marketing and Advertising

The CoC will affirmatively market Coordinated Entry as the access point for available housing and supportive services to eligible persons who are least likely to apply in the absence of special outreach, as determined through a regular review of the housing market area and the populations currently being served to identify underserved populations. For identified populations, marketing will be conducted at least annually, and may use the following media:

- Brochures / Flyers
- Announcements at Community Events
- Newspapers / Magazines
- Radio
- Television
- Social Media / Websites

The marketing campaign will be designed to ensure that the Coordinated Entry process is available to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, familial status, disability, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

Similarly, the marketing campaign will be designed to ensure that people in different populations and subpopulations in the CoC's geographic area, including people experiencing chronic homelessness, veterans, families with children, youth, and survivors of domestic violence, have fair and equal access to the Coordinated Entry system.

All physical access points in the Coordinated Entry system must be accessible to individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, as well as people in the CoC who are least likely to access homeless assistance. Marketing materials will clearly convey that the access points are accessible to all sub-populations.

Part 4: Conflict of Interest Policies

A conflict of interest is a breach of an obligation that has the effect or intention of advancing one's own interest in a way detrimental to the organization. Conflicts of interest, and even the appearance of a conflict of interest, must be avoided. Directors are to conduct themselves at all times with the highest ethical standards in a manner, which will bear the closest scrutiny. Directors shall report possible conflicts of interest at such time as reasonably possible after the conflict arises and receive guidance from the Board on the issue, including, if necessary, recusal from participating in discussion or voting on a particular matter in which a conflict of interest exists. For any matter that involves a decision on funding for which a Director is a recipient, that member must recuse him/herself.

A Director, employee, agent or consultant of the Board may not:

- Participate in or influence discussions or decisions concerning the selection or award of a grant or other financial benefit to an organization that he/she has a financial or other interest in or represents, except for the Board itself
- Solicit and/or accept gifts or gratuities by anyone for their personal benefit in excess of minimal value
- Engage in any behavior demonstrating an actual conflict of interest or giving the appearance of any such conflict

Individuals with a conflict of interest will inform the Board of the conflict and excuse themselves from the meeting or deliberations during such discussions. The Board Chair or its administrative designee shall track which Board members have conflicts of interest and help to ensure such members do not participate in discussions or decisions in which the members have a conflict.

Each Board director, member, employee, agent or consultant must sign a Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy Agreement (found as Attachment B to the CoC Governance Charter)

to demonstrate that the individual is aware of and agrees to abide by this policy. Any failure to adhere to the policy may result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to:

- Oral warning
- Written warning
- Suspension
- Termination

The Board must keep records showing compliance with code of conduct and conflict of interest requirements, including documentation of a signed policy acknowledgment by all Board members (see Attachment B to the CoC Governance Charter). The Board will maintain any records supporting exceptions to the conflicts of interest policy as required by 24 CFR part 578.95.

Part 5: Performance Monitoring Policies

Subpart A: Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Consultation¹ and Monitoring

The FMCoC plays an advisory role in managing the flow of ESG funds, monitoring performance and making recommendations as to how ESG funds should be distributed. Additionally, if applicable, the FMCoC incorporates by reference existing ESG policies and procedures within the geographic area of the CoC including those disseminated by the local or state entity responsible for allocating or administering ESG funding.

ESG recipients consult with the CoC regarding their allocation of CoC funds and to develop performance standards for these allocations/ESG activities. ESG recipients bring their funding plans to the CoC Board and CoC General Membership meetings for the CoC's review and ensure that CoC members are made aware of all public meetings related to determining ESG funding allocations. Additionally, ESG recipients ensure that the CoC Board receives a draft of the proposed Annual Action Plan for ESG, which includes the proposed allocations and performance standards. When the CoC is reviewing and consulting on ESG funding allocations, they will consider how data on needs and performance is used to inform allocation decisions (including Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count data). Additionally, ESG recipients will ensure that the CoC's System Performance Measurement "lead" (generally the HMIS Lead) will specifically be consulted annually as ESG performance metrics are developed. The CoC will also send all SPM initiative work and debrief documentation to ESG recipients so they can work to address system-wide performance issues through the setting of their performance standards.

When consulting regarding performance standards, the CoC and ESG recipients will consider:

¹ McKinney-Vento Act, as amended 42 USC 11372a(b); CoC Program Interim Rule §578.7(a)(7); 578.7(c)(5); ESG Program Interim Rule 24 CFR 576.400(a) and Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development 24 CFR 91.100(d), 24 CFR 91.110(e), 24 CFR 91.220(l)(4)(vi), 24 CFR 91.320(k)(3)(v), 24 CFR 91.520(g).

- How the performance standards address ESG performance of service providers in:
 - o Targeting those who most need assistance;
 - o Reducing the numbers of those living on the street or in shelters;
 - o Reducing the length of time people are experiencing homelessness;
 - o Reducing program participants' barriers to housing stability.
- How the performance standards assist the CoC in improving its HUD System Performance Measurements, including the above references, and also promoting ongoing progress toward achieving substantive performance targets such as placements into permanent housing, increasing or stabilizing client income, and preventing clients from becoming homeless;
- CoC-funded program performance metrics are decided annually at the CoC's Performance and Evaluation Committee. So, for ESG program components that are comparable to CoC-funded programs, such as Rapid Re-Housing, performance targets should be similar to the targets set for CoC projects of the same type.

As part of the FMCOC's advisory role for ESG, the CoC will consult with ESG recipients on evaluating the outcomes of ESG-funded projects and report those outcomes to HUD. ESG recipients will include the CoC in their monitoring to determine whether ESG projects are performing adequately, operated effectively, managed efficiently, and in compliance with HUD requirements.

ESG recipients or its consultants will include the CoC in its monitoring of projects. This may include requesting copies of the program-level policies and documentation of ESG recipients and sub-recipients to confirm compliance in:

- Eligibility and documentation of eligibility of clients;
- Eligibility and documentation of eligibility of ESG-funded expenditures;
- Eligibility and documentation of eligibility of ESG-funded staff time;
- Policies and procedures for admission, diversion, referral, and discharge, including standards regarding length of stay;
- Safeguards to meet the safety and shelter needs of special populations, e.g., victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- Participation in HMIS (or in a comparable database for victim services providers);
- Participation in Coordinated Entry; and
- Safety and Sanitation standards of all facilities used for emergency shelter, including standards related to lead paint, air quality, cleanliness, personal security, energy efficiency, and handicapped accessibility.

ESG recipients will also attempt to identify and bring to the CoC's attention, information regarding underperforming projects, taking into account reduced outcomes due to serving particularly high-needs populations.

To the extent that technical assistance and training is needed, ESG recipients and CoC leadership may provide recommendations to the CoC Board of Directors, including

recommendations that underperforming projects be provided with more intensive, on-site monitoring by the ESG recipient, with assistance as needed from the CoC. This may include site visits, client feedback, and/or review of grant records. In response to ongoing underperformance, the CoC may recommend targeted technical assistance and/or other responses.

The FMCOC will use all available resources to improve the performance of ESG recipients and will offer evaluation and technical assistance. If ESG recipients refuse to cooperate with the technical assistance process, then the CoC will comply with its regulatory duty under 24 CFR § 578.7(a)(7) to report on the outcomes of ESG recipients to HUD.

The FMCOC Board of Directors may also include a review of the HUD Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) as well as other local sources that are designed to ensure compliance with HUD requirements. The Board of Directors will coordinate with any ESG recipients to share data, standard policies and templates that can enhance agency capacity.

Additional policies related to ESG are found in Appendix E. All jurisdictional ESG recipients also have their own ESG Policies and Procedures.

Subpart B: Continuum of Care Monitoring Policies

The Fresno Madera Continuum of Care receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program to fund and operate programs serving homeless individuals and families in Fresno and Madera Counties. As such, the Collaborative Applicant is required to monitor compliance and performance of all CoC-funded projects annually, as well as assess program performance and effectiveness.²

Monitoring is an ongoing process and is intended to improve program effectiveness and management efficiency. When CoC-funded agencies are monitored by HUD, they must send the HUD monitoring report to the Collaborative Applicant within 90 days of receipt of the report. CoC-funded agencies must also send the Collaborative Applicant a copy of their annual financial audit within 90 days of receipt.

To fulfill these responsibilities, the FMCOC conducts a comprehensive “Review and Rank” process each time there is a HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) using an Independent Review Panel that evaluates projects based on objective performance data. Consultants are also available to review each CoC-funded grant application to ensure that it is technically compliant and that it proposes to spend all funds on eligible costs and eligible clients. Finally, the CoC’s HMIS Lead provides regular trainings on how to use HMIS and maintain high data quality. To follow up on these trainings, all CoC-funded projects closely review their Annual Performance Reports (APRs) using illustrated guides to ensure that the APRs are accurate and contain high-quality data. Together, these activities ensure that all projects are able to achieve strong outcomes and adequately document these outcomes in their case files and in HMIS.

² See 24 CFR 578.7(6-7) (“The Continuum of Care must . . . monitor recipient and subrecipient performance, evaluate outcomes, and take action against poor performers.”).

Additionally, the Collaborative Applicant will utilize a risk assessment process to determine which CoC-funded providers need additional in-depth, technical assistance or monitoring. The monitoring process overseen by the Collaborative Applicant is also meant to identify projects that are at high risk of receiving HUD monitoring and provide support to projects in anticipation of that.

The Collaborative Applicant will select the monitoring topics annually for the selected projects, using the risk assessment information, findings in HUD monitorings (as applicable), and utilizing Collaborative Applicant discretion. Although monitoring will happen annually outside of the CoC competition, more in-depth, robust monitoring and case file review will occur in the years that there is not a HUD CoC NOFO local competition. The monitoring may include site visits, case file review, financial monitoring, policy review, self-assessment tools, client feedback, and/or review of grant records. Ongoing underperforming projects may be selected for targeted technical assistance or other response. When performing monitoring, the Collaborative Applicant may look at:

- Is the project accurately and completely documenting participant eligibility?
- If the project charges rent, is it calculating client income and rent correctly?
- If the project provides housing, is the project conducting housing assessments and documenting habitability/HQS/NSPIRE?
- Does the agency/project have a financial management system compliant with HUD standards?
- Does the system implement financial and cost accounting requirements?
- HMIS performance reports from the HMIS Lead:
 - Percentage who Obtain permanent housing
 - Percentage who Maintain/retain permanent housing (1 year)
 - Percentage who Exit with earned income / employment
 - Percentage who Exit with mainstream benefits
 - Percentage who Increase income
 - Percentage who Exit to Known Destination
 - Percentage who Return to homelessness after report start
 - Average Nightly Occupancy
 - Time (in days) from program entry to permanent housing for those obtaining permanent housing
 - HMIS data quality
- Other compliance and regulatory topics as relevant.

Part 6: Other Policies

Subpart A: Participation in HMIS

The HMIS Policies and Procedures govern HMIS participation. All CoC- and ESG- funded projects must ensure that data on all persons served and all activities provided under these federally funded programs are entered into the HMIS, in accordance with HUD's standards on participation, data collection, and reporting under a local HMIS. Victim service providers may use a comparable database, independent from the HMIS. All CoC- and ESG-funded projects must comply with the requirements in the Fresno-Madera CoC HMIS Policies and Procedures Manual. Additionally, ESG recipients must consult with the CoC in developing funding, policies and procedures for the administration and operation of HMIS by serving on the CoC's HMIS User Committee.

