



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

69

August 29, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Governor's Office For Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to accept and expend in the amount of \$15,175,170 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) funds for use in the New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP) and the provision of rental assistance, utility assistance, and other expenses, as well as Housing Stability Services related programming, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of ERA funds under ARPA, section 3201(d), as allowed by U.S. Treasury. **100% Federal Funds.**

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2023 in the following account:

01-02-002-0202-24310000 ARP Rental Assistance Fund		<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
<u>CLASS</u>	<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>CURRENT MODIFIED BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGET REQUEST</u>	<u>REVISED BUDGET</u>
EXPENDITURES				
040 – Indirect Costs	501587	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$22,500
041 – Audit Fund Set Aside	500801	\$111,790	\$15,160	\$126,950
072 – Grants Federal	500575	\$34,798,698	\$14,972,136	\$49,770,834
085 - Interagency Xfr Out of Fed Fnd	588510	\$0	\$180,374	\$180,374
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$34,925,488	\$15,175,170	\$50,100,658
SOURCE OF FUNDS				
000 – Federal Funds	400338-16	\$34,925,488	\$15,175,170	\$50,100,658
TOTAL REVENUE		\$34,925,488	\$15,175,170	\$50,100,658

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council

August 26, 2022
Page 2 of 3

EXPLANATION

GOFERR is requesting to accept and expend \$15,175,170 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) financial assistance funds to support the New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP).

The State has received an additional allocation of ERA2 funding from U.S. Treasury for the purposes of providing rental assistance and related Housing Stability Services within NHERAP. The program provides financial assistance and Housing Stability Services to eligible households, including the payment of (i) rent, (ii) rental arrears, (iii) utilities and home energy costs, (iv) utilities and home energy costs arrears, and (v) other expenses related to housing.

To date, NHERAP has been supported by federal funds made available pursuant to ERA2 as well as Section 501(a) of Division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (ERA1). ERA2 provides the same financial assistance provided under ERA1 for a greater number of households and longer period of time.

NHERAP is administered by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA) through the five regional Community Action Partnerships (CAPs) and in collaboration with the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR).

This request would provide funds to NHHFA for the purposes of helping meet the needs of households applying for rental and utility assistance, as well as provide funding to extend Housing Stability Services previously supported by ERA1 so they can continue beyond September 30, 2022, which is the deadline to use most ERA1 funds.

- 1. NHERAP Rental Assistance, Utility Assistance, and Other Expenses (Not to exceed \$14,711,136):**
 - a. This request would enable amending an existing subaward with NHHFA to provide these additional funds for the provision of rental assistance, utility assistance, and other expenses as part of NHERAP to eligible households.
- 2. Eviction Diversion and Landlord and Tenant Mediation (Not to Exceed \$180,374):**
 - a. This request would enable extending existing ERA1 funded housing stability related services provided by the New Hampshire Judicial Branch (NHJB) to be continued with ERA2 funds.
 - b. Services that would continue to be provided in accordance with an MOU with NHJB would include pre-filing eviction diversion programming, post-filing eviction mediation programming for eligible households, and related services and outreach efforts.
- 3. Legal Assistance and Educational Clinics (Not to Exceed \$261,000):**
 - a. This request would enable extending existing ERA1 funded housing stability related services provided by the New Hampshire Legal Assistance (NHLA) to be continued with ERA2 funds.
 - b. Services that would continue to be provided to eligible households in accordance with a subaward with NHLA would include ongoing legal assistance, assistance with access to NHERAP, and educational and informational clinics.

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council

August 26, 2022

Page 3 of 3

- c. The extension of these services under ERA2 would be a sole source contract with NHLA, the entity already providing the services, which was selected after an initial RFP process for the above described services.

Funds are budgeted as follows:

Class 040 - Indirect Costs

Class 041 - Audit Fund Set-Aside - .001 of federal funds payable to DAS for audit fees

Class 072 - Grants out of Federal Funds as described in the explanation

Class 085 - Federal Funds transfer to NHJB as described further in the explanation

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

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell
Executive Director, GOFERR