

**Analysis and Summary of  
Social Services Block Grant Disaster Relief  
“Hurricane Sandy Supplemental Funds”  
Allocation Plan, as Amended**

Joint Hearing of Committees on Appropriations and Human Services

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**OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS**

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## **Introduction**

The Social Services Block Grant Disaster Relief funding (“Hurricane Sandy Supplemental Funds”) is available to states directly affected by Hurricane Sandy via the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013. At the state level, the Department of Social Services (DSS) will administer \$10.6 million in such supplemental funds.

## **Federal Allocation Process**

Public Law 113-2, the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, appropriated approximately \$60 billion for recovery efforts, of which approximately \$500 million is designated as additional funding for the SSBG program. After consideration of the sequestration reduction of 5.1%, this amount totals \$474.5 million. Federal allotments are based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) reported number of registrants for Individual Assistance (IA).

## **State Allocation Process**

The proposed plan assumes final funding for Connecticut of \$10,569,192. Specific allocation requirements include:

1. Funds must be expended in Fairfield County, Middlesex County, New Haven County, New London County, and the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Reservation (a list of eligible towns by county is seen on page 4 );
2. Funds are in addition to entitlement grants and cannot be used to fulfill entitlements;
3. The use of funds must meet at least one of five social service goals of the SSBG program.
4. States are expected to determine appropriate eligibility criteria and verification procedures which shall include, at a minimum, documentation to demonstrate that households were impacted by Hurricane Sandy and other resources were not available to cover expenditures.
5. States must obligate and expend their funds by September 30, 2015.

A collaborative effort of state, local, federal and private sector entities has worked on the state’s allocation planning process. DSS has participated in various meetings, webinars, as well as conducted surveys and gathered information on immediate and unmet needs.

Table 1 outlines the proposed allocation of funds by service category. The majority of funding is anticipated to target long-term case management. If different needs are identified, the department will make necessary adjustments.

**Table 1: Proposed SSBG Disaster Relief Budget**

Category	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	Total	% of Total Allocation	Description
Case Management	486,184	2,917,097	1,458,548	4,861,829	46.0%	Arrange, coordinate, and monitor services to develop and implement an individual service plan, provide counseling, and evaluate client progress.
Counseling	116,261	697,567	348,783	1,162,611	11.0%	Apply therapeutic processes to personal, family, situational, or occupational problems to achieve positive resolution or improve individual/family functioning.
Protective Services for Children	105,692	634,151	317,076	1,056,919	10.0%	Prevent or remedy abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children who may be harmed through physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, and negligent treatment or maltreatment, including failure to be provided with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.
Administrative Services <sup>1</sup>	95,123	570,736	285,368	951,227	9.0%	Support administrative costs for grantees and sub-grantees.
Other- Renovations/Repairs <sup>2</sup>	73,984	443,906	221,953	739,843	7.0%	Renovate, repair, or rebuild health care, child care, or other social services facilities.

<sup>1</sup> Connecticut will cap administrative expenses at 9% of the final allocation amount.

<sup>2</sup> The “Other-Renovations/Repairs” category was added in an amendment to the plan during the June 25<sup>th</sup> 2013 public hearing, resulting in a reallocation of funding among categories. The total funding by fiscal year remains unchanged.

(Continued) Table 1: Proposed SSBG Disaster Relief Budget

Category	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	Total	% of Total Allocation	Description
Housing Services	73,984	443,906	221,953	739,843	7.0%	Assist individuals/families in locating, obtaining, or retaining suitable housing, and may include tenant counseling, help identifying and correcting substandard housing conditions for those unable to protect their own interests, assistance understanding leases, securing utilities, making moving arrangements and minor renovations.
Information & Referral	52,846	317,076	158,538	528,460	5.0%	Provide information and referral to various community providers, which may include a brief assessment of client needs.
Protective Services for Adults	52,846	317,076	158,538	528,460	5.0%	Prevent or remedy abuse, neglect, or exploitation of adults unable to protect their own interests.
<b>Total</b>	1,056,920	6,341,515	3,170,757	<b>10,569,192</b>	100.0%	

**Table 2: Eligible Towns by County**

<b>Fairfield County</b>	<b>New Haven County</b>	<b>New London County</b>	<b>Middlesex County</b>
Bethel	Ansonia	Bozrah	Chester
Bridgeport	Beacon Falls	Colchester	Clinton
Brookfield	Bethany	East Lyme	Cromwell
Danbury	Branford	Franklin	Deep River
Darien	Cheshire	Griswold	Durham
Easton	Derby	Groton	East Haddam
Fairfield	East Haven	Lebanon	East Hampton
Greenwich	Guilford	Ledyard	Essex
Monroe	Hamden	Lisbon	Haddam
New Canaan	Madison	Lyme	Killingworth
New Fairfield	Meriden	Montville	Middlefield
Newtown	Middlebury	New London	Middletown
Norwalk	Milford	North Stonington	Old Saybrook
Shelton	Naugatuck	Norwich	Portland
Sherman	New Haven	Old Lyme	Westbrook
Stamford	North Branford	Preston	
Stratford	North Haven	Salem	
Redding	Orange	Sprague	
Ridgefield	Oxford	Stonington	
Trumbull	Prospect	Voluntown	
Weston	Seymour	Waterford	
Westport	Southbury		
Wilton	Wallingford		
	Waterbury		
	West Haven		
	Wolcott		
	Woodbridge		