



Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing



**MICAHA lives out the prophetic vision that calls us
"to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8).**

**MICAHA envisions a metropolitan area where everyone without exception
has a safe, decent, accessible and affordable home.**



8 Million People Have Slipped into Poverty Since May, as Federal Aide has Dried Up

"After an ambitious expansion of the safety net in the spring saved millions of people from poverty, the aid is now largely exhausted and poverty has returned to levels higher than before the coronavirus crisis, two new studies have found.

The number of poor people has grown by eight million since May, according to researchers at Columbia University, after falling by four million at the pandemic's start as a result of a \$2 trillion emergency package known as the Cares Act."

~ New York Times



U.S. House of Representatives' new version of the HEROES ACT - \$2.2 Trillion Stimulus Bill

It outlines a [shorter time frame](#) to implement new funds, which include:

- \$5 billion in Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG).
- \$50 billion for rental assistance.
- \$4 billion for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), which includes an additional \$1 billion for new, temporary, housing vouchers.
- A 12-month uniform, national eviction moratorium would extend from the date of enactment.
- The updated bill also cancels the 2020 Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) competition, and instead proposes that funding is renewed for existing grantees.

Please Call your U.S. Senators and Congressional Member

Message:

THE STIMULUS BILL MUST BE PASSED NOW!

[Find Your Legislator](#)

FEDERAL ACTION NEEDED NOW!



FY21 Budget Chart for Selected HUD and USDA Programs

November 10, 2020



HUD Programs (set <i>asides italicized</i>) (In millions)	FY20 Final	FY21 President	FY21 House	FY21 Senate	FY21 Enacted
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	23,874	18,833*	25,739	25,516	
<i>Contract Renewals</i>	21,502	16,958	22,852	22,891	
<i>Homeless/At-risk of Homelessness</i>	0	0	250	0	
<i>Tenant Protection Vouchers</i>	75	100	125	100	
<i>Administrative Fees</i>	1,977	1,465	2,154	2,160	
<i>Section 811 Mainstream Vouchers</i>	229	310	310	300	
<i>Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers</i>	40	0	20	40	
<i>Tribal Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers</i>	1	4	2.5	5	
<i>Family Unification</i>	25	0	25	25	
<i>Mobility Demonstration</i>	25	0	0	0	
Public Housing					
<i>Capital Fund</i>	2,869	0	3,180	2,923**	
<i>Emergency/Disaster Grants</i>	65	10	75	75**	
<i>Operating Fund</i>	4,549	3,572	4,649	4,517**	
Moving to Work	0	5,200*	0	0	
Choice Neighborhoods Initiative	175	0	250	100	
Self-Sufficiency Programs					
<i>Family Self-Sufficiency</i>	80	90	105	105	
<i>Jobs-Plus Pilot</i>	15	100	15	15	
NAHASDA					
<i>Native American Housing Block Grant</i>	646	600	646	647	
<i>Competitive Grants</i>	100	0	110	100	
Native Haw. Hsg Block Grants	2	0	4	2	
Hsg. Opp. for Persons with AIDS	410	330	430	410	
Community Development Fund	3,425	0	3,525	3,455	
HOME Investment Partnerships	1,350	0	1,700	1,375	
Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity	10	0	10	10	
Homeless Assistance Grants	2,777	2,773	3,415	2,951	
Rental Assistance Demonstration	0	100	0	0	
Project-Based Rental Assistance	12,570	12,642	13,451	13,403	
Hsg. for the Elderly (202)	793	853	893	853	
Hsg. for Persons w/Disabilities (811)	202	252	227	237	
Housing Counseling Assistance	53	45	75	53	
Policy Development & Research	98	95	118	98	
Fair Hsg. & Equal Opportunity	70	65	80	70	
<i>Fair Housing Assistance Program</i>	23.5	23.9	TBD	TBD	
<i>Fair Housing Initiatives Program</i>	45	39.6	TBD	TBD	
Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard	290	360	340	360	





