

May 8, 2020

TO: All Interested Parties
FROM: Sean Thomas, Executive Director
RE: Emergency Investment Fund – application process notice

On April 23, 2020, the OHFA Board approved \$4,750,000 to provide emergency housing assistance to address immediate housing issues related to the COVID-19 crisis, including \$250,000 for an Emergency Investment Fund. Emergency Investment Funds are available to 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations with a mission to serve the entire state. Organizations must request funding by submitting a letter of request to OHFA. The maximum amount of funds an organization may receive is \$50,000 and the total funding award may include payments previously paid by OHFA to an organization for sponsorships of events or conferences in 2020 that were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grant agreements will be provided no later than June 30, 2020. Organizations must request funding by submitting a letter to OHFA **no later than 5:00 pm, Wednesday, May 20, 2020**. The amount requested must be clearly stated in the letter, along with the primary contact person and contact information for the funding request. Please include a description of why the funds are being requested and how they will be utilized. If the funds will be further distributed to member organizations or individuals, please identify the eligible uses and recipients of the funds and explain how and when funds will be distributed. Organizations will be required as part of the funding agreement to report on the outcomes as a result of the relief received after the end of the funding period.

Please attach a copy of the letter along with any supporting materials and send via e-mail to Sean Thomas, Executive Director, Ohio Housing Finance Agency at OHFAemergencyinvestmentfund@ohiohome.org.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q. What are eligible and ineligible items for which organizations can request to be funded?**
- A. The purpose of the funds is to support relief funds or programs designed to address emergency housing issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the state. Funds can be used to pay for emergency rental assistance, homelessness prevention activities, operating assistance for housing providers, emergency shelter provision, etc. Funds may also be used for acute COVID-19 needs, e.g., purchasing of PPE, cleaning supplies, hazard pay for staff with direct interaction with clients, etc. Funds may not be used for any administrative costs for the primary grantee.
- Q. Do eligible organizations need to be connected to housing?**
- A. Yes. Eligible organizations include 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations with a statewide focus and a mission that includes housing. Eligible organizations also include owners and/or management companies of OHFA-financed senior, assisted living and/or permanent supportive housing properties.
- Q. Can funds be used to reimburse eligible organizations for costs already incurred to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic?**
- A. Yes.
- Q. How is this money different from the other emergency assistance already released by OHFA?**
- A. The other funds provided through OHFA's Emergency Housing Assistance Program were provided directly to the state's 9 Continuums of Care for homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, emergency rental assistance, hotel/motel assistance and non-congregate sheltering.