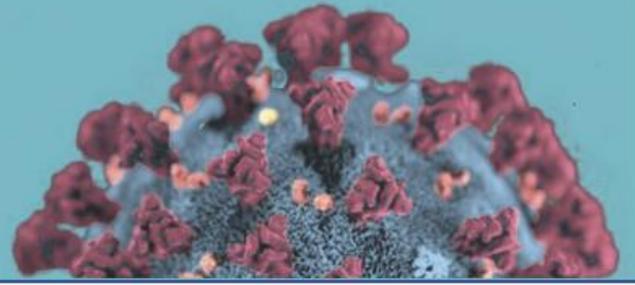


# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

## Upcoming Trainings and Webinars

[Visit our Training Calendar](#) to see all upcoming training opportunities.

### COVID-19

- June 25 @ 1:30pm: [COVID-19 Response for Housing and Homelessness in Florida](#)
- July 2 @ 1:30pm: [COVID-19 Response – The Intersection of Race, Housing, and Homelessness](#)

### Weekly Hurricane Member Update

- June 26 @ 1:30pm: [Disaster Housing Recovery](#)

### Other Webinars

- June 29 @ 2:00pm: [Omnibus Housing Bill 1339 and How it Affects Your Programs](#)

### Past Webinars

To view previous training recordings [Visit our Past Trainings](#) or [COVID-19 Webinars and Digests](#) pages.

## COVID-19 Weekly Webinar Update

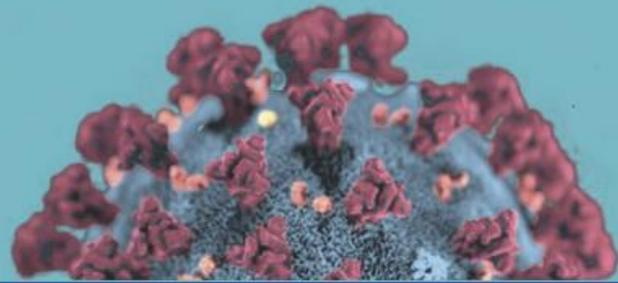
Thank you to everyone who joined our Thursday webinar on Housing and Homelessness in Florida. Many local government staff, housing providers, and advocates joined the webinar. We always record our webinars so you can catch up or revisit. The links for the recording, PowerPoint, and handouts are available on our [COVID-19 resource page](#). For quick access, view the recording [here](#). Sign up for our next Update webinar on Thursday, June 25 @ 1:30pm [here](#).

Olga Golik, In-House Counsel for Citrus Health Network, described how their organization is operating their rental assistance program (HAND) to prevent and end homelessness. Citrus Health Network is currently utilizing six local, state, and federal funding sources for their rental assistance and services the Miami-Dade County region. Tonnette Graham, Associate Director of Public Policy of the Florida Association of Counties, discussed the Coronavirus Relief Fund and how FAC is helping all 67 counties utilize their CARES Act monies. Next, Elizabeth Strom, Associate Professor at the University of South Florida, talked about population density, COVID-19, and the future of cities. Professor Strom's presentation will be helpful in combating NIMBYism after COVID-19 if housing opponents incorrectly argue that high density structures correlate with COVID-19 spread. Kody Glazer, FHC Legal Director, gave an eviction and foreclosure update and gave an in-depth discussion of how



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

counties can use their Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars for housing and homelessness. Amanda Rosado, FHC Ending Homelessness Team Director, concluded the webinar by focusing on strengthening systems for housing navigation and support services for rental assistance recipients. Amanda also discussed ways ESG recipients can begin to shore up their policies and written standards.

## June 25 Weekly Webinar

Join us this Thursday as we provide the latest update on the housing and homelessness response to COVID-19 in Florida. Joining us this week are:

- Karen Leone de Nie, Vice President, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- Reverend Mary Downey, CEO & Founder, Community Hope Center
- Schonna Green, Executive Director, M.I.S.S.

Amanda Rosado of the Florida Housing Coalition will provide updates on new federal, state, and local news, guidance, and best practices. [Register here](#).

## July 2 – Special Focus Webinar: COVID-19 and Racial Equity

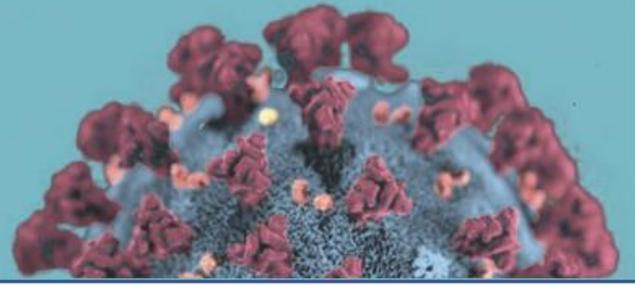
[Register Today!](#) In lieu of our regularly scheduled COVID-19 webinar, on July 2 we will focus on racial equity during the COVID-19 response to housing and homelessness. This [special COVID-19 weekly webinar](#) will spotlight a conversation around centering racial equity in the COVID-19 response. Presenters will talk about the inequities surrounding COVID-19 and how those working in the housing and homelessness sector can increase efforts to address them. Hear from our expert presenters below:

- Nastacia' Moore, Training and Technical Assistance Lead for the Supporting Partnerships for Anti-Racist Communities (SPARC), C4 Innovations
- Amber Elliott, Community Based Improvement Advisor – Catalytic Projects, Community Solutions
- Ashon Nesbitt, Chief Programs Officer and Technical Advisor, Florida Housing Coalition



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

## National Updates

### Congress

Federally funded rental and mortgage assistance remains a top priority for the Florida Housing Coalition. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said [Congress is unlikely to debate an additional COVID-19 spending package until after July 4](#). Senator McConnell has also said that [the next stimulus bill will be the last one](#) and has referred to the HEROES Act as “dead on arrival.” However, we may see some of the provisions in the HEROES Act related to housing and homelessness in the next relief package. The Trump Administration is weighing whether to [support additional stimulus checks](#) and has stated it would like to see a package of at least \$2 trillion that is [“strategically focused around the President’s two simple rules – Buy American, Hire American.”](#)

On Friday, May 15, the [U.S. House of Representatives passed the HEROES Act](#) by a 208-199 vote. The \$3 trillion bill aimed at providing COVID-19 relief [contains \\$200 billion](#) for housing and homelessness. The HEROES Act includes \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance, \$75 billion in homeownership assistance, \$4 billion for tenant-based rental assistance (including \$1 billion in new temporary vouchers), \$5 billion for CDBG, \$11.5 billion for ESG, \$15 million for HOPWA, and more. The HEROES Act also includes an eviction moratorium for all dwelling units for 12 months. A breakdown of the proposed funding for housing and homelessness provisions can be found [here](#). There are also stand-alone bills in Congress ([S. 3685/H.R. 6820](#)) that provide \$100 billion in rental assistance sponsored by Sen. Sherrod Brown and Reps. Maxine Waters and Denny Heck. An analysis of those bills can be found [here](#).

Last Thursday, June 18, House Democrats introduced a [\\$1.5 trillion infrastructure bill](#) that is set to be voted on soon. Among other items, the Moving Forward Act [contains \\$100 billion for housing](#), including \$70 billion for the public housing capital fund. The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTTC) would be permanently authorized and several changes would be made to the [Low Income Housing Tax Credit \(LIHTC\)](#) if the bill is signed into law as written.

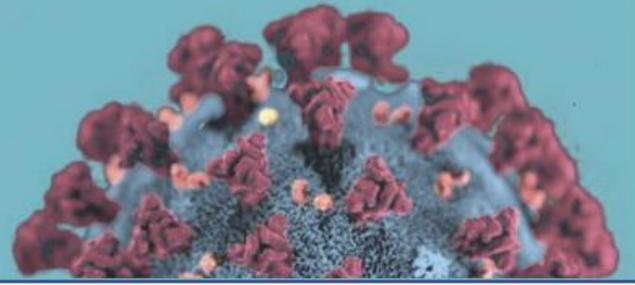
### Executive Order – Safe Policing for Safe Communities

On June 16, President Trump [signed an executive order](#) with new guidelines for communities to enact for police reform. Section 4 of the order specifically addresses mental health, homelessness, and addiction. This section calls for the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to conduct a survey of community-support models addressing mental health, homelessness, and addiction. The HHS Secretary is to summarize those results and include recommendations on how appropriate funds can be reallocated to adopt those successful models. It is unclear what community-support models HHS will be looking at.



