

March 20, 2009

HUD Homelessness Prevention Fund Guidance just released

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published [guidance](#) for the new Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program on Mar. 19, 2009, on the [HUD Recovery Web site](#). That guidance will also be published in the Federal Register in a few days as well. Along with the Notice will be the format HUD is requiring for the Substantial Amendment to the Action Plan that grantees will need to submit in order to receive funding.

This program makes available \$1.5 billion nationwide to help families pay rent, make security deposits, pay utilities and cover other housing expenses. Virginia will receive approximately \$24.8 million for the program divided between \$13.4 million for 13 entitlement communities (5 counties and 8 cities) and \$11.4 million for non-entitlement programs in the remainder of the state.

According to a representative of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, the agency plans to distribute the new non-entitlement HPRP funds through the existing network of Homeless Intervention Program providers.

Allocation amounts have already been posted at www.hud.gov/recovery/homeless-prevention.cfm. The funds have been granted via the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) formula to the normal ESG program grantees (state and local governments). The Homeless Prevention Fund allocations include 540 grantees – about 180 more grantees than the ESG program. This is because the minimum grant size was reduced.

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