

Housing/Shelter Funding Tracker

During the pandemic there have been many new funding opportunities released relating to housing and shelter. The increased funding is greatly needed. However, tracking the various funding sources, understanding the funding requirements, and meeting the short timelines for proposal present a lot of challenges for service providers. In an attempt to consolidate information about the various funding sources, and hopefully make it easier to decipher them, we have put together the funding tracker below.

Terms/Acronyms:

ARP= The American Rescue Plan Act. ARP is federal law that was passed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARP statute included funding across several sectors that were impacted by COVID including several new funding allocations to support housing/shelter.

OEO: Office of Economic Opportunity. OEO is a department within the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The office handles the distribution of various forms of shelter funding.

ESP= Emergency Services Program. ESP is a state funding program administered by OEO that addresses shelter operation. This is an ongoing shelter funding source, but has also been used as a vehicle through which a lot of COVID-related shelter funding has been distributed.

HOME: The HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME for short). HOME is a program through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that provides funding focused on certain capital costs related to creating affordable housing. When ARP was passed, the statute included a large amount of funding to be filtered to states, cities, and counties through the HOME program. However, although the ARP money is being filtered through the pre-existing HOME program, the ARP money can fund several eligible costs that are normally not allowed under the traditional HOME program.

Funding Description	Amount	Status
ARP-COVID Outbreak Response Funding: This is federal funding that will be administered by the state. It is specifically for monetary support to cover an active COVID-19 outbreak in congregate spaces. Entities can request funding for needs related to a current outbreak or costs incurred during on outbreak dating back to September 15, 2021.	10M	Requests for assistance will be processed by OEO. OEO started accepting requests for assistance on October 27, 2021. Information about submitting a request for funding survey is located on the Heading Home Alliance Website. https://headinghomealliance.com/fiscal-recovery-funds/
ARP-COVID Shelter Capital Funding: Funding for the modification of shelter space or acquiring new shelter space <i>to prevent the spread of COVID.</i>	15M	This funding will be allocated through an RFP that will be released by OEO. The RFP will likely be released in early winter.
State Shelter Capital Funding: This is funding that was allocated by the state during the last legislative session. The funding is focused specifically on funding shelter acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation. Note: The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless, along with others, will be advocating again this next legislative session for more state funding to support state shelter capital. In working on that advocacy, they are gathering information on shelter capital projects that programs already have in place or are planning. You can share information about current or potential projects, if you have one, via survey at https://forms.gle/TJG7VUqULy1opu2b8 .	2M	This funding will go through the same RFP as the 15M COVID-related shelter capital funding noted above. The RFP will likely be released in early winter.

<p>ARP Fiscal Recovery Funds to States, Localities, and Tribes: This funding was allocated through ARP to states, tribes, and many local jurisdictions to address general COVID-related needs including, but not limited to, shelter/housing.</p>	<p>Funding varies by City/County. For a list of the local allocations see the Heading Home Alliance website under the “Fiscal Recovery Funds” header.</p>	<p>These funds have been distributed to local jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction is prioritizing them in their own way, and distributing them on their own timeline (some jurisdiction may have already expended funds). Local jurisdictions will have more information.</p>
<p>Supplemental Budget Legislative Session 2021: During the upcoming legislative session there will be 1.5B allocated by the legislature. This is money that can be allocated for a wide array of needs across the states including, but not limited to housing/shelter. VFMN submitted recommendations to the Governor’s office and the state on the need to allocate a portion of this funding to VSPs for direct client assistance as well as housing needs for survivors. We will continue to advocate for those needs throughout the session.</p>	<p>1.5B</p>	<p>How these funds will be distributed is to be determined during the upcoming legislative session.</p>
<p>ARP-HOME Investment Partnership Program: This is federal funding through ARP that has been allocated to states, cities, and counties to address housing and non-congregate shelter needs. According to the ARP statute, the funding can focus on affordable housing acquisition, non-congregate shelter acquisition or conversion, housing related supportive services, and tenant rental assistance. However, although those are the eligible expenses allowed by the federal statute, each local jurisdiction that received funding can choose to focus only in certain areas.</p>	<p>Approximately 66.5M divided between 7 jurisdictions throughout Minnesota. Amounts vary by jurisdiction. See the following link for distribution information. HOME-ARP.pdf (hud.gov)</p>	<p>Each jurisdiction that received funding needs to complete a needs assessment before deciding how they will prioritize and design the funding distribution; <i>they are required to include DV agencies in that assessment to gather feedback about survivors’ needs.</i> The federal notice detailing this process was just released and jurisdictions are still sorting through their process. VFMN and OJP and working to proactively advocate with the state regarding allocation of this funding and the need to include VSP and survivor voices. We have also reached out to the cities and counites that received funding and have asked to be updated as their process moves forward so we can relay information to membership. If you have questions about this funding please feel free to reach out to Anne Applebaum at aapplebaum@vfmn.org.</p>
<p>FVPSA COVID Supplemental Round 1: These funds will support programs in preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19. FVPSA dollars must fund shelter and/or supportive services to victims and families of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence.</p>	<p>1.9M</p>	<p>This funding will go out through an RFP through OJP. The RFP is likely to be released in the Fall.</p>
<p>FVPSA COVID Supplemental Round 2: FVPSA funds from ARP which will assist domestic violence shelters and programs in accessing COVID-19 rapid testing and facilitating access to mobile health units to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 infections for adults, children, and youth experiencing domestic violence and dating violence.</p>	<p>Amount TBA</p>	<p>This funding will go out through an RFP through OJP. The RFP is likely to be released in Fall/Winter.</p>
<p>APRA Survivor Support and Prevention Grants: This funding is a combination of ARP funding and state allocated funding. The funding includes three programing areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct financial support to victims/survivors - For providers working to stop the cycle of violence through meeting emerging or unmet crime victim needs, and/or - Domestic abuse transformative justice programming (formally known as batterer intervention programming) 	<p>5.78M</p>	<p>RFP Open for Solicitations. Due: November 10, 2021 Grant Period: January 1, 2022- March 31, 2023 (15 months). For the grant FAQ see, OJP FAQ.</p>