PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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SC Stay seeks partners for rental, mortgage assistance program

COLUMBIA, S.C. (Jan. 7, 2021) – A new program from SC Housing will help renters and homeowners who have struggled to pay their bills in the midst of a global pandemic remain in their homes.

SC Housing is currently seeking governmental and nonprofit agencies to serve as contractors for the SC Stay program, which is scheduled to launch in February.

Governmental and nonprofit agencies interested in helping the state identify and certify households in need of rental and mortgage assistance <u>can respond to the Request for Qualifications</u> available on the SC Housing website. The RFQ deadline is Jan. 19, 2021.

Up to \$25 million in eligible funds will be provided by the SC Stay program through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program and the CARES Act. CDBG-Coronavirus funds were made available to the S.C. Department of Commerce, which asked SC Housing to lead the program for low-income residents.

CDBG funding will be available for up to six consecutive months of short-term rental and mortgage assistance for applicant individuals and families whose income is at or below 80% of county median income adjusted by family size, have landlord or lender confirmation of their past-due status and are willing to accept payment on their behalf, and can demonstrate that they are unable to pay all or part of the rent or mortgage, or are behind on their rent or mortgage, due to circumstances stemming from the coronavirus.

While the program is not scheduled to launch until February, renters and homeowners seeking assistance to avoid eviction and foreclosure can refer to the SC Housing website for <u>resources for renters</u> and <u>resources for homeowners</u>. To receive additional information about the program when it launches, call the SC Stay Hotline at 833.985.2929 or visit SC Housing's SC Stay program hub and fill out a short form.

About SC Housing

SC Housing is a self-sustaining housing finance agency committed to ensuring that South Carolinians have the opportunity to live in safe, decent and affordable housing. Agency operations are supported by a funding base that includes fees and other revenue earned through the administration of agency programs. For more information, visit www.SCHousing.com.