

# ESG – CoC Planning Session

March 15, 2012

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# Welcome & Introductions

## ■ DHHS/DAAS

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## Who is here?

- 12 Continua of Care
- Stakeholder Groups
- Current ESG recipients

# Agenda

- **Goals**
  - For ESG
  - For Today
- **Ground Rules**
- **10,000 Feet View**
  - Big Picture Changes
  - Timeline
- **Increasing the ESG & CoC Partnership**
  - Continuum of Care Role
  - Contracting
- **Program Outcomes**
  - ESG & HMIS
  - Goals for Program Outcomes
  - Transitional Housing
- **Mainstream Partnerships**
- **Review Timeline & Next Steps**





# Goals

## New HUD ESG Program Goal

- Assist people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.

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The change in the program's name reflects the change in the program's focus from addressing the needs of homeless people in emergency shelters to assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program builds upon the existing Emergency Shelter Grants program, but places greater emphasis on attaining permanent housing. The key changes that reflect this new emphasis are the expansion of the homelessness prevention component of the program and the addition of a new rapid re-housing assistance component.

## Goals for New NC ESG Process

- Involve Continuum of Care in funding decisions
- Streamline state contracts
- Consider program outcomes & HEARTH performance measures in funding decisions
- Incentivize rapid re-housing programs

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In addition to following the new Emergency Solutions Grants Program regulations, the State intends to use this opportunity to improve and streamline the NC ESG Program.

## System Goals for New Process

- Assist in retooling the crisis response system and move NC towards ending homelessness
- Position NC to maximize access to additional federal, state and local resources
- Further goals of the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness and local ten-year plans
- Promote ESG as a system-level resource instead of funding individual program in isolation

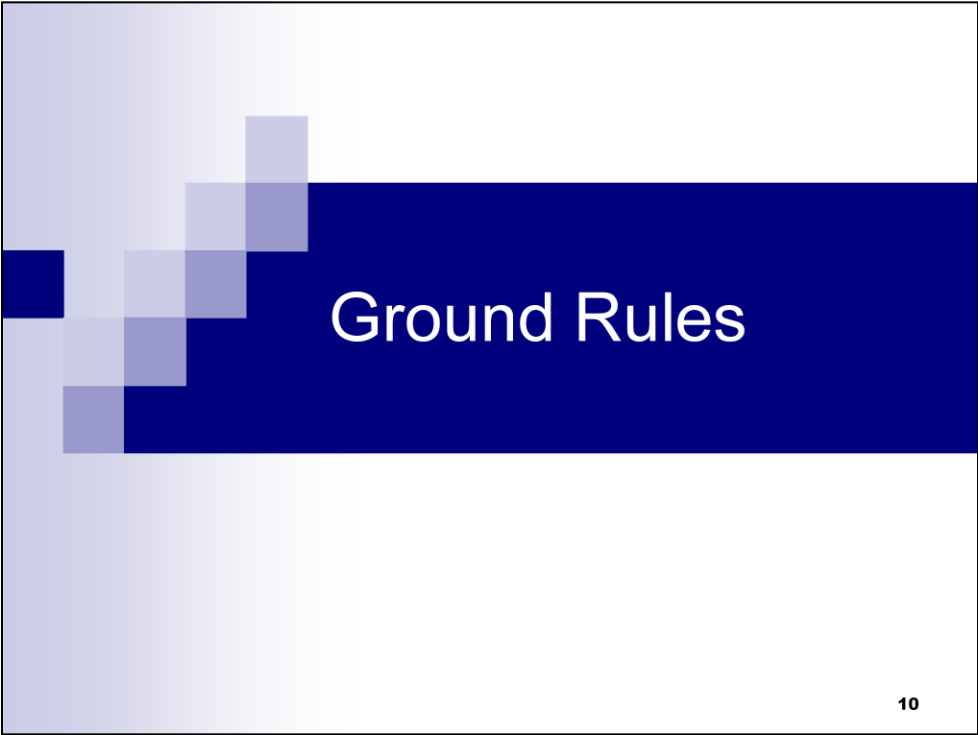
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The State will use the ESG program to further the goals of Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

For more information on the Federal Strategic Plan, visit the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness website at [www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)

## Goals for today

- Share Information
- Identify decision points
  - Not expecting to walk out today with final decisions
- Obtain input and feedback
  - Form for submitting your written input and feedback



# Ground Rules

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## Think bigger than your program

- Focus on:

- what is best for homeless people
- what is best for our communities and state
- what will maximize access to resources to further the goal of ending homelessness

## Therefore....

Represent your stakeholder's perspective:

- what is best in accomplishing those goals
- what unique information you have to bring to this conversation
- even if it is not necessarily the best short-term interest of the stakeholder group you represent



## Ground Rules for Discussion

- Focus on ending homelessness.
- Step up, then step back– share the available time with others.
- Be constructive.
- Seek clarity, ask questions.
- Be specific .
- Focus on the future.
- Keep it real, keep it relevant. Be honest. Be direct, yet kind.
- Center on what most needs to be talked about.



View from 10,000 feet

## Creating a Plan

- In order to allocate funds, the State must submit a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan.
- The State is creating a plan for how to implement these new rules and move North Carolina forward toward ending homelessness.
- The State will be soliciting feedback on its plan in a number of ways.

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HUD is requiring that ESG recipients (states and entitlement communities) submit their plan for implementing new ESG regulations as a substantial amendment to the community's Consolidated Plan. For NC ESG funds, that is the North Carolina Consolidated Plan.

To view North Carolina's Consolidated Plan, visit

<http://www.nccommerce.com/cd/investment-assistance/consolidated-plan>

The State will follow their Consolidated Plan's citizen participation plan to solicit feedback.

