

Department of Administration

Bureau of Housing

November 2024 Updates

CDBG CV Emergency Assistance Program

Community Development Block Grant-Coronavirus (CDBG CV) funding was made available through the CARES Act in 2020. At this time, DEHCR has about \$4.3 million in funds remaining, and the funds will be granted out in one round of funding for emergency assistance. Funds may be used for rent and/or utility assistance, emergency shelter operations, and motel/hotel vouchers. Local units of government, community action agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and organizations operated for profit are eligible to apply. The funding may *not* be used in HUD entitlement areas.

The CDBG CV funding application was released on October 31 and will be due December 2nd. Each applicant can request up to \$200,000 with an additional 10% admin. Awards will be announced by the end of the year.

HOME ARP Program

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated \$5 billion to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homeless and other vulnerable populations, to be allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for HOME Investment Partnerships Program allocations in Fiscal Year 2021. DEHCR received \$41,859,563 in funding. HOME-ARP Supportive Service Applications were awarded May 1, 2024, and another competitive application will be available in the spring of 2025. HOME-ARP Rental Housing Development and Nonprofit Operating and Capacity Building Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis. All program applications and related materials are available on DEHCR's [HOME-ARP webpage](#).

HOME Homebuyer and Rehabilitation (HHR)

Provides direct assistance for acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction. Funds are awarded through a biennial funding cycle:

- HHR 2023 contracts go to December 2024. All activities must be completed by the end of the year. Any activities that will now take over two to three months to complete should be setup on the HHR 2024 contracts. Extension requests will be sent out the end of the November but only for 3 months.
- HHR 2024 contracts started 7/1/24 and go on to December 2025.
- Applications will be sent out in February 2025 for the next round of HHR and CHDO contracts.

Housing Cost Reduction Initiative (HCRI)

State funds set aside to assist with acquisition and foreclosure prevention. These funds are awarded on a biennial competition basis.

- DEHCR awarded \$2.6 million in HCRI funds for the 2023-2025 biennium with contracts in July 2023. Performance period for HCRI contracts run from July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2025.

HOME Rental Housing Development (RHD)

Rental Housing Development (RHD) Program is designed to assist affordable housing development opportunities for persons at or below 60% County Median Income (CMI), with the goal to serve primarily Low or Extremely Low-income households within the HOME assisted units.

- Applications are accepted via DEHCR's website for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), Non-Profit and For-Profit Developers
- HOME RHD funds may be compatible with other funds such as Housing Trust Funds, Low Income Housing Tax Credits or HOME ARP
- Up to \$1 Million per award, subject to funds availability

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)/Housing Assistance Program (HAP)/Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)

The Emergency Solutions Grant is federal funding that assists with rapid re-housing, homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, and street outreach. The Housing Assistance Program is state funding that provides assistance for housing and supportive services to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families to independent living. The Homeless Prevention Program is state funding for rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention.

- The 2023-2024 grant cycle ended September 30, 2024.
- The 2024-2025 grant cycle awarded \$6,286,653 in funding (\$3,400,153 ESG / \$1,515,000 HPP / \$1,371,500 HAP) to 27 grantees. Contracts have been executed and have a performance period of October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

Homeless Case Management Services Grant (HCMS)

This program supports intensive case management for families living in shelters and motels, through motel voucher programs. The case management provided focuses on financial management, employment, ensuring school continuation for children, and enrolling unemployed or underemployed parents in W-2 or Food Share Employment and Training. **During the most recent program year, nearly 1,200 individuals have been assisted, including over 590 children.**

- 10 grantees were awarded \$50,000 each for the 2024-25 grant cycle.
- Applications for the 2025-2026 cycle will likely open in March 2025. Timing is subject to change.

Employment Grant (EG)

This grant provides one \$75,000 award each year to a municipality (county, city, village, or town), or a federally recognized tribal governing body. Funds can be used to provide programming connecting people experiencing homelessness to permanent employment. Eligible costs include participants' wages/stipends, as well as operational and administrative expenses. Preference is given to applicants who will partner with an agency to provide supportive services to participants. **Over the past three years, the award has been used to provide 10-14 individuals each year stipends while they participate in job training programs.**

- The 2024 grant was awarded to the City of Madison.
- Applications for the 2025 grant are currently open.

