

ERA Compliance Report - Cameron County, Texas- ERA 1 Quarter 3 2021

Report Period : Quarter 3 2021 (July-September)

Recipient Profile

Recipient Information

Recipient DUNS	010546679
Recipient DUNS (+4)	
Recipient TIN	746000420
Recipient Legal Entity Name	Cameron County, Texas
Recipient Type	
Recipient Address	1100 E. Monroe St.
Recipient Address 2	
Recipient Address 3	
Recipient City	Brownsville
Recipient State/Territory	TX
Recipient Zip5	78523-3846
Recipient Zip+4	
Country Name	

Recipient Information

Discrepancies Explanation	
Is the Recipient Registered in SAM.Gov?	Yes

Projects

Project Overview

Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN)	ERA0421
CFDA #	21.023
Award Date	1/27/2021
Grant Funds Received	\$12,786,338.20
Recipient Project ID	ERA-210111971
Name of the ERA Project	Cameron County, Texas ERA Project
ERA Project Website URL	https://cdcb.org/rental-assistance
Geographic Service Area	County-Wide
System for Prioritizing Assistance Narrative	https://cdcb.org/rental-assistance
Project Description	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our performance goal is to spend the funds and provide as much assistance as possible. We estimated that from October 1 through next September, the program has to dispense \$1.0 million per month to fully utilize ERA1 funds. This program started slow, but now the word is getting out. 2. Late January 2021, receipt of funds, February 2021, contract with service provider, March 2021, commence provision of services 3. Cameron County is partnering with the Community Development Corporation of Brownsville, also called "Come Dream, Come Build" because they have region-wide outreach already managing existing rental assistance programs. They have software and websites that were developed and ready to utilize in a short timeline. They have professionals to manage the program and the experience in managing governmental housing grant programs. Every city hall is a drop-off point or a point in which printed applications are received. We have informed church organizations and other social entities about the program. 4. The County, through CDCB has paid for radio, television, and print media advertising of the program, its benefits, and outreach contact information. We have printed brochures and handed them out at church events, food pantries, and other social occasions. We have reached out to the Apartment Association to attract the cooperation of large landlords. We have reached out to utility providers to get them registered as payees. 5. Cameron County has Colonia Self-help programs where new housing in rural communities replaces older dilapidated homes. Our Cameron County Housing Finance Corporation is actively looking to develop affordable multi-family housing and we are designing a mortgage down payment assistance program. We write grants and implement programs that provide improved water delivery to communities and new access to sewer services, replacing septic systems. 6. We just concluded a smaller program offering Mortgage Assistance payments that included groceries and utilities as well as mortgage payments. 7. We have informed all of the County's Justices of the Peace to avoid evictions as a result of non-payment and

	direct landlords and renters to the Rental Assistance Program so that everybody can get paid and the renters can stay in their homes.
Use of Fact Based Proxies for Determining Eligibility	No
Explanation for Use of Fact Based Proxies for Determining Eligibility	

Expenditures

Demographics

ERA Applicants

Number of unique households that completed and submitted an application for ERA assistance:	631
Number of Unique Households that Received ERA Assistance (#):	374
Number of Unique Households that Received their Initial ERA Assistance in the Current Reporting Period:	120

ERA Assistance Provided

Number of unique households that received ERA assistance by type: Rent	362
Number of unique households that received ERA assistance by type: Rental Arrears	128
Number of unique households that received ERA assistance by type: Utilities/Home Energy Bills	123
Number of unique households that received ERA assistance by type: Utilities/Home Energy Arrears	0
Number of unique households that received ERA assistance by type: Other expenses related to housing	0
Number of unique households that received ERA assistance by type: Housing stability services	0

Participant Households at Certain Income Levels

Number of unique households at certain income levels: Less than 30% of Area Median Income	159
Number of unique households at certain income levels: Between 30 and 50% of Area Median Income	141
Number of unique households at certain income levels: Between 50 and 80% of Area Median Income	62
Total number of recipient households whose income eligibility was determined based on their eligibility for other federal benefit programs: Households Eligible- Prior Enrollment	1,086
Total number of recipient households whose income eligibility was determined using a fact-based proxy:	0
Total amount of ERA award paid to or for participant households:	\$1,230,528
Average Number of Months of Rent or Utility/Home Energy Payments Covered for Each Participant Household:	3

Award Activity Amounts Approved (Obligated) and Amounts Paid (Expended) During the Quarter

Total Dollar Amount of ERA Award Funds Approved (Obligated) to or for Participant Households	\$75,482
Total Dollar Amount of ERA funds Paid (Expended) for Administrative Expenses	\$120,801
Total Dollar Amount of ERA Award Funds Approved (Obligated) for Administrative Expenses	\$7,548
Total Dollar Amount of ERA Award Funds Paid (Expended) for Housing Stability Services	\$0
Total Dollar Amount of ERA Award Funds Approved (Obligated) for Housing Stability Services	\$0

Performance & Financial Report

Performance Narrative	<p>We are utilizing the Community Development Corporation of Brownsville to administer this program. We are looking to use a second organization to increase our outreach. The CDCB has a well-designed software and website to administer this program. They are well versed in housing programs. We are working with apartment owners to get out the message. We just need more people to apply. We have engaged in TV advertising, social media, radio spots and print media. We are now searching out large unit land lords. We have plenty of capacity, we are just searching out potential clients who need help.</p>
Narrative on Effective Practices	<p>We have a multi-agency approach. We are using a Thrid-party non-profit to run the program. They had already been performing similar rental assistance program for the City of Brownsville. Our program was very similar. They had software and a website to manage the online applications. We also used manual applications and placed them in every city located in the county. The county recently engaged the services of the Cameron County Housing Authority as a second processing agency. The program did not get a slow start as a result of our actions. Within the first weeks of the program, television ads were purchased, radio spots and neighborhood canvassing was employed. We are starting to gain momentum in the program. Our fear is that once this program get rolling, our funds will be reduced and we will run out of money. We know that there is plenty of need in the Rio Grande Valley, there just seems a reluctance of the smaller landlords to participate. We feel that we have a solid program and we think that we are gaining increased momentum.</p>

Federal Financial Reporting

Current Quarter Obligations	\$83,030.52
Current Quarter Expenditures	\$1,351,329.53
Cumulative Obligations to Date	\$115,706.07
Cumulative Expenditures to Date	\$2,344,895.66

Certification

Name	MARK YATES
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Submission Date	10/16/2021 3:59 PM