

Lower Columbia



Rental Assistance Programs

Cowlitz Housing First!
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What we will cover

- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (HPRR)

Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG)

- Ending Family Homelessness (EFH)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing and Essential Needs (HEN)

What these Programs have in Common

- For people who are "At-Risk of becoming Homeless" (Prevention); or
- For people who are "Homeless" (Rehousing)
- All are short or medium-term Assistance
- Not long-term, subsidized housing

What is Income?

- Earned Income
- Self-Employment/Business Income
- Interest & Dividend Income
- Pension/Retirement
- Unemployment and Disability
- TANF/Public Assistance
- Alimony and Child Support
- Armed Forces income

What is AMI

FY 2013 Income Limits Documentation System

FY 2013 Income Limits Summary

Cowlitz County, Washington										
FY 2013 Income Limit Area	Median Income Click Here	FY 2013 Income Limit Category	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Cowlitz County	\$53,400	Very Low (50%) Income Limits Click Here	\$19,700	\$22,500	\$25,300	\$28,100	\$30,350	\$32,600	\$34,850	\$37,100
		Extremely Low (30%) Income Limits Click Here	\$11,800	\$13,500	\$15,200	\$16,850	\$18,200	\$19,550	\$20,900	\$22,250
		Low (80%) Income Limits Click Here	\$31,500	\$36,000	\$40,500	\$44,950	\$48,550	\$52,150	\$55,750	\$59,350

For details on the calculation steps for each of the various parameters, please click the "Median Income" column heading or the Income Limits row labels ("Very Low-Income (50%) Limits", "Extremely Low-Income (30%) Limits", and "Low-Income (80%) Limits").

Income Limit areas are based on FY 2013 Fair Market Rent (FMR) areas. For a detailed account of how this area is derived please see our associated FY 2013 [Fair Market Rent documentation system](#).

How many served?

- **HPRR/CHG:** 223 individuals
- **ESG:** 148 individuals
- **HEN:** 288 individuals
- **EFH:** 12 households +

Period: 6/1/2012 - 3/31/2013

HPRR/CHG

- **At-Risk:** currently housed but facing eviction
- **Homeless:** unsheltered, temporary living arrangement, existing system of care, DV
- **Income eligibility:** Household must make <50% AMI if they have children; <30% AMI with no children

HPRR/CHG

What it does

- Financial assistance to prevent utility shut-off, eviction, pay for all or portion of rental costs, utility deposits, moving costs, credit checks
- Rental assistance is graduated subsidy, usually covering 3-6 month period
- Limited assistance finding and getting into housing
- Limited case management
- Assistance is always temporary and limited to the minimum level assessed as necessary to stabilize household

HPRR/CHG min income

- There is no "minimum income" requirement; but
- It must be credible that the person can afford their housing costs at the completion of their assistance
- Landlord

HPRR/CHG

"One of the key objectives of the CHG is for an assisted household to be able to maintain stable permanent housing after CHG assistance ends. Lead/Sub Grantee's should strike a balance between promoting self-sufficiency and providing a safety net. Rent Assistance must be consistently administered according to your program policies."

(CHG Guidelines, page 8; Rent Assistance)

Ending Family Homelessness (EFH)

- TANF Households who meet HUD definition of Homeless (reside in emergency shelter or place not meant for habitation).
- Provides: Rent Assistance, CHG allowed expenses, hotel/motel vouchers for unsheltered clients engaged in housing search for up to 30 days.
- Case Management and wrap-around services.
- 6 months of assistance + possibility of additional 6 months

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

- **At-Risk:** currently housed but facing eviction with not enough resources, AND moved 2 or more times in past 60 days, or couch surfing, or exiting public system of care; DV
- **Homeless:** unsheltered, emergency shelter, existing system of care where resided <90 days and was in emergency shelter before that, DV
- **Income eligibility:** Household must make <30% AMI

ESG: What it Does

- Financial assistance to prevent utility shut-off, eviction, pay for all or portion of rental costs, utility deposits, moving costs, credit checks, rental arrears
- Rental assistance is graduated subsidy, usually covering 3-6 month period
- Limited assistance finding and getting into housing
- Limited case management
- Assistance is always temporary and limited to the minimum level assessed as necessary to stabilize household

ESG types of assistance ratios

- Prevention 40%
- Rehousing 60%

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN)

- DSHS Medical Care Service recipients, temporary but long-term disability that prevents them from work, who are At-Risk of being homeless or Homeless
- Provides: Rental and utility assistance, arrears/deposit, move-in costs, for as long as the person is eligible, and funding is available
- Provides up to \$197 worth of Essential Needs per eligible participant, such as Bus Passes, Cleaning Supplies, Toiletries
- ABD and PWA not eligible

Does this work?

- Clients exiting Homelessness through HPRP obtained permanent housing solution 74% of time
- Homeless recidivism of HPRP clients was 4.77%
- At 7-9 month post-assistance mark, HPRP rental assistance of at-risk clients reduced homelessness by 58% when compared to a matched control group

WA Dept of Commerce 2009-2011 Study

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