COVID-19 Enhanced Risk Service Delivery in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC)

Purpose:
This policy provides guidance for all entities providing programs and services for the LA CoC homeless population during the current declaration of a public health emergency for COVID-19 by federal, state, and local municipalities within Los Angeles County. This policy also provides the necessary procedures to support the continued operations of essential functions within the Los Angeles homeless services delivery system.

Applicability:
This policy applies to all CoC Program direct grantees and subrecipients, is effective immediately, and will remain in effect for the duration of the federal public health emergency declaration, or until otherwise determined by CoC leadership in conjunction with local public health partners and local officials.

Policy:
In response to the current declaration of public health emergency for COVID-19, the Los Angeles CoC leadership, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) as Collaborative Applicant and the Los Angeles CoC Board – hereby enact Enhanced Risk Service Delivery Procedures. These procedures include the following:

1. LAHSA in conjunction with local public health partners and in collaboration with service provider entities will identify and designate programs and services essential to community rehousing strategies that must remain operational during the public health emergency;
2. Entities operating the LAHSA-identified essential programs and services will document and retain essential activities and locations where the programs and services must continue in order to provide life-sustaining services to vulnerable unsheltered, sheltered, and formerly homeless rehoused households; and
3. Entities operating the LAHSA-identified essential programs and services (as identified in the preceding steps) will designate essential personnel required to sustain operations of programs and services and to assist with coordination while normal operations are disrupted.

Emergency Pay
Essential personnel are vital to the CoC and the ongoing operations of programs and services. Essential personnel who provide security, operations management, front line support, cleaning and maintenance, and supportive service delivery may receive emergency pay for emergency hours worked. Emergency pay typically constitutes up to, but not to exceed, 150% (time-and-a-half) of the hourly rate for all emergency hours worked. Established timesheet and payroll procedures should be used to track time worked.

1 See Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 200.430(f)