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

## Federal Guidance

### Department of Housing and Urban Development

As part of National Homeownership Month 2020 the Office of Housing Counseling is hosting a panel discussion on social distancing and its effect on the housing industry. Each sector of the housing industry will participate on the panel including representatives from housing counseling, real estate, lending, and title companies.

[Register here for the June 23 event.](#)

HUD published a new [CARES Act allocation Excel sheet](#) that is current as of June 9. The Excel sheet shows the allocations of CDBG-CV, ESG-CV, and HOPWA-CV. You can read more about [the methodology](#) for round 2 and 3 allocations for CDBG CARES Act funds. Last week, HUD announced the [second tranche for ESG-CV funding](#) totaling \$2.96 billion. The state of Florida received \$65,511,297 for nonentitlement communities and the entitlement communities in the state received \$77,950,524.

HUD ESG Grantees can find the latest guidance and announcements [here](#).

HUD CDBG Grantees can find the latest resources and fact sheets [here](#).

HUD HOME Participating Jurisdictions can find the memoranda to provide guidance, necessary statutory suspensions, and regulatory waivers [here](#). HUD released a tool to help Participating Jurisdictions [design and implement an emergency HOME TBRA program](#).

### Federal Housing Finance Administration

FHFA extended their eviction and foreclosure moratorium on single-family homes through August 31. Fannie Mae has offered guidance for homeowners navigating forbearance [here](#). Fannie Mae also released a [letter to single-family servicers](#) on payment deferral. FHFA Director Mark Calabria testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, on FHFA's response to COVID-19. His statements can be found [here](#).

## National & State Housing News

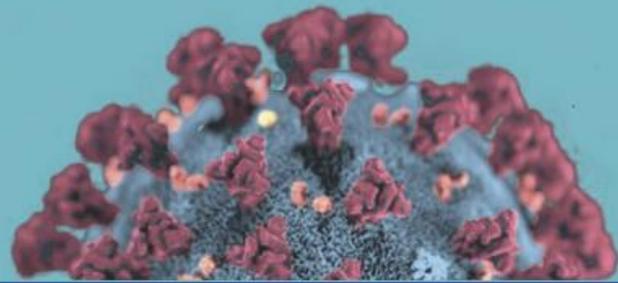
### Florida Eviction & Foreclosure Moratorium Expires July 1

On June 1, Governor Ron DeSantis [extended the statewide eviction and foreclosure moratorium until July 1, 2020](#). This one-month extension of moratorium is essential to housing security as our economy reopens and Floridians receive unemployment assistance. The CARES Act provides [additional eviction and foreclosure protections](#) for properties assisted by federal resources through July 25.



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

Advocates should be prepared in the event this moratorium is not extended. Eviction and foreclosure moratorium advocacy be achieved with local elected officials, local police departments, and circuit court jurisdictions. Contact us for more information.

## CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund – State to Disburse \$1.275 Billion to Counties

The State of Florida received over [\\$5.8 billion from the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund \(CRF\)](#) for necessary expenditures incurred due to COVID-19. Last week, the state announced it will [disburse \\$1.275 billion of these funds to the 55 counties](#) that did not receive a direct CRF allocation ([12 large counties](#) received a direct allocation). The Division of Emergency Management (DEM) will manage these funds.

To receive state CRF money, a county must sign a funding agreement with DEM. Funds will be disbursed based on population and counties will receive 25% initially of their total disbursement and will need to apply for additional funds. Notably, CRF funds can be used for rental and mortgage assistance. Communities should work to ensure that each county uses a portion of these newly distributed funds to support local rent and mortgage assistance efforts.

With this disbursement, the state has around \$4.6 billion remaining in CRF funds. These are funds the state can still utilize for rental and mortgage assistance.

## Urban Institute – Renters Need \$16 Billion Per Month In Housing Support during COVID-19

The [Urban Institute released a paper](#) outlining that when state and federal unemployment assistance expires, \$15.5 billion would be needed to alleviate cost burden for renters who were cost-burdened before the pandemic and for renters who lost their job as a result of it.

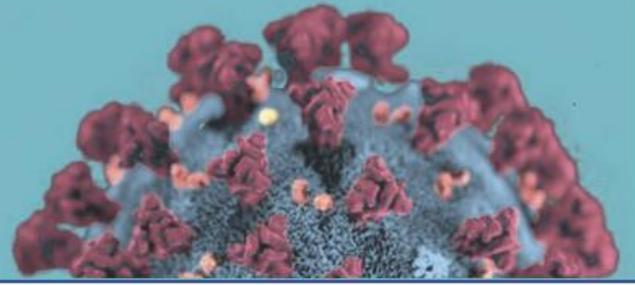
## Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

CBPP published an [article on June 16](#) discussing the millions of non-filers eligible for stimulus payments who have not been reached. They estimate that up to 12 million Americans may miss out on the stimulus payments provided through the CARES Act. They report many of these people are low-income and people of color. Low-income households may not have filed a tax return and, in turn, did not receive automatic stimulus payment. CBPP offers ideas on how states and local agencies serving these households can provide aggressive outreach to ensure they receive the stimulus payment.



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

## Mortgage Forbearance Policy Paper

The Florida Housing Coalition recommends that mortgage servicers automatically place forbore payments at the end of the loan by extending the loan term. This allows homeowners to pay the same monthly payments through the life of the mortgage. Read our policy paper on this topic [here](#).

## Department of Economic Opportunity

DEO has nearly \$80 million in CDBG-CV funding that can be used for both entitlement and non-entitlement communities. We are awaiting guidance from DEO as to how they plan to spend this money. Local governments should stay tuned for updates.

## Florida Housing Finance Corporation

Florida Housing Finance Corporation sent out an email on June 18 with an opportunity to provide public comment for the State's Consolidated Plan. FHFC designed a survey for people who work in the fields of housing and community development, lending, social services, fair housing, and advocacy.

To provide input on statewide issues affecting Florida residents, You can [access the survey online](#). The survey closes on July 16, 2020.

## Continuums of Care

### United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) announced they are currently gathering public input to revise the federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. The comment period ends July 11. You can [visit their website](#) here or send your comments to [planupdate2020@usich.gov](mailto:planupdate2020@usich.gov).

### Department of Housing and Urban Development

New HUD Resources:

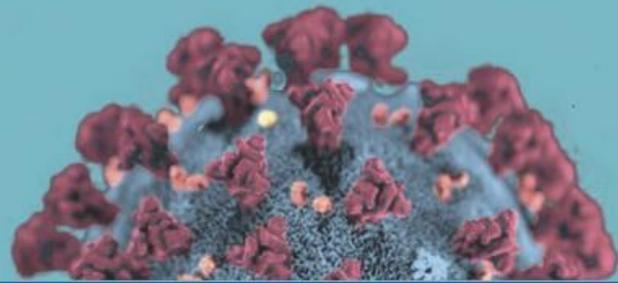
- [Supporting Individuals Exiting Isolation or Quarantine](#)
- [Homeless Prevention: Effective and Efficient Prevention Programs](#)

HUD [published a framework](#) on how communities can begin to rebuild and transform their housing systems that have significantly shifted due to COVID-19. Visit HUD's new [Disaster Response Rehousing page](#) to find information on managing Inflow and Outflow. HUD will be releasing several more resources for rehousing in the coming week. CoCs should continue to look at their prioritization of households in light of COVID-19 and think



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 23, 2020

of simplifying criteria in ways that are equitable and ensure people who are vulnerable and disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 have access to safe and stable housing. The HUD SNAPS Office is continuing to host [weekly Office Hours](#) to answer questions related to COVID-19 and programs and funding serving people experiencing homelessness.

HUD continues to update their [COVID-19 Resources Digest for Homeless Providers](#) daily. Check back regularly for new resources, including community examples.

## Contact Us

We are always just a call or email away. Let us know how we can support the incredible work you are doing.



Kody Glazer  
954-804-1320  
[Glazer@flhousing.org](mailto:Glazer@flhousing.org)



Amanda Rosado  
904-502-1666  
[Rosado@flhousing.org](mailto:Rosado@flhousing.org)



THE FLORIDA HOUSING COALITION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT, STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER HOUSING ADVOCATES AND RESOURCES SO THAT ALL FLORIDIANS HAVE A QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOME AND SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

April 6, 2020