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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

4/25/96

Mally -

It wanted to send
you a couple copies of the
homeless NOFA and application
for your information. We
also have a video, if you're
interested. Hope all is well -

Jacquie



Washington, D.C. 20410

News Release

HUD No. 96-157
(202) 708-0685

FOR RELEASE
Friday
Sept. 13, 1996

GORE AND CISNEROS ANNOUNCE \$675 MILLION IN GRANTS
TO 266 COMMUNITIES TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS

* * *

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY REPORT CITES EFFECTIVENESS
OF NEW FEDERAL HOMELESS STRATEGY

Note: A list of grants to individual communities is available on request.

WASHINGTON -- The Clinton Administration will award \$675 million in grants to programs in 266 communities around the nation to reduce homelessness, Vice President Al Gore and Housing Secretary Henry G. Cisneros announced today.

The federal funds will help homeless Americans find places to live and become self-supporting. Besides providing homeless people with emergency, transitional and permanent housing, the federal assistance will fund programs such as job training, child care, substance abuse treatment and mental health care.

Thousands of homeless people will be assisted by the grants to local governments and non-profit groups from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"The Clinton Administration is working to help homeless Americans move from welfare and dependence to jobs and self-sufficiency," Cisneros said. "We're giving thousands of homeless people the chance to achieve the American Dream, and we'll save taxpayers money by reducing the homeless population."

In a related action, Cisneros released findings of a new study by the Barnard-Columbia Center for Public Policy that call the Clinton Administration's homeless strategy "an effective partnership between federal and local governments, non-profits and the private sector."

The Columbia University study found that HUD's homeless assistance program, called the Continuum of Care, has made a major shift from past efforts that focused on short-term emergency shelter.

-more-

HUD No. 96-157

Page Two

The new approach works to find permanent solutions to homelessness by providing homeless people with opportunities to find long-term housing and to become self-sufficient.

The study also found that the Continuum of Care has created a coordinated approach to meeting the needs of the homeless while reducing duplication of services. It showed that HUD's homeless assistance efforts helped 14 times as many people in 1995 as they did in 1992.

The Continuum of Care is the centerpiece of the federal policy on homelessness announced by President Clinton in 1994. It empowers communities to decide how to target federal assistance for the homeless to best meet local needs.

HUD Assistant Secretary Andrew Cuomo, whose office administers the Continuum of Care, said: "The Columbia findings confirm that the Clinton Administration's homeless policy is on the right track. The grants we are announcing today are an example of government that works."

Gore and Cisneros also announced \$41 million in grants to 50 communities for two other programs to help low-income Americans become self-supporting:

- \$21 million for the Early Childhood Initiative. The assistance will help fund childcare for 4,800 poor and homeless children in 45 communities to enable their parents to get jobs and get off public assistance.

- \$20 million for the Youthbuild Program, which puts young people to work building and rehabilitating affordable housing and teaches them construction skills in the process. The program will provide 1,200 young people with skills they need to get good jobs, and will provide 420 families with homes in 26 distressed communities.

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Summary of Findings

The Continuum of Care: A Report on the New Federal Policy to Address Homelessness

A Study by the Barnard-Columbia Center for Urban Policy

During the last three years, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has initiated an array of new policies to address the critical problem of homelessness in the United States. HUD's new approach to breaking the cycle of homelessness, known as the Continuum of Care, consists of two key elements: (a) a coordinated community-based process of identifying needs and building a system to address those needs, and (b) increased funding to provide communities with the resources needed to build the system of care.

To understand how, and to what degree, the implementation of this approach is progressing the Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) at HUD contracted with the Barnard-Columbia Center for Urban Policy to carry out an independent study of the implementation of the Continuum of Care.

General Findings from Data Analyses

In its examination of applications funded since 1990, the study shows that the initial implementation of the Continuum of Care concept has resulted in (1) increased funding from both government and non-government sources; (2) an increase in the number of homeless people assisted; and (3) a broader range of individual and family problems addressed with an expansion of supportive services. We summarize the statistical findings in terms of funding and number and characteristics of persons served.

