



HPRP

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing



Background

What is HPRP?



**Part of the American Recovery and
Reinvestment Act (ARRA)**

**Signed by President Obama
February 17, 2009**

HPRP is administered by HUD



HPRP PURPOSE

To prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless, and

To help those experiencing homelessness to become rapidly re-housed.

Four eligible uses:

- Financial assistance
- Housing relocation and stabilization
- Data collection and evaluation
- Administration (5%)



HUD used an existing formula grant system (ESG) to distribute funds to states and local governments.

Tucson and Pima County will receive combined funds totaling \$3,597,770 for a 3-year period.

60% of the funds must be spent in the first 2 years.



HUD's Intent for HPRP

- HOMELESSNESS – there are a lot of people with varying needs. HPRP is about homelessness.
- TARGET POPULATION
 - a) Those who are about to become homeless;
 - b) Those who are already homeless, and who could remain housed on their own with assistance.
- EXISTING SERVICES – Ensure referral to and use of existing services.



HPRP Eligibility

HUD Minimum Requirements

Clients need to meet all of these criteria:

- At or below 50% AMI.
- Must be homeless or at-risk of homelessness and:
 - Have no appropriate housing options; and
 - Lack the financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in existing housing



HPRP Eligibility

HUD Guidance - "But For..."

- "There are many people who are housed and have great need but would not become homeless if they did not receive assistance. HUD strongly encourages grantees and subgrantees to target prevention assistance to those individuals and families at the greatest risk of becoming homeless."
- The defining question to ask is: "**Would this individual or family be homeless *but for* this assistance?**"



Eligible Activities

- Rental assistance
- Security/utility deposits, utility payments
- Moving costs, hotel/motel vouchers
- Housing relocation and stabilization services:
 - Case management
 - Housing search and placement
 - Legal services
 - Credit repair
- Case management is required
- Cases must be reviewed at least every 3 months
- HUD requires HMIS data – clients and services



HPRP is not:

- A new agency or permanent program.
- Not to be used for:
 - Child care
 - Employment/Training
 - Mortgage assistance/Mortgage payments
 - Housing construction or rehabilitation
 - Home furnishings
 - Paying credit card bills or other consumer debt
 - Car repair or other transportation costs
 - Food
 - Medical/dental care, medicines

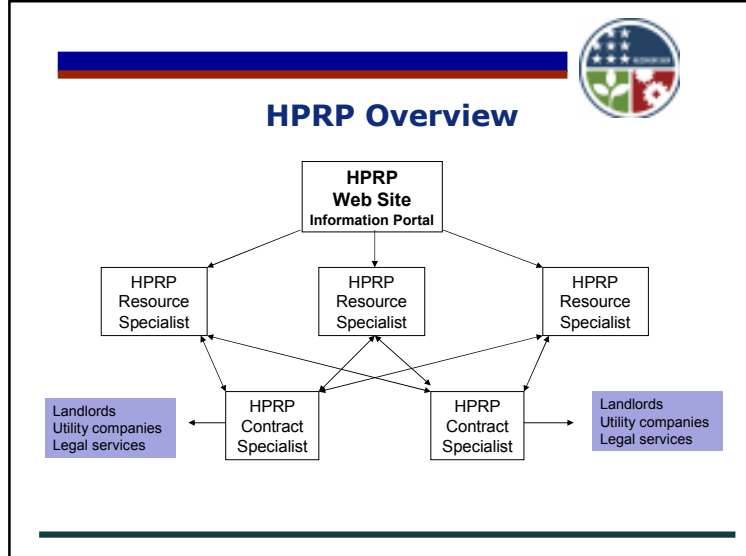



Tucson and Pima County


- The City of Tucson and Pima County are collaborating to offer one HPRP program for the whole community.
- A planning group made up of community experts developed recommendations for program design.
- The City and County will contract with experienced service providers to provide HPRP services.




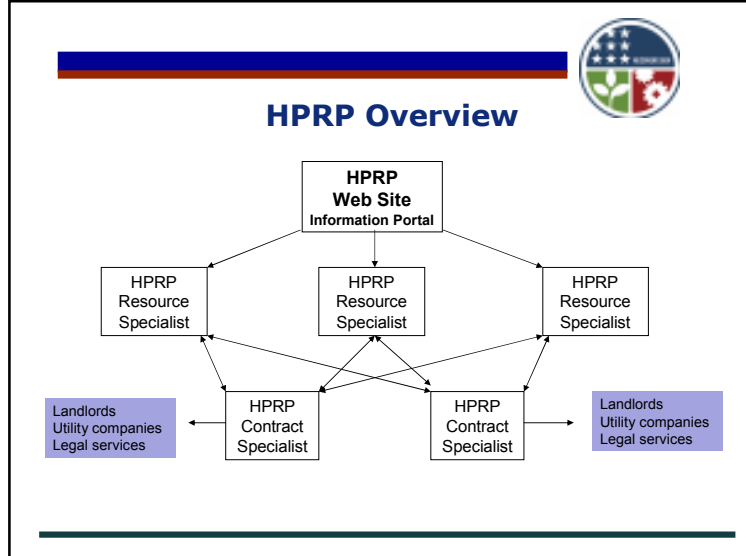

HPRP Program Design for Tucson and Pima County



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- Budget**
- Contractual positions -- \$1,120,417
3 Resource Specialists
2 Contract Specialists
 - Financial assistance - \$2,080,739
 - Web site, HMIS, Evaluation – \$216,717
 - Administrative costs -- \$179,889

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- HPRP Web Site**
- Main information portal for HPRP in Tucson/Pima County**
1. Where to get help – homeless or near-homeless
For example:
 - ESN assistance
 - Homeless shelters
 - Food, clothing
 - DES benefits; AHCCCS
 - Health care for low-income & uninsured
 - Services available at local schools
 - Services available at faith communities

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- HPRP Web Site**
2. Provides information about HPRP
 3. Provides self-guided question/answer process to determine possible eligibility for HPRP
 4. If individual appears to not be eligible – web site gives more information and referral assistance.
 5. If individual may be eligible, directed to contact an HPRP Resource Specialist.

HPRP Resource Specialist

Three Resource Specialists located at different sites. One will travel to rural areas (circuit rider).

Must be experienced with housing case management with very low-income and homeless populations.

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- HPRP Resource Specialist**
Case Management – Initial meeting
- In-person meeting with client
 - Determines eligibility: need, likelihood of success
 - Completes portions of Self Sufficiency Matrix
 - Assists client to access other resources
 - If client appears to be eligible:
 - Makes sure client will participate in case plan
 - Develops a case plan together with client
 - Recommends appropriate HPRP assistance to Contract Specialist in writing.
 - Consults with Contract Specialist about recommendations and criteria for re-authorization.
 - Conducts HMIS data entry.

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- HPRP Resource Specialist**
Case Management - Follow-up
- Regular contact with client
 - At 3-month intervals:
 - Formal assessment for re-authorization
 - Updates case plan
 - Checks referrals, coordinates with any other case manager(s)
 - Completes portions of Self Sufficiency Matrix
 - Conducts HMIS data entry
 - Recommend (in writing) continuation or denial of HPRP assistance.
 - Follows process for client exit.



HPRP Eligibility – Tucson/Pima County

- Current Income: 50% of AMI or less
 - Must be a resident of Pima County for past 3 months.
 - Must provide documents to verify income, Pima County residency, eviction or turn-off notice.
 - May have some assets, e.g., car, retirement plan, with maximum of \$3,000 in liquid assets.
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Other HPRP Guidelines Tucson/Pima County

- Maximum payment for back rent: 2 months. If there is more than that, client has usually already been evicted.
 - Maximum time to receive HPRP services: 12 months. Clients may receive services, exit, then re-enter program. Maximum total time = 12 months.
 - Maximum financial assistance for any one client: \$8,000. This might slide by family size.
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Other HPRP Guidelines Tucson/Pima County

