

Rating Factor 4: Leveraging Resources (10 Points)

(Exhibit 4B Non-Housing Program Resources Must Be Complete and You Must Provide Letters of Firm Commitment From the Donor With the Amount of Cash or In-Kind Contribution) This factor addresses the ability of the applicant to secure non-HUD resources. This factor measures the extent to which you have established partnerships with other entities to secure resources for your proposed program. Each commitment described in the narrative for this Factor must have a firm commitment letter. Grantees who leverage significant resources will receive a greater number of points.

HUD will evaluate the extent to which firm commitments of resources are obtained from Federal, State, local, and private and nonprofit sources. HUD will award a greater number of points based upon a comparison of the extent of leveraged funds and the requested Youthbuild grant. The greater the amount of resources leveraged, the higher the points that will be awarded. In assigning points for this criterion, HUD will consider the level of non-applicant resources obtained for cash or in-kind contributions to cover the following kinds of areas:

- (1) Social services (*i.e.*, counseling and training);
- (2) Use of existing vocational, adult, and bilingual educational courses;
- (3) Donation of labor, resource personnel, supplies, teaching materials, classroom, and/or meeting space; and
- (4) Other commitments. In rating this element, HUD will consider only those contributions for which current firm commitments have been provided. HUD will evaluate the level of resources from other organizations and agencies proposed based on their importance to the total program. Leveraging will only be counted if you have secured a firm financial commitment. A firm commitment letter means an agreement by which an applicant's partner or contributing entity agrees to perform an activity specified in the application and demonstrates the financial capacity to deliver the resources necessary to carry out the activity, and commits the resources to the activity either in cash, through in-kind services or contributions and is irrevocable, subject only to approval and receipt of a FY 2003 Youthbuild grant.

For all applicants, each letter of commitment must include the organization's name, the applicant's name, the proposed program, the proposed total level of commitment and responsibilities as they relate to the

proposed program. The commitment letter must also be signed by an official of the organization legally able to make commitments on behalf of the organization and not earlier than the date that this NOFA is published. In documenting a firm commitment, the applicant's partner or contributing entity must:

- (i) Specify the authority by which the commitment is made, the amount of the commitment and the use of funds. If the committed activity is to be self-financed, the applicant's partner or contributing entity must evidence its financial capability through a corporate or personal financial statement or other appropriate means. If any portion of it is to be financed through a lending institution, the participant must evidence the institution's commitment to fund the commitment.
- (ii) State the amount and use of the commitment, and the relationship of the commitment to the proposed investment; and
- (iii) Affirm that its investment is contingent only upon receipt of FY 2003 Youthbuild funds and state a willingness on the part of the signatory to sign a legally binding commitment (conditioned on HUD environmental review and approval of a property, where applicable) upon award of the grant.

Resources from other Federal, State, Local governments or Private Entities. HUD encourages use of existing housing and homeless assistance programs administered by HUD or other Federal, State, local governments, or private and nonprofit housing programs as part of your Youthbuild program. In addition, HUD encourages use of other non-Youthbuild funds available for vocational, adult, and bilingual education programs or for job training under the Workforce Investment Act and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

Grantees who leverage significant resources will receive more points.

- (1) Public sector sources—Federal, State, or local government sources to provide resources to carry out Youthbuild activities. (5 points)
- (2) Private or nonprofit sector sources to provide resources to carry out Youthbuild activities. (5 points)

Rating Factor 5: Achieving Results and Program Evaluation (10 Points)

This factor emphasizes HUD's commitment to ensuring that applicants keep promises made in their application and assesses their performance to ensure performance goals are met. Achieving results means you, the

applicant, have clearly identified the benefits, or outcomes of your program. Outcomes are ultimate goals.

Benchmarks or outputs are interim activities or products that lead to the ultimate achievement of your goals. Program evaluation requires that you, the applicant, identify program outcomes, interim products or benchmarks, and performance indicators that will allow you to measure your performance. Performance indicators should be objectively quantifiable and measure actual achievements against anticipated achievements. Your Evaluation Plan should identify what you are going to measure, how you are going to measure it, and the steps you have in place to make adjustments to your work plan if performance targets are not met within established timeframes.

Applicant should agree to cooperate with any HUD-approved evaluation by making staff available for interview, providing lists of participants and their contact information, and making available files under appropriate assurance of confidentiality of records.

Program outcomes for the Youthbuild Program must include:

- (1) Number of participants;
- (2) Number of housing units constructed;
- (3) Number of housing units rehabilitated.
- (4) Number of GED's or certificates attained by participants (numerator: of those who are enrolled in education, the number of participants who attain a diploma, GED or certificate; denominator: those who are enrolled in education).

(5) Number of participants placed in employment or education (numerator: of those who are not in education or employed at registration, the number of participants who have entered employment, the military or enrolled in post secondary education and/or advanced training/occupational skills training by the end of the first quarter after exit; denominator: of those who are not in education or employed at registration, the number of participants who exit during the quarter); and

(6) Literacy and numeracy gains (measures the increase in literacy and numeracy skills of participants through a common assessment tool administered at program registration and regular intervals thereafter).

Applicants are required to complete the Logic Model form (see appendix to the General Section). This rating factor reflects HUD's goal to embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability.