

EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM

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<http://www.efsp.unitedway.org>



FEMA

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDING (ARRA)

Local Board Instructions Specific to ARRA Funding

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided an additional \$100 million to the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (EFSP). This funding is above and beyond the funds already awarded under Phase 27 (FY2009) and should be treated as such to address the great increases in unemployment and community need that are being seen by Local Boards and emergency service providers throughout the country.

Local Boards must have a very thoughtful and thorough process to look at this new need and allocate the ARRA funding. As this funding came about due to the increased unemployment, Local Boards need to ensure that they do not just redo their previous process/funding, but truly reach out to ensure that this new need is addressed in their allocation decisions.

- Local Boards are required to advertise specifically for the ARRA funding and must ensure that agencies have knowledge of the program, know who to contact, and how to apply for funding. (Refer to the Sample Press Release in the Addendum to the Phase 27 Responsibilities and Requirements Manual.)
- Local Boards may not just automatically give additional funding to LROs already funded under Phase 27.
- Local Boards must allow for application and funding of agencies that either did not apply or were not funded in Phase 27.
- Local Boards must seek ways to determine where the newly unemployed are and if there are agencies providing services that are accessible to the areas where the newly unemployed reside.
- Local Boards must do outreach in their jurisdictions to determine where the need is and seek out agencies in those areas providing emergency services.
- Local Boards must work with agencies to expand services to help meet the identified increased need.
- Local Boards must be prepared to explain their allocation decisions in detail to the National Board.
- LROs previously receiving funds under Phase 27 must consider the total of Phase 27 and ARRA funding in complying with EFSP audit requirements.
- LROs previously receiving funds under Phase 27 must consider the total of Phase 27 and ARRA funding in complying with Lobbying Certification requirements.
- The spending period for ARRA funding begins April 1, 2009 and runs concurrent with the remainder of the spending period selected by the Local Board for Phase 27. (Both Phase 27 and ARRA will end on the same date.)

Local Boards with questions about the intent of the National Board in the allocation and direction for the ARRA funding should contact the National Board staff at (703) 706-9660 or via the EFSP web site at www.efsp.unitedway.org.



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