

Housing and Homelessness Division Kitsap County Department of Human Services

GRANT GUIDELINES HANDBOOK

for

Homeless Housing Grants
Affordable Housing Grants
Consolidated Homeless Grants

Version 4/21/20

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Overview

The Housing and Homelessness Division of the Kitsap County Department of Human Services administers various grants whose purpose is to address homelessness and support production and maintenance of housing affordable to people with low incomes. Recipients of these grants funds are part of the Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response System and work to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time in Kitsap County. They respond to the urgent need of households who need immediate safe and appropriate housing and a pathway to permanent stable housing.

These Guidelines are intended to provide guidance for organizations that contract with the Division for these grant funds to achieve this purpose.

Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response and Housing Plan

The Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division, in partnership with the Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition (KHHC), coordinates the development and periodic updating of the Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response and Housing Plan.

The first 10-Year Homeless Housing Plan was submitted to the state in 2005, as mandated by the HB 2163 legislation. Subsequent plans have been developed and refined every few years. The latest update to the Plan in 2018 included major revisions and changes to reflect the current situation and needs of the community.

The goal of the Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response and Housing Plan is to assess needs, analyze data, coordinate and link resources to avoid duplications, and identify community-wide collaborative approaches. The Plan includes goals, core strategies, and new action steps that will end homelessness by providing the spectrum of subsidized housing, services, and affordable permanent housing that enable individuals and families to attain and maintain stable housing.

The Plan addresses issues of homelessness through: analyzing the needs of homeless people throughout Kitsap County by reviewing the Homeless Point In Time count data, coordinated entry intake data, anecdotal information from providers in the community, and by gathering information from people experiencing homelessness.

The 2019 Update to the Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response and Housing Plan identifies three main purposes of the Plan, in addition to fulfilling the legislative mandate:

- <u>Blueprint for Implementation</u>: A clear and concise agreement about the community's plan to reduce homelessness.
- <u>Tool for Advocacy:</u> An informational focal point to inspire the local community and leadership to embrace homelessness as a priority for action.
- Reference for Funders: An articulation of the community's priorities for funding, and to meet the federal, state, and local requirements that the funded programs be part of the community's homelessness plan.

The plan lays out broad objectives and strategies to guide government, non-profit agencies, and other partners to attain the desired outcomes necessary to reduce homelessness.

The Kitsap Homeless Housing Plan is projected to be updated again in 2022.

The full text of the Kitsap Homeless Housing Plan, including a list of core strategies and new action steps that are eligible for funding, is available on the Kitsap County website (www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Housing-and-Homelessness-Landing.aspx) or by request.

Grant funds covered in these Guidelines must be used to to implement the goals, core strategies, and new action steps identified in the Plan. A subset of these activities are to be used to accomplish the goals of the Consolidated Homeless Grant, and are enumerated in the Guidelines for the Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG) which is produced and updated periodically by the Washington State Department of Commerce.

Please refer to the Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response and Housing Plan and the Guidelines for the Consolidated Homeless Grant for additional information.

Funding Sources

AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANTS

Substitute House Bill 2060 became law in Washington State in 2002. It created a document recording fee, collected at the local Auditor's Office, on certain documents to be utilized for low-income housing. Administration of the fund is shared between local governments and the State. The local portion of funds is administered pursuant to an inter-local agreement between Kitsap County and the Cities within the County and is managed by Kitsap County Human Services.

Affordable Housing Grant Program (AHGP) funds are locally collected funds that are used to fulfill the mandates of the Affordable Housing for All legislation (SHB 2060, and subsequent legislation that amends SHB 2060). The grant funds must be used to maintain, create, and support affordable housing and shelters.

HOMELESS HOUSING GRANTS

In 2005, the Washington State Legislature passed Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2163, the Homeless Housing and Assistance Act. This legislation mandated that each county focus on reducing homelessness. Each county is required to (1) develop and periodically update a Homeless Housing Plan, (2) collect funds to pay for its implementation through a document recording surcharge at the county Auditor level, (3) collect data about homeless persons and the services they receive to evaluate progress, and (4) coordinate efforts among homeless service providers.

Subsequent legislation has added reporting requirements and increased the amount of the surcharge. As of January 2020, approximately 65% of the funds collected are distributed through local Homeless Housing Grant programs (HHGP). The grant funds must be used to reduce homelessness through activities identified in each county's homeless housing plan.

The four Kitsap cities (Bainbridge Island, Bremerton, Port Orchard, and Poulsbo) and Kitsap County agreed to implement the legislative requirements through a county-wide program, managed by Kitsap County Human Services. They are authorized by RCW 43.185c.

CONSOLIDATED HOMELESS GRANTS

The Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG) program is funded through the portion of document recording fees that are not retained locally and are transmitted to the Washington State Department of Commerce. Commerce distributes these funds back to counties through contracts for specific homeless housing and services. These grant funds are administered by the Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division and sub-contracted to eligible service providers. The funds are governed by Commerce's CHG Guidelines. They are authorized by RCW 43.185c.

Grant Awards and Policy Plan

Grant awards are made through a competitive process, outlined in detail in the Policy Plan for the Homeless Housing Grant Program, Affordable Housing Grant Program, and Consolidated Homeless Grant Program.

Some funding awards are granted to targeted program types to meet specific requirements and/or priorities of the Board of County Commissioners, the Washington State Legislature, and the Department of Commerce.

Grant Administration

Grant awards and contracts are approved by the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners. Contracts and funds are administered through the Department of Human Services, Housing and Homelessness Division.

Contracting

Funds approved in the annual application cycle are available to be expended as of January 1. Annual contracts for homeless housing and services and operations and maintenance are for a 12 month period, January 1 to December 31. Capital construction contracts are generally for an 18 month period, January 1 to June 30 of the following year. CHG contracts may be for 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, or 24 months depending on the availability of sub-contracted funds.

Contracts are generally sent to grantees in January or February for their signature. Grantees must return 3 original signed copies of contracts to the Department of Human Services. Following their receipt, representatives of Kitsap County will sign the contracts and one fully executed contract will be returned to the grantee. Affordable Housing Grant contracts, Homeless Housing Grant contracts, and Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG) Contracts under \$50,000 are signed by the County Administrator. CHG grants over this amount are signed by the Board of Commissioners.