In addition to following the new Emergency Solutions Grants Program regulations, the State intends to use this opportunity to improve and streamline the NC ESG Program. The State will use the ESG program to further the goals of Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

For more information on the Federal Strategic Plan, visit the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness website at [www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)

## Timeline

- March 15: CoC leaders & representatives meet to discuss State Plan
- April 4: Plan available to the public
- April: Regional Meetings on Plan
- April 4 – May 4: Public Comment Period
- Week of April 30: Public Hearing
- May 15: State submits Substantial Amendment to HUD

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All of this planning work and creation of a new ESG application must be done within a tight timeframe.

After the stakeholders meeting on March the 15<sup>th</sup>, the State will work to continue to refine the plan. The draft plan will be made available to the public on April 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning the public comment period. After the public comment period closes on May 4<sup>th</sup>, the State will finalize the plan and submit the final substantial amendment to HUD on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Opportunities to provide input:

- Written comments on the substantial amendment will be accepted during the public comment period between April 4<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- A Public Hearing on the substantial amendment will be held in Raleigh the week of April 30, 2012.
- The State plans to hold regional educational meetings on the plan during the month of April. Dates and locations will be released as they become available.

## Timeline continued

- HUD has 45 days (no later than June 29) to approve State's Substantial Amendment
- State has 60 days to allocate funding from HUD Contract date (no later than August 28)
- The State will make every effort to expedite the process to minimize any gaps in funding. However, grantees should be prepared for a delay in FY12-13 contracts because of HUD's timeline.

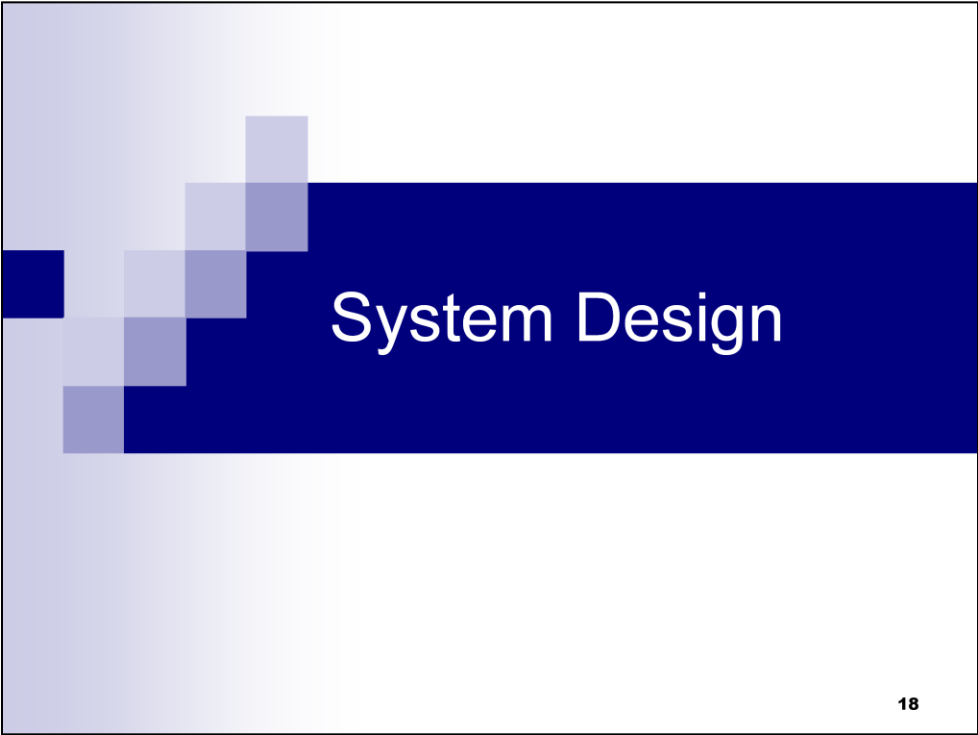
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The State must submit the Substantial Amendment to HUD by May 15.

After it is submitted, HUD has 45 days to approve the Substantial Amendment (no later than June 29).

After approval, the State has 60 days to allocate funds (no later than August 28).

The State will do everything it can to expedite the funding process, but grantees should be prepared for a delay in FY12-13 contracts.



# System Design

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## HEARTH Act Purpose

“to establish a Federal goal of ensuring that individuals and families who become homeless return to permanent housing within 30 days”

HEARTH Act Purposes – Sec. 1002(b)

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The HEARTH Act makes it an explicit federal goal that people who become homeless quickly move back into permanent housing.

# Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent & End Homelessness

## FOUR GOALS:

- Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in 5 years
- Prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in 5 years
- Prevent and end homelessness for families, youth and children in 10 years
- Set a path to ending all types of homelessness

[www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)



## Retool the Crisis Response System

- Objective 10: Transform homeless services to crisis response systems that prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing

[www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)

## Why Rapid Re-Housing & Permanent Supportive Housing instead of other programs?

- RRH & PSH invest directly in permanent housing outcome
- Emergency Shelter designed to meet immediate, not long-term need
- While Transitional Housing was previously thought to best meet long-term need, outcomes are showing a different story

