DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of Community Planning and Development

Homeless Assistance Grants

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Enacted/ Requested	Carry ov er	Supplemental/ Rescission	Total Resources	Obligations	Net Outlays
2022 Appropriation	3,213,000	3,402,564	=	6,615,564	3,036,650	4,189,000
2023 Appropriation	3,633,000	3,905,959	=	7,538,959	3,699,000	3,984,000
2024 President's Budget	3,749,000	3,839,959	-	7,588,959	3,675,000	3,309,000
Change from 2023	116,000	(66,000)	-	50,000	(24,000)	(675,000)

a/ FY 2022 Carryover, per Sec. 231 of P.L. 116-94, carryover includes Rental Assistance recaptures of \$399 million.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG) are key to addressing homelessness nationwide, which has declined by nine percent between 2010 and 2022. HAG funds allow HUD to serve vulnerable individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through a wide variety of service and housing interventions, including homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2024 President's Budget requests \$3.7 billion for HAG, which is \$116 million more than the 2023 enacted amount.

- \$3.4 billion for Continuum of Care:
 - o \$3.3 billion for renewal need for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program will allow HUD to continue to serve over 750,000 people experiencing homelessness each year; and
 - \$52 million for rapid re-housing for persons experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
- \$290 million for Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), which supports over 350,000 persons in emergency shelter each year.
- \$27 million for the National Homeless Data Analysis Project:
 - o \$12 million for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), data analysis, and technical assistance; and
 - \$15 million to assist victim service providers to use comparable databases that comply with HUD's data collection, reporting, privacy, and security requirements and empower victim service providers and CoCs to better use and analyze their data

b/FY 2023 Carryover, per Sec. 231 of P.L. 116-94, carryover includes estimated Rental Assistance recaptures of \$249 million, as well as \$3.0 million in other anticipated recaptures.

c/ FY 2022 Net Outlays, per Stat. 608 of P.L. 116-136, outlays include \$1.8 billion from CARES Act.

d/FY 2023 Net Outlays, per Stat. 608 of P.L. 116-136, outlays include \$1.1 billion from CARES Act.

e/FY 2024 Net Outlays, per Stat 608 of P.L. 116-136, outlays include an estimated \$200 million from CARES Act.

 $^{^{\}rm l}$ Department of Housing and Urban Development. The 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, Part 1

to inform services for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.

• \$82 million for additional Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) projects through a separate competition, including up to \$10 million of this amount for technical assistance to improve system responses to youth homelessness, and collection, analysis, use and reporting of data and performance measures under the comprehensive approaches to serve homeless youth, and to coordinate with other technical assistance funds.

These programs align with HUD 2022-2026 Strategic Objective 1B: Reduce Homelessness.

JUSTIFICATION

Homelessness affects over 580,000 adults and children on any given day. The number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness is rising across the country with four in ten (40 percent) of people experiencing homelessness staying on the street, in encampments, or in other places not suitable for human habitation. The increase is a result of the rising cost of housing and the lack of assistance provided to segments of the homeless population. For veterans and families experiencing homelessness, investments in permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing have helped reduce homelessness, even as housing costs in most of the country for low-income people have risen dramatically. In partnership, HUD and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) have invested significant resources, including HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), to reduce veteran homelessness, which has led to a decline of veteran's homelessness by more than half since 2010. A similar decline (36 percent) has occurred for families with children experiencing homelessness. On average, much less assistance is provided to individuals who are not veterans or accompanied by children. As a result, rising numbers are experiencing homelessness and particularly unsheltered homelessness.

Homelessness Data

To track progress and continue learning about individuals and families experiencing homelessness, HUD uses data from local HMIS, Point-in-Time Count (PIT), and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data reported in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (AHAR).² The longitudinal data is collected both as a "snapshot" of the number and characteristics of persons who are homeless on a given night and persons being served in emergency shelter, transitional housing, safe havens, and permanent housing. HUD also relies on system performance data that shows the progress of communities in ending homelessness, including reducing the average length of time homeless, reducing the rate people return to homelessness, increasing the exits to and retention of permanent housing, and increasing employment and other income.

