



Office Hours: COVID-19 Planning and Response

February 26, 2021



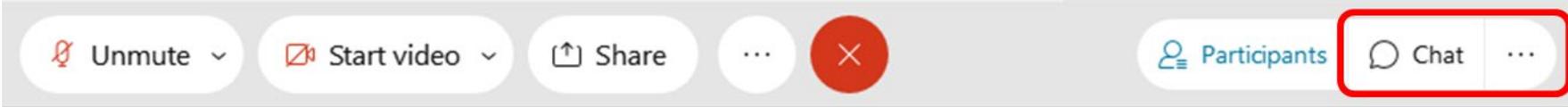
Housekeeping

- A recording of today's session, along with the slide deck and a copy of the Chat and Q&A content will be posted to the HUD Exchange within 2-3 business days
- Event information for upcoming Office Hours, along with copies of all materials can be found here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/#covid-19-webinars-and-office-hours>

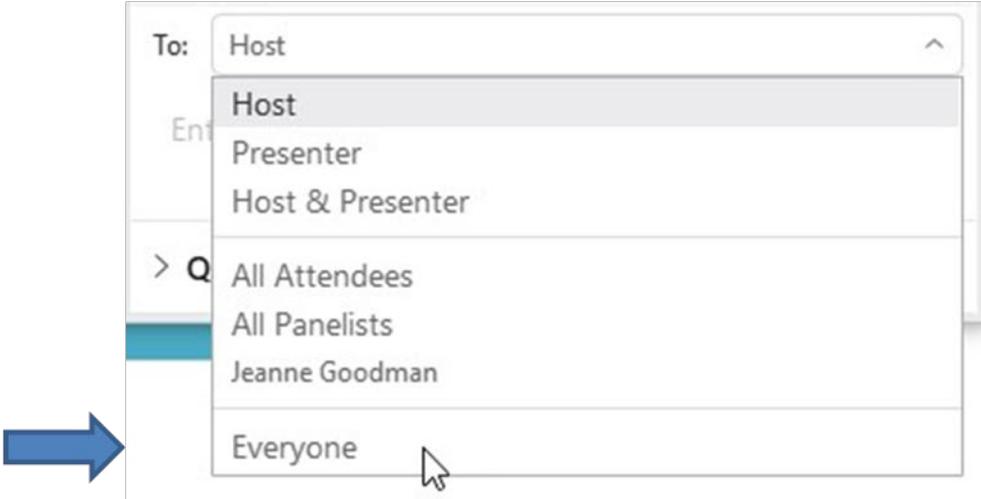
- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:
+1-415-655-0002 Access code: 610 976 677
(If you need to call in toll-free, call 1-855-797-9485)

Chat Feature



Select the Chat icon to make a comment or ask a question.

Be certain the To field is set to **Everyone**



Speakers & Resource Advisors

Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
 - Norm Suchar
 - Karen DeBlasio
 - Marlisa Grogan
 - William Snow
 - Lisa Coffman
- Peggy Bailey, Senior Advisor, Rental Assistance, Secretary's Office
- John Gilvar, HUD TA, Gilvar Consulting Services
- Brian Roccapriore, HUD TA, Cloudburst Consulting Group
- Stacey Matthews, HUD TA, Cloudburst Consulting Group

City of New Orleans/UNITY of Greater New Orleans

- Tyra Brown, Director of Housing, Office of Community Development
- Martha Kegel, Executive Director



Speakers & Resource Advisors

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Emily Mosites, PhD, MPH, COVID-19 At-Risk Population Task Force, Senior Advisor on Health and Homelessness

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

- Barbara DiPietro, PhD, Senior Director of Policy

Department of Veterans Affairs

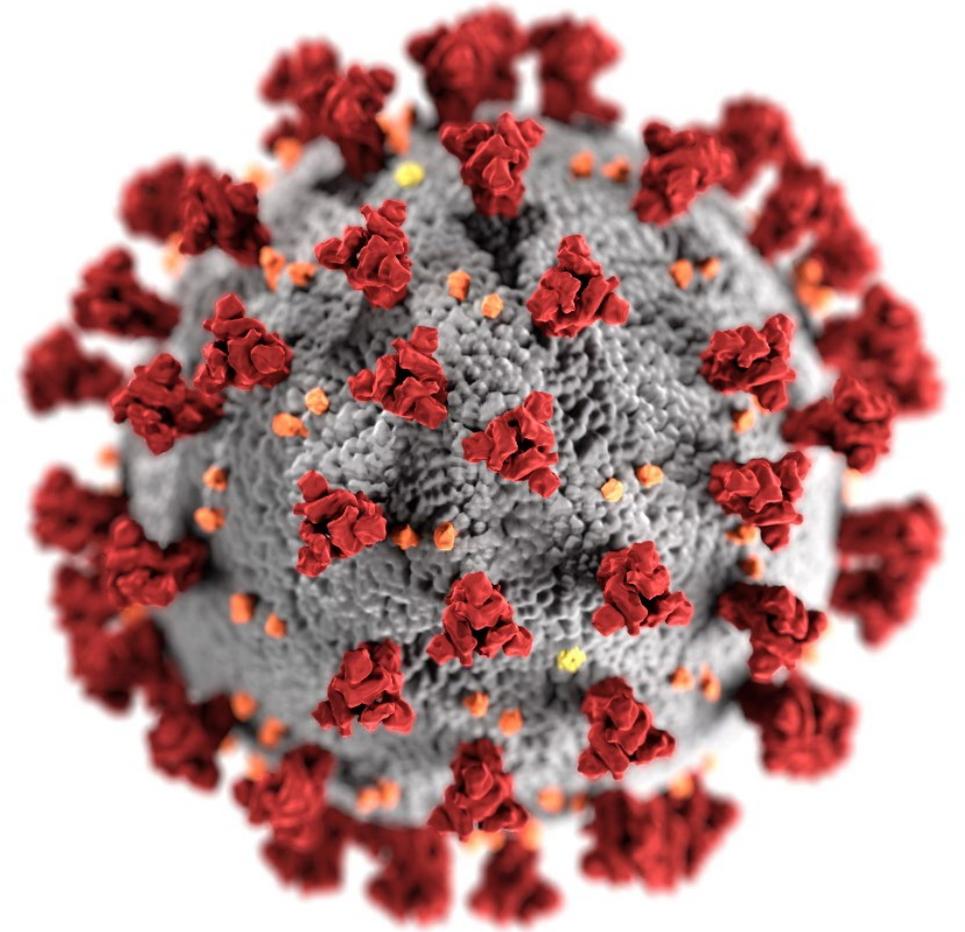
- Dina Hooshyar, MD, MPH, Director, National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans (The Center), VHA Homeless Program Office
- Jillian Weber, PhD, RN, CNL, Homeless-PACT National Program Manager, VHA Homeless Program Office



