

Homelessness Prevention Fund

Homelessness Prevention Fund Description: The stimulus bill provides \$1,500,000,000 for funding the Homeless Prevention Fund. Stimulus funds were distributed on a formula basis and eligible applicants included Metropolitan Cities, urban counties and States (for distribution to local governments and private nonprofit organizations). This was a new program that could enhance the ability to assist in the prevention of homelessness in Wyoming. The allocation to Wyoming was \$1,718,313 and 5% may be used for grant administration costs. The Homelessness Prevention Fund is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and guidelines for this program are to be developed by HUD within 30 days of the signing of the Stimulus Bill. Grantees shall expend at least 60% of the funds within 2 years and 100% of funds within 3 years. Grantees receiving these funds shall collect data on use of funds and persons served in the HUD Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) which is currently administered in Wyoming by the Wyoming Business Council-Wyoming Rural Development Council with oversight by the Wyoming Homeless Collaborative.

The Homelessness Prevention Funds may be used for:

- Short-term or medium term rental assistance
- Housing relocation and stabilization services including: housing search, mediation or outreach to property owners, credit repair, security or utility deposits, utility payments, rental assistance for a final month at a location, moving cost assistance, and case management
- Other appropriate activities for homelessness prevention and rapid-rehousing of persons who have become homeless.

Seven sub-grantees were selected for this program. They are: Community Resource Center of Johnson County, Natrona County Community Action Partnership, Project SAFE Inc; Albany County Safe Project, Carbon County Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program; InterFaith, and the City of Rock Springs.

Implementation

Upon completion of the first year of implementation, 50% of the funds have been expended and over 1,000 clients have been served through rental assistance, moving costs, utility payments, and financial case management.

Submitted by:
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