

The following resolution was offered by Board Member _____ and seconded by Board Member _____:

RESOLUTION

A resolution to approve the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (attached as “Exhibit A”) and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 40:600.91, the Louisiana Housing Corporation (“LHC”) is granted the power adopt rules and regulations as are necessary and proper for the performance of its duties and responsibilities;

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2021, due to the nationwide impact of COVID-19, Congress through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) Congress appropriated \$5 billion to communities across the U.S. to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS, these “HOME-ARP” program funds were then allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);

WHEREAS, CPD Notice 21-10: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-ARP Program (September 13, 2021) requires the submission of an Allocation Plan for the implementation of the “HOME-ARP” program;

WHEREAS, the State Plan was presented for review and comment via a survey to over 900 individuals, and through focus groups with the Louisiana Continuums of Care; and

WHEREAS, the Allocation Plan was published for review and comment and three (3) public hearings were held: on June 1, 2022 in person at LHC’s Quail Drive location and on June 2, 2022 on two (2) virtual meetings at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Housing Corporation (the “Board”), acting as the governing authority of said Corporation, that:

SECTION 1. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (attached as “Exhibit A”) is hereby approved and accepted.

SECTION 2. Staff and counsel are authorized and directed to prepare such documents and agreements as may be necessary to implement the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

SECTION 3. Staff and counsel are hereby authorized, directed, and empowered with the ability to create, amend, and revise any documents, agreements, and/or commitments as may be necessary to implement the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, the terms of which are to be consistent with the provisions of this resolution.

SECTION 4. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and/or Executive Director of the Corporation are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute any forms and/or documents required to be executed, the terms of which are to be consistent with the provisions of this resolution.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 10th day of August, 2022.

Chairman

Secretary

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Housing Corporation, do hereby certify that the foregoing three (3) pages constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution entitled, “A resolution to approve the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (attached as ‘Exhibit A’) and providing for other matters in connection therewith.”

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature and the impress of the official seal of the Corporation on this, the 10th day of August, 2022.

Secretary

(SEAL)



Louisiana Housing
Corporation

2022

LA Non-Entitlement HOME American Rescue Plan
(HOME-ARP) ALLOCATION PLAN



Louisiana Housing Corporation

5/12/2022

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Introduction

The **Louisiana Housing Corporation** was created in 2011 and administers federal and state funds through programs designed to advance the development of energy efficient and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families, drives housing policy for Louisiana and oversees the state’s Disaster Housing Task Force. In keeping with its mission to ensure that every Louisiana resident can obtain safe, affordable, energy-efficient housing, the LHC prioritizes services to offer solutions to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

On March 10, 2021, due to the nationwide impact of COVID-19, Congress through the **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)** appropriated \$5 billion to communities across the U.S. to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations. These funds were then allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This special round of funding is called the “HOME-ARP” program. HUD published detailed guidance in the *CPD Notice 21-10: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-ARP Program (September 13, 2021)*. This Notice establishes all HOME-ARP requirements, as well as the applicable suspensions, waivers and alternative requirements. Funding for this grant must be expended on eligible activities by the year 2030.

The allocation for the “LA Non-Entitlement” areas is administered by the LHC. Louisiana was also allocated funding for the “Entitlement” areas or major cities as noted in the table below, which will be administered by the local jurisdictions directly. The overall goal is to cooperate regionally across the state with all grantees to ensure the needs of the vulnerable populations are met in a coordinated way.

HUD ARP ALLOCATIONS TO LOUISIANA

Alexandria	\$937,270
Baton Rouge	\$5,104,454
Houma-Terrebonne	\$1,235,848
Lafayette	\$2,251,381
Lake Charles	\$1,416,211
Monroe	\$1,167,981
New Orleans	\$9,474,585
Shreveport	\$3,584,981
LA Non- Entitlement	\$39,286,662
CNSRT – Jefferson Parish	\$5,664,967

As part of the HOME-ARP requirements, the LHC must complete the prescribed grant requirements to access the State of Louisiana Non-Entitlement area award of \$39,286,662.

The HOME-ARP grant process includes:

- Community and stakeholder consultation,
- Development of a needs assessment and gap analysis,
- Finalization of a **HOME-ARP Allocation Plan** based on the analysis and public comment and submitted to HUD for approval.
- Completion of a substantial amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Action Plan for review and acceptance.

Purpose and Eligible Use of Funds

The appropriation requires that the HOME-ARP funds must be used to primarily benefit individuals and families that meet the requirements for one or more qualifying populations (QPs). The QPs are defined as:

- Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations.
- Those currently housed populations at the risk of homelessness.
- Those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
- Other families requiring services, housing assistance, or to prevent homelessness.
- Those at greatest risk of *housing instability* or in unstable housing situations which includes households with: 1) Annual income \leq 30% of area median income **and** is experiencing severe cost burden (i.e., is paying more than 50% of monthly household income toward housing costs); or 2) Annual income \leq 50% of AMI **and** meets one a condition of at risk of homelessness definition.

The requirements also specify that grantees can only use the HOME-ARP funds for the following eligible activities:

- **Affordable Rental Housing (HOME-ARP Rental Housing)**
 - Production or Preservation of Affordable Housing (such as acquisition and rehabilitation)
- **Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (HOME-ARP TBRA)**
 - Assistance to qualifying populations to pay the rent, security deposits, utility payments, and utility deposits
- **Supportive Services (HOME-ARP Supportive Services)**
 - Provision of Supportive Services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, childcare, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental applications, and rent assistance).
 - This can be a stand-alone program or in combination with other HOME-ARP activities.
- **Non-congregate Shelter (HOME-ARP NCS)**
 - Acquisition and Development of Non- Congregate Shelter -- these structures

can remain in use as a non-congregate shelter or can be converted to:
1) emergency shelter under the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program;
2) permanent housing under the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program; or
3) affordable housing under the HOME Program.

Cost of conversion cannot be paid with HOME-ARP.

- Includes private units or rooms for temporary shelter the serve individuals and families that meet one or more of the qualifying populations and do not require occupants to sign a lease or occupancy agreement.

➤ **Non-profit Assistance and Administration**

- Non-profit Operating (5% maximum allocation) (may not exceed the greater of 50 percent of the general operating expenses of the organization for that fiscal year).
- Non-profit Capacity Building (5% maximum allocation) (may not exceed the greater of 50 percent of the general operating expenses of the organization for that fiscal year).
- Administration and Planning for the HOME ARP Program (15% maximum allocation).

Consultation Requirements

The community outreach and engagement process for the HOME-ARP grant provides multiple opportunities for subject matter experts within the community, stakeholders, and organizations to provide input to the assessment of the needs, gaps, and barriers relating to homeless preventative services.

In developing the Plan, in compliance with the requirements, LHC undertook extensive outreach and consultation with each of the groups specified and went further in outreach to several groups and representatives of vulnerable populations through several modes of communication and soliciting of input. Consultation methods included stakeholder meetings, the LHC website and extensive online survey, three public hearings -- one in person and two virtually via Zoom -- and a 15 days public comment period for the **LHC HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (AP)**.

LHC thoroughly and successfully accomplished consultation to the following groups:

- ✓ All Continuums of Care (CoCs) serving the State
- ✓ Homeless and domestic violence service providers
- ✓ Veterans' groups
- ✓ Public housing agencies (PHAs)
- ✓ LA public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, including but not limited to the Department of Health and Hospitals, Department of Children and Family Services; and, Department of Education
- ✓ Public/private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities

Appendix I contains a list of the stakeholders/organizations consulted through the several modes of consultation and outreach deployed by LHC and its partners.

Appendix II list of focus groups/meetings

Stakeholder Meetings

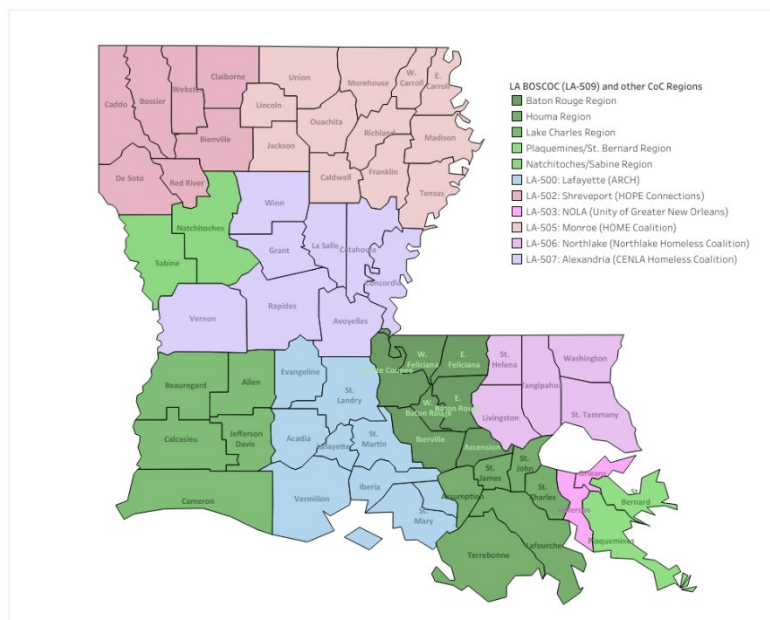
LHC consulted with organizations and service providers to identify unmet needs and gaps in housing and service delivery systems, along with recommendations for the funding allocation.