The 2022 AHAR Part 1 shows that homelessness increased slightly between January 2020 and January 2022. The number of people experiencing homelessness nationwide increased by less than one percent (1,996 people). This increase was driven by a three percent (7,752 people) increase in unsheltered persons overall. Between 2007 and 2022, the number of people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January has decreased by 10 percent (64,796 people). Unsheltered homelessness declined by nine percent (22,025 fewer people) over the same period. The number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased by 11 percent between 2020 and 2022 and has

² Part 1 of the 2022 AHAR can be accessed online at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/ahar/2022-ahar-part-1-pit-estimates-of-homelessness-in-the-us.html. Part 2 of the 2020 AHAR can be accessed online at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/ahar/2020-ahar-part-2-pit-estimates-of-homelessness-in-the-us.html.

dropped by 55 percent since 2010. We continue to see over-representation of people of color in the homeless population. People identifying as Black or African American accounted for 37 percent of all people experiencing homelessness but are 12 percent of the total U.S. population.

Continuum of Care Program (\$3.4 billion, including renewals and \$134 million for new projects)

The CoC Program is HUD's largest program targeted to adults and children experiencing homelessness. Funds are awarded to over 6,500 projects through a national competition. In the 2021 CoC program competition, 92 percent of those projects were renewals.

CoC program funds can be used for:

- Rapid re-housing to provide time-limited permanent housing and stabilization services;
- Permanent supportive housing for homeless people with disabilities;
- Transitional housing to help individuals and families move to stability within two years;
- Support services to help identify and maintain permanent housing; and,
- Planning to improve program monitoring, collaboration, and data collection to drive higher performance at the local level.

The CoC Program is a key driver of the multiyear progress in ending homelessness. Policy priorities for the CoC Program are focused on preventing and ending homelessness, including ending homelessness for veterans, families, youth, and people experiencing chronic homelessness. The CoC Program's competitive funding process encourages applicants to carefully review the performance of each project in its portfolio and reallocate funds from under-performing or under-utilized projects to ones based on proven, data-driven strategies.

The estimated renewal demand for each fiscal year is based primarily on three factors: the number of previously renewed grants which are eligible to seek renewal again; the number of new awards made in the prior one to five years, which are now eligible for renewal for the first time; and increases based on Fair Market Rent (FMR) updates.

HUD estimates renewal requirements within a range, to accommodate the uncertain percentage of projects that will need renewal. The following chart details HUD's five-year estimates of renewal demand. These projections include currently awarded projects and new projects anticipated from funding enacted through 2022.

wal Need (in millions)
\$3,071 - \$3,133
\$3,118 - \$3,213
\$3,166 - \$3,296
\$3,215 - \$3,380
\$3,264 - \$3,466
\$3,332 - \$3,538

For nearly 20 years, HUD has prioritized permanent supportive housing, which serves people with the highest levels of housing and service needs, especially people experiencing chronic homelessness. In 2021, HUD allocated over \$1.75 billion – 66 percent of its competitive funds – to permanent supportive housing projects. Another \$463 million – 17 percent of its competitive funds – supports people in rapid re-housing programs, another evidence-based permanent housing model designed to quickly rehouse people experiencing homelessness.

The proposal also includes \$134 million for new projects, of which \$52 million within the CoC budget is for new rapid re-housing projects and other assistance to serve people experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking. For the past several years, HUD has made a significant investment in housing and service solutions for survivors of gender-based violence. Providing this funding will allow more communities to create the necessary housing and service options to protect survivors of gender-based violence and help them access and maintain safe and stable housing and achieve economic stability.

The Budget includes \$82 million for new YHDP grants that would provide more communities with resources to build partnerships and provide solutions tailored to the unique needs of youth experiencing homelessness. YHDP funding is an important resource for bringing together stakeholders from diverse organizations, particularly youth with lived experience of homelessness, to align and expand services and housing resources for youth experiencing homelessness. YHDP communities have developed innovative models for serving youth, including peer navigators, who can help youth in crisis housing and employment services; joint transitional housing and rapid rehousing, which provides initial intensive supports which decrease as the youth stabilize and are able to establish more independence; and problem-solving project to help youth reunify with family, where safe, or identify other resources that can help stabilize youth.

In 2024, HUD also plans to utilize recaptures that have been repurposed in accordance with section 231 of P.L. 116-94 (42 USC 11364a); any future planned uses of recaptured funds covered by section 231 will be communicated to the Committees and submitted in a plan in accordance with section 231.

