

**EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM (ESGP)
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT
FY 2013 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (NYS OTDA) is the primary State agency that coordinates services to homeless households and households at-risk of homelessness. On August 19, 2013 HUD notified OTDA that it was making \$405,939 in FY 2011 Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP) funds originally allocated to Westchester County available to New York State (NYS). To receive these reallocated funds, NYS has prepared and is seeking approval from HUD for the following substantial amendment to its Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Annual Action Plan.

This amendment meets New York State's criteria for requiring a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan. The criteria are:

- a substantial change in the State's allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds;
- an activity, using funds from any program covered by the Consolidated Plan (including program income), not previously described in the Action Plan; or
- a substantial change in the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity.

With these ESGP funds, OTDA proposes to work with the local homeless services system within Westchester County, including the local Continuum of Care, to identify not for profits within Westchester County to support an array of projects designed to strengthen this Continuum and its homeless services system. Projects to be funded may include: shelter operations; street outreach; support for legal interventions to prevent evictions; homeless re-housing assistance; advocacy for entitlement benefits; cash assistance for security deposits and rental assistance; and supportive services. OTDA will allocate funds in accordance with all applicable federal regulations, and will ensure that sub grantees meet all applicable regulations, including the matching funds requirement. Once identified, OTDA will require each sub grantee to consult with the local Continuum of Care regarding their ESGP funded programs, and also require that sub grantees actively participate in the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

In submitting this substantial amendment to the 2103 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan, New York State has followed its citizen participation plan. A seven-day comment period commenced September 11, 2013 to solicit responses from citizens and other interested parties. Due to the short time frame to reallocate these funds, HUD issued a limited waiver of 24 CFR 91.115(i) allowing the public comment period to be decreased from thirty days to seven days. A public comment period notice, including a toll-free number for the public to request copies of the amendment, has been posted on the New York State Homes and Community Renewal website, www.nyshcr.org. The ESGP public comment notice was sent to New York State Homes and Community Renewal's (HCR) electronic mailing list as well as to the New York State Task Force on the National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA) and partnership Advisory Committee (PAC). Interested parties are encouraged to send their written comments to: NYS HCR, Attention: Alison Russell, 38-40 State Street, Albany, New York 12207 or e-mail HCRConPln@nyshcr.org. Comments must be received by close of business Tuesday, September 17, 2013.