LHC utilized many methods of interaction: focus groups, surveys, and one on one interviews. In addition, LHC used standing meetings to spread the word about HOME ARP, answer questions, and take comments by being added to the agenda for a variety of regular meetings such as statewide CoC calls, TA sessions, individual CoC meetings and other task force meetings. These took place between January and June 2022.

Continuum of Care

A **Continuum of Care (CoC)** is a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. As guided by HUD's direction, a CoC provides a more strategic system by providing homeless people with housing and services appropriate to their range of needs.

Louisiana is divided into 7 Regional Continuum of Care (COCs) as designated on the map below. The COC is generally led by a non-profit operational in the region. The LHC serves a coordinating role for the *Balance of State COC*. The members of the COC include representatives from state and local public agencies, local non-profits, homeless shelters and services agencies and member of the community.



To gain input from the local COCs and their participating organizations and entities, LHC managed this consultation through participation in:

- ✓ 5 COC Meetings

- ✓ 7 Statewide COC Meetings
- ✓ 12 Focus Group Meetings

In addition to meeting with CoCs, LHC met with task forces focused on the qualifying population groups such as:

Homelessness Working Group:

The Homeless Working Group is a statewide task force, bringing together non-profits agencies, local municipalities and state agencies whose work impacts and/or addresses homelessness. This group works to identify potential system changes and coordination of services to enhance assistance to the homeless population, increasing coordination, and efficiency, enabling the state to address the most critical needs of its citizens who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

This group is the largest state-wide convening of state agencies and non-profits serving the qualifying populations. Representatives from the following State agencies participate in these calls:

- Attorney General's Office
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Children and Family Services
- Department of Health and Hospitals
- Department of Education
- Department of Transportation and Development

Balance of State Domestic Violence Working Group-

This working group includes representatives from nonprofit organizations working with survivors of domestic abuse throughout the state.

Webpage and On-line Survey

LHC manages a website and social media used to communicate program opportunities and funding priorities. The HOME-ARP funding details and survey request for input was posted on the LHC website at: <https://www.lhc.la.gov>.

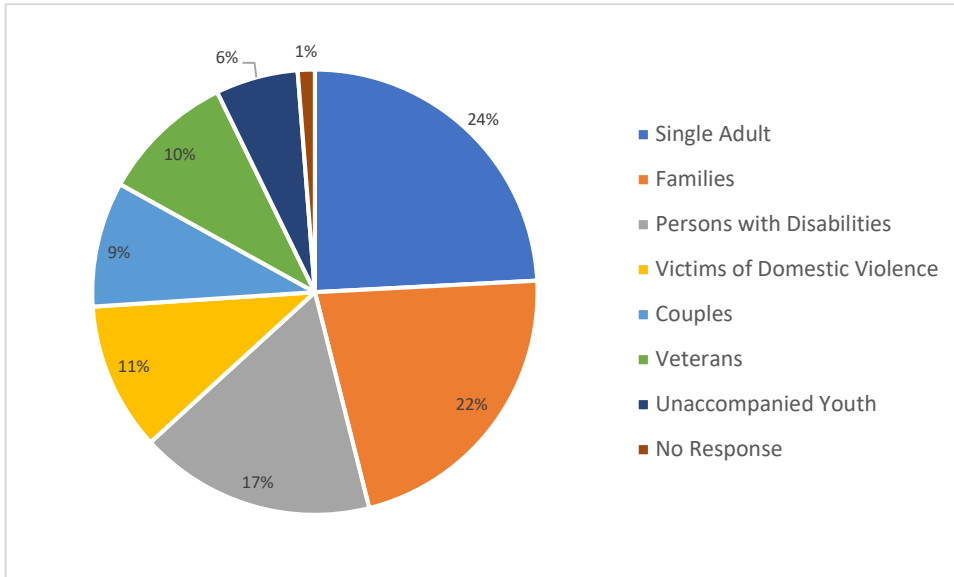
LHC and its partners distributed the survey to nearly 900 hundred of LHC contacts. LHC received 154 survey results from across the spectrum of service providers, beneficiaries and stakeholders representing the targeted qualifying populations. The survey was conducted from April 11 through June 30, 2022.

(Full responses can be seen in Appendix III).

The survey was designed to be a way for organizations and individuals to give direct feedback and take less than 5 minutes to complete. Questions were written so that LHC staff could understand the priorities among the eligible uses of the HOME ARP funds.

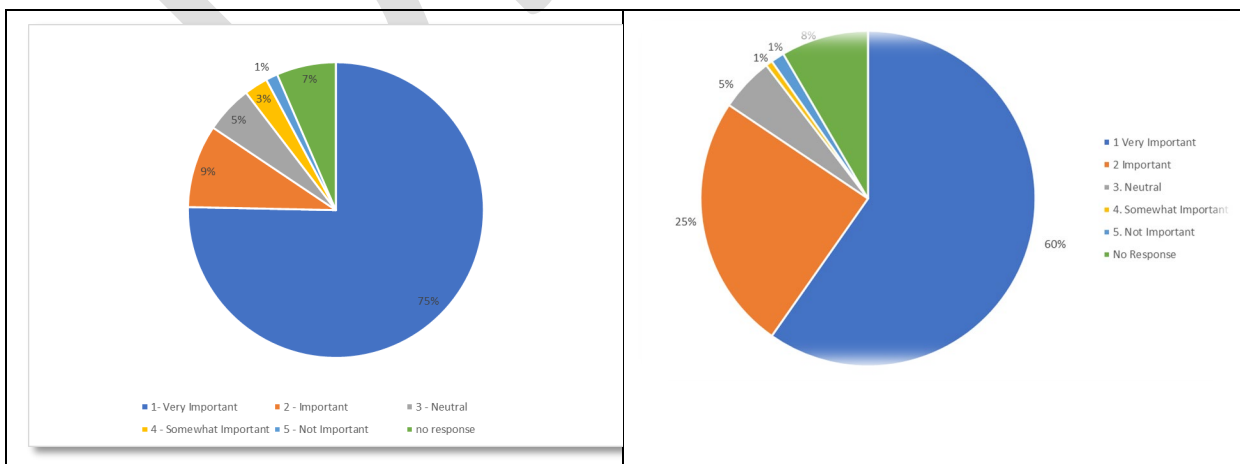
The following tables represent the responses to the questions asked in the Survey:

Question #1: Please identify the population with the highest need for services based on your organization's experience (check all that apply).



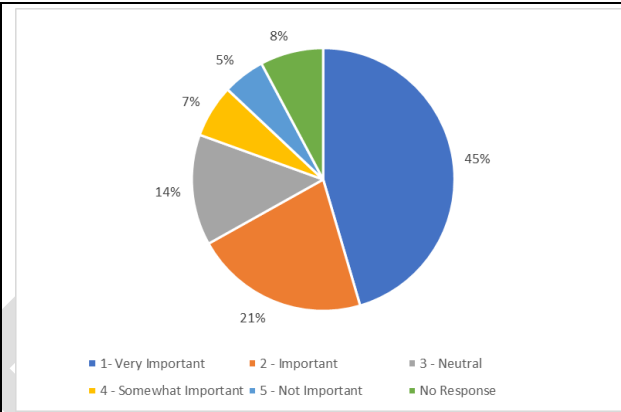
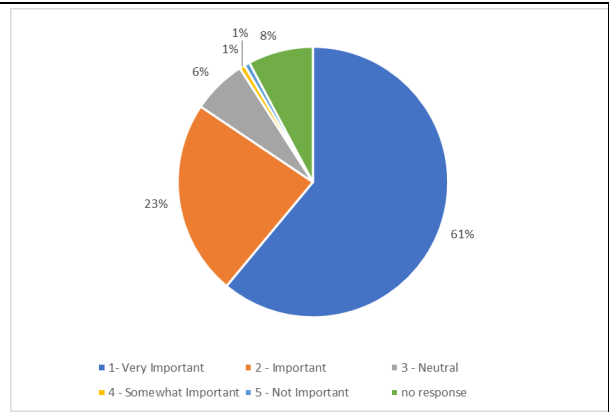
Summary: The group identified as having the highest need is single adults (24%) followed closely by families (21%). Persons with disabilities was also ranked relatively high, at 17%.

Questions #2 through 5: Participants were asked to rank the importance of the 4 activities eligible for HOME-ARP funds on a scale of 1-5 (1 being Very Important and 5 being Not Important).



Summary: Acquisition, Construction, and Rehabilitation of Affordable Rental Housing ranked by 75% of participants as Very Important.

