



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kenneth C. Holt, Secretary

Maryland's Interagency Council on Homelessness

May 20, 2020
Virtual Meeting



AGENDA

- I. Welcome**
- II. New Business**
- III. Department and Member Updates**
- IV. Work Group Updates and Announcements**
- V. Administrative Updates & Announcements**

WELCOME

Review Agenda
Approval of February 2020 Meeting
Minutes

Secretary Carol Beatty
ICH Chair, Maryland Department of Disabilities

COVID-19 Homelessness Response

Stuart Campbell

Director, Community Services, DHCD

Danielle Meister

Senior Policy Officer, Homelessness Initiatives, DHCD

Steve Holt

Assistant Director, Homelessness Solutions Program, DHCD



Public Health Strategy

Guidelines from HUD and CDC Under Implementation

1. Immediately Reduce Shelter Density
 - Prioritize Seniors and Underlying Health Conditions
 - Hoteling
 - Isolation/Quarantine Space
2. Assess Symptoms, Test, Quarantine, Isolate
3. Utilize Personal Protective Equipment (Staff and Clients)
4. Maximize Permanent Housing Placements

DHCD Support to CoCs

1. Weekly Calls with Continuum of Care Lead Agencies
2. Elevating CoC Needs to State Agencies to Develop Solutions
3. Troubleshooting Local Partnership Challenges
4. HSP Funding Flexibility
5. Administering CARES Act funding

New Funding and Policies Impacting Homelessness During COVID-19

- State Eviction/Utility Shutoff Moratoriums
- CARES Act
- HUD Regulatory Waivers and Guidance
- FEMA Non-Congregate Shelter Funding
- HEROES Act (pending legislation)

COVID-19 RESPONSE

CARES Act Funding - National

- **HUD**
 - Emergency Solutions Grants - \$4 billion
 - Community Development Block Grants - \$5B
- **Administration for Children and Families**
 - Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs - \$25M
 - Head Start - \$750M
 - Child Welfare - \$45M
 - Community Services Block Grant - \$1B
 - Child Care and Development Block Grant - \$3.5B
 - Family Violence Prevention and Services - \$47M
 - Energy Assistance - \$900M
- **Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) - \$150 billion**
 - Local governments can use to fund emergency rental assistance

FACT SHEET

CARES Act Funding - ESG

- **HUD has allocated \$1 billion of \$3.96 billion so far**
- **First allocation was based on normal ESG formula - \$15.4 million statewide**
- **Second allocation is based on new formula developed by HUD Secretary and is affected by testing, positive cases, etc**
 - Could be as high as \$60 million statewide

CARES Act Funding - ESG

- **Does not have any local or state match requirements**
- **Can pay for street outreach, shelter, rapid re-housing, and homeless prevention**

CARES Act Funding - CDBG

- **HUD allocated the first 40% based on the regular formula**
- **HUD allocated the second round to states (20%), per requirement of the CARES Act. Based on new need formula.**
- **HUD will allocate remaining 40% based on new need formula that includes COVID-19 risk factors**

CARES Act Funding - CDBG

- Grantees may spend up to 100% of their grant funding on rent payment assistance for distressed, low-income households (3 months rent max).
- **Eligible Activities** include housing assistance payments for rent, mortgage, and utilities, emergency home maintenance and rehabilitation, emergency public housing maintenance, meal and medicine delivery, and acquisition of hotels and motels to expand capacity of hospitals for COVID-19 patient treatment and isolation.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Maryland CARES Act Funding – HUD Round 1

JURISDICTION	CDBG-CV1	CDBG-CV2	ESG-CV
Annapolis	\$156,651	TBD	N/A
Baltimore	\$13,101,766	TBD	\$6,571,738
Bowie City	\$116,863	TBD	N/A
Cumberland	\$476,251	TBD	N/A
Frederick	\$243,423	TBD	N/A
Gaithersburg	\$265,900	TBD	N/A
Hagerstown	\$472,845	TBD	N/A
Salisbury	\$227,905	TBD	N/A
Anne Arundel County	\$1,248,258	TBD	\$611,269
Baltimore County	\$2,465,172	TBD	\$1,230,869
Harford County	\$641,116	TBD	N/A
Howard County	\$770,356	TBD	N/A
Montgomery County	\$2,955,102	TBD	\$1,438,797
Prince Georges County	\$3,036,958	TBD	\$1,523,903
Maryland DHCD (Distributed to Non-Entitlement Counties)	\$4,691,887	TBD	\$4,031,452
Maryland DHCD (Distributed Across All Counties)	N/A	\$16,105,784	N/A
Total	\$30,870,453	\$16,105,784	\$15,408,028