- Overall HUD McKinney funding increased from \$403.7 to \$1.1 billion (an increase of 169.5 percent) between 1992 and 1995.
- HUD's homeless assistance funding has shifted from emergency measures towards programs that provide transitional and permanent housing. Funding for transitional and permanent housing programs increased from \$331.2 to \$931 million (181.1 percent increase) over this time, while emergency funding for shelter and services increased from \$72.4 to \$156.8 million (116.5 percent increase).
- By Fiscal Year 1995, nearly every McKinney dollar allocated by HUD was matched by additional funds and services from other community resources. The value of leveraged resources went from \$37.5 million in 1992 to \$1.1 billion in 1995 (almost 3,000 percent).
- Significantly more persons appear to have been served as a result of HUD's new policies. The overall proposed number of persons assisted went from 20,142 in 1992

to 289,621 in 1995 (1,337.9 percent increase)¹

- The Continuum of Care approach has resulted in significantly more assistance for homeless person with disabilities. The numbers of persons with disabilities proposed to be served in programs specifically designed for them increased 843.4 percent, from 2,816 to 26,565.

Case Study Findings

The case studies of nine representative sites across the country provide important insights into the progress being made by local communities in implementing the Continuum of Care and moving homeless individuals and families into permanent and supportive housing. Sites selected were: Boston, State of Kentucky, Denver Metro area, Miami/Dade County, Detroit, Las Vegas, Houston/Harris County, New York, and San Diego

The Study found that while the majority of sites had begun some degree of more comprehensive planning for homelessness; during the early 1990s, the HUD Continuum of Care Initiative, spurred a more focused and structured process for identifying existing resources, needs, service gaps and funding priorities in each site. Additionally, there is significant agreement across sites that HUD has become a real partner with local communities in planning and implementing the Continuum of Care. Among the key findings:

- HUD has created valuable fiscal incentives for communities to think "outside their boxes" to define and redefine the underlying and structural causes of homelessness, and to conceptualize a comprehensive system of housing and services designed to help homeless people not only find permanent housing, but also identify short and long-term goals to prepare for independent community living.
- The efforts to match private dollars with federal spending has raised public awareness of the scope of homelessness and the need for diverse and extensive funding to adequately address the problem. It has also generated considerable public support for, and participation in, the planning process.
- The appeal of HUD's current Continuum of Care policy among local governments and service providers is largely attributed to the flexibility it offers local communities to prioritize their own needs and develop locally driven solutions. HUD's framework for designing local Continuum of Care initiatives is supported across all the sites -- the partnership, as opposed to the "big brother," approach is greatly valued.

¹ The number of persons proposed to be assisted by the SHP program in 1995 may be too high for a variety of reasons which are thoroughly discussed in the full study. Therefore, the total for all three programs may be too high also.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Community Planning and Development

February 17, 1995

Notice of Funding Availability for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance

Supportive Housing Program (SHP)

Shelter Plus Care (S+C)

**Sec 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy
Program for Homeless Individuals (SRO)**

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of funding availability (NOFA).

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the availability of approximately \$900 million for applications for assistance designed to help communities develop continuum of care systems to assist homeless persons. These funds are available under three programs to fill gaps within the context of developing coordinated systems for combating homelessness. The three programs are: (1) Supportive Housing; (2) Shelter Plus Care; and (3) Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation for Single Room Occupancy Dwellings for Homeless Individuals. Funds will be awarded competitively. This notice of funding availability (NOFA) contains information concerning the continuum of care approach, eligible applicants, eligible activities, application requirements, and application processing.

DEADLINE DATE: All applications are due in HUD Headquarters on or before close of business on April 7, 1995. HUD will treat as ineligible for consideration applications that are received after that deadline. Applications may not be sent by facsimile (FAX).

ADDRESSES: For a copy of application packages, please contact a HUD Field Office or call the American Communities information center at 1-800-998-9999. Prior to close of business on the deadline date completed applications will be accepted at the following address: Processing and Control Unit, Room 7255, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20410, Attention: Continuum of Care Funding. At close of business on the deadline date applications will be received at either room 7255 or the south lobby of the Department of Housing and Urban Development at the above address. Two copies of the application must also be sent to the HUD Field Office serving the area in which the applicant's project is located. A list of Field Offices appears in the appendix of this NOFA. Field Office copies must be received by the application deadline as well, but a determination that an application was received on time will be made solely on receipt of the application at HUD Headquarters in Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Please contact the HUD Field Office for the area in which the project is located for additional information. Telephone numbers are included in the list of Field Offices set forth in the appendix of this NOFA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

The information collection requirements contained in this notice have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, and assigned OMB approval numbers 2506-0131, 2506-0112, and 2506-0118.

