



# COVID-19 Basic Needs and Eviction Prevention Response Update

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Health and Human Services Committee  
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# COVID-19 Eviction Prevention: Eviction Prevention Strategies and Eviction Moratorium

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CDC Eviction Moratorium ended August 26, 2021

HB7001: Passed by General Assembly and Signed by Governor August 10, 2021

- Effective dates: August 10, 2021 – June 30, 2022
- Landlord cannot evict a tenant for non-payment of rent if the tenant meets specified criteria:
  - ✓ Has qualified for unemployment benefits
  - ✓ Experienced a reduction in household income
  - ✓ Incurred significant costs, or
  - ✓ Experienced other financial hardship during or due, directly or indirectly, to the coronavirus pandemic
- Landlords/Tenants are required to apply for VA Rent Relief (or locally administered program)

# COVID-19 Eviction Prevention: Process Improvements and Enhancements

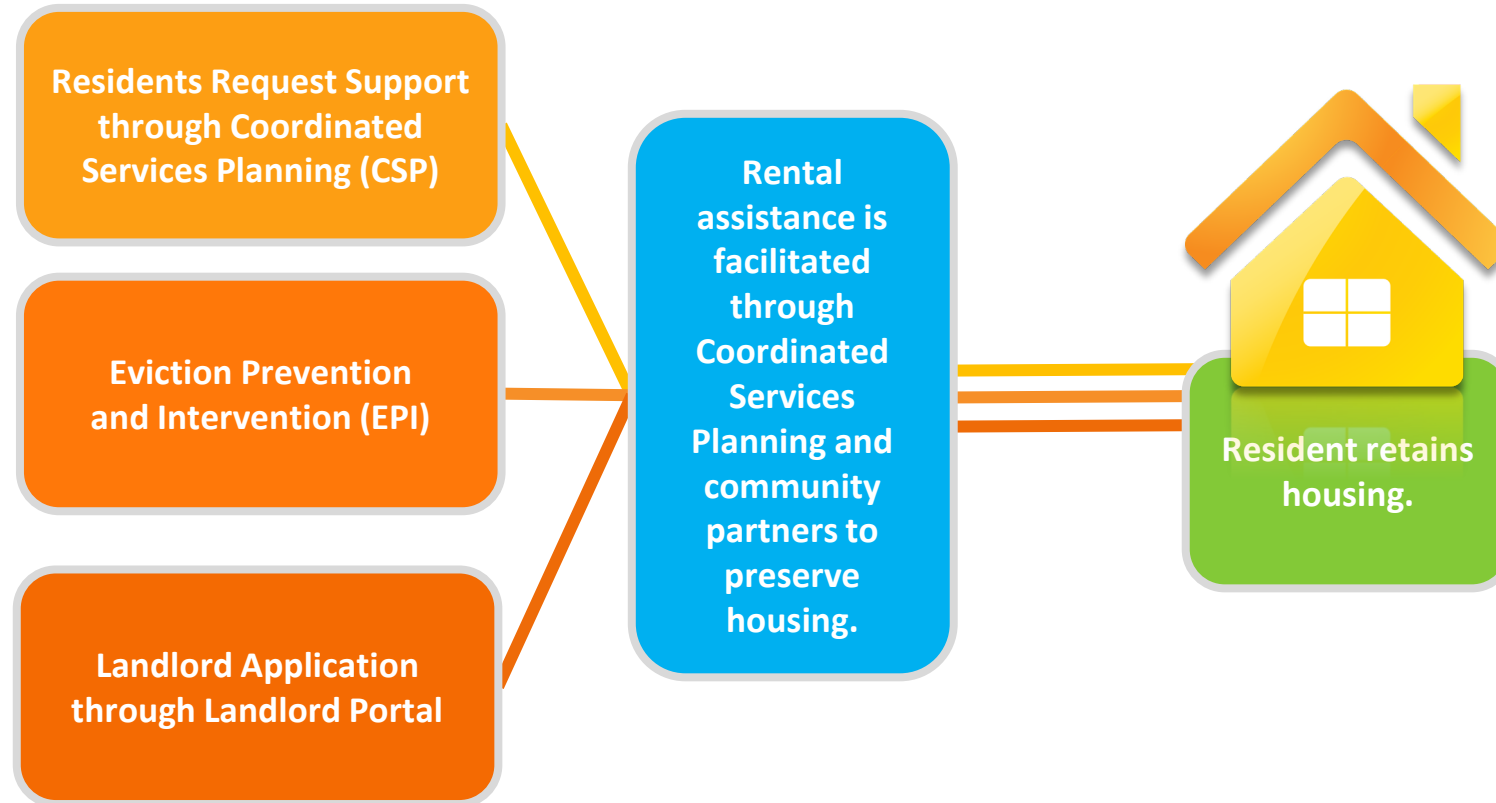
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## Eviction Prevention Process Improvements and Enhancements

