

For Immediate Release

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Aurora Housing Authority Awarded Emergency Housing Vouchers

Aurora, CO – May 12, 2021 - The Housing Authority of the City of Aurora (AHA) received an allocation of 74 Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The tenant-based rental voucher is part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) of 2021 to provide housing relief from the undue hardships the Covid-19 pandemic has brought upon individuals and families.

"The Emergency Housing Vouchers will provide rental assistance to a vulnerable population greatly impacted by Covid-19 as well as others in danger of becoming homeless," said Craig A. Maraschky, Executive Director at AHA. "The streamlined approach is commended as the additional waivers will aid in expediting the lease up process."

EHVs are restricted to families and individuals who are: (1) homeless; (2) at risk of homelessness; (3) fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking; or (4) recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability. As the availability of EHVs will be managed through a direct referral process, AHA will work closely with its community partners to administer the vouchers to meet the guidelines set by HUD.

The ARP appropriated \$5 billion nationally for EHVs that includes administrative fees and other eligible expenses such as security and/or utility deposit assistance and owner recruitment and retention costs. A notable requirement for the specially issued vouchers is the addition of housing search assistance during the initial search process. The additional condition aims to improve the overall outcome of securing housing by supporting the families and individuals through the time sensitive process.

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