

Housing Rehabilitation Workshop

Housing Acceleration Program – Technical Assistance December 13, 2023

Agenda



Overview of Housing Rehabilitation Programs

Local Spotlight: County of San Diego

Discussion and Wrap Up





Overview of Housing Rehabilitation Programs

What is a Housing Rehabilitation Program?

- Provides funding to homeowners for repairs that bring properties up to code and maintain a safe and healthy living environment.
- Primary focus is preservation of single-family housing stock.
- Can be tailored to meet a community's unique needs.

Residential Rehabilitation Program Guide

How is the program funded? What activities can the program support? What is the financing mechanism? Who is eligible?



INTRODUCTION

Residential repair is one of the most common community development programs administered nation-wide. The goal of these programs is to allow homeowners who might not otherwise be able to afford necessary repairs to bring properties up to code and maintain a safe and healthy living environment. Many lower-income homeowners rely on this assistance to complete emergency maintenance and address the structural repairs needed for their homes so they can continue to live in their homes.

Residential repair programs can be tailored to meet a community's unique needs. Residential repair programs in the San Diego region provide a range of zero-interest, deferred, or low-interest below-market rate loans to homeowners to fix up their properties. Some jurisdictions also offer grants for low-income owner-occupants of mobile or manufactured homes. Table 1 highlights examples of programs in the San Diego region.

This guide is intended to provide best practices and outline pertinent planning considerations for a local agency intending to implement a residential repair program. It also provides an outline of the general stages and steps for developing a local home repair program, describes potential affiliate partners, and offers tools and resources.

Contact the SANDAG Housing Acceleration Program Technical Assistance Team:

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PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

When setting up a home repair program, there are several factors to consider that can influence the structure and success of the program.

- How is the program funded?
- What activities can the program support?
- 3 What is the financing
- 4 Who is eligible?



Federal

Community
Development Block
Grant
(CDBG)

HOME Investments
Partnership Program
(HOME)

CalHome

Federal

Community
Development Block
Grant
(CDBG)

HOME Investments
Partnership Program
(HOME)

CalHome

Community
Development Block
Grant
(CDBG)

HOME Investments
Partnership Program
(HOME)



CalHome

Community
Development Block
Grant
(CDBG)

HOME Investments
Partnership Program
(HOME)

CalHome

State

	CDBG	HOME	CalHOME	PLHA
Eligible Borrowers	• Up to 80% AMI	• Up to 80% AMI	• Up to 80% AMI	 Eligible to borrowers up to 120% AMI, or 150% in high-cost areas
Eligible Activities	 General programs aimed at rehabilitation Energy efficiency programs Handicapped accessibility programs Emergency repair programs Weatherization programs 	General programs aimed at rehabilitation	General programs aimed at rehabilitation	 ADUs are eligible Eligible repairs include accessibility modifications

2023 Income Limits – San Diego County

Income Category	Percent of Area Median Income (AMI)	Annual Income (1-person household)	Annual Income (3-person household)	Annual Income (4-person household)
				A.
Extremely Low- Income	30%	\$28,950	\$37,250	\$41,350
Very Low-Income	50%	\$48,250	\$62,050	\$68,900
Low Income	80%	\$77,200	\$99,250	\$110,250
Median Income	100%	\$81,750	\$105,100	\$116,800
Moderate Income	120%	\$98,100	\$126,150	\$140,150

Eligible Activities

- Home Preservation
- Weatherization







Eligible Activities

- Critical or Emergency Home Repair
- Aging in Place





Financing Mechanism

- Programs typically distribute funding through loans or grants, or both.
- Deferred Payment Loans and Non-Interest Bearing Loans
 - Deferred payment loans and non-interest bearing loans are low-cost loans to homeowners that enable the borrower to defer repayment with no or very-low interest, typically upon sale of the home.

Grants

Grants are awarded without need to repay.

Eligible Borrowers

Common Eligibility Criteria

- Owner-occupants
- Low to Moderate Income
- Have lived in the home for a specified period of time
- Can provide a clear title to the property
- Can provide home insurance coverage
- Current on any mortgage, utility, or property tax payments
- No other liens on the house

Typical Home Repair Process

Application

Applicant completes an application, and it is evaluated for eligibility/completeness.

Identify
Scope of
Work

Housing inspector visits the home, assesses needed repairs, and prepares a scope of work with a detailled cost estimate.

Find a Contractor

Contractors are invited to bid on the job. Programs often require at least three bids.

Initiate Repairs

Contractor is selected. Work begins. Funding is typically held in escrow.

Completion

Project closeout procedures.

Application Process and Access

- Be clear about program guidelines.
- Streamline the application as much as possible and remove anything that is not required by funding source.