Per the HMIS Policies and Procedures, to become a participating HMIS agency: each agency must:

1. Receive funding to provide services that assist in the FMCoC housing process and the client becoming housed, or the project must contribute to the Housing Inventory Count. The funding source must require a procurement process or similar application process to ensure agency's viability as a service provider, and systems of accountability for their staff. A copy of the funding contract is required during the HMIS application process.
2. Be an established 501(c)(3) or relevant government private entity (i.e., PHAs, MCP providers).
3. Be a FMCoC member in good standing.
4. Identify project as HUD or state mandated project type.
5. Participate in the FMCoC's Homelessness Response System and abide by its policies and procedures, as well as the HMIS policies and procedures.

HMIS Access and data entry must begin as of the service operating start date stated in the funding contract.

Subpart B: Written Process for Termination of Assistance and Grievances (at the project level)

All programs that offer housing assistance to individuals or families funded by the Continuum of Care must provide a written policy and process for people to raise complaints or grievances ("grievance policy") and, a termination of assistance ("termination policy"). These may be separate or combined into one policy. The definitions of these terms are below.

Complaints and grievances: The definitions of grievances and complaints vary by setting. In FMCoC policies, these terms will be used interchangeably. Complaints or grievances are any issue a participant may have with their provider agency, including: provider conditions, treatment by provider staff, violations of confidentiality agreements, dissatisfaction with a provider's process or decision, an interpersonal issue, or a possible legal violation. Complaints or grievances may be directed against staff, contractors, administration, or program participants. CoC-funded projects must have a complaint policy that can accommodate this range of issues.

Terminations: A termination can refer to a notice of termination of assistance or eviction (including 3-day notices) or a written threat of termination or eviction. CoC-funded projects must have a termination policy that covers both notices and threats of terminations. Terminations of assistance policies are required by the CoC Interim Rule for all CoC-funded projects. [Section 578.91 of the CoC Interim Rule](#) requires that termination of assistance policies, at a minimum:

- Provide the program participant with a written copy of the program rules and the termination process before the participant begins to receive assistance;
- The process must include a written notice to the program participant containing a clear statement of the reasons for termination;
- The process must include a review of the decision, in which the program participant is given the opportunity to present written or oral objections before a person other than the person (or a subordinate of that person) who made or approved the termination decision; and
- Prompt written notice of the final decision to the program participant (the FMCOC defines this as written notification of the outcome of the hearing/final decision provided within ten (10) days of the conclusion of the hearing).

Additionally, projects providing Permanent Supportive Housing for hard-to-house clients must exercise judgment and examine all extenuating circumstances in determining when violations are serious enough to warrant termination so that a program participant's assistance is terminated only in the most severe cases.

The FMCOC adds the additional requirements for CoC and ESG funded grievance/complaint and termination of assistance policies:

Policies and Processes should be accessible:

- Although HUD only requires that the policies be made available before the participants receive assistance, it is a best practice, and FMCOC requirement, to hand out grievance and termination policies to participants at the following intervals: (i) when a participant enters and exits a project; (ii) at annual assessment (for clients in the project 12+ months); (iii) When notices/policies are updated with new information, and (iv) when a participant receives a notice of termination of assistance, a written treat of notice of termination of assistance or other warning or notice covered by the program's grievance policy.
- The policies should be posted in a public, accessible place in the agency and on-site for on-site programs.
- Written and verbal descriptions of policies should be provided in a language that is understandable to participants. At a minimum, they should be available in English and Spanish.
- Policies should be written at a 6th grade reading level or lower.

- Policies should be accessible to people with hearing or visual impairments.
- Participants must be provided with multiple ways to file a complaint or appeal a termination, like a letter, email, verbally, or written by an advocate/peer support.

Policies and Processes should include the following additional components:

- Information about how the participant's confidentiality will be maintained, e.g., information will only be shared with necessary staff with the participant's consent and documented in their files.
- An option for participants to be supported by a third-party advocate or peer support (with lived experience) throughout the process.
- A non-retaliation policy that explains that the participant will not be retaliated against³ as a result of filing the complaint. The policy should provide options for how participants can report retaliation and describe how retaliation will be addressed if it occurs.
- An option for participants to share their issue with a neutral decision-maker.
- Information about how to escalate the issue to the CoC if the participant is dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal process *or* does not feel safe enough to follow the internal process. Note that PSH terminations have a specific appeals process outlined in Appendix F.
- Like the termination of assistance policies, grievance policies must have an escalation pathway that includes at least two tiers. Participants should be able to escalate the issue to a person who is different from and at a higher level than the person who initially handled the complaint if they are dissatisfied with the initial outcome.
- If grievance and termination policies are separate documents, they should cross-reference one another.
- All termination and grievances policies and associated forms should be reviewed by and incorporate feedback from participants.

To support the implementation of these policies, agencies should:

- Train all direct services staff on the termination of assistance and grievance policies regularly, at least once a year, and every time the policies or associated forms are updated. This training should also cover the anti-retaliation policy and what steps will be taken to address retaliation.
- Train any staff members who are directly named on the policies regularly. If termination of assistance and/or grievance policies list specific agency employee contacts on them, they must be updated regularly to ensure accuracy.

To track complaints and appeals, agencies should:

- Keep information about complaints and appeals on file for two years.

³ Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, harassment, intimidation, program dismissal, refusing to provide services, use of profane or derogatory language to or in reference to the participant, breach of contract, petty inconveniences (like added random inspections), violence, or sudden decisions ostensibly made for other reasons but that were clearly triggered by the complaint.

- Provide quarterly reporting to the Collaborative Applicant on grievances and termination appeals that includes the number of complaints/appeals, description of complaints/appeals, and any complaints or appeals that resulted in a termination of services or assistance.

CoC Requests for Information- the CoC may request additional information about specific complaints or termination appeals, which should include, at a minimum:

- Date of complaint/appeal and all subsequent follow-up.
- Description of the complaint/appeal (without personally identifiable information).
- Description of the resolution of the complaint/appeal (without any personally identifiable information).

Subpart C: Obligations for Programs that are De-Funded or Reallocated

When a project's funding is reallocated, the agency that was operating that project has certain responsibilities to the rest of the community and HUD, even if that agency is no longer operating any CoC Program- funded projects. Beginning with FY 2017 CoC Program grants, all agencies that wish to continue to receive CoC funding must agree to fulfill these responsibilities if their projects are defunded. These responsibilities, below, apply regardless of whether a project's funding was voluntarily reallocated, involuntarily reallocated, or denied by HUD as part of the national CoC Program competition.

Finding Housing for Clients Who Exit the Project: all project participants must be notified in writing at least 90 days prior to a project's closure. This includes if the project is closing or reducing its size; changing program models so that current project participants cannot remain in the project; or otherwise transitioning in any way so that at least some project participants must leave the project temporarily or permanently. The project must plan to ensure project participants do not exit into homelessness, and to identify alternative, permanent housing for them. The agency should seek FMCOC and Coordinated Entry assistance as needed at the earliest opportunity if the agency needs help in securing housing for its clients.

Transferring a Client to Another Program/Project:

RRH or PSH programs that have been defunded, are ending, or closing should assess each client in the RRH/PSH program to determine whether each client is still in need of RRH/PSH, or whether they now need a different housing intervention (such as a Housing Authority voucher (without intensive case management), self-sufficiency, a skilled nursing facility, or some other intervention). If the client is still in need of RRH or PSH, the program from which the client is transferring should reference the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures to determine whether clients in the defunded/reallocated project have priority for RRH or PSH units under the CES prioritization. The project should also work with the field office to determine whether clients have eligibility to transfer into new projects of the same project component (PSH to PSH, RRH to RRH) and should follow the below guidance

- The FMCOC allows transfers between PSH projects when projects are defunded, are ending, or are closing (along with for other reasons, please see below). **PSH to PSH transfer eligibility:** If a participant is still enrolled in a PSH project, they may be assisted with CoC funds through a PSH transfer. Under the CoC Program, participants may be transferred from one PSH project to another PSH project without needing to experience homelessness again. Although the eligible household does not retain their homeless or chronically homeless status while in CoC-funded PSH, PSH projects may serve households from other PSH projects as long as the participants originally met the eligibility requirements for the PSH project to which they are transferring at the time they entered their initial PSH project (Section 423(f) of the McKinney-Vento Act, as amended by the HEARTH Act).
 - **If the CoC-funded PSH projects they intend to transfer into are dedicated for the chronically homeless please keep the following information in mind:**
 - Program participants who met the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time they entered the original PSH (including non-CoC funded PSH) may transfer into a project dedicated to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness. Program participants are **not required** to meet the definition of chronically homeless established in the [Defining Chronically Homeless Final Rule](#), unless they entered the original PSH project after January 15, 2016. This is because the final rule does not apply retroactively to program participants who were admitted to a CoC Program-funded permanent supportive housing program *prior* to January 16, 2016.
 - Program participants who **did not** meet the definition of chronically homeless that was in effect at the time of program intake may be served by a CoC-funded PSH project that is **not dedicated** to serving individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness (DedicatedPLUS).
- The FMCOC allows transfers between RRH projects when projects are defunded, are ending, or are closing. **RRH to RRH transfer eligibility:** when contemplating transfers between RRH projects, note that [the maximum length of time a program participant may receive rental assistance through ESG is 24 months during any 3-year period](#). Additionally, although [RRH participants retain their chronically homeless status while in RRH](#), they do not retain their homeless status while enrolled in the RRH project, as they are considered housed. Closing projects should check with the HUD field office before transferring clients between ESG and CoC-funded RRH projects. Note that transferring clients between RRH projects is different from coordinating/braiding funding for RRH projects. See below for additional information on that.

In the event that a program participant will be transferred from one program to another, the following process is meant to ensure that all steps are taken in order for the participant to seamlessly transition without interruption of services. All efforts will be made by both programs and the Coordinated Entry System to include an overlapping transition period between the two service providers to troubleshoot any issues that may arise during the process:

Who is Responsible?	Roles and Responsibilities
<i>Program <u>from</u> <u>which</u> the client is transferring</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify participant of the change in service provider • Obtain participant's consent to transfer to project to provide client information to new service provider • Confirm that participant retains their original homeless (or chronically homeless) status from the time they entered PH (work with local HUD field office as needed) • Check for any additional eligibility requirements from the receiving program and verify eligibility with matcher • Confirm with matcher that all required eligibility documentation is on file and compliant • If the participant needs to move units (i.e., the defunded/reallocated project is project or sponsor based), locate a new housing unit for the participant. • Provide new program with participant information including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HMIS identification number ▪ Landlord information ▪ Program rent amount ▪ Client anticipated last month of subsidy • Provide program participant files <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure all required documentation is on file and is compliant with Chapter 29 of the CPD Monitoring Handbook ○ Document anything that is missing or deficient and address these issues • Provide any additional documents or information identified as needed • Inform landlords of new program points of contact • Provide a warm handoff of client to new case management team
<i>Program <u>to</u> <u>which</u> the client is transferring</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all participant files • Ensure all required documentation is on file and compliant, document anything that is missing or deficient • Confirm payments can begin at transition start period without any issues • Complete program entry in HMIS

Ceasing New Intakes/Available Beds:

The project must tell the CoC and the Coordinated Entry System what the last date will be for taking in new people into the project and should describe what the process will be for ceasing to intake new people. For RRH, to help determine this date, the housing provider should use data on average length of stay in the project (Q27 on APR) and current lengths of stay for current project participants. The project should also describe to the CoC and CES the plan for beds/units that become vacant between now and when the project ends and if the beds/units

will be filled or will be allowed to remain vacant. The project must provide the FMCoC with details about any unused beds or those that are expected to be unfilled as the project winds down so the FMCoC can assess the beds' appropriateness for interim or bridge housing. The project must work with the FMCoC as much as possible so that they can be used for interim or bridge housing as needed. The project also must provide relevant project details (e.g., changes in available beds, target population, and eligibility criteria; expected dates when these will change; expected closure dates) to the FMCoC's coordinated entry staff so the project's bed availability and eligibility information in the coordinated entry system is accurate.