- Expanding tenant and landlord outreach strategies
- Removing barriers for landlord and tenant application completion rates
- Adapting to changing federal guidance to maximize program participation
- Exploring the establishment of a Mediation program for court involved residents

# COVID-19 Basic Needs Response Strategies to Support Eviction Prevention

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# COVID-19 Basic Needs Response: Coordinated Services Planning Update

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## Supporting Residents through a Human Services Assessment Model:

- One-time assessment completed which takes an average of 30 mins
- Residents are provided multiple resources and screened for all funding sources (one story, one time)

## Process Improvement Efforts:

- Further adapting our assessment by reducing the length and prioritizing housing assistance eligibility screening. Full CSP assessment is optional
- A new database will be implemented with a ***tenant portal*** - residents can choose point of entry
- Exploring innovative strategies to increase completion rates for tenant housing assistance

Total ERA 1 Funding Provided (Tenant Initiated): \$7.8M (Total ERA \$13.6M)

Total Number of CSP Housing Support Cases Completed (ERA I): 1,044 Unique Households

Residents Request  
Support through  
Coordinated  
Services Planning  
(CSP)

# COVID-19 Basic Needs Response: Eviction Prevention and Intervention (EPI) Update

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## Eviction Prevention and Intervention (EPI)

### Supporting Residents through a Proactive Outreach Model:

- Once contact is made, resident participates in a modified assessment
- Residents are provided multiple resources and screened for all funding sources (one story, one time)
- Close to \$840,000 of housing assistance facilitated through this process
- Response from tenants to initial contact has been low

### Process Improvement Efforts:

- Work with courts to increase information sharing to improve initial resident contact
- Streamline rental assistance case status communication during court proceedings
- Engage stakeholders in the legal system to positively impact residents at risk of eviction

# COVID-19 Basic Needs Response: Landlord Portal Update

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**Landlord  
Application  
through Landlord  
Portal**

## **Supporting Landlords through an Online Portal Model Only:**

- Assessing for eligibility through the landlord portal
- Resident involvement is mandatory and required to establish an application

## **Process Improvement Efforts:**

- Allocate additional funding to community partners in an effort to increase Landlord application completion rates

Total ERA 1 Funding Provided (Landlord Initiated): \$5.8M (Total ERA \$13.6M)

Total Number of Landlord Housing Support Cases Completed (ERA1): 732 Unique Households

