

## Contra Costa Inter-Jurisdictional Council on Homelessness

### HOMELESS PREVENTION FUNDING: KEY COMPONENTS

The application process and other procedures are still being developed and more information will be posted as soon as it becomes available. The funding will be available in Fall 2009.

**ALLOCATION:** Contra Costa County received a direct Homeless Prevention Fund allocation **\$1,421,551**. The City of Richmond received **\$559,735** in funding.

**ACTIVITIES:** This funding must be used for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities, including the following:

- 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; or
- Other appropriate activities for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing of persons who have become homeless.

**TIMING:** It appears that the timing for this funding will be very tight and the term will be short (60% of funds must be spent within 2 years, 100% within 3 years of award.) One possible timeline:

- Allocations were published February 25, 2009
- Guidance to be published by March 19, 2009
- Community plans to HUD in April – May 2009
- Program operations in Fall 2009

**PLAN:** HUD is expected to require communities to submit a plan for utilizing this funding. The timing and requirements are expected to be similar to the Neighborhood Stabilization's Program Substantial Amendment to the jurisdiction's Annual Plan.

- Anticipated timing: 30-60 days expected to submit to HUD
- Plan should be informed by the following data: homeless counts, HMIS, unemployment, evictions, other economic hardships, affordable housing
- Overall strategies on which to focus: prevention, diversion, and re-housing

### **WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW YET:**

- Specific plan requirements
- Whether there will be any match requirements (not likely)
- What other program regulations might be, such as:
  - Term limits on receiving rental assistance
  - Limits on the number of times that individuals or households can receive assistance
  - Whether rental assistance can be provided outside of the funded jurisdiction

For more information, call the Contra Costa Homeless Program at 925-313-6124.