CITY OF LONG BEACH

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Long Beach Coordinated Entry System (CES) - Prioritization and Transition Planning Interim Guidance (Loss of Funding)

I. Purpose

To establish clear guidelines and criteria for CES transition planning, prioritization, and referral for households in the Long Beach Continuum of Care (CoC) at risk of involuntary loss or end of housing assistance due to funding constraints, funding exhaustion, or funding termination to prevent a return to homelessness.

II. Scope and Applicability

This guidance applies service providers and participating households who have received formal, documented notification from the administering public housing authority, housing provider, or any other administering entity of an anticipated involuntary loss or end of housing assistance, who may require coordination to CES for transition planning and connection to other eligible housing resources.

Household review must include formal, documented notification from the administering public housing authority, housing provider, or any other administering entity of the anticipated involuntary loss or end of housing assistance, the anticipated effective date, and any available documentation needed to assess eligibility for alternative housing resources.

Eligibility criteria for housing resources can vary. Transition Households will be assessed for referral based on available housing resources within Long Beach CoC and household eligibility. PSH eligibility and prioritization processes are outlined in the Matching to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Policy[1]. Rapid Rehousing (RRH) eligibility and prioritization processes are addressed in the applicable RRH Eligibility and Prioritization Guidance[2].

The impact of this guidance is subject to ongoing monitoring to ensure equitable access and allocation and may be refined should it fail to uphold the principles defined in the Long Beach CoC CES Policies and Procedures[3].

[1] https://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/homelessness/media-library/documents/document-library/matching-policy
[2] https://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/homelessness/media-library/documents/document-library/rrh-eligibility-and-prioritization
[3] https://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/homelessness/media-library/documents/document-library/coc-ces-policies-and-procedures--final-062023-

III. Definitions

Housing Assistance: Rental assistance, subsidy, or any other ongoing housing support administered by a public housing authority, housing provider, or other entity.

Transition Household: A household currently receiving housing assistance that has received formal, documented notification from the administering public housing authority, housing provider, or administering entity of an anticipated involuntary loss or end of housing assistance due to funding constraints, funding exhaustion, or funding termination and has been referred to CES for transition planning and referral to other housing resources.

Permanent Housing (PH): Community-based housing without a designated length of stay, including permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing, in which the program participant is a tenant on a lease for a term of at least one year, which is renewable for terms that are a minimum of one month long, and is terminable only for cause.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH): Permanent housing in which housing assistance (e.g., long-term leasing or rental assistance) and supportive services are provided to assist households in which one adult or child has a qualifying disability in achieving housing stability.

Rapid Rehousing (RRH): Permanent housing in which supportive services and/or short-term (up to 3 months) and/or medium-term (3 to 24 months) tenant-based rental assistance is provided to assist households to move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve housing stability.

Transition Planning: Coordination through CES to identify and prioritize appropriate housing and other resources for a Transition Household to prevent a return to homelessness.

IV. Transition Planning for Households at Risk of Loss of Housing Assistance

Households currently receiving housing assistance that have received formal, documented notification of an anticipated involuntary loss or end of housing assistance due to funding constraints, funding exhaustion, or funding termination may be considered for CES transition planning and referral to other eligible housing resources to prevent a return to homelessness.

CES shall assess Transition Households for the level of assistance needed to maintain housing or secure alternative housing and may refer eligible households to resources including, but not limited to, prevention, diversion, or other PH programs consistent with applicable requirements. Referral to PH resources (e.g., PSH, RRH) may occur only when the household meets the eligibility and prioritization requirements of the PH resource.

CES shall coordinate with the administering public housing authority, housing provider, administering entity, and other partners to identify available housing assistance and transition options before referrals to housing resources dedicated to households experiencing literal homelessness are considered.

Transition Households shall be prioritized based on documented risk of return to literal homelessness; formal, documented notification of the anticipated loss or end of assistance; documented level of service need; eligibility for available resources; and availability of alternative resources.

Participation in transition planning does not place a household in the Housing Opportunity Pool (HOP) and does not establish eligibility for any specific housing resource.

V. Policy Updates

This Guidance functions as an operational process under the CES framework and may be reviewed, updated, or incorporated into the Long Beach CES Policies and Procedures during a future revision.