NLIHC’s HoUSed Campaign for Long-Term Housing Solutions

June 21, 2022
Agenda

Welcome & Updates
• Paul Kealey, NLIHC

Policy Updates
• Kim Johnson & Kayla Laywell, NLIHC

Short-Term Benefits of Emergency Rental Assistance
• Whitney Airgood-Obrycki, Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies

Analysis of How States & Cities Are Using SLFRF for Affordable Housing & Homelessness
• Neetu Nair, NLIHC

Organizing a Successful Ballot Measure Campaign for Affordable Homes
• Courtney Cooperman, NLIHC

Field Updates
• Andrea Olson, Community Action Partnership of North Dakota

Guest Speaker
• Representative Ritchie Torres (D-NY)

Next Steps
Welcome & Updates

Paul Kealey
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Legislative Updates

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Short-Term Benefits of Emergency Rental Assistance

Whitney Airgood-Obrycki
Senior Research Associate
Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies

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The Short-Term Benefits of Emergency Rental Assistance

Whitney Airgood-Obrycki, PhD
Purpose and Research Questions

• Purpose: Investigate the potential short-term benefits for households receiving ERA

• Research questions:
  • To what extent is Emergency Rental Assistance associated with keeping households current on rent?
  • Is ERA associated with additional financial and mental health benefits?
Data Source

- Data: US Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey
  - Weeks 36–44, August 18, 2021–April 11, 2022

- Sample: About 10,000 renter households (unweighted)
  - 56% ERA recipients and 44% ERA applicants
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behind on rent</td>
<td>Is this household currently caught up on rent payments?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eviction somewhat likely, if</td>
<td>How likely is it that your household will have to leave this home or apartment within the next two months because of eviction? (Asked if</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind on rent</td>
<td>behind on rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ months behind, if</td>
<td>How many months behind is this household in paying your rent or mortgage? (Asked if behind on rent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind on rent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Well-Being</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty meeting expenses</td>
<td>In the last 7 days, how difficult has it been for your household to pay for usual household expenses, including but not limited to food, rent or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mortgage, car payments, medical expenses, student loans, and so on?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tap savings/assets</td>
<td>Thinking about your experience in the last 7 days, which of the following did you or your household members use to meet your spending needs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrow from friends/family</td>
<td>Thinking about your experience in the last 7 days, which of the following did you or your household members use to meet your spending needs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food insecurity</td>
<td>Getting enough food can also be a problem for some people. In the last 7 days, which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>household?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mental Health</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor mental health</td>
<td>Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the not being able to stop or control worrying?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by having little interest or pleasure in doing things?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by feeling down, depressed, or hopeless?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ERA Recipients Were Less Likely to Be Behind on Rent or Think Eviction is Likely

Source: Author tabulations of US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey Weeks 36–44.
ERA Recipients Were Less Likely to Have Financial and Mental Health Stresses

Share of Renter Households

Financial Outcomes
- Difficulty meeting expenses
- Tap savings/assets
- Borrow from friends/family
- Experience food insecurity

Mental Health Outcome
- Poor mental health

Source: Author tabulations of US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey Weeks 36–44.
ERA is Associated with Reduced Odds of Experiencing All Negative Outcomes

Source: Author tabulations of US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey Weeks 36–44.
Average Treatment Effects of ERA Receipt Are Large and Significant

**Average Treatment Effect**

The difference we would expect if all renters in the sample had received ERA compared to if all had applied but were still waiting to hear back.

Source: Author tabulations of US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey Weeks 36–44.
The Short-Term Benefits of Emergency Rental Assistance

June 2022 | Whitney Airgood-Obrycki

jchs.harvard.edu
Analysis of How States & Cities Are Using SLFRF for Affordable Housing & Homelessness

Neetu Nair
Research Analyst
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State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Initial Trends in Housing Investments

June 21, 2022

Neetu Nair (she/her)
Research Analyst
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Tracking SLFRF-funded housing programs in:

- All 50 states + D.C.
- Puerto Rico
- 60 localities (including the top 10 cities/counties that received the highest LFRF allocation & the largest city/county in every state)

