



COVID-19 Response

Homeless Assistance

April 20, 2020



Overview

- CARES Act, Waivers, & Guidance
 - Josh Shumaker, COSCDA
- Virginia's Approach
 - Nichele Carver, VA Department of Housing and Community Development
- Ohio's Response
 - Scott Gary, OH Development Services Agency
- Colorado CDBG Investment
 - Alison George, CO Department of Local Affairs
- Questions

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act

- [Legislation](#) signed into law on March 27
- Provides \$4 billion for Emergency Solutions Grants
 - \$1b allocated using FY20 formula
 - Remainder to be allocated using formula TBD by HUD
 - Based on factors including risk of transmission of coronavirus, rates of shelter/unsheltered homeless, and economic and housing market conditions
 - Allocation available within 90 days of enactment (June 25)
 - 10% admin cap
 - No match requirements
 - Allows HUD Secretary broad waiver authority
- COSCDA and other groups advocating for additional resources in next supplemental

Waivers and Support

- [Waivers](#) issued April 2 on ESG, HOPWA, CoC, and Con Plans
- 30-day to 5-day public comment period for Con Plan amendments
- Reasonable notice and opportunity to comment
- Re-evaluations for homeless assistance waived
- Waives limit on rental assistance to rents at or under FMR
- SNAPS hosting weekly office hours
- More info available from HUD: [Disease Risks and Homelessness](#)
- COSCDA: [COVID-19 Resources](#)

Virginia

- 15 CoCs and BoS 12 LPGs immediate deficits – supply needs
- Used health department, others sources to share social distancing strategies
- Determine costs for hotel rooms to house unsheltered and those who needed to vacate shelters during the day
- Total needed \$2.5m/week
- Navigating coupling ESG w. FEMA funds – Wave 1 funding
- Looking to apply current CDBG to 40 communities (Ex. James City County – small locality w. high infection rate)
- Considering additional waivers for relief – FMR and CM

Ohio

- Housing Crisis Response Program
 - Funds supplies, staffing, motel access
 - Grants up to 2 years emergency response
- CDBG Target Opportunity Fund
 - \$1 million available
 - Supports housing stability
 - Funds dedicated to shelters, supplies, staff, and motel vouchers
- OH Finance Agency
 - Homeless prevention/rapid re-housing
 - Emergency rental assistance

Ohio

- Health impact and Emergency Management Agency
- Partnering with CoCs
- COHHIO Reserve Fund
 - \$1 mil raised

Colorado

- CDBG Formula
 - State distributes evenly between housing, infrastructure, and economic development
- Housing funds supporting acquisition of 1-2 motels
 - Emergency shelters
 - Diversion aiding social distancing practices
- Other uses of CDBG funds: supplies, business retention loans, emergency rental assistance
- Partnering w. local orgs. to prevent disease spread
- ESG used for master leasing w. hotels, CDBG long-term efforts w. permanent facilities

A black chalkboard with the text "Any Questions?" written in white chalk. The text is centered and written in a casual, cursive style. The word "Any" is on the top line, and "Questions?" is on the bottom line. The background of the chalkboard shows some faint, dark smudges and lines, suggesting it has been used before.

Any
Questions?