

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Substantial Amendment to FY 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan**

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (RUSH)**

On January 10, 2025, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made a special allocation of **\$512,694** in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to Orange County, FL to address the needs of homeless individuals and families, or individuals and families at risk of homelessness in areas affected by major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. These funds must benefit people whose needs are not otherwise served or met by existing Federal disaster relief programs, including the Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program under such Act.

This special allocation of “Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing” (RUSH) funding is in response to the President’s major disaster declarations for Hurricane Helene (DR-4828-FL) and Hurricane Milton (DR-4834-FL). Orange County, through its Housing and Community Development Division, is amending the FY 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan that covers federal funding for housing and community development programs. This substantial amendment will serve as the County’s application to HUD for ESG-RUSH funding.

The purpose of the ESG-RUSH program is to address housing and service needs of people experiencing homelessness, which were exacerbated by disasters. The funds can be spent on a variety of activities to aid individuals and households who meet the following criteria:

- 1) are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and
- 2) have been residing in an area affected by a major declared disaster; and
- 3) have needs that will not be served or fully met by the TSA program and other existing federal disaster relieve programs.

Individuals/households will not be required to requalify as homeless or at risk of homelessness for purposes of ESG-RUSH funds if the individual/household was already determined to meet the definition of homeless or at risk of homelessness and was receiving ESG assistance when the disaster occurred. Proposed uses of funds are listed below.

| <b>Emergency Solutions Grant – Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH)</b>   |                  |             |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| ESG-RUSH eligible activities, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention</li> <li>• Housing relocation and stabilization services</li> <li>• Financial assistance for move-in costs</li> <li>• Supportive services for people currently experiencing homelessness</li> <li>• Street outreach services</li> </ul> | \$474,242        | 92.5%       |
| Administration   | \$38,452         | 7.5%        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$512,694</b> | <b>100%</b> |

Orange County intends to solicit applications from qualified non-profit organizations to award funds for eligible ESG-RUSH activities. Projects/activities will be selected through a competitive Request for Applications process, which will be announced separately.

To expedite the awarding of ESG-RUSH funds and rapidly provide homeless assistance, HUD has waived consultation and citizen participation requirements for this allocation. To access this funding, Orange County must submit an amendment to the FY 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan to HUD no later than February 9, 2025.

This public notice satisfies the requirements described in the ESG-RUSH Federal Register Notice published July 18, 2024, and Orange County's ESG-RUSH funding allocation letter sent to Mayor Jerry L. Demings on January 10, 2025, by the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development, which require the County to publish how it will use its ESG-RUSH allocation, at a minimum, on the Internet at the appropriate government website or through electronic media.

For more information or questions concerning this substantial amendment, please contact the Orange County Housing and Community Development Division at (407) 836-0963, or via e-mail to [Janna.Souvorova@ocfl.net](mailto:Janna.Souvorova@ocfl.net).

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