



VIOLENCE FREE MINNESOTA



Overview
Rapid Rehousing
&
ESG-CV Funding



Rapid Rehousing Overview

What is Rapid Rehousing (RRH)

- RRH is an assistance model that works to move people rapidly out of homelessness and into permanent housing.
- Housing First: pre-conditions to accessing housing services (i.e. employment, sobriety, required programming, etc.).
- Generally focus on providing assistance and services that are flexible and tailored to the needs of each specific household, and have the core components listed below.

Core Components of RRH

- Housing Identification: Ex. Landlord recruitment, and assisting to identify and secure rental.
- Rental Assistance and Financial Assistance with Housing/Relocation Costs: Ex. Moving costs, security deposit, utilities, and full or partial rental assistance.
- Case Management and Services: Ex. Creating survivor-centered housing plan; helping to address barriers to housing such as issues credit/legal issues; help navigating rental market and leases; providing ongoing services such as check-ins, and linking survivor with resources such as benefits, employment services, financial empowerment training, etc.

Funding for RRH:

- RRH-type models can be funded through any type of funding source. For federal, most common is HUD funding through COC, COC/DV Bonus, ESG, and ESG-CV.



ESG vs. ESG-CV

What is ESG?

- Emergency Solutions Grant; a federal grant program that funds homelessness outreach, shelter, homelessness prevention, and RRH.
- Allotted annually by formula. Distributed to “recipients.” (states, territories, counties, and cities) who can then sub-grant to non-profits.
- In Minnesota ESG funds are distributed to six “entitlement jurisdictions” directly (MPLS, Hennepin, St. Paul, Dakota, Duluth, St. Louis). All other ESG funding goes to DHS/OEO to administer to remaining areas in the state, which are referred to as “non-entitlement” jurisdictions.

What is ESG-CV?

- CARES Act allocated an additional 4 Billion dollars to the ESG program to provide funding for homeless/housing needs related to COVID. This ESG-CV funding was released in two rounds to recipients. It must be expended by September 30, 2022.
- For ESG-CV funding Congress waived many of the restrictions that apply to ESG funding.

Hurdles to ESG/ESG-CV Funding:

- Transparency, Administrative Burdens, Reporting, Comparable database.

Minnesota ESG-CV Update

Hennepin/MPLS: Round ESG-CV Round 1 completed, Round 2 for approximately 2M likely with possible focus/inclusion of RRH funding.

St. Paul: Expected to release LOI hopefully this fall/winter for ESG-CV.

Duluth: ESG-CV Round 1 Completed.

St. Louis County: Round 1 Completed.

Dakota: Expected to release RFP in 2021.

Non-Entitlement: Round 1 Complete, Round 2 RFP posted and Due November 5th at 4:00 PM.

- RFP and Guidance available at <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/grants-rfps/>.
- Eligible Activities: Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention, Rapid Rehousing
- FAQs: VFMN submitted questions for 1st round of FAQ to be posted this week. There are two other rounds of FAQs that will be posted. Contact Katelyn Warburton with questions.

Example 1: Kansas ESG-CV RRH Project

Grant Type: ESG-CV covering most of the state; run through the coalition. 1 Year.

Anticipated Households to be Served: Approximately 30

Program Model:

- Supportive services for rental process and ongoing case support**
- Average 3 months rent arrears per household.
- Average 3-6 months rent and utility per household.
- Moving Costs, Security Deposit, fees, etc. per household.
- Some landlord and volunteer incentives added in.

Staffing: 1 FTE for program development, oversight, and general housing relationship building. Some of the administrative funding covers portions of time for other staff who are working on related accounting, etc.

Hurdles:

- Comparable Database (Cost and Onboarding)
- Significant Reporting Requirements (HUD and State Funder)
- Policies & Procedures, forms and paperwork



Example 2: Tubman DV Bonus RRH Project

Grant Type/Term: HUD DV Bonus through Hennepin COC. 1 Year

Funding: \$249, 715 plus requirement of 25% cash or in-kind match

Anticipated Households to be Served: 14 Households

Program Model:

- Supportive services for rental process and ongoing case support.
- 12 Months rental assistance available; possibly other assistance.
- How rental assistance amounts and survivor contribution are set depend on each case and ability to pay.