COVID-19 and Homelessness

Updates

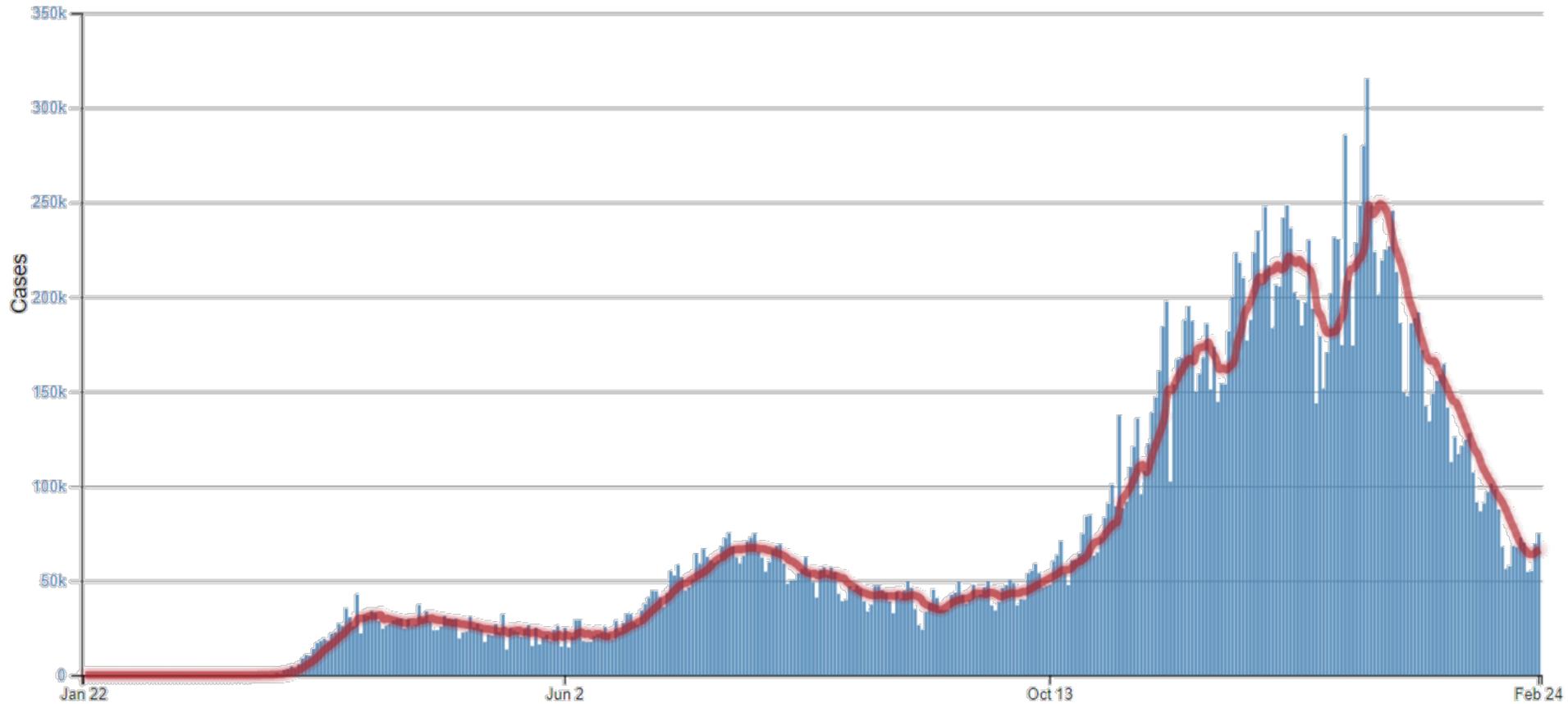
Homelessness Unit
Disproportionately Affected Populations Team
CDC COVID-19 Response