# Elements of the NEW system

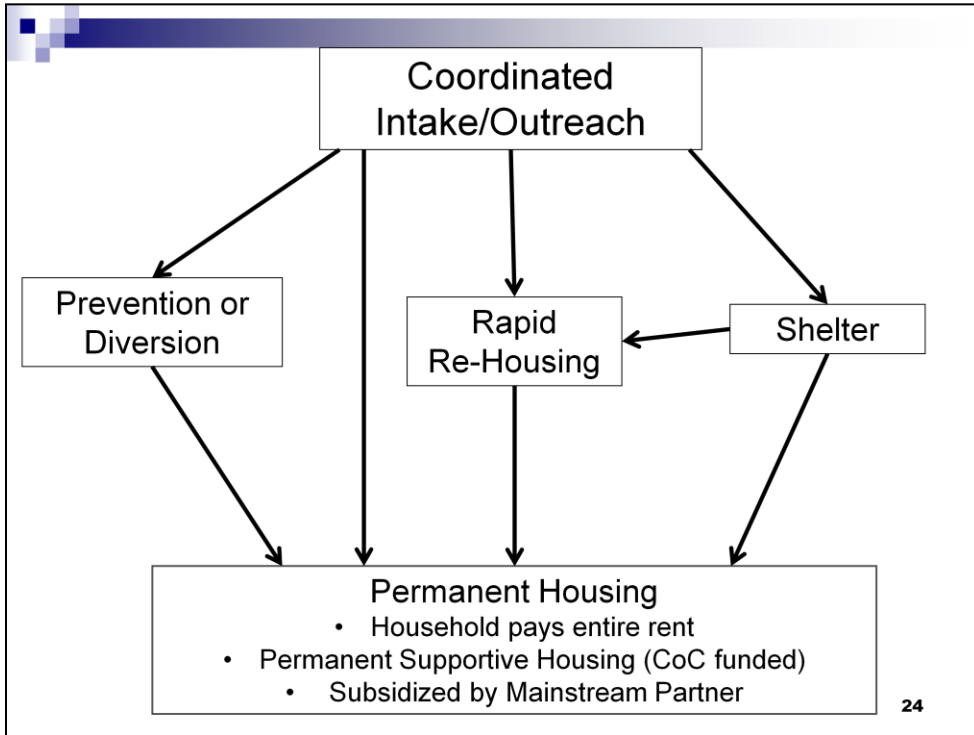
## HOUSING + SERVICES

- Prevention/Diversion\*
- Emergency Shelter or Hotel/Motel Vouchers\*
- Rapid Re-Housing/Transition-in-Place Housing\*\*\*
- Permanent Supportive Housing\*\*

\*eligible activities under ESG

\*\*eligible activities under CoC

\*\*\*eligible activities under ESG & CoC



# Funds Distribution



# Tug of War

- Urban areas serve more people, including people coming from rural areas



- Keeping people in their rural homes takes pressure off of urban areas

## Old Distribution



- Amount of funds awarded to each grantee based on formula and the following factors:
  - Daily Occupancy Rate
  - Type of Shelter
  - Amount of Funding Available
  
- Funded all facilities that met basic thresholds without accounting for geographic location
  - Communities did not have a set amount that they were allocated

## Historical Pattern NC ESG FY 2011, Part A

CoC	FY 2011A	% of State's ESG
Forsyth	\$190,584	8%
Buncombe	\$131,560	5%
Durham	\$100,270	4%
Balance of State	\$832,027	34%
Guilford	\$273,787	11%
Mecklenburg	\$177,073	7%
Wilmington	\$153,605	6%
Wake	\$324,277	13%
Gaston	\$117,337	5%
Cumberland	\$50,491	2%
Orange	\$71,113	3%
Northwest	\$28,445	1%



## Approximate CoC Pro Rata Breakdown (FY2011)

CoC	% of State's CoC Funds (Pro-Rata)
Forsyth	6
Buncombe	2
Durham	6
Balance of State	43
Guilford	7
Mecklenburg	14
Wilmington	2
Wake	12
Gaston	3
Cumberland	3
Orange	1
Northwest	2

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This percentage is based upon the FY2011 Pro Rata amounts for Continuum of Care as established by HUD.

The State will use the most recent CoC Pro Rata that has been published by HUD at the time the Request for Applications is announced. The following amounts may change.

## CoC ESG Fair Share

Fair Share % of Total ESG Programming Pot  
(NC + Entitlement)

Minus

Entitlement portion (if any)

=

Amount eligible to receive from NC ESG Program

## Incentive Bonus



- The State may, at its discretion, reserve a portion of the program funds to allocate to one or more CoCs with high scoring applications

## FY 2011B – RR/Prevention Portion

FY 2011B:	\$ 1,450,995
- Admin*	- \$ <u>173,313</u>
Program	\$ 1,277,682
Incentive bonus	- \$ <u>          ?</u>
Adjusted Program	\$ 1,277,682 minus ?

\* 7.5% of the \$1,450,995 + 2.5% of earlier \$2,579,547

## FY 2012 Allocation

Total FY12	\$ 4,629,492
- 7.5% Admin	<u>- \$ 347,212</u>
Program	\$ 4,282,283
- Incentive Bonus	<u>- \$ _____ ?</u>
Adjusted Program	\$4,282,283 minus ?

## FY 2012 Program Funds

Adjusted Program Funds           \$ 3,854,055

Allowed for historical use (60%)   \$ 2,312,433

Minimum for RR/P                   \$ 1,541,622

Minimum for RR/P if using hold harmless amount  
(\$2,450,570) is   \$1,403,385



# Continuum of Care Role

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## Continuum of Care Lead Agency

- Submits the application for ESG funds to the State on behalf of a CoC community or region
- Governs the decision-making process for distribution of funds
- Responsible for recommending right mix of funded activities to the State
- Responsible for coordinating outcomes-driven process while minimizing conflict of interest

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Use your feedback form to give your ideas to the State on what a fair process could be.



## Lead Agency: CoC & ESG

- The Lead Agency for ESG funds should also be the Lead Agency that represents the CoC in future competitive applications to HUD for other HEARTH funds
- Applications that do not use their CoC Lead Agency as ESG Lead Agency will likely lose points in the competitive process

## Development of Lead Agency

- The State will develop criteria that the Lead Agency and community process will need in order to meet threshold application scores.



