



Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
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\$73 million in Federal Homelessness Funding for City & County of Los Angeles

(Los Angeles, CA) The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) yesterday announced awards for the 2009 Homeless Assistance Program to local Homeless Continuums of Care. Under the SuperNOFA Competitive Award program, the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LACoC), headed by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), received the largest award in its history, totaling \$68,902,729.00. The LACoC includes the City and most of the County of Los Angeles, with the exception of Pasadena, Glendale and Long Beach (these cities each submit separate applications and receive separate awards).

Also announced today were City & County of Los Angeles Emergency Shelter Grant Program awards totaling over \$4.4 million, bringing the total amount of homeless funding awarded to the Los Angeles CoC to over \$73.4 million. Taken together, this year's awards represent an increase of more than \$1.3 million over last year's funding of \$72 million.

"On any given night in the City & County of Los Angeles, over 73,000 people are homeless. This funding is crucial for programs providing housing and services to our most vulnerable citizens," said LAHSA Executive Director Rebecca Isaacs. "Our partner agencies provide a continuum of programs including emergency shelters, safe havens, transitional and permanent housing, along with supportive services that address issues intertwined with homelessness, such as domestic violence, mental illness, substance abuse, and job skills. Together we create and sustain solutions that are ending homelessness as we know it."

LAHSA, a joint powers authority of the City & County of Los Angeles, is responsible for completing the competitive grant SuperNOFA application to HUD. The majority of projects receiving LACoC grants are one-year renewals of existing programs, all of which must re-apply each year to qualify for continued funding. This year's award provides funding for more than 200 homeless programs, including:

- \$37.3 million in funding for the Supportive Housing Program, providing supportive services, and transitional and permanent housing for homeless individuals and families;
- \$31.6 million in Shelter + Care housing vouchers, providing housing for homeless individuals and families, awarded to
 - \$21.2 million to the Housing Authority, City of Los Angeles
 - \$6.4 million to the Housing Authority, County of Los Angeles.
 - \$3.2 million to the Housing Authority, City of Santa Monica.
 - \$717 thousand to the Housing Authority, City of Pomona.

"Los Angeles County's work to end homelessness in partnership with the City of Los Angeles and all of the 88 cities and dozens of unincorporated communities that encompass the County continues to be acknowledged at the federal level," said Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. "We commend LAHSA and its partner agencies for successfully articulating our region's unique needs in this competitive process."

Included in the 2009 award is over \$12 million to support the addition of 191 new units for homeless individuals and families. New local projects funded include:

- **Housing Authority of the City Los Angeles:** 99 units for chronically homeless and persistently mentally ill individuals at seven sites located across the city, representing 6 Congressional Districts.
- **Hollywood Community Housing Corporation:** 15 units to support homeless individuals and their families who are living with HIV/AIDS.
- **Housing Authority of the City of Santa Monica:** 25 units for homeless and chronically homeless individuals in the City of Santa Monica.
- **Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health:** 25 units for homeless individuals and families with mental illness.
- **St. Joseph Center:** 20 units for chronically homeless individuals in Venice.
- **Special Services for Groups:** This project will provide approximately 7 one-bedroom units for homeless individuals with severe and chronic mental illnesses.

“Our newly funded programs represent an important next step toward meeting the needs of our homeless populations,” said Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. “Combining shelter with mental health and other services is a proven way to help people transition to stable housing. HUD is particularly focused on reaching out to homeless families and chronically homeless individuals, and these new programs mirror these priorities.”

The Emergency Shelter Grant awards to the City and County of Los Angeles were for \$3.17 million and \$1.31 million, respectively. ESG funds help to support critical services throughout the City & County, including LAHSA’s homeless outreach team, access centers, and a portion of 1065 emergency shelter beds. ESG funds also assist in supporting over 1700 beds in LAHSA’s Winter Shelter Program, which augments emergency shelter capacity during the cold winter months.

On a national basis, HUD’s Continuum of Care and ESG programs will provide critically needed funding to over 6,000 local programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This year, HUD is providing a total of \$1.6 billion in CoC funding through grants and will provide assistance to the hundreds of thousands of persons and families living without a home of their own.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) is a joint powers authority of the City and County of Los Angeles, created in 1993 to address the problems of homelessness in Los Angeles County. LAHSA plans, funds and administers programs that assist homeless individuals and families in their transition to permanent housing. LAHSA is the lead agency in the HUD-funded Los Angeles Continuum of Care, and coordinates and manages over \$70 million annually in federal, state, county and city funds for programs providing shelter, housing and services to homeless persons. Additionally, LAHSA partners with the city and the county to integrate services and housing opportunities to ensure wide distribution of service and housing options. LAHSA funds agencies that address many underserved homeless populations including battered women and their children, persons struggling with chronic homelessness, veterans, youth transitioning from foster care, and individuals with mental health needs. For more information, please see <http://www.lahsa.org>