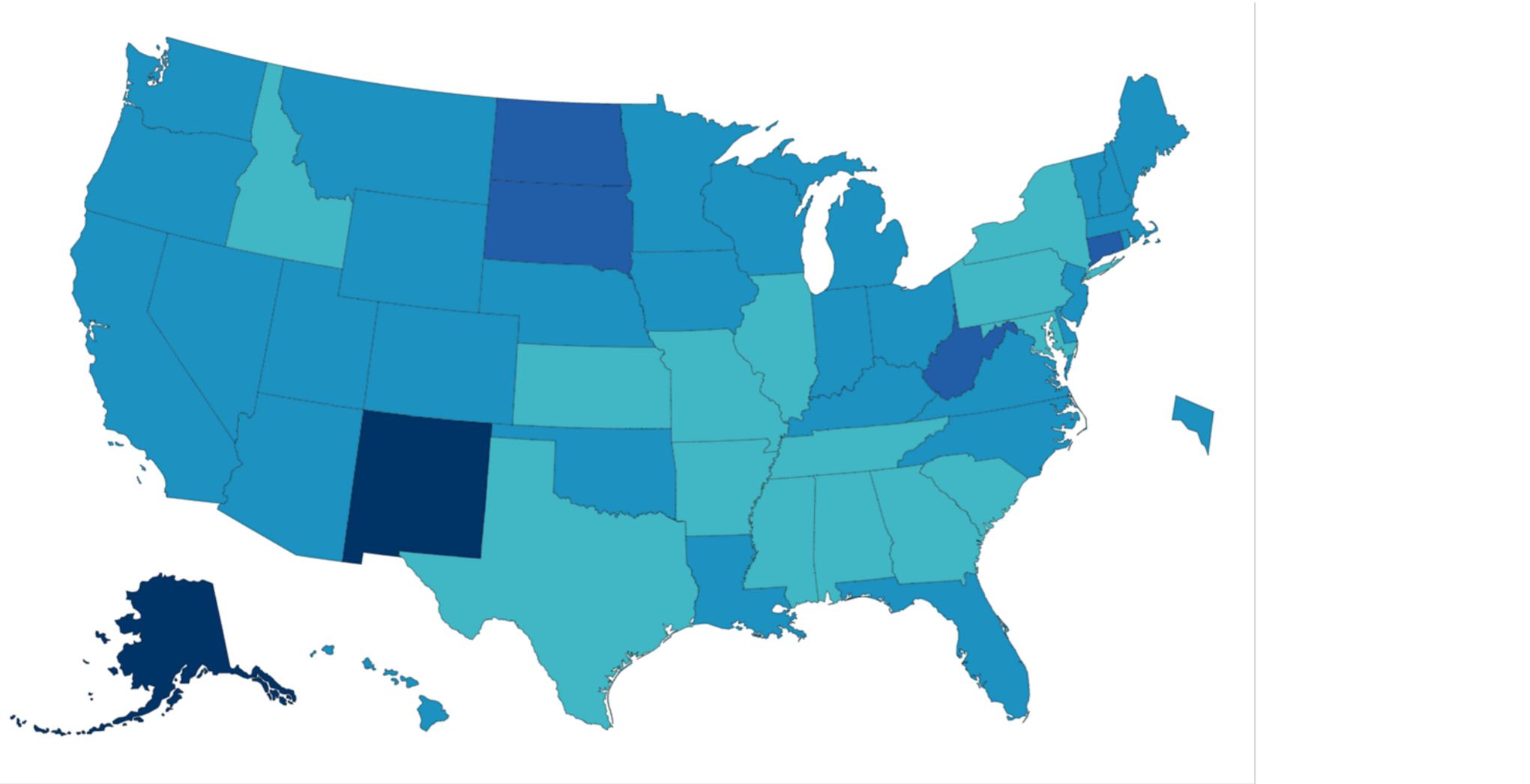
cdc.gov/coronavirus

National COVID-19 cases in low plateau

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in the United States Reported to CDC



14% of US population has received at least one dose of vaccine



Evidence of COVID-19 re-infection

Suspected Recurrent SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Residents of a Skilled Nursing Facility During a Second COVID-19 Outbreak — Kentucky, July–November 2020

Weekly / February 26, 2021 / 70(8);273–277

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7008a3.htm?s_cid=mm7008a3_w



Janssen Vaccine: Data forthcoming



Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

Webcast

February 24-25, 2021 meeting is a virtual meeting. No registration is required.
Meeting time, 9:30am – 5:30pm EST (times subject to change).

[Feb 24-25 Final Agenda](#) 📄

[Feb 24-25 Presentations](#)

[Webcast Link](#) 🔗

February 28 – March 1, 2021 Emergency ACIP Meeting. No registration is required.
Meeting times: Feb 28, 11:00am – 4:00pm EST; March 1, 11:00am – 3:00pm EST (times subject to change).