I. Substantive Description

(a) Authority.

The Supportive Housing program is authorized by title IV, subtitle C, of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney Act), as amended, 42 USC 11381. Regulations for this program are contained in 24 CFR part 583, as amended by an interim rule published in the Federal Register on May 10, 1994, and a final rule published in the Federal Register on July 19, 1994. Funds made available under this NOFA for the Supportive Housing program are subject to the requirements of the amended regulations.

The Shelter Plus Care program is authorized by title IV, subtitle F, of the McKinney Act, as amended, 42 USC 11403. Regulations for this program are contained in 24 CFR part 582, as amended by an interim rule published in the Federal Register on May 10, 1994. Funds made available under this NOFA for the Shelter Plus Care program are subject to the requirements of the amended regulations.

The Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Dwellings for Homeless Individuals is authorized by section 441 of the McKinney Act, as amended, 42 USC 11401. Regulations for this program are contained in 24 CFR part 882, subpart H, as amended by an interim rule published in the Federal Register on May 10, 1994. Funds made available under this NOFA for the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy Dwellings for Homeless Individuals are subject to the requirements of the amended regulations.

(b) Funding Availability.

Approximately \$900 million is available under this NOFA. This consists of approximate amounts of \$600 million for Supportive Housing, \$150 million for Shelter Plus Care, and \$150 million for SRO. All of the funds available under this NOFA were appropriated under the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995 (Pub.L. 103-327, approved September 28, 1994). Any unobligated funds from previous competitions or additional funds that may become available as a result of deobligations or recaptures from previous awards may also be used to fund applications for the same program submitted in response to this NOFA. HUD reserves the right to reallocate funds from one program to another if an insufficient number of approvable applications are received for a program. HUD also reserves the right to fund less than the full amount requested in any application.

(c) Purpose.

The purpose of this NOFA is to fund projects and activities which will fill gaps within the context of developing continuum of care systems to assist homeless persons. A continuum of care system consists of four basic components:

(1) A system of outreach and assessment for determining the needs and conditions of an individual or family who is homeless, or whether assistance is necessary to prevent an individual from becoming homeless;

(2) Emergency shelters with appropriate supportive services to help ensure that homeless individuals and families receive adequate emergency shelter and referral to necessary service providers or housing finders;

(3) Transitional housing with appropriate supportive services to help those homeless individuals and families who are not prepared to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living; and

(4) Permanent housing, or permanent supportive housing, to help meet the long-term needs of homeless individuals and families.

While not all homeless individuals and families in a community will need to access all four, unless all four components are coordinated within a community, none will be successful. A strong homeless prevention strategy is also key to the success of the continuum of care.

Developing a continuum of care system involves a community process for coordinating resources. The community process should include nonprofit organizations, state and local government agencies, other homeless providers, housing developers and service providers, private foundations, neighborhood groups, and homeless or formerly homeless persons.

(d) Coordinating resources.

The Department recognizes that differing statutory requirements of the three programs covered by this NOFA are barriers to creating continuum of care systems that are truly responsive to community needs. The Department is continuing to pursue legislative changes necessary to provide localities and providers with the flexibility they need to create comprehensive systems that completely address the many dimensions of the problem in a coordinated fashion. Meanwhile, under this NOFA, the Department will continue to move in that direction by using its funding resources to help increase the level of coordination among nonprofit organizations, government agencies and other entities that is necessary to develop systematic approaches for successfully addressing homelessness.

To further the purpose of this NOFA, heavy emphasis is placed upon coordination in the application selection criteria. In preparing its application, the applicant should, to the maximum extent possible, coordinate its efforts with other providers of services and housing to homeless persons, such as nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and housing developers, and consult with homeless or formerly homeless persons.