These 112 jurisdictions account for 64% of all SLFRF dollars awarded nationally.
SLRF Webpage features an interactive map and search tool: [https://bit.ly/3aQgQj4](https://bit.ly/3aQgQj4)
Report on initial trends in housing investments using SLFRF: https://bit.ly/3aQgQj4
## Overview

### State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th># Jurisdictions tracked in database*</th>
<th># Jurisdictions using SLFRF for housing</th>
<th>Total funding for housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL</strong></td>
<td>112</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>$13,849,627,204.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STATES</strong></td>
<td>51</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>$11,653,926,546.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOCALITIES</strong></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$2,130,700,658.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TERRITORY</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$65,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State Housing Investments

State Housing Investments with Fiscal Recovery Funds

Source: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Initial Trends in Housing Investments (2022, NLIHC)
Local Housing Investments

Local Housing Investments with Fiscal Recovery Funds

Source: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Initial Trends in Housing Investments (2022, NLIHC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Investment Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu, HI</td>
<td>$2,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha, NE</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>$8,851,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfax County, VA</td>
<td>$10,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King County, WA</td>
<td>$11,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polk County, IA</td>
<td>$15,150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville/Jefferson County, KY</td>
<td>$16,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
<td>$18,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County, FL</td>
<td>$23,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>$23,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>$24,575,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td>$28,600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee, WI</td>
<td>$31,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
<td>$34,220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris County, TX</td>
<td>$35,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook County, IL</td>
<td>$35,166,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Bernardino County, CA</td>
<td>$50,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside County, CA</td>
<td>$50,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>$50,270,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit, MI</td>
<td>$56,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>$59,986,370</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maricopa County, AZ</td>
<td>$91,027,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Diego County, CA</td>
<td>$109,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clark County, NV</td>
<td>$170,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>$175,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County, CA</td>
<td>$459,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>$530,154,518</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funding by Housing Activity

Funding Breakdown by Housing Activity

Source: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Initial Trends in Housing Investments (2022, NLIHC)
Affordable Housing Development

• **State of California:** $1.75 B towards the California Housing Accelerator program.

• **State of Illinois:** $225M to its COVID-19 Affordable Housing Grant program.

• **Baltimore, MD:** $56M to increase affordable housing
Homelessness Prevention Services

- **State of Vermont:** $64M for emergency shelters
- **Los Angeles County, CA:** $400M, including for permanent supportive housing, Project Homekey, & other investments
- **Harris County, TX:** $5.5M for permanent supportive housing support services
Short-Term Aid - Rent & Utility Assistance

- **State of New Jersey:** $750M for Rent and Utility assistance.
- **State of Washington:** $403M for ERAP 2.0
- **Louisville/Jefferson County, KY:** $10M for its Court Eviction Diversion Program and Landlord-Tenant Rental Assistance Program, and $1M for security deposits & relocation assistance
- **Miami-Dade County, FL:** $3M for utility assistance
Short-Term Aid - Legal Aid

- **Maricopa County, AZ:** $2.6M to the [Eviction Prevention Legal Assistance Program](#)
- **City of New York, NY:** $62.4M for free legal representation for households at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
NLIHC Recommendations

• Use a data-driven and community-informed approach
• Address homelessness
• Prevent evictions in the short- and long-terms
• Address the severe shortage of affordable homes for the lowest-income households
Additional Resources

U.S. Department of the Treasury:

• Treasury’s SLFRF Program webpage
• SLFRF Final Rule & Overview of the Final Rule
• Treasury’s Fact Sheet: SLFRF Housing Investments

NLIHC Resources:

• SLFRF Report
• SLFRF Webpage
• SLFRF Database
Questions?