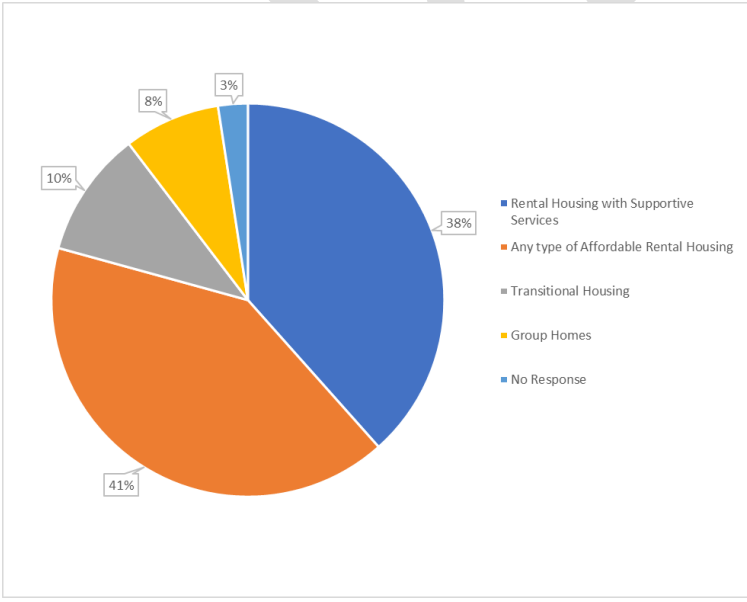
Summary: Tenant – Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) ranked by 60% of participants as Very Important and 25% as Important.



Summary: Support Services ranked by 61% of participants as Very important and 23% ranking as Important.

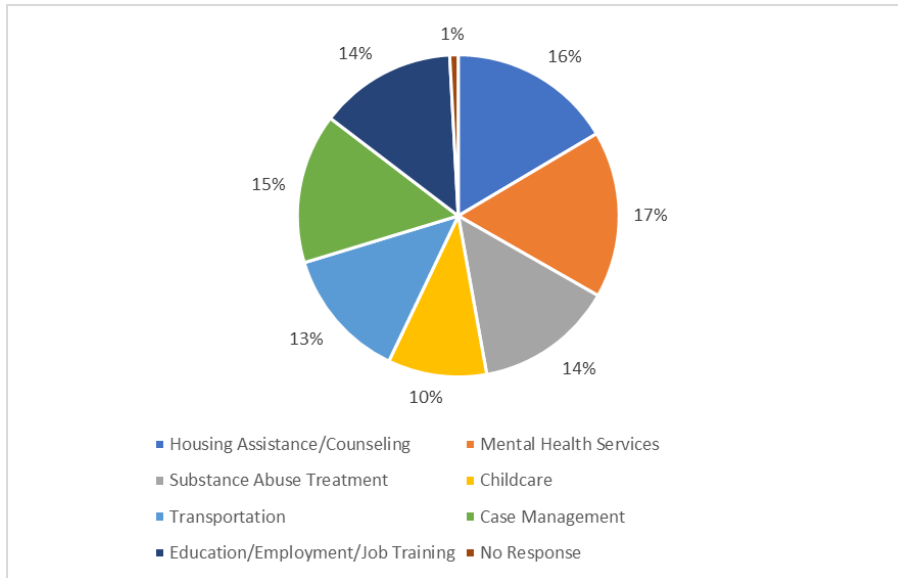
Summary: Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters ranked by 45% of participants ranked it as Very Important and 25% as Important.

Question #6: In the acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of affordable rental housing, which do you think are the best options to provide permanent housing (select all that apply)?



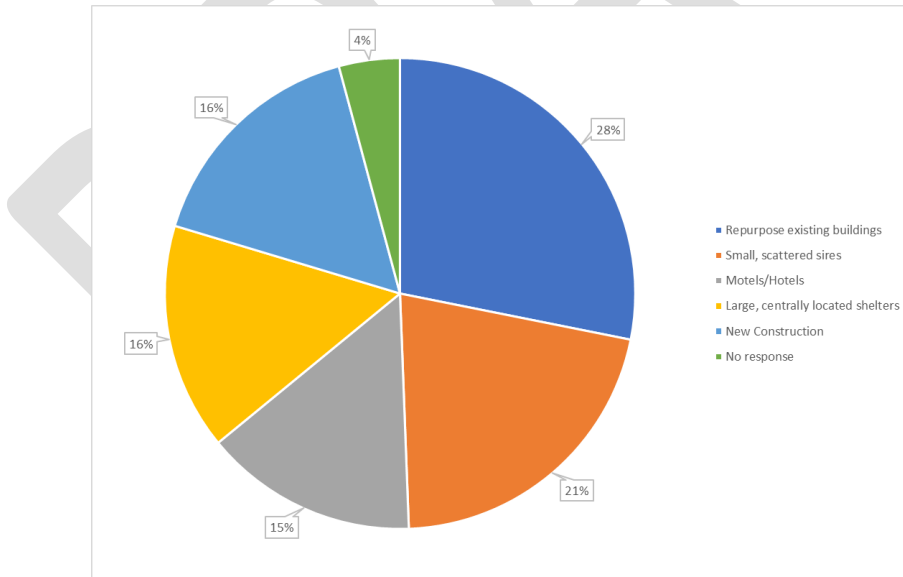
Summary: In the response to the question – 41% selected the Any Type of Affordable Rental Housing option and 38% of participants selected Rental Housing with Supportive Services.

Question #7: For supportive services, which do you think are the most beneficial to people experiencing homelessness or those at risk of losing their housing (select all that apply)?



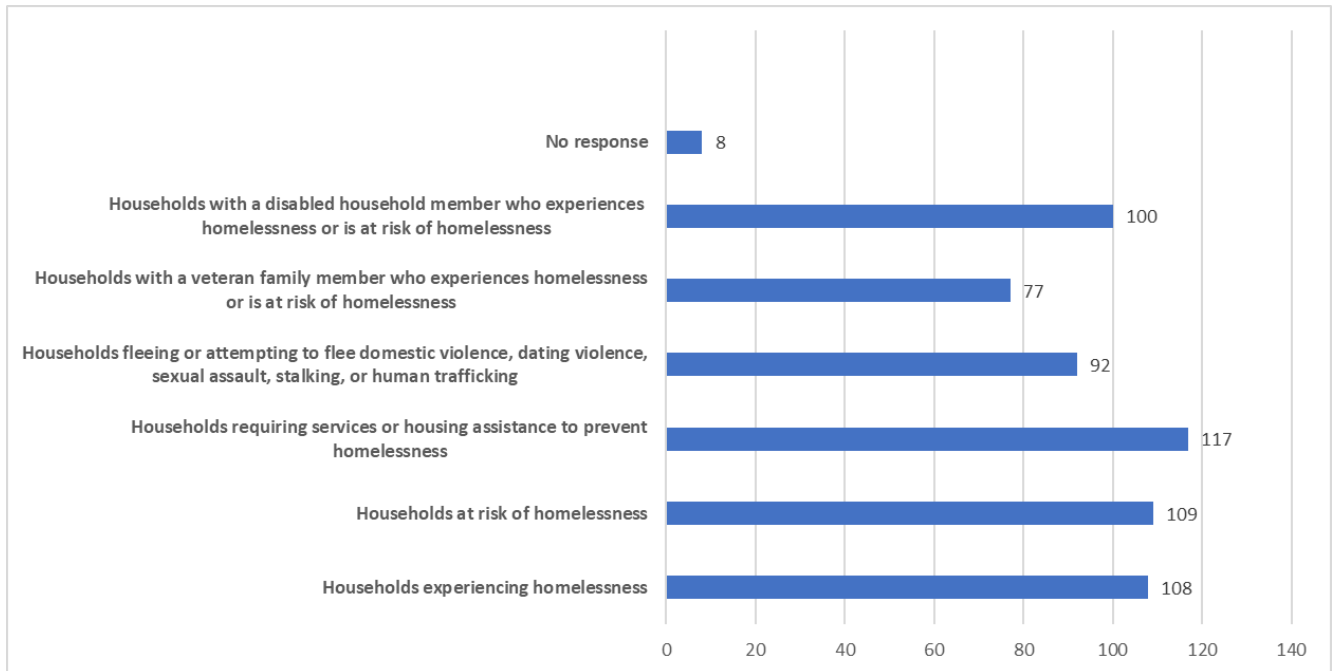
Summary: Mental Health Services was ranked highest, at 17%, but the responses were evenly distributed amongst all the supportive services named in the survey.

Question #8: For the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelters, which do you think are the best options to provide shelter (select all that apply)?



Summary: Most respondents selected Repurpose Existing Buildings at 28%, closely followed by Small, Scattered Sites at 21%.

Question #9: Which of the following population groups does your organization work with (select all that apply)?



Summary: The responses show an even distribution amongst the population groups, demonstrating that most of the respondents provide services to nearly all the qualifying population groups.

Question #10: Please Share thoughts to help identify gaps in housing and supportive services and fair housing barriers that the qualifying populations might encounter?

Some common comments LHC received:

- Lack of affordable housing in general
- Difficulty of people with criminal backgrounds finding housing
- Need for supportive services
- Poor condition of available affordable housing
- Landlords unwilling to accept vouchers

(See Appendix III for all comments).

Public Hearings

One in person meeting was held at LHC on June 1, 2022. Twelve participants attended.

Two virtual meeting were held on June 2, 2022. One meeting at 1:00pm and one meeting at 6:00pm. Thirty-three participants attended the virtual meetings.

(See Appendix IV for public hearing comments).

