

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT

GRANT REVIEW

SCORING GUIDE

Rating Factor 1: Capacity & Experience (15 Points)

Sub factor 1: Non-Profit & Staff Experience with Grant Administration – 8 pts

Sub factor 2: Program Sustainability Outlook – 7 pts

CONSIDERING FACTORS

- Does the non-profit have an experienced staff?
- Does the non-profit have local, state, or federal licenses/certificates?
- Does the proposed program seem to complement the non-profit's Mission Statement?
- Does the non-profit demonstrate that they have the staff experience and proper level of staffing to carry out the project?

Evaluate how well the non-profit demonstrates the ability to successfully implement and manage grant funded (federal, state, and local) projects in a timely manner, consistent with funding requirements AND the non-profit's experience working with similar programs (housing programs, emergency shelters, outreach, etc.) or programs with similar activities (case management, assessments, etc.).

Agencies can describe their capacity and experience on the "Application Info" tab, the "Project Budget" tab, and the "Attachment A" tab in the ESG PY22 application.

Rating Factor 2: Need/Extent of the Problem (22 Points)

Sub factor 1: Consolidated Plan Consistency/Priority – 11pts

Sub factor 2: Meeting a Community Need—11pts

CONSIDERING FACTORS

- Does the non-profit address root causes versus a band-aid approach?
- How do the services help meet client and community needs?
- Are current local statistics, non-profit statistics or other evidence provided to document and support the need?
- Is the target population and their unique service needs clearly identified?

Evaluate the identified community need in the context of the priorities for the proposed services. How comprehensive is the description of the related need for the services proposed? Evaluate how well services are located as compared to need in community. Is the target population and their unique service needs clearly identified?

Agencies can describe the need and extent of the problem their proposed program will address on the "Program Description" tab, "Project Info...": tabs, and the "Needs Analysis" tab in the ESG PY 22 application.

2020-2024 Mississippi Consolidated Plan Priorities in Program Focus Areas

High Priorities (Max points awarded: 1 activity @ 8 points ea.)

Services for At-risk Children/Youth/Victim of Human Trafficking
Services for Persons with Serious Mental Illness, Chronically Homeless,
Medium Priorities (Max points awarded: 2 activities @ 4 points ea.)

Homeless Services
Services for Victims of Domestic Violence
Services for Persons Recently Incarcerated or on Parole
Emergency Food Assistance
Employment Programs

Low Priorities (Max points awarded: 2 activities @ 2 points ea.)

Utility Assistance
Financial Literacy
Service for Persons with Substance Abuse Problems
Other General Low/Moderate Income Services

Rating Factor 3: Collaboration (10 Points)

Sub factor 1: Are there Partnerships and Collaborations? – 5 pts

Sub factor 2: Outreach and Referrals – 5 pts

CONSIDERING FACTORS

- Does the non-profit work with their local CES?
- Does the non-profit actively refer *clients to other needed services*?
- Does the proposed program include *coordination efforts between multiple partners including: Employment, Transportation, Education, Faith-Based, Arts, Media, Government, Non-Profits, Business, Entertainment, Sports and Neighborhoods*?
- Does the non-profit *collaborate with other agencies* to provide comprehensive services to encourage long-term housing stability instead of just short-term rental assistance?
- Does the non-profit have an effective client outreach strategy?
- Do these services help meet needs and promote increased self-sufficiency?
- Are there details of any formal agreements and history of partnerships in the community?
- Is the non-profit demonstrating that they are not working in a silo and have established true partnerships throughout the county?

Evaluate the outreach activities and how effective the project will be in reaching the target population. How are any barriers described, and how will they be addressed? Evaluate the degree of non-profit participation within the local community, including its collaborative efforts with other agencies and committees. Do the non-profit participate in the Continuum of Care (CoC) and CoC related activities? ESG grant recipients are required to participate in the CoC.

Agencies can describe their strategic partnerships on the “Program Info...” tabs in the ESG PY22 application.

