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MAC



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC & HOUSING STABILITY

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October 8, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, NH 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Economic and Housing Stability, Bureau of Housing Supports, to accept and expend Consolidated Appropriations Act, Section 501 Emergency Rental Assistance Funds (ERA1), in the amount of \$3,350,000 from the Governor's Office of Economic Relief and Recovery (GOFERR), effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approval through September 30, 2022 and further authorize the allocation of these funds in the accounts below.

05-95-42-423010-19XX0000¹ HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS, HHS: HUMAN SERVICES, HOMELESS & HOUSING, GOFERR HOUSING STABILITY

Class/Object	Class Title	Current Authorized Budget	Requested Change	Adjusted Budget
Revenue				
00D-488502	Federal Funds	\$ -	\$3,350,000	\$ 3,350,000
Total Revenue:		\$ -	\$3,350,000	\$ 3,350,000
Expense				
074-500589	Grants for Public Asst and Relief	\$ -	\$3,350,000	\$ 3,350,000
Total Expense:		\$ -	\$3,350,000	\$ 3,350,000

¹ Activities will be utilized as assigned by GOFERR. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

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EXPLANATION

This request is being made to accept funding from GOFERR for the purpose of providing Housing Stability Services for the Displaced Households Program using Emergency Rental Assistance Housing Stability Funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Section 501 (ERA1) and consists of three components²:

- 1) **Intensive Case Management Program**³ to provide housing stability services to New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP) eligible displaced households;
- 2) **Landlord Incentive Outreach Program**⁴ to provide outreach and education to increase the number of landlords that accept Housing Choice Vouchers and enter into rental agreements with NHERAP eligible displaced households; and
- 3) **Staffing Support**⁵ to carry out the goals and objectives of this program and to advance related objectives set forth in the Council on Housing Stability Strategic Plan.

- The housing stability services intensive case management services will be provided through agencies with established homeless shelter programs currently under contract with the Department through its Bureau of Housing Supports. This program focuses on assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to facilitate housing stability for individuals/families in an effort to overcome immediate barriers to obtaining housing and discharge from shelters.
- The landlord incentive outreach program provides outreach and education to encourage landlords to play a key role in contributing to housing stability by increasing awareness of programmatic and financial resources available to landlords who choose to work with participating shelters to move an individual or family into permanent, affordable housing, and agree to accept Housing Choice Vouchers.

The program anticipates serving at minimum of 100 individuals/families with intensive case management and 50 individual/families through the landlord incentive program. This program will facilitate movement from shelters to housing and support housing stability by providing:

- Intensive case management services, which may also include the cost of providing 24-hour temporary sheltering as necessary to maintain connection with individuals receiving intensive case management services;
- Approximately 100 stipends for successfully housed New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP) eligible households;
- Outreach, education, and grants to landlords;

² All facilities and administrative costs will be accounted for using activity 02ERAST9501Z.

³ Direct program costs for Intensive Case Management Program will be accounted for using activity 02ERAST9501A.

⁴ Direct program costs for Landlord Incentive Outreach Program will be accounted for using activity 02ERAST9501B.

⁵ Direct program costs for Staffing Support will be accounted for using activity 02ERAST9501C.

- Approximately 50 stipends paid to the agency that successfully works with landlords to enter into a new rental agreement that includes a Housing Choice Voucher; and
- Staffing via a contract to assist DHHS to manage this program and advance related objectives set forth in the Council on Housing Stability Strategic Plan.

This program will increase referrals and strengthen connections between homeless services providers and the Community Action Programs that are administering the NHERAP statewide. In assisting displaced households with Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing, Housing Relocation and Stabilization, services will include, as appropriate, applying for NH Emergency Rental Assistance, which may include:

- Rental assistance,
- Security deposit,
- Rental application fees,
- Last month's rent or other additional rental payment required by a landlord as a condition to entering into a lease or to hold a unit for 30 days for a "hard-to-house" household that would not qualify under the landlord's previously established, non-discriminatory, and lawful screening or occupancy policies,
- Utility deposits and payments,
- Moving costs, and
- Cost of a hotel or motel room occupied by an eligible household.

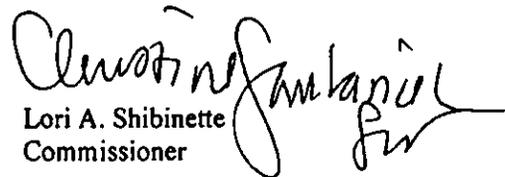
Funding for this specific program is part of larger efforts to increase housing stability across the state as outlined in the Council on Housing Stability Strategic Plan.

Area served: Statewide

Source of funds: These funds are 100% Federal

In the event that these Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner