

The HEARTH Act

Changes to HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs

New England Region Homeless Management Information System



HEARTH Act

Enacted May 20, 2009

Changes HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance programs

First significant reauthorization since 1992

Major Changes

More Administrative Funding

Emphasizes

Prevention

Rapid Re-Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing

Focus on Outcomes

Timeline

Most changes take effect in the NOFA released in
Spring/Summer 2011

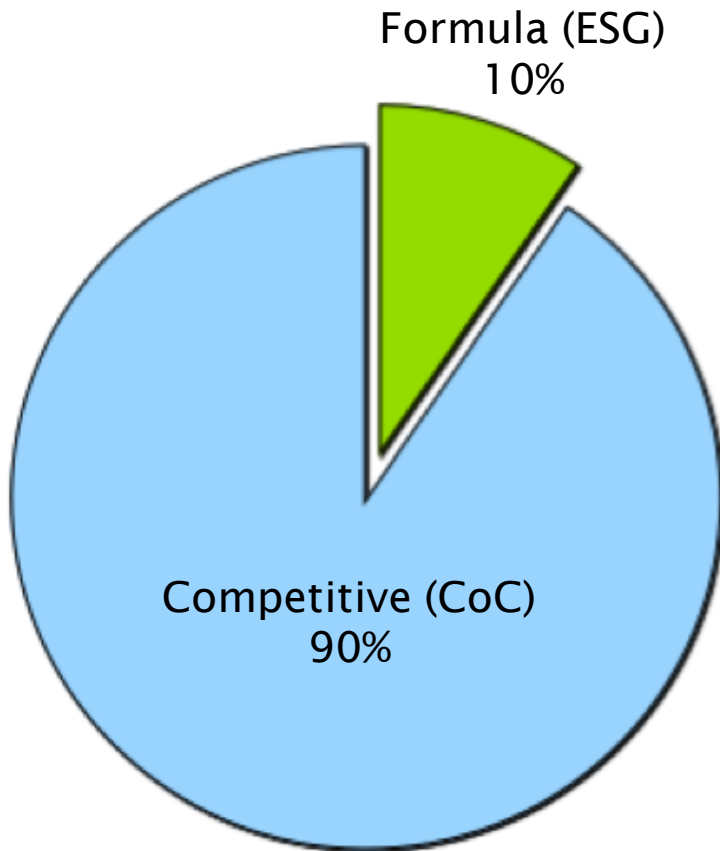
Some changes implemented over several years

Regulations in mid-2010

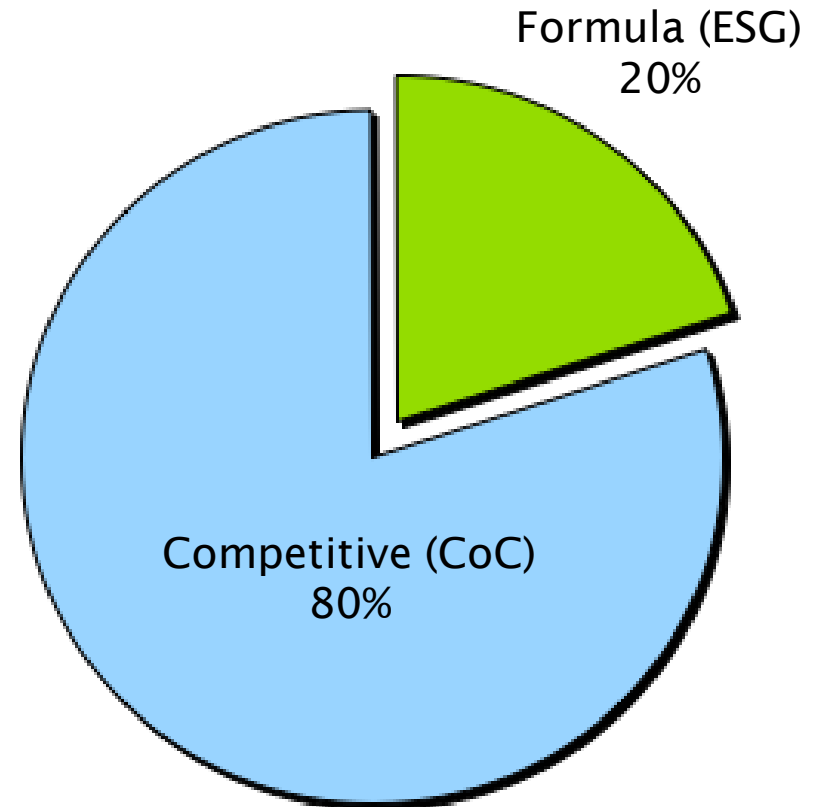
Public comment period! Plan to Comment!