[Feb 28-March 1 Draft Agenda](#) 📄

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html>



CDC Vaccine Resources

Vaccination for people experiencing homelessness guidance:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/vaccination-guidance.html>

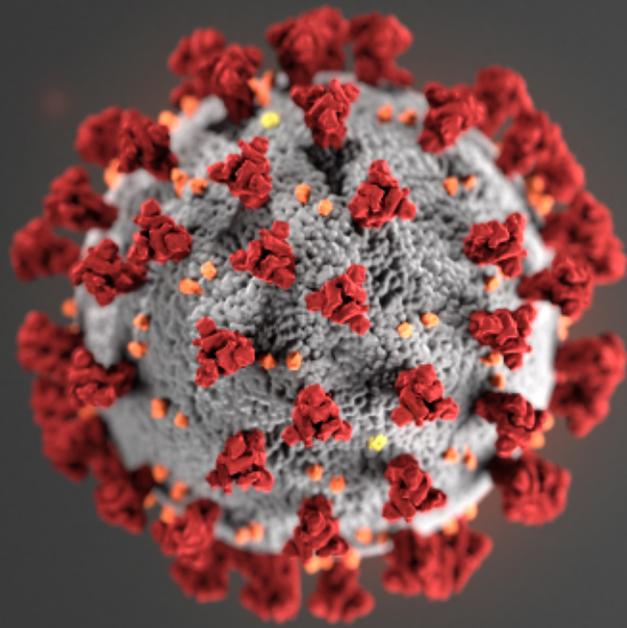
Overall COVID-19 Vaccine Information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions related to homelessness:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/vaccine-faqs.html>





For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



HUD RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

- The Department of the Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance





Emergency Rental Assistance Webinar

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Additional Guidance

U.S. Department of the Treasury

February [26], 2021

Agenda



- 1** **Introductions & Program Updates**
- 2** **Key Revisions to Emergency Rental Assistance FAQs**
- 3** **Priorities & Next Steps**
- 4** **Q&A**



Emergency Rental Assistance Leadership (Federal)

Noel Poyo

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community and Economic
Development

U.S. Department of the Treasury

Peggy Bailey

Senior Advisor, Rental Assistance

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Emergency Rental Assistance Program Updates

The Emergency Rental Assistance program (ERAP) provides \$25 billion to grantees to aid households struggling to pay rent and utilities due to COVID-19.

- As of January 26, funding had been fully disbursed to state and local grantees.
- On Monday, February 22, Treasury revised and published the FAQs for Emergency Rental Assistance, which are publicly available on our website: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/emergency-rental-assistance-program>
- Treasury worked closely with HUD and the Biden Administration on this important policy update, which supersedes the prior Administration's FAQs released on January 19.
- Due to concerns that many grantees were developing their policies and procedures based on the prior Administration's, Treasury responded to the need to move urgently on this document.
- Treasury recognizes the need for further clarity on a number of items, and we welcome your feedback today.



Significant Policy Revisions to ERAP FAQs

1 Timing for Landlord Engagement

- The timeline required to wait for a landlord's response before a grantee can pay a renter directly has been reduced from 21 calendar days to 14 days if communication is by mail, and 10 days by phone, text, or email.

2 Flexibility in Form of Documentation

- Grantees are permitted and expected to be flexible about the form of documentation that they will accept. The FAQs provide specific examples.

3 Allowing for Self-attestation

- The FAQs provide a framework in which grantees can accept self attestations from vulnerable populations that cannot provide the ideal level of documentation due to present circumstances.

4 Categorical Eligibility

- In addition to clarifying forms of documentation, the FAQs expand methods of determining income eligibility to include participation in other federal or state programs with income limits at or below 80% AMI.



Significant Policy Revisions to ERAP FAQs (Cont.)

5 Eligibility for Households Receiving Monthly Subsidies

- Previously, households that were receiving monthly federal housing subsidies were restricted from participating. The FAQs clarify that funds may be applied to the unsubsidized, tenant-owned portion of rent for all eligible households.

6 Other Expenses

- The FAQs define and provide greater clarity about other housing-related expenses that may be covered, including internet service in the home.

7 Housing Stability Services

- The FAQs define and provide greater clarity for housing stability services, including allowing legal assistance related to evictions.

8 Flexibility for Tribes

- The FAQs clarify that Tribes may assist Tribal members living off Tribal lands, and likewise assist households that are not Native American residing on Tribal lands.

Treasury's Focus:

- Supporting states, localities, territories and Tribes in effectively implementing ERAP with the flexibility needed to reach struggling renters.
- Providing supplementary FAQs and developing comprehensive guidance, within a short period of time.
- Working collaboratively with HUD, the Administration, and stakeholders to provide additional technical assistance as needed.
- Protecting the flow of emergency relief funding to low-income households, by balancing Treasury's communications and program policies regarding flexibility in implementation with the need for robust fraud protection.
- Maintaining open dialogue with the public to make changes as needed.
- Continuing to build capacity and introduce new resources, as needed, to support grantees in providing the necessary relief to renters.



Q&A

THE NEW ORLEANS STRATEGY

TO PROTECT PEOPLE EXPERIENCING
HOMELESSNESS DURING THE PANDEMIC
BY PROVIDING NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER

A Presentation for the Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

February 26, 2021

Tyra Johnson Brown, Director of Housing, Office of Community
Development, City of New Orleans

Martha Kegel, Executive Director, UNITY of Greater New Orleans



James Anderson

POPULATION: 390,144

RACIAL AND ETHNIC MAKEUP:

60% Black 35% White 3% Asian 2% Other 6% Hispanic

NEW ORLEANS OVERVIEW

POPULATION LIVING IN POVERTY BY RACE

Black	White	Asian	Other
80%	16%	2%	2%

RENT-BURDENED

37% of renters are severely cost-burdened, paying more than 50% of their income towards housing costs.

In New Orleans, 4 out of every 5 cost-burdened renter households are Black.

New Orleans has only 47 affordable rental units for every 100 low-income residents, according to HousingNOLA's 2017 State of Housing Report.

COVID-19 IN NEW ORLEANS

First case discovered March 9, 2020 in neighboring parish.

By July 2020, there were 9,752 total cases and 548 total deaths in New Orleans.

