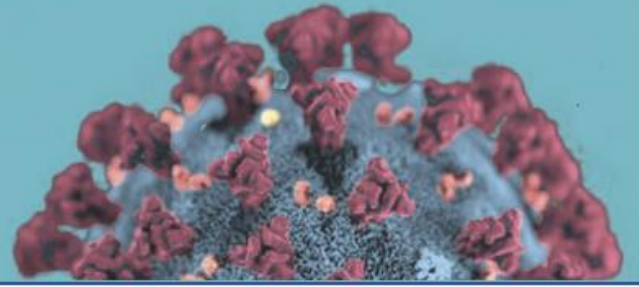


# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 2, 2020

## Upcoming Trainings and Webinars

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

### COVID-19

- June 4 @ 1:30pm: [COVID-19 Response for Housing and Homelessness in Florida](#)

### SHIP

- June 2 @ 2:00pm: [Affordable Housing Funding Sources – Part 1](#)
- June 15 @ 2:00pm: [Affordable Housing Funding Sources – Part 2](#)

### Weekly Hurricane Member Update

- June 5 @ 1:30pm: [Disaster Housing Recovery](#)

## COVID-19 Weekly Webinar Update

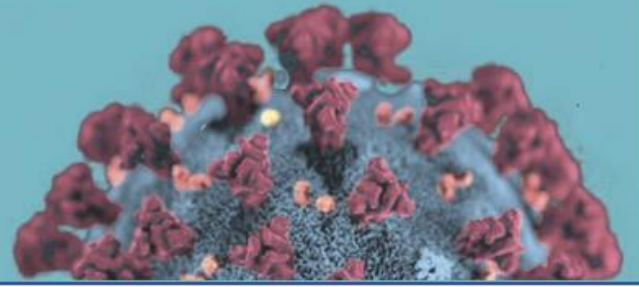
Thank you to everyone who joined our Thursday webinar on Housing and Homelessness in Florida. Hundreds of local government staff, housing providers, and advocates joined the webinar. We always record our webinars so you can catch up or revisit. The links for the recording, PowerPoint, and handouts are available on our [COVID-19 resource page](#). For quick access, view the recording [here](#). Sign up for our next Update webinar on Thursday, June 4 @ 1:30pm [here](#).

Amanda Rosado, FHC Ending Homelessness Team Director, shared the new [additional CPD waivers](#) HUD announced on May 26. This Memorandum provides additional waivers and extends previous waivers to ESG CARES Act funding. New Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and Continuum of Care Program and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YDHP) waivers were made available to increase grantees' flexibility to respond to COVID-19. Kristi Schulenberg of the National Alliance to End Homelessness shared from the Alliance's ["Framework For COVID-19 Homelessness Response"](#). The purpose of the framework is to provide guidance on how communities can use new and existing funding strategically to increase housing stability. Next, Kody Glazer, FHC Legal Director, gave an update on the federal and state eviction moratoria and provided the most recent data on mortgage forbearances. Kody also shared some mortgage forbearance updates, Coronavirus Relief Fund and Community Development Block Grant-CV funding, and gave reasons for local governments to continue to zone for higher density residential development in light of COVID-19.



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June 2, 2020

Mark Hendrickson, Executive Director of the Hillsborough HFA, presented on the rent assistance program the HFA designed to assist HFA-financed properties. Property managers would be able to work with the HFA to let notify them of residents in need. Concluding the webinar, Caleena Shirley of St. Johns Housing Partnership talked about how real estate investment groups and preparing to capitalize on the crisis by buying and flipping properties to the detriment of our affordable housing stock.

