

COVID-19 Housing Resource Roadmap (Version 2.0)

This *COVID-19 Housing Resource Roadmap* (Roadmap) is to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) leaders and other interested parties with navigating some of the challenges, as well as the resources, associated with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Specifically, the Roadmap describes how supplemental appropriated funds and certain ongoing annually funded federal programs can be used to implement potential solutions. For more information on the structure of the Roadmap, see the [COVID-19 Resource Roadmaps Overview](#).

Please note that this Roadmap is for general guidance purposes only and has been compiled with publicly available information or with information provided by sources that are publicly obtained. This should be viewed as only a starting point for navigating challenges and available resources. Additionally, the resources highlighted are available as of the date captured in the footer of the document and will be updated, as appropriate. The user should always directly consult the respective department or agency administering the federal program as the provider of a potential resource for current program information, as well as to verify whether proposed activities would be allowable under a particular program.

Navigating the Roadmap

The Roadmap is to assist in challenges that federal departments and agencies which work directly with SLTT partners have identified in delivering housing support. Although not an exhaustive list, the identified challenges that follow fall within four topic areas:

- [Nonpayment of Rent or Mortgage](#)
- [Housing and Service Needs of Homeless Populations](#)
- [Housing and Service Needs of Vulnerable Populations](#)
- [Reduced Temporary Housing and Shelter Capacity](#)

Tables for each topic area provide information on specific challenges, potential solutions, and federal department or agency resources, including federal funding and technical assistance which may be available. Federal funding resources are either universal or solution-specific. Universal resources, for purposes of this document, have broad applicability to the solutions presented within the topic area, whereas resources directly linked to specific solutions are limited to the challenge presented. This information can help inform decisions on how to apply funding to maximize resources and achieve recovery outcomes. [Additional Resources](#) and an [Acronym and Agency Glossary](#) can be found at the end of the document.

Although the solutions are general in nature, additional considerations may be necessary to support those who may be at an elevated risk for contracting COVID-19, including those who may have physical, sensory, behavioral, or intellectual disabilities affecting their ability to conform to infection control protocols such as masking, hand washing, or distancing.



Challenge 1: Nonpayment of Rent or Mortgage

Unemployed and Low- and Moderate-Income Persons: Households experiencing unemployment or having income below 80% of area median income may have an increased risk of eviction or foreclosure due to loss of employment and income, creating an inability to make rent or mortgage payments. Tribal households facing financial hardship may qualify for financial assistance provided through HUD Public and Indian Housing Programs.

For a list of specific federal department and agency names, review the [Acronym and Agency Glossary](#) at the end of the document.

The following universal funding resources are broadly applicable to the solutions presented for this topic area:

- [Coronavirus Relief Fund](#) (Treasury)
- [State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund](#) (Treasury)

Solution-specific funding resources are detailed in the table below.

Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider				Program Delivery Details		
		Eviction and foreclosure moratoriums	Services for supportive housing	Housing counseling	Sustain existing subsidized housing programs	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Emergency Food and Shelter Program (FEMA)		✓				✓	
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	Rural Housing Service ² (RD)		✓		✓	✓	✓	
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Community Services Block Grant (ACF)			✓		✓		
	Family Violence Prevention and Services (ACF)		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (ACF)		✓			✓		
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	Community Development Block Grant		✓	✓		✓		✓
	HOME Program ²		✓			✓		

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Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider				Program Delivery Details		
		Eviction and foreclosure moratoriums	Services for supportive housing	Housing counseling	Sustain existing subsidized housing programs	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
	Indian Community Development Block Grant		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Indian Housing Block Grants		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Project-Based Rental Assistance				✓		✓	✓
	Public Housing Operating Fund				✓		✓	✓
	Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities: Section 811				✓	✓	✓	✓
	Supportive Housing for the Elderly: Section 202				✓	✓	✓	✓
U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)	Housing Improvement Program (BIA)				✓			
U.S. Department of the Treasury	Coronavirus Relief Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		New Program
	Emergency Rental Assistance Program				✓	✓		
	Homeowner Assistance Fund	✓		✓		✓		New Program
	State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		New Program
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program		✓	✓			✓	✓

¹State, local, tribal, or territorial (SLTT) organizations, such as state/local administrations, local housing agencies, etc.

²Items that may provide assistance but are not funded by COVID-19 supplemental appropriations.

Technical Assistance Resources

Potential Solutions to Consider	Technical Assistance Resources
Eviction and foreclosure moratoriums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19 (HHS/CDC)
Housing counseling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agencies (HUD) • Foreclosure Avoidance Counseling (HUD) • COVID-19 Emergency Information for Housing Counselors (HUD) • Resources for Renters (HUD)

Additional Guidance for Nonpayment of Rent or Mortgage

HUD, through HUD approved housing counseling agencies, provides housing counseling to families and individuals across the Country. These agencies are able to help with challenges such as renting, credit issues, and foreclosure avoidance. The HUD Office of Counseling provides a database of [HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agencies](#) to help those in need locate the closest sponsored housing counseling agency. In addition, HUD provides another resource that helps locale sponsored housing counseling agencies focused on [Foreclosure Avoidance Counseling](#). For Housing Counselors, [COVID-19 Emergency Information](#) related to program updates, waivers, best practices, and Frequently Asked Questions are available.

The [Legal Services Corporation](#) and legal assistance available through the [Older Americans Act \(HUD/ACL\)](#) can provide assistance for legal aid interventions for individuals facing eviction and homelessness.

Treasury is administering a new [Homeowner Assistance Fund](#) to prevent mortgage delinquencies and defaults, foreclosures, loss of utilities or home energy services, and displacement of homeowners experiencing financial hardship.

HUD also offers [resources for renters](#) impacted by COVID-19. Some of these resources include tips to communicate with landlords; overview of CARES Act eviction protections; and link to database of Coronavirus-related protections by state.

The USDA Rural Development (RD) [Single Family Housing Direct Home Loans](#) and [Multi-Family Housing Loan Guarantees](#) programs can provide financing to qualified borrowers to increase the supply of affordable rental housing for low- and moderate-income individuals and families in eligible rural areas and towns.

Effective September 4, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced the issuance of an Order under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act to [temporarily halt residential evictions](#) to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

Challenge 2: Housing and Service Needs of Homeless Populations

Homeless Populations: Homeless populations, including veterans and families, may require additional targeted assistance to provide temporary housing and shelter sites with appropriate and safe services, supplies, and adequate staffing. Elderly populations may also have economic and social challenges that increase housing and service needs. Some resources can support transitioning to more permanent housing solutions.

For a list of specific federal department and agency names, review the [Acronym and Agency Glossary](#) at the end of the document.

The following universal funding resources are broadly applicable to the solutions presented for this topic area:

- [Coronavirus Relief Fund](#) (Treasury)
- [Emergency Solutions Grants](#) (HUD)
- [State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund](#) (Treasury)

Solution-specific funding resources are detailed in the table below.

Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider					Program Delivery Details		
		Continued operations with COVID-19 considerations	Non-congregate sheltering for the homeless	Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	Supportive services and counseling	Provide public hygiene facilities and services	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Emergency Food and Shelter Program			✓				✓	
	Public Assistance – Category B Emergency Protective Measures³	✓	✓ *	✓ *		✓ *	✓		✓
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	Food and Nutrition Service Programs (FNS)			✓			✓	✓	✓
	Community Facilities Programs² (RD)					✓	✓	✓	
	Basic Center Program (BCP) for Runaway & Homeless Youth (ACF)	✓					✓	✓	

* FEMA Public Assistance (PA) funding is not specific to services for individuals experiencing homelessness, but this population falls within the target populations served by eligible PA applicants as articulated in the COVID-19 specific policy and guidance issued for Category B – Emergency Protective Measures. Additional information can be found in the following policy: [Frequently Asked Questions on Non-Congregate Shelters During COVID-19](#). Additional PA COVID-19 guidance can be found at: [Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance - COVID-19 Declarations](#).

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Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider					Program Delivery Details		
		Continued operations with COVID-19 considerations	Non-congregate sheltering for the homeless	Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	Supportive services and counseling	Provide public hygiene facilities and services	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Community Services Block Grant (ACF)			✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Runaway and Homeless Youth Program (ACF)	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
	Aging and Disability Resources (ACL)			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	Community Development Block Grant		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Continuum of Care²				✓		✓		✓
	Emergency Solutions Grants	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Tribal HUD-VASH		✓		✓		✓		
	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing		✓					✓	✓
U.S. Department of the Treasury	Coronavirus Relief Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		New Program
	State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		New Program
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	Grants and Per Diem Program				✓			✓	✓
	Health Care for Homeless Veterans				✓			✓	✓
	Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program				✓			✓	✓

¹ State, local, tribal, or territorial (SLTT) organizations, such as state/local administrations, local housing agencies, etc.

² Items that may provide assistance but are not funded by COVID-19 supplemental appropriations.

³ FEMA Public Assistance (PA) is applicable to work performed on or after January 20, 2020. For information on non-congregate sheltering, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering Frequently Asked Questions](#). For information on food distribution, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance](#). Information on eligible emergency protective measures for the other solutions listed in this chart can be found in [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Safe Opening and Operation Work Eligible for Public Assistance \(Interim\)](#). All other PA guidance can be found at: [Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance - COVID-19 Declarations](#).

Technical Assistance Resources

Potential Solutions to Consider	Technical Assistance Resources
Continued operations with COVID-19 considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (HHS/CDC) • Interim Guidance on Unsheltered Homelessness and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Homeless Service Providers and Local Officials (HHS/CDC) • Checklist for Homeless Service Providers During Community Re-Opening (HHS/CDC) • COVID-19 Infection Control Inventory and Planning for Homeless Service Providers (HHS/CDC) • COVID-19 and Homelessness Services: Training for Homeless Shelter Workers (HHS/CDC) • COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Changes to Coordinated Entry Prioritization to Support and Respond to COVID-19 (HUD) • Specific Considerations for Public Health Authorities to Limit Infection Risk Among People Experiencing Homelessness (HUD) • COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Targeted Rehousing Strategy Overview (HUD) • Investigating and Responding to COVID-19 Cases at Homeless Service Provider Sites (HHS/CDC) • Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility: Everyday Steps, Steps When Someone is Sick, and Considerations for Employers (HHS/CDC)
Non-congregate sheltering for the homeless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequently Asked Questions on Non-Congregate Shelters During COVID-19 (FEMA)[†] • Hospitality for Hope Initiative (AHLA) • Non-Congregate Approaches to Sheltering for COVID-19 Homeless Response (HUD) • Webinar: Maximizing Funding for Non-Congregate Shelter Opportunities: California’s Project Roomkey (USICH) • Interim Guidance on Ending Isolation and Precautions for Adults with COVID-19 (HHS/CDC)
Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Feeding Guidelines (National Mass Care Strategy) • SNAP Online Purchasing Pilot (USDA/FNS) • Farmers to Families Food Box (USDA/AMS) • Sustaining Nutritional Needs for At-Risk Individuals (FEMA/HHS) • Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance (FEMA)
Supportive services and counseling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Housing Problem-Solving in Practice (HUD) • COVID-19 Homeless System Response: High Acuity: Transition from Short-Term to Long-Term Subsidy (HUD)

[†] FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program Non-Congregate Sheltering serves individuals in need of emergency shelter due to COVID-19 specific criteria, including people experiencing homelessness, only when they meet identified criteria related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Potential Solutions to Consider	Technical Assistance Resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Connecting Quarantine to Coordinated Entry: Mainstream Resources (HUD) • Eldercare Locator (HUD) (Phone Number: 800-677-1116) • Behavioral Health Services for People Who Are Homeless (HHS/SAMHSA) • Resources and Guidance for Supportive Housing Providers (Corporation for Supportive Housing)
Provide public hygiene facilities and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions to Assist CoCs and Public Health Authorities to Limit the Spread of Infectious Disease in Homeless Programs (HUD) • Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuums of Care: Preventing & Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease for People Experiencing Homelessness (HUD) • Protecting Health and Well-Being of People in Encampments During an Infectious Disease Outbreak (HUD) • Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance – COVID-19 Declarations (FEMA)

Additional Guidance for Housing and Service Needs of Homeless Populations

The CDC has provided an interim guidance for [homeless services providers and local officials](#). This includes recommendations for facility layout, staffing, and safety considerations. Additional resources and tools include:

- [Checklist for Homeless Service Providers During Community Re-opening](#)
- [COVID-19 Infection Control Inventory and Planning \(ICIP\) Tool for Homeless Service Providers](#)

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) also provides information on [COVID-19 Funding, Flexibilities, and Waivers](#) to assist people at risk of and experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic.

An alternative housing solution to accommodate for social distance includes expanding and establishing non-congregate shelters. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides an overview of [Frequently Asked Questions: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering](#) regarding provision of non-congregate sheltering during COVID-19. Additionally, American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA), in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has developed a [national database](#) of hotels and hospitality facilities that can support with non-congregate sheltering.

Community-based organizations and other service providers may be able to provide additional support for homeless populations and simultaneously address potential equity concerns. For more information, see [COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Increasing Equity in the Homeless Response System Through Expanding Procurement](#).

Health centers are community-based and patient-directed organizations that deliver comprehensive, culturally competent, high-quality primary health care services. Health centers also often integrate access to pharmacy, mental health, substance use

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disorder, and oral health services in areas where economic, geographic, or cultural barriers limit access to affordable health care services. Health centers deliver care to the nation's most vulnerable individuals and families, including people experiencing homelessness, agricultural workers, residents of public housing, and the Nation's veterans. Consult the HHS/HRSA website for more information on [Federally Qualified Health Centers](#).

Additional guidance on medical care support can be found at:

- [COVID-19 Information for Health Centers and Partners](#) (HHS/HRSA)
- [COVID-19 & the HCH Community: Vaccines for Patients and Staff](#) (National Health Care for the Homeless Council)
- [COVID-19 and People Experiencing Homelessness: Resources and Guidance](#) (National Health Care for the Homeless Council)

For information specific to COVID-19 screening and testing, consult the following resources:

- [Interim Considerations for Health Departments for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Homeless Shelters and Encampments](#)
- [Screening Clients for COVID-19 at Homeless Shelters or Encampments](#)

For information specific to veteran populations, visit the VA's webpage on [Veterans Experiencing Homelessness](#).

Challenge 3: Housing and Service Needs of Vulnerable Populations

Populations with Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs (AFN): The CDC indicates that adults with disabilities are three times more likely than adults without disabilities to have heart disease, stroke, diabetes, or cancer, potentially increasing their risk complications associated with COVID-19. Safe and secure housing is critical to reducing exposure. There are specific housing resources available for populations with disabilities and AFN. In addition, elderly populations may have specific economic and social needs that contribute to housing challenges.

For a list of specific federal department and agency names, review the [Acronym and Agency Glossary](#) at the end of the document.

The following universal funding resources are broadly applicable to the solutions presented for this topic area:

- [Coronavirus Relief Fund](#) (Treasury)
- [Community Development Block Grant](#) (HUD)
- [State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund](#) (Treasury)

Solution-specific funding resources are detailed in the table below.

Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider					Program Delivery Details		
		Services for supportive housing	Home health and medical care support	Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	Precautions for living with others	Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Emergency Food and Shelter Program	✓		✓				✓	
	Public Assistance – Category B Emergency Protective Measures³			✓			✓		✓
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	Food and Nutrition Service Programs (FNS)			✓			✓	✓	✓
	Housing Preservation Grants (RD)		✓				✓	✓	
	Rural Housing Service² (RD)		✓				✓	✓	

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Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider					Program Delivery Details		
		Services for supportive housing	Home health and medical care support	Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	Precautions for living with others	Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (ACF)	✓					✓		
	Administration on Aging Nutrition Services (ACL)			✓			✓		
	Aging and Disability Resources (ACL)		✓				✓	✓	✓
	Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (HRSA)	✓					✓	✓	✓
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	Community Development Block Grant		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) COVID-19 Funds	✓					✓		
	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Supplemental Funding	✓					✓		
	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	✓					✓		✓
	Mainstream Vouchers	✓					✓		
	Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities: Section 811	✓					✓	✓	✓
	Supportive Housing for the Elderly: Section 202	✓					✓	✓	✓

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Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider					Program Delivery Details		
		Services for supportive housing	Home health and medical care support	Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	Precautions for living with others	Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
U.S. Department of the Treasury	Coronavirus Relief Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		New Program
	State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		New Program
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	Grants and Per Diem Program	✓						✓	✓
	Health Care for Homeless Veterans		✓					✓	✓
	Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program	✓						✓	✓

¹ State, local, tribal, or territorial (SLTT) organizations, such as state/local administrations, local housing agencies, etc.

² Items that may provide assistance but are not funded by COVID-19 supplemental appropriations.

³ FEMA Public Assistance (PA) is applicable to identified COVID-19 specific work performed on or after January 20, 2020. For information on food distribution, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance](#). Note that eligibility is tied to a need for assistance due to confirmed or suspected positive COVID-19 status, which includes those experiencing homelessness. The full policy should be consulted for specific eligibility information. Additional PA COVID-19 guidance can be found at: [Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance - COVID-19 Declarations](#).

Technical Assistance Resources

Potential Solutions to Consider	Technical Assistance Resources
Home health and medical care support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 Information for Health Centers and Partners (HHS/HRSA) COVID-19 Resources (Corporation for Supportive Housing) FAQ: The COVID-19 Vaccine and Migrant, Immigrant, and Food & Farm Worker Patients (Migrant Clinicians Network) COVID-19 Resources for Ag Employers & Farmworker-Serving Organizations (National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc.)
Nutritional assistance and alternate distribution methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 Feeding Guidelines (National Mass Care Strategy) SNAP Online Purchasing Pilot (USDA/FNS) Farmers to Families Food Box (USDA/AMS) Sustaining Nutritional Needs for At-Risk Individuals (FEMA/HHS) Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance (FEMA)

Potential Solutions to Consider	Technical Assistance Resources
Precautions living with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households Living in Close Quarters (HHS/CDC) • Living in Shared Housing (HHS/CDC)
Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19 (HHS/CDC) • COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Strategies for Eviction Prevention (HUD)

Additional Guidance for Housing and Service Needs of Vulnerable Populations

The HUD [Coronavirus Resources: Public Housing Agencies](#) webpage has numerous resources available, including information on eviction moratoriums and eviction prevention.

CDC offers information for [People at Increased Risk and Other People who Need to Take Extra Precautions](#). This includes information regarding people at increased risk for severe illness that include [older adults](#) and people with [underlying medical conditions](#). The CDC also provides guidance for other people who need extra precautions that include:

- [Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups](#);
- [Rural Communities](#);
- [People Experiencing Homelessness](#);
- [Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#);
- [People with Disabilities](#); and
- [People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders](#).

Youth and family populations may also require additional considerations. For more information, consult the following resources:

- [COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Special Population Rehousing Strategy: Youth and Young Adults](#)
- [COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Special Population Rehousing Strategy: Family Violence](#)
- [Supporting Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness during the COVID-19 Outbreak: Questions to Consider](#)

For these individuals, non-congregate sheltering is safer than living in communal settings. When this is not possible, guidance for [households living in close quarters](#) and people [living in shared housing](#) should be considered. For clarification on HUD COVID-19 procedures and policies related to multi-family households, see:

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- [Questions and Answers for Office of Multifamily Housing Stakeholders – Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#); and
- [Promoting Housing Stability During the COVID-19 National Emergency: Information for Multifamily Property Owners and Management Agents](#)

The [Fair Housing Initiatives Program: Education & Outreach Initiative – COVID-19](#) provides funding for the creation and dissemination of fair housing education and outreach materials in COVID-19 affected areas.

The USDA RD [Single Family Housing Repair Loans & Grants](#) program can provide loans to qualified borrowers to repair, improve, or modernize homes or remove health and safety hazards.

Health centers are community-based and patient-directed organizations that deliver comprehensive, culturally competent, high-quality primary health care services. Health centers also often integrate access to pharmacy, mental health, substance use disorder, and oral health services in areas where economic, geographic, or cultural barriers limit access to affordable health care services. Health centers deliver care to the nation's most vulnerable individuals and families, including people experiencing homelessness, agricultural workers, residents of public housing, and the Nation's veterans. Consult the HHS/HRSA website for more information on [Federally Qualified Health Centers](#).

