

Wisconsin Balance of State Quarterly Meeting Updates

May 19, 2023

HOME-American Rescue Plan

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. A current breakdown of funding is available [on page 19 of the State's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan](#).

An abbreviated overview of the program is available [here](#).

DEHCR staff is currently working with HUD TA to review program materials and procedures as new guidance is released by HUD. While anticipating the release of the application, please review the following materials:

1. [CPD Notice 21-10](#) – the HOME-ARP Implementation Notice. Aside from distinctions noted in the Implementation notice, regulations around the development, acquisition, or rehabilitation of HOME-ARP assisted housing defaults to the regular HOME Program's guidelines specified in [24 CFR 92](#).
2. [HOME-ARP on HUD Exchange](#) and [HUD's HOME-ARP Fact Sheets](#) for more information on rental housing and/or other HOME-ARP activities – Supportive Services, TBRA, and Nonprofit Operating and Capacity Building Assistance.

2023-2024 EHH Application

- The EHH Application was released on 4/27/23; the deadline was recently extended to 6/30/23
- Awards letters for HPP and HAP funding were sent out on 5/10/23; ESG awards will come with the contracts. The contract start date is changing from prior years to October 1st.
- There are separate applications for ESG/HPP funding and HAP funding. Only the four HUD CoCs will submit a HAP application to DEHCR. Agencies with projects should submit HAP project applications to their HUD CoC using the method described by the HUD CoC.
- Some clarifications on HAP:
 - A Housing First approach is required for all projects.
 - Fair Market Rent requirements do NOT apply to HAP funding; however, units have to meet rent reasonableness standards.
 - Regarding client eligibility: Individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness are eligible for HAP funds. Grantees may determine which definition of homelessness they will use in their program. There is no income requirement.
 - HAP-funded projects can serve all eligible populations, including those that cannot fit in the current Coordinated Entry system; as such, CE is not a requirement of funding.
 - Projects are encouraged to meet a HUD CoC priority and must do so to receive full points; however, it is not a requirement of funding.
- When submitting your application, make sure to include all required attachments. If you are unclear on what is required or have any questions, please reach out to Sarah Isaak at sarah.isaak@wisconsin.gov.

Other items:

- There is no update on the FMR waiver requested from HUD; it's still being processed.
- During monitorings, make sure to never send unredacted client files through email. They can only be submitted through secure channels.

Homeless Case Management Services Grant (HCMS)

This program funds intensive case management for families living in shelters or in motels through motel vouchers. The intensive case management focuses on four core areas: financial management, employment, ensuring school continuation for children, and enrolling unemployed or underemployed parents in W-2 or Food Share Employment and Training.

- 10 grantees were awarded \$50,000 each for the 2023-24 grant cycle. More information and a list of the grantees can be found on [DEHCR's website](#).

Employment Grant (EG)

This program helps connect people experiencing homelessness to work and training opportunities. Funding can be used to cover clients' wages, as well as operational, and administrative costs. Eligible applicants are limited municipalities (counties, cities, villages and towns), however subcontracting to agencies for the delivery of services is permitted. One grant of \$75,000 is given per year. More information can be found on [DEHCR's website](#).

- The 2023 grantee is the City of Madison, who is partnering with YWCA Madison.
- The application for 2024 will tentatively open mid-August and be due late September, updates will be posted on [DEHCR's website](#).

Recovery Voucher Grant (RV)

This program provides an option for people who have been diagnosed with an opioid use disorder (OUD) or who have received treatment for OUD within the past year, and are also experiencing homelessness to be housed in recovery residences.

- Six grantees were awarded \$100,000 each to provide recovery housing assistance in 2023.
- The application for 2024 will tentatively open in late August and be due late September, updates will be posted on [DEHCR's website](#).

Critical Assistance (CA)

- For the 2022-2023 contract period, Foundation for Rural Housing received \$565,600 in CA renewal funding to provide homeless prevention assistance throughout the 69-county service area.
- For the 2023-2024 contract period, DEHCR received one application. Foundation for Rural Housing received the CA award totaling \$282,800.

Fair Housing

- For the 2022-2023 contract period, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council was awarded \$62,150 in Fair Housing funding to provide services statewide under the terms of the 2022 request for purchasing authority process.
- For the 2023-2024 contract period, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council received \$62,150 in Fair Housing renewal funding.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

- For the 2022-2023 contract period, Vivent Health was awarded \$934,593 in HOPWA renewal funding to provide housing assistance and related supportive services to low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families throughout the 66-county service area.
- The HOPWA application for the 2023-2024 contract period will be available in August 2023.

Safe Shelter and Homelessness Grant (SSHG)

- For the 2022-2023 winter season, 45 agencies received SSHG awards totaling \$2 million.
- As of the end of March, SSHG expenditures were at about \$1.2 million which is 60% of the total program budget.
- The SSHG performance period ended on April 30, 2023.

State Shelter Subsidy Grant (SSSG)

- For the 2023 calendar year, 49 agencies received SSSG awards totaling \$1.6 million.

State Shelter Subsidy Grant – Homeless Case Management Services (SSSG HCMS)

- On September 28, 2022, Governor Tony Evers announced new, targeted grants to ensure support and services are available for families and individuals who need them. These grants are used to provide intensive case management services to families and individuals who currently reside in emergency shelter facilities or motel voucher programs.
- For the 2023 calendar year, 10 agencies received SSSG HCMS awards totaling \$500,000.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)

- For the 2022-2024 contract period, 13 agencies received TBRA awards totaling \$4.7 million.
- The TBRA application period for the 2023-2025 contract will close on Friday, May 19th.