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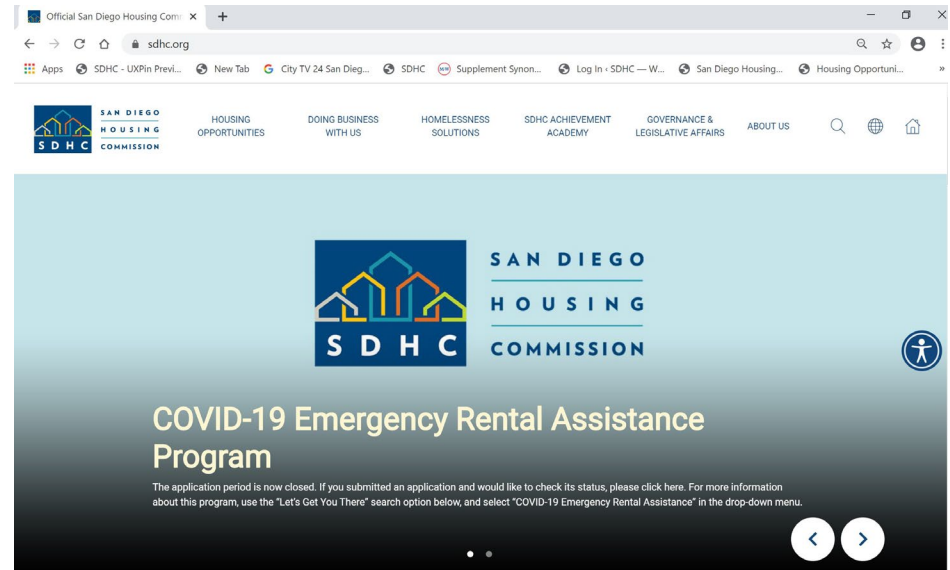
San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) City's COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Memorandum of Understanding and Additional Funds Presentation to the SDHC Board of Commissioners November 13, 2020

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COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Introduction

- SDHC administers the City of San Diego's (City) COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- The program helps families with low income in the City of San Diego who experience financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.





COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Initial Funding

June 30, 2020:

- San Diego City Council authorized the expenditure of up to \$15,100,000 in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to create the program.
- Funds provided to SDHC pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between SDHC and the City for SDHC to oversee and administer the program.





COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Outcomes

- Program application period: July 20, 2020 – August 7, 2020
- More than 8,300 applications from City of San Diego ZIP Codes
- Preliminary assessment: More than 5,300 applications appeared to meet eligibility criteria
 - Based solely on the information the applicant provided on their online application.
- After verification of information and required documentation, as of November 5, 2020:
 - 3,539 households qualify for one-time rental assistance
 - 3,272 payments disbursed, totaling \$12.1 million
 - 267 payments pending SDHC's receipt of required information from applicants' landlords
 - 1,843 households are ineligible for assistance





COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

New Phase of the Program

October 13, 2020:

- San Diego City Council unanimously approved the allocation of \$5,000,000 in CARES Act Community Development Block Grant funds to support the City's COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- New funds potentially could assist approximately 1,250 families if each household received the maximum \$4,000 one-time rental assistance.
- SDHC anticipates reopening the web-based application portal to receive new applications, utilizing the same eligibility criteria.





COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Eligibility Criteria

- The household has a City of San Diego address.
- Household income in January 2020, was at or below 60 percent of the San Diego Area Median Income.
- The household is NOT currently receiving any rental subsidies.
- The household is NOT currently a tenant of a property owned or managed by SDHC.
- The household does NOT have savings to meet their financial need.
- The household has eligible immigration status (U.S. citizen/U.S. National, lawful permanent resident/conditional permanent resident, registry immigrant, a refugee/person seeking asylum or granted asylum).
- The household experienced hardship directly related to COVID-19.



COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Staff Recommendations

- Staff requests that SDHC recommend that the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego and the San Diego City Council take the staff-recommended actions detailed in staff report HCR20-115 for SDHC to continue to administer the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.



COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

- Staff also requests that SDHC recommend that the Housing Authority take the following action in addition to those detailed in the staff report:

Authorize the Housing Commission's President & Chief Executive Officer (President & CEO), or designee, to expend the additional federal CARES Act CDBG funds from the City of San Diego to provide one-time rental assistance of up to \$4,000 per qualifying household to households that qualified in the first phase of the City's COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program, if the first phase of the program is oversubscribed; however, if any funds allocated to the first phase of the program remain unused, authorize the Housing Commission's President & CEO, or designee, to expend those funds in subsequent phases of the program to provide one-time rental assistance of up to \$4,000 to qualifying households.



Questions & Comments

