



STATE OF ARKANSAS
**Department of Finance
and Administration**

OFFICE OF THE BUDGET
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 402
Post Office Box 3278
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278
Phone: (501) 682-1941
Fax: (501) 682-1086
www.arkansas.gov/dfa

MEMORANDUM

To: Arkansas Legislative Council

From: Robert Brech, Budget Administrator 

Date: September 13, 2021

Subject: COVID-19 Related Rental, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance Programs

The following provides a summary of the Emergency Rental Assistance, Arkansas Homeowner Assistance Fund Program, Low Income Household Assistance Programs, and other related programs provided by the Department of Human Services, Department of Commerce, and the Department of Energy & Environment.

Arkansas Rent Relief Program

The Department of Human Services has received \$173,684,766 to administer the Arkansas Rent Relief Program, which is a part of the federal program – Emergency Rental Assistance. The program provides rental and utility assistance for families who rent and have been impacted by COVID-19 and meet program eligibility requirements. However, the program does not provide relief to Benton, Pulaski, and Washington counties as these counties received their own separate allocations of this funding and are not being served by this program at this time.

As of August 25, 2021, the department has distributed a total of \$6,091,895 to other various counties.

Arkansas Fresh Start Housing Stabilization Program

The Department of Commerce – Arkansas Economic Development Commission received a total of \$10,000,000 towards rental assistance in Arkansas utilizing two federal programs – the State's Coronavirus Relief Funds and the Community Development Block Grant – C.A.R.E.S. Act Funds, \$4,240,000 and \$5,760,000, respectively.

Funds were made available through a partnership with the 15 Community Action Agencies throughout the state, serving each county, led by the Arkansas Community Action Agencies Association (ACAAA). The funds assist renters with an income at or below 80% of the area median income and provides up to 2.5 months of rent. The amount of rental assistance shall not exceed the fair market rents as defined by HUD.

Additional rental assistance programs may have been deployed by entitlement cities, and counties throughout the state, utilizing their entitlement city CDBG-CV funds, or ARPA funds.

All funding from the State's Coronavirus Relief Funds for this purpose has been expensed and \$4,473,000 has been expensed under the CDBG – C.A.R.E.S. Act Funds. The deadline to expend the remaining amount of \$1,287,000 under CDBG is December 2023.

Arkansas Homeowner Assistance Fund Program

The Department of Commerce – Arkansas Development Finance Authority has received \$6,333,031 to date to administer the Arkansas Homeowner Assistance Fund Program (AHAF). ADFA is currently administering a pilot program to help Arkansas homeowners become current on their mortgage and utilities, while testing their application and disbursement processes to make sure they are running as efficiently as possible. The goal is to have an application process that is user-friendly and a disbursement process that delivers funds quickly. ADFA will be ready to roll-out the program to the entire state when U.S. Treasury approves the plan and disburses the remaining funds to the agency.

The agency is expecting to receive the additional \$56.9 million within the next 30-60 days. ADFA has disbursed approximately \$90,000 of funds within the pilot program among various counties in the state.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) CARES Act

The Department of Human Services has received \$23,786,858 to administer the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program, which provides services in four components -

- *Homelessness Prevention* can be used to assist qualifying households who have received eviction notices to cover late rent and prevent the eviction.
- *Rapid Rehousing* is used to help people who have become homeless to get into a new place.
- *Shelter Operations* provides funding to shelters who serve homeless individuals.
- *Street Outreach* is used to provide services and information to those who are homeless outside of shelters.

As of August 25, 2021, a total of \$3,010,769.09 has been spent by sub-grantees for these four components.

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

The Department of Energy & Environment has received \$5,769,188 from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to administer the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, which provides funds to assist low-income households with water and wastewater bills.

As of August 25, 2021, no funds have been disbursed, but the appropriation was approved by the Legislative Council in August. The program has a planned launch in the 3rd quarter of FY2022.

Low Income Household Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Department of Energy & Environment has received a total of \$38,370,381, where \$8,206,119 was received via C.A.R.E.S Act and \$30,164,262 was received via A.R.P. Act, for the Low Income Household Energy Assistance Program. The program helps keep families safe and healthy through initiatives that assist families' energy costs. Federally funded assistance is provided in managing costs associated with home energy bills, energy crises, weatherization and energy-related minor home repairs.

The department has distributed \$7,823,387 from the C.A.R.E.S. funding as of August 25, 2021. All remaining funds have been obligated and are in the process of being distributed. Funding from A.R.P. has yet to be disbursed as grant agreements are being executed now to provide funding when the non-COVID-19 related funds are deleted.