Formula and Competitive Funding

Old (2008)



New



Changes to the ESG (Formula) Program

Old

Emergency *Shelter* Grants

Formula to Cities, Counties, and States

Up to 5% for administrative expenses

New

Emergency *Solutions* Grants

Same Formula

Up to 7.5% for administrative expenses

Changes to the ESG (Formula) Program

Old Eligible Activities

Shelter renovating, rehab, conversion

Operating Emergency Shelter (limit of 10% for staffing)

Services in Shelter or outreach (max. 30%)

Prevention (limited, targets people with sudden loss of income, max 30%)

New Eligible Activities

Same as now plus HPRP activities (except that prevention has to target below 30% of AMI)

No cap on prevention, services, or staffing

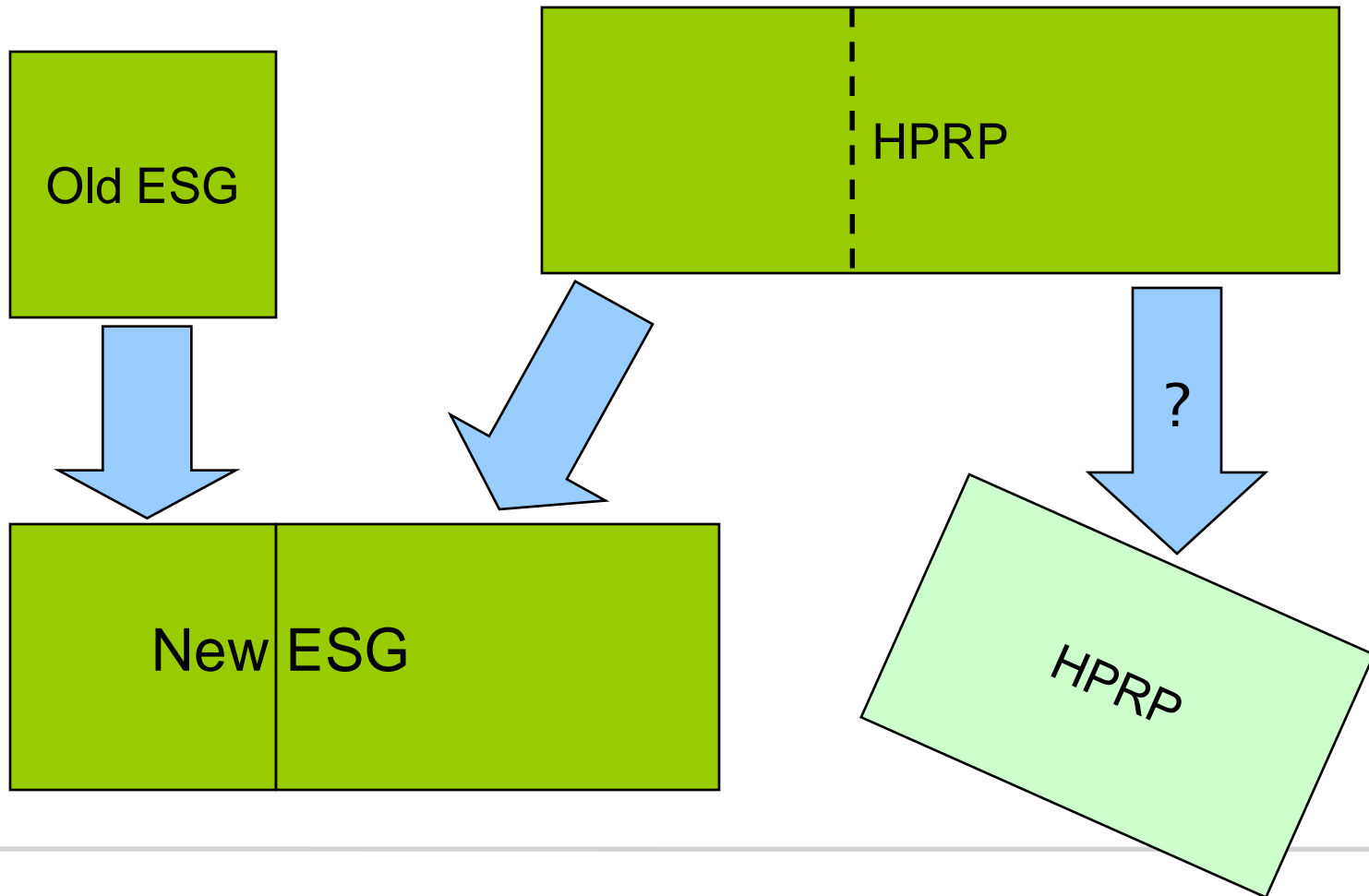
Minimum of 40% must be for prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (with a hold-harmless provision)

