

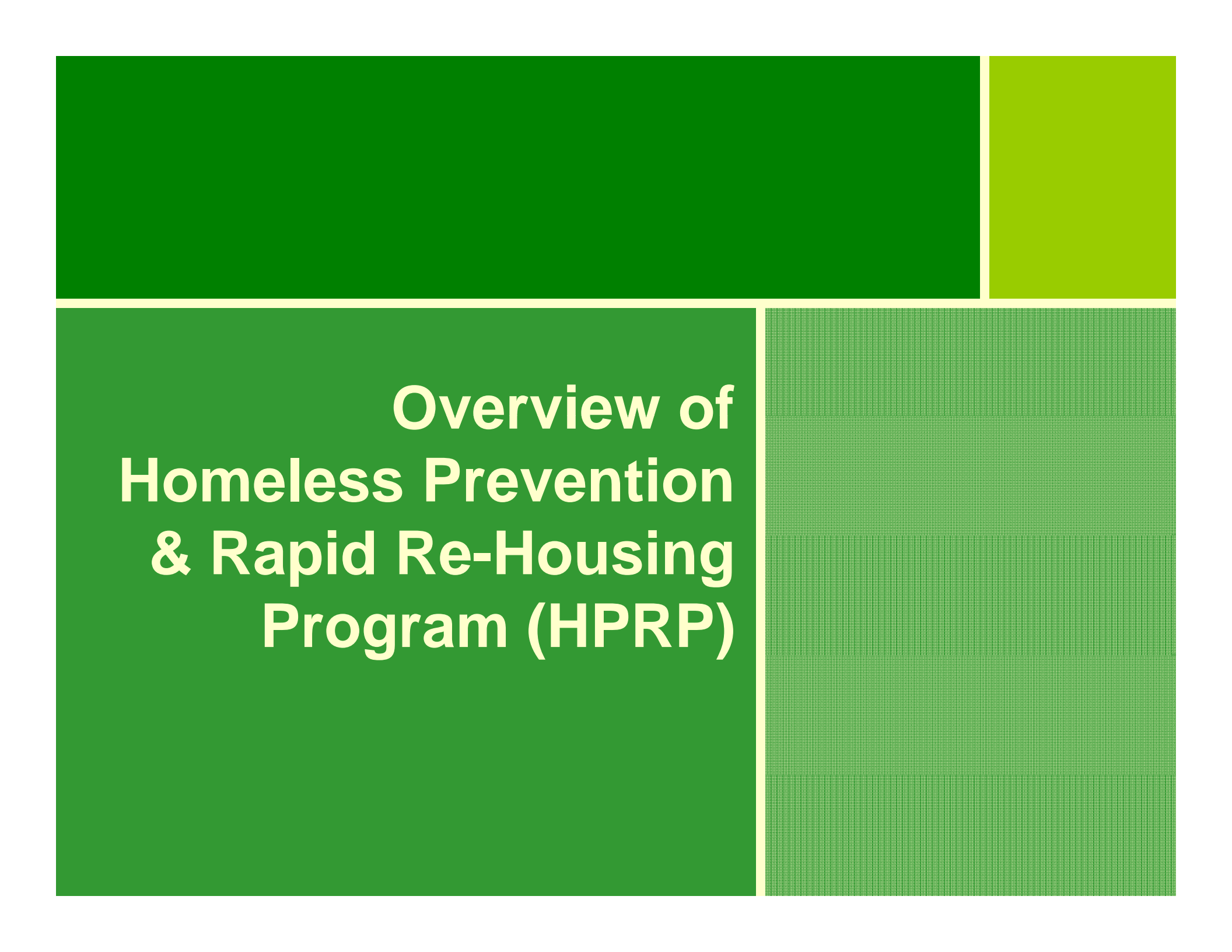
# Statewide Discussion Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

March 27, 2009

NJ ADVOCACY NETWORK TO  
END HOMELESSNESS

# Today's Purpose

- Provide information on HPRP
- Gather your ideas and questions on the HPRP resources
- Begin a dialogue on how we as a state can use this new resource to end homelessness



# **Overview of Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)**

# Overview

- Program creation
  - Title XII of American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)
- Amount of funding -- \$1.5 billion
  - Used Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) formula
  - Minimum grant = \$500,000
  - Allocations in New Jersey are available at
  - <http://www.njaneh.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/ESG.pdf>