Managing Data for Clients Who Exit the Project and Completing Required Reporting: the project must complete HMIS/comparable database data entry and data clean-up for all project participants, including all persons served over the past project term and who already may have exited the project. All data entry/data clean up must be completed no later than 2 weeks after the end of the project. **A final Annual Performance Report (APR) is due to HUD via the Sage HMIS Repository within 90 days of the project's CoC Program grant end date.** The project must provide the names and contact information of its staff responsible for these activities to the FMCoC's HMIS Lead/System Administrator; and communicate with them to ensure the project is on track to meet its data entry and reporting tasks and deadlines.

Closing Out the Project's Finances and CoC Program Grant(s): **the project must provide information on estimated unspent funding to the FMCoC within 60 days after the project is aware its funding is or will be reduced; and consult with the FMCoC about alternative, permissible uses.** In addition, HUD has a formal close-out process for its grants when a project is completed, terminated, no longer HUD-funded; or when recipients discontinue a project. HUD's grant closeout requirements are in the CoC Program Interim Rule (24 CFR §578.109) and the Uniform Administrative Requirements (2 CFR §§200.16, 200.343); and the additional requirements that apply, even after close-out (2 CFR §200.344-200.345). All final disbursements of the grant should be made no less than 90 days after the end of the grant period.

Planning and Communication: the project must communicate its plans to the FMCoC at the earliest opportunity, including at least the basic summary information within 20 days of learning the project has lost its funding. The project must also keep the FMCoC informed about available beds for other possible interim housing uses, and project information for coordinated entry system accuracy (see Available Beds above).

In addition, the agency may need to identify alternate uses of any property the project owns or leases if the project will close, reduce its size, or change its program model in such a way that its property needs to change. The agency should determine whether any covenants, use restrictions, or other property conditions apply (e.g., 15- or 20-year use restrictions if the project received CoC Program or Supportive Housing Program capital funding). The agency should discuss these with the FMCoC and HUD Field Office as needed if it needs assistance.

Defining PSH for the purposes of this policy:

Permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities (PSH) means permanent housing in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently. PSH can only provide assistance to individuals with disabilities and families in which one adult or child has a disability. Supportive services designed to meet the needs of the program participants must be made available to the program participants.

In general, HUD allows CoCs to use their discretion to determine how non-HUD-funded projects are classified locally. For programs that have not yet been clearly defined as a specific project type on the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) or through local definitions, HUD would expect CoCs to make their determination based on the characteristics of the project, its program design, and its intended target population. Once the CoC makes this determination, the project must be reflected on the CoC's HIC (if it falls into one of the categories reported on the HIC through [Notice CPD-21-12](#)) to ensure bed counts are reflected accurately by project type.

It is important to note, even if the project is not CoC-funded, a household's homeless or chronically homeless status when residing in that project would still be determined based on how the project is categorized. As stated above, the CoC has the authority to determine how the project type is categorized locally, particularly for non-CoC-funded projects. Please note that in order for any project to be considered a homeless program the following conditions must be met:

- The primary intent of the program is to serve homeless persons; and
- The program verifies homeless status as part of its eligibility determination; and
- The actual program clients are predominantly homeless.

Subpart D: PSH to PSH transfers for projects not being defunded, ending, or closed and RRH Funding Coordination/Braiding Funding:

As stated above, if a participant is still enrolled in a PSH project, they may be assisted with CoC funds through a PSH transfer. This could occur if there is another PSH program that better meets the service needs or geographical needs of the participant (i.e., if the client is in a site-based project but wants to live at a different location). To transfer a participant from one PSH project to another, the projects must involve the CES Management Entity, and follow all processes listed in the CoC's CES Policies and Procedures.

- It is important to note, permanent supportive housing is intended to be permanent and with no time limits. A PSH recipient cannot determine when a program participant is "ready" to be transferred or exited from a program. If a program participant believes that they are ready and indicate that they would like to move on, recipients can work with the program participant to transition out of the project.

Documentation Requirements for a PSH project transfer:

The above section on roles and responsibilities PSH to PSH transfers for defunded projects applies to general PSH transfers. However, in summary, if the participant believes the

participant's needs will be better met by another PSH project and transfers to another program, recipients or subrecipients accepting participants from other PSH projects must keep records on file demonstrating that:

1. The household is transferring from another permanent supportive housing project;
2. The reason for the transfer; and
3. The household met the eligibility requirements for permanent supportive housing prior to entering the original permanent supportive housing project.

Using multiple RRH sources at once/braiding/coordinating RRH funding:

Transferring clients between RRH projects is different from coordinating/braiding funding for RRH projects and is addressed above. There are many federal funding sources that can provide RRH. With careful advance planning and coordination, it is possible, under certain circumstances, for a household to receive assistance through both CoC/ESG and the non-CoC/ESG funding source either concurrently or consecutively. These circumstances are:

1. **Household receives non-ESG/CoC RRH funds that are contribute as ESG match.** A household that receives RRH assistance through a non-ESG funding source that was contributed as ESG match could be provided ESG-funded RRH assistance to continue rental assistance when the non-ESG assistance ends. In addition, a household could be provided RRH assistance through both funding sources concurrently, provided that the funds are used for different costs. Projects must ensure that the non-ESG funds meet the match requirements.
 - a. Example: a household is currently receiving rapid rehousing assistance through a County-funded rapid rehousing program. The County funds were used as matching contributions to supplement the recipient's ESG program and provided in accordance with the recipient's and subrecipient's ESG written standards. The County program caps assistance at five months. At the end of the five-month period, the household could next be assisted with up to 19 additional months of ESG rapid rehousing assistance.
2. Household is enrolled in both RRH programs and continuously receives some form of CoC/ESG RRH assistance that was not contributed as CoC/ESG match could begin to receive CoC/ESG-funded RRH assistance when the non-ESG/COC assistance ends, but only when both of the following conditions are met:
 - a. The household must have been initially **enrolled in both** programs at the same time; AND
 - b. The household must **continuously receive some form of CoC/ESG rapid rehousing assistance** from the time the household is determined eligible and enrolled in the two programs until the time the non-CoC/ESG assistance ends (e.g., monthly utility assistance or monthly case management would count as continuous ESG assistance.) Note: ESG RRH rental assistance, other than rental arrears, cannot be provided to a program participant who is concurrently receiving rental assistance from another public source. When the non-ESG rapid rehousing assistance ends, the program participant could receive up to 24 additional months of rapid rehousing assistance paid for with ESG funds. The ESG

assistance provided to the household could also be expanded to cover other ESG-eligible costs that previously had been paid for by the non-ESG source.

- i. **Example:** A household has been determined to be eligible for rapid rehousing assistance through a county-funded rapid rehousing program and for ESG rapid rehousing. The provider enrolls the household in **both** programs and begins providing assistance under both programs concurrently. The other program's funds, which were not used as ESG match, are used to provide four months of rental assistance, while ESG funds are used to provide case management, an initial security deposit, and to pay for monthly utility payments. After four months, the county-funded rapid rehousing assistance ends, but the household continues to need assistance. At that point, ESG funds can be used to cover the costs of up to 24 months of rental assistance, up to 20 additional months of utility assistance, and up to 20 additional months of case management services. The program participant must continue to receive housing stability case management while receiving ESG rapid rehousing rental assistance, so if the ESG program is used to provide a full 24 months of rapid rehousing assistance, the final four months of case management assistance would need to be funded by a non-ESG source.

General Guidance for Combining Rapid Rehousing Funding Sources

Changing the source of rapid rehousing assistance does not trigger a need for a re-evaluation of the program participant's eligibility (unless this is included in the recipient's or subrecipient's written standards). However, please keep in mind that any time amounts of subsidy change, it is a good idea to consider the amount and type of assistance that the individual or family needs to remain stably housed, and to adjust the amount of subsidy provided, if appropriate. As a reminder, households receiving ESG rapid rehousing assistance (whether through ESG grant funds or matching funds) must be re-evaluated at least once every 12 months, as specified under 24 CFR 576.401(b).

Subpart E: Recordkeeping

All providers must retain participants' records for 5 years from expenditure of the grant, and all data should be entered into HMIS, in accordance with federal regulations at 24 CFR 576.500 (ESG Program), and 24 CFR 578.103(c) (CoC Program). Records required include the following:

- Verification of Homeless Status
- Verification of Chronic Homeless Status (if applicable)
- Annual Income Verification and Rent Contribution Calculation for Participants receiving Housing Assistance
- Program Participant Records
- Signed Occupancy Agreements or Leases (if client is residing in housing) with VAWA Addendum (Appendix D)

- Notice of Occupancy Rights and Certification Form required by VAWA (Appendix B and Appendix C)
- Housing Quality Standards
- Services Provided
- Other records required by HUD or individual programs

Eligibility Records and Verification

Homeless status must be verified at intake for all incoming participants, and providers must make every effort to meet federal standards of documentation. Acceptable forms of documentation include third-party documentation, second-party documentation (observation by provider) if third-party documentation is not available, and client self-certification if the other forms are not available. If third-party documentation is not available, records must certify the due diligence undertaken to obtain such documentation.

Documentation must be included in the case file, and/or scanned into the HMIS client record that demonstrates eligibility as follows, in descending order of preference:

Category 1: Literally Homeless

- Third party verification (HMIS print-out, or written referral/certification by another housing or service provider); or
- Written observation by an outreach worker; or
- Certification by the individual or head of household seeking assistance stating that (s)he was living on the streets or in shelter;

If the provider is using anything other than a Third-Party Verification, the case file must include documentation of due diligence to obtain third party verification.

Category 2: Imminent Risk of Homelessness

- A court order resulting from an eviction action notifying the individual or family that they must leave within 14 days; or
- For individual and families leaving a hotel or motel – evidence that they lack the financial resources to stay; or
- A documented and verified written or oral statement that the individual or family will be literally homeless within 14 days; and
- Certification that no subsequent residence has been identified; and
- Self-certification or other written documentation that the individual lacks the financial resources and support necessary to obtain permanent housing.