Allowable Contract Activities

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITES AND SERVICES

Eligible activities and services that provide assistance to homeless individuals and impact making homelessness rare, and/or brief, and/or one-time, include:

• Drop-in Shelter

- Offer night-by-night living arrangements that allow households to enter and exit the program on a daily or irregular basis and do not guarantee households a bed from one night to the next.
- o There is no limit it to the clients' length of stay.
- The program may include (but are not required to include) irregular, one-time, or "light touch" interactions with case management staff.

• Continuous-stay Shelter

- Offer living arrangements where households have a room or bed assigned to them throughout the duration of their stay.
- o There is no limit to the clients' length of stay.
- Housing Stability Case Management is provided to all clients on a regular on-going basis and the Kitsap County Housing Stability Planning and Progress Reports (HSPPR) is used by case managers for all clients.

• Enhanced Services Shelter

- Offer living arrangements where households have a room or bed assigned to them throughout the duration of their stay.
- o There is no limit to the client's length of stay.
- Housing Stability Case Management is provided to all clients on a regular basis and the Kitsap County Housing Stability Planning and Progress (HSPP) form is used by case managers for all clients.
- The shelter is open and available to clients 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, with a staffing model that supports this access.
- The program is "low-barrier" and prioritized for people with high behavioral health needs. Low-barrier is defined as not screening homeless households out of eligibility for the program for:
 - having too little or no income,
 - having poor credit or financial history,
 - having poor or lack of rental history,
 - having involvement with the criminal justice system,
 - having active or a history of alcohol and/or substance use,
 - having a history of victimization,
 - the type or extent of disability-related services or supports that are needed,
 - lacking ID or proof of US Residency status, or
 - having other behaviors that are perceived as a lack of "housing readiness," including resistance to receiving services.
- Behavioral health (mental health and substance use disorder) case management is offered "on site" by program staff (rather than clients being referred to a partner agency).
- o Partners and pets are allowed and welcomed to stay at the shelter. Storage for possessions is available while the client stays at the shelter.

o Program rules are minimal and behavior-based. A priority is placed on keeping people in the program/shelter, rather than discharging people back to homelessness.

Any of these three types of shelter may be a "low-barrier" shelter, meeting the criteria listed above.

Homeless Outreach and Survival

- Person-to-person outreach to engage people experiencing homelessness who are otherwise not accessing services for the purpose of connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, or other critical services
- Provision of outdoor survival gear (e.g. tents, sleeping bags, tarps)
- o Provision of bus tokens and transportation assistance
- Assistance for showers, laundry, and personal hygiene supplies
- Assistance with state IDs, drivers' licenses, and other legal documentation

Targeted Prevention/Diversion

- Can include diversion from homelessness activities through problem-solving conversations, linkages to mainstream and natural supports, and/or flexible and light touch financial expenses (non-housing expenses that prevent homelessness)
- Can include program operations expenses in the form of assistance for alternative housing options (e.g. Tiny House Village fees, Safe Park, home share, etc.)
- Can include eviction prevention for households at imminent risk of homelessness within
 14 days

Transitional Housing

- Households come directly from unsheltered or sheltered homelessness
- Provide Housing Stability Case Management, using the Kitsap County Housing Stability Planning and Progress Reports (HSPPR)
- o Stays are limited to no longer than 24 months, with exceptions possible
- For O&M funding, building must have received in the past, or be currently eligible to receive, Washington State Housing Trust funds, and require supplemental rental income to cover ongoing operating expenses

Permanent Supportive Housing

- Must prioritize households coming directly from homelessness
- Provide Housing Stability Case Management, using the Kitsap County Housing Stability Planning and Progress Reports (HSPPR)
- Provide access to, but do not require participation in, additional supportive services
- o Household incomes must be 30% AMI or below AND individual must have a disability (including mental health, substance use disorders, or physical disability)
- Funding may be for program operations in the form of rental assistance or for building operations and maintenance
- For O&M funding, building must have received in the past, or be currently eligible to receive, Washington State Housing Trust funds, and require supplemental rental income to cover ongoing operating expenses

• Permanent Affordable Housing

- Household incomes must be 50% AMI or below
- Funding may be for program operations in the form of rental assistance or for building operations and maintenance
- May or may not offer supportive services
- Individuals do not have to have a disability to be eligible

 For O&M funding, building must have received in the past, or be currently eligible to receive, Washington State Housing Trust funds, and require supplemental rental income to cover ongoing operating expenses

Other Homeless Services

 Can include other services and assistance to households experiencing homelessness that directly contributes to their attaining and maintaining shelter and/or stable housing

HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY

Household eligibility for program is determined by each individual agency and program. However, these grant funds are generally intended to serve people experiencing homelessness, who are at imminent risk of homelessness, or who would be homeless "but for" the funded program.

INCOME ELIGIBILTY

Income eligibility for programs is determined by each individual agency and program. However, grant funds are intended to be expended for the purpose of reducing homelessness and/or providing affordable housing. Household incomes should generally be below 50% of AMI, unless otherwise indicated in your program application description and contract.

Allowable Uses of Funds

Grant funds may be used for purposes outlined in the grant application and grant contract, in the amounts indicated in the application and contract budgets.

Any change in the use of funds must be requested in writing and submitted to the Housing and Homelessness Division.

Allowable Expenses

For Homeless Housing Grants and Affordable Housing Grants, the allowable Cost Categories are listed below with definitions and examples. For Consolidated Homeless Grant allowable expenses, refer to the CHG Guidelines issued by Commerce.

Cost Categories	Definition	Example Expenses
Case Management	Staff salaries, fringe benefits, and	Payroll expenses,
– Salaries &	staff expenses for case managers	vacation, sick, benefits,
Benefits	ONLY.	etc.
	Do not include Program Operations staff salaries & benefits or O&M staff Salaries & Benefits or payments to contractors or sub-contractors.	