Attachment(s)

Arkansas Emergency Rental Assistance Program

8/25/2021

Assistance Provided by County

County	Distributed Assistance*
Arkansas County	\$ 23,444
Ashley County	\$ 7,535
Baxter County	\$ 20,000
Boone County	\$ 25,778
Bradley County	\$ 34,880
Carroll County	\$ 45,412
Chicot County	\$ 10,954
Clark County	\$ 73,291
Clay County	\$ 19,738
Cleburne County	\$ 33,075
Columbia County	\$ 23,392
Conway County	\$ 73,478
Craighead County	\$ 810,281
Crawford County	\$ 68,500
Crittenden County	\$ 425,465
Cross County	\$ 70,802
Dallas County	\$ 6,267
Desha County	\$ 22,263
Drew County	\$ 64,380
Faulkner County	\$ 420,187
Franklin County	\$ 16,400
Fulton County	\$ 9,561
Garland County	\$ 519,975
Grant County	\$ 20,500
Greene County	\$ 74,121
Hempstead County	\$ 44,742
Hot Spring County	\$ 94,760
Howard County	\$ 13,309
Independence County	\$ 50,920
Jackson County	\$ 27,035
Jefferson County	\$ 740,727
Johnson County	\$ 44,613
Lafayette County	\$ 14,363
Lawrence County	\$ 5,262
Lee County	\$ 18,726
Lincoln County	\$ 16,552
Little River County	\$ 9,147
Logan County	\$ 7,028
Lonoke County	\$ 310,833
Madison County	\$ 4,800
Marion County	\$ 2,565
Miller County	\$ 175,500
Mississippi County	\$ 291,178
Monroe County	\$ 13,092
Montgomery County	\$ 3,650
Nevada County	\$ 3,808
Ouachita County	\$ 37,016
Perry County	\$ 15,203
Phillips County	\$ 177,740
Pike County	\$ 4,252
Poinsett County	\$ 33,513
Polk County	\$ 11,845
Pope County	\$ 67,209
Prairie County	\$ 12,893
Randolph County	\$ 7,413
Saline County	\$ 234,825
Searcy County	\$ 1,334
Sebastian County	\$ 291,732
Sevier County	\$ 10,359
Sharp County	\$ 23,116
St Francis County	\$ 37,244
Stone County	\$ 9,054
Union County	\$ 82,066
Van Buren County	\$ 22,498
White County	\$ 185,729
Woodruff County	\$ 4,368
Yell County	\$ 10,200
Grand Total	\$ 6,091,895

* - Includes rental and utility assistance

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Arkansas Fresh Start Housing Stabilization Program

Activity Name	State CRF Funds			CDBG-CV		
	Amount Awarded	Amount Expended	Balance	Amount Awarded	Amount Expended	Balance
Arkansas Community Action Agencies Association (ACAAA)	\$ 212,000.00	\$ 212,000.00	\$ -	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
Arkansas River Valley Area Council, Inc. (ARVAC)	\$ 360,479.00	\$ 360,479.00	\$ -	\$ 492,000.00	\$ -	\$ 492,000.00
Black River Area Development Corp (BRAD)	\$ 99,867.00	\$ 99,867.00	\$ -	\$ 136,000.00	\$ 136,000.00	\$ -
Central Arkansas Development Council (CADC)	\$ 1,235,765.00	\$ 1,235,765.00	\$ -	\$ 1,672,000.00	\$ 1,672,000.00	\$ -
Central Delta Community Action Agency (CDCAA)	\$ 202,581.00	\$ 202,581.00	\$ -	\$ 277,000.00	\$ 277,000.00	\$ -
Community Action Program for Central Arkansas, Inc.	\$ 179,219.00	\$ 179,219.00	\$ -	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 245,000.00	\$ -
Community Services Office, Inc. (CSO)	\$ 157,065.00	\$ 157,065.00	\$ -	\$ 215,000.00	\$ 215,000.00	\$ -
Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc. (C-SCDC)	\$ 172,774.00	\$ 172,774.00	\$ -	\$ 236,000.00	\$ 46,000.00	\$ 190,000.00
Crowley's Ridge Development Council, Inc. (CRDC)	\$ 445,873.00	\$ 445,873.00	\$ -	\$ 609,000.00	\$ 609,000.00	\$ -
Economic Opportunity Agency of Washington County (EOAWC)	\$ 159,885.00	\$ 159,885.00	\$ -	\$ 218,000.00	\$ 214,259.24	\$ 3,740.76
Mid-Delta Community Services, Inc. (MDCS)	\$ 169,955.00	\$ 169,955.00	\$ -	\$ 232,000.00	\$ 116,000.00	\$ 116,000.00
Mississippi County Arkansas Economic Opportunity Commission (MCAEOC)	\$ 154,648.00	\$ 154,648.00	\$ -	\$ 211,000.00	\$ 211,000.00	\$ -
Northcentral Arkansas Development Council, Inc. (NADC)	\$ 127,661.00	\$ 127,661.00	\$ -	\$ 174,000.00	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 69,000.00
Our Healthy Communities (OHC)	\$ 149,815.00	\$ 149,815.00	\$ -	\$ 205,000.00	\$ 153,750.00	\$ 51,250.00
Ozark Opportunities, Inc. (OOI)	\$ 236,819.00	\$ 236,819.00	\$ -	\$ 323,000.00	\$ 323,000.00	\$ -
Southeast Arkansas Community Action Corp. (SEACAC)	\$ 175,594.00	\$ 175,594.00	\$ -	\$ 240,000.00	\$ -	\$ 240,000.00
	\$ 4,240,000.00	\$ 4,240,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,760,000.00	\$ 4,473,009.24	\$ 1,286,990.76

