

Program #30700C - COVID-19 Recovery - Emergency Rent Assistance - Metro

3/2/2021

Measure Investment

Department: Nondepartmental **Program Contact:** Marc Jolin

Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program Program Offer Stage: As Requested

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

With Metro Supportive Housing Services Measure (Measure) funding that is dedicated to reducing homelessness through strategies that lead with racial equity, this program offer funds emergency rent assistance and services for households who are newly homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless due to the impacts of COVID-19. The offer prioritizes Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) who are already overrepresented within the homeless population and are disparately impacted by the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The emergency rental assistance resources will be available to all County Departments whose participants face the loss of housing due to the impacts of COVID-19.

Program Summary

The Measure passed by voters in May of 2020 generates dedicated funding to significantly reduce homelessness in Multnomah County and the region. The Multnomah County Local Implementation Plan (LIP) for the Measure sets out a range of strategies to reduce homelessness by increasing permanent housing and wrap around services for those experiencing, or at risk of, chronic homelessness and episodic homelessness. The LIP strategies prioritize the A Home for Everyone and Measure commitment to eliminating racial disparities among people experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness. The LIP also recognizes the critical need in the coming year to focus limited duration resources on heading off a potential wave of newly homeless people as a result of the economic impacts of COVID-19, especially within BIPOC communities. This program offer addresses that need.

This offer allocates Measure funds that will be available to County Departments to allocate directly or through contractors as direct emergency rental assistance, or to use as funding to leverage other sources of rental assistance that may come from the federal government or State of Oregon. These other funding streams are typically larger, but too restrictive to allow community based organizations, including culturally specific providers, to create the capacity that they need to allocate the funds. The resources in this offer would allow the Joint Office of Homeless Services, Department of County Human Services, the Health Department and others to address these gaps and maximize the amount of outside rental assistance that the County is able to distribute through community based organizations serving BIPOC and other marginalized and hard to reach communities.

Were these resources to be used entirely as direct emergency rental assistance payments, they would assist at least 630 additional households to retain their housing. To date, more than 60% of households receiving emergency COVID-19 related rental assistance have identified as BIPOC and we would expect that same to be true of these funds.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer			
Output	Number of culturally specific organizations supported to distribute emergency rental assistance funds	N/A	N/A	N/A	15			
Outcome	Number of households prevented from losing their housing due to COVID-19	N/A	N/A	N/A	630			
Outcome	BIPOC households served at rates as high or higher than their percentage of eligible households*	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes			

Performance Measures Descriptions

*This equity measure aligns with the commitment that Metro Measure funds must be used to reduce disproportionately high rates of homelessness within BIPOC communities.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds	
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022	
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,805,000	
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,805,000	
Program Total:	ogram Total: \$0		\$2,80	\$2,805,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Program Revenues								
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,805,000				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,805,000				

Explanation of Revenues

Metro Supportive Housing Services \$2,805,000

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: