The Advisory Panel of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (SC Stay Plus) convened a virtual meeting on Friday, January 13, 2023 at approximately 11:00 a.m., at 300-C Outlet Pointe Boulevard, Columbia, South Carolina.

The following advisory panel members were present at the meeting: Kris Koon, SC Electric Cooperatives; Brian Gaines, Executive Budget Office, David Hudspeth, York County Manager and Bernie Mazyck, South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development.

The following staff from SC Housing were present at the meeting: Tasha Thompson, Sarah Shinsky, Matt McColl, Marni Holloway, Ana Garcia, Renaye Long, Bonita Shropshire and Amanda Colbert. The following staff from Guidehouse were present at the meeting: Vinod Ramachandran, Jagadish Prakash, Kajal Patel, Mike Tosh, and Nathan Paufve.

The following guests were in attendance: Brenda Murphy.

Guidehouse staff called the meeting to order.

Guidehouse staff shared an executive summary update of the program activities, giving a brief overview of the document to include: 77,073 completed applications received (this includes pending quality control review, pending payment processing and paid); approximately $307.7M in funds disbursed; approximately $308.5M funds approved; $757.7M funds requested; approximately $41M in provisional denials (this includes applications that are missing documents after 14 days and ineligible applications) and an overview of the application status. The report also includes information on the total amounts disbursed to landlords, tenants and utilities.

Guidehouse staff continued the overview of the executive summary report on team progress in the past week and upcoming activities with the program.

The next scheduled Advisory Panel Meeting is Friday, February 10, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.
Weekly Advisory Panel Report
Friday, 1/13/2022

Executive Summary,
As of January 12th, at 7 am ET

Complete Applications 77,073
*Includes Pending Quality Control Review, Pending Payment Processing, and Paid*

Total Waitlist Applications Received 4,338
*SC STAY PLUS Waitlist Opened 12/17/22*

Applications Processed This Week 4,457
*Number of Applications Moved to a New Queue This Week*

Application Status

Recertification Application Status

- Pending Review – Applications that have been received and are awaiting review
- Priority Review – Applications are determined Priority Review and fast-tracked through the application process if the applicant is very low income (<50% AMI), has been on unemployment for longer than 90 days, or has attached a Writ of Ejectment from a Magistrate Court
- Reviewed/Awaiting Documentation – Applications that have completed the review process but have been missing applicant documentation <14 days
- Only Missing Owner Clearance – Applications that have completed the review process and have all necessary applicant documentation, but are missing landlord/owner documentation
- Pending Quality Control Review – Applications that have all documentation and are awaiting a final round of Quality Control review
- Approved by SC Housing, Pending Payment – Applications that have been approved and are ready to be paid
- Paid – Applications that have been paid
- Provisional Denial – Applications that have been missing documentation for over 14 days; applicants have an additional 30 days to provide documentation before denial is completed
- Denied – Applications that are over-income, homeowners, have not submitted applications in over 44 days, or were otherwise determined ineligible

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• Not presented here: 33,730 applications from excluded counties or duplicates
• 207,425 total applications received

**Funds Requested**

$757,709,140.82

- $308,527,676.82
- $76,050,014.00
- $301,084,209.00
- $41,022,266.00

Does not include requests over $60,000

**Funds Approved**

$308,527,676.82
- Rental: $238,350,835.63
- Utilities: $46,811,808.43
- Other: $14,265,939.28
- Bulk Utility: $9,099,093.48

*Inclusive of Funds Disbursed*

**Funds Disbursed**

$307,783,640.81
- Rental: $237,813,381.22
- Utilities: $46,661,171.64
- Other: $14,209,994.47
- Bulk Utility: $9,099,093.48

**Funds Disbursed by Recipient**

- Amount Disbursed to Landlords: $228,762,848.03
- Amount Disbursed to Tenants: $24,672,251.64
- Amount Disbursed to Utilities: $54,348,541.14

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Applications Received by County

*Locations where Boots on the Ground support was provided for the week of 1/1-1/7*
Team Progress (since 1/7)

- Program Design
  - The program stopped accepting new applications at 11:59PM on December 16th. A waitlist was initiated to capture need beyond December 16th.
    - As of January 12th, a total of 4,438 expressions of interest have been received.
  - SC Housing has requested an additional $25M of reallocated ERA 2 funds from United States Department of the Treasury. This request is not yet approved.
  - Program is working on final ERA 1 Closeout and ERA 2 Q4 update reports required for Treasury reporting.

- Application Review and Determination
  - Processing of applications continues with evictions and special cases being prioritized. All applications indicated as “priority” have been reviewed.
  - The team processed 4,457 applications this week. Since last week, we sent payments to 1,800 households for a total of $6.1M and approved 1,248 applications.

- Communications
  - The SC Housing Communications team continues to focus on ensuring the public is aware of key program updates and changes—specifically applications closing and the waitlist—through the website, outreach to key stakeholders and electronic distribution of press release to television, newspapers, and radio stations.
  - The in-person support team continues to provide application support in 20+ locations across the state, focused on application completeness, as well as providing information on the waitlist to those who were not able to apply.
    - Key highlights for the in-person team during 2022 include receiving over 50,000 visitors and filing over 13,500 applications. They provided consistent support in 127 locations and attended 70 pop-up events to expand outreach at local events.
  - Once the waitlist opened, the communications workstream conducted a consumer experience review in English and Spanish of the process, to ensure it is accessible and clear for anyone who may want to join.
  - The team revised recently released SC Stay Plus dashboard to make it more user-friendly for the public by including definitions and language for lay audiences.
  - An updated program summary is being drafted to communicate program successes with key stakeholders, including the governor’s office and legislative leadership.

- Monitoring and Compliance
  - Conducting ongoing periodic updates of the review checklist to align with program design updates.
  - Continued review of payments to verify no duplicate checks are being issued for rental, utilities, and other payments.

- Payment
  - Program continues biweekly payment cadence.

Upcoming Activities

- Program Design
  - Finalize and submit ERA 1 closeout report and ERA 2 Q4 update report to Treasury portal.
  - Continue to monitor Treasury decision on request for additional funds.

- Application Review and Determination
  - Complete application reviews for applicants currently in backlog, while closely monitoring the availability of remaining funds.
• Continue prioritizing any applicants who may indicate that they are at risk of eviction.

  Communications
  • The team will focus on changing utilization of different communication entry points post-application closing, as well as questions post-application closing.
  • The team will prepare for possible continued program changes, and ways to communicate this to the public. Alongside this, the team will work on continued ways to communicate the key successes of the program.
  • The team is exploring utilization patterns at BOTG sites to determine if realignment of resources is needed to support post-closing activities.

**Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

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<th>Meeting subject</th>
<th>SC Stakeholders</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
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<td>Monthly Advisory Panel public meeting</td>
<td>Advisory Panel</td>
<td>February 10th, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Advisory Panel public meeting</td>
<td>Advisory Panel</td>
<td>March 10th, 2023</td>
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