



June 29, 2021

Last night, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law a bill that will enable the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) and other jurisdictions statewide to provide more financial help to families with low income experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SDHC has advocated for the State to allow emergency rental assistance programs to pay 100 percent of past-due rent and 100 percent of prospective rent for qualifying households. The new State legislation, Assembly Bill (AB) 832 includes both of those provisions.



Richard C. Gentry SDHC President & CEO

Previous State legislation limited assistance to 80 percent of past-due rent (if a landlord waived the remaining 20 percent) and 25 percent of prospective rent.

AB 832 also extends the statewide eviction moratorium through September 30, 2021.

I commend and thank Governor Newsom and State Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins for their leadership and support of this essential legislation.

My thanks also to State Senator Scott Weiner, who chairs the Senate Housing Committee, State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, and Assemblymember David Chiu, chair of the Housing and Community Development Committee, who worked together with the Governor and Senate President pro Tempore Atkins on this legislation.

With the approval of these changes, SDHC anticipates fully expending the Coronavirus Relief Funds allocated for rent and utility assistance payments through the City of San Diego Housing Stability Assistance Program. To date, SDHC has disbursed more than \$21.5 million to assist more than 4,200 households through this program.



SDHC COVID-19 Programs Feature Article "Edge" Online Magazine

SDHC's COVID-19 Programs, Collaborations Featured in HUD Online Magazine

SDHC has earned national recognition through an online magazine's feature article about SDHC's collaborative programs responding to housing challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I encourage you to read the article, "Robust Partnerships Helped San Diego Deliver Effective Pandemic Relief," which is available in "Edge," the online magazine of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Policy Development & Research (PD&R).

SDHC currently administers the City of San Diego's COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program, which has disbursed more than \$21.5 million to help pay rent and utilities for more than 4,200 households with low income in the City of San Diego and affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program is ongoing.

In the previous City of San Diego COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program, SDHC disbursed more than \$13.7 million in one-time payments that helped pay rent for more than 3,700 households with low income and affected by the pandemic.

SDHC also was among the leading organizations in the collaborative Operation Shelter to Home initiative, which helped secure permanent or longer-term housing for more than 1,400 San Diegans experiencing homelessness during the pandemic.

Read the HUD Magazine Article



Homelessness Outreach Effort Kickoff Event June 28, 2021

Concentrated Homelessness Outreach Effort in Downtown San Diego Launches

A new concentrated homelessness outreach effort that SDHC is coordinating with the City of San Diego, County of San Diego and homelessness services providers launched this week with a focus on downtown San Diego.

For the next month, the outreach initiative will concentrate its efforts in downtown San Diego to help connect immediate shelter, housing navigation and behavioral health services, and medical care to those who need it.

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and City Councilmembers Stephen Whitburn and Sean El-Rivera gathered with outreach workers to kick off this effort, along with SDHC Executive Vice President of Strategic Initiatives Lisa Jones.

Participating organizations include the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, Regional Task Force on the Homeless, Alpha Project, Downtown San Diego Partnership, Father Joe's Villages, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in San Diego, and People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) San Diego



SDHC Website



Previous SDHC Email Updates



SDHC Annual Reports

We're About People

Established in 1979, the San Diego Housing Commission provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and impact the lives of low-income and homeless San Diegans.