Emergency Solutions Grants Program (\$290 million)

The ESG program provides the first response to people with a housing crisis and engages people living on the streets. ESG awards funds to over 360 urban counties, metropolitan cities, States, and territories, supporting a variety of life-saving activities including:

- Emergency shelter for people in crisis;
- Street outreach and other essential services to engage people who may be living on the streets:
- Rapid re-housing to provide time-limited rental assistance and stabilization services; and,
- Homelessness prevention for individuals and families.

National Homeless Data Analysis Project (\$27 million, including \$15 million for comparable database support for victim service providers)

The National Homeless Data Analysis Project provides critical resources to communities to improve data collection and reporting. It works to integrate data collection efforts in HMIS with other Federal funding streams, using software as a service for data integration. This enhances HUD and communities' ability to report and analyze data about persons experiencing homelessness, produce standards and specifications for data entry and reporting for all HMIS-generated reports. In addition, it analyzes point-in-time and longitudinal data to produce the AHAR and provide direct technical assistance to CoCs on HMIS implementation. The \$5 million increase will help to create additional analysis capacity, particularly related to racial equity analysis.

The request also includes \$15 million to support victim service providers with their comparable databases. HUD has provided additional funding since 2018 for grants to assist survivors of

domestic violence. Many providers and communities, including past recipients of funding dedicated for domestic violence survivors, need help implementing comparable databases compliant with Violence Against Women Act requirements. Victim service providers need further capacity to ensure they are producing high data quality and to analyze and report their data to demonstrate their effectiveness while maintaining the confidentiality of survivor data.

Key Partners and Stakeholders

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD closely partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other Federal Agencies and national stakeholders to address the health risks of serving people experiencing homelessness during a global pandemic. This has resulted in coordinated messaging and efforts to work together to find solutions as we address COVID-19 and prepare to better address potential health risks in the future.

HUD continues to prioritize key partnerships with local, State, and Federal stakeholders to prevent and end homelessness. HUD and the VA remain committed to ending veteran homelessness and have implemented joint planning efforts related to data collection and reporting and partnered to develop milestones and strategies to meet the goal of ending homelessness among veterans. HUD and the VA continue to successfully administer HUD-VASH, resulting in over 190,000 veterans being housed since 2008, and continue to improve the efficacy of the program. HUD, VA, and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) continue to collaborate on innovative strategies to reduce veteran homelessness, including the use of rapid resolution, a problem-solving technique that helps veterans reunify with family members or find other creative housing options. This partnership has been critical in reducing homelessness by 55 percent since 2010.

HUD, the Department of Education (ED), and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) share the joint goal of ending homelessness among children, families, and youth. Through HUD's YHDP process, HUD, HHS, ED, and USICH have worked closely to use data and better understand performance as well as what interventions and partnerships are necessary to end youth homelessness.

HUD, HHS, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) jointly fund the Federal Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium (the Consortium) – an innovative, collaborative approach to providing training, technical assistance, and resource development at the critical intersection of domestic and sexual violence, homelessness, and housing. HUD is also working with the Department of Labor to help communities better connect people experiencing homelessness to employment opportunities.

HUD and several HHS agencies jointly operate the Housing and Services Resource Center that provides resources and technical assistance to help communities coordinate programs that fund and provide supportive services with housing assistance for older adults, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness.

Research-based Evidence of Effectiveness

HUD recently released a series of case studies that highlight how communities across the country are addressing homelessness.³ These studies reinforce the importance of partnerships and the need to have dedicated teams focused on providing housing and support to successfully address homelessness.

With the recent rise of unsheltered homelessness, it is critical that HUD focus on solutions that are appropriate for this population. A report published by the California Policy Lab analyzed the characteristics of the people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The researchers found that physical health, behavioral health, and trauma are significant contributing factors to loss of housing, particularly for unsheltered women. Unsheltered people continue to experience major and worsening health conditions while homeless. People with the longest experiences of homelessness, most significant health conditions, and greatest vulnerabilities are not being served by emergency shelters. HUD's Annual Performance Report (APR) data for CoC Program-funded projects indicates that HUD's permanent housing programs admit roughly 30 percent of persons they serve directly from unsheltered situations. This is higher than HUD's transitional housing program which admits roughly 21 percent of persons directly from unsheltered situations.