## **COVID-19 Response: Basic Needs & Eviction Prevention Response – Spending (9/8/21)**

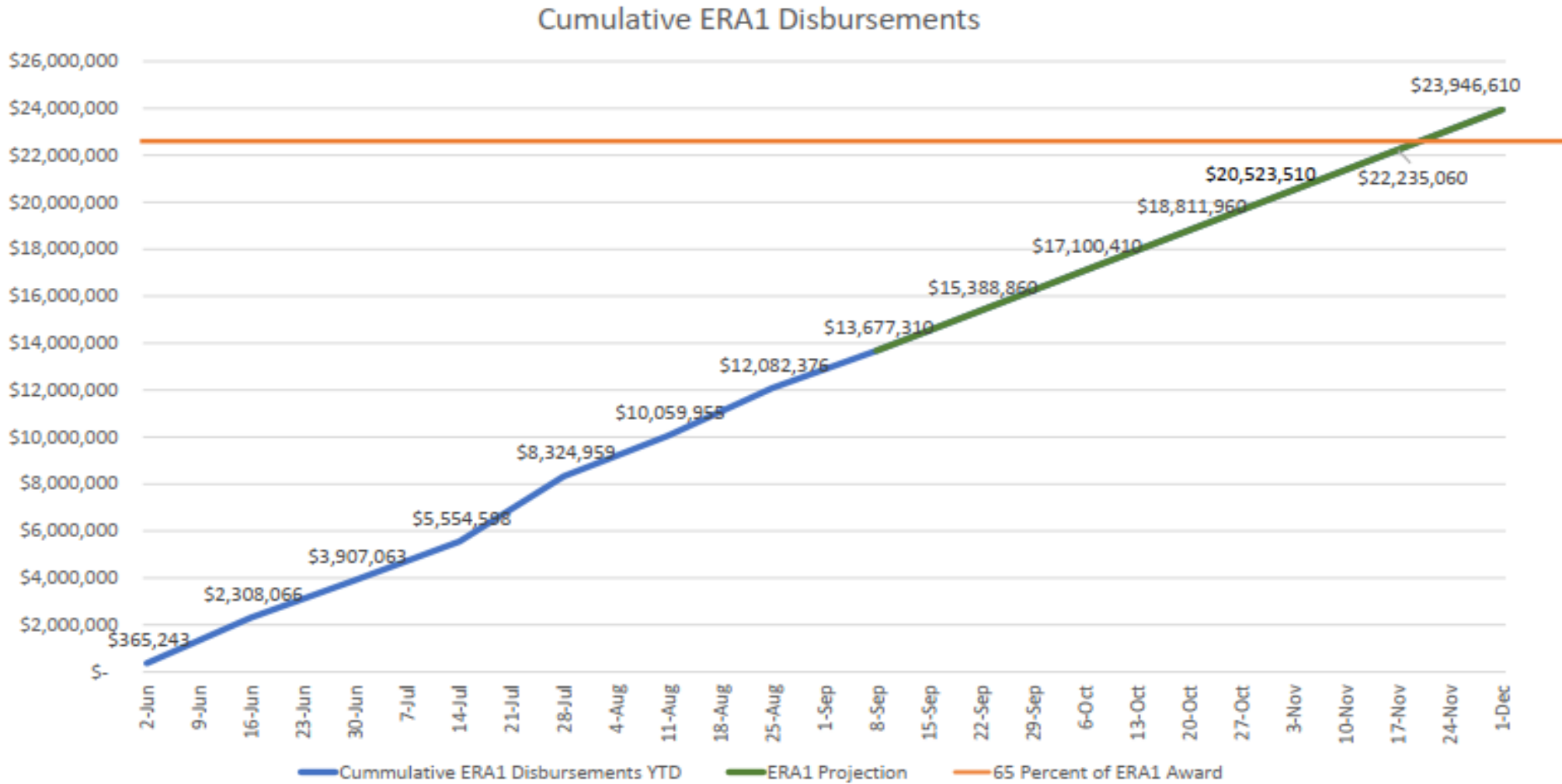
Funding Source	Amounts Available for Basic Needs Assistance	Amount Disbursed for Residents to Date	Purpose
<b>CARES 1.0</b>	\$20,000,000	\$19,743,732	Rent, Utility, Mortgage, Food and Other Basic Needs
<b>CARES 2.0 Gap</b>	\$2,000,000	\$597,868	Mortgage, 81-100% AMI, Rent and Utilities (Resident's ineligible for ERA)
<b>Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)</b>	\$7,900,000	\$7,000,183	Rent, Utilities
<b>Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA I)</b>	\$34,463,869	\$13,677,310	Rent, Utilities
<b>Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA II)</b>	\$35,100,967	TBD	Rent, Utilities and Other
<b>Other County and Community Resources</b>	Varied Sources- Community Based Organizations funding outside of CARES or ERA – (CCFP, Private CBO funding, etc.)	\$1,807,669	Rent, Utilities, Other Basic Needs
<b>TOTAL (9/8/21)</b>		<b>\$42,826,762</b>	



# COVID 19 Eviction Prevention Response: Emergency Rental Assistance Program

➤ ERA 1 Funding Spending Requirement (65%) Awaiting Federal Guidance

➤ ERA 2 Funding Implementation and Eligibility Requirements



# COVID-19 Basic Needs & Eviction Prevention Response: Reducing Barriers to Accessing Basic Needs Supports

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## Continuous Process Improvements

- Increase options for residents to obtain and submit required documentation
- Modification of assessment processes
- Secure a new database including a tenant portal
- Evaluate and effectively apply all available staffing resources

**Questions ?**