The notice for the public hearings was published on the LHC website in advance of 15 days of the meetings. In addition, LHC’s social media shared the notice, and it was distributed to the 7 CoCs.

Public Comment Period

LHC will post the Allocation Plan to its website for public comment for 15 days. Public comment will be incorporated, with the Plan approved by LHC for submittal in September 2022.

Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries and the unmet housing and service needs of these populations

Unmet Needs Assessment

The needs assessment and gap analysis sections of this plan utilized multiple data sources and represent the entire state of Louisiana. These include but are not limited to the 2020 Decennial Census; the 2020 Point-in-Time Count (PIT) for homeless individuals; and the local 2020 CoC's Housing Inventory Count (HIC). This is in addition to consultation from CoC's, Homeless and Domestic Violence service providers, Veterans Groups, Housing Authorities, Public Service Providers, and organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless

In 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Continuums of Care (CoCs) across the nation were faced with challenges conducting a count of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Due to these challenges, the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) issued waivers that allowed CoCs to opt-out of conducting an unsheltered homeless count. For this reason, LHC is using the 2020 Point in Time count. The 2022 PIT count results are not yet available.

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night.

Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations - Need Point in Time Count 2020:

Summary of Persons in Each Household Type	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	
Persons in households without children	923	507	1,146	2,576
<i>Persons age 18 to 24</i>	85	65	82	232
<i>Persons Over Age 24</i>	838	442	1,064	2,344
Persons in households with at least one adult & one child	420	155	7	582
<i>Children under age 18</i>	273	102	6	381
<i>Persons age 18 to 24</i>	27	16	0	43
<i>Persons Over Age 24</i>	120	37	1	158

Persons in households with only children	12	3	0	15
Total	1,355	665	1,153	3,173

HUD 2020 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless populations and Subpopulations – Point in Time 2020 Count

Demographic Summary by Race	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing			
Black or African American	873	376		659	1,908
White	444	273		448	1,165
Asian	9	0		12	21
American Indian or Alaska Native	10	1		18	29
Native Hawaiian or other pacific Islander	3	0		2	5
Multiple Races	16	15		14	45
Total	1,355	665		1,153	3,173

HUD 2020 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless populations and Subpopulations – Point in Time 2020 Count

Demographic Summary by Ethnicity	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing			
Hispanic/Latino	38	19		31	88
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	1,317	646		1,122	3,085
Total	1,355	665		1,153	3,173

HUD 2020 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless populations and Subpopulations – Point in Time 2020 Count

Demographic Summary by Gender	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing			
Female	532	176		259	967
Male	820	484		888	2,192
Transgender	2	4		5	11
Gender Non-conforming	1	1		1	1
Total	1,355	665		1,153	3,173

HUD 2020 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless populations and Subpopulations – Point in Time 2020 Count

Summary of Chronically Homeless Persons in Each Household Type	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	
Chronically Homeless persons in households without children	147	24	223	404
Chronically Homeless persons in households with at least one adult and one child	32	0	0	32
Chronically Homeless persons in households with only children	1	0	0	1
Total	180	24	223	437

HUD 2020 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless populations and Subpopulations – Point in Time 2020 Count

Summary of all Other Populations Reported	Sheltered			Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	
Severely Mentally Ill	234	99	286	619
Chronic Substance Abuse	94	100	275	472
Veterans	89	247	42	378
HIV/AIDs	11	6	15	32
Victims of Domestic Violence	210	74	90	374
Unaccompanied Youth	96	68	82	246
<i>Unaccompanied Youth Under 18</i>	12	3	0	15
<i>Unaccompanied Youth 18-24</i>	84	65	82	231
Children of Parenting Youth	23	14	0	37
<i>Parenting Youth under 18</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Parenting Youth 18-24</i>	23	14	0	37
Children of Parenting Youth	29	20	0	49

HUD 2020 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless populations and Subpopulations – Point in Time 2020 Count

Unmet Need:

The 2020 Point-in-Time Survey found a total of 3,173 overall homeless individuals within Louisiana, 1,153 of these individuals unsheltered. Emergency shelters continue to be at or near capacity limits and several have been closed due to storm damage. In addition, the qualifying populations also need mental health services, case management and financial counseling. Rental assistance is an ongoing need primarily due to the affordable housing crisis in Louisiana that affects the qualifying populations more acutely than the general population.

The following information includes an analysis of the HOME-ARP qualified population based on the available resources and data.

At Risk of Homelessness

As defined by HUD, (1) the term “at risk of homelessness” means, concerning an individual or family, that the individual or family—

- (A) has income below 30 percent of median income for the geographic area;
- (B) has insufficient resources immediately available to attain housing stability, and
- (C) has one of the following:
 - (i) has moved frequently because of economic reasons;
 - (ii) is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
 - (iii) has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated;
 - (iv) lives in a hotel or motel;
 - (v) lives in severely overcrowded housing;
 - (vi) is exiting an institution, or
 - (vii) otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness. Such term includes all families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes.

Additionally, people at imminent Risk of Homelessness are individuals and families who lose their primary nighttime residence, which may include a motel or hotel or a shared living situation, within the next 14 days and lack resources or support networks to remain in housing.

To identify “at risk of homelessness,” HUD created the *Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)* data to demonstrate the number of households in need of housing assistance, as well as those that have specific housing problems. According to the 2014-2018 CHAS, * HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI) – HUD Area Median Family Income (Table 3) there are **244,235** Louisiana households have incomes at or below 30% AMI. There are **152,370** (62%) renter households that earn at or below 30% AMI and have housing problems and are considered at risk of homelessness in the state.

HUD Area Median Family Income Distribution

	0-30% HAMFI*	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI	Total
Owner Households	91,865	100,200	153,755	97,390	639,870	1,133,085
Renter Households	152,370	108,135	114,225	56,150	172,055	602,935
Total Households	244,235	208,335	267,980	153,540	861,925	1,736,020

Data Source: 2014-2018 CHAS

Unmet Need:

In addition to large percentage of renter households at or below 30% AMI, there is a severe shortage of renter units available to these households. Out of **602,935** total renter units, only **152,370** or 25%, are affordable for households with income less than 30% AMI. These shortages lead to households being cost-burdened, putting them at greater risk of homelessness (cost-burdened is defined as paying more than 30% of household income for housing).

The National Low Income Housing Coalition’s Analysis of the *2019 American Community Survey (ACS)* estimates that there is a deficit of 102,785 affordable and available rental units for renter households at or below 30% AMI in Louisiana.

The table below shows cost-burdened renters by income level. Nearly 70% of households at or below 30% AMI in renter units are cost-burdened.

According to a report prepared by the Louisiana Budget Project on the 2019 Annual Community Survey Census data, Louisiana’s federal poverty rate rose to 19%, making it the 2nd highest in the Nation. Among Louisianans, Blacks (29.4%) and Hispanics (26.1%) are more likely to be poor than whites (13.4%).

Cost-Burdened Renters by Income Level

Occupancy	Total Rental Units	Cost Burden	
		30-50%	>50%
Total Rental Units	602,935	271,775	142,295
Units Occupied by Renters with Income less than 30% of AMI	152,370	105,615	88,260
Units Occupied by Renters with Income >30% and 50% of AMI	108,135	82,475	42,205
Units Occupied by Renters with Income >50% to 80% of AMI	114,225	61,935	10,245
Units Occupied by Renters with Income >80% to 100% of AMI	56,150	13,615	975
Units Occupied by Renters with Income >100% of AMI	172,055	8,135	610

Source: 2014-2018 Louisiana CHAS Data

The data shown in these 2 tables demonstrate both the large number of renter households at 30% AMI and the severe shortage of available, affordable housing for those households in Louisiana.

[People fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking.](#)

The Louisiana Council Against Domestic Violence (LCADV) is the federally designated statewide coalition of shelters, non-residential programs and individuals working to end domestic violence in Louisiana. LCADV provides regular training on various best practices related to victim safety, trauma-informed services, and victim-centered approaches to advocacy. LCADV coordinates resources among the 16 shelters in the state dedicated to domestic violence survivors. LCADV has advocated regularly for more support considering the great need in the state as demonstrated through the data.

The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 State Report (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), found that 35.9% of women and 15.9% of men in the state of Louisiana have experienced domestic violence. In addition, in 2017, Louisiana had the second-highest rate of female homicide in the nation and the fifth highest in 2018, with approximately 60% of female homicide victims killed by intimate partners in each year

Unmet Need:

A 2021 Louisiana Legislative Auditor's report, *Challenges in Louisiana's Effort to Address Domestic Violence*, identified following:

- The biggest challenge identified by the report is the lack of domestic violence shelter beds and support services to meet the needs of all victims.
 - Shelters across Louisiana had an average of 2,659 unmet requests for shelter per year during federal fiscal years 2015 through 2020.
- In the survey the Louisiana Legislative Auditor authors conducted for the report, 14 (87.5%) of 16 providers of domestic violence shelter providers stated that housing for victims is a challenge.

A 2017 Statewide Needs Assessment conducted by the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence summarized the results of surveys and interviews asking about the barriers to housing stability and reported: "To assess barriers to survivor safety and stability in Louisiana, domestic violence program representatives were asked to report how problematic obtaining affordable housing, transitional housing, permanent housing and landlord discrimination are on a scale from not at all to always problematic. Most programs reported that obtaining affordable (87.5%), transitional (81.25%) and permanent housing (81.25%) are frequently or always problematic."