Case Management - Travel/Training/Su pplies	Expenses related directly to case managers doing their job	Mileage reimbursements, training expenses, conference expenses, etc.
Program Operations – Salaries & Benefits	Staff salaries, fringe benefits, and staff expenses for Program Operations staff ONLY. Do not include Case Management staff salaries & benefits or O&M staff Salaries & Benefits or Administrative Staff salaries & benefits or payments	Payroll expenses, vacation, sick, benefits, etc.
Program Operations – Other Program Expenses	to contractors or sub-contractors. Expenses directly associated with program operations. These costs may be specifically defined in individual grant contracts. Does not include program administrative expenses.	Audit, accounting, advertising/marketing, insurance, bonds, fees, property taxes, communications, legal services, professional services, security
Program Operations – Supplies & Equipment	Office and program supplies and equipment that support program operations.	Office supplies, telephone, and computer equipment
Program Operations – Client Direct Services	Expenses that go directly to items that benefit clients or items that are provided to clients.	Sleeping bags, tents, shower vouchers, bus tokens, orca cards, emergency motel vouchers, state IDs
Program Operations – Rental Assistance/Subsidy	Rent paid to landlords on behalf of a client, including internal payments to the grantee to subsidize rental costs. Includes both one-time eviction prevention and on-going rental subsidies.	Payments to landlords or property management companies; internal fund transfers for client rental subsidies
Program Operations – Program Administrative Expenses	Expenses for administration of the program; includes salaries and benefits for administrative staff. Should not include salaries & benefits for program staff.	Administrative staff, such as internal accounting or bookkeeping (if not included in indirect) and other program administrative expenses. (Expenses for program staff should be included under Program Operations - Salaries & Benefits.)

Program	Expenses of doing business that are	Usually used to cover the
Operations –	not readily identified with a	costs of office space,
Program Indirect	particular cost objective. Typically,	human resources,
	this is a pre-defined fixed percentage	electricity, accounting,
	of the overall grant amount.	etc.
Building O&M –	Staff salaries, fringe benefits, and	Payroll expenses,
Salaries & Benefits	staff expenses for O&M staff	vacation, sick, benefits,
	(building maintenance staff or	etc.
	janitorial staff) ONLY.	
	Do not include Case Management	
	staff salaries & benefits or Program	
	Operations staff salaries or payments	
	to contractors or sub-contractors.	
Building O&M –	Expenses directly associated with	Utilities, telephone,
Other Expenses	building operation and maintenance.	internet, janitorial
		supplies, rent/mortgage,
	Does not include program	pest control,
	administrative expenses.	janitorial/maintenance
		contracts, minor repairs
	Food, consumable items, and	
	supplies for clients are not allowable	(For a full list of allowable
	expenses.	expenses refer to the
		Affordable Housing Grant
	Allowable O&M Expenses are	Program Operations &
	outlined below.	Maintenance Allowable
		Uses document)
Hotel/Motel	Funds paid directly to hotels or	Use this category ONLY if
Vouchers	motels for overnight stays for	Hotel/Motel Vouchers is
	homeless clients	a line item in your
		contract budget,
		otherwise use Client
		Direct Services
Diversion Program	Funds paid to other organizations	Car repair,
	and companies to secure goods and	transportation, ID fee,
	services for households that are	work-related
	homeless or at risk of homelessness	license/certificate,
	that will divert them from	
	homelessness. These goods and	
	services should NOT be directly	
	housing-related.	
Other Expenses	These expenses are specifically	Various, as defined in the
	defined in individual grant contracts.	grant contract.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES

Operations and Maintenance expenses must fall within eligible uses of funds under the Housing Trust Fund Operating and Maintenance Fund Program, as follows:

O&M Eligible Uses

- ➤ GRANTEE-paid utilities specific to the project but not specifically metered to an individual unit and are not the responsibility of the tenant to include, water, sewer, garbage, electricity, gas, telephone, and internet.
- Property staff (on-site) salaries and benefits for all personnel directly associated with operating the building.
- Property management (off-site) including overhead and personnel costs that are necessary to operate the building but are not located at the site.
- In-direct administrative costs of the nonprofit, which will not exceed 5% of the current year's total project expense budget, and can include the following:
 - Administrative expenses such as human resources, general administration, and executive management costs, office supplies, rental equipment costs, and banking fees.
- Project administrative costs including: audit, accounting/CPA expenses, legal services, advertising and marketing, insurance, security, collection loss, real estate taxes, compliance fees, comp/manager unit expense, property manager office supplies and rent, and travel related to the project.
- Debt service payable to the HTF is allowed.
- On-going maintenance expenses such as janitorial supplies, maintenance contracts, and maintenance of existing landscaping.
- Maintenance and Unit-Turn expenses to include:
 - o The repair of equipment and property as opposed to the replacement or upgrade; any equipment or property that is replaced or upgraded that has a useful life of over 1 year is a capital asset and should be paid for with reserve funds and is not Maintenance.
- The cost for a Capital Needs Assessment (CNA) of the project.

O&M Ineligible Uses

- The O&M Fund will not subsidize the costs of social services or community/project oriented events.
- Supplies provided for an individual's use to include hygiene products, housewares, and furniture.
- > Training costs.
- Closing costs.
- Amortized development costs
- Private debt service.
- > Depreciation.
- > Costs not specifically listed as an eligible use, unless approved by THE GRANTOR in advance.

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Ineligible expenses include anything not included in one of the budget categories listed above or in a budget category not listed in the grant contract budget.

Specifically: gift cards, disposable personal items for clients, and food are not allowable expenses.

Reimbursement Requests

Grant Funds will not be disbursed if there are any outstanding Quarterly Reports (see Quarterly Report Instructions for details).

Recipients should request reimbursement once a quarter or may make a written request and receive approval to submit reimbursement requests more frequently (e.g. monthly) to the Housing and Homelessness Division.

No reimbursements will be made in advance of costs or expenses being incurred, except Advance Disbursements as outlined below.

No costs or expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the contract or after its termination are eligible for reimbursement.

Receipts and bills must be itemized; reimbursement for gift cards or pre-paid cards is not allowed, except for gas or shower vouchers or with pre-approval by the Housing and Homelessness Division.

