



Newton COVID-19 Emergency Housing Relief Program \$1,200,000 Funding Request

City of Newton Planning & Development Department

Presentation to Community Preservation Commission
January 12, 2021

Covid-19 Emergency Housing Relief Program Summary of Program To-Date:

- ▶ 221 Newton households assisted as of 1/7/21 (6 of which received mortgage assistance)
 - 70% of households entered program in July - “July cases” (154 households)
 - 29 August cases
 - 6 September cases
 - 12 October cases
 - 4 November cases
 - 12 December cases
 - 4 January cases (to-date)
- ▶ 191 of the 221 total households served by the program to-date were enrolled to receive assistance in January - approximately 86% of all program HH’s
 - Demonstrating the continued need for this assistance for existing and newly enrolled program households

Covid-19 Emergency Housing Relief Program Summary of Program To-Date, cont'd:

- ▶ As of January 10, 2021, approximately \$1.6 million had been awarded to households for rental and mortgage assistance, out of \$2.3 million total assistance budget
- ▶ Average monthly housing payment of \$1,410 per household

221 Households Assisted To-Date

- Over 90% of households have an annual income at or below 65% AMI (at time of application / re-cert)
- Approx. 55% of households are extremely low-income (annual income at or below 30% AMI)
- 5 households reside in Newton Housing Authority units and 1 household is a mobile voucher holder

RACE/ETHNICITY	% of Total
White:	40%
Black/African American:	16%
Black/African American & White:	0%
Asian:	11%
Asian & White:	0%
Hispanic/Latino	28%
Other Multi-Racial:	5%
TOTAL Households Served	100%

Program Modifications Approved

- ▶ **Max assistance per household extended two times:**



- ▶ Housing Stabilization Program!
- ▶ Under the current 8-month scenario, the 154 “July” households will lose their assistance at the end of Feb. 2021, long before economic conditions are expected to improve
- ▶ CDC Eviction Moratorium ends January 31, 2021

Funding Scenarios: Current (8 months) vs. Proposed (12 months)

➤ Current: Up to 8 Months

- 154 “July” households will lose assistance at the end of Feb. 2021
- Estimated total # of households to be served: 227
- Program would have to close its doors to new households in January or Feb. 2021

➤ Proposed: Up to 12 Months (through June 2021)

- 154 “July” households could receive up to 12 months of assistance
- Estimated total # of households to be served: 285
- Program would likely have to close its doors to new households in April 2021

Recertification of Program Participants (after every 3 months of assistance)

- Continued evidence of reduced income due to COVID-19, including:
 - ▶ written statement from employer detailing reduced income, or
 - ▶ notices from Unemployment Assistance, and
 - ▶ Income Affidavit certifying this continued reduced income, as well as the household's current gross household income (must be at or below 80% AMI); and
 - ▶ Renewal of Landlord Participation Agreement, affirming rent, occupancy, and arrearages, if any

Outreach and Marketing

- ▶ Additional marketing activities will be conducted if additional funding is approved

- ▶ Efforts to consist of:
 - City of Newton COVID-19-Response website pages
 - Announcement in Mayor Fuller's email blasts, and other relevant outreach platforms
 - Distribution of program flyers at food pantries and other food distribution sites
 - Newton Public School Department outreach to families
 - City of Newton Planning Department Friday Report
 - Email outreach to Newton City Councilors for inclusion in their constituent emails

Outreach and Marketing, cont'd

► Additional Outreach Efforts:

- Email outreach to non-profit organizations in Newton and surrounding communities, including, but not limited to:
 - Boys & Girls Club
 - Family ACCESS
 - Plowshares
 - Newton Community Development Foundation
 - REACH
 - The Second Step
 - Riverside Community Care
 - Barry Price Center
 - YMCA
- Email outreach to local employers and Newton Needham Chamber of Commerce and neighborhood / community list serves



Questions & Discussion

▶ Thank you!