Do you own the above listed property ?	YES NO	
How long have you owned the property?	Years	
Are you a permanent full-time resident of this property?	YES NO	
Are the property taxes current on the above-listed property?	YES NO	
are all financial obligations current for which the property is collateral?	YES NO	
Are there any current or pending liens against the above-listed property?	YES NO	
Have you previously received Housing Rehabilitation Programfinancial assis	stance from the City?	YES N
If yes, please describe the assistance received and the date of receipt:		

Application Process and Access

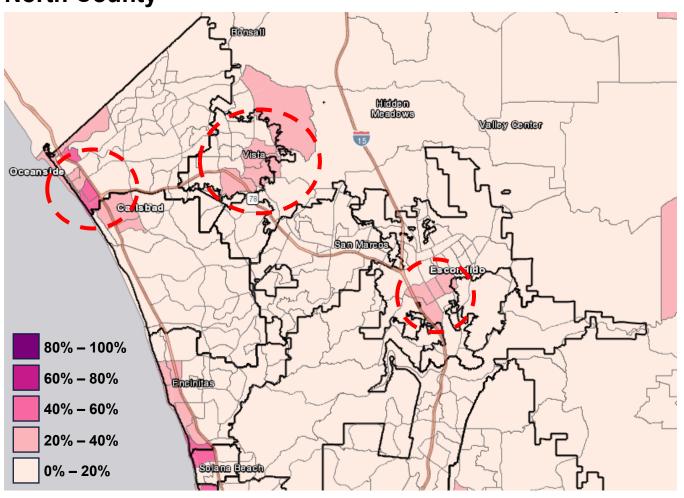
- Work to ensure equitable access
 - Offer one on one support to help prospective borrowers navigate the application process
 - If application is provided digitally, prepare in a way that requires basic digital skills
 - Provide translated materials
 - Provide referrals to applicants who are ineligible

				Housing F	Rehabilitation Progran
NSTRUCTIONS		PROGRAM APPLI	CATION - PAR	πı	
Il applicants must com	plete Part I o	of the application docume	ent (pages 5 -8).	If you are appl	ving for a program loan.
		e application document (p))g.o p g
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Address of Property	ion for all ow	mer(s)/occupant(s) of the	property listed of	ii uuc.	
Address of Property					
Phone Number (Day)		Phone Number (Day)		email address	5:
	APPLICAN	т		SPOUSE/CO-	APPLICANT
Name			Name		
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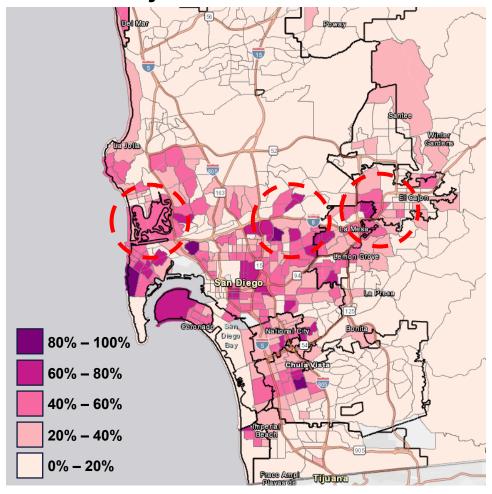
- Funding can be targeted to low- and moderate- income special needs populations.
 - Or geographically in relation to substandard housing conditions, age of housing structures, or environmental hazards.
- Use variety of sources to identify your community's needs including:
 - Census demographic data;
 - Local planning documents, such as the Consolidated Plan or Assessment of Fair Housing in the Housing Element;
 - Community advocacy organizations, such as the local Council on Aging, association for persons with mental illness, or Legal Aid; and
 - Service providers who have professional knowledge of service demands for special needs groups.

Percent of Units Built Prior to 1960

North County



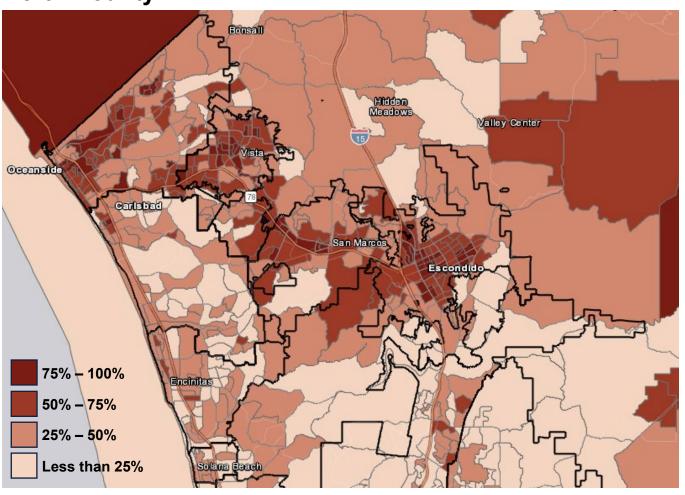
South County



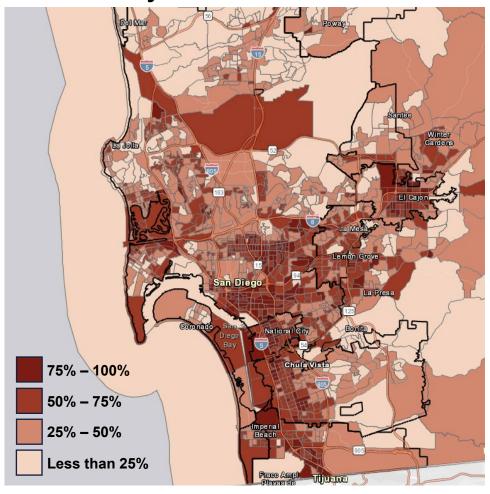
Source: American Community Survey (ACS), 2017 - 2021