Hurdles:

- Administrative work often more in-depth than allocated under funding (up to 10% of funding can be allocated to administrative costs. For example: comparable database, compliance with fed regs, habitability checks, COC meeting requirements.



Example 3: Cornerstone DV Bonus RRH Project

Grant Type/Term: HUD DV Bonus through Hennepin COC.

Funding: \$500,000, supplemented with additional funds from foundation sources.

Anticipated Households to be Served: 18-20 Households

Program Model:

- Supportive services for rental process and ongoing case support.
- General financial assistance available such as rent/utility deposits, moving costs, bus cards, application fees, move-in costs, etc.
- Rental assistance, average of 6 months under HUD grant, but can be extended through supplemental private funding. How rental assistance amounts and survivor contribution are set depend on each case and ability to pay.

Staffing:

- 3.5 FTEs

Hurdles:

- Acquiring Comparable Database significant expense.
- Sorting through and complying with reporting requirements; setting up internal procedures for tracking.



Example 4: Women's Advocates Aftercare Program

Grant Type: Currently Private Foundation Funded (Not HUD)

Funding: \$350,000; Approximately \$175,000 towards direct participant assistance and remainder to support staffing and admin.

Program Model:

- Works with survivors exiting WA shelter
- Supportive Services including help finding unit, safety planning, ongoing check-ins to link to services, and purple purse curriculum.
- Two Program Tracks:
 - Six Month: No rental payments, but financial assistance with things such as fees, security deposit, utilities, grocery/gas cards, as well as supportive advocacy services.
 - Twelve Month: Rental assistance; on average \$500 for 3 Months, \$400 for 3 Months, \$300 for 3 Months, and \$200 for 3 Months. Also, emergency assistance (i.e. food cards, gas cards, small bills).

Hurdles:

- Individual client barriers really vary and can be very challenging; to work through those barriers program team has weekly meetings to discuss the work generally, brainstorm, and support each other around challenges.



Example 5: Guided Mentor Program

Grant Type: Individual Donors and In-Kind Volunteering

Funding: \$8,000 per household served.

Program Model: A group of community members, such as a church group, donates a money to support one or more households with permanent housing needs. In addition to the monetary donation, the group forms a committee that works with program staff to assist the family. Committees meet monthly to check-in and help address needs that arise for the family. Also, some members of the group may also be volunteer mentors.

- Approximately 50% of the \$8,000.00 supports volunteer training and case management, and approximately 50% supports emergency funds and rent assistance for the survivor's household. Rental assistance is provided monthly, starting at \$500.00 each month and declining throughout a one year period.
- A case manager from the non-profit provides volunteer training/support, organization of monthly committee meetings, assisting family to find private market rental, case management wrap around services, landlord advocacy, and distribution of rental assistance.



Example 6: Housing Support & Housing Stabilization Services

Housing Support: State Program, formerly GRH. Not a traditional rental assistance program; more like a room and board program. Designed for 65+ or individuals with a disability or disabling condition that affects housing (mental health, alcohol or drug addition, etc.). Program assesses an individual's overall income (work/benefits), determines an amount of money the participant needs to provide to the program, then pays a set amount to cover rent and other household-related needs if \$\$ is leftover after rental payment.

Housing Stabilization: New federal Medicaid program, administered through the state of Minnesota (MA). Provides “consultation” services as well as “transition and sustaining” services.

Potential Models:

- VSP as HS and HSS provider;
- VSP as HSS provider partnered w/a HS provider;
- VSP as HSS provider with no HS provider partnerships;
- VSP coordinating with HS and HSS providers for survivor-specific needs and streamlined program navigation.



Resources

HUD Fair Market Rent Tool: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr.html>.

