

Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Grantees eligible to receive funds under the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) are required to complete a substantial amendment to their Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan. This form sets forth the required format for this substantial amendment. A completed form is due to HUD within 60 days of the publication of the HUD HPRP notice.

To aid grantees in meeting this submission deadline, the HPRP Notice reduces the requirement for a 30-day public comment period to no less than 12 calendar days for this substantial amendment. With this exception, HPRP grantees are required to follow their Consolidated Plan's citizen participation process, including consultation with the Continuum of Care (CoC) in the appropriate jurisdiction(s). Grantees are also required to coordinate HPRP activities with the CoC's strategies for homeless prevention and ending homelessness. To maximize transparency, HUD strongly recommends that each grantee post its substantial amendment materials on the grantee's official website as the materials are developed.

A complete submission contains the following three documents:

- 1) A signed and dated SF-424,
- 2) A completed form HUD-40119 (this form), and
- 3) Signed and dated General Consolidated Plan and HPRP certifications.

For additional information regarding the HPRP program, visit the HUD Homelessness Resource Exchange (www.hudhre.info). This site will be regularly updated to include HPRP resources developed by HUD and its technical assistance providers.

The information collection requirements contained in this application have been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). This agency may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Information is submitted in accordance with the regulatory authority contained in each program rule. The information will be used to rate applications, determine eligibility, and establish grant amounts.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 16 hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. This information is required to obtain benefits. To the extent that any information collected is of a confidential nature, there will be compliance with Privacy Act requirements. However, the substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan does not request the submission of such information.

Warning: HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

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A. General Information

Grantee Name	Connecticut Department of Social Services
Name of Entity or Department Administering Funds	The Bureau of Aging, Community and Social Work Services
HPRP Contact Person (person to answer questions about this amendment and HPRP)	Pamela A. Giannini, MSW
Title	Director
Address Line 1	25 Sigourney Street
Address Line 2	10 th Floor
City, State, Zip Code	Hartford, CT 06106
Telephone	860-424-5277
Fax	860-424-4886
Email Address	Pamela. Giannini@ct.gov
Authorized Official (if different from Contact Person)	Claudette J. Beaulieu
Title	Deputy Commissioner
Address Line 1	25 Sigourney Street
Address Line 2	10 th Floor
City, State, Zip Code	Hartford, CT 06106
Telephone	860-424-5004
Fax	860-424-4899
Email Address	Claudette.j.beaulieu@ct.gov
Web Address where this Form is Posted	www.decd.org

Amount Grantee is Eligible to Receive*	\$10,818,309.00
Amount Grantee is Requesting	\$10,818,309.00

*Amounts are available at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/homelesspreventrecov.xls>

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B. Citizen Participation and Public Comment

1. Briefly describe how the grantee followed its citizen participation plan regarding this proposed substantial amendment (limit 250 words).

Response:

DECD is the lead agency for the Consolidated Plan and Citizen Participation Plan process. DSS will administer HPRP funds. Comments received will be used in the development of the substantial amendment(s) to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development. Oral or written comments were invited either through attendance at the public hearings, via e-mail or by submitting directly to DECD. Below activities will be followed to ensure citizen participation within the reduced time allocation:

4/2/09 – Legal Notice of hearings published in 7 state newspapers including 1 of minority representation with Spanish version, also posted DECD’s website, www.decd.org.

4/16/09 – 04/17/09 – 2 Public hearings held to solicit public input in response to funding opportunities contained in Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) as they apply to federal programs included in the state’s 2005-09 Consolidated Plan.

4/22/09 - Draft HPRP substantial amendment and Legal Notice is scheduled to be posted on the DECD website and be forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials, regional planning agencies and the state library. Legal Notice of public comment period is scheduled to be published in the same manner as previously noted.

5/6/09 – 5/8/09 – 3 Public hearings scheduled to receive comments on the draft HPRP substantial amendment.

4/23/09 – 5/8/09 - Public comment period is scheduled.

Refer to Appendix A for copies of Legal Notices

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2. Provide the appropriate response regarding this substantial amendment by checking one of the following options: Must wait until after public hearings and public comment period.

- Grantee did not receive public comments.
 Grantee received and accepted all public comments.
 Grantee received public comments and did not accept one or more of the comments.

3. Provide a summary of the public comments regarding this substantial amendment. Include a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons for non-acceptance.

Response: The following is a summary of substantive comments received and the comments are organized by Sections in the Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP). *(Note this section currently includes comments from Public Hearings held on April 16 & 17. Comments received during May 5, 7, & 8, 2009 public hearings and 12 day public comment period will be included after such documentation is received).*

Dawn Parker, The Connection, Inc.