There is coordination among the CoCs and DV service providers, assisted using a single software for all DV housing and service providers across Louisiana, EmpowerDB, for organizations to receive support from CoC staff to implement quality data collection and entry practices.

To summarize, the data, as well as the input LHC received from DV service providers, identified the barriers to meeting the needs of survivors as insufficient availability of safe and affordable housing, limited program resources, limited community resources, and limited program capacity.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability

The COVID crisis in Louisiana revealed how many individuals and families were and continue to be at-risk and in need of assistance to avoid eviction and remain in housing. Families incurred illness, reduced wages, and lost jobs. Families found it difficult or impossible to pay their rent and utilities over several months. The State of Louisiana's **Emergency Rental Assistance Programs** were much in demand and continues to serve a great need as COVID impacts are still being felt across impacted households.

COVID IMPACTED HOUSEHOLDS – Renters At-Risk of Homelessness

a. Louisiana Emergency Rental Assistance Program (LERAP: HUD ESG-CV; HOME)

LHC launched the *Louisiana Emergency Rental Assistance Program (LERAP)* in 2020 in light of pressing rental assistance needs across the state as a result of the impacts of COVID-19. LHC initially dedicates HUD ESG-CV funds as well as HOME funds to respond to the needs.

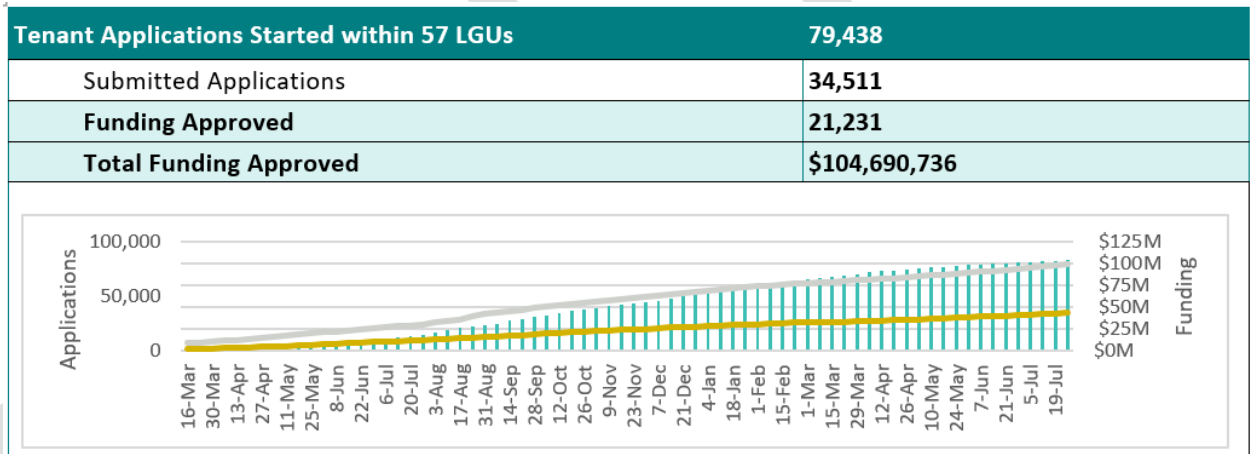
- NEED: The LERAP program received over 40,000 applications from Renters.
- RESULT: This program provided up to 3 months of urgent rental assistance to

hundreds of households at-risk of eviction and homelessness.

b. Louisiana’s U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

As a result of the U.S. Treasury ERA allocation under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, the State through LHC created the **Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program**. This program has been available to assist renters who cannot afford to pay rent, utilities (such as electricity, gas, water), or other housing expenses (such as late fees, security deposits & application fees) and landlords. State and local programs in Louisiana have distributed over \$100 Million dollars to over 21,000 households to ensure that renter households avoid eviction and homelessness as a result of impacts due to COVID-19. The State of Louisiana has transitioned the at-risk household in the LERAP program into the U.S. Treasury-funded **Emergency Rental Assistance Program**.

The Louisiana U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program is governed by the State, under LHC, in 57 rural parishes, while the larger metro parishes of Caddo, Calcasieu, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, Lafayette, Orleans, and St. Tammany Parishes are administering their own programs.



DISASTER IMPACTED (HURRICANES AND FLOODS)

Another qualifying population requiring housing assistance to prevent homelessness is the low income individuals and families in Louisiana affected by natural disasters. The most vulnerable in Louisiana are often the ones most negatively impacted by lost or damaged housing.

A March 17, 2022 a Housing Impact Assessment (DR-4611-LA) by the Housing Recovery Support Function of HUD provided an analysis of the impact of the multiple storms that have impacted Louisiana in recent years.

Since 2017, the State has received 12 Presidentially Declared Disasters (PDD), six of which have occurred between August 2020 and September 2021 amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Of those six, four were for hurricanes (including Hurricane Ida). The declared incidents and their incident periods include:

- DR-4559 Hurricane Laura, August 22 – 27, 2020
- DR-4570 Hurricane Delta, October 6 – 10, 2020;

- DR-4577 Hurricane Zeta, October 26 – 29, 2020;
- DR-4590 Winter Storms, February 11 – 19, 2021;
- DR-4606 Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding, May 17 – 20, 2021; and
- DR-4611 Hurricane Ida, August 26 – September 23, 2021.

Since August 2020, 60 of the 64 Louisiana parishes have been included in at least one PDD. These storms have greatly affected both the availability of affordable rental housing and shelters for people experiencing homelessness.

According to the report, which conducted interviews with a wide range of community partners, the Continuum of Care stakeholders highlighted the challenge of insufficient housing units, made worse by homeless shelters offline due to storm repairs. Between 2020 and 2021, Louisiana had an 18% decrease in the number of beds for people experiencing homelessness. (2021 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress).

Current Resources and Resource Gaps

Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing

The LHC, serves as the statewide coordinator of housing and services for people experiencing homelessness.

All homeless programs administered by the Louisiana Housing Corporation follow the “Housing First” model. This approach prioritizes permanent housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Meeting the families’ basic needs such as housing and food are the most critical. Once they achieve housing, other goals can be established. Housing First does not require participation in services as a condition, however, supportive services are offered to encourage housing stability and overall well-being.

LHC administers statewide Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds and several Continuum of Care (CoC) Program projects totaling more than \$20 million, all of which are dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. LHC’s Section 811 and Project-Based Voucher implementations totaling more than \$19 million also prioritize serving people experiencing homelessness.

LHC facilitates direct homeless assistance through funding local organizations through the programs above and serving as the statewide clearinghouse of Coordinated Entry access information. LHC is the Collaborative Applicant for the Louisiana Balance of State Continuum of Care (LA BOSCO), which covers more than half the state and applies for approximately \$23 million annually. LHC Chairs the Governor’s Council on Homelessness convenes the statewide Homelessness Working Group, and is responsible for all statewide information collecting and reporting on homelessness, including during and after natural disasters.

LHC, both as the statewide coordinator of housing and services and as the Collaborative Applicant for the LA BOSCO, has spearheaded the state’s implementation of homeless prevention, diversion, and rapid resolution practices to prioritize the return of people experiencing homelessness to housing via their existing support networks.

All ESGP-funded projects are required to engage these practices. Homeless Prevention projects stabilize people at risk of homelessness in their existing housing. Outreach projects rapidly return people to housing without a public subsidy; Emergency Shelter projects divert participants back to housing on their date of entry.

The LHC shall require all ESGP funded programs to secure matching funds in an amount at least equal to its ESGP grant amount

The LHC, in partnership with the Governor's Council to End Homelessness and other state agencies will work with the Continuums of Care, nonprofit agencies and other identified stakeholders to achieve the goals of ending homelessness in Louisiana. Ending homelessness means that every community has a system in place to quickly respond to those experiencing homelessness and to quickly rehouse them.

Throughout the state each CoC's works to coordinate homeless services within their communities. All CoC's have adopted Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) assessment tool and a statewide definition of housing first to provide coordinated assessment and identify and address the individual's needs.

The LHC has worked to align the resources by prioritizing the use of Rapid Re-housing (RRH) with ESGP funding. The focus of RRH is to decrease the length of time an individual or family spends in homelessness, as well as giving them access to sustainable affordable housing options. The LHC will continue to work with the CoC's and providers to align resources in their communities to maximize the services made available to homeless and at risk of homelessness populations.

Rapid re-housing has become a tool utilized to provide services that allow for a family or individual to exit homelessness and not return. This model has help communities to decrease the number of homelessness. The goal of rapid re-housing to assist those that are already homeless: either sleeping in places not meant for human habitation or a homeless shelter. Rapid re-housing places a priority on moving a homeless family or individual experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible. The participants are assisted with housing search and placement, rental and utility assistance and case management services, the services are individualized; however, assistance is usually for a period of 4-6 months

Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

There are several Parishes that do not have shelter facilities for those who experience homelessness, and some that have lost facilities due to storm damage. Many of the current shelters operating do not have adequate separate (non-congregate) sleeping quarters for individuals and families. Few of the current shelter programs can accommodate all household compositions, pets, and gender identities. The lack of shelter beds to accommodate the homeless population necessitates the need for development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS).