Scoring high on the "Coordination" selection criteria will be important to the success of an application in this competition. High scores will depend on organizations working together to: create, maintain and build upon a community-wide inventory of current services and housing for homeless families and individuals; identify the full spectrum of needs of homeless families and individuals; and coordinate efforts to obtain resources to fill gaps between the current inventory and needs. Applicants are advised to pay special attention to the "Coordination" selection criteria before beginning the process of developing an application.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D.C. 20410-4000

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Molly

**Today's FOCUS at HUD
Monday, July 10, 1995**

HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros and Assistant Secretary Andrew Cuomo today announce \$900 million in grants to help the homeless. The award is the largest level of homeless assistance ever awarded and is part of the new HUD's priority to help communities forge a comprehensive approach to break the cycle of homeless.

✓ HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) is issuing over 800 grants in 228 cities to help communities carry out a comprehensive plan to help homeless families and individuals move from the streets to shelters and permanent housing.

"A continuum of care approach, which identifies the root causes of homelessness and offers permanent, affordable housing and appropriate services, is our goal," says Secretary Cisneros. "This approach is the way to make real, lasting reductions in the number of homeless Americans."

✓ Reflecting President Clinton's commitment to help end the tragedy of homelessness, the \$900 million is a tripling of HUD's homeless assistance budget since 1993. The increased funding has enabled HUD to support hundreds of nonprofit organizations and city homeless programs.

For the first time, cities, states, and local organizations were encouraged to submit coordinated strategies focusing on outreach, transitional and permanent housing, and necessary social services to aid their homeless population.

HUD has reduced the timeframe for reviewing applications and is expediting the distribution of the \$900 million to local communities. The funds come from the Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, and Section 8 Single-Room Occupancy for Individuals programs.

"These resources underscore HUD's commitment to work as a partner with communities to tackle the problem of homelessness efficiently and effectively," says CPD Assistant Secretary Andrew Cuomo.

Secretary Cisneros and Assistant Secretary Andrew Cuomo make today's announcement at the House of Ruth, a homeless shelter for women in Washington, D.C.



Washington, D.C. 20410

News Release

HUD NO. 95-137

Michael Zerega (202) 708-0277 ext 118

Jack Flynn (202) 708-0277 ext 113

FOR RELEASE

Monday

July 10, 1995

HUD MAKES LARGEST AWARD OF HOMELESS FUNDS
-- NEARLY A BILLION DOLLARS --
TO MORE THAN 200 COMMUNITIES

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry G. Cisneros Monday announced the award of nearly \$1 billion in federal homeless assistance funds to 818 projects in 228 communities throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Today's announcement marked the largest award of homeless funds in federal history.

Noting that federal homeless funding has tripled under President Clinton -- from \$572 million in 1993 to \$1.6 billion in 1995 -- Cisneros said, "We have increased federal resources for homeless assistance because it is absolutely the right thing to do. Homelessness affects all of us, and the federal government can help make a difference."

Cisneros said that an estimated 600,000 men, women and children in America are homeless on any given night. "As HUD secretary, I find it intolerable that in 1995, more than half a million people in this country have no permanent housing," he said. "It should be intolerable to everyone in America that hundreds of thousands of people in this nation have no place to call home."

Cisneros' comments came during a press briefing at the House of Ruth, which serves homeless mothers and children in crisis. The HUD secretary was joined at the briefing by Congressmen Ken Bentsen (D-TX), Gene Green (D-TX), Maryland Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell, Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke, HUD Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development Andrew Cuomo, and a homeless woman making the transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency, who introduced

-- MORE

Cisneros and credited the House of Ruth with helping her turn her life around.

Cuomo, whose office administers HUD's homeless programs, said the HUD grant awards, which will support housing, rental assistance and services for homeless families and individuals, would result in more success stories. "The funding we are announcing today will support comprehensive local and state initiatives that really move homeless people off the streets to self-sufficient lives in permanent housing," he said. ✓

Cisneros, who participated in a national satellite broadcast with mayors and local advocates for the homeless, said HUD's role in addressing homelessness is to act as a "facilitator."

