

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

Stable housing is linked to a number of positive health and social outcomes for individuals, families and communities--and rental assistance is a key strategy to support renters. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in unprecedented numbers of layoffs and furloughs; the economic and social impact of this will remain for years to come. This has led to high levels of housing instability and even deeper racial disparities and challenges to pay rent. This program offer continues the County's leadership role in providing rent assistance and related supports.

Program Summary

ISSUE: Thousands of Multnomah County residents are unable to pay their monthly rent due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. As moratoriums are lifted and people struggle to pay their bills, evictions are likely to increase and the need for rental assistance is unprecedented. Racial disparities existed before COVID-19 and current national and state trends indicate that the economic hardships of the global pandemic are widening racial inequalities. These trends are mirrored at the local level. For instance, in Multnomah County, the majority of people who rent are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color).

PROGRAM GOAL: Provide eviction prevention support through legal, rent and service support, and provide COVID-19 rent assistance support so that households can remain stably housed by paying rent.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: These funds will support two connected strategies: Eviction Prevention and Rent Assistance. Eviction Prevention and Diversion services are provided so that households who are facing imminent eviction will be connected to rent assistance funds. This will happen in three primary ways: outreach in the community, referrals from 211 and connecting with households through eviction court. Second, funding will support rent assistance to households throughout Multnomah County. Funds will be disbursed largely through the infrastructure set up through Bienestar de la Familia. As available, funds will also be distributed to non-profit organizations.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Estimate	FY23 Offer
Output	Number of households receiving rent assistance.	NA	NA	NA	3201
Outcome	% of households receiving rent assistance who are at 50% of Area Median Income.	NA	NA	NA	75%

Performance Measures Descriptions

FY23 estimate is based on average payment of \$5046 per household.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2022	2022	2023	2023
Personnel	\$0	\$230,000	\$0	\$2,730,000
Contractual Services	\$0	\$4,800,000	\$0	\$17,270,000
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$5,030,000	\$0	\$20,000,000
Program Total:	\$5,030,000		\$20,000,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$5,030,000	\$0	\$20,000,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$5,030,000	\$0	\$20,000,000

Explanation of Revenues

\$20,000,000 - American Rescue Plan (ARP) Direct County Funding

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2022: 25399L ARP - Emergency Rent Assistance

This Program Offer includes only funds for rent assistance that are Multnomah County direct ARP allocations. FY23 is the first year when these Multnomah County specific ARP funds will be used for rent assistance.