# Competition

Coming soon to an ESG Program near you!

## Another topic for your feedback...

HUD requires 1:1 match (in-kind or cash)

The State is exploring a gradual shift to all cash match.

2012: 100% cash or in-kind

2013: minimum 25% cash

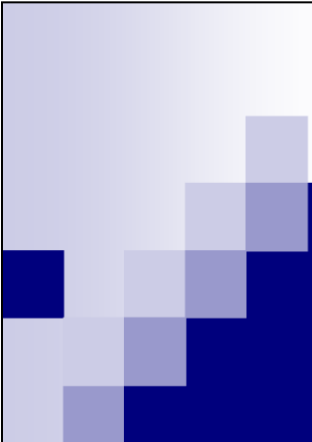
2014: minimum 50% cash

2015: minimum 75% cash


2016: 100% cash match!

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Communities could use this requirement to leverage local funds.



# Fiscal Sponsor



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## The Past



- Historically, the State has contracted with each funded program in the community.
  - Over 130 contracts at the state level each year
  - Number of contracts necessitated a highly formulaic funding strategy



## The Future

- By July 2013 communities should be prepared for the State to have one contract with a Fiscal Sponsor from each CoC.

## What fun things does the Fiscal Sponsor get to do?



- Contracts with the state
- Sub-contracts with any other agencies receiving funds
- Distributes funds to sub-contractors
- Submits reimbursement requests to the State
- Central point of contact for all reporting requirements



## Who can be a Fiscal Sponsor?

- CoCs can endorse only one Fiscal Sponsor from its region
- Can be CoC Lead Agency, but doesn't have to be same
- Unit of Local Government or 501(c)3 Non-profit

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Additional criteria may be developed.

## Central Point of Contact



- Fiscal Sponsor will be the contact for all reporting requirements
- Should the State need to discuss anything with a sub-contractors, the Fiscal Sponsor and CoC Lead Agency will be advised and asked to participate in the conversation

## Contract with the State

- CoC should prepare for the Fiscal Sponsor to hold the only contract with the State for that CoC by July 2013

## Sub-Contracts

- The Fiscal Sponsor may be more than a money pass through agent – they may provide some of the ESG funded services directly
- Most likely they will not provide all of the funded services directly
  - In those cases, the Fiscal Sponsor will sub-contract with the other agencies in the community that the CoC has recommended and the State approved as agencies to receive funds.

## Distributes Funds

- If the Fiscal Sponsor sub-contracts with additional agencies in the community, they will also be responsible for reimbursing those agencies for ESG eligible expenses covered in the contractual budget.
- The Fiscal Sponsor has the option of fronting funds to a sub-contracting agency, but the State will not front funds to the Fiscal Sponsor

## Reimbursements

- The Fiscal Sponsor will submit reimbursement requests to the State
- The Fiscal Sponsor will review reimbursement documentation from sub-contracting agencies for accuracy prior to submitting documents to the State for reimbursement
- The Fiscal Sponsor will develop a system for assuring that client data related to any reimbursement requests has been entered into CHIN

## What about now?



- 3 options to ease the transition

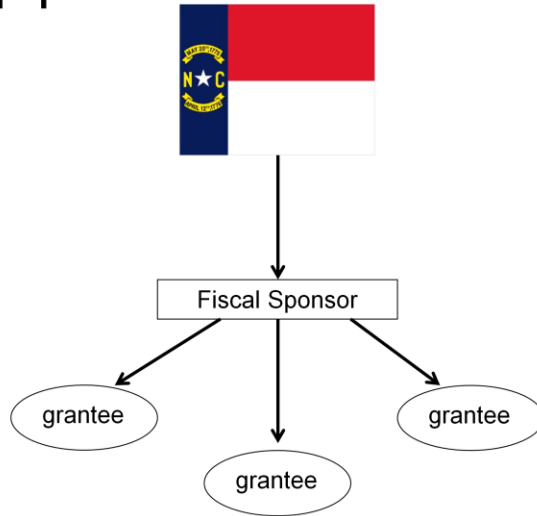
- 1 – the ideal
- 2 – a compromise
- 3 – State contracts

## Option 1: Full Fiscal Sponsor

- For a CoC that is ready to take on administrative functions for all ESG funded activities, the State will contract with the CoC identified Fiscal Sponsor
  - These CoCs would receive the maximum administrative percentage for State grantees



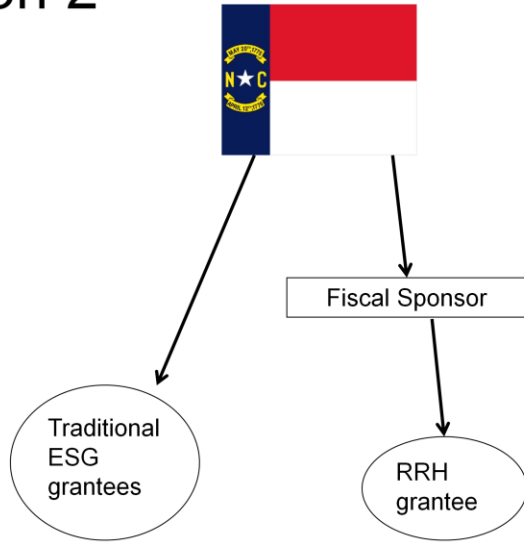
# Option 1



## Option 2: Fiscal Sponsor for RRH& Prevention

- CoC Fiscal Sponsor contracts to administer Rapid Re-Housing / Prevention funds
- CoC identifies which shelters will receive funds for historically eligible uses, and the State directly contracts with those agencies.
  - CoC develops a plan for how it will be ready to use Option 1 by July 2013.

