



**Sonoma County Community Development Commission**  
**Sonoma County Housing Authority**  
1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95403-4107

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Commission*

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**MEMORANDUM**

Date: April 20, 2022

To: Community Development Committee  
Cities and Towns Advisory Committee

From: Marc Chandler, Community Development Manager

Subject: Emergency Rental Assistance Program Update

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On April 19, 2020, Sonoma County's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) commenced in an effort to assist households unable to pay rent or utilities due to financial hardships caused by the Covid 19 Pandemic. Under SB 91, ERAP was able to provide up to 80% of rental assistance to pay for past due rent and utility payments.

On June 28, 2021, AB 832 was passed and changed some of the provisions that governed ERAP assistance under SB 91. One important change was to allow 100% reimbursement of rental arrears to landlords. At this point, ERAP had assisted 349 Households and spent over \$2 million of the initial Federal Award. To date, the Sonoma County Emergency Rental Assistance Program has provided direct assistance to more than 2,368 Sonoma County households.

Reallocation of unspent ERA funds began on March 31, 2022, and the US Treasury has published separate guidance for this reallocation. Although the number of applications being submitted has begun to slow, we anticipate households will continue to apply for assistance well into 2022. Obtaining an additional \$20 million from the reallocated ERA funds expected to be made available will put the County in a position to continue to serve households during these difficult times.

**Requested Action:** This is an informational item only, and no action is requested.