## June 4 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:

- Amanda Andere, CEO, Funders Together to End Homelessness
- Rick Owen, President, United Way of Florida
- Steve Shoemaker, Director, Residential Mortgage Production, Synovus Bank

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

## National Updates

### Congress

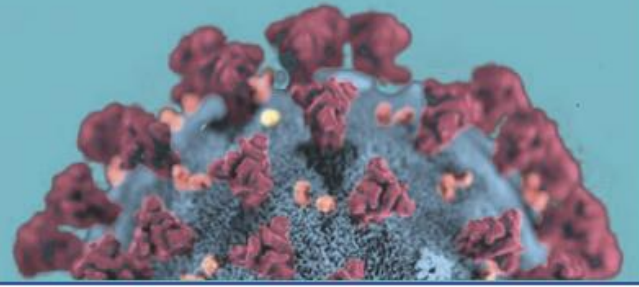
On Friday, May 15, the [U.S. House of Representatives passed the HEROES Act](#) by a 208-199 vote. The \$3 trillion bill aimed at providing COVID-19 relief [contains \\$200 billion](#) for housing and homelessness. The HEROES Act includes \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance, \$75 billion in 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](#).

Although the House passed the HEROES Act, that does not mean this money will be appropriated – the bill still must pass the Senate. However, we may see some or all of this funding in a future relief package as the two chambers of Congress continue to negotiate. Both the White House and Senate Republicans have called the bill [“dead on arrival”](#) and it remains to be seen how a follow-up relief package will be appropriated.



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# COVID-19 WEEKLY DIGEST



June 2, 2020

## Federal Guidance

### Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD published a new [CARES Act allocation Excel sheet](#) on May 22. The Excel sheet shows the three allocations of CDBG-CV, ESG-CV 1, and HOPWA-CV. You can read more about [the methodology](#) for round 2 and 3 allocations for CDBG CARES Act funds.

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

HUD CDBG Grantees can find the latest resources and fact sheets [here](#). On Tuesday, May 26, HUD announced the release of a Q&A Document on [how the CARES Act eviction moratorium applies to CDBG, NSP, and CDBG-DR](#) assisted properties.

HUD HOME Participating Jurisdictions can find the memoranda to provide guidance, necessary statutory suspensions, and regulatory waivers [here](#). HUD's Office on Multifamily Housing Programs issued [Notice H 20-4](#) on May 26 providing guidance on using electronic signatures and electronic document transmission.

### Federal Housing Finance Administration

FHFA announced on May 14 that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are [extending their moratorium on foreclosures and evictions until at least June 30, 2020](#). The foreclosure moratorium applies to single-family, Enterprise-backed mortgages only.

FHFA also announced on May 13 that [Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are offering payment deferral](#) as a new repayment option for homeowners in COVID-19 forbearance plans. This option would allow homeowners to take the missed monthly mortgage payments in forbearance and puts them into a payment due at the sale, or refinancing of the home, or the end of the loan. This is coupled with the guidance that [no lump sum is required](#) at the end of forbearance. FHFA also announced guidance that [homeowners can refinance or purchase a new home three months after](#) their forbearance ends.

Fannie Mae has offered guidance for homeowners navigating forbearance [here](#). Fannie Mae also released a [letter to single-family servicers](#) on payment deferral.

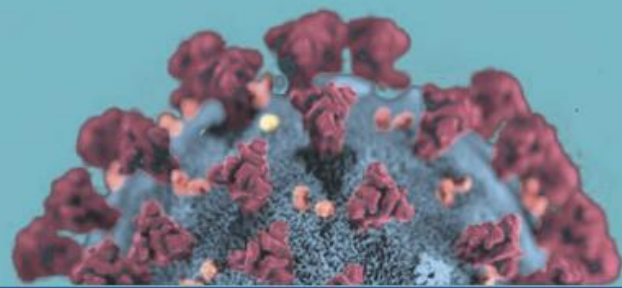
### Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA published [guidance for hurricane preparedness](#) in the COVID-19 environment. The guidance describes anticipated challenges, how FEMA plans to adapt their operations to the realities and risk of COVID-19 and allow



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June 2, 2020

emergency managers to prepare and plan accordingly. It also provides guidance, checklists, and resources for emergency managers in developing their own response and recovery plans.

## National & State Housing News

### Florida Eviction & Foreclosure Moratorium Extended to 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. We thank Governor DeSantis for this action. The CARES Act provides [additional eviction and foreclosure protections](#) for properties assisted by federal resources through July 25.

