

## Federal COVID-19 Relief Summary

- **\$25 billion in emergency rental assistance.** Funds will be distributed within 30 days to states and cities with a population greater than 200,000. We estimate that at least \$375 million will be available for Minnesota. More information about funds can be found in [NHLIC's summary](#), however important details will not be resolved until there is additional federal guidance in the coming weeks about the administration of these funds.
- **Extends the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) eviction moratorium** for nonpayment of rent through January 31, 2021. This has little impact for Minnesota since the Governor's Executive Order 20-14 remains in place and provides more expansive protections than offered by the CDC moratorium.
- **Extension of the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) deadline** from December 30, 2020 to December 31, 2021 for funds provided through the CARES Act.
- **Pre-authorizes FEMA reimbursement for non-congregate sheltering** and replaces monthly pre-authorization with monthly reporting. Since we have maintained pre-authorization continuously since April, this will have little operational impact for us outside of the Homeland Security Emergency Management division's work to submit information to FEMA.
- **Establishes the permanent floor for the 4% credit** in the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. Advocates have estimated this change could create as many as 126,000 rental homes in the next 10 years.
- **Simplifies eligibility for financial aid for unaccompanied youth** experiencing or exiting homelessness by broadening and streamlining documentation requirements for confirming their experience of homelessness and reducing re-verifications of homeless status.

## Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Appropriations Summary

- **\$49.6 billion in funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).** This is an increase of \$561 million over fiscal year 2020 funding levels. For more detail on the funding amounts and policy changes, please review the [NLIHC's summary of the spending bill](#) and [FFY 21 budget chart for HUD and USDA](#).
- The bill likely provides enough funding to renew all existing contracts provided through Housing Choice Vouchers and Project-Based Rental Assistance. Beyond rental assistance, the bill provides level funding or moderate increases to all programs and none of HUD's programs were cut
- **\$43 million in funding for new vouchers** for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- **Increase in funding for HUD homeless assistance programs** to a total of \$3 billion in FFY 21, up from \$2.777 billion in FFY 20.
- **Includes "Tribal Access to Homeless Assistance Act" co-authored by Senator Tina Smith** which allows tribes and tribally designated housing entities to apply for, receive

and administer grants under the Continuum of Care Program. Tribes were previously not eligible for this program.

- **Waiver of the CoC program funding round in 2020.** This waiver means that no new projects will be funded in 2020, but all existing project funding will be renewed.
- **Small funding bumps for programs on youth homelessness** including HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (\$2 million increase) and Health and Human Services (HHS) Runaway and Homeless Youth Act programs (\$4.4 million increase).