Category 3: Other Federal Statutes

This CoC is not eligible to certify CoC-funded clients as homeless under other federal statutes.

Category 4: Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV

For victim service providers:

An oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance which states: they are fleeing; they have no subsequent residence; and they lack resources. Statement must be documented by a self-certification or a certification by the intake worker.

For non-victim service providers:

Oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing. This statement is documented by a self-certification or by the caseworker. Where the safety of the individual or family is not jeopardized, the oral statement must be verified. Verification includes certification by the individual or head of household that no subsequent residence has been identified, and self-certification or other written documentation that the individual or family lacks the financial resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

At-Risk of Homelessness Final Rule:

- Self-Certification and, if possible, the most reliable evidence available, that the client has insufficient financial resources and support networks immediately available to provide housing stability AND
- That they meet one of the 7 conditions under the Rule, examples:
 - 21-day notice or other written notification from landlord
 - Households not on a lease can meet this when asked to leave a residence
 - Documentation of #/dates of moves
 - Documentation of housing (hotel/motel, institution, SRO with 2+ people, living in the home of another due to economic hardship, etc.)
 - Documentation of characteristics associated with housing instability and increased risk of homelessness

All Categories

As needed, the following documents will be gathered at follow-up:

- Income Verification Form
- If Chronic Homelessness was indicated on the HMIS Intake Form, Verification of Chronic Homelessness Form
 - 100% of households served can use self-certification for three of their 12 months;
 - 75% of households served need to use third party documentation for 9 months of their 12 months;
 - 25% of households served can use self-certification as documentation for any and all months.

- Due diligence is required when attempting to access any third party verification that can be documented.
- If Chronic Homeless status is indicated on the Verification of Chronic Homelessness Form, the Certification of Disability Form should also be completed.
 - Disability documentation must be collected within 45 days of moving into a unit.
- At program enrollment, program intake forms may also be completed. However, program intake forms do not determine eligibility for the program.
- Homeless documentation should be obtained within 180 days of the household moving into their unit (per HUD regulations) and does not need to delay housing the client. However, the CoC recommends that homeless verifications are obtained within 45 days of housing the client.

Income Levels

Program participants receiving housing assistance where rent or occupancy charge is paid by the participant will be required to certify their income level, in compliance with 24 CFR § 578.103(a)(6).

Subpart F: Roles and Responsibilities of the Collaborative Applicant

The collaborative applicant's role is to:

- CoC HUD NOFO Annual Application: Oversee the annual HUD CoC NOFO and submit the annual Consolidated Application (i.e., Function as the Administrative Entity designated by the CoC to apply for and administer program funds for the CoC). This includes:
 - Completing the CoC registration for the competition,
 - Reviewing, revising, completing, and submitting the annual Grant Inventory Worksheet,
 - Administering a process for identifying and encouraging new projects for CoC Funding,
 - Running a local funding competition,
 - Overseeing the creation of a reallocation and long-term grant spend policy/process,
 - Completing and submitting the Consolidated Application, which includes both the CoC Application and the CoC Priority Listing,
 - Applying for Planning Grant funds on behalf of the CoC and completing the Planning Grant application in E-Snaps annually,
 - Sharing results and comparing the annual CoC NOFO Debrief with prior years with the CoC Board.

- The Collaborative Applicant may work with the CoC's Administrative Entity for State funding on various issues related to CoC State funding allocations.
- Manage and administer the CoC Planning Grant: Have fiscal and grant management procedures in place to administer the CoC planning grant, including:
 - Adhering to required internal controls, recordkeeping policies, and timeliness requirements,
 - Preparing budgets,
 - Tracking and documenting CoC Planning Grant match,
 - Ensuring the Planning Grant and associated match are spent on eligible costs,
 - Create Planning Grant policies and procedures,
 - Overseeing any contracting that is procured using the Planning Grant.
- CoC Project Compliance, Monitoring, Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Performance: The Collaborative Applicant shall monitor and review HUD CoC-funded programs for compliance and performance, as well as provide technical assistance at least for underperforming projects.
 - Required monitoring may include the following topics: HUD terms and conditions, HEARTH regulations, NOFO-specific terms and conditions, FMCoC Written Standards compliance, agency financial health, HUD match requirements, and other local performance requirements;
 - Facilitating a process to take action against poor performers or agencies out of compliance, which may result in the removal and reallocation of funding based on compliance or performance reviews;
 - Understanding the CoC-funded projects within the CoC and providing basic technical assistance to CoC-funded projects and at least to underperforming projects);
 - Understanding the basic requirements of financial management, draw downs, and environmental reviews for the CoC Program and provide basic technical assistance to CoC-funded projects regarding these topics (but not for eLOCCS specifically);
 - Ensuring consistent participation by CoC-funded projects in the Homeless Management Information System;
 - Monitor SAGE uploads and quarterly grant spend reports for CoC project recipients.
- CoC System Compliance, Performance, and Planning: The Collaborative Applicant will ensure the CoC follows the HUD regulations in establishing a CoC, as well as the responsibilities of the CoC, as stated in the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) CoC program. The Collaborative Applicant will also lead plans for improving system-wide performance. It is recommended that the Collaborative Applicant work with the CoC to strategically outline components of this work in an annual workplan. This includes:

- Ensure adherence to requirements in §578.5 in establishing and/or maintaining, a Continuum of Care with representatives from relevant organizations, establishment of a board to act on behalf of the FMCoC.
- Ensuring the CoC and CoC Board are operating effectively and compliantly, including holding at least two meetings a year;
- Ensuring there is a compliant Coordinated Entry System with policies and procedures;
- Ensuring compliant operation of and designation of a singular Homeless Management Information System;
- Consulting with State and local government Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program recipients within the CoC's geographic area on the plan for allocating ESG program funds and reporting on and evaluating the performance of ESG program recipients and subrecipients;
- Developing and/or updating a compliant Governance Charter and Written Standards with the CoC (including reviewing the Board selection process and the creation of new Standing Committees). The Written Standards should be developed in consultation with the recipients of ESG program funds and at a minimum, must include:
 - Policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance under the CoC and ESG Programs,
 - Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive assistance,
- Standards for determining what percentage or amount of rent each program participant must pay while receiving assistance.
- Ensuring the CoC is keeping records in compliance with HUD requirements by keeping the following documentation related to establishing and operating the CoC:
 - Evidence that the Board selected by the Continuum of Care meets HUD requirements.
 - Evidence that the Continuum has been established and operated according to HUD requirements, including published agendas and meeting minutes, an approved Governance Charter that is reviewed and updated annually, a written process for selecting a board that is reviewed and updated at least once every 5 years, evidence required for designating a single HMIS for the Continuum, and monitoring reports of recipients and subrecipients.
 - Evidence that the Continuum has prepared the application for funds as required by HUD, including the designation of the eligible applicant to be the collaborative applicant.
 - Evidence of emergency transfer requests.
- Participating in the Consolidated Plan for the geographic area;
- Compliance with Conflict of Interest Standards;

- Ensuring the CoC conducts and submit the annual Housing Inventory Count and Point in Time Count Data (annually, even during years an unsheltered count is not conducted (required biennially));
 - Submitting the CoC's annual System Performance Measurement report;
 - Submitting the CoC's annual Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) report;
 - Completing an annual gaps analysis;
 - Coordinating and facilitating strategic planning for the CoC;
 - Providing data analytics support to advance the FMCOC's ability to operate a data driven and performance-based system;
 - Ensuring annual HUD-required trainings and trainings that increase the annual CoC NOFO application score are completed.
- CoC Governance and Implementation Support: It is recommended that this work be strategically outlined and allocated to staff annually in a workplan. This work will generally include the Collaborative Applicant doing the following:
 - Attending and providing support at all CoC Board and General Membership meetings;
 - Hiring (including contracting) CoC staff and supporting general CoC operations;
 - Supporting the CoC Board, CoC Standing Committees, and CoC Workgroups;
 - Ensuring support is provided for the CoC's Lived Experience Advisory Board and Youth Action or Advisory Board;
 - Answering CoC member questions about how the CoC operates;
 - Ensuring the CoC is communicating with CoC members and the public, including:
 - Maintaining a contact list of all CoC members,
 - Maintaining a dedicated CoC website available to members and the public,
 - Developing and distributing a an invitation for new members to join the CoC at least annually (HUD requirement),
 - Drafting and sending communications from the CoC.
 - Requesting technical assistance from HUD as needed, sending questions to the local HUD Field Office, and submitting Ask a Questions to HUD;
 - Coordinating the implementation of a homeless response system that covers Fresno & Madera and meets the needs of persons/families experiencing homelessness. Said system should include outreach, engagement and assessment; shelter, housing and supportive services; prevention strategies.
- Making regular reports to the CoC Board and General Membership and submitting to CoC monitoring/performance reviews or other oversight procedures as outlined in the MOU;
- Applying for grants on behalf of the CoC with CoC Board Approval, such as the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project Funding, the PSH Development NOFO funding, and Special NOFOs.

- Performing tasks at direction of the CoC Board and through the local policies.

Subpart G: Infectious Disease Policies

Infectious Disease Policies in Shelters:

Emergency shelters will adhere to Fresno and Madera County Public Health standards and policies for responding to infectious disease. In general, shelters will:

- Provide basic screening to identify individuals with symptoms of tuberculosis (TB).
 - o <https://www.sfcddp.org/tb-control/tuberculosis-information-for-medical-providers/shelter-client-screening-guidelines/>
- Report respiratory communicable diseases to Local Health Authority (Fresno County Department of Public Health or Madera County Department of Public Health Communicable Disease Departments- *see contact information below*) consistent with California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidance.
 - o https://www.cdph.ca.gov/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ControlledForms/cdp_h9003.pdf
- Report other communicable diseases to the Local Health Authority consistent with CDPH guidance.
 - o <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/ReportableDiseases.pdf>
- Train staff on the signs of lice or scabies and notify Public Health of outbreaks.
 - o Lice: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/index.html>
 - o Scabies: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/scabies/index.html>
- Have capability for isolating guests if it is determined that they have a communicable disease spread by droplets or aerosol
- Provide masks for clients with a cough, and have those with either cough or fever > 100.4 evaluated within 48 hours if cough or fever persist.
- Have a plan if skin lesions are present. If there are no other symptoms and lesions are covered and there is a plan for evaluation by health care providers, isolation is not required.
- Comply with CDPH requirements for managing COVID in high-risk settings such as shelters: [Infection Control Guidance for Clients in Congregate Shelters, Including Shelters for People Experiencing Homelessness \(ca.gov\)](#)
- Notify guests when there is a possibility that they were exposed to a reportable communicable disease that is spread through casual contact.
- Maintain guest confidentiality related to communicable diseases.
- Respond to any identified communicable disease, including consultation with a medical professional when determining if a guest is infected with a contagious communicable disease that might seriously endanger the health of other guests.
- Not require a TB test as a condition of entry.