"While we set broad parameters, the process is locally driven," he said. "We support initiatives designed by state and local agencies and community-based organizations to meet the needs of their communities. We're offering a helping hand, not a heavy hand. This is the way the federal government is supposed to work."

The grants awarded will benefit about 260,000 homeless people nationwide during the next three years. It is unique in that grants were awarded to communities that were best able to identify needs and local resources for homeless persons through a coordinated strategy -- called a continuum of care -- involving local and state governments, non-profit organizations, homeless persons, the business community and others. }

CONTINUUM OF CARE HOMELESS 1995 COMPETITION
List of Total Awards by State

STATE	\$ AWARDED
ALABAMA	Total \$9,533,152
ALASKA	Total \$2,753,192
ARIZONA	Total \$20,966,480
ARKANSAS	Total \$916,500
CALIFORNIA	Total \$166,062,929
COLORADO	Total \$15,121,196
CONNECTICUT	Total \$19,656,006
DELAWARE	Total \$3,730,069
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Total \$11,354,126
FLORIDA	Total \$26,809,069
GEORGIA	Total \$20,589,904
HAWAII	Total \$565,800
IDAHO	Total \$855,262
ILLINOIS	Total \$46,115,647
INDIANA	Total \$11,038,075
IOWA	Total 1,889,999
KANSAS	Total \$562,800
KENTUCKY	Total \$7,395,330
LOUISIANA	Total \$12,011,985
MAINE	Total \$4,409,480
MARYLAND	Total \$25,349,294
MASSACHUSETTS	Total \$52,188,428
MICHIGAN	Total \$39,283,192
MINNESOTA	Total \$12,219,585
MISSISSIPPI	Total \$986,690
MISSOURI	Total \$8,542,177

MONTANA	Total \$1,232,442
NEBRASKA	Total \$1,412,705
NEVADA	Total \$1,876,071
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Total \$2,097,119
NEW JERSEY	Total \$26,699,110
NEW MEXICO	Total \$5,624,235
NEW YORK	Total \$124,682,555
NORTH CAROLINA	Total \$5,733,091
NORTH DAKOTA	Total \$777,000
OHIO	Total \$26,260,279
OKLAHOMA	Total \$4,185,212
OREGON	Total \$9,492,738
PENNSYLVANIA	Total \$29,964,691
PUERTO RICO	Total \$13,114,184
RHODE ISLAND	Total \$3,219,078
SOUTH CAROLINA	Total \$4,129,617
SOUTH DAKOTA	Total \$742,001
TENNESSEE	Total \$15,119,799
TEXAS	Total \$44,111,265
UTAH	Total \$4,896,763
VERMONT	Total \$2,256,515
VIRGIN ISLANDS	Total \$372,120
VIRGINIA	Total \$12,324,976
WASHINGTON	Total \$24,179,379
WEST VIRGINIA	Total \$1,372,050
WISCONSIN	Total \$12,103,763
WYOMING	Total \$63,315

1995 HOMELESS ASSISTANCE COMPETITION RESULTS

-- FACT SHEET --

- Projects in all **50 States** plus Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands received homeless competition awards.
- 228 Communities received awards
 - 307 Projects within Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities
 - 52 Rural areas
 - 45 Communities with National Service AmeriCorps Volunteers
 - 99 Projects/applicants with National Service AmeriCorps Volunteers
- Nearly 3,000 proposed projects requested a total of \$2.5 billion
- 818 projects were funded in the amount of \$900 million
 - 678 Supportive Housing Program grants for a total of \$601,972,080
 - 79 Shelter Plus Care grants for a total of \$161,983,080
 - 61 Section 8 Single Room Occupancy grants for a total of \$136,044,840

1995 HOMELESS ASSISTANCE

- FACT SHEET -

ANNOUNCEMENT

On February 17, 1995, HUD issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for its competitive homeless program. The largest level of homeless funding for a single competition in HUD's history, this NOFA made resources available for three programs: the Supportive Housing Program (SHP), the Shelter Plus Care program (S+C), and the Section 8 Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Program for Individuals.

