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EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless I-CARE PROGRAM EXPANSION PROPOSAL

ECOH conducted the annual Point in Time Count on January 25, 2017. Updated numbers showed there were 252 unsheltered persons in Escambia County. Of those, 157 reported having disabling conditions including mental health, drug or alcohol use, physical disabilities, or multiple and co-occurring disabilities. (See PIT DATA attachment). A recent study conducted by the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness revealed that the average annual costs to be homeless and cycling in and out of incarceration, emergency rooms, and inpatient hospitalizations ranged from \$31,065 to \$53,000 per person depending on need. However, it has been proven that housing a homeless individual first, and then wrapping various services around them, results in reduced costs to the community.

In January of 2017, ECOH implemented a pilot project called I-CARE. The program provides funds to rapidly house street homeless individuals and provide intensive case management from ECOH, mental health assessments from Lakeview Center and health assessments through the Escambia County Clinic. *(See Coordinated Street Outreach Initiative attachment)*. To date, ten (10) households have been placed into permanent housing and two additional persons are in process of being housed. All those placed have income either through work or disability income, or they are in the process of applying for disability.

ECOH is requesting \$100,000 to expand the I-CARE Pilot project enabling us double the number of individuals we will serve and help them move from the streets into permanent housing.

ECOH will accept referrals directly from the street outreach team and coordinated entry in a centralized manner and conduct a vulnerability assessment. If eligible for the program, then the rapid rehousing services, health, mental and case management services are provided. Through the partnership with Lakeview Center and the Escambia County Community Clinic the individuals receive additional supports as needed. This additional funding will provide the resources to help move more people off the streets, reducing their impact on social services, hospitals, and the legal system. It will help fill the gap between being homeless and accessing safe affordable housing.

To reach additional chronically homeless individuals and place them in housing additional funds are needed for rental and utility deposits; up to the first three months' rent, rental application fees; coordinated assessment and referral, mental health and health care support and case management.

ECOH History and Partnerships

Originally organized in 1987 as the Escambia Coalition on the Homeless, the agency was formed to promote and coordinate community efforts to reduce homelessness as well as to establish an alliance of organizations, local government, agencies, institutions, and individuals interested in assuring the availability of shelter, healthcare, and related social services and facilities for the homeless in Escambia County. In March of 2000, the organization expanded its outreach and services to include Santa Rosa County and changed its name to the EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless (ECOH). The Coalition serves as the Lead Agency for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Florida Department of Children and Families' Office on Homelessness for both counties. As such it is the designated entity for local planning efforts to create a homeless assistance continuum of care system; receives federal and state funding that is then sub awards to entities providing services to the homeless as well as provides direct services to the homeless population.

Partnerships are key to the success of addressing homelessness. As stated above, the ECOH is partnering with Lakeview Center and the Escambia County Community Clinic for implementation of the pilot I-CARE project. In addition, as a part of the yearly Point in Time County (and U-Count day of service), the ECOH partners with multiple agencies to insure successful outreach to those both sheltered and unsheltered. (See ECOH Escambia County Services and Purpose Driven Coordination attachments). Those partners include: Salvation Army, Waterfront Mission, Loaves and Fishes, Holy Cross, and Alfred Washburn Center. The agency partners with Catholic Charities and 90 Works to provide homeless prevention services and rapid rehousing for homeless and implements the County Emergency Solutions Grant in Escambia County. ECOH provided the initial intake and coordination for the City of Pensacola's expanded Tenant Based Rental Assistance program. Lastly, the agency verifies homelessness for the Escambia County Tax Collector's office (for ID issuance) and the Early Learning Center (for child care vouchers).

Activity	Budget Category	Amount
Rapid Rehousing,		
Utilities and	-	
Deposits - CLIENT		
SERVICES	Rentals and Leases	25,000
Mental Health and		
Health Care		
Assessment and		
Services - CLIENT		
SERVICES	Professional Services	10,000
Case Management		
and Coaching -		
CLIENT SERVICES	Salaries and Wages/Benefits	35,000
	ECOH Coordinated	
Coordinated Entry	Assessment	
and Referral -	Emergency Shelter Referrals	
CLIENT SERVICES	and Stipends	25,000
Marketing	Awareness	5,000
TOTALS		100,000

GOAL	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	BASELINE
1. Double the number of persons	The number of people served will	The number of persons receiving
receiving services through the I-CARE	increase from 12 to 24.	services through the I-CARE Pilot
program.		Program in first half of 2017.
2. Reduce the number of unsheltered	75% of unsheltered chronically	The number of unsheltered
chronic homeless in Escambia County	homeless persons housed will remain	chronically homeless in the 2017 PIT
by 15%.	stably housed for 6 months and 50%	count served by the program.
	will have retained their housing at the	
	end of 12 months.	
3. Reduce the number of repeat crisis	The number of Emergency Room visits	The total number of Emergency Room
services (ER Visits, Mental Health	and mental health interventions by	and mental health interventions by
interventions) utilized by the	the clients will be reduced by 15%	the clients for the previous 12 month
chronically homeless by 15%.	from the previous year.	period.
4. Increase the number of chronically	The number of primary care services	The number of times a client accessed
homeless utilization of Escambia	accessed by the clients over a one	Escambia County Community Clinic for
County Community Clinic as their	year period will be increased by 15%.	primary health care during the
primary care home by 15%.		previous 12 month period.

LEVERAGED PARTNERSHIPS

Lakeview Center Mental Health and Substance Abuse Care Area Development and Section 8 Housing Shared Community Case Management Escambia Community Clinic (done) Private Market Housing **Emergency Shelters** Law Enforcement

PURPOSE DRIVEN COORDINATION **ECOH's**

IMPACT -Most vulnerable Resulting

chronically homeless are -Reduced costs to Health and Mental Health Care housed

ECOH

systems

Enforcement Costs -Reduction in Law

NEEDS

Permanent Special Needs Housing Single Site Location (Marbut) Local Government Support Law Enforcement Support **ECAT Support**

Case Management and Life Skills Coaches (Marbut) Emergency Housing (Marbut) Affordable Housing

Additional SOAR Navigators

LEVERAGED RESOURCES

Housing and Urban Development (Continuing) Health and Human Services (Continuing)

Florida Housing (Continuing)

Florida Department of Children and Families (Continuing)

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