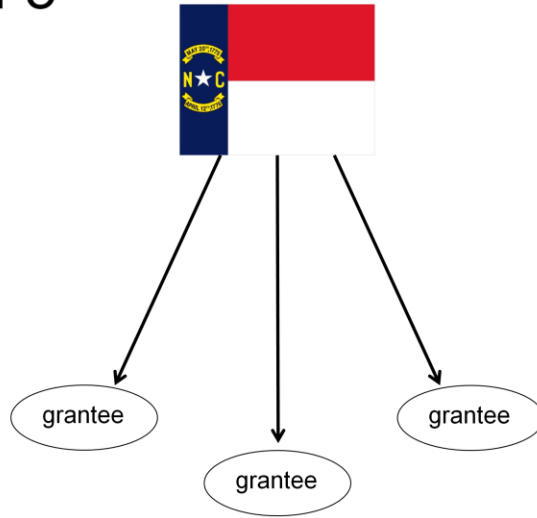
# Option 2



## Option 3: No Fiscal Sponsor

- The CoC identifies all of the agencies they wish to receive ESG funds – for both historical uses and for the Rapid Re-Housing / Prevention functions and the State contracts with these agencies.
  - The CoC develops a plan for how it will reach Option 1 by July 2013
  - These CoCs will receive the no administrative percentage

# Option 3

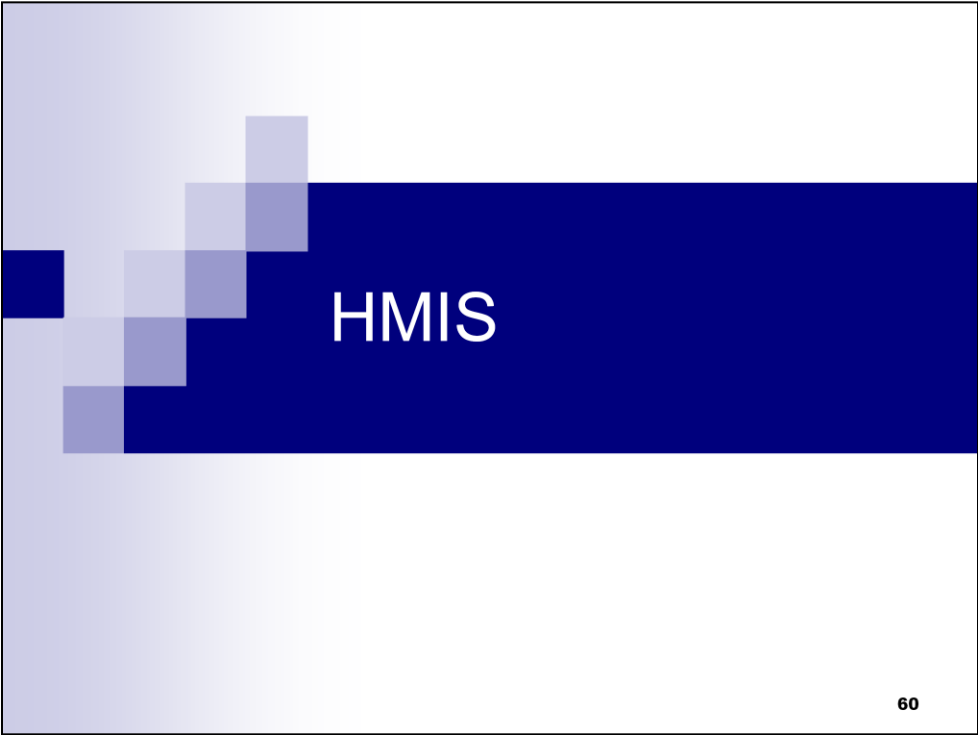


## Fiscal Sponsor Approval

- Becoming a Fiscal Sponsor isn't automatic
- Agency must apply to become Fiscal Sponsor
- State will approve agencies to take on Fiscal Sponsor responsibilities
  - Capacity and Oversight Design thresholds will have to be met.

## Contracting and Application Scores

- The Option each community selects impacts their administrative %
  
- The Option each community selects impacts their application's score
  - Option 1 gives the most points to an application
  - Option 3 gives the least points to an application
  - The number of points given to this scoring criteria will be increased over time





## HMIS

- Any agency receiving ESG funds is required to participate in HMIS (unless waived by federal statute – i.e. DV programs)
- The HMIS system that will be used by the State's ESG program is the Carolina Homeless Information Network (CHIN).

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NC ESG recipients will be required to enter HMIS data into the Carolina Homeless Information Network (CHIN).

For more information about CHIN, visit [www.nchomeless.org](http://www.nchomeless.org)

## HMIS data standards

- Funded agencies will comply with:
  - HUD's HMIS Data Standards: Revised Draft Notice (April 2009)
  - HUD's HMIS Systems Requirements, Proposed Rules (December 2011)
  
  - And agree to maintain excellent data integrity by 100% of required data in a timely manner

## Funded Agencies' data

- Funded Agencies will be expected to run and/or review appropriate ESG reports monthly to ensure consistent compliance.



## And what if we don't?

- Data entry into CHIN will be a requirement for reimbursement from the State



## Community Participation



- Non-funded agencies are counted in HUD's competitive application scoring process
- Non-funded agencies have less motivation to participate
- Communities may use a portion of ESG funds to pay for HMIS expenses, including expenses incurred by agencies not receiving other ESG or CoC funds.