By July 2020, Louisiana ranked 2nd in cases per-capita and 3rd in deaths per-capita.

As of Feb 26, 2021: 28,075 total cases in New Orleans and 757 deaths.

As of Feb 26, 2021: 43,419 total cases in Jefferson Parish and 834 deaths.

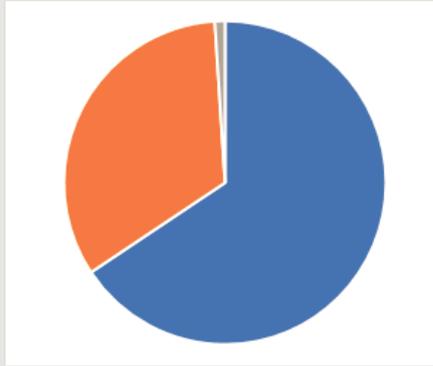
Louisiana now ranks 22nd in total cases per-capita and 9th in total deaths per-capita.

Black people are 60% of the population but 72% of COVID-19 deaths in New Orleans.

Black people are 27% of the population in Jefferson Parish but 38% of the deaths.

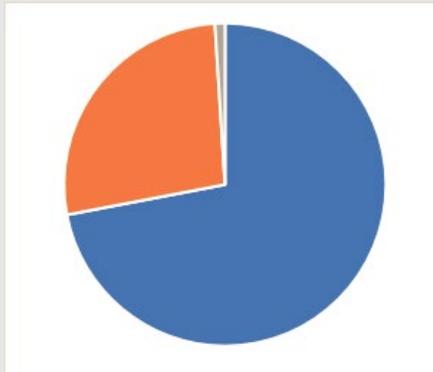
TOTAL NUMBER HOMELESS PEOPLE

Total People			
All Races	White	Black	Other
1203	33%	65%	2%



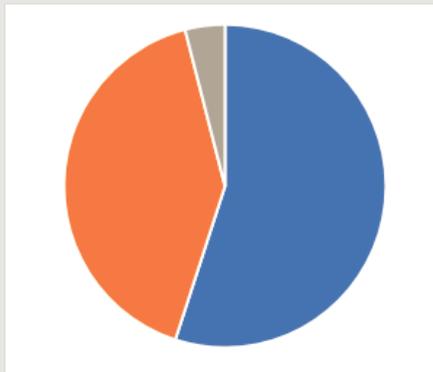
TOTAL NUMBER IN SHELTER

Total Sheltered People			
All Races	White	Black	Other
689	27%	72%	1%



TOTAL NUMBER UNSHELTERED

Total Unsheltered People			
All Races	White	Black	Other
514	41%	55%	4%



HOMELESSNESS IN NEW ORLEANS PRE-PANDEMIC (2020 PIT COUNT)

■ Black
 ■ White
 ■ Other

	Family Shelters	Adult Shelters	Youth Shelters	Total
Jan 2020	58	981	78	1117
July 2020	31	496	54	581
Jan 2021	9	351	75	435

**PANDEMIC
RESPONSE:
DECREASE
POPULATION IN
CONGREGATE
SHELTERS**

THE HOTEL INITIATIVE: PRECEDENT OF THE POST- KATRINA CAMPS

Between Dec. 2007 and July 2008, 480 residents of two squalid camps were assisted into hotels and apartments by the CoC and City of New Orleans.

HOTELS

Funding for hotels and case managers in the hotels was provided by the City of New Orleans, Metropolitan Human Services District, and Health Care for the Homeless.

HOUSING

Rapid Re-Housing funding was provided by the State of Louisiana and HUD as part of Katrina hurricane relief funded by Congress.

THE NEW ORLEANS HOTEL INITIATIVE

SAVING LIVES THROUGH NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER (NCS)

The State of Louisiana, City of New Orleans, Jefferson Parish Government and the CoC placed 618 unsheltered people in hotels to protect them from the pandemic.

In addition, 21 homeless people fleeing domestic violence and 126 homeless veterans were placed in hotels by DV programs and the VA.

Who was placed in hotels?

People Moved from Encampments	369
Other Unsheltered People	183
Homeless People Discharged from Isolation	66
Homeless People in DV & Veteran Programs	147

Homelessness in New Orleans & Jefferson Parish

Unsheltered PIT 2020	555
Total PIT 2020	1314
NCS Residents	765
NCS Residents as % of PIT	58%

THE NEW ORLEANS HOTEL INITIATIVE

SAFE AT HOME
REHOUSING CAMPAIGN

Goal is permanent housing for all 765 persons taken off the street and placed in hotels.

Dedicated City and State ESG RRH resources for a “Safe at Home” RRH program.

Partnership with PHA for 225 HCV.

CoC PSH & RRH programs are housing NCS residents with more openings being created through Moving On HCV.

563 Permanent Housing Exits: 139 to PSH, 331 to RRH and 93 to other PH. In addition, 49 went to TH.

STATEWIDE HOTEL INITIATIVE

Non-Congregate Sheltering (NCS) in Louisiana

Total People Sheltered	2,153
Chronically Homeless Sheltered	611
People in Families with Children	479
Exits to Positive Housing Destinations	50%
Currently Sheltered	477

54% of people assisted were Black. State population is 32% Black.

50% of exits to permanent housing outcomes.

