



homeforward

April 19, 2022

**Short Term Rent Assistance**



# What is STRA?

## Short-Term Rent Assistance Program

- Short-term and emergency rent assistance to end and prevent homelessness in Multnomah County
  - Eviction Prevention
  - Rapid Re-Housing
  - Crisis Motel Vouchers

# STRA Structure



# STRA Structure



# STRA System Targets

## STRA System Targets: Placement Type

- Eviction Prevention: 65% of funding
- Rapid Re-Housing: 25% of funding
- Emergency Motel Vouchers: 10% of funding

# STRA System Targets

## STRA System Targets: Family Composition

- Families with minor children: 70% of funds  
(expected to result in 55% of HH served)
  - 60% delivered through culturally specific services
- Individuals, unaccompanied youth, and families without minor children: 30% of funds
  - 40% delivered through culturally specific services

# STRA Eligible Activities

- ✓ Rent
- ✓ Security Deposits
- ✓ Rent arrears
- ✓ Motel vouchers
- ✓ Housing-related debt
- ✓ Mortgage assistance
- ✓ Application fees
- ✓ Move-in fees
- ✓ Limited non-leasing expenses (utility assistance, storage, moving costs, IDs)

# STRA Outcomes

Outcome measure for STRA is housing retention after the end of assistance

- System goal is 70% housing retention 12-months after the end of assistance
- STRA system 12-month housing retention outcome was 77% for last completed year



# STRA Outcomes

Housing retention outcomes require alignment of housing assistance with capacity for assessment, navigation, and range of supportive services.

STRA does not fund those services. STRA funding is aligned with existing capacity for those services.

# STRA Access

- Access to STRA varies by funded provider
- Need for assistance vastly greater than available resources:
  - Before pandemic, STRA providers could assist approximately 10% of those seeking assistance
- Difficult accessing STRA is a function of inadequate resources.
- Changing approach to access would change only who gets served not the number of families served

# STRA Demographics 2020-21

2a. Race/Ethnicity/Origin (PHB)	% (RTD)
African	4.10%
Asian	6.29%
Black/African American	26.98%
Latino/Hispanic	18.89%
Middle Eastern	1.38%
Native American/Alaska Native	8.74%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2.88%
Slavic	3.13%
White	27.59%
Declined to Answer	0.48%

# STRA and COVID Resources

- “Normal” scale of STRA housing assistance is between \$4 - \$5 million annually
- Federal, state and local COVID rent assistance added over \$50 million over last two years
- Adjustments to respond in short-term:
  - Centralized model for paying housing providers
  - Addition of Expanded Partner Network
  - Emergency assistance focus