• Contact Neetu Nair (nnair@nlihc.org), Alayna Calabro (acalabro@nlihc.org), or Tori Bourret (vbourret@nlihc.org)

• If you know of a jurisdiction in NLIHC’s sample that is using SLFRF for housing and is not documented in our database, please let us know by emailing research@nlihc.org.
Organizing a Successful Ballot Measure Campaign for Affordable Housing

Courtney Cooperman
Housing Advocacy Organizer
National Low Income Housing Coalition
ccooperman@nlihc.org
OUR HOMES
OUR VOTES
BECAUSE HOUSING IS BUILT WITH BALLOTS
HOUSING ON THE BALLOT
How to Organize a Successful Ballot Measure Campaign for Affordable Homes

2022

Authors:
Courtney Cooperman
Housing Advocacy Organizer
Lena O’Rourke
Consultant to NLHCA
Ballot Measure Advocacy and Restrictions on Electoral Activity

• 501c3 nonprofit organizations CAN endorse and campaign for ballot measures!
• Ballot measures are treated like bills; voters are like policymakers
• Restrictions on lobbying still apply!!!
• Resource from Bolder Advocacy: https://bolderadvocacy.org/resource-library/tools-for-effective-advocacy/toolkits(ballot-measures-toolkit/
Categories of Ballot Measures

• Increasing resources for affordable housing
  • Redirecting existing funds
  • Raising real estate taxes
  • Issuing bonds
  • Imposing fees on short-term rentals

• Strengthening tenants’ rights
  • Rent stabilization ordinances
  • Establishing right to counsel in eviction court

• Addressing homelessness
  • Increasing resources for homelessness resolution
  • Defeat of a measure that would have criminalized homelessness
Best Practices for Organizers

- Know the basics of ballot measures.
- Design the campaign based on your resources and capacity.
- Build a strong and diverse base of support.
- Mobilize and follow the leadership of directly impacted communities.
- Develop clear messaging.
- Harness the media.
- Organize accessible campaign activities.
- Integrate voter registration and mobilization into the campaign.
On November 2, VOTE YES for RENT STABILIZATION

Help Reduce Homelessness
YES on Denver’s 2B
Thousands of individuals and families in Denver are experiencing or at-risk of becoming homeless—and the pandemic is making it worse.

We need to act now before we fall further behind. Measure 2B will make sure Denver is prepared to help newly homeless families find shelter and access safe, stable housing.

Learn more about 2B at YES on November 2nd, vote YES on Ballot Question 4 to increase funding for affordable homes.
Get Involved with *Our Homes, Our Votes: 2022*!

Website: ourhomes-ourvotes.org

Twitter: @OurHomesVotes

Facebook @OHOV2022

Email: ourhomes@nlihc.org

Webinars: every other Monday at 2:30 pm ET
Field Updates

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NLIHC
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Andrea Olson
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June 21, 2022
SSVF Overview

- The goal of SSVF is promoting housing stability among very low-income veteran families who reside in or are transitioning to permanent housing. SSVF supports a Housing First approach by helping the veteran family meet its primary need of housing, while addressing barriers to housing stability.

- Each CAA is able to provide families with outreach, case management, and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits.

- Veteran families may qualify for assistance with time-limited payments to third parties for rent, utilities, moving expenses, and licensed child care.
New Partnership with Legal Services

Additional funding made available from the VA via the American Rescue Act

Formal agreement between CAPND and Legal Services of ND

The goal is to enhance SSVF provision of legal services by increasing Veteran access through expanded and improved direct legal aid partnerships.

Five of the top ten unmet needs reported by homeless Veterans are legal issues contributing to housing instability.

SSVF grantees serve a vital role in resolving legal barriers to housing stability via timely and consistent assessment of legal needs and provision of direct legal services.
New Partnership with Legal Services

Removing issue(s) that impact housing stability

Reported issues include: child support, divorce, prior evictions, etc.

This partnership is a more robust approach. (Say ‘NO’ to siloes!)

Partnership guidelines have been developed: ROI, case conferencing, referral process

Evaluation and program tweaks will take place via ROMA! Results-Oriented Management Accountability
Additional Information

- Please continue to make referrals to your local SSVF Program for any Veteran who is experiencing homelessness, or at risk
- [https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/ssvf-overview/](https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/ssvf-overview/)
Guest Speaker

Representative Ritchie Torres
15th Congressional District of New York
US House of Representatives
Next Steps

Paul Kealey
Chief Operating Officer
National Low Income Housing Coalition
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Resources

NLIHC’s HoUSed Campaign (nlihc.org/housed): Campaign Updates