

## ESG Funding Process Lead Status Call

Minutes August 10, 2018

### ESG Funding Process Leads attending:

- Region 1 – absent
- Region 2 – Sarah Grymes
- Region 3 – Curry Cromer
- Region 4 – Kevin Hege
- Region 5 – absent
- Region 6 – absent
- Region 7 – Kelly Hutchinson
- Region 8 – absent
- Region 9 – Cassandra Hart
- Region 10 – Mary Mallory
- Region 11 – Lakitra Claude
- Region 12 – Tujuanda Sanders
- Region 13 – Susan Lucas

**NCCEH staff attending:** Jenn Von Egidy, Brian Alexander, Ehren Dohler, and Bagé Shade

### ESG RFA Released

- Regional Application Due by **5:00pm on October 26, 2018** must be received (not postmarked) by the NC ESG Office
- Please note that each Local Planning Area should submit the following in a 3-ring binder(s) no larger than 2 inches each, tabbed according to the checklist in the RFA:
  - One Regional Application
  - One Project Application for each of the agencies recommended for funding
  - One soft (electronic) copy on a flash drive of the complete application.
- Project Application Overview:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1652432228301298689>
- Regional Lead and Fiscal Sponsor Application Overview  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2717405996825470465>

- ESG RFA Timeline

<b>September 17, 2018</b>	<b>Fiscal Sponsor Application Due</b>
September 24, 2018	Fiscal Sponsor Notified of Decision
<b>October 26, 2018</b>	<b>Regional Application Due</b>
October 29- November 9, 2018	Application Review
November 26, 2018	Funding Decisions Announced
December 7, 2018	Agency's intent to appeal Due
December 14, 2018	Appeals & Special Consideration Materials Due
December 21, 2018	Fiscal Sponsor Contacts
January 4, 2019	Appeals Answered
January 4, 2019	Contracts Sent Out

- NC BoS CoC Timeline

<b>August 1</b>	<b>Submit the ESG Funding Priorities worksheet with approval from the Regional Committee</b>
September 7	Project Applications are due to Funding Process Committee for review
September 28	Submit full application to NCCEH for review and feedback
October 1-12	Staff calls with Funding Process Leads to give feedback and recommendations
October 26	Complete final review of full application and submit to ESG office by October 26*

- **The ESG office will evaluate applications based on the following three criteria:**
  - Threshold
  - Requirement
  - Recommendation

	Threshold	Requirement / Special Consideration	Recommendation
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application complete and received on time</li> <li>• Adequate Financial Controls</li> <li>• Housing Focused</li> <li>• ESG Policies and Procedures in place for each activity seeking funding</li> <li>• If DV – must have HMIS comparable database</li> <li>• Activity must be fully operational by January 1, 2019</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All HUD finding are resolved / no findings</li> <li>• Within 1 of 3 tiers for prior year spend down</li> <li>• Functioning Coordinated Entry System</li> <li>• Written Standards accepted by the LPA</li> <li>• The applicant collects all universal data elements</li> <li>• The applicant describes an adequate plan to ensure compliance with ESG and HUD requirements</li> <li>• Progressive engagement approach used</li> <li>• Active participation in the LPA</li> <li>• Existing connection between shelter and RRH provider</li> <li>• Following a Housing First approach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated experience and sound understanding of the activity requesting funding</li> <li>• Implementing a Low Barrier Shelter model</li> <li>• RRH and Prevention activities have a landlord recruitment program</li> <li>• RRH has plan for reaching out to the unsheltered</li> </ul>

- During this process, the ESG Office also focuses on:
  - Submission Order: Submit applications in the order requested with only the documentation requested.
  - Demonstrated Connections: Show connections between emergency response and housing stabilization programs.
  - Data Questions: Ensure the data provided from HMIS or comparable database is accurate and answers the question.
  - Check for Signatures: Make sure where signatures are required, the proper individual has signed.

