



AMERICAN RECOVERY AND  
REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009  
(ARRA)  
HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION &  
RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM  
(HPRP)  
Its Impact on our Community



Closeout Report  
#S09-MY-12-0025

- On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which included \$1.5 billion for a Homelessness Prevention Fund.
- Funding for this program, called the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), was distributed based on the formula used for the Emergency Shelter Grants Program.
- The City of Gainesville was awarded \$567,404.

# COLLABORATIVE ADMINISTRATION

- The grant was administered collaboratively:
  - The City of Gainesville was the grant manager and provided fiscal support.
  - The Alachua County Housing Authority was the sub-grantee and provided space to house the program, the Homeless Management Information System used to track clients and services, oversight of the case managers, and advanced payment for the non-case management services provided.
  - Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. was subcontracted to provide case management services and paid for these services in advance.

## HPRP HAD TWO COMPONENTS:

- Homelessness Prevention, which was accomplished through helping people pay past due rent and utility bills and providing case management; and
- Rapid Re-Housing, which sought to move persons out of homelessness and into housing.

# OVER THE COURSE OF THE GRANT, WE SERVED:

- Rent assistance: 367 people in 135 households
- Security/Deposits: 503 people in 141 households
- Utility pymts.: 471 people in 172 households
- Case mgmt: 1,012 people in 322 households
- Outreach: 516 people in 123 households
- Housing search: 35 people in 17 households
- Unduplicated Ttl: 1,012 people in 322 households

## HOMELESS PREVENTION SERVICES:

- Total served: 943 people in 289 households
  - People served:
    - 457 Adults
      - 180 adults in households without children;
      - 277 in households with children
    - 486 children

## RAPID REHOUSING SERVICES:

- Total served: 69 people in 33 households
  - People served:
    - 38 Adults:
      - 20 in households without children
      - 18 in households with children;
    - 31 Children

# WHERE THE DOLLARS WENT:

	Prevention	Re- Housing	Total
Rental Asst.	\$104,328	\$3,720	\$108,048
Security/ Deposits	\$127,530	\$21,759	\$149,289
Utilities	\$72,029	\$6,600	\$78,629
Case Mgmt.	\$85,521	\$85,521	\$171,042
Data Collection			\$33,578
Administration			\$26,818
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$389,408</b>	<b>\$117,600</b>	<b>\$567,404</b>



## WHO WE SERVED:

### ○ Housing Status at Program Entry:

- People who were literally homeless = 69
- People at imminent risk of losing housing their housing = 943

# WHO WE SERVED:

## ○ Gender

### ■ Adults:

- Male - 66; Female - 436

### ■ Children:

- Male - 285; Female - 292

## WHO WE SERVED:

### ○ Ethnicity:

- non Hispanic/Latino - 990
- Hispanic/Latino - 22

## WHO WE SERVED:

### ○ Race:

- Black/African-American - 860
- White - 130
- Multiple races - 22

# WHO WE SERVED:

- Veteran status:
  - Veteran - 53
  - Not a Veteran - 442
  - Missing data - 109

# WHO WE SERVED:

## ○ Age:

■ Under 5	202	
■ 5-12	207	
■ 13-17	105	under 18 =514
■ 18-24	112	
■ 25-34	143	
■ 35-44	93	
■ 45-54	85	
■ 55-61	40	
■ 62+	25	

# PROGRAM BARRIERS

- It was often difficult to locate affordable housing.
- Even when affordable housing was available, there was still the challenge of clients passing the landlords required background checks.
- The HPRP Program helped to assure potential landlords that the program would continue working with the clients for over a specified period into their rental agreement.

# PROGRAM BARRIERS

- It appeared that prevention clients were not always fully forthcoming about their actual situation and that their "story" changed repeatedly.
- While we do feel that we reached out to and assisted many clients who truly would have become homeless if not "but for" the HPRP assistance, there were many others that could have possibly found alternative resources had we had the time and resources to help them look further.



## CHANGES MADE ALONG THE WAY

- The uppermost limits of the HPRP Program funding were increased from \$1,600 to \$5,000 for re-housing clients after determining that our initial limits were too low to assure that the clients were going to be successful in their re-housing.

# ASSURING THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE AT THE RIGHT TIME

- Our Case Managers provided repeated follow ups with clients to assure that their case plans were being followed as outlined.

# STRATEGIES EFFECTIVE AT INCREASING HOUSING STABILITY

- In addition to providing housing services, our Case Managers were available to assist clients locate all necessary services in efforts to increase housing stability.

# HOW WILL HPRP PROGRAM TRANSITION TO ESG?

- At this time, the City is not a recipient of ESG funds. Several local agencies have applied for these funds.
- One major concern in transitioning from HPRP to ESG is that ESG requires a dollar for dollar local match.
- Additionally, the income limits for ESG are substantially lower than for HPRP.
- The lower income limits will make finding affordable housing even more of a challenge for households.

# WAS THE PROGRAM SUCCESSFUL?

- ◉ In a word, yes.
- ◉ While there were challenges and some processes could have been better developed, given the short time we had to implement the program, and the small amount of guidance provided at the beginning, this program was successful and is sorely missed in our City.