

UPDATE ON THE NH EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

6.14.2023

The application process for the NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP) was paused on October 21, 2022, and will not be reopened. After providing nearly \$300 million in critical resources to over 26,000 Granite State households, all funds available for direct rental assistance have been exhausted.

In December 2022, the State appropriated an additional \$20 million in ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) to assist those most vulnerable and ensure households in emergency temporary circumstances as part of NHERAP, such as hotels and motels, had the opportunity to remain there through the state's coldest months. The final part of that emergency housing program concluded on June 15, having helped more than 900 families since December. The five Community Action Partnership (CAP) agencies and the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA) continue to work closely with remaining families and have directed them to town welfare offices for assistance, where appropriate.

In addition, previously offered supportive services are anticipated to be available at least until this fall, dependent upon remaining funding for each service. Such services are designed to direct households to other available resources, find more stable and permanent housing where needed, and aid in eviction prevention and diversion. These services are offered through the five CAPs, NHHFA, and other program partners, and most currently available services were recently extended beyond their prior closing date of June 30, 2023.

Related, the State recently received an additional allocation of ERA funding, which is being utilized to help continue the State's commitment to expanding the availability of affordable housing through the Affordable Housing Fund (targeted towards populations at or below 50% of the area median income (AMI)), and for the purpose of helping replenish a portion of the ARPA SFRF funds that were used on ERA eligible costs to support NHERAP when ERA funds were otherwise unavailable. Those ARPA SFRF funds will be made available for a variety of needs statewide.

For additional information or questions concerning NHERAP and related services, please contact Lynn Lippitt at llippitt@nhhfa.org or 603-310-9221.

Information on NHERAP supportive services can also be found through the following resources:

- Legal counseling and services: [603 Legal Aid](#)
- Eviction diversion and prevention through the Courts: www.courts.nh.gov/our-courts/circuit-court/district-division/landlordtenant
- Case management and direct assistance through NH Housing and the CAPs: www.nhhfa.org/emergency-rental-assistance/.
- Displaced household and landlord education and incentive program through CDFA and Granite United Way: www.graniteuw.org/our-work/granite-united-way-initiatives/ahip.