A common theme through all consultations was the need for more affordable units. In each consultation, the greatest need was for rental units for persons experiencing homelessness, primarily for

deeply affordable Supportive Housing units. In addition, a common concern raised by stakeholders was the challenge in providing or accessing supportive services to promote mental health care and recovery.

Among the gaps of the delivery system is the precarious financial situations of many nonprofit affordable housing developers and service providers. Many of these organizations are dependent on shrinking public funding and inconsistent corporate and foundation support. Without operating support and capacity building, these organizations struggle to create a viable financial model to sustain their operations.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

Based on the consultations, priority needs include:

- Deeply affordable quality housing (particularly for those with 0-30% AMI);
- Accessible units;
- Reduced barriers to entry to rental housing;
- Mental health and behavioral health services;
- Case management (geriatric case management, crisis case management, housing stability case management, financial case management, coordinating basic needs).

The priority needs among the qualifying populations are affordable and supportive housing as well as non-congregate, low-barrier shelters.

Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ's shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:

The level of need and gaps in shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems was based on information and data presented in the State of Louisiana 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, CHAS data, and the 2020 Point-in-Time Count data as well as reports cited throughout the Allocation Plan.

HOME -ARP Activities

Describe the Method of soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and or contractors and whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly.

LHC will primarily solicit applications through several NOFAs seeking developers or subrecipients. LHC does not plan to administer activities directly.

All qualified applications will be ranked based on the scoring criteria identified in the notice of funding availability (NOFA). The highest scoring applicants will receive a funding commitment from the LHC based on project needs, up to the amount of funds available.

Funds will be made available competitively statewide. The allocations may include a set-aside, allocation, or priority for rural applications

LHC HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Activities and Distribution of Funds

If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the PJ's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the PJ's HOME-ARP program:

LHC utilized two consultant teams CRSR and TAC, for unmet needs analysis, consultation, drafting of the Allocation Plan, and to administer the program. Both firms will participate in the design and the administration of the HOME-ARP program activities.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

Activity Type	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$8,000,000		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$9,000,000		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$4,000,000		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing (PSH)	\$9,000,000		
Nonprofit Operating	\$1,493,663		5%
Nonprofit Capacity Building	\$1,900,000		5%
Administration and Planning	\$5,892,999	15%	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$39,286,662		

Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

Development of NCS will provide the needed units for the homeless population. A significant portion of the QP experiencing homeless are the single adults followed closely by families.

Tennant Based Rental Assistance will provide rental assistance to the QP that are at risk of homelessness and provide relief to households that are severely cost burden. This assistance will allow them to maintain their housing and prevent them from becoming homeless.

Affordable housing is the need for the qualifying population. Development of affordable one-bedroom units across the state is needed to transition individuals into a permanent housing solution.

Feedback provided from consultations and survey results emphasized priority needs around supportive services.

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:

LHC was allocated \$39,286,662 in HOME-ARP funding. Below is a breakdown of how that money will be allocated, as well as a rationale for each funding amount.

- Development of Affordable Rental Housing: \$9,000,000; 35% of the funding will be allocated to the development of affordable rental housing. This activity was identified and prioritized by nearly all stakeholders, as well as being confirmed during the data analysis.
- Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate- Shelters: \$9,00,000; 35% of the funding (the same amount allocated to the development of affordable rental housing), will be allocated to the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelters. This activity was prioritized based on the need for more non-congregate shelters to both supplement traditional emergency shelters, being the preferred type of shelter, as well as create NCS in locations where these are lacking.
- Supportive Services: \$8,000,000; 31% of the funding will be allocated to the provision of supportive services. 87% of the survey respondents ranked Supportive Services as Very Important and Important among the eligible activities. Also, during the consultation process, this use was identified as being most critical to supporting qualifying populations find housing and remain stable, as well as support populations at risk of experiencing homelessness.
- Administration and Planning: \$5,892,999; 15% of the funding is allocated to administration and planning due to the HOME-ARP statutory limit.
- Non-Profit Operating: \$1,493,663; 5% of the funding is allocated to non-profit operating expenses due to the HOME-ARP statutory limit.
- Non-Profit Capacity Building: \$1,900,000; 5% of the funding is allocated to non-profit capacity building expenses due to the HOME-ARP statutory limit.

LHC will monitor the expenditure of supportive services, non-profit operating, and non-profit capacity building. By December 2025, if these are not being utilized as anticipated, LHC reserves the right to reallocate the funds other eligible activities.

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that will be produced or supported with this HOME-ARP Program and how it will meet the state's needs.

LHC program staff anticipates that the HOME-ARP Program will assist 150-250 households through housing, rental assistance and supportive services. Priority will be given to housing developers that leverage HOME-ARP funds with local, state and federal funding.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:

LHC anticipates that 150 new rental units will be produced with HOME ARP funding. It is anticipated that HOME-ARP will be leveraged with the state's 4% and 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) programs and possibly, Section 8 Project-Based Vouchers. While eligible projects may be financed solely with HOME-ARP rental housing, all opportunities to leverage the funding with other resources available will be pursued. These units will help address the identified need for more affordable rental housing throughout the state.

Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:

LHC will not give preference to any qualifying population groups.

Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

LHC will not limit eligibility

If a PJ intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

N/A

If a limitation was identified, describe how the PJ will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of the PJ's HOME-ARP projects or activities):

N/A

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

LHC will not be using HOME ARP funds for refinancing.

Appendices

Appendix I: List of Organizations and Entities Consulted

Organizations Consulted and/or Responded to the Survey

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation
BGC
Beechwood Residential
Berwick Housing Authority
Blake Oser
Brass Construction Ilc
Breux Bridge Housing Authority
Brooklyn Heights Emergency and Transitional Living
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Human Services Department
Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless
Catholic Charities of Acadiana
City of Shreveport
City of Tallulah Section 8 Housing Authority
Civic Leadership Association
Community Christian Concern
D.A.R.T. - Domestic Abuse Resistance Team
East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority
Easter Seals Louisiana
Endeavors
Faith House Inc.
Family Promise of St. Tammany
Family Violence Program of St. Bernard
Florida Parishes Human Services Authority
Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana
HOME Coalition
HOPE Connections
Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West
Health Care for the Homeless
Healthy Blue
Heavens Care
Hellfighters Motorcycle Ministry
Home by Hand
Housing Authority
Housing Authority City of New Iberia
Housing Authority of the City of Shreveport
Inner-city Revitalization Corp.
Iowa Housing Authority
Iris Domestic Violence Center

Jasmine Consulting LLC
Jena Housing Authority
Juneteenth UMOJA
LA Probation & Parole
LDG Development
LDH
LaFleur Industries, LLC
Lake Providence Housing Authority
Leesville Housing Authority
Let There Be Light Electric LLC
Let There Be Light Electric LLC
Louisiana Department of Health
Louisiana Housing Authority
Louisiana Housing Corporation
Louisiana Workforce Commission
MGM Development Group LLC
Marksville Housing Authority
Merakey
Mt. Pleasant Community Development Corporation, Inc.
NAMI ST. Tammany
Natchitoches Coalition on Homelessness
Northlake Homeless Coalition
Northwest Louisiana Community Development Corporation
Office of Behavioral Health
Olla Housing Authority
Open Doors Louisiana
Options for Independence
Ouachita Parish Section 8 Housing
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office, Ouachita Correctional Center
Ouachita Parish Workforce Development Board
People's Organization For Social Equality, Inc
Permanent Supportive Housing
Pitre Law Firm
Police Jury
Probation and Parole/Adult
Restoration Re-Entry Programs And Services
Restoring Gods Glory Ministries Inc
Safe Harbor Domestic Violence Program
Safe Harbor, Resident who met with Tamara
Simmesport Housing Authority
Social Worx Institute, EBRPPRC, LA-PRI, CAPARC

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services
Southwest Louisiana Independence Center
St. Mary Community Action Agency, Inc.
St. Tammany Parish Government
St. Vincent de Paul
Start Corporation
State of Louisiana/Louisiana Housing Corporation
TPCG
Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government
The Christian Outreach Center
The Renewal Center
The Wellspring Alliance for Families
Tonya Outreach and Women Ministry
UNITED WAY OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA INC
UNITY of Greater New Orleans
Union Parish Section 8 Housing
United Way of Central Louisiana
Volunteers of America GBR
WEB of Recovery LLC in collaboration with Rays of
Sonshine
YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge
new orleans area habitat for humanity

