

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of Public and Indian Housing

Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Enacted/ Requested	Carryover	Supplemental/ Rescission	Total Resources	Obligations	Outlays
2020 Appropriation	2,000	88	-	2,088	2,003	1,063
2021 Appropriation	2,000	85	5,000 ^{a/}	7,085	7,043	4,000
2022 President's Budget	7,000	42	-	7,042	7,042	8,000
Change from 2021	5,000	(43)	(5,000)	(43)	(1)	4,000

a/ Supplemental funds are from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP Act).

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG) program funds a wide range of affordable housing activities on Hawaiian home lands. Eligible activities include new construction, rehabilitation, acquisition, infrastructure, and various support services. In addition, funds can be used to provide rental assistance to eligible Native Hawaiians residing on or off Hawaiian home lands. The sole recipient is the State of Hawaii's Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2022 President's Budget requests \$7 million for the NHHBG program, which is \$5 million more than the 2021 enacted level. This investment will help increase the production of and access to affordable housing for Native Hawaiian families, as well as address the needs identified in the 2017 *Housing Needs of Native Hawaiians* Report.¹

JUSTIFICATION

In May 2017, HUD published *Housing Needs of Native Hawaiians*. According to the report, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders account for 39 percent of the State's overall homeless population, although they represent only 10 percent of the State's population. In addition, Native Hawaiians have lower incomes, higher poverty rates, and lower educational attainment rates than other residents of Hawaii.

Since the inception of the program, funds have been primarily for housing development activities (e.g., infrastructure to support new homeownership units). Now, DHHL is using more of their funds on individual homeowner financing (e.g., for new home construction and homeowner rehabilitation), rental housing assistance, and housing counseling.

¹ Housing Needs of Native Hawaiians: A Report from the Assessment of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Housing Needs (<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/publications/housing-needs-native-hawaiians.html>)

In 2019, the Governor of Hawaii approved new administrative rules for DHHL that allow multifamily complexes and rental housing units to be built on the Hawaiian home lands. In response, DHHL has also shifted its focus to increasing future rental housing opportunities for Native Hawaiian families.

Between 2002 and 2020, DHHL used NHHBG funds to help build, acquire, and rehabilitate 738 affordable homes and develop infrastructure improvements to approximately 693 lots to construct affordable homes. Funds have also been used to rehabilitate community centers, provide housing counseling, financial literacy training, and self-help home repair training to over 2,300 families.

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES BY PROGRAM

(Dollars in Thousands)

Budget Activity	2020 Budget Authority	2019 Carryover Into 2020	2020 Total Resources	2020 Obligations	2021 Appropriation	2020 Carryover Into 2021	2021 Total Resources	2022 President's Budget
Grants	2,000	-	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	2,000	7,000
Technical Assistance	-	88	88	3	-	85	85	-
Grants (ARP Act)	-	-	-	-	5,000 ^{a/}	-	5,000	-
Total	2,000	88	2,088	2,003	7,000	85	7,085	7,000

a/ Includes supplemental funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP Act).

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

None.

APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

The 2022 President's Budget includes proposed changes in the appropriation language listed below. New language is italicized, and language proposed for deletion is bracketed.

For the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221 et seq.), [~~\$2,000,000~~] *\$7,000,000*, to remain available until September 30, [2025] *2026: Provided*, That notwithstanding section 812(b) of such Act, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands may not invest grant amounts made available under this heading in investment securities and other obligations: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this and prior fiscal years may be used to provide rental assistance to eligible Native Hawaiian families both on and off the Hawaiian Home Lands, notwithstanding any other provision of law. (*Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2021.*)