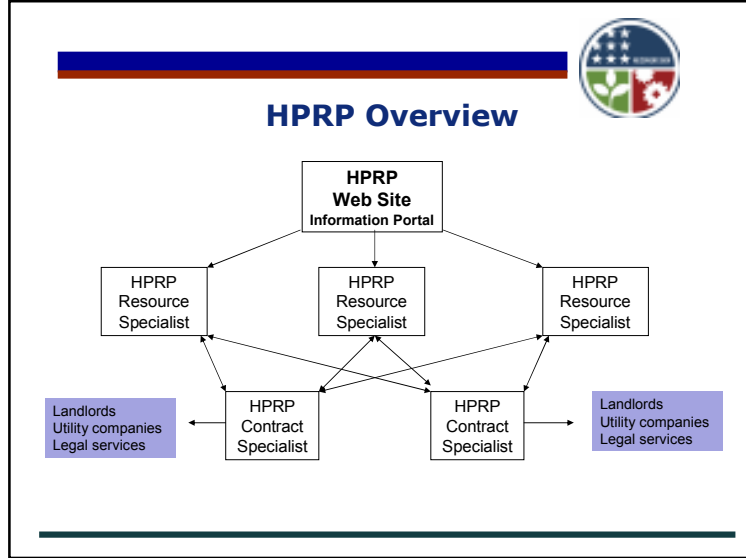
- One rent subsidy per household.
 - After the first three months the client should contribute an increasing portion of the rent, based on a sliding scale.
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Other HPRP Guidelines

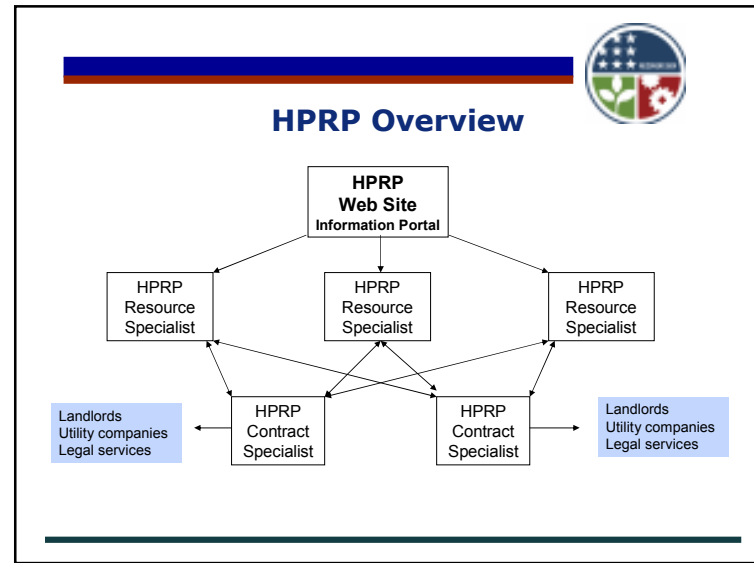
Examples of reasons for denial of new or continuing services:

- Client does not meet eligibility requirements, including “but-for” criteria or likelihood of success.
 - Client does not have required verification documents.
 - Client did not follow steps in case plan.
 - Client used maximum time or dollar resources.
 - Landlord complaints.
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- HPRP Contract Specialist**
Initial authorization of services
- Provides “checks and balances” review of recommendations for eligibility and services.
 - Works with other HPRP contractors as a team.
 - Consults with Resource Specialists about recommendations, and what criteria for re-authorizing HPRP assistance at 3 months.
 - Communicates authorizations or denials in writing.
 - There will be an appeals process for clients.

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- HPRP Contract Specialist**
Disbursements and Financial Management
- Prepares check requests for payments within 2 working days of recommendation from RS.
 - Tracks disbursements; tracks authorizations that will encumber funds.
 - Provides financial reports for City and County to track funds.
 - Keeps financial records as required by HUD; participates in site visits, and audits.





HPRP Resource Specialist

Rural Areas

- Rural RS must be familiar with rural areas and how homelessness manifests in rural areas.
 - Provides the same HPRP case management services to those in rural areas.
 - Travels to participating rural service sites on a regular schedule.
 - Uses a laptop with Internet Access, and portable printer.
 - Uses paper forms if necessary, then transfers to computer later.
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All HPRP Positions

- Participate in HPRP and HMIS trainings required for their positions.
 - Must participate in HPRP Advisory Group that will evaluate services and make improvements.
 - Complete regular administrative reports as required by the City and County
 - Contribute to Quarterly and Annual Performance Reports required by HUD.
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Additional functions:

Housing Quality Standards

- Rent reasonableness
 - Inspections for lead based paint and other housing quality standards
 - Relationships with landlords
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