### Recap

- Previous Benchmarks
  - Develop a plan to outreach and engage potential applicants and advertise the availability of ESG funds
  - Set grantee expectations

### FPC Current Benchmarks

- Regional applications should be in process

- Understand the “LPA’s Fair Share” and the limits per activity type. Use these limits as guidelines but choose applicants and funding amounts based on the needs and priorities in the community.
- Answer the question being asked, and when applicable, use the answer to draw the conclusion how ESG funding will assist the Regional Committee to end homelessness.
- Ensure application reflects local and CoC ESG funding priorities.
- Fill out tables on the region’s coverage completely. When coverage is not complete, be specific about plans and timelines.
- Funding Priorities-Housing First
  - On ESG Funding Priorities Worksheet & Scorecard
    - Doesn’t have to be implemented yet, but should be willing to have the conversation and make changes
  - What conversations have you had in your community?
    - Has anyone walked away?
    - Have you been able to move a reluctant agency towards lowering barriers?

Curry Cromer asked for more clarification around housing first policy in regards to ES. He understood it for RRH, but didn’t realize lowering barriers for shelter was an issue. Brian elaborated on the lowering barriers so that unsheltered populations are more likely to access ES services.

### Regional Report Outs

- Give a brief status update of where your region is in:
- **Region 1:** absent
- **Region 2:** Sarah-Applications are out Talking with the Homeless Coalition in 4 new counties. New FPC members have added capacity to talk with potential applicants. Having some conversations about housing first, states there is a shelter in Hendersonville that is not open to it right now.
- **Region 3:** Curry- Application in process. Housing First: Push back from ES due to safety concerns. Not as much RRH pushback. SSVF has a Housing First approach that is very successful.
- **Region 4:** Kevin- Application is in process. Has a local timeline. Housing First is a conversation they have every month in their Region. He has been talking to shelters and he feels like they still need to be “sold” on it. He thinks that it’s the board members that need to be brought around.
- **Region 5:** absent
- **Region 6:** absent
- **Region 7:** Kelly- Have been trying to get agencies involved again in the process. They have lost participation. They do not currently have grantee expectations. Marie Watson will be writing the Regional Application.
- **Region 8:** absent
- **Region 9:** Cassandra- She is feeling their process is currently chaotic. One of their agencies in the appeals process with ESG. Only 2 Intent to Apply applicants so far. VoA has not submitted their intent to apply. Brian stated they are willing to apply for funding for RRH in Region 9. Brian encouraged Cassandra and Joel to reach out to VoA.

- **Region 10:** Mary- receiving intent to applies until Aug 14. Started the electronic application structure. Housing First has been a routine conversation in their meetings so that it will sink in with their community partners. Mary stated the worksheet helped to refresh their ES programs on the lower barriers. The shelters are hearing what they are saying and are moving toward that being a 2020 requirement.
- **Region 11:** Lakitra-
- **Region 12:** Tujuanda- Jim developed a regional timeline. They discussed this week the lowering barriers at the ES. One of the shelters had some concerns—but it was helpful conversation. Washington Interfaith is not applying for funding.
- **Region 13:** Susan-Will be writing the Regional and Project application. Staff will reach out to Brian Fike to see if he can step into FPL role to help with the Region 13 process.

### FPC Next Steps

- Focus on writing the Regional Application for the next 2 weeks.
- *August 24<sup>th</sup>* - Project application review and selection process is defined
  - Detail your decision-making process
  - Prioritize best practice projects
  - Look at spending and data quality
  - Housing First and adherence to BoS written standards
  - Define how the process will be transparent
  - No current ESG applicants reviewing and scoring
  - Take minutes
  - Have an appeals process

### Resources

- All resources are posted on our website: <http://www.ncceh.org/bos/esg/>
- ESG RFA and Application are posted on their website:  
<https://www.ncdhs.gov/about/grant-opportunities/aging-and-adult-services-grant-opportunities>
- **Next Status Call:** Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Regional applications should be in process
  - Different web address and phone number Aug. 17 only
    - Join.me/nccehdata phone: 917-960-3860 pin: 494 778 537#