

Model Legislation:

Outreach and Short-term Housing to Reduce Unsheltered Homelessness

*This model legislation provides states with practical, immediate steps to address rising rates of homelessness while laying the foundation for long-term solutions. Legislators often want to act quickly, but building new housing takes time. This template **establishes a grant program to fund outreach teams and short-term housing options** such as vouchers and motels—critical tools for engaging people and providing immediate relief for unsheltered homelessness.*

Establishes a Grant Program for Outreach and Short-Term Housing

Sec 1 - As used in this chapter, “authority” refers to (the state housing finance agency).

Sec 2 – As used in this chapter, “housing related services” refers to a range of services designed to help individuals and families gain, maintain, or improve their housing stability.

Sec 3 – As used in this chapter, “housing crisis” has the same meaning set forth in (state code / if not code establish a definition based on state need)

Sect 4 – As used in this chapter, 'short-term housing' refers to any temporary accommodation that provides respite and designed to offer access to services and permanent housing options once they are available for individuals experiencing a housing crisis.

Sec 5 – The Authority shall, subject to the availability of funds appropriated for such a purpose, develop and implement a grant program for the purpose of awarding grants for outreach and short-term housing options. The program must include grants for the following provisions:

1. Outreach services to connect individuals experiencing a housing crisis with housing options; and
2. Short-term housing for individuals experiencing a housing crisis.

Sec 6 – The Authority shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section. The regulations must prescribe, without limitations:

1. The criteria for eligibility to receive grant funding; and
2. Procedures for the submission and review of applications to receive grant funding.

Sec 7 – There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the grant program created by Sec 5 of this act the sum of \$XX,XXX,XXX to carry out the grant program developed pursuant to Sec 5.

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