

City of Lansing ESG-CV Summary Plan

The City of Lansing, MI Emergency Solutions Grant- COVID-19 (ESG-CV) plan is funded by the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act* (CARES ACT) (Public Law 116-131) to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus. To address housing, economic development and homelessness activities during this coronavirus pandemic, the City of Lansing will use a total of \$1,890,483 of ESG-CV funds (Round 1 allocation \$608,455 + Round 2 allocation \$1,282,028) to provide rapid rehousing, homeless prevention assistance, emergency shelter, street outreach, HMIS, and supportive human services for people with special needs, people who are homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

The City of Lansing Economic Development and Planning (EDP) and the Human Relations and Community Services (HRCS) Departments work closely with the Continuum of Care (CoC), the Capital Region Housing Collaborative (CRHC), to address homelessness in the general population as well as among veterans through its strategic plan. The CoC's Strategic Plan aligns with the City of Lansing's Consolidated/ Annual Action Plan. A centralized intake and assessment system, known as the HARA, acts as a focal point to obtain assistance and resources to connect with community agencies to address ~~chronic~~ homelessness in the community.

COVID Needs Addressed by ESG-CV funding- COVID screenings, personal protective equipment (PPE), referrals to COVID specific health resources (testing, isolation, contagion centers), safe and de-congregated homeless shelter, non-congregate sheltering, additional sanitation protocols, food, and personal needs. Enhanced street outreach, low barrier overflow sheltering geared to street homeless, basic survival needs, rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, collaborative planning and systems changes necessary for services provision due to the effects of COVID.
CARES ESG-CV Funding - \$1,890,483 (\$608,455 (first allocation)+ \$1,282,028 (second allocation)
Description - The FY2019 CARES Act ESG-CV funding for the City of Lansing will be provided for street outreach activities, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, homeless prevention, HMIS, and administration. Funds will be used to cover the cost of staffing, hazard pay, maintenance, repairs, operations, food, supplies, PPE, insurance, utilities and furnishings in shelter facilities and outreach; for non- congregate sheltering or overflow low barrier shelter, including hoteling; rental assistance, landlord incentives and bonus, computer staffing, hardware or software, and administration costs
Target Date - March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022

The number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities:

ESG-CV Emergency Shelter and non-congregate shelter persons assisted: - \$820,698; 900 (430 individuals and 130 families with 470 people)

ESG-CV Homelessness Prevention: \$487,991; 215 (103 individuals and 43 families with 112 people; (Other homelessness prevention is funded by other sources)

ESG-CV Rapid Rehousing: \$140,648; 80 (40 individuals and 15 families with 40 people; (RRH is also funded by other sources)

Other: Street outreach: \$234,098; 620 (450 individuals and 55 families with 170 people). Alongside traditional ESG allocations, these funds will be used for Personal Protective Equipment, hygiene and COVID screenings and referral to COVID resources.

Location Description - Shelters, non-congregate sheltering, and low-barrier street outreach shelter are located in key areas of Lansing and East Lansing, including near food distribution sites. Street Outreach is conducted throughout Ingham County, including specialized youth outreach and shelter, and coordinated services with service providers in the tri-county area.

Planned Activities - Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Re-Housing, Homeless Prevention, HMIS, and Admin (\$189,048).

The CARES Act ESG-CV funds will allow the local CoC to prevent, prepare for and mitigate risks of COVID-19 among the homeless population in Ingham County. Activities include de-congregating shelters to create social distancing and enhance safety, moving "high-risk for COVID-19" people and families to non-congregate settings, and establishing a low barrier shelter for street homeless who cannot be served in other shelters. The ESG-CV funds will provide enhanced street outreach for encampments, PPE, room dividers, COVID screenings, and referral to COVID health-related services such as testing, isolation and contagion centers. The CoC has engaged in ongoing consultation with the Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), both City and County, FEMA, local public health, United Way, and a host of other local human service providers. The CoC shelters are holding semi-monthly meetings to share best practices to screen and mitigate the spread of infection, access PPE and supplies, share staffing, and coordinate services and planning to address identified needs and services gaps. A fall/winter Shelter response plan was developed to re-open a low-barrier, temporary shelter in cooperation with the EOC. The CoC prepared for the end of the eviction moratorium by creating a coordinated homeless prevention community response including fliers, landlord resource guide, and a workflow to guide people to the correct agency, in cooperation with legal services, homeless providers, and rental assistance programs. The City of Lansing 54A District Court has opened an Eviction Diversion Program to assist tenants facing eviction. A shared screening tool is used by local agencies with the Coordinated Entry and 211 as points of entry to prevent homelessness and rapidly rehouse sheltered guests. HMIS enhancements are increasing efficiencies and safety with electronic referrals to prevention, Eviction Diversion and rapid rehousing programs. Computer stations and hotspots are being developed for those in need. Enhanced case management added a liaison position to work with mainstream employment and educational agencies to resolve barriers for homeless persons using these systems.