

## **VSHA RAPID REHOUSING PROJECT PROPOSAL**

### **Vermont Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)**

As a Public Housing Authority, the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA) is an eligible entity to apply for HUD CoC Program funds (except for HMIS), including those potentially available through VT YHDP.

In addition to its role as an eligible applicant for VT YHDP project funds, VSHA is also the Collaborative Applicant for the VT Balance of State Continuum of Care (VT BoS CoC), responsible for submitting the original YHDP NOFA application and providing ongoing secondary support to the statewide Youth Homelessness Prevention Planning Committee and VT YHDP Leadership Team.

#### **GENERAL AVAILABILITY OF VT YHDP FUNDS**

The YHDP grant funding amount listed in the VSHA proposal below is intended for *informational purposes only* in order to help VT BoS CoC and local CoCs understand how many households *could* feasibly be served if ALL available VT YHDP funds were spent using the following specific scenario. The following amount is not intended to infer that VSHA will actually request (or receive) any VT YHDP funds:

- **\$2,002,131** is currently awarded to the VT BoS CoC over a two-year period
- The VT YHDP Team determined that the maximum amount of available Planning funds were needed to prepare/implement the Plan, so the above should be reduced by \$60K (**\$30K/year**)
- VT BoS CoC-YHPPC identified a need to use some YHDP funds for HMIS (est. **\$15,000/year**)
- If VT BoS CoC only chooses renewable YHDP projects for the 2-year demonstration, then about **\$956,066/year** will be renewable as part of the annual CoC NOFA after the 2-year demo ends

#### **SEEKING INTERESTED RRH-YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDERS**

To ensure transparency & solicit comprehensive feedback, we are soliciting interest from RRH Lead Agencies and/or Service Providers to partner with us in an YHDP-RRH project proposal, as long as there is:

- 1) An identified local need to serve youth-only (under 24 at project entry) homeless households
- 2) General support from the local CoC and stakeholders
- 3) A commitment & full service capacity of one or more providers to partner with VSHA, ensure quality care coordination, follow state/federal regulations, and a history of effective operations
- 4) A YHDP project/program type that is renewable under future CoC Program NOFAs
- 5) A selected project/program that does not pose an undue VSHA administrative burden to operate (*e.g. similar to existing VSHA RRH Program, with modifications*)
- 6) A proposal that is approved by the Youth Action Board & VCEH Project Selection Team

#### **POTENTIAL VSHA RRH-YOUTH PROJECT PROPOSAL**

If selected by the VCEH, this project would serve youth experiencing homelessness, where *no member of the household is older than 24 (<18 emancipated)*, including: victims of violence (expanded definition), LGBTQ, pregnant or parenting, and other vulnerable youth populations.

This project would modify the existing VSHA RRH Program to provide medium-term rental assistance in combination with specialized services/practices/policies/partnerships dedicated to serving youth.

This proposal does not include any CoC funds to providers for services & administration, which must all be secured from other *match* sources.

- **Grant Administrator** = VSHA
- **Rental Assistance Administrator** = VSHA
- **RRH Lead Agencies** = existing VSHA RRH agencies in each local CoC and/or youth providers may partner with existing VSHA RRH agencies
- **Service Providers** = RRH Lead Agency or Partner Agency (with written agreement)
- **Current Youth RRH Examples:** NEKCA-Newport (6 prioritized)/Capstone-Central VT (3 dedicated)
- **Program Administrator** = VSHA

- **Non-CoC funded Services (Match):** a total minimum 25% (\$240,000+) match amount is required from other sources to pay for case management/other services and local project admin costs, including from, but not limited to State/Federal/Private funding:
  - RHY-Basic Center Program/Transitional Living Program, DCF-YDP/FSH/HOP/CSBG/Reach-Up, Dept. of Mental Health, DAIL-VocRehab, Donations/Fundraising, Health Care, Other
- **CoC Rental Assistance:** less than \$869,166      • **CoC Admin Costs:** <\$86,900 (10%) – VSHA only
- **Service Area:** entire VT Balance of State CoC geographic area (11 local CoCs)
- **Households Served/Units Funded:** less than 110 households/units
- **# of Subsidies per Local CoC (approx.) \* Minimum Match (approx.) \* Potential RRH Provider:**

|                         |               |                |   |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|---|
| Addison                 | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Bennington              | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Caledonia/Essex         | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Franklin/Grand Isle     | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Lamoille                | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Orange/No. Windsor      | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Orleans                 | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Rutland                 | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Washington              | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Windham South           | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |
| Windsor So./Windham No. | <10 subsidies | \$22,000 match | ? |

*\*VSHA policy will inform subsidy allocation as determined by available funds, demonstrated household need, timely utilization (application & lease), organizational competency & performance, etc.*

- **All-in-One RRH Program \* Different Housing Options:**
  - COMMUNITY-BASED/scattered-site subsidy - *similar to existing RRH or VRS*
  - SITE-BASED/master lease - *similar to TLP or TH with tenant lease - pending HUD waiver*
  - SHARED HOUSING - *e.g. shared apt or host home, lease w property owner, no immediate relatives*
- **Type of Rental Assistance:** medium-term; up to 100% of allowable rent for eligible units; up to two months of rent amount available for security deposit – if unused by landlord, deposit follows the tenant; one month rent amount available for vacancy costs to landlord; no property damage reimbursement (*per HUD regulations for CoC-RRH*)
- **Length of Rental Assistance:** medium-term (up to 24 months - *possible 36 with HUD waiver*); <24 months of rent subsidies may be determined in advance; Needs Determination (*program policy, SSOM, household assessment, etc.*); if household income reaches level to pay full rent, subsidy may be put on hold for 6 months to address potential income decrease/loss
- **Homelessness Eligibility Criteria \* VSHA RRH-Youth:**
  - Category #1/Literal Homelessness (streets or shelters): places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters/seasonal shelters, DV/SV shelters, Basic Center Program, GA motel or motel paid by a charitable organization – *potential Transitional Housing*
  - Category #4/Fleeing Violence: expanded YHDP-only eligibility for youth fleeing harm (or perceived)
  - Category #2/Imminent Homelessness (potential): facing homelessness within 14 days
- **Move-on Strategy:** although self-sufficiency is the goal; providers will assist households with ongoing need to apply for other rental assistance (local PHAs, project-based, etc.), with an option to apply for VSHA Sect. 8 HCV-TH [RRH] preference after nine months – *dependent upon funding availability*