





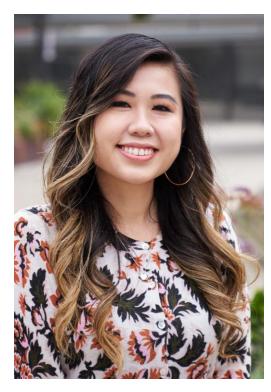




Emergency Hotel Stays under ARP HCY

PROJECT REST
SHORT TERM HOTEL STAYS

Meet Your Presenters





Susie Terry, Coordinator Homeless Education Services San Diego County Office of Education

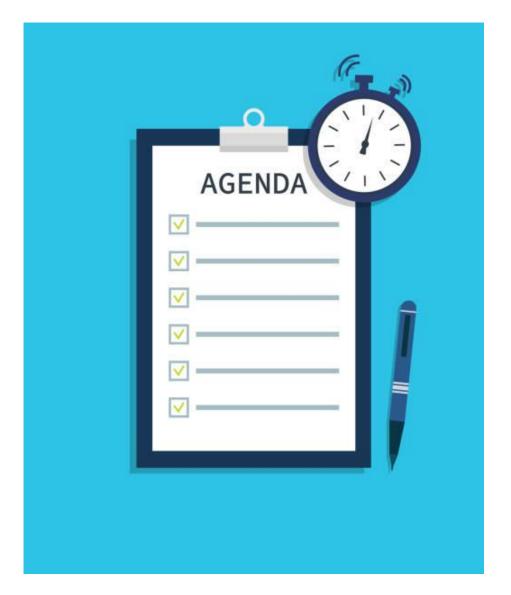
Linda Lee Garibay, Project Specialist Homeless Education Services San Diego County Office of Education











Our Time Today

- Allowable use of funds for hotel stays
- Program Priorities
- Community Partnership
- Process
- Data and Outcomes











Allowable Usages of ARP-HCY Funds



- ✓ Existing 16 authorized activities for McKinney-Vento subgrant funding
- ✓ <u>Flexible funds usage</u> ("any expenses necessary to facilitate the identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success of homeless children and youth")
- Wraparound services (academic, traumainformed, social-emotional, mental health)
- Needed supplies (eyeglasses, school supplies, personal care items)
- Transportation to support school engagement
- Communication devices and technology needed for school engagement

- Short-term housing as a last resort when needed for school engagement (e.g., a few days in a motel)
- Prepaid store or debit cards needed to purchase materials for school engagement
- Awarding contracts to community-based organizations (CBOs)

See the <u>U.S. Department of Education's ARP-HCY Dear Colleague Letter</u>

for more information









Let's Chat...













Short-Term Housing = Project REST

Short term emergency hotel stay program that serves San Diego County.

Priorities at the start:

- Compassionate
- Connection to ongoing services
- Not in the housing business; how do we stay in our lane
- Be able to operate in all parts of the county and house families in school area









Short-Term Housing = Project REST

How we addressed our priorities

- Length of stay
 - Time before contacting
 - Warm handoffs to hotel
- Case management services
 - Via numerous community agencies
 - Staff time to sort through and find "fits"









Short-Term Housing = Project REST

- How we addressed our priorities
- Educational assistance from SDCOE
 - Transportation set up, re-enrollment, other supports
- Partnership with San Diego Youth Services, a nonprofit communitybased organization
 - Existing contract with Motel 6 and partners, expanded locations









Project Set up – Community Partner SDYS

- Created a Sub-Award agreement that allowed for advance payment
 - Allows for up to 16% on operational costs
 - Already operating a hotel voucher program
 - Existing contracts with Motel 6 and their partners
 - Discounted rate
- ARP Funded Staff position in SDCOE office











Project Set up

Liability Question

- Our partner has the direct contract with the Motel 6 partners
- They have liability as part of their agreement we are not party
- Families know they will not be able to access again if there is a problem









Project REST

Simple Process

- McKinney-Vento families referred by their local liaison or designee
- Low barrier
 - Only requires an ID
- Quick turnaround
 - Our community partner sets up the reservation via online system
 - We send confirmation # back for family usually within 24 hours or less.











