

Emergency Rental Assistance Resources to Support Renters

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Office of Native American Programs



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RESOURCES TO SUPPORT RENTERS

FUNDING RESOURCES

- The Cares Act included \$200 million for the IHBG program and \$100 million for the ICDBG program.
- The American Rescue Plan included \$450 million for the IHBG program and \$280 million for the ICDBG program.
- Both programs help support families economically impacted by COVID-19.
- For example, both programs allow Tribes and TDHES to provide rental assistance and utility payments to help families.

IHBG-CARES/ARP

Eligible activities include items that prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, such as:

- Activities that would prevent individuals from becoming homeless and rapidly rehousing homeless individuals;
- Constructing structures that can serve as temporary emergency shelters, or converting existing facilities for this purpose, to ensure homeless persons are provided safe shelter and to minimize the risk of community spread;
- Providing short-term rental assistance to homeless persons in hotel/motels to minimize infection;
- Temporary payment of tenant and homebuyer utilities;
- Rental assistance to families

ICDBG-CARES/ARP

Public Services

ICDBG-CARES/ARP funds are not subject to the 15% cap on public services that normally applies to ICDBG grant funds.

Examples include:

- Up to 6 months of emergency payments in the form of rental assistance, utility
 assistance (including internet access to allow children to engage in distance learning),
 food assistance, clothing, medical, and other emergency assistance.
- Placement of homeless persons in hotel/motels, and other non-congregate sheltering, to minimize infection.
- Job training to expand the pool of health care workers and technicians that are available to treat disease within a community.

ICDBG-ARP Implementation Notice

- The ICDBG-ARP Implementation Notice has been published and is posted to Codetalk
- \$280 million to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19
- Phase One opens on August 4, 2021; Applications will be accepted and includes a priority list of unfunded applicants who applied for but were not funded due to limited appropriations
 - Regional Trainings will be set up by the regional offices
- Phase Two opens on September 3, 2021; Applications are open to those not included on the priority list
 - National Training is August 18th
 - If you have questions you can send an email to: ICDBGARP@hud.gov

Eviction Protection Grant Program

Eligible services for which grant funds may be used include:

- Legal representation in relation to legal filings and court proceedings, including negotiation, mediation, or arbitration, and the provision of limited representation and counsel and advice.
- Navigation and assistance responding to actions by the Evicting Party related to the court process or to avoid a court process, such as assistance filing forms.
- Collaboration with courts, judges, and other parties to create and promote eviction diversion programs that reduce the burden of eviction cases on the courts. Assistance with filing fair housing complaints related to eviction.
- Assistance to tenants navigating the transition process in connection with vacating the rental property, including paperwork to arrange school transfers or enable students to remain at their current school, arrangements for continuation of healthcare, access to resources to obtain stable housing, etc.
- Assistance to tenants to avoid or reduce the negative impacts of a potential eviction, such as referrals to other service providers like case workers to obtain rental assistance, counselors for housing or financial counseling, Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) programs, health care services, and related stabilizing measures.
- Education and outreach to tenants at risk of or subject to eviction regarding their rights related to eviction, available resources, and the eviction process.

Funding rental assistance is not an eligible activity. These examples are not exhaustive. Additional details on allowable funding uses, administrative costs and non-allowable expenses will be provided in the HUD grant agreement.

ERA in Practice: Recipient Promising Practices

Tribe/TDHE Promising Practices:

Jackie Pata, Tlingit - Haida Regional Housing Authority: jpata@thrha.org

Shay Stanfill, Housing Authority of Cherokee Nation: shay.stanfill@hacn.org

Joey Nathan, Northern Ponca Housing Authority: joey@poncahousing.org

Lynnette Grey Bull, Northern Arapaho Tribal Housing: <u>lynnette.greybull@wrera.com</u>

QUESTIONS?

LOCAL RESOURCES

- Check with your Tribe, state, city, or county to find out about other resources to help with rent, utilities and other basic needs.
- 211 Dial 211 from any phone or visit 211.org and search by zip code. This is a hotline that can connect you to emergency assistance, such as rental and utility assistance, and other supportive services in your community.
- Community Action Agency https://communityactionpartnership.com/find-a-cap/ Contact your local Community Action Agency to find out what services they might offer, such as emergency payment assistance for rent or utilities.
- Tenant Rights and Wrongful Evictions If you feel you are being wrongfully evicted, contact your local legal aid organization or social service agencies. Additional information on legal assistance available in your area is available at:
 - Legal Services Corporation (https://www.lsc.gov/what-legal-aid/find-legal-aid/
 ACL Elder Care Locator (https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx)

 - LawHelp.org (https://www.lawhelp.org/)

NATIONAL RESOURCES

- Unemployment Insurance www.usa.gov/unemployment
 - Find out if you are eligible for unemployment benefits and how to apply in your state. New federal laws provide unemployment benefits for self-employed and gig workers, adds an additional \$300 to weekly benefits and extends the number of weeks benefits are available.
- Economic Impact Payments (Stimulus Payments) https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment.
 - Find out if you are eligible for the new Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,400 and how to claim your payment. If you did not already receive past rounds of stimulus payments (the first and second rounds were issued in 2020 and January 2021), this site also contains information on how you can check eligibility and claim those payments.
- Free Tax Preparation and New Child Tax Credits https://www.irs.gov/individuals/free-tax-return-preparationfor-qualifying-taxpayers.
 - Get free help filing your taxes, provided by trained volunteers, or e-file for free online. If you do not normally file a tax return and have children, you should consider filing this year so you can qualify for the new child tax credit.

WEBSITES

ONAP – CDC Eviction Moratorium webpage:

https://www.hud.gov/program offices/public indian housing/ih/CDC Eviction Moratorium Resources

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Eviction Prevention Resources:

https://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/mortgage-and-housing-assistance/renter-protections/emergency-rental-assistance-for-renters/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JuneERAP

Eviction Lab - State Protections: https://evictionlab.org/covid-eviction-policies/

Just Shelter: https://justshelter.org/community-resources/

Department of Treasury – Emergency Rental Assistance grantees:

https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/emergency-rental-assistance-program/program-index

THANK YOU

Please send comments to: Codetalk@hud.gov