

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF FY2024 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG) PROGRAM FUNDS FOR KENT AND SUSSEX COUNTIES

The Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) has been designated to administer the federally funded Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program, which is authorized under the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), which amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers the Program at the federal level and is estimated to allocate \$366,810 in ESG funds for FY2024 to Kent and Sussex Counties in the State of Delaware. This limited amount of funds must be awarded and obligated within a short period of time. Therefore, it is anticipated that the funds will be allocated to one or more nonprofit organization(s) with the ability to effectively comply with federal regulations, provide the necessary matching funds, and obligate grant funds.

DSHA is soliciting applications from qualified nonprofit organizations, units of general-purpose local governments, and faith-based organizations (non-religious public services) interested in providing eligible services of the ESG Program that address one or more of the public needs targeted in Kent and Sussex Counties.

ESG funds for the estimated FY2024 allocation (\$366,810) may be used for the following activities:

- 1. Emergency Shelter activities (\$197,876); and
- 2. Homelessness Prevention activities (\$168,934).

In deciding who to award the ESG funds, priority shall be given to applications that request funding assistance for the reimbursement of operating costs to emergency shelters. This is based on the quality and number of received applications. If there are remaining funds after the first priority is met, second priority shall be given to high-quality proposals requesting funding assistance for eligible homelessness prevention activities.

Grantees shall be required to provide matching funds in an amount that is at least equal to their approved ESG funding amounts for eligible program activities. Other ESG funding cannot be counted towards a qualified match.

A virtual public information session on the ESG Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be held by DSHA on **Thursday**, **February 22**, **2024**, from 10:00-10:30 a.m. Information on the virtual public information session, as well as the NOFA, is available online at www.destatehousing.com/Other Programs/Emergency Solutions Grants Programs.

FY2024 ESG Virtual Public Information Session

Thursday, February 22, 2024, 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM (EDT)

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device

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Funds will be disbursed through a competitive application process:

- 1. Applicants must submit a completed and electronically signed application package to DSHA by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 28, 2024;
- 2. The ESG application is available online at: www.destatehousing.com/Other Programs/Emergency Solutions Grants Programs;
- 3. The ESG application process will be an <u>electronic</u> application process only. The application and required support documentation must be submitted to DSHA <u>electronically</u> to the <u>DSHA comdev@delaware.gov</u> e-mail address by the above-stated deadline. Applications will not be accepted in any other format (e.g. paper);
- 4. Required documentation for each exhibit needs to be labeled "Exhibit "X" "Name of Exhibit". The application and all exhibits should be combined into a <u>single PDF</u> and labeled "Application-Program Name". For confirmation purposes, please send e-mails with a "Read Receipt" request; and
- 5. Partial application submissions will not be accepted. Applications received after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 28, 2024, will not be accepted.

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities in all phases of the application process. Please call DSHA at 302.739.4263 or 888.363.8808 with any questions or requests. TTY/ ASCII/ VOICE/ VCO users may utilize the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) at 800.676.3777.

Applications submitted in person or faxed will **NOT** be considered. If you have questions about the ESG Program, please contact Janell Stanton, Community Development Analyst II, by telephone at (302)739-0219 or via e-mail at Janell.Stanton@delaware.gov.