Challenge 4: Reduced Temporary Housing and Shelter Capacity

Populations Requiring Socially-Distant and Non-Congregate Sheltering Due to Health Considerations: Some individuals or households may need alternative housing options in support of public health mitigation measures, including social distancing, diminishing contact with high risk individuals, reducing shelter capacity, and accommodating retrofits that protect public health.

Seasonal and Migrant Workers: Housing capacity for seasonal and migrant workers may be reduced due to public health mitigation measures. Reduced housing may affect agricultural production, recreation, and key industrial capacity and cause economic disruption.

For a list of specific federal department and agency names, review the [Acronym and Agency Glossary](#) at the end of the document.

The following universal funding resources are broadly applicable to the solutions presented for this topic area:

- [Coronavirus Relief Fund](#) (Treasury)
- [State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund](#) (Treasury)
- [Emergency Food and Shelter Program](#) (FEMA)

Solution-specific funding resources are detailed in the table below.

Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider				Program Delivery Details		
		Populations Requiring Socially-Distant and Non-Congregate Sheltering Due to Health Considerations		Seasonal and Migrant Workers		Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
		Services for supportive housing	Non-congregate sheltering and temporary lodging (e.g., hotel vouchers, leasing of hotels / motels / apartments)	Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	Safe communal housing			
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Emergency Food and Shelter Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Public Assistance – Category B Emergency Protective Measures³		✓ ‡			✓	✓	

‡ FEMA Public Assistance (PA) is applicable to identified COVID-19 specific work performed on or after January 20, 2020. For information on non-congregate sheltering, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering Frequently Asked Questions](#). Note that FEMA PA funding only applies to identified target populations. A full description of eligible target populations is found in the FAQs linked above. Additional PA identified COVID-19 specific guidance can be found at: [Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance - COVID-19 Declarations](#).

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Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider				Program Delivery Details		
		Populations Requiring Socially-Distant and Non-Congregate Sheltering Due to Health Considerations		Seasonal and Migrant Workers		Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
		Services for supportive housing	Non-congregate sheltering and temporary lodging (e.g., hotel vouchers, leasing of hotels / motels / apartments)	Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	Safe communal housing			
General Services Administration (GSA)	Surplus Temporary Transportable Housing Units (TTHUs)²				✓		✓	
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	Farm Labor Housing Direct Loans & Grants (RD)				✓	✓	✓	
	Multi-Family Housing Programs² (RD)				✓	✓	✓	
	Multi-Family Housing Rental Assistance² (RD)			✓			✓	
	Rural Housing Service² (RD)	✓			✓	✓	✓	
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (ACF)	✓				✓		
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	Community Development Block Grant	✓	✓			✓		✓
	Continuum of Care²		✓			✓		✓
	Emergency Solutions Grants		✓			✓	✓	✓
	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	✓				✓		✓
	Indian Community Development Block Grant	✓				✓		✓
	Indian Housing Block Grants	✓				✓		✓

COVID-19 Housing Resource Roadmap

Department/Agency	Program	Potential Solutions to Consider				Program Delivery Details		
		Populations Requiring Socially-Distant and Non-Congregate Sheltering Due to Health Considerations		Seasonal and Migrant Workers		Funds to SLTT ¹	Direct Assistance to Program Providers	Statutory / Regulatory Flexibility Provided
		Services for supportive housing	Non-congregate sheltering and temporary lodging (e.g., hotel vouchers, leasing of hotels / motels / apartments)	Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	Safe communal housing			
U.S. Department of the Treasury	Coronavirus Relief Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	New Program	
	State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	New Program	
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	Grants and Per Diem Program	✓				✓	✓	
	Health Care for Homeless Veterans	✓				✓	✓	
	Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program	✓				✓	✓	

¹ State, local, tribal, or territorial (SLTT) organizations, such as state/local administrations, local housing agencies, etc.

² Items that may provide assistance but are not funded by COVID-19 supplemental appropriations.

