

### **BERGEN COUNTY**

# **DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT TO THE**

## SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT FOR THE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS CARES ACT GRANT (ESG-CV)

Bergen County was awarded Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG1-CV) Program funds and HUD allocated \$2,748,124 on April 2, 2020 and a second allocation in the amount of \$3,222,784, on June 9, 2020 as authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, total of \$5,970,908. These special ESG-CV funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance; and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19.

As provided by Section III.B.2.c(i) of Notice CPD-21-08: Waivers and Alternative Requirements for the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program Under the CARES Act (ESG-CV Notice), HUD may recapture up to 20 percent of a recipient's total ESG-CV grant, including first and second allocation amounts, if the recipient had not expended at least 20 percent of that grant by September 30,2021. On March 19, 2020, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order 106 during the COVID 19 pandemic, which halted removal of any "lessee, tenant, homeowner or any other person" from a residential property, as the result of an eviction or foreclosure proceeding. The eviction moratorium had a distinct impact on the expenditure of ESG CV funding and as a result Bergen County was unable to meet the 20% expenditure deadline by September 30, 2021. The eviction moratorium relative to the population which can be served under the grant regulations was lifted on December 31, 2021.

HUD thoroughly reviewed all the information submitted through our quarterly reports in SAGE, draw-down information in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS), and the spending information we submitted in response to HUD's December 20, 2021 letter. Based on this, HUD will recapture \$196,373 from Bergen County ESG-CV grant. HUD determined this recapture amount by calculating the difference between 15 percent of our total allocation and the higher of the amount drawn in IDIS by September 30, 2021 or the expenditure amount reported in the Quarterly Performance Report covering the period ending September 30, 2021.

BERGEN COUNTY ESG1 and ESG2 CV TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$5,970,908.00
ESG-CV ADMINISTRATION ALLOCATION OF 10%	597,090.80
AMENDMENT MARCH 18, 2022	
RECAPTURED ESG CV AMOUNT FROM ADMINISTRATION	(\$196,373)
NEW ESG-CV TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$5,774,535
NEW ESG-CV ADMINISTRATION ALLOCATION	\$400,717.80

ESG-CV AMENDMENT: In accordance with HUD guidance, ESG-CV funds are not subject to consultation or citizen participation requirements. The contents of this amendment has been published on the County of Bergen website www.co.bergen.nj.us

If you should have any questions please contact Angela Drakes, Deputy Director of Community Development at adrakes@co.bergen.nj.us



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Bergen County was awarded Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG1-CV) Program funds and HUD allocated \$2,748,124 on April 2, 2020 and a second allocation in the amount of \$3,222,784, on June 9, 2020 as authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, totaling \$5,970,908. These special ESG-CV funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance; and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19.

As provided by Section III.B.2.c(i) of Notice CPD-21-08 & 22-06: Waivers and Alternative Requirements for the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program Under the CARES Act (ESG-CV Notice), HUD has recaptured funding from all entitlements and cities who did not meet HUD's timeliness schedule. Bergen County's did not meet HUD's expenditure deadlines due to very unique circumstances relative to the COVID-19 pandemic and ESG regulations. We were faced with Governor Murphy's signed Executive Order 106 on March 19, 2020 during the pandemic, that halted removal of any "lessee, tenant, homeowner or any other person" from a residential property, as the result of an eviction or foreclosure proceeding. The eviction moratorium and several funding sources such as the ERAP Treasury funds from both the County and NJ DCA, also HUD's Public Housing Authority Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) and other CARES ACT funding had a distinct impact on the expenditure of ESG CV grant. The eviction moratorium impacted the population which can be served under the ESG CV grant regulations and it was lifted on December 31, 2021.

HUD thoroughly reviewed all the information submitted through our quarterly reports in SAGE, draw-down information in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) and the spending information we submitted to HUD. Based on this, HUD has recaptured \$1,811,880.94 from Bergen County ESG-CV grant and the new grant amount obligated is \$4,159,027.06. HUD determined this recapture amount by calculating the difference between actual expenditure and expected of our total allocation and the higher of the expenditure amount reported in the Quarterly Performance Report covering the timeliness periods.

ESG-CV GRANT AMOUNT \$4,159,027.06 ESG CV ADMINISTRATION \$ 415,902.71

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