MEMORANDUM

Date: June 10, 2021

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: Report on Rental Assistance Program

Please see the attached update from the Arizona Multihousing Association discussing a number of issues related to rental assistance and eviction relief. The program describes the implementation and disbursement of rental assistance throughout the state.

The document includes a statement that the program of Pima County and the City of Tucson “is on track to be the most efficient and expedient program in the state.” Our combined revenues in this particular program for rental assistance is $31 million; of this amount, $11.6 million has been disbursed.

The attached report also describes implementation in the City of Phoenix, the state through the Department of Economic Security, Mesa, Maricopa County, Glendale and Yuma.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Jan Lesher, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer, Health and Community Services
Daniel Sullivan, Director, Community and Workforce Development
Andrew Flagg Deputy Director, Community and Workforce Development
2021 RENTAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

In the City of Phoenix, over 1,200 households have received assistance amounting to just over $8 million through both the city’s Human Services Department (HSD) and Wildfire. Approximately 80 percent of all ERAP funds remain available. The Wildfire online portal to apply for rental assistance, and the city's Human Services Department applications are online and accepting applications. The city's Rental Assistance dashboard tracking the distribution of its $51.1 million in ERAP funds is accessible here.

The state Department of Economic Security's (DES) Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) portal is open for residents and rental owners to apply for $289 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds to cover up to 15 months of rent. The funds will cover up to 12 months of arrearages, as well as an additional three months of forward rent. To qualify, a resident must be in Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Mohave, Navajo, Pinal, Santa Cruz, or Yavapai Counties. The program has dispensed just under $4 million in ERAP to over 1,054 approved applicants. Over 3,101 households have applied for assistance thus far. DES also created its own tracking dashboard to enable residents and policymakers to check the status of the state's program.

The joint Pima County and City of Tucson's $31 million program was the first in the state to launch a tracking dashboard with live statistics on the status of their joint program through Community Investment Corporation (CIC). As of this writing, the program has received nearly 9,750 applications, with over 2,141 applicants paid or approved for payment. So far, over $11.6 million has been committed or dispensed, and the program is anticipated to ramp up in the coming weeks as case workers move to expedite up to 400 applications per week. The program is on track to be the most efficient and expedient program in the state.

Residents and Property Owners alike can also check the status of their applications on CIC's new tracker.

The City of Mesa's $15.7 million Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) has deployed over $6 million in rental assistance. Maricopa County's $48 million program has thus far distributed or approved just shy of $2 million dollars, as of May 16.

Glendale received $7.6 million for their program which is accepting applications.
now. Yuma County also has a $6.5 million program that has distributed over $141,000. For the East Valley, the city of Chandler's ERA program received $7.9 million, and the town of Gilbert's program has $7.7 million available. Both are being run by AZCEND.

For all programs further complicating matters, an estimated 15-20% of all applicants may not meet the income qualifications for assistance due to federal Area Median Income (AMI) requirements. The AMA is working with Arizona's Congressional delegation to address this mismatch and expedite the deployment of rental assistance funds.

GOV DUCEY ANNOUNCES "ARIZONA BACK TO WORK"
Governor Doug Ducey announced Arizona’s plan to support Arizonans getting back to work, and fill the thousands of jobs available across the state.

Governor Ducey announced Arizona will no longer be taking the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, and instead will offer one-time bonuses to returning workers, along with child care support, educational opportunities and rental assistance.

HELPFUL LINKS
✓ Update For Members With Cares Act Federally Backed Mortgages
✓ Administration Rolls Out New Rental Assistance Guidelines
✓ CDC Releases Updated Guidance For Vaccinated People
  ✓ AMA - Updated Legal Forms
  ✓ AZ Vaccine - Sign Up
✓ COVID-19 Vaccination Information
✓ NAA COVID-19 Mental Health Resource Library