Reimbursement Request Process

Consolidated Homeless Grants

Reimbursement requests for Consolidated Homeless Grants (CHG) must be submitted using the following process:

- 1) Submit an invoice packet, including all required paper forms and include ALL backup documentation.
 - a. CHG reimbursement requests must be submitted monthly, no later than the 14th of the month, to the Housing and Homelessness Division Office, 345 6th Street, Suite 400, Bremerton, WA 98337.
 - b. Invoices should be submitted monthly.
 - c. All appropriate forms must be signed in blue ink.
- 2) Division staff will submit the invoiced amount for payment to the Department of Commerce.
- 3) Invoice paperwork will be submitted to the Human Services financial staff for payment.
- 4) Payment will be issued by Kitsap County within 30 days.

Homeless Housing Grants and Affordable Housing Grants

For Homeless Housing grants and Affordable Housing grants, reimbursement requests must be submitted using the following electronic process:

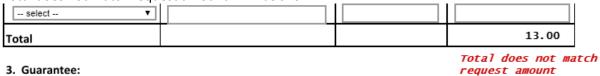
- **1. Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Program Website.** Go to the Grant Recipient's Page on the website: https://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Grant-Recipients-page.aspx
- 2. Link to Form. Click the link to the Kitsap County Electronic Reimbursement Request Form.

- **3. Sign In.** This will open a web browser window, where you will sign in and create an electronic signature.
- 4. Complete Forms. After completing the sign in process, you will be directed to the electronic version of the KC Reimbursement Request Form and Summary Statement of Expenses (on page 2). Fill out the Reimbursement Request Form and Summary Statement of Expenses electronically. Information about how to do so is described below.
- **5. Electronically Sign.** When you have correctly filled in all of the required fields on the two pages, including the two signature areas, it will prompt you to 'Confirm Signature' to electronically sign the form. You have the option to download and print the completed reimbursement request for your records. You do not need to do anything else.
 - Once you "confirm signature" it will be automatically be routed to the Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division for review, approval, and signature.
- **6. Routing for Payment.** If the request is approved by the Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division, it will be routed to the Kitsap County Human Services Accounting Department for issuing the payment.
- **7. Payment.** Kitsap County will pay the request for reimbursement within 30 days of its receipt of the request.

Repeat this process each time you wish to submit a Reimbursement Request.

Please note that there are certain fields that are required to be filled in before you can complete the form; you will not be able to submit the form until you have filled out all the required fields.

Basic calculations are included on the request form for the Total Costs, Award Balances, and the Total from the Summary of Expenses. Please double check your totals. At the end of the Summary of Expenses the Total is calculated. If this Total does not match your Request total from page 1, an error "Total does not match request amount" will be shown.



Be aware that the 'Finish Later' function *does not* work with this electronic form, so be prepared to fill out the form completely before you click the link. Example forms are available for reference to help you identify what information is required to complete the forms.

Follow the instructions below when filling out the forms. You may also refer to examples of how to fill out the forms, provided on the website.

Assistance with this process is available by contacting staff at (360) 337-7287.

Electronic Reimbursement Request Form

<u>Invoice # -- Invoices should be sequential numbers, starting with 1 for the first invoice of the contract (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4).</u>

<u>Grant Funding Source</u> – Indicate whether the funding for the Budget Award is from the Homeless Housing Grant Program (HHGP), Affordable Housing Grant Program (AHGP), or for COVID-19 Response Activities (COVID-19). This information is available on your contract Exhibit B – Budget.

<u>Budget Awards</u> – Fill in the column completely, based on the cost categories in your contract Exhibit B – Budget. It is not necessary to indicate \$0 if no award was made in a cost category.

<u>Cost Categories</u> – All reimbursement requests must fall within one of the defined cost categories, as indicated in the grant contract, Exhibit B – Budget, and defined above in Allowable Expenses. Include all cost categories listed in Exhibit B – Budget from the drop-down fields on each request.

NOTE: If you have more than 1 funding source per cost category, you will need to list the cost category with each associated grant funding source on the request form.

<u>New Adjusted Budget</u> – This will be left blank, unless you have an approved Contract Amendment, or written approval from the Division Manager. If you have an approved Contract Amendment, check the checkbox to next to New Adjusted Budget on the request form to display and complete the New Adjusted Budget fields. You will need to complete both Budget Award and New Adjusted Budget fields.

<u>This Request</u> – Enter the amount in each cost category that you are requesting for reimbursement for this period.

<u>Cum. To Date Including This Request</u> – Enter the total amount requested for all reimbursement requests so far, including the current request, in each cost category.

<u>Award Balance</u> – These amounts should equal the difference between the Budget Award and the Cum to Date Including This Request. Indicate the amount for each cost category.

Summary Statement of Expenses Form

<u>Statement of Work Performed</u> – Provide a brief description of what the expenses paid for and how they supported the scope of work in the contract.

<u>Summary of Expenses</u> – List each expense separately. If you have an individual bill, invoice, or receipt from a vendor, it should be listed separately. A copy of the bill, invoice, or receipt and proof of payment must be on file at your organization for verification during the periodic site visits.

<u>Cost Category</u> – List the cost category for each expense (from the cost categories on the Reimbursement Request Form). If you have multiple grant funding sources for a cost category, please group expenses by writing the fund type in the preceding Vendor row, as shown in the example below.

Cost Category	Vendor	Expenditure Date	Amount
select ▼	HHGP		
CM - Salaries & Benefits ▼	Arthur Dent	1/15/2020	500.00
CM - Salaries & Benefits ▼	Tricia McMillan	1/15/2020	400.00
select ▼			
select ▼	AHGP		
CM - Salaries & Benefits ▼	Ford Prefect	1/15/2020	150.00
CM - Salaries & Benefits ▼	Zephod Beeblebrox	1/15/2020	42.00

<u>Vendor</u> – List person, company, or organization to whom the expense was paid.

If you are paying rental assistance, list the landlord to whom the rental assistance was paid and the last name of the client for whom it benefited. If your organization was the landlord, put your organization's name in the Vendor column and the last name of the client for whom it benefited. (e.g. Housing Agency – Smith, or Glendale Apartments – Jones)

If the expense is for Salaries & Benefits, list the last name of the employee who was paid.

<u>Expenditure Date</u> – List the date that the bill, invoice, or payroll was **paid** (not the date of the bill or invoice).

<u>Amount</u> – Indicate the amount paid to the vendor. In some cases, this may be less than the total of the bill or invoice. If so, indicate this on the bill or invoice that you are keeping on file.

ADVANCE DISBURSEMENTS

Advance disbursements from the Grant Award may be requested in three cases, as listed below. Advance disbursements may be granted or denied in the sole discretion of the Housing and Homelessness Division or Kitsap County.

Requests for advance disbursements must be submitted using the electronic Reimbursement Request forms, as above.

- On the Summary Statement of Expenses in the Statement of Work Performed, you must clearly indicate that this is a request for Advance Disbursement and include information about why an advance disbursement is necessary.
- (A) <u>Capital Construction or Operation</u>: If the Project is for the purpose of capital construction or operation, the Recipient may request advance disbursement of up to 50 percent of the Grant Award.
- If the request is granted, the Recipient must reconcile the advance in its last disbursement request at the end of the grant year.
- (B) <u>Capital Purchase Grant</u>: If the Project is for the purpose of capital purchase, the Recipient may request advance disbursement of up to 100 percent of the Grant Award.
- If the request is granted, the Recipient must within 60 days of disbursement submit a Kitsap County Reimbursement Request fully documenting the use of the disbursement.

- Use the same Invoice number as on the Advance Disbursement and note in the Statement of Work Performed that this is the documentation of the prior Advance Disbursement.
- (C) <u>Rental Assistance</u>: If the Project is for the purpose of providing rental assistance, the Recipient may request advance disbursement of up to 25% of the Grant Award each quarter.
- If the request is granted, the Recipient must reconcile the advance at the end of the quarter, before submitting the next advance disbursement request.

DOCUMENTATION

For CHG reimbursement requests, all documentation must be submitted with each request. For HHGP and AHGP reimbursement requests, documentation of allowable costs and expenses (e.g. bills, receipts) does not need to be submitted with each reimbursement request but must be on file with the grant recipient and available for review during periodic audits. This documentation should be kept in an organized and easily referenced manner. At any time, Kitsap County may request that this additional supporting documentation be provided.

CONTRACT OR BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Requests for Budget Amendments or Scope of Work Amendments must be submitted in writing to the Housing and Homelessness Division no later than three months before the end of the contract period. In special circumstances, exceptions may be made by the Housing and Homelessness Division.

Amendment requests should be in the form of a letter on agency letterhead, addressed to the Housing and Homelessness Division, and should include the reason for the requested change and the requested revised budget (if applicable). Amendment request letters may be emailed to the Division Manager.

Upon receipt of a request for a Contract Amendment, your request will be approved or denied. Approved Contract Amendment requests will be routed through the County contracts process. Following internal county routing, a contract amendment will be sent to the contract signer in your agency.

Contractor Administrative Requirements

INSURANCE CERTIFICATES

As specified in grant contracts, contractors must provide updated insurance certificates demonstrating coverage limits identified in the contract. An up-to-date insurance certificate must be submitted electronically to the Housing and Homelessness Division before the first reimbursement request of a contract will be processed.

MONITORING

The Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division monitors all projects for compliance with the funding terms and conditions in the contract(s). On-site monitoring and performance evaluation are generally conducted once per year. Contractors will be contacted to schedule on-site monitoring and provided with a checklist of monitoring components.

After monitoring, contractors will be provided with a completed monitoring checklist and a list of required follow-up actions. Contractors must respond to the required follow-up actions within the specified time period. Failure to do so may result in reimbursements being delayed until the response is received.

Monitoring may be performed more frequently than annually if there are concerns about program performance or compliance.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Contractors must have a written non-discrimination policy, available for review during site monitoring visits.

Contractors must comply with all federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws, regulations and policies.

Contractors must comply with the Washington State Law against Discrimination, RCW 49.60, as it now reads or as it may be amended. RCW 49.60 currently prohibits discrimination or unfair practices because of race, creed, color, national origin, families with children, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability.

Contractors must comply with the Federal Fair Housing Act and it's amendments as it now reads or as it may be amended. The Fair Housing Act currently prohibits discrimination because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or family status. The Fair Housing Act prohibits enforcing a neutral rule or policy that has a disproportionately adverse effect on a protected class.

Local nondiscrimination laws may include additional protected classes.

POINT IN TIME COUNT

Contractors must participate in the Point in Time Count and enter data into HMIS in a timely way to meet data collection requirements for the PIT.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

As specified in contracts, contractors are required to submit quarterly progress reports. Quarterly Progress Reports are due on the 15th day following the end of the quarter – or if the 15th falls on a weekend, the next business day.

Quarterly Progress Reports contain both performance measures information and a narrative. Quarterly Progress Reports must be submitted electronically through DocuSign, using the link on the Housing and Homelessness Division website.

Contractors are required to submit Quarterly Progress Reports for the entire contract period even if there was no program or grant activity during the quarter.

At the end of the year, instead of a 4th Quarter Progress Report, contractors should submit a Final Progress Report, using the same instructions as below.

Quarterly Progress Report Instructions

- 1. Go to www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Grant-Recipients-page.aspx
- 2. Assemble all of the information that you need for the report ahead of time.
 - On the webpage, you can find an example of the Quarterly Progress Report so that you know what information to assemble in advance.
 - ➤ DO NOT Click on the Quarterly Progress Report link to submit the report until you have all the information assembled.
 - You will not be able to save your work once you have started.
 - Every time you click the link a new report is sent whether you finish or not.
 - ➤ In addition to information gathered from you records, you will need the Agency Performance Measures Report, provided by the Housing and Homelessness Division typically about a week before the Quarterly Report is due.
 - You can review Data Timeliness Reports, Data Quality Score Reports, and Utilization Rate Reports whenever you wish through HMIS. The Appendices to this document provide instructions for how to run these reports.
- 3. Click on the Quarterly Progress Report Link this will launch DocuSign, our electronic submission portal.
- 4. Fill out the Quarterly Progress Report using information from your agency and the Agency Performance Measures Report.
 - In the yellow cell, use the arrow on the right to show the drop down menu. Select your agency. The cells will populate with information about your agency's performance. Copy this information into the Quarterly Progress Report.
- 5. After you electronically sign the Report, it will be automatically electronically routed to the Housing and Homelessness Division. Once it is approved, you will receive electronic notification and a PDF for your records.

RECORDS MAINTENANCE AND DESTRUCTION

Contractors must maintain records relating to each grant contract for a period of six years following the date of final payment.

Contractors must have a written Records Maintenance and Destruction Policy, available for review during site monitoring visits.

Paper records derived from HMIS which contain personally identifying information must be destroyed within seven years after the last day the household received services from the contractor.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

In compliance with CHG Guidelines, a Risk Assessment will be done for each CHG sub-contractor within six months of the start date of the contract. The Risk Assessment will be used to determine the frequency of CHG on-site monitoring.

STATE ANNUAL REPORT – HOUSING INVENTORY CHART (HIC)

Each year, the Division must report to Commerce all currently active homelessness housing and services programs. The Annual Report includes two parts: 1) program information, how the program is identified in HMIS, and 2) program funding information, including all of the funding sources that support

each program. Contractors are required to provide this information to Division staff in a timely way upon request to comply with Commerce requirements.

TIMELEY EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Grant-funded projects should be ready to proceed during the program year of the awarded funds. The Housing and Homelessness Division expects and monitors for the timely expenditure of allocated funds to projects. Grant funds must be fully spent by December 31st of the award year, or as defined in the grant contract. If the funds are not expended during the contract period, they will be retained for distribution in a future grant cycle.

USE OF FUNDS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSING FOR 25 YEARS

Capital projects that receive grant funds must remain in use for low-income households for no less than 25 years from the date of the receipt of grant funds. A Warrant for Use for 25 Years is required to be submitted electronically before the first reimbursement request will be processed.

Data Collection and Entry

HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is an electronic record system that enables information gathering about, and continuous case management of, homeless persons across agencies in a particular jurisdiction (city, county, state). Homeless service providers collect information about their clients and input it in the HMIS so that it can be matched with information from other providers to get accurate counts of homeless clients and the services they need.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has mandated that all agencies who receive federal funds for homeless housing or services, must participate in an HMIS. HUD outlines the specific data points that must be collected for each homeless client.

Washington State Department of Commerce has mandated that all agencies receiving state funding for homeless housing or services (Consolidated Homeless Grants, Affordable Housing, Homeless Housing, Housing Trust Fund, TANF, Housing and Essential Needs, etc.) must participate in HMIS.

WA Commerce is responsible for operating an HMIS for counties that participate in federal funding through the Balance of State Continuum of Care process. This includes Kitsap County. The Housing and Homelessness Division is responsible, through a contract with WA Commerce, for managing the Kitsap HMIS.

Kitsap County is responsible for collecting data from all of the participating agencies and submitting that data to WA Commerce. Through an agreement with WA Commerce, agencies may submit data in one of two ways: 1) through a state-provide online software system that will share data "in real time" between participating Kitsap agencies, or 2) collecting the data in an agency's own software system and periodically uploading it to the WA Commerce system.

WA Commerce and the Housing and Homelessness Division provide training and support for the state-provided HMIS software.

Kitsap agencies that provide homeless housing and services are required to participate in the Kitsap HMIS Collaborative, an agreement to share client data between agencies. Kitsap's data-sharing system provides benefits such as improved client service, accurate data and reporting for funding sources, and better outcome tracking.

All agencies that receive Housing and Homelessness Division grant funds must enter all required client data into HMIS for the funded program(s).

Data Quality

All Data quality is measured by the percent of valid data collected for each data element. "Client doesn't know", "Client refused", and "Data not collected" are considered invalid responses and will count against data quality.

Data quality requirements are also outlined in grant contracts. All programs should aim for 100% data quality.

Data quality for each agency and program is reviewed periodically. Instructions on how to generate an HMIS report that shows this information for your program can be found in Appendix B.

Data Timeliness

All client data must be entered into HMIS as soon as possible, ideally within 6 days, and no later than 14 calendar days following the date of the household enrolling or exiting the program, changing their income or family composition, or any other demographic or programmatic change.

Instructions on how to generate an HMIS report that shows this information for your program can be found in Appendix A.

Informed Consent

Every household served through grant funded programs must be asked to sign the Client Release of Information and Informed Consent. They may choose to only have non-identifying information entered into HMIS. (See below for situations in which ONLY non-identifying information may be entered.)

Personally identifying information (PII) must not be entered into HMIS unless all adult household members have provided informed consent.

Informed consent must be documented with a signed copy of the Client Release of Information and Informed Consent Form in the client file.

Only one Informed Consent form is required for each household. If the household was referred through Coordinated Entry, then an Informed Consent Form will be on file with that program and another Form is not required to be signed. If this is the case, a note should be made in the client file that the "Informed Consent Form is on file with Coordinated Entry."

If telephonic consent has been received, the Consent Form must be completed the first time the household is seen in person.

As authorized by Washington State legislation, as of June 2018, young adults ages 13 and older may sign Consent Forms for themselves.

Anonymous Records/Non-identified Records

The following types of records must be entered anonymously:

- Households in which one or adult member does not provide informed consent for themselves or their dependents.
- Households entering a domestic violence program or currently fleeing or in danger from a domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, human trafficking or a stalking situation.
- Minors (under the age of 13) entering programs independently (without a parent or guardian).
- Households in programs which are required by funders to report HIV/AIDS status.

If a combination of race, ethnicity, gender, or other demographic data could be identifying in your community, those data points should not be entered for anonymous records.

Changes in Identified Records

Occasionally a client will change their mind about personally-identifying information being entered into HMIS. If a client with personally-identifying information already in HMIS wishes to have this personally identifying information removed, they should sign a Revocation of Consent Form. A copy of this Revocation of Consent Form should be retained in the client file and the original should be immediately forwarded to the Housing and Homelessness Division to make the necessary changes and notifications.

