A FRAMEWORK for COVID-19 HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

June 24, 2020

Nan Roman
President & CEO
National Alliance to End Homelessness
Overview

• States and localities will receive significant ESG, CDBG and other funds.

• Funds should be used strategically to maximize impact.

• Homelessness could grow or shrink depending on your approach.
Overview – con’t.

- Homelessness and pandemic disproportionately affect persons of color and marginalized communities -- identify and remediate disparities

- Address highest needs first

- Get people into housing – prevention after immediate concerns are addressed

- Create partnerships
Action Areas

Strategies and activities in these areas:

• Unsheltered people
• Shelter
• Housing
• Prevention and diversion
• Strengthening systems for the future
Unsheltered

- Engage people with lived experience in planning, implementation, outreach and services
- Testing and screening
- Transfer into appropriate shelter/housing
- Provide hygiene and health services for those outside; peers
- Move all to appropriate rooms, medical services, housing
- Create acceptable alternatives for those who reject shelter
Shelter

- Testing, screening and social distancing
- Move people to quarantine and isolation as appropriate
- Use peers and people with lived experiences
- Go to scale on congregate and non-congregate shelter as needed
- Examine data for inequities
- Provide housing services for exit
- Plan to replace all congregate with non-congregate shelter
- Eliminate congregate shelter
Housing

• Assess need for various models
• Intensive landlord engagement and speed lease-up
• Plan to-scale exits from shelter to homes
• Partners and resources for re-housing to scale
• Connection to services, employment
Diversion & Prevention

- Rapid re-housing and PSH checks
- Scale-up
- Examine for equity
- When other needs met, begin scaling prevention for <30% AMI, targeting marginalized communities
- Get partners to support previously homeless to prevent recidivism
- If all <30% AMI are housed, move to higher incomes for prevention
Improving Systems for the Future

- Establish partnerships (public health, CoC, etc.)
- Enter and analyze data; document disparities, analyze, remediate
- Engage people with lived experience
- Establish equity-based decision making
- Establish links to employment
- Plan response to income/rent cuts
- Evaluate response to COVID and document equity best practices
Framework Next Steps

- Distributing to field and policymakers
- Revised regularly
- Tools, protocols, guidance, documents, etc. will be added
- More assistance to implement
Funding Sources

- FEMA
- ESG
- CDBG
- Coronavirus Relief Fund
- Federal funding to States/localities (TANF, Medicaid, etc.)
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
- RHYA/HYDP
- HOME – TBRA
- HOPWA
- Section 8, 202, 811
- Philanthropic funds
- State/local discretionary funds
THANK YOU!

endhomelessness.org