- Designate a contact person for each shelter that is the liaison to the health department and who has been trained on the infectious disease policies of the CoC and on the policies for the agency and shelter. This liaison should be subscribed to receive all health alerts from the local Public Health Department listservs.
- Comply with California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5199, regarding Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) control and worker and Guest safety expectations: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5199.HTML> including availability of N95 respirators and annual FIT testing for staff expected to care for patients with ATDs. For additional guidance on this regulation and for information regarding best practices for control of infectious disease, please also refer to “Preventing Tuberculosis (TB) in Homeless Shelters” published by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/tb/docs/LATBGuidelinesforShelters.pdf>

An infectious disease that significantly increases the risk of harm to other guests may be a reason for denial or discharge. Noncompliance with treatment or containment measures that endangers other guests may be cause for discharge. Guests with lice or scabies or exhibiting symptoms of TB shall be allowed to stay in the shelter unless the disease or infestation cannot be appropriately contained (e.g., due to close quarters of facility), in which case those guests may be discharged and referred to a health care provider for treatment.

Infectious Disease Information for all CoC Project Types:

- All CoC-funded projects should maintain a list of healthcare providers, clinics, and urgent care facilities for client referral.
- All CoC-funded projects are expected to work with clients to assist them in accessing healthcare, signing up for the healthcare benefits for which they are eligible, and assisting with the effective utilization of those benefits.
- All CoC-funded projects should have Personal Protective Equipment if the project has on-site staff, including gloves and N95 masks.
- All CoC-funded projects should have the capability to isolate individuals with communicable diseases, or have processes to have individuals with communicable diseases evaluated or placed in alternative settings.

Fresno County Department of Communicable Disease Contact Information:

- During business hours Mon-Fri; 8am-5pm contact the CDI program at 559-600-3332. Afterhours reporting (including weekends and holidays): contact the Sheriffs dispatch at 559-600-3111 and ask to speak to the Communicable Disease Team.

Madera County Department of Communicable Disease Contact Information:

- During business hours, contact the direct CD reporting line at (559) 675-7894. Afterhours, call the main line (559)675-7893 to get directed to answering service. Someone will triage the call and determine if it meets criteria to be transferred to an afterhours person.

Any building for which Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds are used must meet state or local government safety and sanitation standards, as applicable, and the following minimum safety, sanitation, and privacy standards. Any emergency shelter that receives assistance for shelter operations must also meet the minimum safety, sanitation, and privacy standards detailed at 24 CFR 576.403(b)

APPENDIX A: EMERGENCY TRANSFER REQUEST FORM

**EMERGENCY TRANSFER
REQUEST FOR CERTAIN
VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE,
SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING**

**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**

OMB Approval No. 2577-0286
Exp. 06/30/2017

Purpose of Form: If you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and you are seeking an emergency transfer, you may use this form to request an emergency transfer and certify that you meet the requirements of eligibility for an emergency transfer under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Although the statutory name references women, VAWA rights and protections apply to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. Using this form does not necessarily mean that you will receive an emergency transfer. See your housing provider's emergency transfer plan for more information about the availability of emergency transfers.

The requirements you must meet are:

(1) You are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If your housing provider does not already have documentation that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, your housing provider may ask you for such documentation. In response, you may submit Form HUD-5382, or any one of the other types of documentation listed on that Form.

(2) You expressly request the emergency transfer. Submission of this form confirms that you have expressly requested a transfer. Your housing provider may choose to require that you submit this form, or may accept another written or oral request. Please see your housing provider's emergency transfer plan for more details.

(3) You reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your current unit. This means you have a reason to fear that if you do not receive a transfer you would suffer violence in the very near future.

OR

You are a victim of sexual assault and the assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before you request a transfer. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then in addition to qualifying for an emergency transfer because you reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your unit, you may qualify for an emergency transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises of the property from which you are seeking your transfer, and that assault happened within the 90-calendar-day period before you submit this form or otherwise expressly request the transfer.

Submission of Documentation: If you have third-party documentation that demonstrates why you are eligible for an emergency transfer, you should submit that documentation to your housing provider if it is safe for you to do so. Examples of third party documentation include, but are not limited to: a letter or other documentation from a victim service provider, social worker, legal assistance provider, pastoral counselor, mental health provider, or other professional from whom you have sought assistance; a

current restraining order; a recent court order or other court records; a law enforcement report or records; communication records from the perpetrator of the violence or family members or friends of the perpetrator of the violence, including emails, voicemails, text messages, and social media posts.

Confidentiality: All information provided to your housing provider concerning the incident(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and concerning your request for an emergency transfer shall be kept confidential. Such details shall not be entered into any shared database. Employees of your housing provider are not to have access to these details unless to grant or deny VAWA protections or an emergency transfer to you. Such employees may not disclose this information to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that disclosure is: (i) consented to by you in writing in a time-limited release; (ii) required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance; or (iii) otherwise required by applicable law.

TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE PERSON REQUESTING A TRANSFER

1. Name of victim requesting an emergency transfer: _____
2. Your name (if different from victim's) _____
3. Name(s) of other family member(s) listed on the lease: _____

4. Name(s) of other family member(s) who would transfer with the victim: _____

5. Address of location from which the victim seeks to transfer: _____
6. Address or phone number for contacting the victim: _____
7. Name of the accused perpetrator (if known and can be safely disclosed): _____
8. Relationship of the accused perpetrator to the victim: _____
9. Date(s), Time(s) and location(s) of incident(s): _____

10. Is the person requesting the transfer a victim of a sexual assault that occurred in the past 90 days on the premises of the property from which the victim is seeking a transfer? If yes, skip question 11. If no, fill out question 11. _____
11. Describe why the victim believes they are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if they remain in their current unit.

12. If voluntarily provided, list any third-party documentation you are providing along with this notice: _____

This is to certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that the individual named above in Item 1 meets the requirement laid out on this form for an emergency transfer. I acknowledge that submission of false information could jeopardize program eligibility and could be the basis for denial of admission, termination of assistance, or eviction.

Signature _____ Signed on (Date) _____

<p>HUD-5383</p>	<p><u>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking</u> (12/2016)</p>
	<p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Arabic</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Armenian</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Cambodian</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Creole</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Hmong</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Japanese</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Korean</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Lao</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Mandarin</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Russian</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Somali</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Spanish</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - <u>Thai</u></p> <p>Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic</p>

	Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking - Vietnamese
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APPENDIX B: NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS

NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS UNDER
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
OMB Approval No. 2577-0286
Expires 06/30/2017

[Insert Name of Housing Provider⁴]

Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act⁵

To all Tenants and Applicants

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. VAWA protections are not only available to women, but are available equally to all individuals regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.⁶ The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the Federal agency that oversees that **[insert name of program or rental assistance]** is in compliance with VAWA. This notice explains your rights under VAWA. A HUD-approved certification form is attached to this notice. You can fill out this form to show that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that you wish to use your rights under VAWA.”

⁴ The notice uses HP for housing provider but the housing provider should insert its name where HP is used. HUD’s program-specific regulations identify the individual or entity responsible for providing the notice of occupancy rights.

⁵ Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

⁶ Housing providers cannot discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing must be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

Protections for Applicants

If you otherwise qualify for assistance under **[insert name of program or rental assistance]**, you cannot be denied admission or denied assistance because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Protections for Tenants

If you are receiving assistance under **[insert name of program or rental assistance]**, you may not be denied assistance, terminated from participation, or be evicted from your rental housing because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Also, if you or an affiliated individual of yours is or has been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking by a member of your household or any guest, you may not be denied rental assistance or occupancy rights under **[insert name of program or rental assistance]** solely on the basis of criminal activity directly relating to that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Affiliated individual means your spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child, or a person to whom you stand in the place of a parent or guardian (for example, the affiliated individual is in your care, custody, or control); or any individual, tenant, or lawful occupant living in your household.

Removing the Abuser or Perpetrator from the Household

HP may divide (bifurcate) your lease in order to evict the individual or terminate the assistance of the individual who has engaged in criminal activity (the abuser or perpetrator) directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

If HP chooses to remove the abuser or perpetrator, HP may not take away the rights of eligible tenants to the unit or otherwise punish the remaining tenants. If the evicted abuser or perpetrator was the sole tenant to have established eligibility for assistance under the program, HP must allow the tenant who is or has been a victim and other household members to remain in the unit for a period of time, in order to establish eligibility under the program or under another HUD housing program covered by VAWA, or, find alternative housing.

In removing the abuser or perpetrator from the household, HP must follow Federal, State, and local eviction procedures. In order to divide a lease, HP may, but is not required to, ask you for documentation or certification of the incidences of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking

Moving to Another Unit

Upon your request, HP may permit you to move to another unit, subject to the availability of other units, and still keep your assistance. In order to approve a request, HP may ask you to provide documentation that you are requesting to move because of an incidence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If the request is a request for emergency transfer, the housing provider may ask you to submit a written request or fill out a form where you certify that you meet the criteria for an emergency transfer under VAWA. The criteria are:

(1) You are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If your housing provider does not already have documentation that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, your housing provider may ask you for such documentation, as described in the documentation section below.

(2) You expressly request the emergency transfer. Your housing provider may choose to require that you submit a form, or may accept another written or oral request.

(3) You reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your current unit. This means you have a reason to fear that if you do not receive a transfer you would suffer violence in the very near future.

OR

You are a victim of sexual assault and the assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before you request a transfer. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then in addition to qualifying for an emergency transfer because you reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your unit, you may qualify for an emergency transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises of the property from which you are seeking your transfer, and that assault happened within the 90-calendar-day period before you expressly request the transfer.

HP will keep confidential requests for emergency transfers by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and the location of any move by such victims and their families.

HP's emergency transfer plan provides further information on emergency transfers, and HP must make a copy of its emergency transfer plan available to you if you ask to see it.

Documenting You Are or Have Been a Victim of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking

HP can, but is not required to, ask you to provide documentation to “certify” that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Such request from HP must be in writing, and HP must give you at least 14 business days (Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays do not count) from the day you receive the request to provide the documentation. HP may, but does not have to, extend the deadline for the submission of documentation upon your request.

You can provide one of the following to HP as documentation. It is your choice which of the following to submit if HP asks you to provide documentation that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

- A complete HUD-approved certification form given to you by HP with this notice, that documents an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The form will ask for your name, the date, time, and location of the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and a description of the incident. The certification form provides for including the name of the abuser or perpetrator if the name of the abuser or perpetrator is known and is safe to provide.
- A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency that documents the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Examples of such records include police reports, protective orders, and restraining orders, among others.

- A statement, which you must sign, along with the signature of an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, a medical professional or a mental health professional (collectively, “professional”) from whom you sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse, and with the professional selected by you attesting under penalty of perjury that he or she believes that the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are grounds for protection.
- Any other statement or evidence that HP has agreed to accept.

If you fail or refuse to provide one of these documents within the 14 business days, HP does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

If HP receives conflicting evidence that an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has been committed (such as certification forms from two or more members of a household each claiming to be a victim and naming one or more of the other petitioning household members as the abuser or perpetrator), HP has the right to request that you provide third-party documentation within thirty 30 calendar days in order to resolve the conflict. If you fail or refuse to provide third-party documentation where there is conflicting evidence, HP does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

Confidentiality

HP must keep confidential any information you provide related to the exercise of your rights under VAWA, including the fact that you are exercising your rights under VAWA.

HP must not allow any individual administering assistance or other services on behalf of HP (for example, employees and contractors) to have access to confidential information unless for reasons that specifically call for these individuals to have access to this information under applicable Federal, State, or local law.

