

RENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMING

Budget, Finance, & Economic Development Committee

February 23, 2021



LEXINGTON



Overview of Programs in Lexington

- Rental Hardship to Impacted Service Employees (RHISE)
 - Began August 2020 with \$500,000 of federal CDBG funds
 - Operated directly by Community & Resident Services
 - Targeted specifically to “public facing” service industries

- Housing Stabilization Partnership Program (LFUCG Dollars)
 - Began September 2020 using 8 non-profit partners
 - Provided up to \$4,000 of assistance
 - Funds mostly exhausted through February 2021 – remaining funds to be used for relocation only



Overview of Programs in Lexington

- Healthy at Home Eviction Relief Fund
 - Opened September 2020
 - \$15 million statewide fund using federal dollars
 - Operated by Kentucky Housing Corporation and available to Fayette County residents
 - CLOSED – Served 683 Fayette County households with \$2,552,715.00

- Housing Stabilization Program (Federal Dollars)
 - Began February 2021
 - Reopened/Reimagined using \$9.6 million of federal funds
 - Operated by Community Action Council, others TBD
 - Provides up to rent and utility arrears with 3 months future, no limit



RHISE Overview

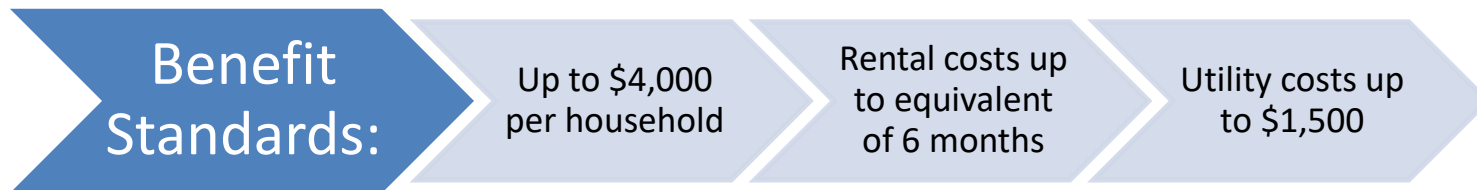
Rental Hardship to Impacted Service Employees

Funding Source: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES)

Program Budget: \$500,000

Administrator: LFUCG Community & Resident Services

Program Period: September 2020 through June 30, 2021





RHISE - Eligibility

Employees or independent contractors who have experienced involuntary job loss (lay-offs and / or unpaid furloughs), due to temporary closure of normal business operations.

Particularly, the interruption of work activity must have been the result of official public health mandates for social distancing (in order to limit COVID-19 infectious community spread).

- Household Income < 60% Area Median Income (\$47,640 for family of 4)
- Rental leaseholder of residential property located in Fayette County.



RHISE – Eligibility cont.

The following impacted services industries include:

- Community Service Organizations (non-profit)
- Child Care and Health Care
- Educational (Schools, Colleges and Universities)
- Retail and Customer Service
- Food, Hospitality and Entertainment

RHISE – Progress Report

# Client Intakes	372	
# Approvals	119	
Area Median Income	16.73%	Note: 33 households = zero income (\$0)
Rental Assistance	\$221,245	
Utility Assistance	\$16,803	Note: 83% to Kentucky Utilities
Total RHISE Expense	\$238,048	
Remaining Balance	\$261,952	

Note: Update as of February 15, 2021



RHISE – Workforce Impact

<u># FILES</u>		<u>SERVICE INDUSTRIES</u>
59	49.6%	Food, Hospitality and Entertainment
31	26.1%	Child Care and Health Care
23	19.3%	Retail and Customer Service
5	4.2%	Educational
1	0.8%	Community Service Organizations
119	100%	TOTALS to date – All Industries



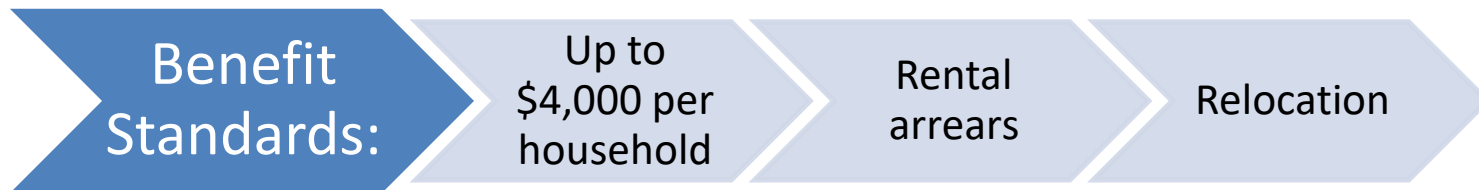
HSPP, LFUCG - Overview

Funding Source: Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government General Fund

Program Budget: \$1,452,000

Administrator: Office of Homelessness Prevention & Intervention

Program Period: September 2020 through February 2021





HSPP, LFUCG - Eligibility

- Household Income < 80% Area Median Income. (\$63,500 for family of 4)
- Rental leaseholder of residential property located in Fayette County.
- Financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

HSPP, LFUCG – Progress Report

Initial Applications 727

Acceptance of Assistance 622

Administration \$ 145,200.00

Rental Assistance \$ 1,111,863.12

Relocation Assistance \$ 90,477.73

Total HSP Expense **\$1,202,340.85**

Remaining Balance \$104,459.15 (relocation only)

Note: Update as of February 15, 2021



Housing Stabilization Program

(FEDERAL) *As Funded by the U.S. Department of Treasury*

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Funds

Program Budget: \$9,668,772.30

Administrator: LFUCG Division of Grants & Special Programs

Program Period: February 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021





HSP, Federal- Eligibility

- Household Income < 80% Area Median Income (\$63,500 for family of 4)
- Fayette County resident.
- Household member has qualified for unemployment or lost household income, incurred significant costs or other financial hardship due to “directly or indirectly” to COVID-19.
- Household is at risk of homelessness due to pending eviction or past due notice or unsafe or unhealthy living conditions.



HSP, Federal – Progress Report

- \$5 million awarded to Community Action to begin implementation.
- Project Manager hired to coordinate/oversee program and develop plan for deploying additional \$4.6 million.
- Coordinating weekly with Kentucky Housing Corporation and Louisville for a consistent program.
- 65% of funds must be obligated by September 30, 2021.
- 100% must be expensed by December 31, 2021.
- Still awaiting further guidance from Treasury.
- Additional funds available as needed.



HSP, Federal – Progress Report

Initial Applications 1,256

Actively Engaged Applications 421

Acceptance of Assistance 11

Total Expense **\$67,000**

Note: Update as of February 15, 2021

Questions?



LEXINGTON