



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 DIVISION OF ECONOMIC & HOUSING STABILITY

FIS 22 313

Lori A. Shibinette
 Commissioner

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 Director

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August 30, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
 and the Honorable Council
 State House
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Commissioner, to accept and expend federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) in the amount of \$5,005,000 that will be used to support emergency shelter and homelessness initiatives during the winter of 2022 and 2023, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approval through June 30, 2023, and further authorize the allocation of these funds in the accounts below. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts.¹ 100% Federal Funds.

05-095-094-940010-24650000² HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HHS: NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL, NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL, ARPA DHHS FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

¹ All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH9529A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH9529Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

CLASS OBJ	CLASS TITLE	Current Modified Budget	Increase/ (Decrease) Amount	Revised Modified Budget
000-400338-16	Federal Funds	\$ 57,774,070	\$ 5,005,000	\$ 62,779,070
	General Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Revenue	\$ 57,774,070	\$ 5,005,000	\$ 62,779,070
010-500100	Personal Services Perm Class	\$ 122,104		\$ 122,104
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ 250,001		\$ 250,001
022-500255	Rents-Leases other than State	\$ 3,891,727		\$ 3,891,727
030-500301	Equipment New/Replacement	\$ 1		\$ 1
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$ 2,123,973		\$ 2,123,973
041-500801	Audit Fund Set A side	\$ 48,707	\$ 5,000	\$ 53,707
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$ 8,733		\$ 8,733
046-500462	Consultants	\$ 1		\$ 1
047-500240	Own Forces Maintenance (Bldg-Grnd	\$ 1		\$ 1
048-500226	Contract Repairs: Bldg. Grounds	\$ 1		\$ 1
059-500117	Temp Full Time	\$ 98,133		\$ 98,133
060-500601	Benefits	\$ 119,996		\$ 119,996
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$ 39,364,360	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 44,364,360
103-502507	Contracts for Operational Services	\$ 11,746,332		\$ 11,746,332
	Total Expenses	\$ 57,774,070	\$ 5,005,000	\$ 62,779,070

EXPLANATION

The purpose of this request is to accept and expend funds for a homeless shelter initiative that would provide one-time grants to support homeless shelter providers across New Hampshire, including short term cold weather shelters, to address pandemic related increased costs and anticipated demand as the winter months approach.

Shelters are safety net providers, and they often provide fatality prevention for those who do not have a home. This coming winter many shelters will still have COVID-19 related expenses to meet community need, e.g. they must maintain social distancing, have isolation and quarantine locations, and provide more PPE when needed. Moreover, many shelters do not have enough resources to cover the increased cost of food, electricity, and heat. Pre-pandemic, many shelters relied on volunteers for staffing. Due to the pandemic and the increased acuity of those at the shelters, there are fewer volunteers, increasing the reliance on paid staff who remain.

Even with existing shelters serving at capacity there is likely to still be a gap in accommodating people during the upcoming harsh winter months, and temporary cold weather shelters help bridge that gap.

Statewide, DHHS contracts with 19 shelter providers for 791 emergency shelter beds, but DHHS does not fund temporary cold weather shelters. Preliminary data for the 2022 Point-In-Time count shows 1,605 people experiencing homelessness, an increase of 7.6% from 2021.

These and other factors could have negative consequences with regard to these facilities being able to meet the anticipated need. This puts vulnerable New Hampshire residents at risk.

To help address the impending need and maximize the reach of these funds in both urban and rural areas of the State, the Department intends to utilize ARPA SFRF funding for the following:

- Provide \$4M in one-time grants to the existing homeless shelters under contract with the Department for COVID-19 related/impacted costs. Funds will be distributed across shelters currently on contract with DHHS, accounting for the known number of beds at each facility; and
- Provide \$1M in one-time grants to each county or municipality and/or nonprofits/coalitions to assist with the operation of cold weather shelters. Funds will be allocated based on the preliminary numbers for those experiencing homelessness from the January 2022 Point in Time Count in each county.

Funds will be budgeted as follows:

Class 041 – The funds will be used to pay for audit fund set aside per State requirement.

Class 102 – The funds will be used to pay for the contracted services.

Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: These funds are 100% Federal.

In the event that these Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

 for:

Lori A. Shabinette
Commissioner