No known instances of COVID transmission in NCS shelters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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HUD TA PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

- Rehousing Out of NCS: Maximizing Placements



Rehousing Out of NCS: Maximizing Placements

- NCS can provide a head start on streamlining the entire housing placement process and accelerating re-housing
- All the placement steps are ideally completed while the client resides at NCS with the goal of an exit directly into housing
- A large proportion of NCS residents have vulnerabilities related to health, disabilities, and older age that can be assessed on-site
- With many high-needs clients residing in one or a few places, homeless response systems have unique opportunities to address bottlenecks, coordinate processes, and increase system flexibility

Apply a Racial Equity Lens

- Center racial equity in planning to streamline re-housing processes and prioritize high-risk people residing in NCS
 - Assure an equal voice at planning tables for people identifying as Black, Brown, Indigenous, or a member of another historically marginalized group, including people with lived expertise
 - Establish specific data metrics to assure that groups impacted by historical and ongoing marginalization are served and rehoused in ways that help reduce racial disparities in housing outcomes
 - Evaluate the racial and ethnic makeup of NCS populations
 - Identify and eliminate potential biases in NCS admission policies and procedures
 - Develop transparent re-housing metrics to assure placements do not perpetuate racial inequities
 - Regularly report on these data to community oversight bodies at which
 - marginalized groups are represented in accordance with their
 - overrepresentation among people experiencing homelessness

Address Health Risks and Ongoing Health-Related Needs

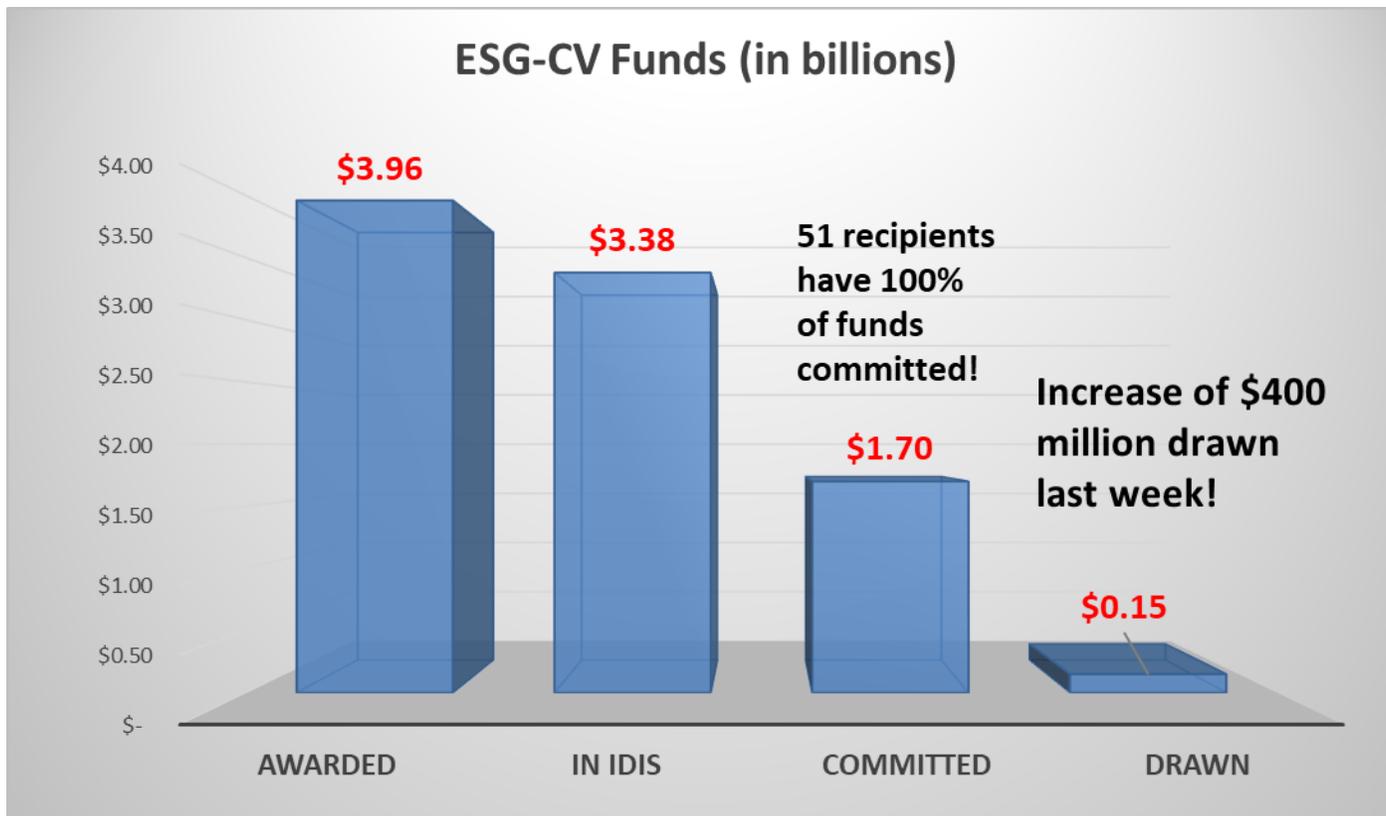
- Create flexible approaches to meeting both the re-housing and supportive services needs of NCS residents with pre-existing health conditions
- Explore:
 - Adaptations to Rapid Re-housing to avoid bottlenecks created by shortages of supportive housing units
 - Providing intensive supports that can migrate with the client to a RRH unit
 - Creating Bridge-to-PSH rapid rehousing pathways with dedicated funding
 - Allowing for greater flexibility in rental assistance

Organize to Maximize Placements Out of NCS

- **Increase capacity for Rehousing out of NCS**
 - Examples: NCS rehousing teams, One-day housing surges/virtual fairs
- **Adapt processes for matching people to rehousing options**
 - Examples: Adapt assessment tools to support NCS rehousing efforts, Ensure coordination with Coordinated Entry prioritization policies
- **Boost capacity to meet acute and chronic health needs**
 - Example: Housing Stabilization Case Management Services (HSCMS)
- **Create data and analytics policies and procedures to gauge success**
 - Example: Create a database or enhance HMIS to track rehousing out of NCS and assure that placements do not perpetuate racial inequities

ESG-CV Grants Status Report

As of February 22, of the 362 ESG-CV Recipients and \$3.96 Billion allocated:



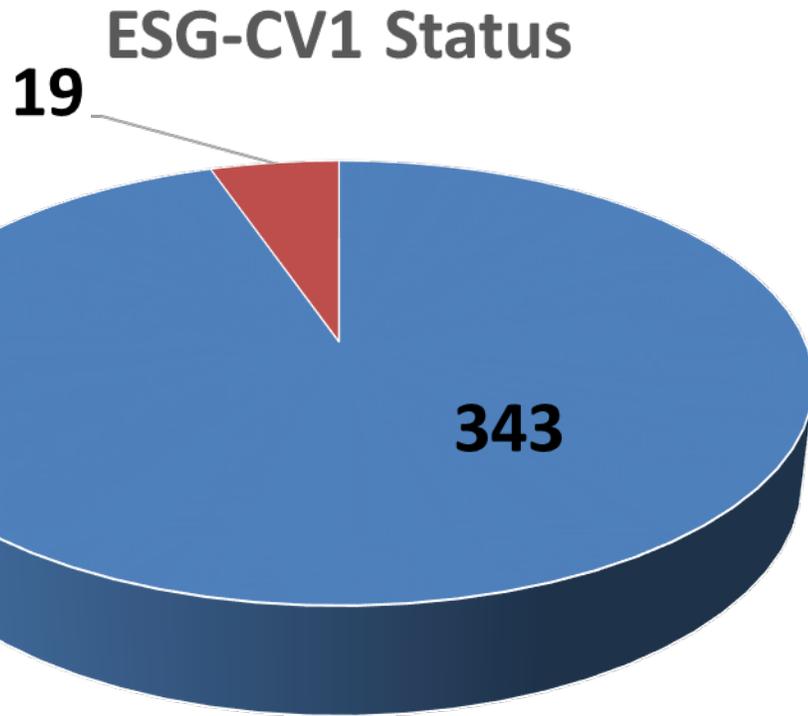
Percentage of total funds drawn:
4.48%

Increase of 1.24%
over the previous week!