HUD re-invented the way it offers assistance. In addition to a consolidated competition and streamlined application, the HUD Office of Community Planning and Development held more than 40 technical assistance sessions throughout the country. Potential applicants were invited to contact a special Customer Service Center (1-800-998-9999) with questions or to receive the application packet and an instructional video.

RESPONSE

In a shortened response time of 45 days, communities from every state in the Union entered the competition, submitting to HUD nearly 3,000 project requests for funding. Applicants described how the proposed projects fit into the community's continuum of care to address homelessness and how the projects are coordinated with existing Federal and other programs. An applicant's discussion typically described the coordination and involvement of local and State governments, non-profit organizations, homeless persons, and in many cases, local businesses, as well as coordination with other Federal and local programs.

The projects aim to serve all subpopulations of homeless people, including: individuals and families, homeless veterans, homeless youth, persons with serious and persistent mental illness, persons with substance abuse problems, victims of domestic abuse, and persons with HIV/AIDS and other disabilities.

RESULTS

Understanding the need to eliminate funding delays and increase local flexibility, HUD worked to streamline the homeless programs and significantly reduce the normal time frame to expedite the distribution of funds. The attached results reflect assistance to help homeless individuals and families in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Distribution of Homeless Assistance

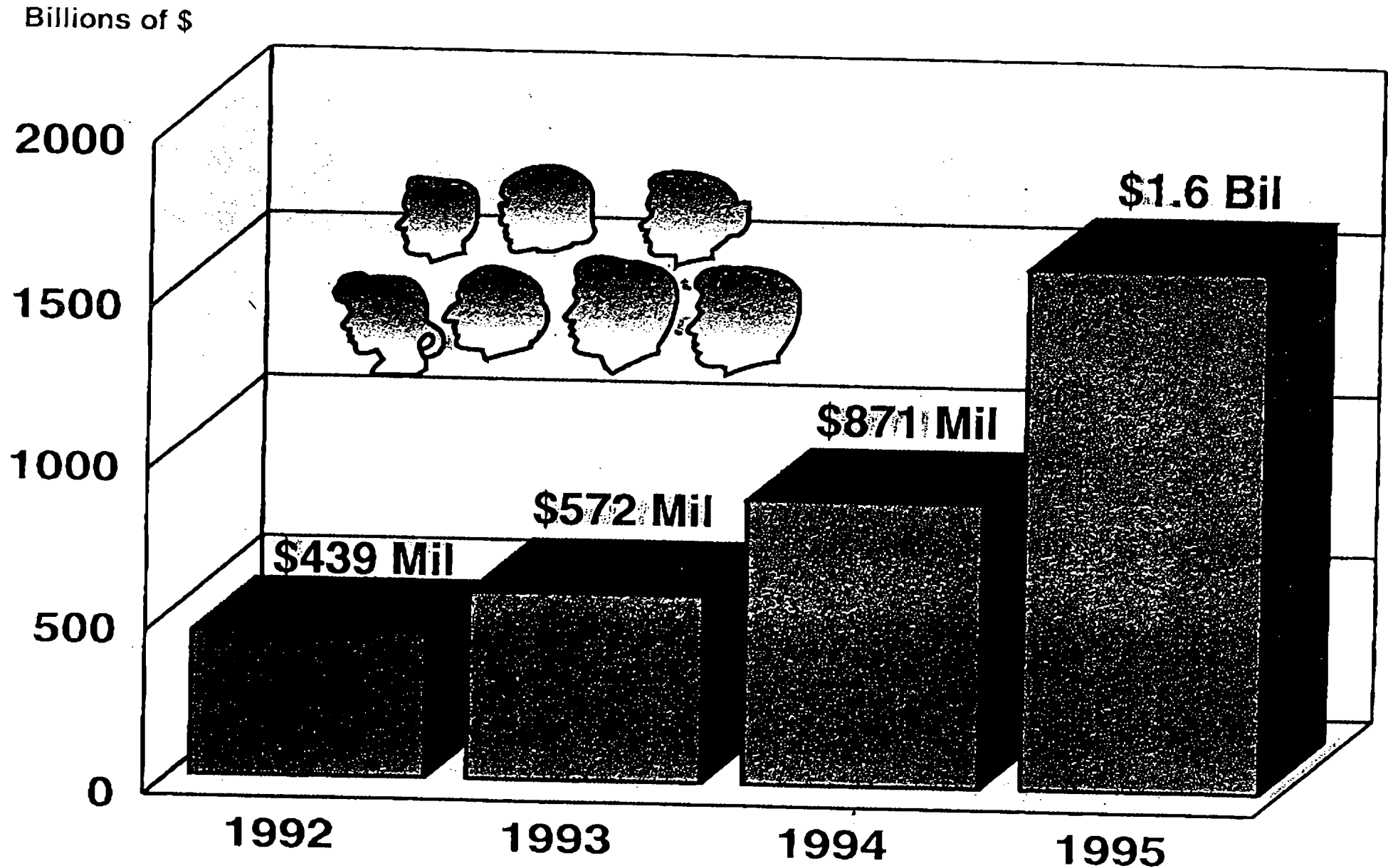


FROM: HOMELESS COUNCIL

TO: 94567028

JUL 11, 1995 1:37PM #373 P.08

HUD Homeless Funding



Cisneros, Chair of the Interagency Council on the Homeless, designated homelessness the number one priority for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In May 1994, the Administration released *Priority Home! The Federal Plan to Break the Cycle of Homelessness*, based on responses to an unprecedented outreach effort, including input from communities across the country, to identify solutions to homelessness.

The plan acknowledged studies showing that as many as 7 million Americans experienced homelessness between 1985 and 1990 and that some 600,000 persons are homeless on any given night. *Priority Home!* classified the problems leading to homelessness into two broad, sometimes overlapping, categories: "crisis poverty," the stubborn demands of ongoing severe poverty, and "chronic disability," including mental illness, substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS.

RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS

To respond to these findings, Secretary Cisneros and the Administration sought to triple the HUD homeless assistance budget. HUD homeless funding increased from \$572 million in 1993 to \$823 million in 1994, then doubled to \$1.6 billion for 1995.