New ESG = Old ESG + HPRP

Roughly the same amount of funding for emergency shelters

New funding for homelessness prevention and Rapid Re-Housing similar to HUD's HPRP

New Emergency Solutions Grant



Changes to CoC Programs

Old	New
3 programs	Single Continuum of Care program
Supportive Housing Program (SHP)	Includes all of the eligible activities of the 3 former programs
Shelter Plus Care (SPC)	More flexibility for mixing and matching eligible activities
Mod. Rehab./SRO	Explicitly specifies re-housing services as an eligible activity
	Up to 10 percent for administrative costs (previous amount was 5% for SHP and 8% for SPC)
	Reasonable costs for staff training

CoC Application

Old

Providers in community jointly apply for funding

Stakeholders in community review and rank applications

Application has two parts

Exhibit 1 – community wide, includes numbers, gaps analysis, etc.

Exhibit 2 – individual project applications

New

Similar to existing process

Application submitted by Collaborative Applicant, which will be eligible for 3% for admin.

More focused on performance:

Reducing lengths of homeless episodes

Reducing recidivism back into homelessness

Reducing the number of people who become homeless

CoC/CP-ESG/TYP

Old

CoC application must be approved by Consolidated Planning body

New

CoC application must be approved by Consolidated Planning body

Consolidated Plan requires coordination with CoC

Many elements of Ten Year Plan in CoC application

Match

Old

Match requirement varies depending on activity

25% for services, must be cash

100% for rental assistance, must be in-kind services

100% for construction/rehab

33% for operating expenses

No match for leasing

New

Uniform 25% match except for leasing projects

Match covers entire CoC – some projects can have higher matches to offset projects with lower matches

Match can be cash or in-kind when documented by Memorandum of Understanding

Additional Requirements

Projects that serve families cannot refuse to serve families because of the age of the children (i.e. must serve families with adolescent children)

Projects must identify person who will be responsible for coordinating child's education

Collaborative Applicant is responsible for ensuring that everyone participates in HMIS

Incentives

Old

Communities that score well on their application are eligible for a bonus permanent supportive housing project.

In some years, the bonus project had to serve individuals without children experiencing chronic homelessness.

New

Communities that score well will be eligible for a bonus for proven strategies, including—

