

ESG Rapid Rehousing Program

July 19, 2013

ESG Rapid Rehousing-Defined

Rapid rehousing provides housing relocation and stabilization services to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2011). *Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing: Emergency Solutions Grants Program and Consolidated Plan Conforming Amendments*. Retrieved from:
https://www.onecpd.info/resources/documents/HEARTH_ESGInterimRule&ConPlanConformingAmendments.pdf

Permanent Housing-Defined

- Permanent housing denotes community-based housing without a designated length of stay, and includes both permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing.
- The program participant must be the tenant on a lease for a term of at least one year that is renewable and is terminable only for cause.

Direct Financial Assistance

ESG

- Rental application fees
- Security deposit
- Last month's rent
- Utility deposit
- Utility payment

BSS+

- Rental assistance
- Payments related to evictions

Housing Search and Placement (Housing Location)

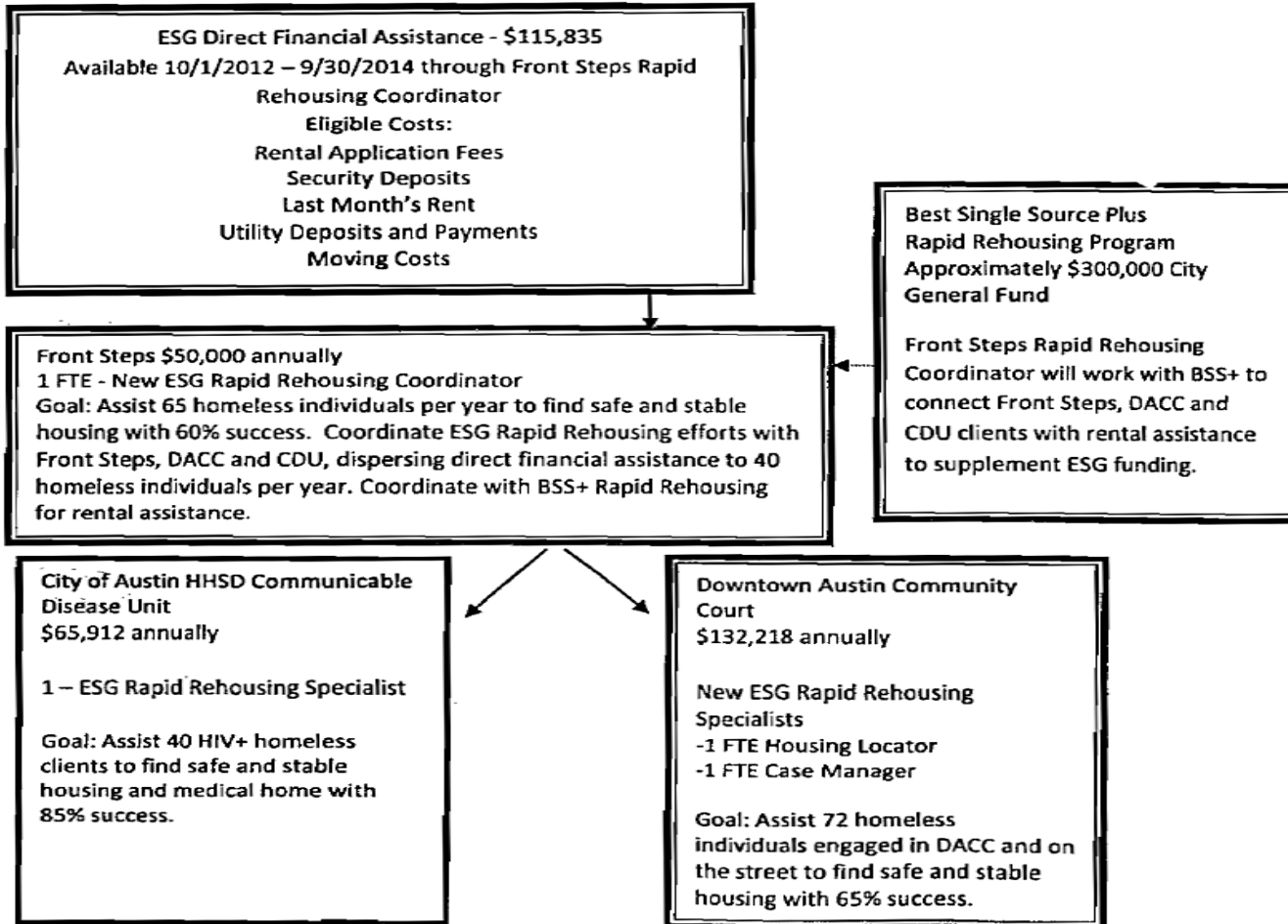
- Assessment of housing barriers, needs and preferences
- Development of an action plan for locating housing
- Housing Search
- Outreach and negotiation with property owners
- Assistance with submitting rental applications
- Assessment of housing for compliance with ESG requirements for habitability, lead based paint and rent reasonableness
- Assistance with obtaining utilities and making moving arrangement
- Tenant counseling

Housing Stability Case Management

- Duration
 - Maximum 30 days prior to move in
 - Maximum 24 months following move in
- Use Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to evaluate individuals applying and/or receiving rapid rehousing assistance
- Conduct initial evaluation to determine eligibility
- Counseling
- Developing, securing, coordinating services and obtaining federal, state and local benefits
- Monitoring and evaluating program participants progress
- Providing information and referrals to other providers
- Developing an individualized housing and service plan leading to permanent housing stability
- Conducting reevaluation

Rapid Rehousing Collaborative

City of Austin ESG Rapid Rehousing Program \$363,965



ESG DACC Update

- 57 Engaged
 - 7 DACC frequent offenders
- 9 housed
 - Variety of housing options obtained

Housing Location Referral Requirements

- Proof of income
 - Income must be able to sustain housing
- Documentation of non-cash benefits i.e. SNAP, Medicare/Medicaid, Map etc.
- Current state ID
- Social Security card
- Ability to access City of Austin utilities
- ESG homeless eligibility form
 - Documentation of chronic homelessness if applicable
- Budget plan
- Self report of criminal, rental, mental health, physical health and substance abuse history
- Letters of recommendation (from case managers, friends, housing providers etc.)

Homeless Population Served

Front Steps

- Recent-Chronically homeless
- No substance use issues-has substance use issues
- No mental health issues-has mental health issues
- Has income
- Has ID Documents
- No rental history-has rental history
- Limited family support
- No criminal background-extensive criminal background

DACC

- Chronically homeless
- Current substance use issues
- Untreated/undiagnosed mental health issues
- No income
- No documents
- No family support
- No rental history
- Extensive criminal background

Housing Lay of the Land

Barriers

- No income/Limited income
 - No expressed housing voucher
 - Limited access to BSS+ funding
 - Staffing issues reported by Front Steps
- Criminal background
- Broken leases
- Evictions
- No rental history

Housing Market

- Income requirements 2.5x-3x the rent
- Majority will not accept felonies no matter the age
- Most will not accept misdemeanors that are related to:
 - Theft
 - Assault
 - Drug possession
 - Property damage
- Most will not accept
 - Broken leases
 - Evictions
 - No rental history

Bridging the Housing Gap

- Increase access to BSS+ funding
- Establish relationships with property managers/owners
- Establish strong marketing materials
- Advocate for additional low-barrier housing units