Low and Moderate Income Households

North County

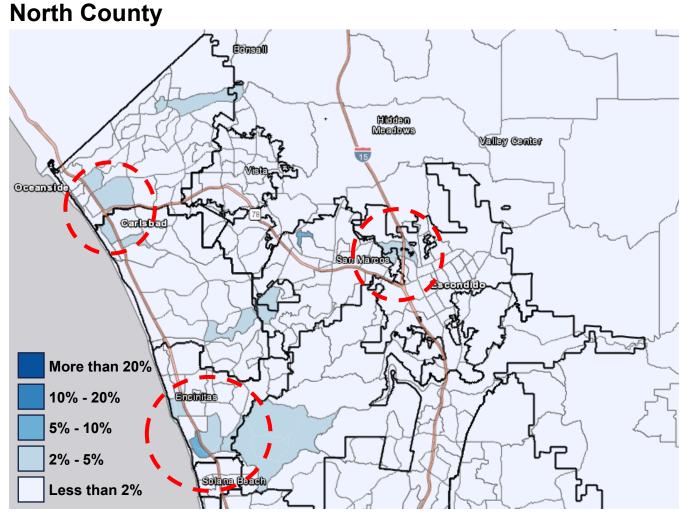


South County

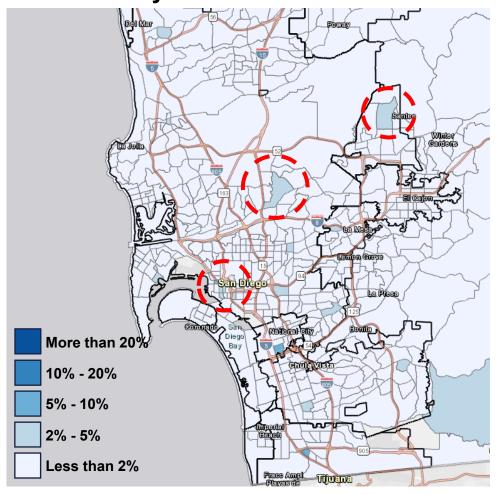


Source: American Community Survey (ACS), 2011 - 2015

Percent of Housing Units Lacking Complete Facilities



South County



Source: American Community Survey (ACS), 2017 - 2021

Steps to Designing a Program



Planning and Research

- Needs Assessment
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Budget Planning



Program Development

- Program Design
- Legal and Regulatory Compliance
- Funding Acquisition
- Build Relationships and Secure Partnerships



Program Launch

- Application Process
- Selection and Approval
- Site Visits and Work Plans



Administration

- Staffing and Training
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Evaluation



Implementation

- Outreach and Promotion
- Application Intake
- Communication

Other Energy Assistance and Weatherization Programs

California Wildfire Home Hardening Program

- **Direct financial assistance** to support home hardening work for socially vulnerable and low- and moderate- income homeowners.
 - Dulzure area homeowners in San Diego County (91917 ZIP Code) are one of the current pilot participants for this program.
- Wildfire Home Hardening includes retrofitting homes with ignition-resistant materials and creating defensible space around homes and communities.

Other Energy Assistance and Weatherization Programs

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

- Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) provides one-time financial assistance to help balance an eligible household's utility bill.
- LIHEAP Weatherization provides free energy efficiency upgrades to lowincome households.
- The Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) provides assistance to low-income households that are in a crisis situation. Such an example would be a household receiving a 24-48 hour disconnect notice or service termination by their utility company. Another example would be a household facing an energy-related crisis that could be deemed potentially life-threatening in the household, such as a combustible appliance.

Other Energy Assistance and Weatherization Programs

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)

- Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) Program offers no-cost energyefficiency home upgrades to income-qualified renters and homeowners.
- Golden State Rebates program enables qualifying customers to receive rebates toward the purchase of energy-efficient products high-efficiency water heaters, smart thermostats and room air conditioners.





Discussion and Questions

- What types of repairs are most common or most important in your community?
- What challenges, if any, are you experiencing in administering a rehabilitation program?
- What could a partnership with nonprofits and local organizations look like?
- Are there resources that can be shared?
- Any other questions or comments?

What's Next?

- Ongoing Local Staffing Assistance
- Regional Trainings
 - January 31, 2024 APR Webinar and Office Hours
 - March 2024 ADU Workshop

Connect with SANDAG's HAP-TA Team

Project website:

sandag.org/projects-and-programs/regional-initiatives/housing-and-land-use/housing-acceleration-program

- Local Staffing Assistance Requests
 Email: SANDAG_HAPTA@AscentEnvironmental.com
- **Contact SANDAG**

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