There is a large body of research that demonstrates positive outcomes and cost-savings gained from housing and supportive services for homeless people. A 2017 study conducted in Orlando showed that placing 58 persons who regularly use public services (e.g., hospitals, jails) into permanent supportive housing resulted in a cost savings of nearly \$2.5 million in a single year. There is a rich body of research demonstrating that serving people who are the hardest to serve results in improving their lives and saving money for the public.

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³ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2021. "Seattle, Washington: Service-Rich Housing Helps Combat Chronic Homelessness." https://www.huduser.gov/portal/casestudies/study-031821.html. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2021. "Long Beach, California: Anchor Place Adds Housing for Veterans and Others Experiencing Homelessness to the Century Villages at Cabrillo." https://www.huduser.gov/portal/casestudies/study-012621.html. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2020. "Bringing People Together to Fight Homelessness in Los Angeles." https://www.huduser.gov/portal/casestudies/study-110920.html.

⁴ 4 Roundtree, Janey, Nathan Hess, and Austin Lyke. 2019. "Health Conditions among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S." https://www.capolicylab.org/health-conditions-among-unsheltered-adults-in-the-u-s/.

⁵ Ability Housing. 2017. "Solutions that Save." <u>https://abilityhousing.org/the-solution-that-saves/.</u>

⁶ See Culhane, Dennis P., Stephen Metraux, and Trevor Hadley. 2002. "Public Service Reductions Associated with Placement of Homeless Persons with Severe Mental Illness in Supportive Housing." Housing Policy Debates 13(1): 107-63. See also, Cunningham, Mary. 2009. "Preventing and Ending Homelessness-Next Steps." Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center. Washington, DC: Urban Institute; Martinez, Tia, and Martha R. Burt. 2006. "Impact of Permanent Supportive Housing on the Use of Acute Care Health Services by Homeless Adults." Psychiatric Services 57(7): 992-99; Basu, Anirban, Romina Kee, David Buchanan, and Laura S. Sadowski. 2012. "Comparative Cost Analysis of Housing and Case Management Program For Chronically Ill Homeless Adults Compared to Usual Care." HSR 47(1): 523-543; Sadowski, Laura, Romina Kee, Tyler VanderWeele, David Buchanan. 2009. "Effect of a Housing and Case Management Program on Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations Among Chronically Ill Homeless Adults: A Randomized Trial." JAMA 301(17): 1771-8; Larimer, Mary, Daniel Malone, Michelle Garner, et al. 2009. Health Care and Public Service Use and Costs Before and After Provision of Housing for Chronically Homeless Persons With Severe Alcohol Problems." JAMA 301(13): 1349-57; Cunningham, Mary. 2009. "Preventing and Ending Homelessness-Next Steps." Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center. Washington, DC: Urban Institute; Martinez, Tia, and Martha R. Burt. 2006. "Impact of Permanent Supportive Housing on the Use of Acute Care Health Services by Homeless Adults." Psychiatric Services 57(7): 992-99; Tsemberis, Sam, Leyla Gulcur, and Maria Nakae. 2004. "Housing First, Consumer Choice, and Harm Reduction for Homeless Individuals with Dual Diagnosis." American Journal of Public Health 94:651.

The unsheltered and chronic homelessness research supports a need for healthcare providers and homeless assistance systems to closely collaborate. This is especially true of the aging homeless population that present with unique health challenges. In a multi-site study in Boston, New York City, and Los Angeles County, researchers found that the aged homeless population is growing rapidly and will double or triple (depending on the location) in the next decade. With this growth in the aged population there will be an increase in service use and costs, including for hospital and nursing home stays.

HUD continues to research the effectiveness of existing funding efforts. The Understanding Rapid Re-housing study, evaluates the current rapid re-housing models being used and the perspectives of people being served in those programs.⁸ Additionally, evaluation of the HUD YHDP shows the level of coordination involved with successfully implementing these grants and the evaluation will provide further explore the impacts of this targeted funding.⁹

Promoting Equity within Underserved Communities

HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants support communities' efforts to promote equity in the homeless response system, and HUD provides tools and resources to help communities evaluate equity in their homeless response system. HUD's proposal to increase funding for CoC Planning will help build communities' capacity to promote equity. HUD integrated equity into its competitive process to ensure that communities working towards equity in their system are more competitive and to encourage other communities to make it a part of their system. Through the COVID-19 response, HUD has centered equity in the crisis response and will continue to do so.