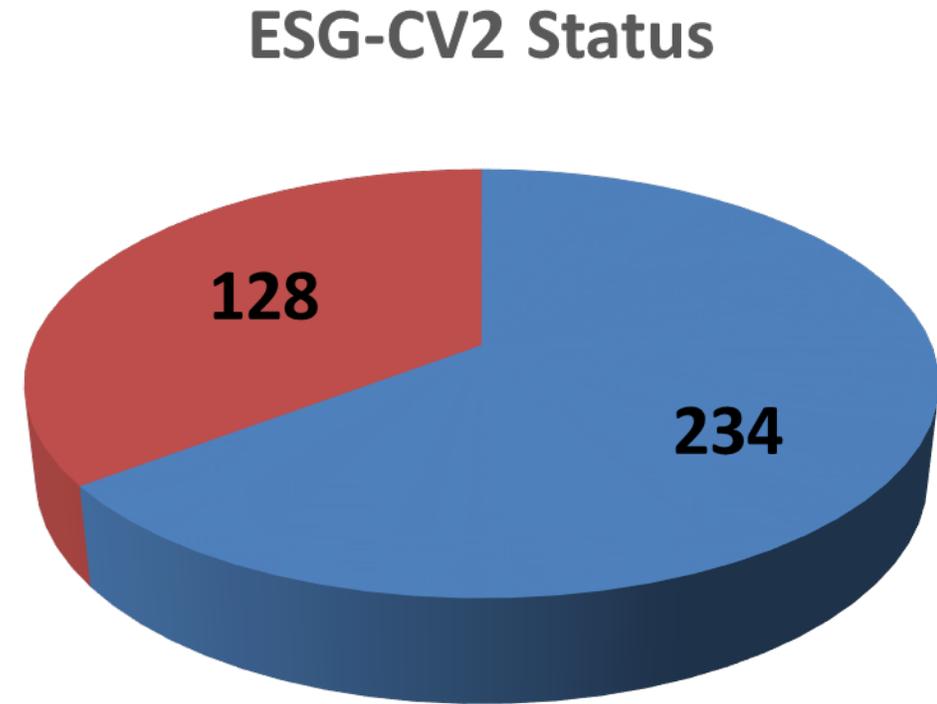
24 recipients are over
20% drawn

**20% of your grant allocation must
be expended by September 30, 2021**

ESG-CV Grants Status Report



■ Grants in IDIS ■ Remaining to Load in IDIS



■ Grants in IDIS ■ Remaining to Load in IDIS

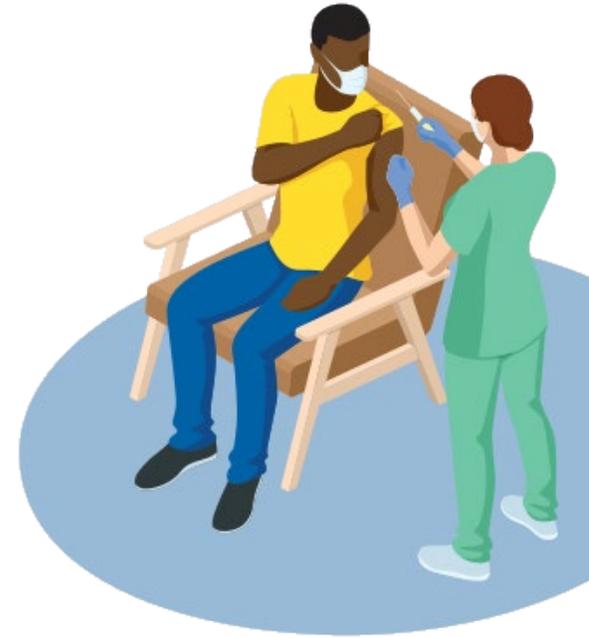
HUD TA RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

- Logistics Tools: Data & Equity



New Vaccine HMIS Tools and Products

- [Initial Vaccine Planning Data Considerations for Homeless Systems](#)
- [Data Collection Options for COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Data : HMIS and IIS Alignment](#)
- COVID-19 Data Use Series – Coming soon!



COVID-19 Data Use Series – Why?

To support the HUD and CDC goal to provide guidance and planning support to homeless service systems with the goal of ensuring the equitable distribution of the vaccine to people experiencing homelessness and essential homeless services staff, based on community prioritization strategies.



Equity – Leading with Race

Across all age groups, genders, household types, and across geographic type, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color are documented as experiencing:

- Higher rates of homelessness
- Longer periods of homelessness
- Fewer exits to permanent housing
- Higher rates of returns to homelessness



COVID-19 Data Use Series

- Four part series, starting with a foundational document in the next vaccine newsletter.
- Will provide real world scenarios constructed using a performance improvement strategy that is grounded in both equity and data.
- Each entry will include guidance for:
 - Analyzing data
 - Drawing conclusions about the story that data is telling
 - Designing data-informed improvement strategies
 - Monitoring and evaluating strategies



**You can now
view your
Economic Impact
Payment
amounts, if any,
within your
online account.**



www.irs.gov/account

Eligible individuals who did not receive the full amounts of both Economic Impact Payments may claim the Recovery Rebate Credit on their 2020 Form 1040 or 1040-SR.



Cómo reclamar el Crédito de Recuperación de Reembolso en una declaración de impuestos de 2020

La mayoría de las personas que son elegibles para el Crédito de Recuperación de Reembolso ya lo recibieron, por adelantado, en dos rondas de pagos de impacto económico. Las personas que recibieron los montos completos de ambos pagos de impacto económico no necesitan completar ninguna información acerca del Crédito de Recuperación de Reembolso en su declaración de impuestos de 2020.

Acerca del Crédito de Recuperación de Reembolso

Las personas que son elegibles, y que no recibieron ningún pago de impacto económico o recibieron menos de los montos completos de Recuperación de Reembolso, deben presentar su declaración de impuestos de 2020 para reclamar el Crédito de Recuperación de Reembolso si no suelen presentar una declaración de impuestos.

Claiming the Recovery Rebate Credit on a 2020 Tax Return

Most people who are eligible for the Recovery Rebate Credit have already received it, in advance, in two rounds of Economic Impact Payments. Individuals who received the full amounts of both Economic Impact Payments do not need to complete any information about the Recovery Rebate Credit on their 2020 tax return.

About the Recovery Rebate Credit

- People who are eligible – and either didn't receive any Economic Impact Payments or received less than the full amounts – may claim the Recovery Rebate Credit. They must file a 2020 tax return to claim it even if they don't usually file a tax return.
- The eligibility requirements are the same for the Recovery Rebate Credit as they were for the Economic Impact Payments except that the credit eligibility and the credit amount are based on 2020 tax year information.
- File a complete and accurate return to avoid refund delinquency. The IRS urges taxpayers to file electronically and use the software to figure the Recovery Rebate Credit. The Recovery Rebate Credit is available on Form 1040 and Form 1040-SR. If you don't have a worksheet, you can use the worksheet on Form 1040.

People received the full amounts of both Economic Impact Payments if:

- Their first Economic Impact Payment was \$1,200 (\$2,400 if married filing jointly) plus \$500 for each qualifying child, and
- Their second Economic Impact Payment was \$600 (\$1,200 if married filing jointly) plus \$500 for each qualifying child.

Publication 5496 (02-2021) Catalog Number 754468 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

www.irs.gov/rrc



New Resources Posted

Using Data and HMIS for Vaccine Rollouts

- [Data Collection Options for COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Data : HMIS and IIS Alignment](#)
- [Initial Vaccine Planning Data Considerations for Homeless Systems](#)

Key Websites

HUD: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/infectious-disease-prevention-response/>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/index.html>

NHCHC: <https://nhchc.org/clinical-practice/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/>

USICH: <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>

VA: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp>

HRSA: <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/emergency-response/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions.html>

Federal Partner Contacts

For additional information or assistance, contact:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/COVID19; 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636); TTY: 1-888-232-6348
- Department of Housing and Urban Development:
[HUD Exchange Ask-A-Question \(AAQ\) Portal](#)



Q & A