HPRP:

- She would like to see a central location for information with regard to funding opportunities under HPRP, a more coordinated approach as to what is available within the state , what are key dates, deadlines etc.
- She would like to see that everyone(nonprofit services providers) get equal opportunity for the funding.
- She would recommend that in the implementation of the program we stick to the program guidelines and keep it simple.

DSS Response: DSS can address how it posts and distributes information concerning its HPRP program and process, as the 5 ESG municipalities have their own individual processes in place that might be governed by the Town/City Councils. DSS will suggest during the April 22, 2009 HPRP Steering Committee meeting that each HPRP grantee post their RFP on DAS contracting portal, http://www.das.state.ct.us/Purchase/Portal/Portal_Home.asp as well as Connecticut's recovery website, <http://www.ct.recovery.gov>. Also, DSS strongly concurs that programmatic requirements should not be so stringent that the target population for HPRP services are denied access.

Diane Randall, Partnerships for Strong Communities

HPRP:

She made a strong recommendation to use 100% of the funds for the programs intended purpose and not to sub plant existing uses under the program.

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DSS response: DSS does not plan to supplant monies away from the HPRP mission. In fact, the Governor's budget includes a revenue-neutral rapid re-housing model, in essence holding the beyond shelter program line item harmless. It is DSS's fondest hope that, when the HPRP monies are no longer available, the state will have a system in place that can be sustained within existing resources.

Weatherization Program:

Use funding to preserve single family housing as well as housing developments for low and moderate income persons, serve both.

DECD response: This comment was not accepted because the funding for the Weatherization Program is not an eligible funding source under the Consolidated Plan. However the comment was forwarded to the appropriate staff at the Department of Social Services that is responsible for the Weatherization Program for consideration.

ARRA funds and the Consolidated Plan:

- Nonprofit developers and service providers are looking for clarity and transparency on how this new money (stimulus/ARRA) will mesh with existing programs that are available, what are the possibilities?
- Need to re think the planning for the ConPlan with regard to the new money, tighten up on what gets done- what can be done and what can not, pull together and frame it , give non profits and municipalities a clearer understanding of what the states priorities are and how the department will follow thru with the programs it administers

DECD response:

The state is in the initial planning phase of drafting the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan. The availability of new federal funding and opportunity for additional eligible activities will be considered in the development of the new Consolidated Plan. How the new funding can be meshed with the existing programs will be explored as well as re-examining how all the funding sources can be best used to address the present environment with regard to affordable housing and homelessness in our state.

During the planning and citizen participation stage of the drafting of the 2010-2014 ConPlan, outreach will be made to state agencies, municipalities, housing authorities, community foundations, non profit organizations, social service providers, developers and citizens for input regarding needs, coordination of the funding resources, identification of goals and objectives, and evaluation of what the state priorities are and how they can be met

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All comments received will be summarized and reasons for acceptance or non-acceptance will be provided. Refer to Appendix B for copies of written comments and transcripts from the public hearings.

C. Distribution and Administration of Funds

Reminder: The HPRP grant will be made by means of a grant agreement executed by HUD and the grantee. The three-year deadline to expend funds begins when HUD signs the grant agreement. Grantees should ensure that sufficient planning is in place to begin to expend funds shortly after grant agreement.

1. Check the process(es) that the grantee plans to use to select subgrantees. Note that a subgrantee is defined as the organization to which the grantee provides HPRP funds.

Competitive Process

Formula Allocation

Other (Specify): Sole source services with entities with an expertise in specialized services.

2. Briefly describe the process(es) indicated in question 1 above (limit 250 words).

Response:

DSS will utilize 2 methods to select subgrantees – competitive procurement and sole source. Competitive procurement will be conducted for HPRP services approximately 84% of total award. DSS is currently in the process of identifying catchment areas for the provision of HPRP services that will ensure collaboration, utilization of existing resources, fill existing service gaps and reduction of duplication of services to the target population. Successful applications will meet DSS' scope of service identified in RFP, experience in providing similar services, demonstrate capacity, compliance with Secretary filing status, and owe no state, federal or local taxes.

DSS has policies and procedures in place to sole source contracts when entities exist that can provide targeted services that are cost effective, experience in

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service provision, existing infrastructure/service delivery system, as well as the procurement process would not be cost effective.

DSS has identified two (2) potential providers of such targeted services. Currently DSS contracts with an entity to provide statewide CTHMIS administration including licensing costs, user support, report and data analysis, training & technical assistance. Utilization of this existing provider to assist with HPRP services, data quality and HMIS compliance is cost effective. The second entity has the potential to provide a universal pre-screen tool and referral for statewide functionality for triaging the target population. Both entities offer Connecticut unique services that would enhance/expand their current service delivery systems to our target population. DSS reserves the right to procure or sole source HPRP services depending Connecticut's internal procurement processes.