In addition to identifying the need to secure significantly increased resources, the Plan emphasized the need to allow a community the flexibility to shape the appropriate response to homelessness in that specific area. HUD has adopted a policy which will enable localities to shape a comprehensive, flexible, coordinated system of homeless assistance called a "continuum of care." The fundamental components of a continuum of care system are:

- First, outreach and assessment efforts to identify an individual's or family's needs and make connections to facilities and services.
- Second, emergency shelter and appropriate support services as a safe and decent alternative to the streets.
- Third, transitional housing and necessary social services to help persons who are not yet ready for the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

- Fourth, permanent housing, or permanent supportive housing, to help meet the long-term needs of homeless individuals and families.

A local continuum of care provides multi-point access to address the varying needs of homeless individuals and families. Not every homeless person in a community will need to access all four components, but all four components are essential for long-term success in the struggle to end homelessness. A strong homelessness prevention strategy is also key to the success of the continuum.

The primary vehicle for targeted Federal homeless funding is the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. The McKinney Act has provided help to homeless persons since 1987. HUD administers nearly 75% of McKinney Act funds, through six separate grant programs--Supportive Housing (SHP), Shelter Plus Care (S+C), Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation for Single Room Occupancy Dwellings (SRO), Safe Havens, the Rural Homelessness Program, and Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG). The Department has proposed to consolidate all homeless assistance programs into a flexible formula grant to communities and states.

FUNDING FOR 1995

In making funds available for 1995, the Department has continued to encourage coordination and decision-making on the local level. The application process to receive funds in 1995 for SHP, S+C, and SRO--representing \$900 million--was structured to promote and further the development and implementation of a continuum of care system within each community, with participation by nonprofit organizations, homeless and formerly homeless persons, businesses, local and state government, and other entities.

HUD's 1995 competitive homeless grant awards will help communities fill specific gaps in their local continuum of care system. The awards will fund outreach to persons living on the streets; needs assessments of homeless individuals and families; transitional housing and supportive services such as mental health and substance abuse treatment, day care, and job training; and permanent housing in conjunction with supportive services. These activities will help homeless individuals and families--including persons with mental illness, victims of domestic violence, persons with AIDS, and individuals with substance abuse problems--break the cycle of homelessness and help them become more independent.