# Homeless Magnets??

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## Homeless Magnet-Urbanlandia

- Most urban areas are aware of shelter consumers who lived in neighboring rural areas prior to becoming homeless
- Most rural areas have a pretty good idea of which urban areas their residents go to if they need shelter when it is unavailable in the community they have lived in
- Most information is anecdotal. Moving forward, we need to use data to make decisions

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## The Goal

- Allow rural communities with small allocations to provide some level of RRH services to their residents who go to larger communities for support, while also providing urban areas with assistance in serving persons from surrounding counties



## ESG Response

- The State ESG program will allow multi-county, including cross-CoC contracts between shelters and Rapid Re-Housing Teams.

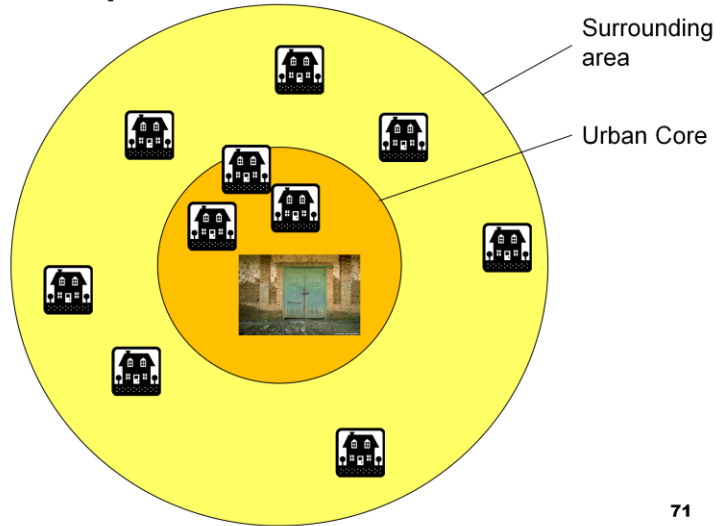
What the heck are they talking about now!



## Hypothetical Example

- Urbanlandia – home of the largest multi-population shelter in the 10 county region
- Ruralberg – home of no shelter, but does have households seeking homeless services

# Shelters & Rapid Re-Housing Partnerships



## Step 1:

Urbanlandia would identify which of its shelter residents, or shelter seekers, come from Ruralberg

## Step 2

- Ruralberg provides Rapid Re-Housing Team services to those households, using Ruralberg funds.

OR

- Ruralberg contracts with Urbanlandia Rapid Re-Housing Team to provide RR services to those households, using Ruralberg funds

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The RRT could be physically located in Ruralberg or Urbanlandia

## Step 3

- Identified households would be established in permanent housing in Urbanlandia

OR

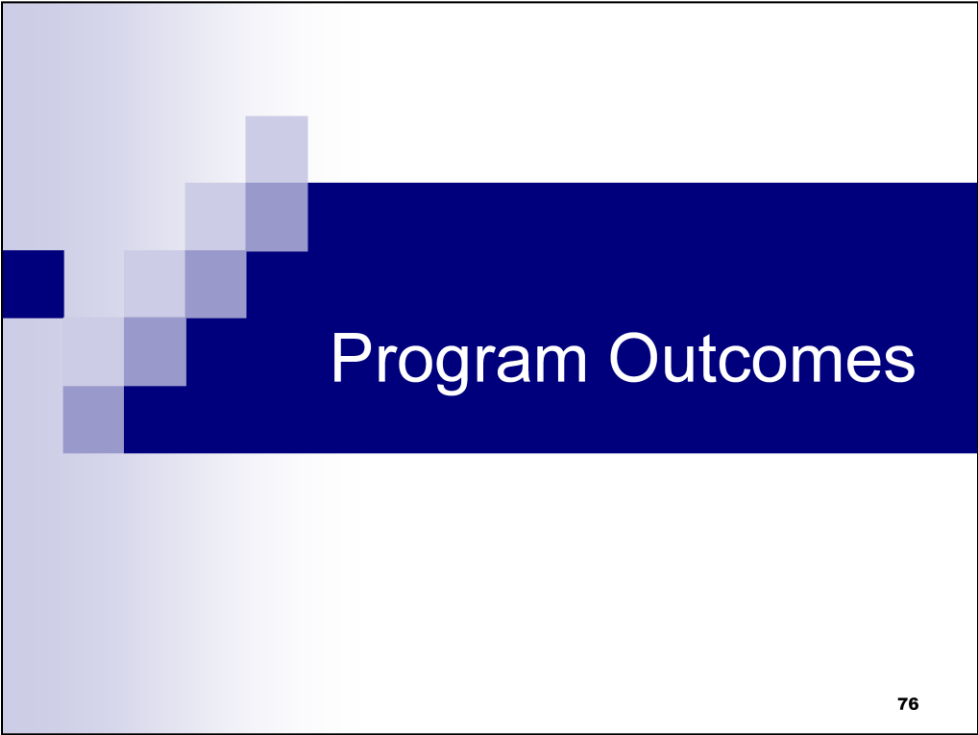
- Identified households would be established in permanent housing in Ruralberg

*Consumer Choice Rules!*



# Feedback

- Tell us:
  - Would a partnership like this work in your CoC?
  - How might it work best?



# Program Outcomes

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## HUD Report Data Elements

- No new ESG report has been published
- Should expect additional or different outcomes from previous ESG annual reports

## IF we had to predict -



- HEARTH Performance Measures
- Housing stability
- Shortened homeless system length of stays across all programs
- Linkage with mainstream resources
- Increased income
- CoC uses of or shifts in use of resources

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These criteria are based on previous reporting requirements by HUD – for ESG, HPRP and CoC funding

For more information on what to measure, visit  
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/4410>

## Housing Stability

- How quickly do households move into permanent housing
- Average amount of cash assistance provided before household exits the program
- Average amount of services received before household exits the program
- Reduction in number of households who return to homelessness
- Barriers to getting into housing
- Barriers to sustainability
- Is the household stable at program exit
- Non-HUD resources used

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## NC – Getting to the Outcome

- Do you have a plan for how you will use housing outcome data in future decisions
- Do you have housing stability goals for your ESG program
- What are your strategies for identifying housing barriers and developing strategies to overcome those barriers
- Will you be tracking housing outcomes post program exit

## Shortened Length of Stay

- Average length of stay while homeless system wide
- Timely linkage to Rapid Re-Housing Program
- Characteristics of households linked to RR versus those not
- Characteristics and services to households that returned to homelessness



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Stakeholders will hear HUD and 10 year plan leadership talk about Shortened Shelter Stays. The intent is to look beyond the shelter stay and to truly evaluate how long a household is homeless in general.