3. Briefly describe the process the grantee plans to use, once HUD signs the grant agreement, to allocate funds available to subgrantees by September 30, 2009, as required by the HPRP Notice (limit 250 words).

Response:

CT Department of Social Services (DSS) shall issue a Request For Proposals (RFP) for HPRP services targeting no more than five (5) catchment areas to provide services to the target population in a holistic manner. DSS will utilize existing infrastructures to ensure that it completes the competitive procurement process in a short period. DSS expects to issue RFP no later than May 21, 2009. The RFP submission deadline will be 5 weeks after issuance of the RFP. Bidder's conference, question and answer period, logistics and review committee finalization will occur during the time set aside for RFP submission. The Review Committee will evaluate and rank proposals that meet CT's contracting minimum requirements, within 2 weeks of receipt of proposals. The Review Committee will provide final recommendations to DSS' Commissioner. Notification that entities

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have won the right to negotiate with the Department will be issued no later than July 24, 2009. DSS expects to enter into contracts with providers by September 1, 2009 and issue 1st payment to providers no later than September 25, 2009. DSS' experience in competitive procurement, contract development, negotiation and management as well as issuance of payments in a timely manner makes us confident that we will be able to allocate funds to subgrantees by September 30, 2009.

4. Describe the grantee's plan for ensuring the effective and timely use of HPRP grant funds on eligible activities, as outlined in the HPRP Notice. Include a description of how the grantee plans to oversee and monitor the administration and use of its own HPRP funds, as well as those used by its subgrantees (limit 500 words).

Response:

In September 2008, the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) approached the CT Department of Social Services (DSS) in conjunction with CT Department of Children and Families (DCF) and CT Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to consider an interagency/ revenue neutral approach to address family homelessness. The model is a Rapid Re-housing model. Based upon this activity, Connecticut has already considered Rapid Re-Housing, prevention services, and its impact upon the target population. The following concepts were reviewed: service delivery models, intake and assessments, client flow before and after shelter breach, analysis of CT's Beyond Shelter Programs and Counselor in Shelter programs as rapid re-housing/prevention best practices, review of existing instruments and HMIS reports, and community-based services that can be leveraged for clients.

DSS' Bureau of Aging, Community and Social Work Services developed a specialized unit entitled, "Housing Team" to target and develop an in-house expertise on DSS housing programs (AIDS Residential, Homeless Shelters,

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Homeless Outreach/Day program activities, Transitional Living, CT Beyond Shelter, and Counselor in Shelters). This expertise has yielded great results in the past 6 months and the Bureau instituted a designated e-mail address for receipt of housing reports and/or questions, uniform methods to review shelter utilization, contractual requirement for HMIS utilization, etc. This in-house expertise in conjunction with Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness's (CCEH) training and technical assistance capacity will ensure that DSS' oversight and monitoring is timely and on going. DSS will require HMIS utilization of key HPRP data elements, case management and linkage with existing community based organizations. DSS will also request that CCEH provide it with a quarterly data integrity report during the 1st year of the contract period to monitor system utilization and data quality. Based upon that report DSS/CCEH will provide training and technical assistance as needed. Successful contractors will provide DSS quarterly system generated reports and six month narrative reports that identify successes, barriers, outcomes and measures and need for technical assistance. DSS and CCEH shall issue an annual report, which includes an analysis of the data and provision of services.

In addition to the above, an advisory steering committee entitled "Statewide HPRP Steering Committee" has been convened as a method to obtain statewide commentary from various community partners: legal services, community action agencies, state departments, family service agencies, CT United Way, domestic violence coalition, community partners and ESG municipal grantees. DSS/CCEH will report on activities during the statewide steering committee meeting. DSS will also conduct its standard monitoring visit, review of documentation-programmatic and fiscal in nature, and provision of technical assistance as needed. Payments will be issued to subgrantees, based upon the subgrantee's ability to meet contractual obligations and HPRP requirements. It should be noted that DSS will and does have the ability to monitor and visit contractors and subcontractors based upon contractual language.

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Finally, DSS and CCEH will convene quarterly meetings for HPRP subgrantees to discuss HPRP expectations, delivered services, problems, best practices, and develop peer-to-peer relationships within the statewide and catchment area.

D. Collaboration

1. Briefly describe how the grantee plans to collaborate with the local agencies that can serve similar target populations, which received funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 from other Federal agencies, including the U.S. Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, and Labor (limit 250 words).