### Department of Economic Opportunity

The second tranche of [CDBG funding under the CARES Act](#) was announced on Friday, May 8. The State of Florida will receive \$63,017,132 for the second tranche; this is in addition to the \$16.6 million the state received for the first batch of CDBG-CV funding. Unlike the first tranche, this second tranche can be used in both non-entitlement and entitlement communities. The [Department of Economic Opportunity \(DEO\)](#) is responsible for administering these funds. We are awaiting guidance from DEO as to how they plan to spend this money. Local governments should stay tuned for updates.

### Coronavirus Relief Fund

The State of Florida is to receive nearly [\\$6 billion through the Coronavirus Relief Fund](#). This money [can be used for rental and mortgage assistance](#). Twelve local governments that serve 500,000 or more persons received a direct allocation from Treasury as well. Local governments that did not receive an allocation will need to stay tuned for updates – there is no legal requirement that the state or the local governments that received a direct allocation transfer the dollars to smaller entities within its jurisdiction. A majority of the local governments that received the direct allocation are utilizing or planning to use the funding for rental and mortgage assistance. We are waiting to see how the state will use its funding.

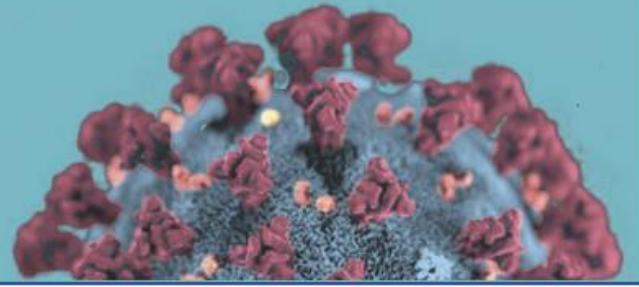
### Department of Children and Families

Find more information on DCF's response to COVID-19 [here](#).



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June 2, 2020

## 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit – Miami Dade County

To ensure maximum compliance with the CARES Act eviction protections, the [11th Judicial Circuit of Florida](#), covering Miami-Dade county, issued an administrative order requiring that landlords affirmatively verify whether a property is covered by the CARES Act in an eviction for nonpayment of rent action. This will put the burden on landlords to prove that the CARES Act protections do not apply – a burden that is essential to adequate enforcement of the law. Similar orders should be made throughout the state.

## Continuums of Care

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. This past week HUD discussed new ESG, CoC Program, Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program, and HOPWA waivers. An official [Memorandum was published](#) on May 26.

HUD [also released FAQs](#) on how the federal eviction moratorium impacts the ESG and CoC programs, along with a [flyer for ESG and CoC program](#) participants.

HUD released the “[Estimating the Prevalence and Probability of Homeless Youth NOFA](#)” on May 20.

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

## Renters and Homeowners

[Evictions and foreclosures](#) remain suspended in Florida through July 1. The CARES Act provides [additional eviction and foreclosure protections](#) for properties assisted by federal resources. The Shimberg Center’s COVID-19 Data Application maps out the [properties in Florida that are protected by the CARES Act moratoria](#) to help tenants, homeowners, attorneys, and housing advocates protect people from eviction and foreclosure. Jacksonville Area Legal Aid has assembled a [helpful blog on tenant protections](#) and how to work with landlords.

HUD released [guidance for CoC and ESG programs](#) on how the federal eviction moratorium impacts renters in their programs.

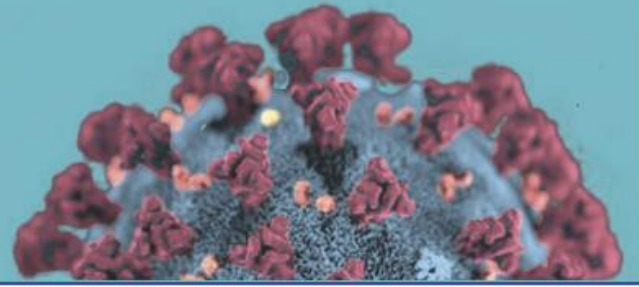
## Contact Us

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



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June 2, 2020



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April 6, 2020