Appendix II: Summary Table of Consultation Responses

	Type of Org/Svc Provided	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Monroe HOME CoC	One of the seven CoCs in the Louisiana	Focus Group Meeting	<p>When securing affordable rental housing, it is hard to find units that pass inspection</p> <p>The ESG hotel/motel program has worked well</p> <p>Great need for shelters to accommodate families</p> <p>Need utility assistance</p> <p>Transportation is difficult from rural areas to shelters</p> <p>Need much more supportive services with all transitional housing</p> <p>Need transitional housing for mothers and children under 12</p> <p>Biggest issue is permanent housing</p> <p>Need more permanent affordable housing</p>
Balance of State CoC	One of the seven CoCs in Louisiana	Focus Group Meeting	<p>Consulted regarding the “Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis” section of this Plan</p>
Shreveport CoC	One of the seven CoCs in Louisiana	Focus Group meeting Survey	<p>Landlords reluctant to accept vouchers</p> <p>Utility assistance needed</p> <p>Increase in clients with extreme mental health issues – need extensive supportive services, hard to keep them current with meds-maybe group homes an option</p> <p>Need more shelters with no barrier entry</p> <p>New Iberia converted a former high school into non-congregate – could be a model</p> <p>Need more affordable housing</p>

<p>Governor's Homeless Working Group</p>	<p>Gov agencies</p>	<p>Focus Group Meeting</p>	<p>Non Congregate shelters a good option for people with mental illness Need more facilities that are low barrier and allow guests Jefferson Parish needs a low barrier shelter DV service providers have a good model of one or two units scattered throughout Parishes Master leasing is good – can facilitate roommate situations Fiscal Agent model has been working well for CARES funds Hurricane damage has reduced housing stock in certain areas, making is necessary to relocate individuals further, which they are reluctant to do- would rather stay in tent near damaged housing than relocate far Very few options for individuals moving from mental health care in hospitals to housing</p>
<p>Northlake CoC</p>	<p>One of seven CoCs in Louisiana</p>	<p>Focus Group Meeting</p>	<p>Lack of homelessness resourced in St Tammany Parish – often have to transport to Orleans Landlords may be willing to rent to formally homeless Veterans but unwilling to work with gov on vouchers “too much red tape”</p>
<p>Domestic Violence Working Group- Balance of State CoC</p>	<p>DV survivor services provider</p>	<p>Focus Group meeting</p>	<p>Members stated that TBRA and other flexible tenant based vouchers were important to DV survivors since location is often a critical issue – DV survivors are often leaving a community where the abuser lives or moving to be close to family. Job training and readiness supportive services are needed Need more housing options once emergency 45 day shelter time is finished Many shelters closed due to hurricane Ida</p>

ESG Recipients (non profits, local municipalities)	Homelessness service providers	Focus Group Meeting	Supportive services needed for long term housing stability Emergency Shelters hard to find in rural areas Many individuals are still unemployed and struggling with housing due to COVID despite 15 mos. of ERAP Criminal Background are major barriers to rental leases So much housing instability flux due to 2020 and 2021 storms Great need for disaster resilient affordable housing
Other Participating Jurisdictions in Louisiana	PJ with own allocation – meeting to encourage HOME ARP coordination	Focus Group Meeting	Pjs are consulting with local CoCs Need for low barrier shelters high Orleans Parish is looking at converting City Owned properties Shreveport identified capacity building as priority –need to develop capacity of developers Lafayette interested in building non-congregate shelter
Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center	Nonprofit Civil Rights Org	Focus group Meeting	Criminal backgrounds and disabilities are main basis for discrimination. Developers are allowed to define “reasonable accommodation” Affordable housing is often located in high poverty, low opportunity areas – lacking access to groceries and transportation Landlords are unwilling to accept vouchers Disputes about code violations (tenant complains about poor conditions) can lead to eviction
Housing NOLA: A public-private partnership working to end New Orleans’ affordable housing crisis.	Affordable housing advocacy	Focus group meeting	Major problem with landlords accepting vouchers, Section 8, etc.... NCS is good idea for HOME ARP funds because can always be converted to affordable studio

			apartments More housing options needed for formerly incarcerated TBRA's can be used to move individuals from NCS to PSH Non-Profit capacity building is needed, especially CHDOs
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DRAFT

Appendix III: Written Comments from Survey

Please Share thoughts to help identify gaps in housing and supportive services and fair housing barriers that the qualifying populations might encounter?

-previously incarcerated individuals with children.
1. demand greatly exceeds resources. 2. private landlords take advantage of and overcharge low-income and minorities because they have few alternatives.
1. housing location specialist for the entire coc. due to low funding for case management, agencies do not have funds or expertise to locate flexible housing options. this delays housing placement even if there is an opening at an agency.
2. the greatest barrier that we have identified during the last two years, is the amount of housing/utility debt someone owes that keeps them from qualifying for housing.
3. the greatest fair housing barrier is related to lack of tolerance/education of mental illness.
1. obtaining housing for felons
2. lack of mental and physical health programs
3. lack of supportive services and employment opportunities
4. lack of prevention programs to reduce the number of persons experiencing homeless
5. more affordable housing and vouchers
a gap in accessible housing. extensive use of evictions and the lack of affordable housing. getting new landlords to understand the housing choice voucher program.
access to mental health services
accessibility
affordable housing options exacerbated by hurricane Ida; unwillingness of private landlords to "work with programs/accept vouchers"; virtually non-existent shelter options for all populations.
availability
available units in popular regions like new Orleans and baton rouge.
barriers such as criminal backgrounds, credit, prior evictions, income guidelines even if the individual has a voucher can prevent individuals/families from qualifying for housing directed specifically to serve that population.
baton rouge in particular has a very large chronically homeless population. this group has not been a priority population since I started work here in 2020, however this is the population that is most visibly underserved. according to our longitudinal system analysis, 464 people were continuously homeless for an entire year. most balance of state coc funded permanent supportive housing

<p>programs (psh) are legacy programs. they do not seem to be functioning like an intervention for chronic homelessness the way they are intended to. a data based system improvement would be to offer more project based rental assistance (no need to hunt for landlords) with intensive supportive services, tailored to high-needs long-term unsheltered clients. maybe it's possible to accomplish the same thing with tenant based rental assistance. however, many clients who are housed with coc and esg funds are evicted. our data team hears about numerous evictions in the course of our daily work. additional supportive services are considered in intervention for evictions. fewer landlords in the mix would really help though. thanks.</p>
<p>being able to find safe and affordable housing. before the pandemic we already had a shortage in our existing housing stock. there is a serious lack of affordable rental homes for low income households.</p>
<p>it's important to look at the why - why we barriers to housing"</p>
<p>our local economy has not caught up with the housing costs."</p>
<p>covid-19 cost related escalations.</p>
<p>creating jobs</p>
<p>credit and criminal background checks</p>
<p>credit barriers, eviction issues low income due to job loss and low pay rates childcare and transportation</p>
<p>credit history, criminal record, rental history, unemployment</p>
<p>criminal background checks and debts owed to previous landlords and utility companies are the biggest fair housing barriers I see. in terms of housing, much of the available housing is substandard and even folks at risk of homeless don't want to live in certain buildings.</p>
<p>currently have more supportive services for affordable housing than affordable housing units</p>
<p>currently there is a gap in non-congregate sheltering in central Louisiana, specifically avoyelles parish.</p>
<p>development of affordable/low income housing.</p>
<p>educating clients in financial stability</p>
<p>future home ownership</p>
<p>various workshops and life skill training</p>
<p>elderly housing is needed in our area.</p>
<p>emergency housing, more affordable housing, affordable child care</p>
<p>fair housing barriers: most of the properties that will work with rapid rehousing and psh are in less desirable, more crime ridden areas. the safer, more desirable properties are usually above fmr , and refuse to work with rental assistance programs.</p>
<p>financing and rehab services.</p>
<p>gaps in services are adequate emergency shelter in all parishes. the 11 rural parishes need at minimum hotel/motel rooms for unsheltered persons with no alternative. emergency shelter for persons with serious mental illness is needed -- none here except for that funded by esg-cv. outreach needed in all 12 parishes but esp. in the rural ones. fair housing barriers to exist -- persons of color and/or persons with mental health disabilities and/or poor rental history struggle to find landlords who will rent to them.</p>
<p>group homes are a good idea, however they are not regulated. this leads to unfair treatment of people with disabilities, high rental assistance costs, little autonomy, and a lack of occupancy rights for people with disabilities who live there.</p>

