

City of Atlanta Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Presentation to the Community Development
and Human Services Committee

June 28, 2022



United Way of
Greater Atlanta

COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance (ERAP) Program

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- Provides financial assistance to eligible households that have experienced a financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Households may receive help with eligible expenses when they complete an application and submit documentation that demonstrates financial hardship and a need for assistance.
- Currently, households may receive up to 15-months of financial assistance (12-months arrears and/or up to three (3) months of prospective rent).
- Eligible expenses include rent (arrears and prospective), relocation (security deposits), utilities (electric, gas, internet, trash and water/sewer), and other fees (late fees, court filing or eviction costs).

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Administration of the COVID-19

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Emergency Rental Assistance Program

- City of Atlanta partners with United Way of Greater Atlanta to administer the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- United Way of Greater Atlanta engaged Curry Davis Consulting Group to administer the programmatic and compliance part of the Program.
- United Way of Greater Atlanta has collaborated with 24 local community-based organizations over the life of the Program to facilitate the distribution of funds on behalf of eligible households and currently partners with six ERAP Service Providers.
- Current partnerships are listed below.
 - Another Chance of Atlanta
 - Buckhead Christian Ministries
 - Homes of Light
 - Housing Plus, Inc.
 - Rebecca's Tent
 - Urban League of Greater Atlanta

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Community, Public and Private Partnerships

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- GA Apartment Association – assists with promoting program to Tenants
- Columbia Residential Atlanta – partners to do target enrollment events
- Atlanta Housing – partners to verify applicant voucher payments
- Georgia Power Community Outreach – use their portal for direct payments and outreach assistance

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Community Collaboration Results and Program Success

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In partnership with community organizations, United Way of Greater Atlanta has provided close to \$45M in financial assistance to more than 10,598 households between August 2020-June 20, 2022.

Funding Source	Households Assisted	Total Payments Issued	Average Payment per Household
CARES Act 2020	6069*	\$18,326,158.14	\$3,019.63
ERAP 2021 (1)	2401	\$13,729,861.68	\$5,718.39
ERAP 2021 (2)	1705	\$10,260,275.2	\$6,017.76
ERAP 2021 (1)-Reallocated	423	\$2,590,457.90	\$6,124.01

* Included Mortgage households

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Program Success Equals Housing Stability for City of Atlanta Residents

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Within the last 14 months, United Way of Greater Atlanta provided financial assistance to 3600 households.

- 75% of households were at or below 30% Area Median Income (AMI)
- 44% of households had children
- 79% of households with children were at or below 30% Area Median Income (AMI)

On average, assistance was issued to the approved landlord or utility vendor within 30 days of submission of a complete application.

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Success Stories

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Meet Jarvis: Jarvis, a native to Atlanta, lost his job due to the pandemic. The lockdown made it difficult to find another job, and he didn't know if he would be able to pay rent. When visiting the leasing office, they handed him a Housing Plus flier for our Covid-19 Assistance program. After Jarvis completed the application, Housing Plus helped supplement his rent to keep him safely housed.



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Meet Sonya: Sonya is a single mother who had to leave her job during the pandemic due to health concerns. She stressed about making ends meet until she found SPARC. They provided rental assistance, dropped off gift and fruit baskets, as well as setting Sonya and her daughter up with a Christmas sponsor. Thanks to SPARC, Sonya and her daughter retained a bit of normalcy while remaining safe.

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