

services and treatment for this population. Existing mainstream resources are available, but underused in serving chronically homeless persons and homeless families with a disabled adult member.

4. Replicate service, treatment, and housing models that have proven to be effective based on sound evidence.

5. Support the development of infrastructures that sustain the housing, services, treatments, and inter-organizational partnerships beyond this federal initiative.

8. Target Population

This initiative targets persons experiencing chronic homelessness, including veterans. A chronically homeless person is defined as "an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years."

Not more than 10 percent of the funds awarded will be targeted to projects that will serve homeless families with a disabled adult member. For the purpose of this NOFA, a family is defined as two or more adults, one of whom has a disabling condition as defined below.

Two key terms in the above description of the population to be served that need to be defined are "homeless" and "disabling condition." For the purpose of this NOFA, the term "homeless" means "a person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) or in an emergency homeless shelter." For the purpose of this NOFA, disabling condition is defined as "a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions. A disabling condition limits an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living."

One applicant may serve both chronically homeless individuals and homeless families with a disabled adult member, but must complete separate applications for each population. No one project and no one application may serve both populations.

9. Funding

This notice is intended to simplify the application process, bring consistency and uniformity to the application and selection process, and facilitate funding opportunities available from these three departments by awarding grants in a coordinated fashion. By announcing this notice as a joint effort, the participating

federal agencies believe applicants will be better able to coordinate and integrate services within communities to avoid duplication, close gaps, and comprehensively serve those persons most in need of housing and services.

Although funds will come from separate federal agencies for specific components of the housing and service plans, awards will be made on the basis of a comprehensive review by all involved agencies. This is to ensure that applicants have addressed and can provide for each of the four core elements—(1) housing, (2) mental health and substance abuse treatment, (3) primary care, and (4) veteran's services. In order to be eligible for funds from any of the participating agencies, applicants must address each of these elements, even if they are not requesting funding for a particular element. Applicants will address these elements in the Agency-Specific sections of the application. Even if not requesting funding from each of the four agencies, the applicant must still complete the appropriate section of each agency's portion of the application form. For example, provision of primary care services is a required core element, but applicants may use other resources instead of applying for HHS/HRSA funds to provide these services. The Agency-Specific sections will specify which questions pertain to applicants not seeking funding from each of the partnering federal agencies.

The term of the grant award will vary depending on the funding sources being used. The overall intent is to make the program available for three to five years, based on availability of appropriations. The entirety of the HUD and VA funds will be awarded at the beginning of the grant term, in FY 2003, for the life of the project. HHS funds will be awarded on an annual basis, subject to the availability of appropriations.

- Approximately \$20 million is expected to be awarded by HUD for terms of three to five years to fund permanent housing activities. HUD's funds may be used under specified components of the Supportive Housing Program, which funds acquisition, minor rehabilitation, leasing, and operating costs for permanent housing for up to three (3) years, or specified components of the Shelter Plus Care Program, which provides rental assistance to tenants for five (5) years.

- Approximately \$7 million is expected to be available from HHS/SAMHSA in FY 2003 to fund mental health and substance abuse services. Awarding of FY 2003 funds is contingent on passage of a permanent HHS appropriation for FY 2003. Awards

in FY 2004 and 2005 will be subject to the availability of appropriations and will be reduced in size in order to increase grantees' reliance on mainstream resources and alternate sources of funding.

- Approximately \$3 million is expected to be available from HHS/HRSA in FY 2003 to fund primary health care services. These funds will be awarded as supplemental awards to existing Section 330 Health Centers. The awarding of FY 2003 HHS/HRSA funds is contingent on passage of a permanent HHS appropriation for FY 2003. Subject to availability of appropriations, funds may be available for FY 2004 and FY 2005.

- Subject to availability of appropriations, approximately \$5 million of in-kind support is expected to be available from VA to fund services for chronically homeless veterans for grant terms of three years.

Of the \$35 million available, no grant award for an individual project will exceed \$3.5 million in total grant funds from all federal partners in this initiative. In addition, HUD will not award more than \$2 million to any one project or applicant for housing activities. HHS/SAMHSA will not award more than \$700,000 to any one project or applicant for mental health and substance abuse services for the first year of funding. Also, HHS/HRSA will not award more than \$300,000 per project per year. The awarding of HHS funds in FY 2004 and FY 2005 will be subject to continued availability of funds and progress achieved by the grantee.

In making the funding decisions, if funds from one source are exhausted, but funds from other sources remain available, applicants may still receive available funds if they can demonstrate an ability to provide the services or housing with alternate sources of support. This situation will be handled in the form of a conditional award or deferred decision.

10. Application Submission

The HUD Headquarters building, in which the U.S. Interagency Council on the Homeless is currently located, has implemented security procedures that apply to application submission. Please read the following instructions carefully and completely.

- No hand deliveries will be accepted.

- Applications may only be shipped using DHL, Falcon Carrier, Federal Express (FedEx), United Parcel Service (UPS), or the United States Postal Service (USPS).