HP must not enter your information into any shared database or disclose your information to any other entity or individual. HP, however, may disclose the information provided if:

- You give written permission to HP to release the information on a time limited basis.
- HP needs to use the information in an eviction or termination proceeding, such as to evict your abuser or perpetrator or terminate your abuser or perpetrator from assistance under this program.
- A law requires HP or your landlord to release the information.

VAWA does not limit HP's duty to honor court orders about access to or control of the property. This includes orders issued to protect a victim and orders dividing property among household members in cases where a family breaks up.

Reasons a Tenant Eligible for Occupancy Rights under VAWA May Be Evicted or Assistance May Be Terminated

You can be evicted and your assistance can be terminated for serious or repeated lease violations that are not related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking committed against you. However, HP cannot hold tenants who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to a more demanding set of rules than it

applies to tenants who have not been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

The protections described in this notice might not apply, and you could be evicted and your assistance terminated, if HP can demonstrate that not evicting you or terminating your assistance would present a real physical danger that:

- 1) Would occur within an immediate time frame, and
- 2) Could result in death or serious bodily harm to other tenants or those who work on the property.

If HP can demonstrate the above, HP should only terminate your assistance or evict you if there are no other actions that could be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat.

Other Laws

VAWA does not replace any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. You may be entitled to additional housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking under other Federal laws, as well as under State and local laws.

Non-Compliance with The Requirements of This Notice

You may report a covered housing provider's violations of these rights and seek additional assistance, if needed, by contacting or filing a complaint with **the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care at info@fresnomaderahomeless.org or to the local HUD field office. The FMCOC local HUD field office is the Office of Community Planning and Development in San Francisco.**

For Additional Information

You may view a copy of HUD's final VAWA rule at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/04/2022-28073/the-violence-against-women-act-reauthorization-act-of-2022-overview-of-applicability-to-hud-programs#p-34>

Additionally, HP must make a copy of HUD's VAWA regulations available to you if you ask to see them.

For questions regarding VAWA, please contact Marjaree Mason Center at 1600 M Street, Fresno or 559-2374706 or mmc@mmcenter.org.

For help regarding an abusive relationship, you may call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or, for persons with hearing impairments, 1-800-787-3224 (TTY). You may also contact Marjaree Mason Center at 1600 M Street, Fresno or 559-2374706 or mmc@mmcenter.org. For tenants who are or have been victims of stalking seeking help may visit the National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center at <https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>.

For help regarding sexual assault, you may contact Marjaree Mason Center at 1600 M Street, Fresno or 559-2374706 or mmc@mmcenter.org.

Victims of stalking seeking help may contact Marjaree Mason Center at 1600 M Street, Fresno or 559-2374706 or mmc@mmcenter.org.

Attachment as Appendix C: Certification form HUD-5382

HUD-5380	Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act (12/2016)
	<p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Arabic</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Armenian</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Cambodian</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Creole</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Hmong</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Japanese</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Korean</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Lao</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Mandarin</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Russian</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Somali</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Spanish</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Thai</p> <p>Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act - Vietnamese</p>

APPENDIX C: CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING, AND ALTERNATIVE DOCUMENTATION

**CERTIFICATION OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE,
DATING VIOLENCE,
SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING,
AND ALTERNATE DOCUMENTATION**

**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**

OMB Approval No. 2577-0286
Exp. 06/30/2017

Purpose of Form: The Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”) protects applicants, tenants, and program participants in certain HUD programs from being evicted, denied housing assistance, or terminated from housing assistance based on acts of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against them. Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Use of This Optional Form: If you are seeking VAWA protections from your housing provider, your housing provider may give you a written request that asks you to submit documentation about the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

In response to this request, you or someone on your behalf may complete this optional form and submit it to your housing provider, or you may submit one of the following types of third-party documentation:

- (1) A document signed by you and an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or medical professional, or a mental health professional (collectively, “professional”) from whom you have sought assistance relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse. The document must specify, under penalty of perjury, that the professional believes the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking occurred and meet the definition of “domestic violence,” “dating violence,” “sexual assault,” or “stalking” in HUD’s regulations at 24 CFR 5.2003.
- (2) A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency; or
- (3) At the discretion of the housing provider, a statement or other evidence provided by the applicant or tenant.

Submission of Documentation: The time period to submit documentation is 14 business days from the date that you receive a written request from your housing provider asking that you provide documentation of the occurrence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Your housing provider may, but is not required to, extend the time period to submit the documentation, if you request an extension of the time period. If the requested information is not received within 14 business days of when you received the request for the documentation, or any extension of the date provided by your housing provider, your housing provider does not need to grant you any of the VAWA protections. Distribution or issuance of this form does not serve as a written request for certification.

Confidentiality: All information provided to your housing provider concerning the incident(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shall be kept confidential and such details shall not be entered into any shared database. Employees of your housing provider are not to have

access to these details unless to grant or deny VAWA protections to you, and such employees may not disclose this information to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that disclosure is: (i) consented to by you in writing in a time-limited release; (ii) required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance; or (iii) otherwise required by applicable law.

TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING

1. Date the written request is received by victim: _____

2. Name of victim: _____

3. Your name (if different from victim's): _____

4. Name(s) of other family member(s) listed on the lease: _____

5. Residence of victim: _____

6. Name of the accused perpetrator (if known and can be safely disclosed): _____

7. Relationship of the accused perpetrator to the victim: _____

8. Date(s) and times(s) of incident(s) (if known): _____

10. Location of incident(s): _____

In your own words, briefly describe the incident(s):

This is to certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection, and that the individual named above in Item 2 is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. I acknowledge that submission of false information could jeopardize program eligibility and could be the basis for denial of admission, termination of assistance, or eviction.

Signature _____ Signed on (Date) _____

Public Reporting Burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response. This includes the time for collecting, reviewing, and reporting the data.

The information provided is to be used by the housing provider to request certification that the applicant or tenant is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The information is subject to the confidentiality requirements of VAWA. This agency may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

HUD-5382	Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation (12/2016)
	<p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Arabic</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Armenian</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Cambodian</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Creole</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Hmong</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Japanese</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Korean</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Lao</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Mandarin</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Russian</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Somali</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Spanish</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Thai</p> <p>Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation - Vietnamese</p>

APPENDIX D: VAWA LEASE ADDENDUM/LEASE TERMS

NOTE: HUD's Model Lease Addendum Form is available [HERE](#) and is a compliant addition to all leases for CoC and ESG funded projects. The below form has been updated by the community to include additional protections, but the landlord has the option to only include language from HUD's model form.

**VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE
OR STALKING**

**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**
Office of Housing

OMB Approval No. 2502-0204
Exp. 6/30/2017

LEASE ADDENDUM

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

TENANT	LANDLORD	UNIT NO. & ADDRESS
--------	----------	--------------------

This lease addendum adds the following paragraphs to the Lease between the above referenced Tenant and Landlord.

Purpose of the Addendum

The lease for the above referenced unit is being amended to include the provisions of the Violence Against Women and Justice Department Reauthorization Act of 2005 (VAWA).

Conflicts with Other Provisions of the Lease

In case of any conflict between the provisions of this Addendum and other sections of the Lease, the provisions of this Addendum shall prevail.

Term of the Lease Addendum

The effective date of this Lease Addendum is _____. This Lease Addendum shall continue to be in effect until the Lease is terminated.

VAWA Protections

1. The Landlord may not consider incidents of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking as serious or repeated violations of the lease or other "good cause" for termination of assistance, tenancy or occupancy rights of the victim of abuse.

2. The Landlord may not consider criminal activity directly relating to abuse, engaged in by a member of a tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control, cause for termination of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant's family is the victim or threatened victim of that abuse.
3. Due to safety, privacy, and confidentiality concerns, to receive protection under the VAWA, the lessee is not required to provide the Landlord with the Certification of Domestic Violence that the individual is a victim of abuse (the Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking, Form HUD-91066), or other documentation to prove domestic violence occurred.

Other Terms

1. **Emergency Transfers:** The Landlord allows victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to request an emergency transfer from the resident's current unit to another unit. The lease can be terminated by the Tenant without penalty if the Housing Provider determines that the Tenant qualifies for an Emergency Transfer under the Continuum of Care's (CoC) Emergency Transfer Plan. If the unit is vacant, rental assistance terminates.

If any family members remain in the unit, they may continue to do so, unless the Landlord determines the remaining family member violated the terms of the lease by engaging in criminal activity directly related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking or if the Housing Provider determines they are unable to continue to provide rental assistance to the remaining family member(s) due to budget/financial constraints of having to serve two households instead of one or due to eligibility reasons. The Housing Provider will determine if rental assistance can continue for the remaining family member(s) and the Landlord will be notified within 5 days. Otherwise, household members remaining in the unit may continue to receive assistance if they were eligible for assistance prior to moving into the unit. Household members have 90 days to establish this eligibility.

2. **Lease Bifurcation for Emergency Transfer:** the Landlord may bifurcate leases to evict, remove, or terminate assistance to a household member who engages in domestic violence-related criminal activity without evicting, removing, or terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing, a victim of such criminal activity who is also a tenant or lawful occupant. Tenant-based rental assistance and any utility assistance from the Housing Provider shall continue for the family member(s) who are not evicted or removed. If the lease is bifurcated, and the evicted tenant was the eligible tenant under the Housing Program, the Landlord will provide the remaining tenants a period of 90 calendar days from the date of bifurcation of the lease to:

- A. Establish eligibility for the same covered Housing Program under which the evicted or terminated tenant was the recipient of assistance at the time of bifurcation of the lease, or
- B. Work with the Coordinated Entry System to establish eligibility under another Housing Program to cover rental assistance, or
- C. Find alternative housing.

The Housing Provider may extend the 90-calendar-day period and continue to pay rental assistance for an additional 60 calendar days, unless prohibited from doing so by statutory requirements of the program or unless the time period would extend beyond the expiration of the lease.

3. Occupancy Notices and Certifications: the Landlord will notify the Tenant's Housing Provider before any lease is bifurcated and before any notice of eviction is provided so the Housing Provider can ensure Landlord or HP is providing Tenant with an Occupancy Notice and Certification at the time the Notice of Eviction is sent.

Tenant

Date

Landlord

Date

Form **HUD-90066**
(09/2008)

APPENDIX E: ESG-SPECIFIC POLICIES

ESG recipients have their own ESG policies, in addition to the ESG policies included in the CoC's Written Standards.