Technical Assistance

CoC funds also support Technical Assistance (TA), which helps communities improve their homeless assistance. HUD uses TA resources to:

- Work directly with communities to develop strategic plans and action steps to improve project and community level performance;
- Develop tools and provide direct assistance to improve data collection, analysis, and reporting to HUD;
- Increase the overall capacity of grantees to understand their own markets and manage their portfolios successfully; and,
- Develop and provide guidance to communities on critical compliance issues.

HUD is committed to providing a variety of technical assistance resources to communities and grantees to help identify and address any performance and compliance issues. HUD intends to use technical assistance as another tool to encourage communities to implement best practices and improve efficiencies in projects and in the community as a whole.

⁷ Culhane, Dennis, Thomas Byrne, Stephen Metraux, Randall Kuhn, Kelly Doran, Eileen Johns, and Maryanne Schretzman. 2019. "The Emerging Crisis of Aged Homelessness: Could Housing Solutions Be Funded by Avoidance of Excess Shelter, Hospital, and Nursing Home Costs?" https://www.aisp.upenn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Emerging-Crisis-of-Aged-Homelessness-1.pdf.

⁸ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2020. "Understanding Rapid Re-housing study." https://www.huduser.gov/portal/Understanding-rapid-re-housing-study.html.

⁹ Henderson, Kathryn, Debra Rog, Bernadette Blanchfield, Clara Wagner, Eleanor Kerr, Harihar Bhattarai. 2020. "Evaluation of the HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program: Early Implementation Report." https://www.huduser.gov/portal/publications/EvalYHDP-InterimRpt.html.

Operational Improvements

HUD is seeking enactment of amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act that would allow HUD to administer the CoC Competition on a two-year cycle rather than annually. This would allow communities to have more time to plan and implement homelessness assistance strategies. It would also dramatically reduce administrative burden for communities, recipients, and HUD.

HUD is also seeking authority to provide more flexibility for Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) to participate in the CoC program. The language would eliminate the need for Tribes and TDHEs to receive certifications of consistency with Consolidated Plans while also allowing them to target assistance to Tribal Members.

Information Technology (IT)

Within the IT Fund, the Budget requests \$5 million to support the electronic Special Needs Assistance (e-snaps) system.

electronic Special Needs Assistance (e-snaps) - \$5 million: HUD uses the e-snaps system to automate the \$3 billion annual Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition, including an online data portal for applicants to submit detailed applications for homeless assistance funding. However, the e-snaps system is almost 16 years old and increasingly unstable, in use far beyond its originally projected technical lifespan. Continued use of e-snaps presents increasing risk to HUD's ability to make accurate and timely award. Basic system changes and updates required annually for each competition are costly; each change risks the stability of the system. A system failure, or significant drop in performance, will be catastrophic to the CoC Program and detrimental to local communities and homeless assistance providers that would experience significant funding delays.

Beginning with 2023 funding (\$3 million) and continuing with 2024 and 2025 funding, this project will replace e-snaps with a modern, reliable, and stable platform improving the efficiency of CoC grants management activities, drastically reducing program risk, and reducing maintenance and licensing costs.

For additional information regarding HUD's Information Technology investments, please see the Information Technology Fund justification.

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES BY PROGRAM

(Dollars in Thousands)

Budget Activity	2022 Budget Authority	2021 Carry ov er Into 2022	2022 Total Resources	2022 Obligations	2023 Appropriation	2022 Carry ov er Into 2023	2023 Total Resources	2024 President's Budget
Continuum of Care	2,757,000	3,015,204	5,772,204	2,518,776	3,102,000	3,528,343	6,630,343	3,298,000
Emergency								
Solutions Grants	290,000	43,963	333,963	267,787	290,000	118,433	408,433	290,000
National Homeless								
Data Analysis								
Project	7,000	14,000	21,000	14,000	7,000	7,000	14,000	12,000
VSP Capacity								
Building	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,000
Youth								
Demonstration	72,000	214,013	286,013	142,013	72,000	144,000	216,000	82,000
Youth								
Homelessness								
Demo TA	10,000	13,384	23,384	13,384	10,000	10,000	20,000	-
Rapid Rehousing								
for Victims of								
Domestic Violence	52,000	102,000	154,000	80,690	52,000	73,183	125,183	52,000
New Permanent								
Supportiv e								
Housing	-	-	-	-	75,000	1	75,000	1
Youth								
Homelessness								
Demo System								
Improv ement	25,000	-	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	50,000	-
Total	3,213,000	3,402,564	6,615,564	3,036,650	3,633,000	3,905,959	7,538,959	3,749,000

