



**SOLANO
COUNTY**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator
Date: January 11, 2022
Subject: Significant Issues Update

Update on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

As of January 7, 2022, the County's ERAP has paid out \$10.8 million in rental and utility arrears to 1,100 Solano County renter households. An additional \$450,000 in payments is pending and is scheduled to be paid out within the next week. The average payment is \$10,000.

Over 3,000 unduplicated applications were received during the period of April 6, 2021 through July 31, 2021, 1100 processed locally. Currently, 150 applications (34 are with Catholic Charities) are still pending determination of eligibility with \$700,000 funds obligated for these claims when their paperwork is completed. The remaining 1,750 applications have been and are being transferred to the State's Housing Is Key emergency rental assistance program where an additional \$12.7 million and \$15.2 million allocated assets in Round 2 for Solano County for a state total of \$32.9 million. If the eligible applications remaining exceed the County's available funding, those applications will also be transferred to the State.

The contract with Catholic Charities ended on December 31, 2021. However, staff is working on an amendment to the contract that will extend it to allow Catholic Charities the time necessary to make payments to the final 34 applicants that are pending (amount included in the total above) and to update the status of their final 100 applications in the required data base. Staff is also working with Catholic Charities to document appropriately the administrative costs with the supporting documentation. Costs and documentation are pending for costs after October.

As of January 4, 2022, the State has aided 1,971 Solano County renter households with a total of \$21 million and an average payment of \$10,644. The State's program has received 8,059 applications, some of which overlap with County applications close coordination and so reconciliation of application data bases is continuing. CAO staff communicates regularly with the State's Housing and Community Development department to ensure assistance is not paid for the same months on these overlapping applications. Over 52% of the County applicants to the State program have extremely low incomes, or below 30% of the area median income. Approximately \$22 million remains available under the State's Housing is Key program for Solano County residents. The State was recently awarded an additional \$62 million of reallocated ERAP funds; while it is expected the State will designate a portion of this funding for Solano County residents, the methodology and exact amount are unknown at this time.

The State program is eligible to continue through September 30, 2025, or until funding is depleted, whichever is sooner.

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