## NC – Getting to the Outcome

- What are the community's strategies to reduce shelter hopping
- Is the community monitoring length of stay, linkage to RRH
- Are all shelters in partnership with RRH's, or just some

## Linkage to Mainstream Resources

- Household linkage to benefits and supports
- Organizational linkage at systems or agency level



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Household linkage would include: SSI/SSDI, TANF, food stamps, mental health services, medical care services, prescriptions, child care, employment programs, education programs

Systems/Organizational Linkage: MOAs and/or contracts between ESG and non-ESG funded homeless service agencies and publicly funded human service programs – LME/MCO or provider agencies; DSS; health department; ESC, etc.

## NC – Getting to the Outcome

- What kinds of agreements have been made, and how are they documented
- How are results being monitored within HMIS
- How are HMIS results being used in discussion with Mainstream Programs to improve outcomes



# Increased Income



- Did income increase and by how much
  
- What were the sources of income
  - Benefits
  - Employment

## NC – Getting to the Outcome

- How are income outcomes being monitored
- Which partners are engaged, in what ways, with revising strategies to improve outcomes

## Uses of/Shift in use of Resources

- % of community funds spent on various eligible activities
  - HUD funds
  - Non-HUD funds
  
- Changes in these %'s over time
- Changes in total resources
  - Agency
  - Community/CoC wide

## NC – Getting to the Outcome

- What steps is the CoC taking to analyze the potential behind shifting funds
- Are data and outcome experience being used to drive changes in who receives what type of funds
- Does the CoC discern appropriate outcome goals for different sub-populations
- What is the evidence that the CoC is able to act as a system versus a collection of programs located in the same geographic region

## What Else?

- Your CoC may have your own goals and outcomes you are tracking
  - 10 Year Plan outcomes
  - Outcomes for other funding sources
  - CoC outcomes
  - Federal Plan outcomes
  - State Accomplishment Report outcomes

# System Change Strategies

- Transitional Housing Conversion
- Expanding Rapid Re-Housing Capacity
- Converting Shelter Beds to Rapid Re-Housing Resources
- Shelter Diversion
- Targeted Prevention
- Creation of Permanent Supportive Housing
- Exits from Permanent Supportive Housing
- Coordinated Intake System
- Common Barrier Assessment and Targeting Tool
- Performance Improvement Process
- Progressive Engagement
- Mainstream Employment Partnerships

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All of these are strategies that the National Alliance to End Homelessness has identified as effective in helping your community to improve housing outcomes. It is likely that the State would look favorably on any of these initiatives being developed in your community, and having their linkage to ESG described in your application.

## Brainstorm

- My CoC will have a good ESG plan if it results in...



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Although there will not be much time to discuss this statement today, the State is particularly interested in your feedback on this topic.



# Transitional Housing

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## The Brutal Truth

- For more than a decade Transitional Housing was “the darling” of federal homeless policy.
- Following the federal lead, local communities and local funders assertively pursued transitional housing programs.
  
- The tide has turned .....

## Current Standings

- Recognition that time-limited treatment programs produce outcomes
  - HEARTH funds are not intended to be used for treatment programs, time-limited or not
  
- Distinction between time-limited treatment programs and homeless transitional housing programs
  - Research has shown that homeless transitional housing programs are not as effective as rapid re-housing, so HEARTH emphasis funding rapid re-housing and urges communities away from transitional housing

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The following question was submitted by Martha Are to the HUD Help Desk:

### Question:

Re: Homeless Definition (1) - individual or family who lacks.....

In (ii) you have clarified that eligible facilities include "transitional housing" paid for charitable organization or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals.

I read that to include prison and substance abuse step-down transitional programs that could last up to 2 years; substance abuse treatment programs - facilities that are eligible for Medicaid reimbursement for substance abuse or mental health or any other type of treatment where the maximum length of stay is 2 years; etc.

I do not see any language that suggests these facilities are not eligible. This would mean that we now have to open up ESG funding (and other HEARTH funded programs) to all of these licensed facilities and step-down programs. Is that your intent? If not, can you provide me with language clarifying your intent?

### Response:

The section you cite reads in its entirety as follows:

(ii) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local

government programs for low-income individuals).

This is intended to mean hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals not transitional housing paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals. We understand that the phrasing in the regulation may have been misleading.

Additionally, the ESG regulation prohibits the funding of inpatient substance abuse treatment. Subpart B, section 576.102 Emergency Shelter Component of the regulation states that eligible treatment consists of client intake and assessment, and outpatient treatment for up to 30 days. However, inpatient drug or alcohol treatment are not eligible costs. Therefore, a substance abuse step-down transitional facility would be not be eligible to receive ESG funding.

Also, the "cost type" rule prevents transitional housing programs or correctional facilities which receive non-ESG public funding from receiving ESG funding for the same purpose.