Rating Factor 4: CES and HMIS/Data monitoring (10 points)

Sub factor 1: HMIS or another acceptable database? – 5 pts

Sub factor 2: Participation in Coordinated Entry System – 5 pts

Does the non-profit uses HMIS or other HUD acceptable database, who demonstrates their ability to provide appropriate accurate data in data reports, and who participate in their local Coordinated Entry System (CES)?

Agencies can describe their use of HMIS and participation in CES on the “Project Info ESG Components” tab, Section C. HMIS. Additional information will be obtained from the CoC regarding the agency participation and HMIS data quality.

Rating Factor 5: Program Evaluation, Performance & Monitoring (28 Points)

Sub factor 1: Were Accomplishments Measured and Evaluated? – 5 pts

Sub factor 2: Standardized Client Intake and Eligibility Process – 5 pts

Sub factor 3: Standardized Methods and Tools to Evaluate Progress – 5 pts

Sub factor 4: Monitoring Results --5 pts

Sub factor 5: Spending Timeliness and Compliance with MHC Contracts – 8 pts

CONSIDERING FACTORS

- How did the non-profit perform in terms of numbers served in the previous grant cycle?
- Has the non-profit had any issues with expending all their past or current funding?
- Are there any serious performance issues in past grants awarded to the non-profit?
- Is the non-profit proposing activities that will help clients move towards self-sufficiency after they receive the service?
- Can they clearly define how clients will be better off and reach self-sufficiency after receiving proposed services?
- Does the non-profit track accomplishments over time and have verifiable accomplishments?
- Is there a strong link between the project goals, the services provided and the outcomes?
- Are there significant discrepancies between the agency’s answers & the performance reports from the HUD CAPER report?

Evaluate the effectiveness of how proposed program outcomes and performance will be measured. Are the methods and tools to be used to evaluate progress clearly described?

This section is based on a combination of HUD CAPER reports reflecting past expenditures and grants awarded through ESG that will be made available to the reviewing panel. The timeliness of drawing down of grant funds and meeting of their targeted number of clients to be assisted will be evaluated.

Agencies can describe their past performance on the “Past Performance” tab in the application.

Rating Factor 6: Program Goals – (5 points)

Sub factor 1: Are program goals clearly defined and related to the program – 3 pts

Sub factor 2: Are program goals measurable? – 2 pts

CONSIDERING FACTORS

- Did the non-profit describe the impact that will result from the program being funded including, but not limited to, the following, as applicable:
 - Increased accessibility to affordable housing;
 - Overall reduction in number of persons who experience homelessness;
 - Reduction in the length of homelessness;
 - Reduction in returns to homelessness;
 - Increased employment and income growth for persons who are experiencing homelessness;
 - Average length of time between intake and assistance given;
 - Other goals and objectives of your program
- What processes are in place for tracking program outcomes?
- How will the proposed program outcomes and performance be measured?
- Are the identified goals in line with the National Strategic Goals-HOME and MHC's goals and ConPlan?

Agencies can describe their goals on the "Proposed Outcomes" tab, and "Program Description" tab in the application.

Rating Factor 7: Financial (10 Points)

Sub factor 1: Clear and Efficient Budget – 5 pts

Sub factor 2: Leveraging Sources (Private, Federal, State, Local, In-Kind) – 5 pts

CONSIDERING FACTORS

- Does the non-profit identify source of operating funds that will fund services before they are reimbursed by ESG?
- Does the proposed program have significant amounts of other funding?
- If the requested ESG funding is not awarded can the non-profit still implement the program?
- Does the budget reflect awarded funding or pending funding from other sources?
- Is there a guaranteed commitment of funding to cover the costs of the proposed program?
- In the past was the project funded with other funding, if so why did it stop?

Evaluate whether the project budget estimates and costs are reasonable and well supported or justified relative to the number of persons to be served, the services to be provided, and the target population. Does the project leverage other federal, state, local or private resources? Does the non-profit provide evidence of sustainable funding? Evaluate project sources and costs to determine if they are reasonable and well supported. Is the project budget relative to the proposed numbers of individuals and/or households to be assisted?