Response:

CT Department of Social Services (DSS) and its local and interagency partners currently have relationship with local agencies that have the ability to serve households that are at-risk of homelessness or are homeless. Based upon DSS' initial review, we have identified approximately ten (10) funding streams associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The funding streams are as follows: (1) Weatherization; (2) Education for Homeless Children and Youth Programs; (3) Emergency Food & Shelter Program; (4) Neighborhood Stabilization Program; (5) Transitional Housing Assistance Grants; (6) Community Services Block Grant; (7) Workforce Investment Act Programs; (8) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Contingency Fund and (9) Senior Community Service Employment Program –Title V (10) SNAP. The above referenced sources of funding within various communities are delivered by a number of community-based, local and state entities within Connecticut.

DSS happens to be in the unique situation to have systems in place to leverage these funds for homeless households as well as households that are at-risk of homelessness and link to the appropriate community-based and state level

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resource. HPRP provides grantees the opportunity to test prevention and rapid re-housing models through its partnerships with community-based organizations, municipalities and interstate relationships. Moreover, through a competitive procurement process, DSS will request that potential subgrantees document how they will leverage and connect the target population with existing resources as well as those currently being funded through the ARRA Act of 2009.

2. Briefly describe how the grantee plans to collaborate with appropriate Continuum(s) of Care and mainstream resources regarding HPRP activities (limit 250 words).

Response:

Through its partnership with CCEH, DSS is providing information and resources to all 12 of CT's Continuum of Care and other stakeholder groups regarding the planning processes for HPRP funds and ongoing operation of the HPRP activities. CCEH has already begun a series of in-state teleconferences regarding HPRP and programmatic goals and objectives, has been soliciting feedback and has established a well-publicized information repository on its website, <http://www.cceh.org/esg.htm>, which links to CT's ARRA-HPRP information, technical tools, information on national HPRP technical assistance, regular updates on DSS' HPRP activities, and HPRP Steering Committee minutes. In addition, CCEH and DSS continue to work with our statewide HPRP Steering Committee, which includes representatives from mainstream services providers, government entities and Continuum of Care representatives. CCEH plans to conduct at least one more teleconference or statewide meeting regarding HPRP and has acted as an intermediary between statewide HPRP related efforts and CT's municipal grantees, Continuum of Care and Ten Year Plan communities. CCEH has been in communication with chairs of all of CT's Continua on behalf of DSS relating to HPRP efforts, and will continue to solicit input and disseminate information throughout the grant period.

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3. Briefly describe how HPRP grant funds for financial assistance and housing relocation/stabilization services will be used in a manner that is consistent with the grantee's Consolidated Plan (limit 250 words).

Response:

HPRP funds will be used in a manner that is consistent with the state's Consolidated Plan by addressing two objectives of "Goal 7. Homelessness" which are: Expand homeless prevention services, follow-up services and increase transitional services through out the system and Provide rent subsidies to increase housing affordability. DSS through partnerships with other state agencies and community-based non-profits, will carryout the following actions through the provision of financial assistance and housing relocation/stabilization services. DSS will close gaps in existing prevention programs, develop a uniform intake tool, and negotiate with 5 ESG municipalities, (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Britain, New Haven and Waterbury) on HPRP core data elements for HMIS reporting. Participation with statewide HPRP Steering Committee will ensure that DSS and ESG municipalities implement uniform processes wherever possible to streamline provision of services to the target population. DSS will issue regional contracts to providers that require collaboration and partnership with community providers to ensure the elimination of duplication of services, build upon existing resources to triage families and individuals, implement HMIS statewide documentation of outcomes, maximize and expand existing resources and use a results based approach to attacking homelessness.

DSS believes that a number of families and individuals end up in homeless shelters because a financial emergency or short term barrier was not addressed in time to maintain the household's current housing situation. CT shall document through HMIS instances of prevention efforts as well as how quickly homeless households are re-housed utilizing HPRP funds and based upon guidance issued by HUD.

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E. Estimated Budget Summary

HUD requires the grantee to complete the following table so that participants in the citizen participation process may see the grantee's preliminary estimated amounts for various HPRP activities. Enter the estimated budget amounts for each activity in the appropriate column and row. The grantee will be required to report actual amounts in subsequent reporting.