Confidentiality and Staffing Plan:

The confidentiality procedures of the recipient and its subrecipients must be in writing and must be maintained in accordance with this section. All projects, including ESG recipients and subrecipients must develop and implement written procedures to ensure:

- (i) All records containing personally identifying information (as defined in HUD's standards for participation, data collection, and reporting in a local HMIS) of any individual or family who applies for and/or receives ESG assistance will be kept secure and confidential;
- (ii) The address or location of any domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shelter project assisted under the ESG will not be made public, except with written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of the shelter; and
- (iii) The address or location of any housing of a program participant will not be made public, except as provided under a preexisting privacy policy of the recipient or subrecipient and consistent with state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

Providers should evaluate the different staff roles in their programs and consider adjusting their structure if necessary, to increase capacity and ensure they have the right amount of staff with the appropriate skills. Common staff roles include:

- Case Manager – Staff primarily responsible for providing ongoing case management throughout the client's time in the program, providing varying levels and focus on case management depending on which phase of Homelessness Prevention the household is in;
- Housing/Landlord Engagement Specialist – Staff primarily responsible for outreaching and engaging with landlords, doing property searches, supporting clients throughout the housing search process, including creating budgets, understanding the terms of the lease, and doing unit inspections. When programs have both staff positions, they would work closely together with clients while each holding distinct roles. Once the client is housed, the Case Manager would maintain ongoing contact with the client.
- Program Manager – Staff member responsible for overseeing the Homelessness Prevention program, including planning and projecting program budget, overseeing client/Case Manager assignments and ratios, determining when the program has

capacity for additional clients, and approving rental subsidy models and exceptions to the approved model.

Training/Onboarding: See the Bridge Learning Management System training policies and requirements for onboarding and training new project staff. Staff who provide direct services and those who supervise staff that provide direct services should be trained in the core components of Homelessness Prevention, as well as the following:

- Coordinated Entry policies and procedures
- HMIS/CES requirements and procedures
 - o The HMIS policies and procedures include the process for entering participant data into and maintaining participant data in the local HMIS in an accurate and timely manner.

Providers should follow the below estimated caseloads unless they have established their own estimated caseloads in program Policies & Procedures. The programs' estimated caseloads must be sufficient to meet any commitments or projections regarding the number of participants to be served by the project during a given period.

The following are recommended caseload sizes based on acuity classifications and service needs:

Acuity Classification	Caseload Size
High Acuity	1:10 – 1:15
Moderate Acuity	1:16 – 1:30
Low Acuity	1:31 – 1:40

Additional Policies for ESG Homelessness Prevention (ESG-HP):

ESG recipients must comply with the FMCoC Coordinated Entry System Policies related to Prevention for intakes and assessments. The Coordinated Entry System manages the triage process to ensure prevention projects serves only those who will experience literal homelessness without ESG-HP assistance. Prevention assistance is prioritized for individuals and families who are currently living within Fresno or Madera Counties without support networks and who have no other options or resources for housing. Additionally, Prevention and Diversion funded providers must define how, if the number of provider applicants exceed the provider's participant capacity, the provider will use its needs assessment process to triage participants for the purposes of ensuring that the provider serves those with the greatest need who both will experience literal homelessness without assistance and will remain in permanent housing if they receive assistance.

Admission: Participants in ESG-HP projects must meet the eligibility described above and projects must collect the associated eligibility documentation described in Appendix E. Projects

must also complete income evaluations/verifications at intake and at least every three months to demonstrate that the household's annual income is less than or equal to 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Projects must follow evaluation and participant eligibility rules and regulations as set forth in 24 CFR § 576.401(a) through €.

Service Delivery: Homelessness prevention and diversion service providers must develop and follow policies and procedures that define the package of services they offer, in answer to the following questions:

- What is the “standard” package of services that this project offers? Which of these services will the provider offer directly (using grant funds or match) and which, if any, will be offered via a contractor?
- What is the initial duration of the ‘standard’ package of services?
- What other services will the project offer on an as needed basis, however infrequently? Who decides when to offer these additional services?
- What is the process for developing a case management plan and what is the process for reassessing?
- What is the process for developing a participant plan as to how they will retain permanent housing after assistance ends?

The services provided may not exceed but may be more limited than those eligible activities enumerated in the [California Housing and Community Development Department’s ESG Program Homelessness Prevention Policy](#).

All supportive services will be provided as necessary to help participants maintain permanent housing, or move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Supportive services are limited with ESG funds and may be used only to provide housing relocation and stabilization services. Prevention assistance must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in 24 CFR § 576.104 and 576.105, the short- and medium-term rental assistance requirements in 24 CFR § 576.106, and the written standards and procedures established under 24 CFR § 576.400.

Projects must attempt to provide case management, landlord mediation, and/or other case management-based prevention services to all participants who request ESG-HP services as the project’s first service delivery to each participant; projects are strongly encouraged to continue offering these services to each participant until both project and participant jointly determine that the participant cannot remain housed absent onetime payments or an ongoing subsidy. For additional information on Housing Problem-Solving, see the [ESG HCD Housing Problem-Solving Policy](#).

HOMELESS PREVENTION DEFINITIONS AND RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for prevention assistance, whether “At-Risk” or “At-Imminent Risk”, households must first meet both of the following conditions:

- Household income must be below 30% AMI (see Section 2 for documentation instructions)

AND

- Household lacks the financial resources and support networks necessary to obtain or remain in permanent housing, and no other housing options have been identified (see Section 3 for documentation instructions).

Section 1 – Housing Status Verification:

Situation		Required Documentation
At Imminent-Risk	Household will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days	A court order resulting from an eviction action notifying the individual or family that they must leave; OR For individual and families leaving a hotel or motel – evidence that they lack the financial resources to stay; OR A documented and verified oral statement.
	Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence	Oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing. This statement is documented by a self-certification or by the caseworker. Where the safety of the individual or family is not jeopardized, the oral statement must be verified.
At-Risk	Moved 2 or more times due to economic reasons in 60 days prior to application for assistance	Documentation of 2 moves within 60 days may include: HMIS records; OR Referral from housing/service provider; OR Letter from tenant/owner AND Documentation of economic hardship may include: Notice of job loss; OR Health care bills indicating arrears; OR

		Utility bills indicating arrears
	Living in the home of another due to economic hardship	Letter from tenant/homeowner AND Documentation of economic hardship may include: Notice of job loss; OR Health care bills indicating arrears; OR Utility bills indicating arrears
	Losing housing within 21 days after application date	If primary tenant/homeowner: eviction notice or court order to leave within 21 days OR If living with another (doubled up): eviction letter from tenant/homeowner
	Living in a hotel/motel <u>not</u> paid for by charitable organizations or federal/state/local government programs	Letter from hotel/motel manager
	Living in severely overcrowded unit as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau	SRO or efficiency apartment: more than 2 people; OR Larger housing: more than 1.5 people per room AND Documentation of number of rooms in unit <u>and</u> number of individuals living in the unit:
		Lease; OR

		Unit details from Tax Assessor's Office
	Exiting publicly funded institution or system of care	Discharge paperwork OR Referral letter

Section 2 - Income Verification *(all household members 18 years and older):*

Type of Income	Required Documentation
Wages and Salary Income	Copy of most recent pay stub(s). OR Dated mail, fax, or email verification from employer that includes name of employer, client name, pay amount and frequency, average hours worked per week, amount of any additional compensation. OR Oral verification from employer that includes name of employer, client name, pay amount and frequency, average hours worked per week, amount of any additional compensation (complete Third Party Oral Verification form. Equivalent case notes may be substituted.). OR Self-declaration signed and dated by applicant that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).
Self Employment and Business Income	Copy of most recent federal and state tax return. OR Self-declaration that includes source of income, income amount and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).
Interest and Dividend Income	Copy of most recent interest or dividend income statement. OR Copy of most recent federal and state tax return. OR Self-declaration that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).
Pension/Retirement Income	Copy of most recent payment statement or benefit notice from Social Security, pension provider, or other source.

	<p>OR Dated mail, fax, or email verification from Social Security, pension provider, or other source that includes name of income source and income amount.</p> <p>OR Oral verification from source that includes name of income source and income amount (complete Third Party Oral Verification form. Equivalent case notes may be substituted.).</p> <p>OR Self-declaration signed and dated by applicant that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).</p>
Unemployment and Disability Income	<p>Copy of most recent payment statement or benefit notice.</p> <p>OR Dated mail, fax, or email verification from unemployment administrator or workers compensation administrator of former employer that includes name of income source and income amount.</p> <p>OR Oral verification from source that includes name of income source and income amount (complete Third Party Oral Verification form. Equivalent case notes may be substituted.).</p> <p>OR Self-declaration signed and dated by applicant that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).</p>
TANF/Public Assistance	<p>Copy of most recent payment statement or benefit notice.</p> <p>OR Dated mail, fax, or email verification from welfare administrator that includes name of income source and income amount.</p> <p>OR Oral verification from source that includes name of income source and income amount (complete Third Party Oral Verification form. Equivalent case notes may be substituted.)</p> <p>OR Self-declaration signed and dated by applicant that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).</p>

Alimony, Child Support, Foster Care Payments	<p>Copy of most recent payment statement, notices, or orders.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Dated mail, fax, or email verification from child support enforcement agency, court liaison, or other source that includes name of income source and income amount.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Oral verification from source that includes name of income source and income amount (complete Third Party Oral Verification form).</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Self-declaration signed and dated by applicant that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).</p>
Armed Forces Income	<p>Copy of pay stubs, payment statement, or other government issued statement indicating income amount.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Dated mail, fax, or email verification from child support enforcement agency, court liaison, or other source that includes name of income source and income amount.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Oral verification from source that includes name of income source and income amount (complete Third Party Oral Verification form).</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Self-declaration signed and dated by applicant that includes source of income, income amount, and frequency of income (complete Self-Declaration form).</p>

Section 3 – No Subsequent Residence and Insufficient Resources/Support Networks:

<p>Please describe how the household lacks the financial resources and support networks necessary to obtain or remain in permanent housing, and that no other housing options have been identified.</p>	
---	--

Additional Information about Annual Household Income - Income Eligibility Determination

In addition to documenting homelessness or at-risk status at intake, households served must have an income at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). This level of income is part of the definition of “at-risk” which qualifies most households for prevention services. If a participant qualifies under the “Imminent Risk of Homelessness” or “Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence”, definition the income eligibility requirement must also be verified. Eligibility redetermination must be conducted not less than once every six months. At that time, a case manager may decide to extend, decrease, or discontinue providing assistance. To

continue to receive assistance, a household's re-evaluation must demonstrate eligibility based on:

- Lack of Resources and Support Networks. The household must continue to lack sufficient resources and support networks to retain housing without HP assistance; AND
- Income. In addition, re-evaluation must demonstrate that the household's annual income is less than or equal to 30 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Case managers may also require households to notify the case manager regarding changes in their income or other circumstances that affect their need for assistance (e.g. changes in household composition, stability, or support). When notified of any change, case managers must reevaluate eligibility and the amounts and types of assistance the household needs.

Income Definition and Documentation:

Income is any money that goes to, or on behalf of, the head of household or spouse (even if temporarily absent) or to any other household member. Annual income includes the current (within 30 days) gross income of all adult household member (18 years of age or older) and income attributable to a minor (SSI/SSP, child support, etc.) The following types of income must be included for income calculation purposes as indicated in the chart:

Countable Income
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earned Income (Gross income before taxes and deductions) • Self-Employment / Business Income (Net income earned, i.e. total revenue minus business operating expenses. This also includes any withdrawals of cash from the business or profession for personal use.) • Interest and Dividend Income • Pension / Retirement Income (VA, SSA, annuities, pensions from a former job and other similar types of pension/retirement income) • Armed Forces Income (Basic pay, special day and allowances excluding pay for exposure to hostile fire) • Unemployment Benefits • Disability Income (SSI/SSP, SSDI, private disability insurance, VA disability, State Disability Insurance) • Workers Compensation • Public Assistance / General Assistance income from government agencies excluding amounts designated for shelter, and utilities, WIC, food stamps and childcare. • Alimony, Child Support and Foster Care payments received from organizations or persons not residing in the dwelling. • Adoption Assistance Payments

Acceptable forms of income documentation include the most recent wage statement, unemployment compensation statement, public benefits statement, bank statement, third

party statements (e.g. employer, government benefits administrator) or other written certification by the household of the amount of income that the household is reasonably expected to receive.

