

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Outreach Training



February 24, 2010

Catherine Hummel

MFA



Housing New Mexico

Training Objectives

- What is this program?
- How can it help the youth I work with?
- Who qualifies for assistance?
- Who do I contact?



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

National Objectives

- Prevent homelessness for households who would otherwise become homeless, many due to the economic crisis
- Rapidly re-house persons who are currently experiencing homelessness



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Program Background

- Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)
- \$8.5 mm to New Mexico
 - \$1.8 mm to City of Albuquerque
 - \$6.8 mm to MFA for Balance of State
- Funds expire July 31, 2012



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

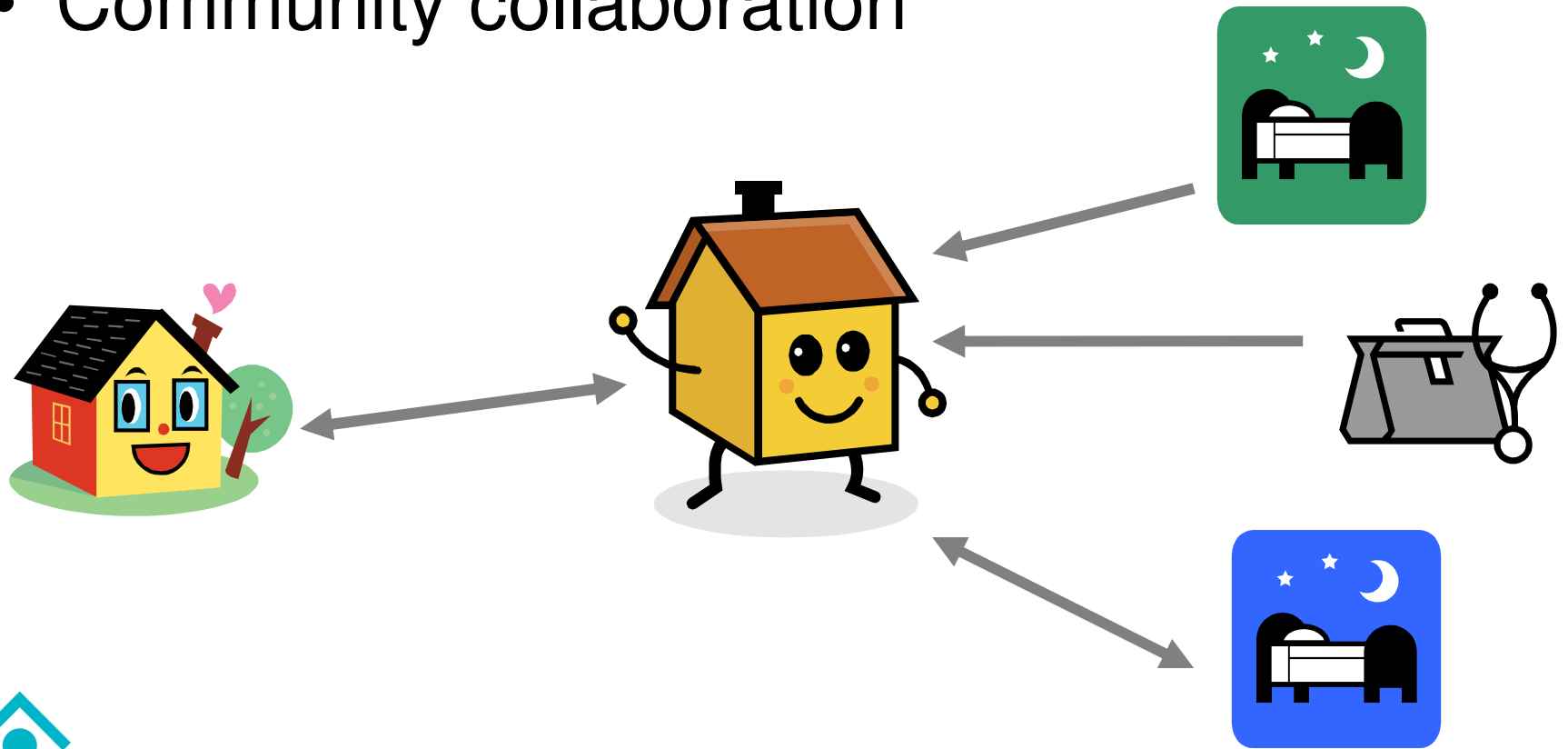
State Objectives

- Provide assistance to all populations
 - Outreach to local service providers, state agencies
- Provide assistance throughout New Mexico
 - Lead agencies have contracts for counties, with a formula amount for each county