# Application Requirements

- Substantial Amendment to Consolidated Plan 2009 Action Plan (form HUD-40119)
  - 12 day public comment period
- Completed & signed SF-424
- Signed certifications

2 copies – HQ and Field Office; Postmarked by May 18, 2009

# HPRP Themes

## Housing Assistance

For those who would be homeless “but for” this assistance

# HPRP Eligible Activities (Section IV, A of Notice)

## Financial Assistance

- Short-term, up to 3 months, and medium-term, 4 to 18 months, rental assistance; security deposits; utility deposits; utility payments; moving cost assistance; motel & hotel vouchers for a up to 30 days is a rental unit has been identified subsequent rental housing has been identified but is not immediately available

# HPRP Eligible Activities (Section IV, A of Notice)

## Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services

- Case management related to obtaining housing stability
- Outreach & engagement
- Housing search & placement
- Legal services
- Credit repair

# HPRP Eligible Activities (Section IV, A of Notice)

## Data Collection & Evaluation

- Reasonable and appropriate costs associated with operating a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), reporting data and analyzing patterns of use
- Participating in HUD-sponsored research and evaluation

# HPRP Eligible Activities (Section IV, A of Notice)

## Administrative Costs – 5%

- Pre-award costs defined in Notice; accounting for grant funds; reports and submissions to HUD; audits; staff training related to HPRP
- Grantees share “reasonable and appropriate” amount with subgrantees

# HPRP Ineligible Activities (Section IV, B of Notice)

- Financial assistance or services to pay for expenses eligible through other ARRA programs
- Mortgage costs
- Construction/rehab; credit card bills/consumer debt; car repair/transportation costs; travel costs; food; medical or dental care; clothing/grooming; home furnishings; pet care; entertainment; work/education materials; cash assistance to participants; general staff training

# HPRP Ineligible Activities (Section IV, B of Notice)

- Payments directly to participants
- Grantee will be required to reimburse its line of credit for any activities determined by HUD to be ineligible

# Eligible Program Participants

Notice sets forth requirements for participants receiving financial assistance or services

- Initial consultation with case manager
- At or below 50% AMI
- Homeless/at risk of losing housing and have no appropriate subsequent housing identified and lacks financial resources and support networks to obtain/retain housing

# Eligible Program Participants: Two Populations

Persons experiencing homelessness

➤ Rapid Re-Housing Model

Persons at risk of experiencing homelessness

➤ Prevention Model

# Eligible Program Participants:

## Rapid Re-Housing Model

- Sleeping in emergency shelter;
- Sleeping in place not meant for human habitation;
- Staying in hospital or other institution for up to 180 days but sleeping in emergency shelter or inhabitable situation immediately prior
- Timing out/graduating from transitional housing;
- Victims of domestic violence

# Eligible Program Participants:

## Prevention Model

- Target resources toward persons most at-risk for experiencing homelessness
- Notice identifies some risk factors –work with Continuum of Care/researchers/service providers in your area to set targets

# Key Dates & Deadlines

## Grantee Submit to HUD

- May 18, 2009

## HUD completes review

- July 2, 2009

## Grantee signs agreements with subgrantees

- September 30, 2009

## Expenditure of Funds

- 60% -- 2 years from day HUD signed grant agreement
- 100% -- 3 years from day HUD signed grant agreement

# Reports

Initial Performance  
Report – due  
October 10, 2009

Quarterly Reports –  
due 10 days after  
end of each quarter

Annual Reports –  
60 days after end of  
each federal fiscal  
year (Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>)

# Questions & Training

- March 20<sup>th</sup>: Q & A document for [HPRP](#) posted on HUD's Homeless Resource Exchange ([www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info))
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>: On-line "Virtual Help Desk" goes live
- March 25<sup>th</sup>: Sample community documents related to prevention and rapid re-housing posted to HUD HRE.
- March 27<sup>th</sup>: On-line searchable database of Questions and Answers.
- April 1<sup>st</sup>: HUD/NAEH Audio Conference.
- April 8<sup>th</sup>: HUD webcast dedicated to HPRP.

