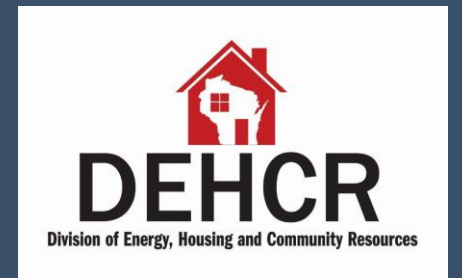


DIVISION OF ENERGY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES – PROGRAM UPDATES

BUREAU OF HOUSING



WISCONSIN EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WERA)

WHERE WE BEGAN

- **DECEMBER 27, 2020** - Title V Section 501 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 was signed into law, and created the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program, administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and provided a total of \$25 billion in federal assistance to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Wisconsin received **\$386,777,592**; state portion w/o entitlements **\$322,174,044 (WERA 1)**
- **MAY 7, 2021** - Treasury announced an additional \$21.6 billion under the American Rescue Plan for Emergency Assistance
 - Wisconsin received **\$306,039,006**; state portion w/o entitlements **\$281,247,448 (WERA 2)**



WISCONSIN EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WERA)

WHERE WE ARE NOW –

- WERA 1 - Completely Expended (\$112,804,912M)
- WERA 2 - \$34,918,301M Expended (as of May 9)
- Total # of Households helped – 33,488 Households (as of May 9)



COMING SOON

HOME AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP)

- The American Rescue Plan (ARP) provided \$5 billion to be administered through HUD's **HOME** Investment Partnerships Program (**HOME**).
- Wisconsin Allocation:
 - Eau Claire WI \$1,140,076
 - Green Bay WI \$1,948,216
 - Kenosha WI \$1,963,911
 - La Crosse WI \$1,097,432
 - Madison WI \$5,076,197
 - Milwaukee WI \$20,309,464
 - Racine WI \$2,080,178
 - Dane County WI \$2,255,364
 - **WI Non-Entitlement \$41,859,563**



HOME ARP – POPULATIONS SERVED AND FUND USES

- HOME-ARP funds must be used to **primarily benefit individuals or families** from the following qualifying populations:
 - **Homeless**, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11302\(a\)](#));
 - **At-risk of homelessness**, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11360\(1\)](#));
 - **Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking**, as defined by the Secretary;
 - In other populations where providing **supportive services** or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act ([42 U.S.C. 12742\(a\)](#)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;
 - **Veterans and families that include a veteran family member** that meet one of the preceding criteria.
- HOME-ARP funds can be used for **four eligible activities**:
 - Production or Preservation of Affordable Housing
 - Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
 - Supportive Services, including services defined at [24 CFR 578.53\(e\)](#), Homeless Prevention Services, and Housing Counseling
 - Purchase and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter. These structures can remain in use as non-congregate shelter or can be converted to: 1) emergency shelter under the [Emergency Solutions Grants \(ESG\) Program](#); 2) permanent housing under the [Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Program](#); or 3) affordable housing under the [HOME Program](#).



HOME ARP – PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- DEHCR requested input from 16 organizations including, CoCs, state agencies and stakeholder groups and performed extensive research on eligible populations for assistance.
- The input identified a broad spectrum of needs for funding; however, several themes were repeated.
- The key gaps within the State of Wisconsin include a lack of affordable housing units and access to available services to maintain housing.
- Key stakeholders, partners and constituents requested additional funding for communities to develop opportunities for housing with supports and to provide funding for additional sheltering options with case management supports.
- Key indicators of these gaps include:
 - long waiting lists for permanent housing
 - landlords raising rent
 - families who are doubled up
 - landlords who are unwilling to work with prevention programs
 - sub-standard housing (housing that is unhealthy or in need of repair) and housing that is not close to work, other amenities or on bus line
 - lack of housing for those who are on the sex offender registry, those who are convicted of manufacture of illegal substances and victims of domestic violence



HOME ARP – PRIORITY NEEDS

- The *priority* needs for the qualifying populations in the State of Wisconsin include providing HOME ARP funds for:
 1. acquisition, rehabilitation or construction of affordable housing (lack of affordable housing)
 2. supportive services to enable qualifying populations to obtain and maintain permanent housing
- Based on feedback received during the consultation process, the greatest priority should be given to the acquisition, rehabilitation or construction of affordable housing



HOME ARP – AWARD PROCESS

- DEHCR will solicit applications for funding through email notice to all HUD recognized Continua of Care, local homeless coalitions, the state association of Public Housing Authorities, the state association of Community Action Agencies, and current grantees.
- DEHCR will issue a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) on its website; application information will be available. Eligible activities will be administered by funded agencies.
- More information on scoring criteria and the awards process will be available closer to RFP launch.



HOME ARP-NEXT STEPS

- Draft Allocation Plan complete, meeting with the Secretary's Office to brief on the Plan, goals and implementation strategy.
- Once approved, public hearing and 30-day public input process.
- Allocation Plan sent to HUD for review and approval.
- Notice of Funding Availability to accept projects (Summer target)
- Awards issued (Fall target)



EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT-CORONAVIRUS (ESG-CV)

- As of the March 2022 payment requests, the statewide grant is at 75% spent with just over \$6 million remaining
- New HUD Notice (CPD-22-06) was released 4/28/22
 - Extends federal expenditure deadlines (however, for now, state deadlines remain the same)
 - Describes recapture and reallocation process
 - There is a possibility that WI will receive additional funds; we will find out in July/August 2022



EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT/HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PROGRAM/HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EHH)

- The 2022-2023 EHH application was due 5/9/22
 - Deadline for additional HAP funds is 5/30/22
- DEHCR will hold a mandatory virtual meeting with all EHH 2022-23 grantees (lead agencies and subrecipients) in early June to discuss requirements
 - The meeting will be recorded for those who can't attend live
- DEHCR is starting the process to request from HUD a waiver of the Fair Market Rent requirement for ESG funds; more information on this will be communicated soon, as data will need to be collected from coalitions



HOMELESS CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES GRANT

- This grant provides funding for intensive case management for homeless families in emergency shelters focusing on: financial management, employment, ensuring school continuation for children and enrolling unemployed or underemployed parents in W-2 or food share and employment training.
- Eligible families include: adults with children under 18 or in school under 19, pregnant women, non-custodial parents of children under 18, and adults 18-24 accompanied by a family member
- Each year 10 contracts of \$50,000 are awarded.
- Contracts were awarded for 2021-2022 grant cycle.
- Applications for the 2022-2023 grant cycle have been released
 - *New this year: shelters using a HMIS comparable database can now apply, opening the grant to many previously ineligible DV shelters*



EMPLOYMENT GRANT

- The goal of this grant is to assist municipalities to create programs connecting individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent employment. Funding can be used to pay for wages of program participants as well as operational costs.
- DEHCR has encouraged recipients to create collaborative and innovative programming and looks forward to seeing the results of the current grant recipient's program.
- 1 contract per year is awarded.
- The 2022 contract has been awarded totaling \$75,000.

