



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

77 YH

March 27, 2024

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

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 \$1,000,000 to assist New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority in lead remediation through programs such as their Lead and Healthy Homes Program, effective upon approvals of the Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council through June 30, 2025. This is an allowable use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) under Section 602(c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

Table with 5 columns: CLASS, ACCOUNT, FY2024 CURRENT MODIFIED BUDGET, FY2024 BUDGET REQUEST, FY2024 REVISED BUDGET. Rows include EXPENDITURES (040-042, 072, 085, 103), TOTAL EXPENSES, SOURCE OF FUNDS (000), and TOTAL REVENUE.

All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH0232A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH0232Z. 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

New Hampshire Housing's Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Program is dedicated to eliminating childhood lead poisoning by providing educational tools, resources, and funding through federal grants and state loans to assist homeowners, residential property owners, and childcare facilities to be lead-safe certified. The grant program is currently funded by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and by state budget appropriations made to the Lead Paint Hazard Remediation Fund established by RSA 204-C:89.

Lead is a toxic metal found in many homes built before 1978. New Hampshire homes are among the oldest in the country leading to hundreds of New Hampshire children poisoned each year by lead found in paint, dust, and soil. This award would allow NHHFA to provide support to households for lead remediation through the lead paint hazard remediation fund. Through this fund, NHHFA provides loans to property owners of low-income rental and owner-occupied housing for use in remediating the hazards of lead paint on their property, with the aim of reducing incidents of lead poisoning of children in New Hampshire. The program stipulates that the house must have been built prior to 1978, a 10% owner match is required, and the property owner must apply first then the tenants if applicable. The properties remediated must include a child under the age of six or a pregnant woman residing on property. Per federal rule, these ARPA funds will be limited to those households who meet the definition of "disproportionately impacted" as defined by US Treasury, which includes households at or below 40% of the area's median income (AMI) or households in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT).

Funds for this award are made available through ARPA SFRF funding that has been reallocated from programs that did not expend their entire award amount. This is an allowable use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) under Section 602(c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

Class 040 – Indirect Costs to recover, per RSA 21-I:75, a proportional share of the outside funding source to alleviate central service costs.

Class 041 - Audit Fund Set Aside to comply with RSA 124:16 that requires all agencies that receive federal funds to set aside a percentage (0.1%) of the federal revenue amount received to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 072- Grants Federal to provide funding for an award as described above.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Taylor Caswell', written over a faint, large, stylized outline of the state of New Hampshire.

Taylor Caswell  
Executive Director, GOFERR