COVID-19
Recovery Re-Housing Services
Request for Information (RFI)

RFI Release Date: July 17, 2020
Written Questions Deadline: July 31, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)
Submission Deadline: September 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)
I. BACKGROUND

In May 2020 at the request of the Board of Supervisors, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) began working in collaboration with the Chief Executive Office (CEO) Homeless Initiative (HI), Department of Health Services (DHS) Housing for Health (HFH), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Department of Public Health (DPH), the City of Los Angeles, and the United Way of Greater Los Angeles to develop a plan for COVID-19 Recovery for Homelessness. The plan seeks to quickly re-house 15,000 Angelenos experiencing homelessness emphasizing those that are vulnerable to COVID-19, including individuals sheltering in Project Roomkey hotel rooms, and other populations. This will ensure both safety for vulnerable populations that are at high-risk of hospitalization and death if infected with COVID-19 and align with public health goals, along with continued operations of other programs that serve participants who may not be served through Project Room Key such as families and youth experiencing homelessness.

The COVID-19 Recovery Re-Housing plan consists of seven core components for which programs will be responsible: leveraging Project Roomkey and other COVID-19 related shelters to provide on-site services; active Problem-Solving interventions and access to one-time financial assistance; targeted matches to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for high-acuity individuals; identification and acquisition of large batches of units that will accept rental subsidies; rapid lease-ups; continuous assessment of newly housed participants to determine needed supports and/or long-term housing; and case management supports to support participants’ stability in housing.

II. PURPOSE

This Request for Information (RFI) by LAHSA is a noncompetitive solicitation. This RFI seeks to identify qualified homeless service providers that are interested in delivering Recovery Re-Housing services; a new and comprehensive Permanent Housing service and subsidy model targeted for COVID-19 high-risk populations including residents at Project Roomkey sites. Recovery Re-Housing services play an essential role in carrying out LAHSA’s objective to permanently house 15,000 individuals as part of its COVID-19 Recovery Plan.

Due to the enormous need for these vital rehousing services and the extent to which the capacity of current service providers has been impacted by responding to COVID-19, LAHSA is encouraging all qualified nonprofit providers including current and new providers to respond to this RFI.

Responses provided to this RFI will be reviewed by LAHSA, which may lead to further investigation and inquiry. This RFI should not be misinterpreted as an official offer to enter into a contractual agreement. Instead, information received through responses to this RFI may be used in preparation of a Request for Proposals (RFP), a Targeted Request for Proposals (Targeted RFP), an Invitation for Bids (IFB), or another method for the official solicitation of services, including
contracting by negotiation with a provider exhibiting the required capabilities and qualifications. Alternatively, LAHSA may also take no further action after reviewing responses to this RFI.

III. SOURCE OF FUNDING
It is anticipated that the services described under Section V below will be funded with Corona Virus Relief (CRF) and Measure H Special funds from the County of Los Angeles, and Emergency Solutions Grant Corona Virus funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Additional funding sources may be identified in the future.

IV. ELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS
This RFI is open to qualified nonprofit organizations that are interested in delivering Recovery Re-Housing services. Nonprofit organizations do not need to be certified through LAHSA’s Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) process to respond to this RFI. However, organizations will need to be RFSQ certified for one or more of the funding sources identified above prior to entering into a contract with LAHSA for the services described below.

V. PROPOSED SERVICES AND REQUIREMENTS
1. Problem-Solving (formerly Diversion) is a short-term housing intervention that seeks to assist participants identify immediate and safe housing alternative either independently or within their own network of family, friends and social supports.

2. Recovery Re-Housing is a new category within Permanent Housing focusing on those persons who are homeless and are at high risk for COVID-19 or households with acuity scores between six (6) and eleven (11). Recovery Re-Housing connects couples, individuals, and youth experiencing homelessness to permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance that includes the use of time-limited financial assistance and targeted supportive services. Recovery Re-Housing programs assists couples, individuals, and youth living on the streets, in emergency shelters, or at Project Room Key sites solve the practical and immediate challenges to obtaining permanent housing while reducing the amount of time they experience homelessness, avoiding a near-term return to homelessness, and linking to community resources that enable them to achieve housing stability in the long-term. Recovery Re-Housing provides 100% of a participant’s rental assistance for up to six (6) months then begins a progressive assistance model of financial assistance for up to twelve (12) additional months. Total assistance can be up to eighteen (18) months with the hope that the housing can be permanent. If additional levels of assistance are needed, the participant can be referred to Bridge to Subsidy for a PSH match or to Shallow subsidy.