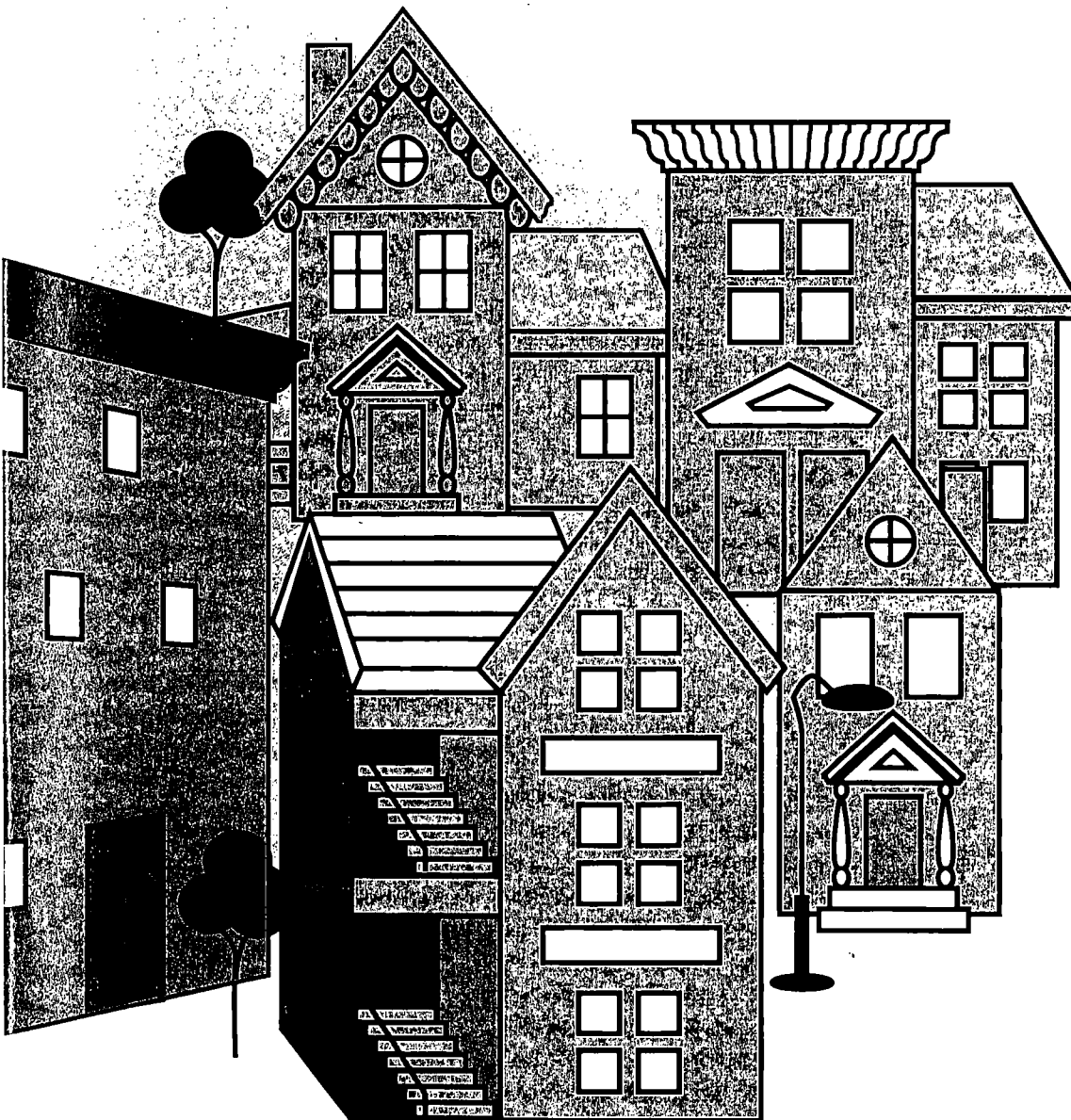
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Homeless Assistance 1996



Continuum of Care

Sponsored by the
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Henry Cisneros, Secretary
Office of Community Planning and Development
Andrew Cuomo, Assistant Secretary