## ESG Funding and TH

- A transitional housing program that is receiving ESG funding in FY11 is allowed to continue to receive funds if the CoC chooses to do so
- A transitional housing program that is not receiving ESG funding in FY11 is not allowed to receive funding in the future
  - This means you can not fund any new TH programs with ESG funds

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See P. 12 of the ESG interim rule

## Should your CoC fund TH?

- HUD and national affiliations are naming that Transitional Housing does not give the best outcomes
- CoC competitive applications will be judged on a community's outcomes
- HUD believes that your community will be best served by a shelter to rapid re-housing strategy rather than a shelter to transitional housing to permanent housing strategy

## Will NC ESG fund TH?

- If a CoC chooses to fund a pre-funded TH program, the State will allow it for at least 3 more years
- The number of TH beds a CoC funds, compared to its Shelter beds and Rapid Re-Housing slots will impact the application's score
- CoCs should strategize with TH programs about how to improve their HEARTH performance outcomes and identify alternate funding sources or create conversion plan

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## Improving TH Sustainability

- TH programs should explore ways to adapt to the new Shelter-RRH system
  - Using case management staff as part of Rapid Re-Housing Teams.
    - Take what you have learned about assisting with stability, use those skills in the permanent housing setting
  - Documenting decreased length of stay in their programs – aiming for shorter system length of stays
  - Shifting use of the TH buildings/locations to Permanent Housing sites

## TH and State Application Scores

- % of TH beds versus other beds
  - More TH beds will result in a lower score
  
- Strategies for shifting TH programs to new model
  - Shorter length of stay
  - Use of staff with RRH Teams
  - Use of buildings for permanent housing
    - Goal should be to complete the transition of TH within 3 years
  
- TH programs can use strategies to minimize the negative impact they have on CoC HEARTH outcomes and ESG application score



## What about Service Enriched Shelters?

- Over time, many shelters have added a substantial number of services to their programs, and have also increased their average length of stay
- Functionally, these shelters act in many ways as traditional TH programs
- These shelters will also want to alter their relationship to RRH programs, and their function within the CoC.



# Linking to Mainstream Programs

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## Linkage to Mainstream Resources

- Household linkage to benefits and supports
- Organizational linkage at systems or agency level



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Household linkage would include: SSI/SSDI, TANF, food stamps, mental health services, medical care services, prescriptions, child care, employment programs, education programs

Systems/Organizational Linkage: MOAs and/or contracts between ESG and non-ESG funded homeless service agencies and publicly funded human service programs – LME/MCO or provider agencies; DSS; health department; ESC, etc.

## Which Programs?

- Two broad categories
  - Services
  - Housing
    - Especially interested in linkage to other rental assistance programs

# Services

- HUD's list of planning participants gives you a good indicator

- Health
- MH
- SA
- Employment
- Benefits



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HUD recognizes that ESG participants may need services from the following service menu:

- Case management
- Health care
- Behavioral health care
- Transportation
- Services for special populations
- Child care
- Education services
- Employment
- Job training
- Legal services
- Life skills
- Mediation
- Credit repair

# Housing

- Any subsidized housing units
  - Public Housing Authority Units
  - SHP Permanent Housing
- Rental Assistance
  - HUD-VASH
  - TANF – Benefit Diversion – 3 months
  - HOPWA – exploring TBRA
  - Shelter Plus Care
  - Section 8 (Housing Choice Vouchers)
  - HOME, up to 2 years for HOME funded developments
  - Targeted Key Program



## Rapid Re-Housing Team + Non ESG Rental Assistance

- A community's Rapid Re-Housing Team could provide housing stabilization services for up to 2 years to an eligible household *regardless* of the funding stream that pays for the household's rental assistance

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Coordinating access to the best rental assistance funding stream is another desired function of coordinated assessment and intake. The household should feel no difference in their services regardless of who is paying the rental assistance. The coordinated intake entity would ideally be making those decisions, or recommendations, not leaving it up to the household to figure out who to approach about eligibility and participation

# Documenting Partnerships

- MOAs/MOUs
- Contracts
  - How will referrals be made?
  - Which agencies are responsible for which tasks?
  - How do agencies communicate about household progress?
  - Is there an accountability mechanism?
  - Preferences for ESG households?



- The State will want communities to develop more partnerships between the community's ESG program and mainstream programs over upcoming years.
- The strength of those partnerships should be documented to receive maximum scores on competitive applications to the State.



# Timeline & Next Steps

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## Brainstorm

- My community will have a good ESG plan if it results in...



## Timeline

- March 15: CoC leaders & representatives meet to discuss State Plan
- April 4: Plan available to the public
- April: Regional Meetings on Plan
- April 4 – May 4: Public Comment Period
- Week of April 30: Public Hearing
- May 15: State submits Substantial Amendment to HUD

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All of this planning work and creation of a new ESG application must be done within a tight timeframe.

After the stakeholders meeting on March the 15<sup>th</sup>, the State will work to continue to refine the plan. The draft plan will be made available to the public on April 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning the public comment period. After the public comment period closes on May 4<sup>th</sup>, the State will finalize the plan and submit the final substantial amendment to HUD on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Opportunities to provide input:

- Written comments on the substantial amendment will be accepted during the public comment period between April 4<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- A Public Hearing on the substantial amendment will be held in Raleigh the week of April 30, 2012.
- The State plans to hold regional educational meetings on the plan during the month of April. Dates and locations will be released as they become available.

## Feedback Forms

- We don't care how you get them to us, just get them here!
- Turn them in today!
- Fax them to 919-733-5993
- Email to: [martha.ave@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:martha.ave@dhhs.nc.gov) AND [michael.leach@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:michael.leach@dhhs.nc.gov)

## Resources

- Information from HUD on ESG

[www.hudhre.info/esg](http://www.hudhre.info/esg)

- Information specific to the NC ESG Program

[www.ncceh.org/esg](http://www.ncceh.org/esg)