Program Model

- Community collaboration



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Assistance Available

- Financial Assistance
- Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Assistance Available

Financial Assistance

- Short to medium term rental assistance – up to 18 months
- Utility payments – up to 18 months
- Rent or Utility Arrears – up to 6 months



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Assistance Available

Financial Assistance

- Security and utility deposits
- Moving cost assistance
- Motel/hotel vouchers – Up to 30 days
 - No appropriate shelter bed available
 - Rental unit has been identified



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Assistance Available

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services

- Case management (to meet housing needs)
- Outreach and engagement
- Housing search and placement



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Assistance Available

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services

- Legal services
- Credit Repair



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Referral Process

- Pre-Screening
- Lead Agency

[Initial Screening Form](#)



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Participant Eligibility

- Income
- Current Housing Status
- Assessment of Housing Stability

[Initial Screening Form](#)



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Participant Eligibility

- Below HUD 50% Area Median Income

Examples:

- Single person, Dona Ana County - \$20,850
- Single person, McKinley County - \$15,450
- Two people, Dona Ana County - \$17,650



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Last revision: 11/10/2009

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program: Pre-Screening Form



Applicant Name: _____ Phone: _____
2nd Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____
Current Address: _____ County: _____

1. Household size: How many people would be living in the unit? _____

2. Household income: Estimate CURRENT income for all household members who would live in the assisted unit. Include wages, salaries, tips, child support, Social Security, and/or regular financial support. Income should be annualized – monthly income x 12, weekly x 52, biweekly x 26, hourly x # hours/pay period x # pay periods

Income is at or below HUD's very low income limit (50% AMI) for the household size and the county (Limits are on back of form; subject to verification by HPRP lead agency). Yes No

Participant Eligibility

- Housing Status:
 - Currently Homeless
 - At Imminent Risk of Homelessness
 - At Risk of Homelessness

Homeless “but for” this assistance



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

3. Current Housing Status (choose (a), (b), or (c)):

(a) Homeless (check one)

- Sleeping in an emergency shelter
- Sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (car, park, street)
- Graduating from or timing out of transitional housing program for homeless persons
- Victim of domestic violence and need HPRP assistance to leave situation
- Staying in an institution (e.g., jail, prison, hospital) for no more than 180 days but was sleeping in shelter or in place not meant for human habitation immediately prior to entry

(b) Imminent Risk of Homelessness (check one)

- Residing in condemned housing
- Pending discharge within 2 weeks from institution after stay of more than 180 days
- Pending eviction within 2 weeks (including by family/friends)
- Sudden and significant loss of income (loss of job, hours, household member)

(c) Risk of Homelessness (check all that apply)

- Sudden and significant increase in utility costs and does not qualify for LIHEAP assistance
- Mental health and/or substance abuse issues
- Homeless in last 12 months
- Physical disabilities and other chronic health issues, including HIV/AIDS
- Severe housing cost burden (> 50% income)
- Extremely low income (< 30% AMI; e.g., SSI only)
- Young head of household (< 25 with children or pregnant)
- Recent traumatic life event (death of spouse / primary care provider, or recent health crisis)
- Pending foreclosure of rental housing
- Significant amount of medical debt
- Current or past (recent) involvement as a child with child welfare, including foster care and/or juvenile justice
- Credit problems precluding obtaining housing
- High overcrowding (exceeds health/safety standards)
- Past institutional care (prison, treatment facility, hospital, juvenile correctional facility)

Household meets housing status (a), (b), or (c)

Yes No

4. Housing Options: HPRP assistance is the only housing option for the family that will be safe, affordable and available for the household. Yes No

5. Financial Resources: The household lacks the financial resources needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing. Yes No

6. Support Networks: The household lacks the support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing (for example, obtaining financial assistance from family/friends, or living with family/friends). Yes No

8. Would the applicant household be homeless but for the HPRP assistance? Yes No

9. Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____ □

Participant Eligibility

- Assessment of Housing Stability
 - Intake interview with case manager
 - Review eligibility
 - Reasonable prospect of housing stability after program ends



7. Housing Stability Timeline: Permanent affordable housing is achievable within 1-18 months, Yes No
or by July 31, 2012, whichever is sooner.

Eligibility

- Unit Eligibility
 - Assessment and/or inspection
 - Rent reasonable



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Service Providers

Go to MFA Website: housingnm.org

Click “Emergency Housing”

<http://www.housingnm.org/rent-mortgage-and-utility-assistance>



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Q & A



Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program