3. Bridge to Subsidy is a new category within Permanent Housing focusing on those persons who are homeless and are at high risk of COVID-19 and have acuity scores of twelve (12) and up. The focus and services are similar to the Recovery Re-Housing program with the one
difference being that they can receive 100% rental assistance for up to twenty-four (24) months while awaiting a connection to a Permanent Housing Subsidy resource. Participants in this program are expected to be transferred into PSH (when available) or connected to a 50% Shallow Subsidy program if they are deemed eligible. Assessment for eligibility for Shallow Subsidy should begin in month nine (9).

Program requirement details can be found in the Scope of Required Services (SRS).

VI. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Responses to this RFI will only be accepted in the form of the accompanying survey. Please click the following link to access the 2020 COVID-19 Recovery Re-Housing Services RFI Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YSRLWJV

Submissions must be written in English. Electronic submission is mandatory. Responses will not be accepted via facsimile or paper submission. RFI submissions must be received by electronic delivery at the survey link above no later than 2:00 p.m. (Pacific Time), September 9, 2020.

VII. QUESTIONS

Respondents are encouraged, but not required, to submit questions in writing no later than 2 p.m. (Pacific Time), July 31, 2020. You may direct your questions regarding this RFI to fundingopportunities@lahsa.org with the subject line “2020 COVID-19 Recovery Re-Housing Services RFI – Q&A.” Please include your name and title, the name of your organization and the best telephone number to reach you, if a LAHSA representative needs to speak with you for further clarification. LAHSA will post written responses to all received questions on the LAHSA website no later than five (5) business days from the Q&A deadline. Respondents are responsible for checking the LAHSA website to obtain current information and responses.

VIII. DISCLAIMER

A. This RFI is issued by LAHSA for informational and planning purposes. It does not constitute a competitive solicitation or a promise to issue a competitive solicitation in the future. This RFI does not commit LAHSA to contract for any services whatsoever. However, LAHSA reserves the right to select one or more agencies with demonstrated capability to provide the requested services as part of this RFI process.

B. All costs of responding to this RFI shall be borne by the responding party. LAHSA shall not be liable for any expenses incurred by the responder in the preparation and/or submission of the information requested in this RFI. The responder shall not include any such expenses as part of their itemized budget in their RFI.

C. Responses to this RFI become the exclusive property of LAHSA. All information provided by responders will be considered public documents, subject to review and
inspection by the public at LAHSA’s discretion, in accordance with the California Public Records Act and other applicable laws. Exceptions will be those pages in each response which are defined by the responder as business or trade secrets and are marked as “TRADE SECRET” or “CONFIDENTIAL.” LAHSA shall not in any way be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such records, including, but not limited to, those so marked if the disclosure is deemed to be required by law or by court order.

D. During this RFI, Responders may revise and re-submit their responses.

E. LAHSA reserves the right to verify information provided in each response. If an insufficient number of responses are received LAHSA reserves the right to re-issue an RFI, issue an RFP, execute a sole-source contract or take any other action deemed appropriate by LAHSA.

F. It is improper for any LAHSA officer, employee or agent to solicit consideration, in any form, from a responder with the implication, suggestion or statement that the responder will obtain any type of favorable treatment arising out of this RFI or that the responder’s failure to provide such consideration may negatively affect the responder. A responder shall not offer or give, either directly or through an intermediary, consideration, in any form, to a LAHSA officer, employee or agent for the purpose of securing any type of favorable treatment that may arise from RFI. A responder shall immediately report any attempt by a LAHSA officer, employee or agent to solicit such improper consideration for any reason whatsoever. The report shall be made to the Executive Director of LAHSA or to the County Auditor-Controller’s Employee Fraud Hotline 800/544-6861. Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, and service, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.