



DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELESSNESS AND
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

**SAN FRANCISCO LOCAL
HOMELESSNESS COORDINATING
BOARD**

Full Board

Monday, July 12, 2021 11:00 am

**Planning for HUD Emergency Housing
Vouchers**

Cynthia Nagendra, HSH



Agenda

- Update on EHV Planning
- Community Input
- Eligibility and Prioritization
- Services



EHV Program: Overview

- HUD is allocating approximately 70,000 emergency housing vouchers (EHVs) to public housing agencies (PHAs) across the country through the American Rescue Plan (ARP)
- The San Francisco Housing Authority (SFHA) has received:
 - **906 vouchers**
- The EHV program is **not** the HCV program
- PIH Notice 2021-15 outlines these differences
- Waivers allowed by EHV and CARES Act statutes



EHV Program: Purpose and Priorities

- EHV's present a historic opportunity for SF to:
 - reduce homelessness
 - decrease inflow into homelessness, and
 - address racial and other inequities by connecting households disparately impacted by homelessness to permanent housing
- What is the best way to utilize these vouchers to achieve this purpose with the available services funding and within the given timeline?



EHV Program: Timeline

- Timeline for utilization
 - Vouchers have an effective date of **July 1, 2021**
 - The ARP provides that if a PHA fails to lease its authorized EHV's within a reasonable period of time, **HUD may revoke and redistribute any unleased vouchers** and associated funds
 - HUD wants significant amount of vouchers leased up by December 2022
 - SFHA would like to see majority of vouchers leased up in 2021
 - **After September 30, 2023**, a PHA may not reissue any previously leased EHV



EHV Program: Eligibility Criteria

- Eligibility must be within these 4 categories
 - Homelessness
 - At risk of homelessness
 - Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
 - Recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent homelessness or high risk of housing instability
- Within these categories, we are receiving input on how to prioritize within these categories



EHV Program: Services

- EHV's do not come with enough supportive services funding attached so we must build a package of services and carefully assess eligible populations for need to ensure an adequate match between the household's desires and needs and what the EHV program will offer



EHV Program: Partnerships

- Partnership with the Continuum of Care; Referrals
 - PHAs are required to enter into an MOU with the CoC and other homelessness partners or Victim Services Providers (VSP) to establish a partnership to refer and assist qualifying households through a **direct referral process**
 - **WE CAN CHANGE PRIORITIZATION TO INCLUDE MORE THAN “HOUSING REFERRAL STATUS”**
 - **CoC/Coordinated Entry and defined community partners are responsible for sending direct referrals** for qualifying individuals and families to the PHA through an agreed-upon referral process