HPRP Estimated Budget Summary			
	Homelessness Prevention	Rapid Re-housing	Total Amount Budgeted
Financial Assistance ¹	\$2,425,200.00	\$3,973,200.00	\$6,398,400.00
Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services ²	\$1,933,915.00	\$1,404,163.00	\$3,338,078.00
Subtotal (add previous two rows)	\$4,359,115.00	\$5,377,363.00	\$9,736,478.00
Data Collection and Evaluation ³			\$ 540,916.00
Administration (up to 5% of allocation)			\$ 540,915.00
Total HPRP Amount Budgeted⁴			\$10,818,309.00

¹Financial assistance includes the following activities as detailed in the HPRP Notice: short-term rental assistance, medium-term rental assistance, security deposits, utility deposits, utility payments, moving cost assistance, and motel or hotel vouchers.

²Housing relocation and stabilization services include the following activities as detailed in the HPRP Notice: case management, outreach, housing search and placement, legal services, mediation, and credit repair.

³Data collection and evaluation includes costs associated with operating HUD-approved homeless management information systems for purposes of collecting unduplicated counts of homeless persons and analyzing patterns of use of HPRP funds.

⁴This amount must match the amount entered in the cell on the table in Section A titled "Amount Grantee is Requesting."

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F. Authorized Signature

By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Title

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Appendix A: Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
IS SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
AS THEY APPLY TO THE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2008 ACTION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UNDER TITLE XII OF
THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)**

Public hearings on housing and community development needs in Connecticut's communities will be held to solicit input in response to funding opportunities contained in Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) as they apply to the federal programs included in the state's 2005-09 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan) and a revision to the state's Citizen Participation Plan pursuant to 24 CFR Part 91 Sec. 91.115. Comments received will be used in the development of the state's draft Substantial Amendment(s) to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development. The hearings will be held at the following times and locations:

Rocky Hill
2:00 p.m.
April 16, 2009
CERC
Meeting Room
805 Brook Street, Bldg. 4
Rocky Hill, Connecticut

Hamden
2:00 p.m.
April 17, 2009
Hamden Gov. Center
Town Attorney Conference Room
2750 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, Connecticut

All state residents are urged to attend the public hearings and provide oral or written comments. A copy of the ARRA can be found at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/>. Copies of the 2008 Action Plan and the state's 5 year Consolidated Plan are available at the Department of Economic & Community Development's web site, www.decd.org and also at the State Library.

Written comments may be sent to W. Michael Regan, Community Development Assistant Administrator, Office of Strategy and Policy, Department of Economic & Community Development, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106-7106 or email to ARRA.comments@ct.gov. All comments received will be addressed in the Citizen Participation and Public Commentary Section of the Substantial Amendment(s) to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development.

Department of Economic & Community Development programs are administered in a nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with equal employment opportunities, affirmative action, and fair housing requirements. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for information in alternative formats must be directed to the ADA (504) Coordinator at 860-566-1755. Locations for the public hearings are accessible to people with disabilities.

Distribution Date: April 2, 2009

AVISO DE COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS

EL DEPARTAMENTO ECONÓMICO Y DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO DEL ESTADO DE CONNECTICUT ESTÁ SOLICITANDO COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS SOBRE LAS NECESIDADES DE VIVIENDA Y DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO, QUE SON PARTE DE LAS SUSTANCIALES ENMIENDAS AL PLAN CONSOLIDADO DE ACCIÓN 2008 PARA VIVIENDAS Y DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO, BAJO EL TÍTULO XII DEL ACTA DEL 2009 SOBRE LA RECUPERACIÓN Y REINVERSIÓN NORTEAMERICANA (ARRA).

Se celebrarán audiencias públicas acerca de las necesidades de vivienda y desarrollo comunitario en comunidades de Connecticut. Las mismas tienen como propósito solicitar aportes en datos, en respuesta a oportunidades de financiamiento tal como contenidas en el Título XII del Acta del 2009 sobre la Recuperación y Reinversión Norteamericana (ARRA), en la medida en que se aplican a los programas federales incluidos en el Plan consolidado estatal (ConPlan) 2005-09. Igualmente una revisión al Plan de participación ciudadana según lo acordado en el 24 CFR, Parte 91, Sección 91.115. Los comentarios recibidos serán utilizados para elaborar el borrador estatal de Enmiendas sustanciales al Plan consolidado de acción 2008 para viviendas y desarrollo comunitario. Las audiencias tendrán lugar en las fechas y lugares siguientes:

Rocky Hill	Hamden
2:00 pm	2:00 pm
16 de abril, 2009	17 de abril, 2009
CERC	Hamden Gov. Center
Meeting Room	Town Attorney Conference Room
805 Brook St., Edificio 4	2750 Dixwell Avenue
Rocky Hill, Connecticut	Hamden, Connecticut

Se invita a todos los residentes del Estado a estas audiencias públicas y de presentar comentarios escritos u orales. Se puede obtener una copia del ARRA en <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/>. Copias del Plan de Acción 2008 y del Plan consolidado están disponibles en el sitio de Internet del Departamento Económico y Desarrollo Comunitario, www.decd.org y también en la biblioteca estatal.