Recovery Voucher Grant Program (RV)

This program provides an option for individuals (and their families) experiencing homelessness who have also been diagnosed with an opioid use disorder (OUD) or who have been receiving treatment for OUD within the past 12-months to be housed in Department of Health Services' recognized recovery residences. **Last year, the RV program helped over 175 clients stay in recovery residences with a 4-month average length of stay. This year, over 180 clients have been helped to date.**

- 7 grantees received awards totaling \$851,799 for 2024.
- Applications for the 2025 grant are currently in the review process.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)

The TBRA program provides security deposits and rental assistance, up to 24 months, to individuals and families at or below 60% County Median Income (CMI) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

- DEHCR approved 14 TBRA grantee awards for the 2023-2025 application period, totaling \$6.4 million.
 - Of the 14 TBRA grantees for the 2023-2025 TBRA contract period, two of them are new grantees: Southwest CAP and Western Dairyland EOC.
 - From July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024:
 - Number of Households Served: 708
 - Number of Clients Served: 1,790
- DEHCR approved 11 TBRA grantee awards for the 2024-2025 application period, totaling \$4.8 million.

State Shelter Subsidy Grant (SSSG)

The SSSG program assists individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness by awarding state grants to eligible agencies that provide emergency shelter and supportive services. SSSG funding is awarded based on shelter nights, eligibility requirements, and minimum and maximum amounts set by state statutes and administrative code. Funding can be utilized for most shelter operation costs such as salaries and utilities.

- For the 2025 SSSG application cycle, DEHCR received 53 applications.
 - Currently in the process of scoring the SSSG applications.

Critical Assistance (CA)

The Critical Assistance (CA) program provides homeless prevention assistance to individuals and families who are at or below 60% County Median Income (CMI), at risk of homelessness and who reside in areas that other homeless prevention resources are exhausted or not available. CA funds can provide a one-time only payment towards the following items: security deposits, rental payments, mortgage payments, utility payments and tax arrearages.

- For the 2024-2025 grant period, the Foundation for Rural Housing received \$282,800 in CA renewal funding to provide homeless prevention services in the Wisconsin Balance of State area.
 - As of September 30th:
 - Number of Clients Served: 194
 - Number of Households Served: 94

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

The state of Wisconsin receives HOPWA funding based on a formula developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) federal HOPWA program. The HOPWA program provides housing assistance and supportive services, to low-income persons and their families living with HIV/AIDS, leading to better health outcomes and longer life expectancy for those served.

- For the 2023-2024 grant period, Vivent Health was awarded \$1,053,487 in HOPWA funding and has provided the following services:
 - Housing Information Services (HIS): Provides housing navigation services.
 - Permanent Housing Placement (PHP): Assists with removing barriers to enable households to move into permanent housing.
 - Short-term rental, mortgage and utility (STRMU) assistance: Provides short term assistance to prevent households from losing their housing.
 - Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA): Offers longer-term rental assistance.
 - Supportive Services: Covers many services including adult day care/personal assistance, childcare, case management, employment assistance/training, legal services, among others.
- For the upcoming 2024-2025 grant period, DEHCR will be awarding \$1,074,131 to one grantee. Applications for the 2024-2025 grant period are currently under review.

Fair Housing Contract

DEHCR contracts with an outside agency to provide fair housing assistance and information statewide. To be an eligible Fair Housing applicant, the contractor must meet the following mandatory qualifications: experience in fair housing complaint investigations and follow-up; experience in fair housing training and outreach; a toll-free telephone number; in-person office location(s) and a website to assist individuals who believe they have experienced illegal housing discrimination.

Fair Housing services include providing fair housing information statewide; counseling Wisconsin residents on fair housing law; making fair housing complaint intake and investigation

available to persons who believe they have experienced discrimination; and conducting fair housing testing. By offering these services, the Division meets various state and federal fair housing requirements.

- For 2024-2025 contract period, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council was awarded \$62,150 in Fair Housing renewal funding to provide these services statewide under the terms of the 2022 request for purchasing authority process.

For more information of the Department of Administration programs, visit the website at <https://energyandhousing.wi.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>.