



Development
Services Agency

PY 2019 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment ESG-CV Round 2 Funding

February 2021

Prepared By:
Ohio Development Services Agency
Community Services Division
Office of Community Development

The following revision to the PY2019 ESG-CV Round 2 Substantial Amendment has taken place following the citizen participation requirements:

- Data Collection and Evaluation to cover COVID-19 related reporting requirements for the Ohio Balance of State (OBOS) HMIS Lead has been added as an eligible activity under the Target of Opportunity Program

Mike DeWine, Governor of Ohio
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Lydia L. Mihalik, Director
Ohio Development Services Agency

ESG-CV Round 2 COVID-19 Response Program

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated supplemental funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to the Ohio Development Services Agency (Development) on behalf of the state of Ohio to mitigate economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The state is required to prepare and submit a Substantial Amendment to its PY 2019 Annual Action Plan as part of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan to HUD, pursuant to regulations at 24 CFR 91.320, to access the Community Development Block Grant-CV (CDBG-CV) Program, Emergency Solutions Grant-CV (ESG-CV) Program and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS-CV (HOPWA-CV) Program. This substantial amendment captures the funding provided to Ohio as part of ESG-CV Round 2 funding.

Development submitted Round 1 CDBG-CV and ESG-CV and the full amount allocated to Ohio under HOPWA-CV Program to HUD, which was approved as part of the first CARES Act Substantial Amendment. HUD awards funding from these programs to Development to benefit people throughout the state. Development's Office of Community Development (OCD) distributes these funds locally. The program and activities proposed as part of Round 2 ESG-CV funding are described in detail below as part of this Draft PY 2019 CARES Act Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment along with the proposed funding amounts.

Program Year (PY) 2019 Ohio Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment (CARES Act) ESG-CV Round 2 Public Hearing Notice and Comment Period

The Office of Community Development applied for and received a waiver from HUD regarding the 30-day public comment period citizen participation requirement. Development notified the public of the hearings and comment period on the draft Substantial Amendment to the PY 2019 Annual Action Plan at least 10 days prior to the meetings through newsletters and posting on its website at https://development.ohio.gov/cs/cs_ocp.htm.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Development will allow interested parties to submit written testimony via email to ocd@development.ohio.gov at any time during the public comment period between January 18, 2021, and January 25, 2021. Interested parties have until 11:59 p.m. on January 25, 2021, to submit comments via email. Questions regarding the plans or comment process should be sent to Ian Thomas at ian.Thomas@development.ohio.gov.

PY 2019 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment (CARES Act) ESG-CV Round 2 Virtual Public Hearing Notice

January 21, 2021

10:30 a.m.

WebEx: <https://ohio.webex.com/ohio/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0a9fdb6398c06f8a47105bf9f9899bbe>

Phone: 1-408-418-9388, access code: 179 346 3430

Submission to HUD

Following the PY 2019 CARES Act Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment public comment period, the Office of Community Development (OCD) will submit the final document via Integrated Disbursement Information and Information Systems (IDIS) to HUD for an expedited 15-day review period. OCD will notify local communities, agencies, and organizations throughout the state when HUD approves the final PY 2019 CARES Act Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment and provide information on how to access the approved amendment.

ESG-CV Round 2 COVID19 Response Program

Total Funds Available:

CARES Act ESG-CV Round 2 Non-entitlement \$26,006,617

Ohio will receive \$59,343,421 of Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (ESG-CV) funds in a second round of funding under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, of which \$26,006,617 will be awarded to the State of Ohio and administered by the Office of Community Development (OCD).

Award Amounts:

OCD will award the funding through its Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) and Target of Opportunity Grant Program (TOPP) to projects located in both entitlement and Balance of State Continuum of Care, based upon demonstrated need for the proposed projects. Round 2 funding requests must make a strong case for support that quantifies need and is documented with a budget and estimates of costs when appropriate. Funds will be awarded through a rolling application process beginning in January 2021. Funds will be awarded through both programs simultaneously until approximately \$3 million remains in the budget. As ESG-CV funds are depleted, OCD will hold this reserve until the end of the third quarter of the grant period to ensure funding operations through HCRP ESG-CV.

ESG-CV Round 2 funds will be offered through HCRP and TOPP, with a continuation of the HCRP-CARES program for currently funded activities as the state's primary concern, therefore setting aside the reserve for operations. ESG-CV Round 1 grantees will access ESG-CV Round 2 funds for COVID-related operations through amendment requests to their existing HCRP-CARES grants from Round 1. Requests will be granted based on demonstrated need.

Eligible Activities:

Eligible activities through the regular HCRP as well as those specified in HUD Notice CPD 20-08 include the following:

Homeless Crisis Response Program – CARES Act:

- Shelter operations
(includes day shelters, motels, essential services, vehicle acquisition, cleaning, PPE)
- Grant administration up to 7% of the award amount
- Data collection and evaluation
- Homelessness prevention
- Rapid re-housing
- Temporary emergency shelters
- Infectious disease training
- Hazard pay
- Handwashing stations and portable bathrooms
- Landlord incentives
- Volunteer incentives

OCD is expanding the eligible activities for Round 2 of ESG-CV to include ESG-eligible activities not included in the HCRP ESG-CV program. These projects will be awarded through the Target of Opportunity Program. Funding through the Target of Opportunity Program will be awarded through a new grant agreement. Eligible activities are as follows.

Target of Opportunity Program:

- Street outreach
- Renovation only to address COVID-related long-term permanent solutions
- Data Collection and Evaluation to cover COVID-19 related reporting requirements for the Ohio Balance of State (OBOS) HMIS Lead.

Amendments:

Requests for amendments for Round 2 HCRP ESG-CV funding are to complete a standard set of questions that may be submitted for consideration anytime starting in January 2021 until funds are no longer available.

Application Review for Eligibility:

Eligible applicants may submit a pre-application for Round 2 Target of Opportunity Program funding starting in January 2021. OCD will invite applicants submitting qualifying proposals to complete a full application.

Pre-applications will be accepted from grantees that are currently funded by HCRP ESG-CV and regular HCRP, including emergency shelters, rapid re-housing, and homelessness prevention programs located in entitlement and Balance of State Continua of Care areas. Development is also setting aside ESG-CV funds for the OBOS HMIS Lead to cover additional data collection/evaluation costs resulting from the COVID-19 crisis. Those funds will be awarded to the OBOS HMIS Lead through the Target of Opportunity process

If funds remain after the requests from current grantees are evaluated, the program may be opened to nonprofits that are not currently funded. If so, OCD will distribute an additional Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), and any applicant must meet the same requirements as currently funded grantees.