



# **EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE**

**October 19, 2021**



# Agenda

## ▶ **Emergency Rental Assistance Program Update**

- Contra Costa County Performance
- Urban Footprint At Risk Analysis

## ▶ **Supplemental Funding Considerations**

- Inventory of Existing Services
- Additional Funding Considerations

**A local organization  
can help you  
apply for rent  
and utility relief!**

- ✔ Don't have a computer or internet access?
- ✔ Need help filling out an application?
- ✔ Need assistance in another language?

Call 833-687-0967 to schedule an appointment or visit [HousingIsKey.com](https://HousingIsKey.com).

 CA COVID-19 RENT RELIEF | Local Partner Network



# Rental Assistance Update

➤ **\$147,427,324 for Contra Costa**

- ERAP 1: \$75,822,311
- ERAP 2: \$71,605,012

➤ **as of October 14, 2021**

- 16,559 active cases
- \$238,206,018 in relief requested
- \$112,022,448 in relief approved
- \$65,418,894 in relief paid
- 5,617 cases paid

Urban Footprint: Application Gap Count		<i>as of October 5, 2021</i>				
County Benchmarks, October 2021		<u>Contra Costa</u>	<u>Los Angeles</u>	<u>Ventura</u>	<u>Santa Cruz</u>	<u>San Mateo</u>
<b>Housholds At Risk</b>		17,000	134,000	12,799	5,015	13,065
ERAP Applications to Date		14,000	75,000	9,530	2,335	6,679
Households At Risk w/o Applications		2,345	60,000	3,269	2,680	6,386
<b>% ERAP Applications/Households At Risk</b>		<b>82%</b>	56%	74%	47%	51%
<b>% Unemployment</b>		7%	11%	6%	8%	5%

Get 100% of your rent and utilities paid.

The CA COVID-19 Rent Relief program is an official State of California sponsored program.

Apply Now: [HousingIsKey.com](https://HousingIsKey.com) or call 833-430-2122

\$

Previous applicants will be further compensated to reach 100%. No need to reapply!

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# ERAP 2 Local Allocation

## ➤ Total Contra Costa ERAP 2 Allocation

- \$71,605,012 Total
  - \$38,941,950 Federal
  - \$32,663,062 State

## ➤ ERAP 2 Local Allocation

- \$1,168,258 3% of Federal Allocation
  - \$467,303 40% of Local Allocation immediately available
  - \$700,955 60% of Local Allocation available once 75% of initial funds obligated

## ➤ Local Allocation Eligible Uses:

- "...case management and other services intended to help keep household stably housed."
- "...administrative costs attributable to providing financial assistance, housing stability services and other affordable rental housing and eviction prevention activities..."



# Current Program Inventory

## Key Takeaways:

1. Board has provided significant funding for eviction protection activities over the last year
2. Legal Assistance, Mediation and Counseling services are currently available
3. Aggressive state and local outreach campaigns are funded and will continue

### Contra Costa County

#### Rental/Eviction Protection Activities, thru June 30, 2022

		<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>End Date</u>
<b>Legal Assistance</b>	Centro Legal De La Raza	\$ 540,000	CDBG	6/30/2022
	Contra Costa Senior Legal Services	\$ 149,160	OAA	6/30/2022
<b>Housing Stability/ Counseling</b>	Bay Area Legal Aid	\$ 75,000	ERAP 1	12/31/2021
	ECHO Housing	\$ 60,000	CDBG	6/30/2022
<b>Outreach</b>	Richmond Community Foundation	\$ 389,000	ERAP 1	12/31/2021
	Contra Costa Crisis Center (211)	\$ 50,000	ERAP 1	9/30/2021
<b>Mediation</b>	Congress of Neutrals	\$ 115,000	DRPA	6/30/2022
<b>Rental Assistance</b>	Shelter Inc.	\$ 3,200,000	CDBG	On Hold
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 4,578,160</b>		



# Proposed Supplemental Services

- ▶ Courthouse Legal Clinics – Shelter, Inc (\$70,000) -12 months
  - Legal Clinics will be staffed daily for 2 hours each day, in each of the three Superior Courts (Pittsburg, Martinez, and Richmond) to help litigants sign up for ERAP and provide referrals to community housing organizations and attorneys.
  - Once ERAP is complete, clinics can continue to make referrals to housing organizations and attorneys as well as the CDBG funded rental assistance programs in the County
  
- ▶ Pro-Bono Attorney of the Day – Congress of Neutrals (\$30,000) – 12 months
  - Facilitate recruitment of volunteer attorneys during each Unlawful Detainer calendar:
    - Pittsburg (Dept. 57): Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
    - Martinez (Dept. 57): Wednesday, Friday 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
    - Richmond (Dept. 54): Tuesday, Thursday 1:15 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
  - Volunteer attorneys can provide legal counsel to litigant, but will not be representing parties during court proceedings



# Proposed Supplemental Services

- ▶ **In-Person Mediation – Congress of Neutrals (\$50,000) – 6 months**
  - Dedicated in-person mediator available for unlawful detainer calendars
  - Assists landlords and tenants in reaching binding settlement prior to court proceedings on day of Court
  
- ▶ **211 Outreach – Contra Costa Crisis Center (\$80,000) – 12 months**
  - Continued 24/7 access to 211 Call Specialists making referrals to ERAP, or other rental assistance and eviction protection resources
  - Assess non-housing needs of callers initiating contact due to a housing issue and make appropriate referrals



# Additional Interventions

- ▶ County is still working with community-based organizations and the Superior Court to assess additional interventions and will return to Board with recommendations
- ▶ AB 832 eviction protections play out in the Court system, so any program interventions need to be coordinated with the Superior Court
- ▶ This includes potentially adding additional unlawful detainer calendars, legal assistance to review noticing by litigants for sufficiency or other Court based interventions





# Recommendations

1. ACCEPT update on the status of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program; and
2. CONSIDER authorizing the County Administrator, or designee, to enter into the following contracts in the aggregate amount of \$230,000:
  - Courthouse Legal Clinics – Shelter, Inc (\$70,000) -12 months
  - Pro-Bono Attorney of the Day – Congress of Neutrals (\$30,000) – 12 months
  - In-Person Mediation – Congress of Neutrals (\$50,000) – 6 months
  - 211 Outreach – Contra Costa Crisis Center (\$80,000) – 12 months



# Questions

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