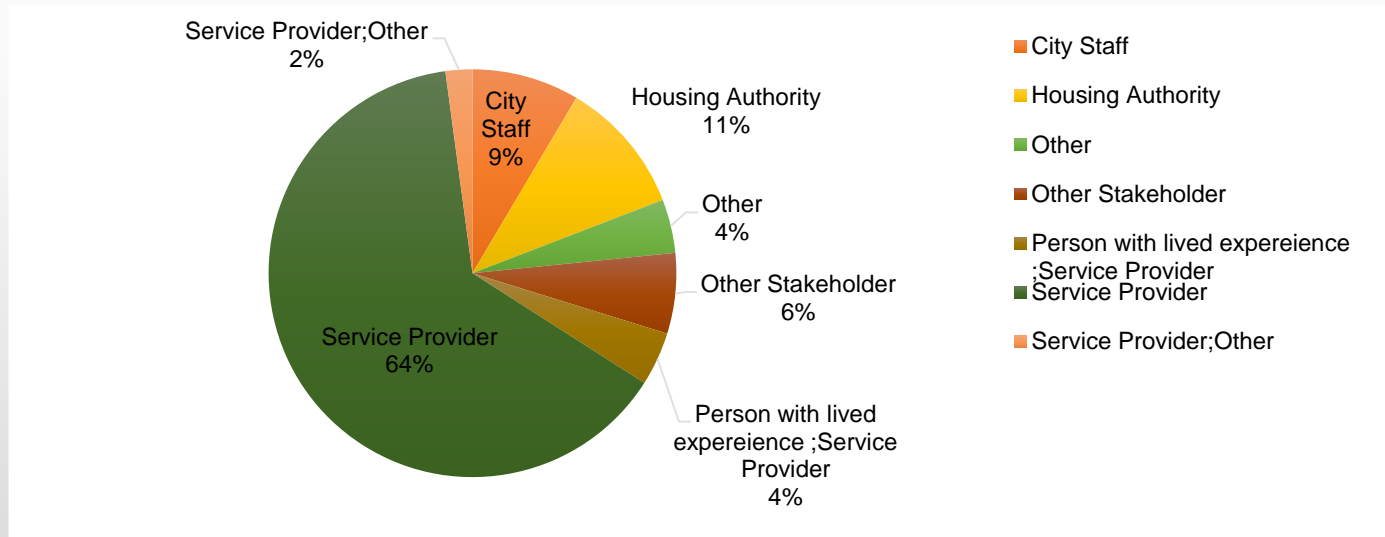


EHV Program: Community Input

- Community Input Process
 - Community stakeholder meeting, June 21-st 8-9:30
 - Strategic Framework Advisory Committee Members
 - Goal: Diversify Service Providers to build capacity and ensure improved equity for voucher access
 - Targeted outreach to:
 - Service providers without contracts and without existing contracts
 - District 10 Service Partners
 - DV Partners
 - Criminal Justice Partners
 - People with lived experience advisory group?
 - Other ideas?
- **SCHEDULE a meeting for any interested service partners in next 2 weeks**

EHV Program: Community Input

- Community Input Meeting, June 21
- 50+ stakeholders
- Question: Within the 4 categories, who should be prioritized for EHV's and why?**





Eligibility: Strategic Targeting

- How can these vouchers be used most strategically with consideration of various local needs and factors?
- How should we target: homeless vs. at-risk populations?
- Within the 4 categories, who should be prioritized for EHVs and why?

- Considerations:
 - How to improve equity for disparately impacted populations?
 - What prioritization will reduce literal homelessness?
 - What prioritization will significantly respond to racial disparities?
 - What are gaps in the current system's available housing resources and who is not being served?
 - What resources do we have more of (PSH/Flex Pool) and who already has a housing resource identified (SIP guests, Housing Referral Status list)
 - How do we consider limited services funding availability in allocation and targeting decisions?
 - How do we navigate limited capacity to provide services in some parts of the system?
 - How do resource allocation decisions impact racial equity, reduce barriers, and check biases and assumptions about who can succeed in EHVs?



EHV Program: Examples of Prioritization for Input

Families

- Unhoused families with children
- High risk of homelessness families
- Families in SRO's with disabled adults or children
- At risk families rehoused through RRH who are nearing the end of their subsidy and are unable to sustain the rent
- Moving On - Families in PSH that can and want to move on

ADULTS

- Unsheltered adults (including safe sleep sites) or in SF shelters
- Moving On - Tenants in PSH who can and want to leave
- Seniors with fixed income and/or disability and histories of homelessness
- Criminal justice re-entry referrals

TAY

- Unsheltered youth
- Youth in programs such as RRH or TH who need longer term subsidy but not intensive services
- Youth who have completed foster care and are homeless or not securely housed
- Youth who are not exiting foster care so do not have extended foster care resources
- Parenting TAY

Fleeing, or attempting to flee, DV, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking

- Unhoused and high risk survivors fleeing



EHV Program: Current and Future Planning

- Diversifying service providers to partner with build capacity in more providers and to improve equitable access to marginalized populations experiencing a disparate impact of homelessness
- Targeted outreach strategies for populations and providers who may not be engaged by current systems to meet people where they are
- Coordination with SFHA and partners to streamline application process
- Effective and streamlined ways for referral, access to use CE to assess households for EHV eligibility, complete applications, and make referrals to SFHA
- Developing services funding and tapping into existing services
- Develop capacity building strategies across the system for improved access, referrals, CE, application completion, service providers (housing navigation, location, landlord engagement, move-in, tenancy supports, case management, stabilization)
- Tracking and monitoring for equity



EHV Program: Discussion

- Ideas for including more input for program design, access, service partners
- Planning for capacity building at CE and service providers
- Questions, comments, concerns?

Contact: Cynthia.Nagendra@sfgov.org