



**Program #25490B - ARP - Emergency Rent Assistance** FY 2024 Proposed

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing      **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** One-Time-Only Request

**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 Description**

**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 rent assistance payments so that households can remain stably housed.

**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 a YFS program (Bienestar de la Familia) and through non-profit organizations coordinated by the City of Portland (Expanded Partner Network) and Home Forward (Short Term Rent Assistance).

**Performance Measures**

| Measure Type | Primary Measure   | FY22 Actual | FY23 Budgeted | FY23 Estimate | FY24 Offer |
|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Output       | Number of households receiving rent assistance.                                 | N/A         | 4,515         | 4,515         | 1,795      |
| Outcome      | % of households receiving rent assistance who are at 50% of Area Median Income. | N/A         | 75%           | 75%           | 75%        |

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

FY23 estimate is based on average payment of \$4,500 per household.

Revenue/Expense Detail

|                        | Adopted<br>General Fund | Adopted<br>Other Funds | Proposed<br>General Fund | Proposed<br>Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Program Expenses       | 2023                    | 2023                   | 2024                     | 2024                    |
| Personnel              | \$0                     | \$0                    | \$0                      | \$0                     |
| Contractual Services   | \$0                     | \$22,785,668           | \$0                      | \$8,078,059             |
| <b>Total GF/non-GF</b> | <b>\$0</b>              | <b>\$22,785,668</b>    | <b>\$0</b>               | <b>\$8,078,059</b>      |
| <b>Program Total:</b>  | <b>\$22,785,668</b>     |                        | <b>\$8,078,059</b>       |                         |
| <b>Program FTE</b>     | 0.00                    | 0.00                   | 0.00                     | 0.00                    |

| Program Revenues     |            |                     |            |                    |
|----------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Intergovernmental    | \$0        | \$22,785,668        | \$0        | \$8,078,059        |
| <b>Total Revenue</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$22,785,668</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$8,078,059</b> |

Explanation of Revenues

Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Direct County Funding - \$8,078,059

The Revenue/Expense Detail table above only reflects emergency rent assistance that's funded by the ARP Direct County funding. The FY 2023 Adopted budget included an additional \$21,983,167 for emergency rent assistance that was not funded by the ARP Direct County funding and is not included in the Revenue/Expense Detail table above (see FY 2023 program offer 25490A).

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 25490B ARP - Emergency Rent Assistance

This program addresses the Crisis Response & Community Recovery priority. These funds provide emergency rent assistance to the thousands of county renters who are unable to pay rent due to the pandemic. This is particularly acute in communities of color.

This program offer only includes emergency rent assistance that is funded by the Multnomah County direct ARP allocation. The amount between years varies.