Total Awarded through AR Fresh Start Housing Stabilization Program

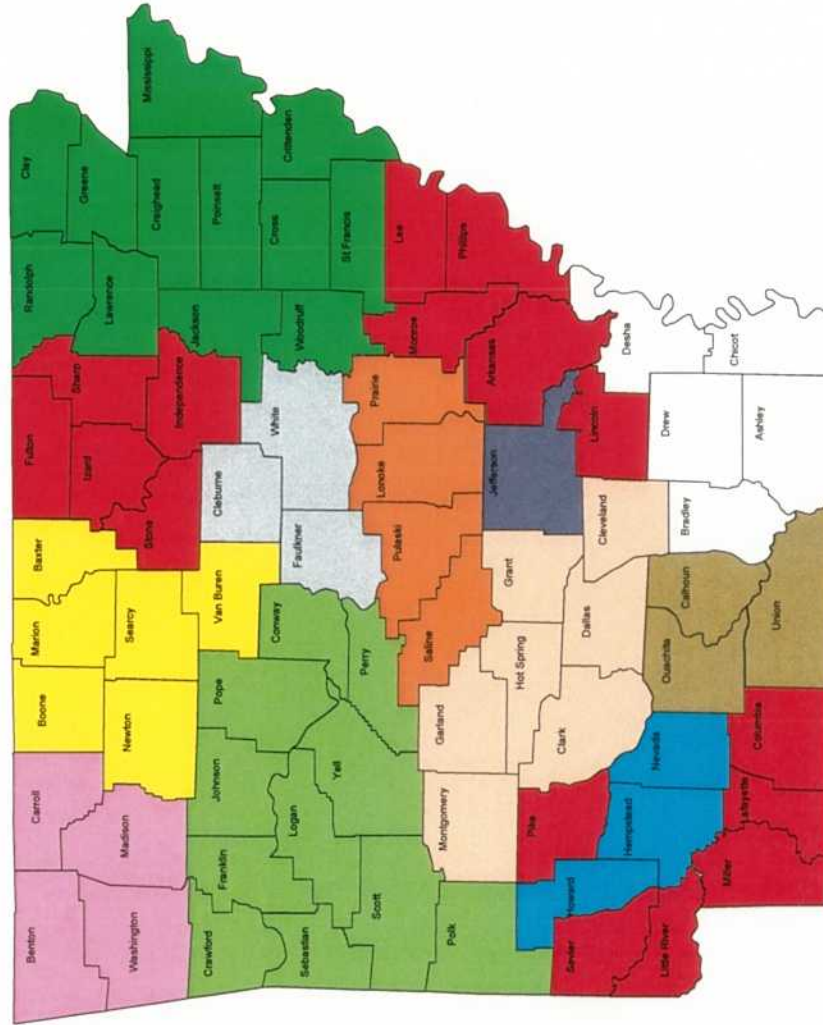
\$ 10,000,000.00

Activity Name	Counties Served		
	Statewide	County	County
Arkansas Community Action Agencies Association (ACAAA)	Statewide	Conway, Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Perry, Polk, Pope, Scott, Yell	
Arkansas River Valley Area Council, Inc. (ARVAC)	Statewide	Conway, Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Perry, Polk, Pope, Scott, Yell	
Black River Area Development Corp (BRAD)	Clay, Lawrence, Randolph		
Central Arkansas Development Council (CADC)	Calhoun, Clark, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Lonoke, Miller, Montgomery, Nevada, Ouachita, Pike, Pulaski, Saline, Sevier, Union		
Central Delta Community Action Agency (CDCAA)	Arkansas, Cleveland, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln		
Community Action Program for Central Arkansas, Inc.	Cleburne, Faulkner, White		
Community Services Office, Inc. (CSO)	Garland		
Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc. (C-SCDC)	Crawford, Sebastian		
Crowley's Ridge Development Council, Inc. (CRDC)	Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Poinsett, St. Francis, Woodruff		
Economic Opportunity Agency of Washington County (EOAWC)	Washington		
Mid-Delta Community Services, Inc. (MDCS)	Lee, Monroe, Phillips, Prairie		
Mississippi County Arkansas Economic Opportunity Commission (MCAEOC)	Mississippi		
Northcentral Arkansas Development Council, Inc. (NADC)	Fulton, Independence, Izard, Sharp, Stone		
Our Healthy Communities (OHC)	Benton, Carroll, Madison		
Ozark Opportunities, Inc. (OOI)	Baxter, Boone, Marion, Newton, Searcy, Van Buren		
Southeast Arkansas Community Action Corp. (SEACAC)	Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Drew		

Arkansas Homeowner Assistance Fund - Pilot Program
 Actual Assistance by County as of Aug. 26, 2021

County	Actual Assistance
Benton	\$6,253.31
Craighead	\$10,564.94
Faulkner	\$6,328.57
Independence	\$1,694.75
Pulaski	\$20,397.93
Saline	\$15,727.42
Washington	\$28,325.58
Grand Total	\$89,292.50

