



COVID Rent Assistance

Cross-jurisdictional Partnership
in Multnomah County

June 4, 2021

Cross-Jurisdictional Approach



**Portland
Housing Bureau**

- One shared approach across partners
- Braided funds adhering to funding & programmatic requirements
- Agreed on shared values and principles
- Broke out funding into phases for deployment

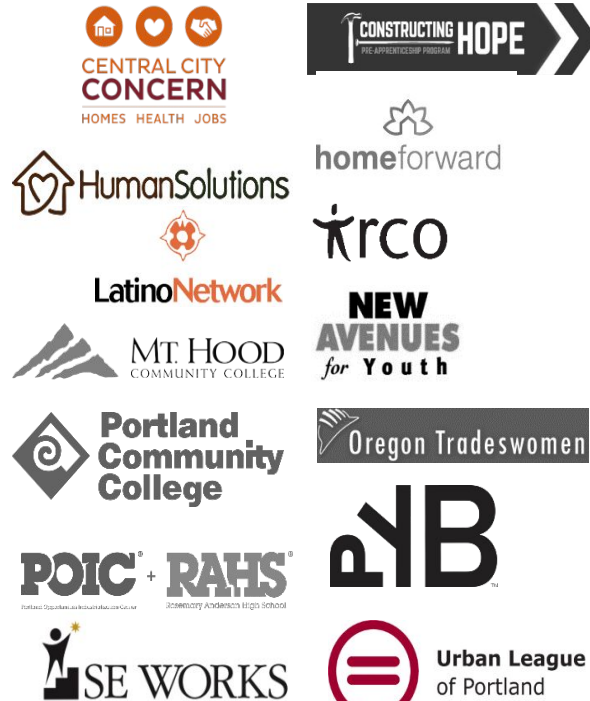
A Community-Based Approach:

Leverage Existing System and Expand Capacity in Culturally Specific Communities

Short Term Rent Assistance Network



Worksystems Inc. Network



Expanded Partner Network



County Programs



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
Maternal, Child & Family Health Services



Lessons Learned in First Phase

Strengths & Successes

Centering equity and renters

Community-based partners as lead

Single application across funds

Program flexibility based on household needs

Low-barrier program rules

Jurisdictional coordination

Challenges

Deep strain on non-profits & programs:

- Too short timeline to implement
- Pressure to spend quickly
- Lack of adequate staff to deliver assistance
- Administrative burden
- Changing programmatic expectations

Stress and trauma of the pandemic in communities of color

Public access was challenging

Future Approach

- Continue with community-based approach: utilize current agency networks
- Continue to prioritize BIPOC communities
- Shift to hybrid administrative model
 - Centralize landlord payments with Home Forward and County DCHS
 - Centralize data entry for all providers at County DCHS
 - Nonprofit partners complete intake and rent assistance paperwork
- Maintain and strengthen community access through 211info
- Continue to prioritize eviction prevention
- Implement new electronic application system (Allita) alongside community-based approach



Questions?