CARES Act Funding – Coronavirus Relief Fund

- Expenses for caring for homeless populations are explicitly eligible.
- Funds can also be used to provide emergency rental, mortgage, and utility assistance to help keep individuals stably housed.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

FEMA Funding

- States can request FEMA approval to be reimbursed for non-congregate sheltering (NCS) costs (housing people in hotels, food, medical, etc)
- Maryland initially approved April 20. Recently approved for 30-day extension through June 21.
- Maryland approved to provide NCS to people with positive test, who had direct exposure to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or were symptomatic for COVID-19
- FEMA will reimburse up to 75% of the costs of NCS

COVID-19 Response Department Updates

Labor

- Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning providing services virtually via the 30 American Job Centers
- Set up a COVID 19 Layoff Aversion Fund
- Awarded 10.2M to 446 small businesses to enable them to keep nearly 9,000 Marylanders employed.
- US Department of Labor awarded \$1.9M to support workforce recovery efforts in the coming days.
- Expect to receive USDOL Dislocated Worker Grant specific to COVID-19 response

Disabilities

- Section 811 program continues to provide critical housing and support to people who were homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Assisting tenants virtually through providing tenant training over the phone, continuing to lease units as they become available, troubleshooting with property management companies in need of providing additional support tenants.
- Difficulties with moving people, challenges getting units leased up in time

MSDE Educational Recovery Plan

COVID-19 RESPONSE

DHS

- Waived certain program work, verification and, participation requirements to ensure the fewest barriers possible for benefit availability
- DHS also significantly pared down the application process for certain benefits to ensure streamlined access and extended certification periods to ensure no disruption in benefits for current recipients
- DHS also stood up staff dedicated specifically to work on the cases of those exp homelessness so advocates, shelters, and CoC's had direct access with someone who could assist with cases processing.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

DHS

- FIA screened benefits cases that had closed in the months leading up to the pandemic and for the months during, for any indicators in homelessness and if appropriate, reached out to the customer(s) to ensure access was available
- FIA has also permitted local areas to amend certain local plans that will allow for funding provided at the local level to be used for additional housing crises not typically include in their respective plans.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

DHS

- Over \$66 million in additional SNAP funds to provide households with the maximum allotment for their household size
- Over \$49 million in Pandemic-EBT intended for children in school who have lost access to free and reduced meals
- Over 1 mil pounds of food for emergency distribution through local area food banks. (TEFAP)
- Biggest challenges so far are needing to close offices and convert to remote work. Has caused some snags such as getting EBT cards to certain populations

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

- Working with Local Management Boards to respond to COVID. Supported budget modifications and funding requests to address food, technology, and internet access.
- Made \$2 million in additional Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding available to new and existing VOCA applicants (state government agencies, local government agencies, and victim service programs run by nonprofit organizations) to address immediate needs for victims of crime and victim service providers during the pandemic.

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

- Received \$11.1 million from the Department of Justice and \$634,715 from the Department of Health and Human Services as a result of the CARES Act. The funding will support the Office's response to COVID-19 through the law enforcement, victim services, and children and youth divisions.

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

- Biggest Challenges for Partners:
 - Food access and food supplies
 - PPE Technology for educational supports for children, teleworking for staff, and counseling services
 - Broadband connectivity for tele-mentoring and youth development programs
 - Housing (shelter, hotel stays, transitional housing)

DISCUSSION

Moving From Emergency Response to Recovery/Reopening

- Continued use of hoteling/transitioning people to permanent housing
- Keeping shelters at manageable size
- Helping clients who have moved into housing stabilize their income
- Preparing for lift of eviction and utility shutoff moratoriums

How can the ICH come together to best support these efforts?

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Health and Homelessness

Dr. Mark Martin

Department of Health

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

Christina Drushel-Williams

Governor's Office for Children

Workforce

Erin Roth

Department of Labor

Lived Experience

Shawn Jones & Chelsea Hayman

Baltimore City CoC & MDOD

Administrative Updates & Announcements

- **Member announcements and updates**
- **Next Meeting Date:**
 - September 24, 2020, 1PM-3PM
 - Location TBD
- **Other Meetings & Announcements**