Agency staff should NOT attempt to change the consent status of records.

Provision of Services Requirements

COORDINATED ENTRY

Unless otherwise specified, programs funded with Homeless Housing Grant program, Affordable Housing Grant program, and/or Consolidated Homeless Grant program funds are required to take referrals exclusively through the coordinated entry program.

Programs serving survivors of domestic violence may intake clients directly, but clients should be directed to go to the coordinated entry program as soon as possible and within three days of program entry.

Night-by-night shelters may take intake clients directly but should direct clients to the coordinated entry program as soon as possible, and within three days of program entry.

Permanent Supportive Housing programs and Permanent Affordable Housing programs are strongly encouraged to take referrals through the coordinated entry program. However, they may request of Kitsap County to take referrals outside of the coordinated entry program.

CLIENT FILES

Contractors are required to keep a file on each client that is served through their funded program. These files may be in electronic or paper format. Client files should include things like the completed program application, income verification (if applicable), referral information, program consent forms, case management notes, lease agreements, etc.

Client files must be produced at the request of the Housing and Homelessness Division and will be reviewed during the program monitoring site visits.

Client files should be stored in a secure area.

Client files should be retained for a minimum of seven years in a secure location.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Contractors must have a written grievance procedure/complaint process for households seeking or receiving services which includes the household's right to review decisions and present concerns to program staff not involved in the grievance. This procedure must clearly describe how households can request a review or report concerns. It must be accessible to all households seeking or receiving services. Each client must be made aware of the grievance procedure when they enroll in the program.

HOUSING STABILITY PLANNING

Contractors must assess each household's housing needs and facilitate planning with the goal of obtaining or maintaining housing stability. Housing stability planning must be housing-focused and client-driven.

Contractors must use the Kitsap Housing Stability Planning and Progress Report (HSPPR) to document assisting clients with setting housing stability goals and tracking progress. HSPPRs are part of the client record-keeping requirement.

Contractors may use any other planning, assessment, or case management forms or tools that they wish, but at a minimum must have a HSPPR on file for each client household.

Assessments and housing stability planning are not required for clients whose only services is night-by-night shelters.

NON CONDITIONAL SERVICE PROVISION

Programs must not terminate or deny services to households based on refusal to participate in supportive services. Supportive services are helping or educational resources that include support groups, mental health services, alcohol and substance abuse services, life skills or independent living skills services, vocational services and social activities.

Supportive services do not include housing stability planning or case management.

Programs should limit eligibility criteria to those required by funders and/or facility structure (for example, funding for veterans or unit size suitable for families with children).

PROGRESSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Contractors must employ a progressive engagement (PE) service model. Progressive Engagement includes the following components:

- Whenever possible, households experiencing a housing crisis should be diverted from entering homeless housing programs through problem-solving conversations, linkages to mainstream and natural supports, and/or flexible, and light-touch financial assistance.
- > Initial assessment and services address the immediate housing crisis with the minimal services needed.
- Frequent re-assessment determines the need for additional services.
- Services are individualized and responsive to the needs of each household.
- ➤ Households exit to permanent housing as soon as possible.
- Having already received assistance does not negatively impact a household's eligibility if they face homelessness again.

RELIGIOUS REQUIREMENTS PROHIBITED

Contractors are prohibited from making any program services, assistance, or housing conditional on clients participating in any sort of religious activity. No funding provided through Kitsap County may be used to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities, including activities that involve over religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization.

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE AND BEST PRACTICES

Program staff who provide direct services and manage homeless grants should receive training and demonstrate competency in, at a minimum:

- ACES/Resiliency
- Trauma Informed Services
- Mental Health First Aid
- Progressive Engagement
- Supporting victims of domestic violence
- Fair Housing

In addition, program managers and staff are highly encouraged to attend the annual Washington State Conference on Ending Homelessness.

TERMINATION AND DENIAL OF SERVICE POLICY

Contractors must have a client termination and denial policy that describes the reasons a household would be denied services and/or terminated from program participation, describes the notification process, and identifies how households are made aware of the grievance procedure.

Appendix A

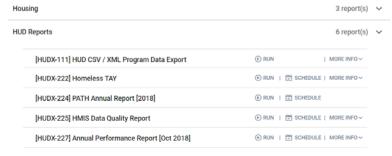
Generating HMIS Reports – Timeliness

Determining Data Quality – Timeliness using Clarity HMIS Reports

1. Open the Reports tab from the Clarity Reports Menu button.



2. Open the [HUDX-227] Annual Performance Report [Oct 2018] by selecting "Run"



3. Choose the following options for the selection fields

CoC Filter Category = Agencies in CoC

CoC = Washington Balance of State CoC

Program Types = (select desired intervention type(s)

Program Status = Active Programs

Programs = (select desired program(s))

Apply Client Location Filter = No

Funding Criteria = Not Based on Funding Source

Report Date Range = Set Date Range

Report Output Format = your choice (Web Output allows drilling

down)

4. Obtain Timeliness for Number of Project Start Records

On the HUD Annual Performance Report find Q6e. Data Quality: Timeliness

Q6e. Data Quality: Timeliness Program Applicability: All Projects		
Time for Record Entry	Number of Project Start Records	Number of Project Exit Records
0 days	8	5
1-3 days	17	17
4-6 days	6	7
7-10 days	4	0
11+ days	0	3

Use the following calculations to determine Timeliness

$$Project\ Start\ Timeliness = \frac{Sum\ of\ Project\ Start\ Records (0\ days, 1-3\ days, 4-6\ days)}{Sum\ All\ Project\ Start\ Records}$$

$$Project \ Exit \ Timeliness = \frac{Sum \ of \ Project \ Exit \ Records (0 \ days, 1-3 \ days, 4-6 \ days)}{Sum \ All \ Project \ Exit \ Records}$$

Appendix B

Generating HMIS Reports – Data Quality Score

Determining HMIS Data Quality Score using Clarity HMIS Reports

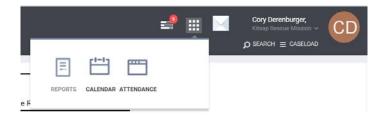
The HMIS Data Quality Score used by the state is based on the completeness of data collected from clients. Of all entries and exits over the reporting period, this is the percentage of which the Living Situation (3.917) and the Destination (3.12) are considered "Unknown".