Los comentarios escritos pueden ser enviados a W. Michael Regan, Administrador asistente de Desarrollo comunitario, Oficina de Estrategia y Política, Departamento Económico y de Desarrollo Comunitario, 555 Hudson St., Hartford, CT 06106-7106 o por e-mail a ARRA.comments@ct.gov. Todos los comentarios recibidos serán respondidos en la sección de Participación ciudadana y comentarios públicos de las Enmiendas sustanciales del Plan consolidado de Acción 2008 para Viviendas y desarrollo comunitario.

Los programas del Departamento Económico y de Desarrollo Comunitario son administrados de manera no discriminadora, consistente con los principios de oportunidades iguales para el empleo, acción afirmativa y exigencias apropiadas para la vivienda. Preguntas, preocupaciones, quejas o solicitudes de información en formatos alternativos deben ser hechas al Coordinador de ADA (504), teléfono 860-566-1755. Los locales donde tendrán lugar las audiencias son accesibles a personas con discapacidades.

Fecha de distribución: 2 de abril, 2009

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
IS SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE STATE'S DRAFT
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2008 ACTION PLAN FOR THE
HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP)

The public comment period will begin April 23, 2009 and end May 8, 2009 at the close of business. Public Hearings on the state's draft Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) will be held in locations and times as listed below. The state's draft HPRP Substantial Amendment is for the utilization of approximately \$10,818,309 of funding under Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). A copy of ARRA can be found at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/>. The purpose of the HPRP funding is to provide financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The state's HPRP funds will be administered by the Department of Social Services.

Rocky Hill

2:00 p.m.
May 6, 2009
CERC
Meeting Room
805 Brook Street, Bldg. 4
Rocky Hill, Connecticut

Hamden

10:00 a.m.
May 7, 2009
Hamden Gov. Center
3rd Floor Conference Room
2750 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, Connecticut

Coventry

10:00 a.m.
May 8, 2009
Coventry Town Annex
1712 Main Street (Route 31)
Coventry, Connecticut

All interested parties are encouraged to participate by reviewing and providing oral or written comment on the state's draft HPRP Substantial Amendment. A copy of the state's draft HPRP Substantial Amendment as well as the state's five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the annual Action Plans are available at the Department of Economic and Community Development's website, www.DECD.org. The Department of Economic and Community Development acts as the lead for the state's Consolidated Plan and annual Action Plans.

Written comments may be sent to W. Michael Regan, Community Development Assistant Administrator, Office of Strategy and Policy, Department of Economic & Community Development, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106-7106 or emailed to ARRA.comments@ct.gov. All comments received will be addressed in the Citizen Participation and Public Comment Section of the HPRP Substantial Amendment.

Departments of Social Services and Economic & Community Development programs are administered in a nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with equal employment opportunities, affirmative action, and fair housing requirements. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for information in alternative formats must be directed to the ADA (504) Coordinator at 860-566-1755. Locations for Public Hearings are accessible to people with disabilities.

Publication Date: April 22, 2009

Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Appendix B: Public Comment

A written transcript of public hearings held on April 16 and April 17, 2009 are included in Appendix B.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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IN RE: APRIL 16, 2009

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS 2:05 P.M.

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BEFORE: DEBRA LANDRY, CHAIRPERSON

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 . . . Verbatim proceedings of a hearing
2 before the Department of Economic and Community
3 Development in the matter of Housing & Community
4 Development Needs, held on April 16, 2009 at 2:05 p.m. at
5 805 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, Connecticut, at which time
6 the parties were represented as hereinbefore set forth. .
7 . . .

8

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11 CHAIRPERSON DEBRA LANDRY: Today is April
12 16, 2009, and it's 2:00 p.m., 2:05 p.m., and I am Debra
13 Landry from the Department of Economic and Community
14 Development.

15 I'm here to receive public comment and
16 response to funding opportunities contained in Title XII
17 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009,
18 also known as ARRA, as they apply to the Federal programs
19 included in the State's 2005/2009 Consolidated Plan and a
20 revision to the State's Citizen Participation Plan,
21 pursuant to 24 CFR Part 91 Section 91.115.

22 Please be advised that, as contained in
23 the legal notice, all comments received at this public
24 hearing will be addressed in the citizen participation

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 and public commentary section of the Substantial
2 Amendments to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for
3 Housing and Community Development.

4 Just to be a little bit more specific, the
5 programs included are Emergency Shelter Grant Program,
6 the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program,
7 the Home Investment Partnership Program and the Community
8 Development Block Grant for Small Cities Program.