Permanent supportive housing for chronic homelessness

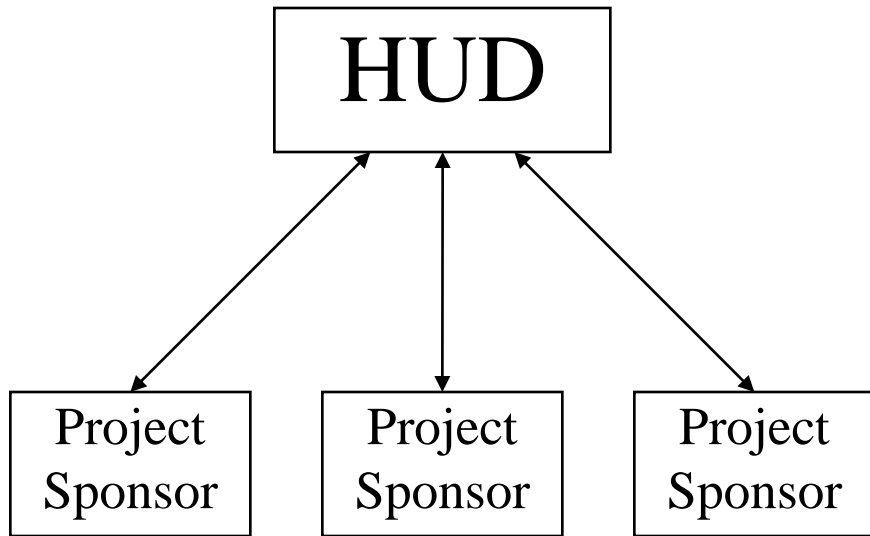
Rapid Re-Housing for families

Other activities that HUD determines are effective

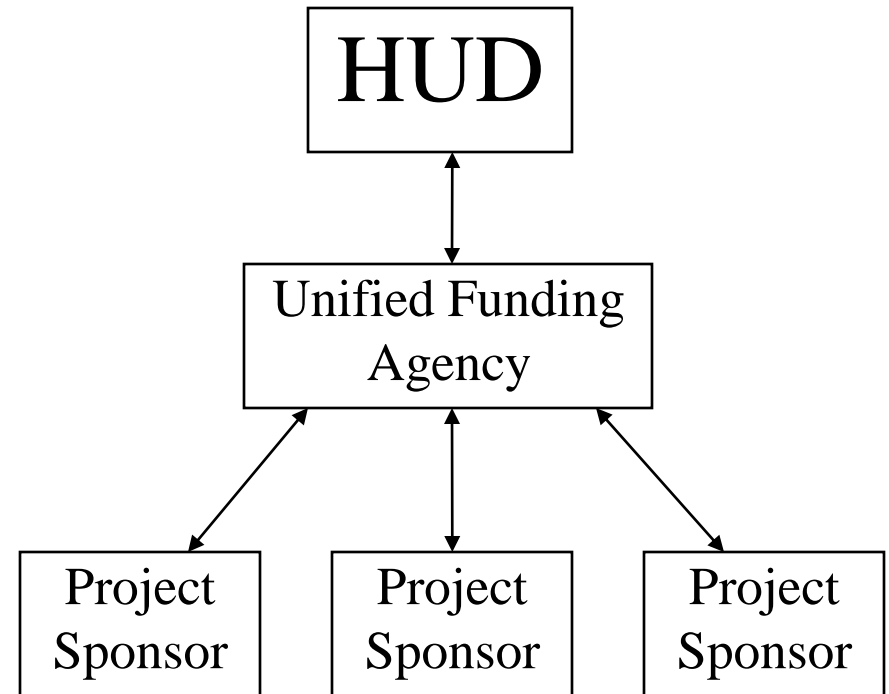
Communities that fully implement one of these can receive a bonus to do anything

Unified Funding Agencies (only some CoCs)

Old



New



Unified Funding Agencies

Collaborative Applicant could apply to become a UFA or HUD could designate Collaborative Applicant as a UFA

UFA responsible for audits and fiscal controls

UFA could get up to 3% of a communities award for administrative expenses (on top of the 3% that a collaborative applicant could receive)

Definition of Homelessness/Eligibility

Old

On the streets or in a place not meant for human habitation

In an emergency shelter

In a transitional housing program

In housing, but being evicted within 7 days and not having resources or support networks to obtain housing

Fleeing domestic violence

New

ESG serves people at risk.

All programs serve homeless people, including

People who are losing their housing in 14 days and lack resources and supports

People who have moved from place to place and are likely to continue to do so because of disability/barriers

Up to 10% (more in some cases) of CoC funds can serve doubled up/motels

Other Changes

Bigger capital grants

Non-competitive renewals for PSH

15-year contracts subject to funding for project-based PSH

All permanent housing activities are adjusted for inflation at renewal

Implications

More focus on preventing homelessness and reducing lengths of stay in homelessness.

New funding will focus on homelessness prevention, permanent supportive housing, and Rapid Re-Housing.

Bigger role for Collaborative Applicants

Need More Funding!

Get Ready!

- Who will be the Collaborative Applicant?
 - Will the Collaborative Applicant also be the Unified Funding Agency?
 - What systems and program changes are needed to ensure achievement of performance standards?
 - Now that there are new tools and evidence, what is the right mix of programs in the system?
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Get Ready!

- Who isn't at the table that should be?
 - How will we integrate Ten Year Plan, Consolidated Plan, CoC Plan?
 - Which HPRP funded programs will continue?
 - Are we ready to take advantage of the bonus?
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Contact

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