# Local HUD Contact

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# **Creating a Plan - Discussion on Best Practices**

# Homeless Prevention

- The most economically efficient way for most families and individuals to end homelessness is to prevent its occurrence.
- 2 principles
  - Resources should be targeted to households with the highest likelihood of becoming homeless.
  - Programs should provide just enough assistance to prevent or end an episode of homelessness, stretching resources as far as possible.

# The Challenges of Prevention and Rapid Re-housing

- Cost
  - Need flexible dollars. While the intervention is overall cheaper, it is usually hard to get the precious dollars to do prevention
- Coordination
  - Requires systems that aren't always flexible to be flexible
- Outcomes
  - Insists that we target and how to make those decisions is never easy

# Opportunity of HPRP

- Build upon existing state or local programs to create new resources for those not being served
- Provide opportunity to try rapid re-housing or diversion programs for those who are already accessing shelter to decrease shelter stays
- Provides chance to create new resource for whom prevention doesn't work
- Create a cohesive prevention/diversion/rapid re-housing system

# Supporting an Effective Prevention System

- Prevention
  - Serves a large number of people who are at risk of homelessness and is typically the least expensive intervention on a per-client basis.
- Diversion
  - Assist those who request shelter by identifying other safe housing options and resources, even if they are temporary.
- Rapid Re-Housing
  - Minimizes stay in homelessness by quickly helping people move into permanent housing.

## Best Practice - Targeting

- *Effective activities* must be capable of stopping someone from becoming homeless or ending homelessness quickly
- An *efficient system* must target well, delivering its effective activities to people who are very likely to become homeless unless they receive help
- HUD Guidance – “individuals and families who are homeless or would be homeless **BUT FOR** this assistance”

## Best Practice: Targeting

- Analyze homelessness data (from HMIS, surveys, or another source) to determine the characteristics (living situation, income level, level of disability, level of supports, education, etc) of people who become homeless and create risk assessment criteria.
- In the absence of good information about the characteristics of homeless people in the community, targeting should be based on risk factors identified by research in other communities

## Best Practice: Integration

- Integrate and coordinate programs whenever possible
  - Same housing locators and case managers can serve people through the prevention, diversion, or re-housing programs.
  - In some smaller communities, a single program could provide all 3 interventions.
  - In most communities, a single program could provide flexible financial assistance and rental assistance for people in all three types of programs.

## Best Practice: Coordination

- Create centralized/coordinated triage and data collection when possible
  - Create a seamless system for the household applying for HPRP assistance
  - Create a systematic way of targeting and/or screening potential HPRP recipients
  - Create cohesive way of distributing prevention that ensures equality, not luck

# Rapid Re-Housing

- Relies on early ID of housing barriers and providing the assistance necessary to facilitate their return to permanent housing.
- Based on the assessment of a family or individual's housing barriers, a referral is made to a subcontracting agency best able to respond to the client's housing needs.
- Puts "housing" at the front and center, prioritizing the rapid return to housing



# Working with Others and Resources

# Working with the Local CoC

- HPRP Application Requirements
  - Must identify in application how you plan to coordinate with CoCs
- CoC Resources
  - Providers who understand the population of “new” homeless or spikes in homelessness
  - Providers and funders with experience with systems change and implementing new resources
  - Potential subgrantees for HPRP funds

# Coordinating with Others

Examples include:

- Public Housing Agency contributing Section 8 vouchers to help with homelessness prevention and re-housing
- Collaboration with TANF dollars to supplement efforts  
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2179>
- Collaboration with other ARRA Homelessness Resources  
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2179>
- Community Action Agency providing case management services to people served by prevention or re-housing programs
- Local government divisions working to use CDBG dollars for housing activities

## Coordinating with Each Other

- Could work together to:
  - Share standardized assessment tools
  - Share standard entry criteria for HPRP
  - Create a unified system for prevention (call center or points of entry)
  - Pool resources or funding
  - Utilize HMIS

# HPRP Resources

- HUD
  - [www.hudhre.info](http://www.hudhre.info)
  - Virtual helpdesk and searchable FAQs
- National Alliance to End Homelessness
  - [www.endhomeless.org](http://www.endhomeless.org)
  - Best Practices, guides
- Corporation for Supportive Housing
  - [www.csh.org](http://www.csh.org)
  - Information on permanent supportive housing
- NJ Advocacy Network to End Homelessness
  - <http://www.njaneh.org/>



# Discussion Questions & Answers

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