Living Situation is only collected for adults and Heads of Households; people under 18 that are not head of household are excluded.

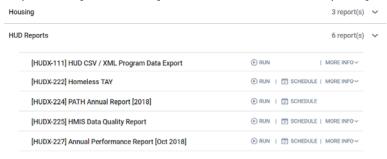
Unknown Living Situations include: Client doesn't know, Client refused, Data not collected

Unknown Destinations include: Client doesn't know, Client refused, Data not collected, No exit interview completed.

1. Open the Reports tab from the Clarity Reports Menu button.



2. Open the [HUDX-227] Annual Performance Report [Oct 2018] by selecting "Run"



3. Choose the following options for the selection fields

CoC Filter Category = Agencies in CoC

CoC = Washington Balance of State CoC

Program Types = (select desired intervention type(s)

Program Status = Active Programs

Programs = (select desired program(s))

Apply Client Location Filter = No

Funding Criteria = Not Based on Funding Source

Report Date Range = Set Date Range

Report Output Format = your choice (Web Output allows drilling

down)

4. Obtain Unknown Living Situation and Entries

On the HUD Annual Performance Report find Q15. Living Situation

HUD Annual Performance Report (2018)

CoC category filter: Agencies in CoC
Client Location filter: No
Funding Criteria: Not Based on Funding Source

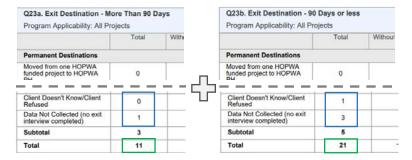
Q15. Living Situation					
Program Applicability: All Pro	jects				
	Total	Without Children	With Children and Adults	With Only Children	Unknown Household Type
Homeless Situations					
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with	13	11	2	0	0
Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused	0	0	0	0	0
Data Not Collected	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	18	13	5	0	0
Total	39	30	9	0	0

At the end of this section obtain the Unknown Entry Living Situation by summing the first column responses Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused and Data Not Collected.

Record the Total Number of Entries from the first column in the last row.

5. Obtain Unknown Destination and Exits

On the HUD Annual Performance Report find Q23a. Exit Destination-More than 90 Days and Q23b. Exit Destination-Less than 90 Days



At the end sections 23a and 23b obtain the Unknown Exit Destination by summing the first column responses Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused and Data Not Collected (no exit interview completed).

Obtain the Total Number of Exits by summing the Totals from the first column in both 23a and 23b.

6. Calculate the HMIS Data Quality Score

Use the following formula to calculate the data quality score for the selected program.

HMIS Data Quality Score

$$= 1 - \frac{Number\ of\ Unknown\ Entry\ Living\ Situation\ and\ Exit\ Destinations}{Total\ Number\ of\ Entries\ and\ Exits}$$

From the example agency the Data Quality Score would be calculated as follows:

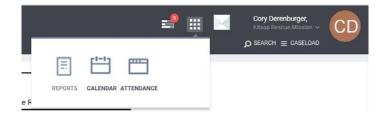
93% =
$$1 - \frac{Number\ of\ Unknown\ Entry\ Living\ Situation\ (II)\ and\ Exit\ Destinations\ (5)\ Total = 5}{Total\ Number\ of\ Entries\ (39)\ and\ Exits\ (32)\ Total = 71}$$

Appendix C

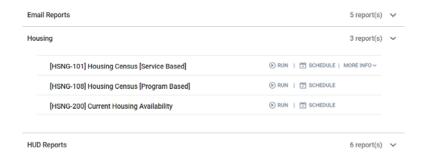
Generating HMIS Reports – Utilization Rate

Finding Utilization Rate using Clarity HMIS Reports

1. Open the Reports tab from the Clarity Reports Menu button.

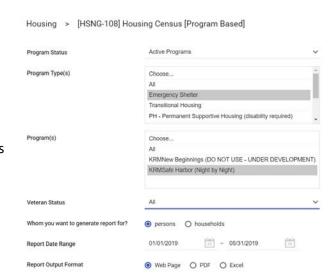


2. Open the [HSNG-108] Housing Census [Program Based] report by selecting "Run".



3. Choose the following Options from the selection fields

Program Status = Active Programs
Program Types(s) = Emergency Shelter
Programs(s) = Select the relevant shelter program
Veteran Status = All
Whom you want to generate report for? Select persons
Report Date Range = Set Date Range
Report Output Format = your choice



4. Obtain Total Bed Nights Provided

At the bottom of the Housing Census report a Total Bed Nights Provided is given

Total Clients Served	50
Total Bed Nights Provided	2,376

5. Obtain Max Occupancy

At the top of the Housing Census report the number of beds shelter beds for max occupancy in the project is given

d Women with Children Shelter	Max Occupancy: 15 beds
Date	# Clients

6. Calculate Utilization Rate

Use the following formula to determine Utilization Rate During the Reporting Period

$$Utilization \ Rate = \frac{(Total \ Bed \ Nights \ Provided)}{(Number \ of \ Days \ in \ Reporting \ Period \ x \ Max \ Occupancy)}$$

Why is my utilization rate lower than expected?

The most likely answers are:

- Clients may be missing enrollments
- The number of beds reported for the program is incorrect, changed, or varies
- In households with multiple family members dependents have not been enrolled into the program
- The start dates or exit dates have not been entered correctly
- Drop-in Shelters should ensure that attendance is up to date and that clients are not missing attendance

Why is my utilization rate greater than 100% or higher than I expected?

The most likely answers are:

- Clients that are no longer active in the program have not been exited in HMIS
- Exit dates are incorrect, exit date is the day following the client's last night in the program
- The number of beds reported for the program is incorrect, changed, or varies
- Non-participating clients have been erroneously enrolled into the program

If you have issues obtaining or calculating your bed occupancy rate, or have utilization rates that seem incorrect (high or low) contact:

Cory Derenburger - Housing and Homelessness Division (360) 337-7287

cderenbu@co.kitsap.wa.us