9 To date, approximately 10,018,309 has been
10 identified to be available under the ESG grant, also
11 known as the Housing Prevention and Rapid Re-housing
12 Program.

13 My role here today is to make sure that
14 your comments become part of the public record and that
15 they are addressed in the Substantial Amendments that
16 will be submitted to HUD.

17 I would ask that you start by identifying
18 yourself and who you represent before presenting your
19 comments. There are some people here to provide public
20 comment, so we will start.

21 If you would like to introduce yourself,
22 and who you represent, and provide any comment. I just
23 want you to know I'm not here necessarily to answer
24 questions on the public record, but the comments will go

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 into record and will be responded to in the Substantial
2 Amendments.

3 MS. DAWN PARKER: Great. Okay, thanks.

4 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: Yup.

5 MS. PARKER: I'm Dawn Parker, and I'm here
6 on my own, but I work for a non-profit, so I'm taking my
7 opinions from what I see in my non-profit world in
8 Connecticut, and, in particular, this is about the
9 Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing part of the
10 money.

11 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: Um-hum.

12 MS. PARKER: And I would like to see that
13 there's a more central location for information. There's
14 a lot of -- I know this is for the State, balance of the
15 State money, but there's also RFPs in the different
16 cities, and we're a statewide organization, and we're
17 having a difficult time keeping track of information,
18 deadlines, hearings, discussions, things like that, and
19 we have statewide organizations that might serve as the
20 vehicle for information.

21 They've served a vehicle of information
22 and knowledge and, you know, HUD's interpretation and
23 guidelines and sort of summaries and ideas, but dates are
24 not like being conveyed in one central location, which is

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 making it difficult for us.

2 And then the other thing I would like to
3 try to make sure is that everybody is able to
4 participate, and that the guidelines put down from HUD I
5 look at them as pretty simplified, and I hope that they
6 stay simplified in order to have as many people be able
7 to access the funds for their organizations and to help
8 out different people across the state.

9 Those are my comments. Keep it simple,
10 and try to let the dates be known for people, so that
11 they don't miss opportunities.

12 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: All set?

13 MS. PARKER: Yes.

14 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: Thank you very much
15 for providing public comment. Is there anyone else here
16 that would like to provide public comment at this time?

17 MS. DIANE RANDALL: Do you want me to go
18 ahead?

19 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: Sure.

20 MS. RANDALL: I'm Diane Randall. I'm the
21 Director of the Partnership for Strong Communities, and I
22 want to thank you for having public comment on the ARRA
23 money and how it will impact the Consolidated Plan.

24 I would say a couple of things. One is

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 that I think, in particular, with the money, the
2 emergency shelter grant money that's going to be used for
3 Rapid Re-housing and Homelessness Prevention it's a
4 wonderful opportunity for us to I think make some very
5 positive inroads in addressing homelessness and helping,
6 assisting families and individuals get out of shelters.

7 I would very strongly recommend that the
8 Department and that the State use 100 percent of the new
9 Federal stimulus money for that purpose and not supplant.

10 I know that early on there was some
11 conversation, because this money wasn't required to not
12 do that, that there was some question about whether it
13 would supplant some of the existing uses already. While
14 I think given the potential growth in the numbers of
15 families in need and facing homelessness, that it's
16 really critical that we use 100 percent of the new money
17 for that purpose.

18 I think the other, the specific pot I want
19 to address is the weatherization money and the obvious
20 opportunities that are created with the significant
21 increase in new funding for weatherization.

22 That money has been used in a very small
23 way for a very important purpose, which is to help, I
24 think primarily help households, who own their homes, who

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1 are at a certain income level be able to maintain those
2 homes and provide the necessarily repairs that provide
3 better energy efficiency, which I think is absolutely
4 part of what needs to be done, particularly within our
5 center cities, where we have a lower-income population,
6 who may own their homes and may not be able to maintain
7 them. I think it's very critical that at least a portion
8 of the money be used for that.

9 I would like to also encourage the State,
10 though, to consider whether some of this money can be
11 used, and I don't know all the guidelines, but can be
12 used to address the preservation needs of other forms of
13 housing, in addition to single-family homeownership.

14 Significantly, we have a number of
15 affordable housing developments that are serving a lower-
16 income population that need modifications that will help
17 make those developments much more energy efficient, much
18 more safe for the residents who live there, and whether
19 this money might be able to be invested in some of those
20 properties in a way that sustains the properties,
21 themselves, provides better quality of life for the
22 tenants and, in fact, does it in a green way that is I
23 think serving the broader purposes of the ARRA
24 legislation to basically create more sustainable

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1 communities, as well, so I think it's very important that
2 that use of the weatherization money be weighed carefully
3 to serve both homeowners and renters.

