

Addendum to GRCoC Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures for HUD Emergency Housing Vouchers —Draft for stakeholder input

Background: Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) are a new resource that is part of the American Rescue Plan Act and they are targeted to help households exit homelessness. The vouchers will become available in July.

These vouchers must come through the Coordinated Entry System. These vouchers are targeted to support households experiencing homelessness to connect to permanent housing. Our coordinated network of homeless service providers will have access to at least 104 vouchers, with direct referrals coming from our Coordinated Entry System (which includes the Homeless Connection Line, coordinated outreach, and the Empowernet Helpline.)

Given the emergency nature of these vouchers and the intent to use these vouchers to address the increase in homelessness from the pandemic, the GRCoC wants to ensure that these vouchers are targeted to our most vulnerable neighbors.

Considerations for prioritization include:

- Maximizing housing interventions including
 - Mainstream vouchers for non-elderly households with disabilities who do not need ongoing supportive services or have access to the supportive services needed from another program
 - Dedicated partnership for low income housing for older adults
 - Permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals who need additional supportive services
 - Rapid re-housing
 - Self-resolution supports
- Maximizing the use of HUD-funded permanent supportive housing beds through the use of EHV as part of our move on strategy.
- Implementing the EHV program in a timely manner.
- Recognition that the EHV program, while designed to serve the most vulnerable, does not provide funding for ongoing supportive services which a household might need to maintain housing stability.

Households fleeing sexual and domestic violence: Homeward will review the number of households surveyed during the January 2020 Point-in-Time count that indicated they had experienced domestic violence in the past year. This proportion was used to determine a “set-aside” amount for vouchers to be coordinated through the SDV regional collaborative. The SDV regional collaborative will determine prioritization within this set-aside amount.

Prioritization and Allocation Strategy: The following additions to the GRCoC Coordinated Entry System prioritization process are made in light of the 2021 additional Emergency Housing Vouchers provided by the department of Housing and Urban Development ([PIH2021-15 \(hud.gov\)](#)).

Intervention: Emergency Housing Vouchers

Eligible Population: Households who are currently being served by GRCoC homelessness services including, but not limited to: permanent supportive housing programs, rapid re-housing programs, emergency shelter programs, domestic violence shelter programs, and/or unsheltered outreach/supportive services efforts.

Households will be asked whether they are interested in and/or prepared to make efforts for household to meet EHV requirements (documentation, etc.).

Household can refer to individuals or families with minor children.

Order of Priority:

- 1) Household is prepared to move from HUD-funded permanent supportive housing and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.
- 2) Household meets the definition of chronic homelessness and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.
- 3) Household is prepared to move from HUD- or VHSP-funded Rapid Re-Housing program into private housing and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.
- 4) Household is a current resident in an emergency shelter program with a history of multiple (2 or more) or lengthy (longer than 45 days) emergency shelter stays within the last 3 years AND no longer needs on-going supportive services.