Timeliness of Income Documentation:

Documentation that is dated within 30 days prior to the time of application is acceptable. However, a statement received any time within the twelve months prior to the time of application and reflecting current benefits received by a household is allowed.

Determining Area Median Income:

Homelessness Prevention programs must ensure they are using the correct HUD Area Median Income thresholds prior to providing Homelessness Prevention assistance.

Income Calculation:

Depending on pay periods used by the employer or the schedule of periodic payments, the following calculations convert the average wage into annual income:

- Hourly wage multiplied by Hours Worked per week multiplied by 52 weeks
- Weekly wage multiplied by 52 weeks
- Bi-Weekly (every other week) wages multiplied by 26 bi-weekly periods
- Semi-monthly wage (twice a month) multiplied by 24 semi-monthly periods
- Monthly wage multiplied by 12 months

Staff can calculate the household's annual income and eligibility using HUD's Income Eligibility Calculator (<https://www.hudexchange.info/incomecalculator/>). If using HUD's calculator, print the summary of the determination and keep in the household's case file. In order to use the Income Calculator, the user will need to set up a HUD exchange login.

APPENDIX F: PSH PARTICIPANT TERMINATION OF SUBSIDY APPEALS POLICY

This policy has been approved, but is not effective until CoC staff has been hired to support it.

STANDARD FORM 424

**NON-STATE GRANTEE
CERTIFICATIONS**

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

B-25-UC-06-0003

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

County of Fresno

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

*** c. UEI:**

LGJ1SMMN9XR6

d. Address:

* Street1: 2220 Tulare Street

Street2: 6th Floor

* City: Fresno

County/Parish:

* State: CA: California

Province:

* Country: USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code: 93721-2126

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Public Works and Planning

Division Name:

Community Development

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Ms.

*** First Name:**

Jennifer

Middle Name:

* Last Name: Kirkpatrick

Suffix:

Title:

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: 559-600-4292

Fax Number: 559-600-4573

* Email: jkish@fresnocountyca.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

B: County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.218

CFDA Title:

Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

B-25-UC-06-0003

* Title:

Community Development Block Grant

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

SF-424-14-Areas.pdf

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

General Management, Oversight & Coordination; Housing Program Administration; Housing and Commercial Rehabilitation; Public Facilities & Infrastructure Improvements Projects; Public Services

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="3,172,269.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="1,051,150.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="1,207,500.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="5,430,919.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☒ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Fresno County

SF-424

Additional Information for Selected Questions

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

The unincorporated portion of Fresno County and the participating cities of Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger and Selma.

Fresno County

SF-424

Additional Information for Selected Questions

16. Congressional Districts - List of Program/Project Congressional Districts:

CA-005

CA-013

CA-020

CA-021

Instructions for the HUD 424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual, must provide the following assurances and certifications. The Responsible Civil Rights Official has specified this form for use for purposes of general compliance with 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 146.25, as applicable. The Responsible Civil Rights Official may require specific civil rights assurances to be furnished consistent with those authorities and will specify the form on which such assurances must be made. A failure to furnish or comply with the civil rights assurances contained in this form may result in the procedures to effect compliance at 24 CFR §§ 1.8, 3.115, 8.57, or 146.39.

By submitting this form, you are stating that all assertions made in this form are true, accurate, and correct.

As the duly representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant: [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

*Authorized Representative Name:

Steven E. White

*Title: Director, Department of Public Works and Planning

*Applicant/Recipient Organization:

County of Fresno

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the application to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.

2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).

3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the American Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 or 36, as applicable, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07) as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, familial status, or national origin and will affirmatively further fair housing; except an

applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. Will comply with all applicable Federal nondiscrimination requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR §§ 5.105(a) and 5.106 as applicable.

6. Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and, as applicable, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(d)) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 42, subpart A.

7. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property.

8. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all subawards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

I/We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802).

* Signature:

* Date: (mm/dd/yyyy):

Public Reporting Burden Statement: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Chief Data Officer, R, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. **Do not send completed HUD-424B forms to this address.** This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information under the authority cited in the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant program. The information collected provides assurances and certifications for legal requirements related to the administration of this grant program. HUD will use this information to ensure compliance of its grantees. This information is required to obtain the benefit sought in the grant program. This information will not be held confidential and may be made available to the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552).

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

M-25-UC-06-0205

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

County of Fresno

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

*** c. UEI:**

LGJ1SMMN9XR6

d. Address:

* Street1: 2220 Tulare Street

Street2: 6th Floor

* City: Fresno

County/Parish:

* State: CA: California

Province:

* Country: USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code: 93721-2126

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Public Works and Planning

Division Name:

Community Development

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Ms.

*** First Name:**

Jennifer

Middle Name:

* Last Name: Kirkpatrick

Suffix:

Title:

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: 559-600-4292

Fax Number: 559-600-4573

* Email: jkish@fresnocountyca.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

B: County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

M-25-UC-06-0205

* Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

SF-424-14-Areas.pdf

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

HOME Program Administration; Homebuyer Assistance; Affordable Housing Development; Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,162,933.95"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="10,600,000.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="500,000.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="12,262,933.95"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☒ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Fresno County

SF-424

Additional Information for Selected Questions

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

The unincorporated portion of Fresno County and the participating cities of Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger and Selma.

Fresno County

SF-424

Additional Information for Selected Questions

16. Congressional Districts - List of Program/Project Congressional Districts:

CA-005

CA-013

CA-020

CA-021

Instructions for the HUD 424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual, must provide the following assurances and certifications. The Responsible Civil Rights Official has specified this form for use for purposes of general compliance with 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 146.25, as applicable. The Responsible Civil Rights Official may require specific civil rights assurances to be furnished consistent with those authorities and will specify the form on which such assurances must be made. A failure to furnish or comply with the civil rights assurances contained in this form may result in the procedures to effect compliance at 24 CFR §§ 1.8, 3.115, 8.57, or 146.39.

By submitting this form, you are stating that all assertions made in this form are true, accurate, and correct.

As the duly representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant: [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

*Authorized Representative Name:

Steven E. White

*Title: Director, Department of Public Works and Planning

*Applicant/Recipient Organization:

County of Fresno

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the application to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.

2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).

3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the American Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 or 36, as applicable, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07) as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, familial status, or national origin and will affirmatively further fair housing; except an

applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. Will comply with all applicable Federal nondiscrimination requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR §§ 5.105(a) and 5.106 as applicable.

6. Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and, as applicable, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(d)) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 42, subpart A.

7. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property.

8. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all subawards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

I/We, the undersigned, certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct. WARNING: Anyone who knowingly submits a false claim or makes a false statement is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including confinement for up to 5 years, fines, and civil and administrative penalties. (18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1010, 1012, 1014; 31 U.S.C. §3729, 3802).

* Signature:

* Date: (mm/dd/yyyy):

Public Reporting Burden Statement: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Chief Data Officer, R, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. **Do not send completed HUD-424B forms to this address.** This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information under the authority cited in the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant program. The information collected provides assurances and certifications for legal requirements related to the administration of this grant program. HUD will use this information to ensure compliance of its grantees. This information is required to obtain the benefit sought in the grant program. This information will not be held confidential and may be made available to the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552).

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

E-25-UC-06-0003

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

County of Fresno

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

*** c. UEI:**

H6P3DM895K25

d. Address:

* Street1: 205 W Pontiac Way

Street2:

* City: Clovis

County/Parish:

* State: CA: California

Province:

* Country: USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code: 93612-5609

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Social Services

Division Name:

Administration

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Ms.

* First Name:

Laura

Middle Name:

* Last Name: Moreno

Suffix:

Title: Program Manager

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: 559-600-2335

Fax Number: 559-600-2357

* Email: LHaga@fresnocountyca.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

B: County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.231

CFDA Title:

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

E-25-UC-06-0003

* Title:

Emergency Solutions Grant

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

SF-424-14-Areas (ESG).pdf

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Emergency Solutions Grant Administration; Emergency Solutions Grant

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="281,704.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="281,704.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☒ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Fresno County

SF-424

Additional Information for Selected Questions

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

This project is County-wide, and includes Fresno County and all incorporated cities within Fresno County.

Areas potentially affected are:

Fresno County

Clovis

Coalinga

Firebaugh

Fowler

Fresno

Huron

Kerman

Kingsburg

Mendota

Orange Cove

Parlier

Reedley

Sanger

San Joaquin

Selma

Fresno County

SF-424

Additional Information for Selected Questions

16. Congressional Districts - List of Program/Project Congressional Districts:

CA-005

CA-013

CA-020

CA-021

**Applicant and Recipient
Assurances and Certifications**

**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**

OMB Number: 2510-0017
Expiration Date: 1/31/2026

Instructions for the HUD 424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual, must provide the following assurances and certifications. The Responsible Civil Rights Official has specified this form for use for purposes of general compliance with 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 146.25, as applicable. The Responsible Civil Rights Official may require specific civil rights assurances to be furnished consistent with those authorities and will specify the form on which such assurances must be made. A failure to furnish or comply with the civil rights assurances contained in this form may result in the procedures to effect compliance at 24 CFR §§ 1.8, 3.115, 8.57, or 146.39.

By submitting this form, you are stating that all assertions made in this form are true, accurate, and correct.

As the duly representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant: [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

*Authorized Representative Name:

Sanja Bugay

*Title: Director, Department of Social Services

*Applicant/Recipient Organization:

County of Fresno

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the application to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.

2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).

3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 8, the American Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), and implementing regulations at 28 CFR part 35 or 36, as applicable, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07) as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

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applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. Will comply with all applicable Federal nondiscrimination requirements, including those listed at 24 CFR §§ 5.105(a) and 5.106 as applicable.

6. Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24 and, as applicable, Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(d)) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 42, subpart A.

7. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property.

8. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all subawards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

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* Signature:

* Date: (mm/dd/yyyy):

Public Reporting Burden Statement: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Chief Data Officer, R, 451 7th St SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000. **Do not send completed HUD-424B forms to this address.** This agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information under the authority cited in the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant program. The information collected provides assurances and certifications for legal requirements related to the administration of this grant program. HUD will use this information to ensure compliance of its grantees. This information is required to obtain the benefit sought in the grant program. This information will not be held confidential and may be made available to the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552).

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Director, Department of Public Works and Planning
Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2025 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Director, Department of Public Works and Planning
Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Director, Department of Public Works and Planning
Title

Emergency Solutions Grants Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion/renovation – If an emergency shelter’s rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation.

If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion.

In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the recipient will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the recipient serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The recipient will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal, State, local, and private assistance available for these individuals.

Matching Funds – The recipient will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The recipient has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the recipient will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the recipient undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with its consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The recipient will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Director, Department of Social Services
Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.