4 In regard to how this impacts the
5 Consolidated Plan, I think that one of the critical needs
6 that we hear as an advocacy and policy organization is
7 what was reflected in the earlier comment, which is a
8 need for clarity, what I would call broadly clarity and
9 transparency.

10 We've been participating in forums
11 throughout the State this week that the community
12 foundations have done, and the non-profit organizations
13 that are delivering services on behalf of the State, in
14 particular addressing homelessness and housing, are just
15 looking for information at the very basic and need
16 clarity about what is happening, what the time frames
17 are, what the opportunities are.

18 And I think the other part of it is to
19 understand how this new money will mesh with existing
20 resources that are currently available. For example, the
21 new Neighborhood Stabilization Program. How does this
22 money mesh with that? But, also, longstanding programs
23 that DECD or DSS or others operate to understand how
24 these programs can fit and what the possibilities are I

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APRIL 16, 2009

1 think are really important.

2 I think the other element that is striking
3 about this new resource and how it fits with the
4 Consolidated Plan is that I think it will require, as to
5 really rethink the planning for how we're going to
6 address the issues of housing and homelessness in our
7 state.

8 Clearly, I think both the non-profit
9 community that are delivering these services and the
10 State will increasingly be looking to how the Federal
11 response can assist us, and, so, I think, and I
12 understand that the amendments to this plan are probably
13 very specific to this set of money, but as we look
14 forward to the next phase of planning, I think it's going
15 to be really critical to reassess and perhaps tighten up
16 how we prioritize, what gets done in the State, what can
17 be done, and to be honest and clear about what can't be
18 done.

19 You know, there's a lot of ingenuity in
20 our State and a lot of opportunity, and, so, I think the
21 Department's ability to pull that together and to frame
22 it in a way that gives those organizations, whether
23 municipalities, or housing authorities, or anyone else
24 who wanted to address housing needs for people who are

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1 very low income, as well as in some cases service needs,
2 and they want to do it from both the perspective that
3 addresses tenants, as well as neighborhoods, that they
4 have a clear understanding of what the State's priorities
5 are and, also, how the DECD is working in conjunction
6 with other State agencies and with HUD on these
7 priorities.

8 I think, again, just the greatest amount
9 of clarity and transparency will serve our entire State
10 the best. That's my comment.

11 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: All set? Okay. As
12 there are no other members of the public currently
13 present, we would like to recess until such time as
14 additional persons may appear. Thank you.

15 (Off the record)

16 CHAIRPERSON LANDRY: Since no other member
17 of the public has appeared to provide comment, we will
18 close this hearing at 3:05 p.m.

19 (Whereupon, the hearing adjourned at 3:05
20 p.m.)

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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IN RE: APRIL 17, 2009

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS 2:00 P.M.

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BEFORE: RICK ROBBINS, CHAIRPERSON

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 . . .Verbatim proceedings of a hearing
2 before the Department of Economic and Community
3 Development in the matter of Housing & Community
4 Development Needs, held on April 17, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at
5 2750 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut, at which time
6 the parties were represented as hereinbefore set forth. .
7 . . .

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11 CHAIRPERSON RICK ROBBINS: Today is April
12 17, 2009, and it's 2:00. I'm Rick Robbins of the
13 Connecticut Department of Economic and Community
14 Development, and I'm here to receive public comment and
15 response to funding opportunities contained in Title XII
16 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 as
17 they apply to the Federal programs included in the
18 State's 2005 to 2009 Consolidated Plan and a revision to
19 the State's Citizen Participation Plan, pursuant to 24
20 CFR Part 91 Section 91.115.

21 Please be advised, as contained in the
22 legal notice, all comments received at this public
23 hearing will be addressed in the citizen participation
24 and public commentary section of the Substantial

HEARING RE: HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
APRIL 16, 2009

1 Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for
2 Housing and Community Development.

3 My role here today is to make sure that
4 your comments become part of the public record and that
5 they are addressed in the Substantial Amendment.

6 I would ask that you start by identifying
7 yourself and who you represent before presenting your
8 comments. As no member of the public is currently
9 present to provide comment, we will recess until such
10 time as someone appears to do so.

11 (Off the record)

12 CHAIRPERSON ROBBINS: Okay. Since no
13 member of the public has appeared to provide comment, we
14 will close this hearing at 3:25 on the 17th of April.
15 Thank you.

16 (Whereupon, the hearing adjourned at 3:25
17 p.m.)