a/ The 2022 Continuum of Care Carryover and Recaptures includes \$399 million of actual Rental Assistance Recaptures (including \$56.7 million for CoCs in rural areas and \$56.7 million for ESG disaster areas) through December 31, 2022, and anticipated Rental Assistance recaptures of \$249 million, authorized by Sec. 231 of P.L. 116-94, as well as \$3 million in other anticipated recaptures.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Appropriations Language Changes

The 2024 President's Budget includes the following:

• <u>Capacity Building for Victim Service Provider Data Collection and Reporting</u>: To support the request for \$15 million to support victim service providers with their data collection and reporting, specifically with comparable databases, language needs to be included for this provision.

Legislative Proposals

The 2024 Budget supports the following legislative proposals and will seek changes through the authorization process:

- Allow a 2-year Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) under the CoC Program: This provision will allow HUD to award CoC Program funds every other year instead of every year. Responding to an annual NOFO requires CoCs to spend many hours implementing a local competition process and additional time to complete the application. Many of our CoCs have limited capacity to fulfill the many requirements of addressing homelessness, which has recently been stretched to their limits through the COVID-19 response. Allowing a 2-year NOFO process would free up CoCs to focus more on strategic planning and performance evaluation to better prevent and end homelessness in their communities. This proposal does not impact the Budget.
- Increase the CoC Planning Grant Threshold: HUD proposes to increase the CoC planning grant limit from three percent of the total funds available in the geographic area, as established in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, to the higher of five percent or \$50,000. Increasing this limit will allow many smaller CoCs to have funding for dedicated staff to coordinate assistance across the CoC.

General Provisions

The 2024 President's Budget re-proposes the following general provisions that were enacted in the 2023 appropriations bill:

- <u>Matching Requirements</u>: This provision allows Homeless Assistance Grant recipients to count program income as an eligible match for CoC program funds. (Sec. 221)
- <u>Continuum of Care Transition Grants</u>: This provision allows CoC recipients to receive oneyear transition grants to transition from one CoC program component to another. (Sec. 222)

The 2024 President's Budget re-proposes the following general provision:

• <u>Flexibility for Tribes</u>: This provision will give Indian Tribes the flexibility needed to successfully participate in the CoC Program as recipients and CoCs. Tribes were historically prohibited from directly participating in the CoC Program as tribal entities. Recent changes to the CoC Program removed that restriction but Tribes and communities will need added flexibility to include Tribes in the CoC process and to find solutions uniquely tailored to the needs of Native Americans. (Sec. 231)

APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

The 2024 President's Budget includes proposed changes in the appropriations language listed below. New language is italicized, and language proposed for deletion is bracketed.

For assistance under title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360 et seq.), and for related activities and assistance, [\$3,633,000,000] \$3,749,000,000, to remain available until September 30, [2025] 2026: Provided, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

- (1) \$290,000,000 shall be available for the Emergency Solutions Grants program authorized under subtitle B of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.)[:Provided, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation from amounts allocated (which may represent initial or final amounts allocated) for the Emergency Solutions Grant program not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act];
- (2) [\$3,154,000,000]\$3,350,000,000 shall be available for the Continuum of Care program authorized under subtitle C of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.) and the Rural Housing Stability Assistance programs authorized under subtitle D of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 11408): Provided, That the Secretary shall prioritize funding under the Continuum of Care program to continuums of care

that have demonstrated a capacity to reallocate funding from lower performing projects to higher performing projects: Provided further, That the Secretary shall provide incentives to create projects that coordinate with housing providers and healthcare organizations to provide permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing services: Provided further, That the Secretary may establish by notice an alternative maximum amount for administrative costs related to the requirements described in sections 402(f)(1) and 402(f)(2) of subtitle A of such title IV [or] of no more than 5 percent or \$50,000, whichever is greater, notwithstanding the 3 percent limitation in section 423(a)(10) of such subtitle C: Provided further, That of the amounts made available for the Continuum of Care program under this paragraph, [not less than]\$52,000,000 shall be for grants for new rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing coordinated entry, and for eligible activities that the Secretary determines to be critical in order to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, except that the Secretary may make additional grants for such projects and purposes from amounts made available for such Continuum of Care program: Provided further, That amounts made available for the Continuum of Care program under this paragraph and any remaining unobligated balances under this heading in prior Acts may be used to competitively or non-competitively renew or replace grants for youth homeless demonstration projects under the Continuum of Care program, notwithstanding any conflict with the requirements of the Continuum of Care program;