³ FEMA Public Assistance (PA) is applicable to work performed on or after January 20, 2020. For information on non-congregate sheltering, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering Frequently Asked Questions](#). All other PA guidance can be found at: [Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance - COVID-19 Declarations](#).

Technical Assistance Resources

Potential Solutions to Consider	Technical Assistance Resources
Non-congregate sheltering and temporary lodging (e.g., hotel vouchers, leasing of hotels/motels/apartments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Resources for Seasonal Farmworker Housing (USDA/FSA) • Hospitality for Hope Initiative (AHLA) • Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering (FEMA)[§]
Eviction and foreclosure moratorium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19 (HHS/CDC)
Safe communal housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Resources for Seasonal Farmworker Housing (USDA/FSA) • Shared and Congregate Housing COVID-19 Guidance (HHS/CDC) • Households Living in Close Quarters (HHS/CDC) • Living in Shared Housing (HHS/CDC)

Additional Guidance for Reduced Temporary Housing and Shelter Capacity

To support demand for non-congregate sheltering, the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA), in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has developed a [national database](#) of hotels and hospitality facilities that can support with sheltering. The AHLA also links to resources such as [Hospitality Helps](#) which connects lodging providers willing to provide available beds to hospitals and government agencies which need additional beds.

Seasonal and Migrant workers face unique challenges, as often workers are provided housing by their employers. These houses are typically communal thus at higher risk for COVID-19 transmission. The USDA provides a list of potential [resources](#) to support seasonal farmworker housing. the CDC shares considerations for agriculture workers. In circumstances where non-congregate housing is unavailable, housing providers and residents should take extra precautions as outlined in CDC [guidance](#) for Shared Housing, and guidance for [households living in close quarters](#) and people [living in shared housing](#). The HUD [Self-Help Home Ownership Opportunity](#) Program provides grants to develop non-luxury housing for low-income families and persons who otherwise would be unable to purchase a house, and may be another option to consider to address housing challenges.

For more information on congregate sheltering considerations, consult the following resources:

- [COVID-19 Sheltering Congregate Guidelines](#)
- [Shelter Management During an Infectious Disease Outbreak](#)

[§] FEMA Public Assistance (PA) is applicable to identified COVID-19 specific work performed on or after January 20, 2020. For information on non-congregate sheltering, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Non-Congregate Sheltering Frequently Asked Questions](#). Note that FEMA PA funding only applies to identified target populations. A full description of eligible target populations is found in the FAQs linked above. Additional PA identified COVID-19 specific guidance can be found at: [Public Assistance Disaster-Specific Guidance - COVID-19 Declarations](#).

Additional Resources

The FEMA publication [Planning Considerations: Disaster Housing – Guidance for State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Partners \(May 2020\)](#) provides useful information on housing considerations that span all challenges and solutions covered previously in this document. FEMA has also published the [Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Pandemic Planning Considerations Guide](#), which describes unique considerations applicable when developing mass care and emergency assistance plans during a pandemic scenario.

For certain populations, housing needs may require additional considerations and efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides some general resources for COVID-19 related housing issues and challenges:

- [General Coronavirus Resources Page](#)
- [Public and Indian Housing COVID-19 Resources](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency provides [information and resources](#) related to indoor air and COVID-19. Ensuring proper ventilation with outside air can help reduce indoor airborne contaminants, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and other viruses. When used along with other best practices (such as wearing masks, social distancing, frequent hand washing, and surface disinfection) recommended by the CDC, increasing ventilation can be part of a plan to protect yourself and your family.

For cleaning needs, use DfE-Certified Disinfectants and follow label instructions. Consult the EPA's list of [DfE-Certified Disinfectants](#) on List N (check the box "disinfectants for use against the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)" in the search box).

Acronym and Agency Glossary

ACF	Administration for Children and Families
ACL	Administration for Community Living
AFN	Access and Functional Needs
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AHLA	American Hotel and Lodging Association
CARES	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
COVID-19	Coronavirus
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service
FY	Fiscal Year
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HOME	HOME Investment Partnerships Program
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICIP	Infection Control Inventory and Planning
RD	Rural Development
SLTT	State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial
Treasury	U.S. Department of Treasury
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USICH	United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
VA	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs