

City of San Diego  
San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC)

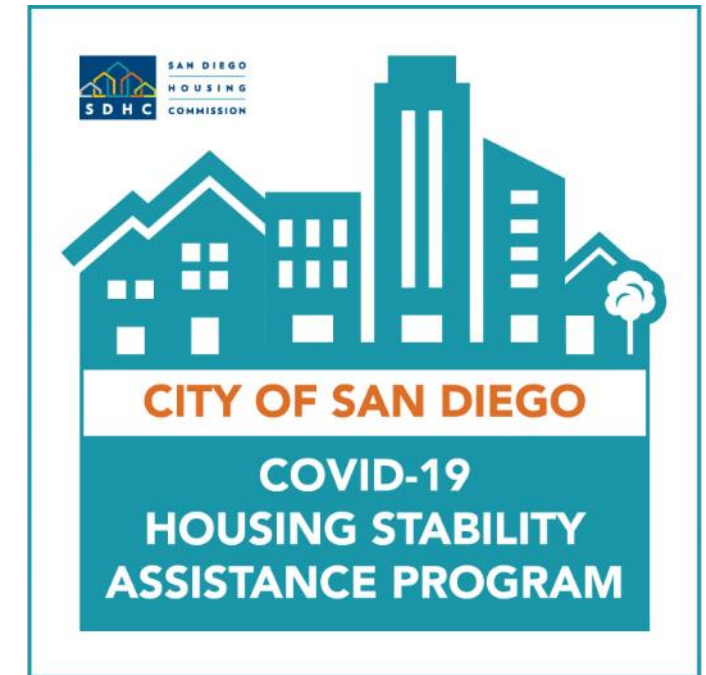
# COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program

Housing Authority, Item #1  
City Council, Item #202  
December 6, 2021



# City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program Overview

- February 22, 2021: San Diego City Council authorized the program.
- March 15, 2021: Online application launched at [covidassistance.sdhc.org](https://covidassistance.sdhc.org)
  - Application available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese
- The program helps pay rent and utilities for City of San Diego households with low income that experience financial hardship due to or during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- The program also helps pay past-due internet service expenses.



## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program Payments

- As of December 1, 2021:
  - Payments Disbursed: \$126,424,197.31
  - Households Assisted: 13,559
- All of the funding available to help San Diegans through the program has been fully obligated to assist households with low income
  - Including applicants who have preliminary approval, subject to review and confirmation of their documentation.
- Total obligations for assistance payments exceed the funding to help qualifying households.



*The COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program helped Eric keep his rental home and avoid homelessness.*

## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program Applications

### Applications

- 33,862 applications submitted as of 10 a.m. December 1, 2021
  - Includes 7,043 individuals who updated information on previously submitted applications and/or are requesting additional assistance
  - 75.3 percent with income up to 30 percent of San Diego's Area Median Income (AMI)
  - 18.7 percent with income from 31 percent to 50 percent of AMI
  - 5.2 percent with income from 51 percent to 80 percent of AMI
  - 0.8 percent with income above 81 percent of AMI
- 31,037 additional applications started and pending completion

## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program Funding

- California Housing and Community Development Department approved SDHC's request for additional funding and has reallocated \$27 million for the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program.
- If approved, these funds would support the continued operation of the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program to help additional households pay their rent and utilities to avoid being displaced from their homes.

## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program Eviction Prevention & Education Program

- SDHC is working with Mayor Todd Gloria's office on efforts to obtain additional funding.
  - The State and the U.S. Treasury Department are determining what funding may be available to reallocate from other agencies to high-performing organizations that have successfully disbursed funds.
  - October 29, 2021: SDHC submitted a formal request for more funding to the U.S. Treasury Department.
- California Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency Lourdes Castro Ramírez sent a letter to the U.S. Treasury Department October 7, 2021, to request additional funding.
  - Letter specifically cited the success of the City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program.



## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program SDHC Staff Recommendations

### That Housing Authority of the City of San Diego take the following actions:

- 1) Authorize SDHC to execute an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SDHC and the City of San Diego for SDHC to continue to oversee and administer the City of San Diego's COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program with new funding to provide emergency rental assistance and/or utility assistance to households with low income in the City of San Diego that experience financial hardship. Additional related funds may be added to the program without further amendment to this MOU upon appropriation by the City and budget approval by the Housing Authority for amounts in excess of \$500,000;
- 1) Authorize SDHC to amend its Fiscal Year 2022 budget in the amount of \$27,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated by the State of California to the City of San Diego to be administered by SDHC to provide rental assistance and/or utility assistance to households with low income in the City of San Diego that experience financial hardship and to cover administrative expenses in accordance with federal and state funding requirements;

## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program SDHC Staff Recommendations (Continued)

- 3) Authorize SDHC's President & CEO, or designee, to modify the COVID-19 Housing Stability and Assistance Program, if necessary, but only if and to the extent that such changes comply with the terms of the executed amended MOU and are necessary to fulfill federal and state funding requirements. SDHC staff will notify the Housing Authority and the City Attorney's Office about any subsequent amendments or modifications to the Housing Stability Assistance Program and other required documents, including amendments to any documents;
- 4) Authorize SDHC's President & CEO, or designee, to substitute approved funding sources with any other available funds as deemed appropriate, contingent upon budget availability, and further authorize the President & CEO, or designee, to take such actions as are necessary, convenient and/or appropriate to implement this approval and delegation of authority by SDHC upon advice of the General Counsel; and
- 5) Authorize SDHC's President & CEO, or designee, to execute all necessary documents and instruments that are necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, in a form and format approved by General Counsel, and to take such actions necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals.



## City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program City Staff-Requested Actions

- Authorize the Chief Financial Officer or designee to accept, appropriate and expend in an amount of \$27,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, allocated by the State of California directly to the City of San Diego, for the City's COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program (HSAP), contingent upon the funds being secured for HSAP; and
- Authorize a third amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of San Diego and the San Diego Housing Commission to include new funding to provide emergency rental assistance and/or utility assistance to households with low income in the City of San Diego that experience financial hardship.



# Questions & Comments