<p>help people stay in there homes long as the home has no holes an substantial heating n cooling keep families together n single women safe young and old divorced married are single every situation n person is different I have two pits for my protection and in need for help to keep my home and can't find it</p>
<p>housing assistance for sex offenders who are attempting to remain complaint with registration requirements and stigma that prevents housing by public/community, convicted felons who are just releasing from incarceration, and people who lack job skills/education also paired with substance abuse issues.</p>
<p>location, rental payment assistance for certain populations, transportation, lack of knowledge of available assistance, lack of knowledge on how to apply, lack of computer skills to do applications online, access to computers limited/return phone number often not available for a homeless person to respond to callbacks/emails, and/or offers education/substance abuse assistance either nearby or onsite.</p>
<p>housing authorities and their affiliates are the best opportunities to accomplish lhc's home goals of significantly impacting "qualifying population". intentional steps should be taken to properly align and deploy lhc's home capital with the mission and capabilities of innovative housing authorities in Louisiana. this strategic capital deployment will ensure prompt, impactful and compliant of home funds.</p>
<p>housing availability</p>
<p>HUD vouchers are not readily available for justice-involved individuals who don't meet the standard chronic homeless. landlords are not educated on the laws regarding justice-involved persons. credit worthiness is also a barrier when seeking affordable housing. criminal backgrounds are still eliminating justice involved individuals from renting an apartment. they are often times taken advantage of by slumlords.</p>
<p>I am trying to find a program to help repair home been trying 20+ years no help have son with disability</p>
<p>I feel the time gap that a person has to encounter before being placed in hmis is a huge problem. if a client is sleeping on the streets and finds out about the program, they are required to report to the agency two to three times (two-week period between times) before they will be entered into the system. some clients have no cellular phone to be reached on. I feel if they come in, they should be entered and processed within a certain period of tome</p>
<p>I lost my home of five years from volunteering without a paid position for two years, working in criminal justice reform. I was homeless with my two sons, had housing assistance approved through the one-stop, living in my van, but could not get approved anywhere to get in. rep. pat smith took me under her wing and got me in a house on brice. the property went through inspection from assistance organization, and cost me everything I had to get it ready. they paid the \$1600 to get us in, and I went to turn on utilities, and house wasn't up to code. took meters upon inspection. landlord wouldn't take responsibility, and we lived there for over a year without water or electricity. then during pandemic, he evicted me, after pouring a ton of money into that place. there is a gap in case management, landlord accountability, high rent, lack of opportunities to purchase own home, judicial responsibility, access to rental assistance through city whose requirements are unrealistic & most times unattainable. please feel free to contact me at . I have been through 7 homes in 10 years. thank you for all that you are doing.</p>
<p>I will identify that the need of service primarily for my area is housing! housing requiring assistance payment, housing for homeownership, shelter with kitchen/pantry for homeless and emergency housing for burned-out or disaster victims.</p>

inadequate affordable rental housing. if it existed, there'd be significantly fewer homeless persons.
increasing prices of insurances and taxes make rental prices outrageous. barrier to affordable housing.
individuals experiencing or fleeing a domestic violence situation. the process is not as helpful as it could be. some women rather return to the violent situation rather than endure the seek help.
lack of connection via working groups and collaborations of state agencies and non-profits.
landlords who refuse to take vouchers has a disproportionate impact on people with disabling conditions and African Americans. lack of timely access to behavioral health services. we also need greater geographic diversity in the location of affordable housing while developing such housing in areas close to jobs, services and transportation. displacement by Airbnb's has had a large impact in our community.
long term case management and life skills training to aid in maintaining permanent housing
low income people experience so many different things it's really hard to pin point one thing.
most of the homeless population we serve have issues with background checks, bad credit reports or no credit at all. the aforementioned often times closes the door before they step through it. I am of the opinion most have given up. there is an obvious shortage of affordable housing in the united states that's a given, now add no credit or bad credit and or something on a background check. rejection gets old and is very discouraging.
need funding for division services. there is very little funding to operate emergency shelters. we would love to operate more beds but can't afford to do it. housing choice vouchers and psh have worked well to transition clients out of shelters but we are having trouble finding affordable housing that meet housing quality standards. there should also be funding to assist the landlords with tenant damages and bed bug remediation. that is frequently the cause of eviction and subsequent homelessness. long term motel renters have no protections against eviction, same day eviction. consider similar protections as tenants who are renters in traditional housing. many people lost their motel rooms and became homeless after hurricanes when there is more of a demand for motel rooms and evacuees are willing to pay more money for a room.
not enough funding for housing and services
not enough services to go around equally to include elderly, non-elderly, family, single, disabled, working, etc.
passing criminal and background checks
voucher disparity in length of assistance, location, and amount of rent subsidy
persons with felony backgrounds
rental units priced above the fmr, income requirements are high and lack of landlords willing to rent to unemployed survivors of dv.
resources for more developed diversion could also be beneficial for keeping our lower needs guests more stable. recent data suggests the one stop has about a 9% diversion success rate. this comes out to about 400 people diverted simply through staff conversations. a more robust diversion toolkit could push that higher and presents a lower cost per person helped proposition rather than just housing development alone.
I think the survey touches on this already, but combining the above suggestion with a sustained concentration on our single chronic populations (perhaps even prioritizing our most chronic for ncsc

<p>first, as those clients are difficult to track and they often find the relative freedom of an ncs more desirable) has potential to go a long way.</p>
<p>shelter for those that are in crisis after normal business hours/weekends</p>
<p>spoke to affordable housing in ascension and all they were awarded was 20 vouchers which even he said is not enough.</p>
<p>cost of living is a lot higher</p>
<p>no access to public transportation</p>
<p>no homeless/emergency shelter</p>
<p>no transitional housing</p>
<p>income barriers (some people barely make enough to pay rent and other bills)</p>
<p>support for construction of affordable homes for low-moderate income buyers.</p>
<p>Terrebonne lacks available housing, especially 1 bedroom units.</p>
<p>the affordability of property</p>
<p>producing identification</p>
<p>housing complex</p>
<p>landlords</p>
<p>the agencies in our area have expressed a need for housing location/landlord engagement employee as part of the coordinated assessment program.</p>
<p>using esg-cv funding, we had great success with clients with severe mental health issues using non-congregate shelter. these clients are unable to live in congregate shelter and have a history of inability to maintain a unit in psh. we are primarily talking about those who could be institutionalized if that option were available. we predict that onsite case management would improve outcomes to an even greater extent.</p>
<p>the biggest barriers to housing in our region are not fair housing issues. they are client rental/utility debt owed and criminal background.</p>
<p>the area of 71282, madison parish, Tallulah, louisiana is extremely limited to housing options and availability is very lacking.</p>
<p>the availability of housing units in general and landlords willingness to rent to the population we serve. there is also a gap as it relates to the ease of signing up to be a landlord. the qualifications for participants to be able to be a part of the housing programs. availability of different housing grantors i.e. not every thing going through unity.</p>
<p>the lack safe, affordable and clean housing</p>

<p>the largest gap in northeast Louisiana is not enough emergency shelters for homeless families with children and the general homeless population; the salvation army located in Monroe, la is the only shelter for the general homeless population and homeless families and even they do not allow families with children under the age of two or large families with more than 2/ 3 children.</p>
<p>the largest gap in services is not having enough space. there is not enough temporary shelter and not enough housing units available to assist people on disability.</p>
<p>the mold is really bad</p>
<p>the need for emergency housing is very important and is very vital. also, to be able to make livable what is already in existence would be very beneficial. the education of landlords and residents related to housing needs, affordability, and care of the property is also a crucial need for the individuals and families to obtain quality and affordable housing.</p>
<p>the office of behavioral health is looking to expand transitional housing program for homeless individuals with serious mental illness to prevent going or exiting out of mental health facility. our contract will cover operations. start up cost for agency to find affordable buildings has delayed the process.</p>
<p>the stigma attached to domestic violence survivors. affordable housing. limited transportation.</p>
<p>there are few emergency housing options in the area, and the housing market for affordable housing is insufficient to meet the needs of the low income community. affordable childcare is scant and also very problematic for families and single parents who wish to look for work. this limits their ability to independently provide for their families.</p>
<p>those with criminal records and sex offenders have limited opportunities and many times are kept behind bars until housing can be secured.</p>
<p>time to be more strategic with targeting population types following more thoughtful public and multigenerational cost/benefit. examples: housing with wraparound services targeting teen mothers, kids aging out of foster care. multigenerational cost of doing something versus cost of doing nothing. naturally can't forget other housing needs, but time to zoom in on targeting some housing this way and I would love to help.</p>
<p>transportation to jobs/job training and education because we do have public transportation so we are in the process of getting company vans to assist with this barrier.</p>
<p>transportation, health care.</p>
<p>unknown</p>
<p>we are very new. homelessness is on the rise. Louisiana is number 2 in statistics. we also sometimes forget about the ones that fell through the cracks that are couch surfing. homelessness can happen to anyone. we can be one paycheck from being homeless. some homeless people have mental illness and just need to see a doctor. human trafficking is a problem in the u.s. and can also cause homelessness. homeless veterans needs to be addressed also.</p>
<p>we have had several mayors specifically tell us they do not want a homeless shelter in their town so zoning approval and permitting for homeless shelters or group homes could be problematic</p>
<p>therefore we recommend the development of low and very low income affordable housing with project-based vouchers or some form of support in order to make the economics work in this environment and in order to meet the needs of at risk market segments.</p>

where feasible existing buildings could be repurposed for homeless shelters, but the ongoing operation of the shelter is the key issue to address from a financial management standpoint. there has to be a viable nonprofit partner to run the day-to-day aspects of the shelter and that requires funding. we believe smaller, midsize shelters are easier to manage.

we need to help veterans

we serve 5 parishes but services are clustered into most populated parishes; small, rural, poorer parishes (St. Helena and Washington) have few services available. Tangipahoa parish is in great need for a centralized shelter with one-stop services.

will provide separate e-mail on gaps in housing and services and fair housing barriers

women often go through a hardship and work to regain the children back but when they do get them they don't know where to go. usually they go back to with what they use to do and ends up in a mess. we are the only place in this region that allows a mother to bring her child or children with her while learning to parent and function after the hardship all while in a structured environment. we are slowly closing the doors due to loss of clients during covid. I have been giving the opportunity to keep the doors open. I am currently working on the finances but it's not easy. I pray it's doable.

zero housing for sex offenders

DRAFT