- (3) [\$7,000,000] \$27,000,000 shall be available for the national homeless data analysis project: Provided, That notwithstanding the provisions of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977 (31 U.S.C. 6301-6308), the amounts made available under this paragraph and any remaining unobligated balances under this heading for such purposes in prior Acts may be used by the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements with such entities as may be determined by the Secretary, including public and private organizations, agencies, and institutions: Provided further, That of the amount made available under this paragraph, \$15,000,000 shall be available for a capacity building initiative for victim service providers, including to improve data systems and analysis, in addition to and in coordination with other technical assistance funds and other amounts for such purposes provided under this title;
- (4) [\$107,000,000] \$82,000,000 shall be available to implement projects to demonstrate how a comprehensive approach to serving homeless youth, age 24 and under, in up to 25 communities with a priority for communities with substantial rural populations in up to eight locations, can dramatically reduce youth homelessness: [Provided, That of the amount made available under this paragraph, not less than \$25,000,000 shall be for youth homelessness system improvement grants to support communities, including but not limited to the communities assisted under the matter preceding this proviso, in establishing and implementing a response system for youth homelessness, or for improving their existing system: Provided further, That of the amount made available under this paragraph, up to \$10,000,000 shall be to provide technical assistance to communities, including but not limited to the communities assisted in the preceding proviso and the matter preceding such proviso, on improving system responses to youth homelessness, and collection, analysis, use, and reporting of data and performance measures under the comprehensive approaches to serve homeless youth, in addition to and in coordination with other technical assistance funds provided under this title: Provided further, That the Secretary may use up to 10 percent of the amount made available under the preceding proviso to build the capacity of current technical assistance providers or to train new technical assistance providers with verifiable prior experience with systems and programs for youth experiencing homelessness[; and]
- [(5) \$75,000,000 shall be available for one-time awards under the Continuum of Care program for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of new permanent supportive housing, of which not more than 20 percent of such awards may be used for other Continuum of Care eligible activities associated with such projects and not more than 10 percent of such awards may be used for project administration: Provided, That these amounts shall be awarded on a competitive basis, based on need and other factors to be determined by the Secretary, including incentives to establish projects that coordinate with housing providers, healthcare organizations and social service providers: Provided further, That not less than \$30,000,000 shall be awarded to applicants for

projects within States with populations less than 2,500,000, except that if such amount is undersubscribed any remaining amounts may be awarded to qualified applicants for projects in any State: Provided further, That the grants for ongoing costs associated with such projects shall be eligible for renewal under the Continuum of Care program subject to the same terms and conditions as other renewal applicants]:

Provided further, That youth aged 24 and under seeking assistance under this heading shall not be required to provide third party documentation to establish their eligibility under subsection (a) or (b) of section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302) to receive services: Provided further, That unaccompanied youth aged 24 and under or families headed by youth aged 24 and under who are living in unsafe situations may be served by youth-serving providers funded under this heading: Provided further, That persons eligible under section 103(a)(5) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act may be served by any project funded under this heading to provide both transitional housing and rapid re-housing: Provided further, That for all matching funds requirements applicable to funds made available under this heading for this fiscal year and prior fiscal years, a grantee may use (or could have used) as a source of match funds other funds administered by the Secretary and other Federal agencies unless there is (or was) a specific statutory prohibition on any such use of any such funds: Provided further, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to provide funding for new projects, except for projects created through reallocation, unless the Secretary determines that the continuum of care has demonstrated that projects are evaluated and ranked based on the degree to which they improve the continuum of care's system performance: Provided further, That any unobligated amounts remaining from funds made available under this heading in fiscal year 2012 and prior years for project-based rental assistance for rehabilitation projects with 10-year grant terms may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: Provided further, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading in fiscal year 2019 or prior years, except for rental assistance amounts that were recaptured and made available until expended, shall be available for the current purposes authorized under this heading in addition to the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated. (Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2023.)