

July 2017 Community Projects Review Committee Report

Report

The Community Projects Review Committee (CPRC) met on May 18th to make funding recommendations for the FY2017 Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program competition.

TDHCA Emergency Solutions Grant Program

The Community Projects Review Committee did not meet for a public briefing since there were two joint applications requesting the exact amount of available funds. The CPRC conducted one closed meeting in May related to the FY17 ESG Program Competition and recommended funding for 2 of 2 applications:

CPRC Rank #1	CPRC Rank #2
SafeHaven of Tarrant County (Lead)	The Salvation Army – Mabee Center (Lead)
Catholic Charities	Center for Transforming Lives
Presbyterian Night Shelter	Hands of Hope
<i>Funding Recommendation: \$353,350.00</i>	<i>Funding Recommendation: \$252,211.00</i>

The final amount of funding available to our Continuum is subject to change, pending final allocations to TDHCA from HUD. For example, recent communications from TDHCA indicated that funding available for our Continuum has potentially increased by \$2,888.00. The CPRC provided guidance to TCHC on how to apportion any budget increases of \$5,000 or less. In the event of an increase or decrease greater than \$5,000.00, the CPRC will be asked to reconsider ranking and funding.

The FY17 ESG Program Competition Project funding recommendation was distributed to applicants on May 19th via email. TDHCA is reporting that the PY 2017 contract start date will be November 1, 2017; however, the annual allocations of ESG funds to TDHCA has not been released by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Committee wishes to offer the following comments to applicants and the CoC Board:

- The quality of the applications improved significantly from the previous cycle. Their CPRC scores reflected how well they followed instructions and answered the narratives.
- The CPRC would like applicants to include citations for evidence-based practices and models referenced in narratives proposed for use in the program.
- Applications needed a consistent writing style.
- Some application narratives contained generalities and lacked specifics on outcomes, measures, and plans for program delivery; for example, agencies cited laws but did not demonstrate the process of how they would provide reasonable accommodation to clients.
- The CPRC highly appreciated and enjoyed the collaboration between agencies.