

POINT SOURCE YOUTH PRESENTS:

NEW FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING STREAMS YOU CAN ACCESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Diane Yentel, *President & CEO, National Low Income Housing Coalition*
- Norm Suchar, *Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*
- Ann Oliva, *Visiting Senior Fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*

COVID-19 has brought incredible challenges for folks experiencing homelessness and those that serve them. To meet these needs quickly, the funding landscape has drastically changed—infusing 10x the amount of funding through different federal, state, and local channels. Youth voice, housing first, innovation, and equity practices are needed now more than ever. Service providers must take advantage of this opportunity to braid funding in a way that houses the unsheltered, keeps those housed in place, and creates long term solutions to end youth homelessness.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

What we have always wanted can happen now. Housing providers have known from their practice in the field what is needed to end youth homelessness. Current flexible funding available can help to create more equitable, youth-driven systems that can last beyond the crisis.



Q + A

What should folks know about upcoming HUD funding?

Allocations for the first billion of \$4 billion have been sent out to 360 state localities and there will be a notice on how much money communities are receiving. The great news is that activities are covered retroactively, so folks can use ESG funding to reimburse what they're doing now. HUD is working on extra guidance and is looking to facilitate more flexibility for providers to meet needs in the moment.

What can we do from a prevention lens during this crisis?

There are millions who can't afford to pay rent. We cannot have a rash of evictions once the moratoriums are lifted. We have to advocate for resources to keep people stably housed now. We are pushing for 100 billion from congress for long term rental assistance and employment needs. It's a steep hill to climb, but it's possible if we all work together.



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FUNDING FRAMEWORK FOR RESPONDING TO THE INTERSECTION OF COVID-19 AND HOMELESSNESS

NAEH has reviewed the funding opportunities available to communities and has created a framework to put your “puzzle pieces” together in the most effective way.

NAEH suggests 4 stages of implementation:

- immediate action
- short term action
- medium term action
- longer term action.

These stages of implementation are broken down into ways to address the needs of those who need emergency shelter, those currently unsheltered, those in housing, prevention and diversion work, and lastly, to support communities strengthening and creating equitable systems for the future.

This helpful framework shows how to effectively fund each activity in each implementation phase, utilizing approved activities from FEMA, ESG, CDBG, CARES, RHY, TANF, CoC Programs and Planning funds, HOPWA, TBRA, Public Housing, HUD-VASH, SSVF, philanthropic dollars, and state and local funding. This resource outlines when to use which dollars for the needs of your community and also emphasizes that collaboration and coordination are paramount to tackle youth homelessness during COVID-19.



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ACTIONS TO TAKE NOW

1. Have youth at the table. YHDP communities have shown that systems have better outcomes for youth when youth create them.
2. Use this time to your advantage. We have never seen so much flexible funding infused into our systems. We can create flexible, equitable systems that specifically target and support the most marginalized in our communities.
3. Build community with organizations who may have not traditionally been a HUD provider or worked in homelessness, but that compliment the needs of those you serve well. Build capacity and bridges in communities you haven't before.



**IF THERE HAS EVER BEEN A TIME THAT HOUSING IS HEALTHCARE, IT IS ABUNDANTLY OBVIOUS WHEN OUR COLLECTIVE HEALTH DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO STAY HOME.
-DIANE YENTEL**

RESOURCES & LINKS

- [State Guidance on Coronavirus Pandemic EBT](#)
- [Multifamily Properties Subject to Federal Eviction Moratoriums Search](#)
- [National Low Income Housing Coalition COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Map of YHDP Funded Communities](#)
- [Information on Emergency Grant Solutions \(ESG\)](#)
- [Funding FEMA COVID-19 Simplified Application](#)
- [Changes to HUD CoC Policies that affect Rapid Re-housing programs](#)
- [North Carolina COVID-19 Response](#)
- [King County COVID-19 Response](#)
- [Understanding Changes to HUD ESG Policy Waivers](#)
- [HUD Ask a Question](#)