Guidelines

Families sign an acknowledgment of the guidelines

- ☐ Respect all people and property in the building
- ☐ No use of possession of drugs, alcohol, weapons, or explicit materials of any kind
- ☐ No guests allowed

Families may not use the service again if a guideline is violated









Extensions

- Case management efforts have produced positive results, but 5 days isn't always enough
 - Extension eligibility
 - Extension length 5 additional days, up to 2 times
- Extension Use of funds
 - Existing 16 authorized activities for McKinney-Vento subgrant funding
 - #16: The provision of other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school and participate fully in school activities.



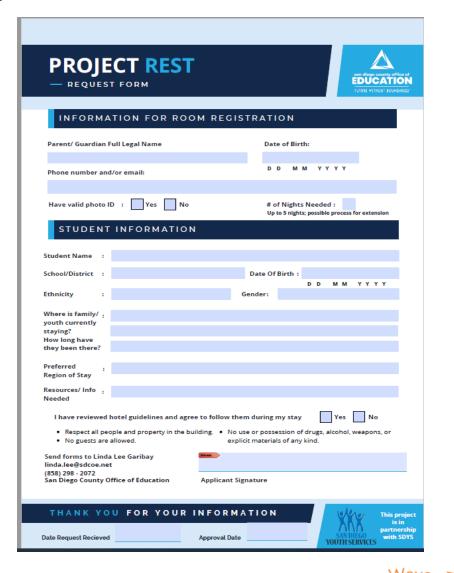






Forms















Let's Chat...

Any Questions so far?



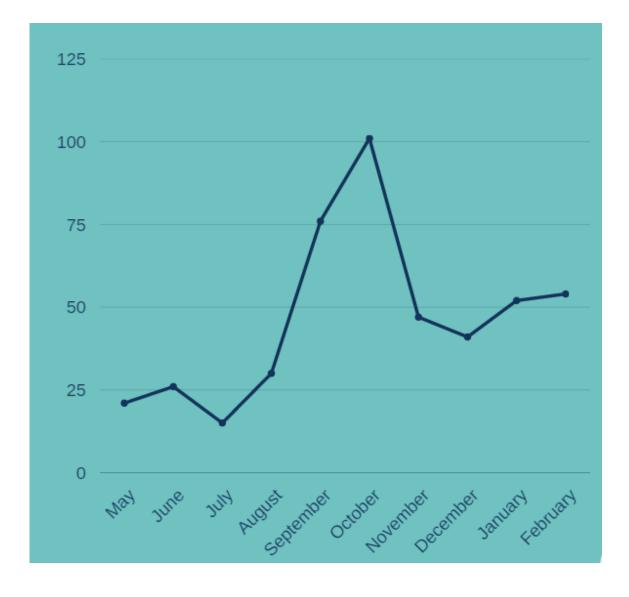












Data

- 496 Stays since May 2022
- \$245,880.31 Spent to date
- \$545.19 of an average 5 day stay
- Holiday in November and December
- ~ 50 Stays a month, not including extensions









San Diego's Next Steps

Large positive response!

"After doing this job for years, this is the first time I feel like I have some *real* help to offer" -School District Liaison

Collaborative MOU with LEAs who wish to spend some of their ARP funds

- Referral process stays the same
- MOU partners decide on a prioritization method if that becomes necessary
- SDCOE invoices LEA for their stays









Project Rest Impact

- Upon Intake, Parent's worry about...
- Getting to School Overwhelmed with resources, contacts, no responses
 - Where to start?
- Need a safe place to cook a meal and take a shower

- What is next?
- During and after stay
 - Feel more rested and safe
 - Feel more encouraged Link to housing, food navigation, and other resources
 - Feel more supported Connected to school services
- Shelter and Community Level
 - Enrollment
 - Transportation
 - Link to supportive services; connection to Liaisons and school supplies

Providing a safe place to stay while services are being started and filling a gap at a time where many resources have long waiting lists or are overcrowded.











Questions?













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