- 10 agencies cover this area: 7hills, Fayetteville Housing, Havenwood NWA, NWCOC, NNAWS, Peace at Home, SA Fayetteville, Serve AR, AR Coalition Marshalle, Marshalle Educational Initiative
- 4 agencies cover this area: Sanctuary, Harrison Municipal Housing, Harrison House of Hope
- 4 agencies cover this area: City of Jonesboro, City of West Memphis, CRDC, Grace Christi
- 5 agencies cover this area: ARVAC, CSCDC, Riverview Hope, Samaritan House, Next Step
- 2 agencies cover this area: City of Hope Outreach, CAPCA
- 11 agencies cover this area: BCD, City of LR, Immerse AR, Our House, Pulaski Co Gov, RCM, St. Francis House, WCF, Lucie's Place, People Trust Fund
- 3 agencies cover this area: City of Pine Bluff, CASA, Grant Co Unified
- 2 agency covers this area: Ouachita Children's Center and Grant Co Unified
- 2 agencies cover this area: City of Hope, Hope In Action
- AREAS NOT COVERED
- 1 agency- Salvation Army Eldorado
- 1 agency- Options, INC



Number of counties served	Street Outreach	Emergency Shelter Operations	Rapid Rehousing	Homelessness Prevention	TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED
8 AGENCIES COVER	\$ 169,000.00	\$ 641,083.00	\$ 1,242,818.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 2,072,901.00
4 AGENCIES COVER		\$ 110,500.00	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 237,000.00	\$ 517,500.00
4 AGENCIES COVER	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 62,500.00	\$ 394,660.00	\$ 497,160.00
4 AGENCIES COVER	\$ 98,436.00	\$ 2,540,500.00	\$ 679,483.00	\$ 679,000.00	\$ 3,997,419.00
2 AGENCIES COVER	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 98,500.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 348,415.00	\$ 746,915.00
10 AGENCIES COVER	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 691,300.92	\$ 827,750.00	\$ 571,000.00	\$ 2,200,050.92
2 AGENCIES COVER	\$ 60,360.00	\$ 1,730,784.00	\$ 2,142,278.00	\$ 440,142.00	\$ 4,373,564.00
1 AGENCY COVERS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 49,500.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 174,500.00
2 AGENCIES COVER				\$ 24,500.00	\$ 24,500.00
TOTAL	\$ 582,796.00	\$ 5,857,667.92	\$ 5,374,329.00	\$ 2,789,717.00	\$ 14,604,509.92



**CARES Act 2020 – 2021
Funding Distributed
Total \$7,823,387**