Tracker Utility Costs By State: <https://www.move.org/utility-bills-101/>

Heading Home Alliance: <https://headinghomealliance.com/covid-19-response/>

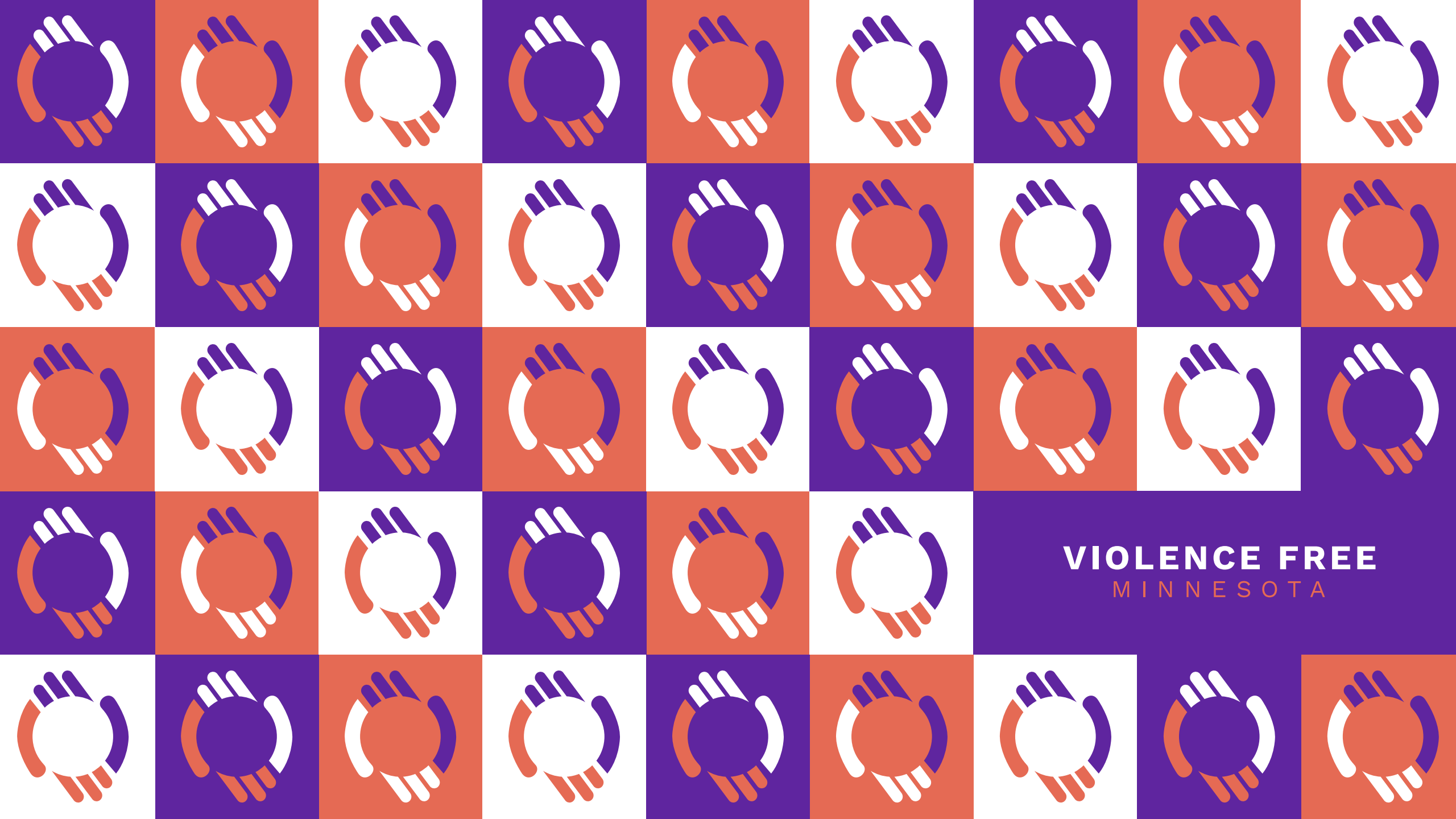
ESG-CV Contact List: VFMN Website Members Only Page

Housing Stabilization Services VSP Summary: VFMN Website Members Only Page

Rapid Rehousing Informational Resources:

- [HUD Exchange Overview](#)
- [National Alliance to End Homelessness RRH Toolkit](#)
- [Safe housing Partnership: RRH and Survivors Report](#)





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