USDA Programs (set asides italicized) (In millions)	FY20 Final	FY21 President	FY21 House	FY21 Senate	FY21 Enacted
Section 514 Farm Labor Hsg. Loans	28	0	30	30	
Section 516 Farm Labor Hsg Grants	10	0	10	10	
<i>Combined 514/516 Subsidy</i>	18.7	0	15	15	
Section 515 Rental Housing Direct Loans	40	0	40	40	
<i>515 Subsidy</i>	12.1	0	6.6	6.7	
Section 521 Rental Assistance	1,375	1,450***	1450^	1,410	
Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization	60	0***	0^	62	
<i>Preservation Demonstration</i>	28	0	30	28	
<i>Section 542 Vouchers</i>	32	0	40	34	

*The 2021 budget request creates a separate Moving to Work account with \$5.2 billion in reallocated reduced funding from public housing and tenant-based rental assistance, essentially block granting these funds to MTW-Public Housing Agencies (PHAs). The MTW demonstration is a deregulation initiative that gives PHAs very broad flexibility in how they administer public housing and housing choice voucher programs. This deregulation allows PHAs to shift funds out of the voucher program in a manner that may result in fewer families receiving housing assistance. We will continue to analyze and monitor this proposal and its impacts on low-income residents.

** The Senate bill disaggregates spending for the public housing capital and operating accounts. The bill provides the capital account with \$2.765 billion, with an additional \$75 million for emergency capital needs. Funding for the public housing operating fund is set at \$4.492 billion, and an additional \$25 million is made available based on need. Additional funds are itemized for lead-based hazards (\$25 million), a Healthy Homes Initiative (\$20 million), troubled properties (\$15 million), and resources to support financial and physical assessment activities (\$23 million).

***The 2021 budget request combines spending on rental assistance and vouchers.

^The House 2021 budget combines spending on rental assistance and vouchers. Funding for the MPR preservation demonstration is in a separate line item.



Bonding Bill Passed with Strong Bipartisan Support!

Thanks to all of you who called, wrote letters and emails and told policymakers why the bonding bill was so important.

**MICAH supported the Bonding Bill
for affordable housing with Homes for All**

**The bipartisan supported bill included:
\$100 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIB)
HIB bonds help to create and preserve hundreds of homes
and create thousands of jobs.
and
\$16 million in General Obligation (GO) bonds.
GO bonds help maintain critically underfunded public housing
for some of Minnesotans lowest income households.**





Need Help to Pay Your Rent or Mortgage?

The COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program provides housing assistance payments to help prevent eviction, prevent homelessness, and maintain housing stability for eligible renters and homeowners.

[Visit Minnesota Housing's website](#) to learn more about how the program works.

Minnesotans interested in applying begin the application process by:

- calling 211
- visiting 211unitedway.org,
- or texting “MNRENT” or “MNHOME” to 898-211.

The 211 helpline has dedicated multilingual staff available to answer questions about the COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program
8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Please help us spread the word about this important new resource with the individuals and families you work with who may be interested in applying!





Additional Rental Assistance in Metro Counties Dakota

DAKOTA COUNTY

[Eviction Prevention Assistance](#)

Help is available for qualified Dakota County renters who are unable to pay rent and utility costs due to COVID-19 related income loss through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This assistance may be used to pay current and past due rent and utilities including gas, electric and water.

Although there has been a temporary hold on evictions, rent is still due and landlords may evict tenants with past due rent after state and federal restrictions on eviction filings are lifted. There is no application deadline. However, renters are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as possible to ensure assistance is received in time. Talk with your landlord about your situation.

Details are also available in [Spanish](#) and [Somali](#).





Be Safe and Well

1. Wash hands with soap and water, hand sanitize multiple times/day.
2. Wash hands before and after touching your face; do not touch your mouth, eyes, or nose until you've washed your hands. Sanitize your phone and keys several times/day.
3. Suggested way to greet others: put your hands over your heart and smile (do not shake hands, hug, or contact the other person).
4. Maintain a Physical distance of 6 feet between people, wear a mask, stay home, go out only for food/supplies, medicine, work if necessary, and other essential activities.
5. Stay socially and spiritually connected by mail, phone, email, and social media.
6. Love others as yourself..... please remember you may be infected and not be showing symptoms - be careful around everyone, especially our elderly and those with health issues.

Thanks again for your advocacy and support!
God's peace,
Sue Watlov Phillips
Executive Director, MICAH
President, National Coalition For The Homeless

