



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

October 5, 2020

Taylor Caswell
Director
Governor's Office of Emergency Relief and Recovery
100 North Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, N.H. 03301

Dear Director Caswell,

Pursuant to my authority under RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; and Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, and 2020-18 I have approved your written request, in attachment, to take the following actions related to the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds:

1. Authority to transfer \$1,800,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in support of the COVID-19 response efforts. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)
2. Authorize DHHS to accept and expend \$500,000 by amending its existing CARES Act rental assistance agreements with the following entities: Community Action Partnership of Strafford County; Southern NH Services, Inc.; Community Action Program, Belknap and Merrimack Counties, Inc.; Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc.; and Southwestern Community Services, Inc. (the CAPS) to increase the price limitation by \$500,000 and create a separate allocation for individuals with SUD who are referred to the CAPS rental assistance program by the Doorways program. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)
3. Authorize DHHS to accept and expend \$1,300,000 from the GOFERR to develop an application process through which recovery houses and SUD treatment providers will identify their capacity-related projects and apply to receive funding to complete those projects, through grants entered into between selected applicants and DHHS. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)

The Department of Administrative Services is authorized to take the actions necessary to effectuate this authorization.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

CC: Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services
Lori Shibinette, Commissioner, Department of Health and Human Services



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

October 1, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
State House
Concord, NH 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION UNDER RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; AND EXECUTIVE ORDER
2020-04 AS EXTENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14,
2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, AND 2020-18**

Dear Governor Sununu:

1. The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) requests authority to transfer \$1,800,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in support of the COVID-19 response efforts effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds for the transfer payment are available in 01-02-02-020210 – Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery, 19110000 – Office of the Director, as follows:

	<u>FY2021</u>
085-588595 – Inter-Agency Transfer of Federal Funds	\$1,800,000

2. Contingent upon approval of Action Item #1, authorize DHHS to accept and expend \$500,000 by amending its existing CARES Act rental assistance agreements with the following entities: Community Action Partnership of Strafford County; Southern NH Services, Inc.; Community Action Program, Belknap and Merrimack Counties, Inc.; Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc.; and Southwestern Community Services, Inc. (the CAPS) to increase the price limitation by \$500,000 and create a separate allocation for individuals with SUD who are referred to the CAPS rental assistance program by the Doorways program, effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.
3. Also contingent upon approval of Action Item #1, authorize DHHS to accept and expend \$1,300,000 from the GOFERR to develop an application process through which recovery houses and SUD treatment providers will identify their capacity-related projects and apply to receive funding to complete those projects, through grants entered into between selected applicants and DHHS, effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds will be budgeted as follows:

05-95-92-920510-19310000 BDAS GOFERR FUNDS		
<u>CLASS</u>	<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BUDGET REQUEST</u>
072 – GRANTS – FEDERAL	502646	\$1,300,000
102 - CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM SERVICES	500731	\$500,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,800,000
<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>		
00D – Transfer of Federal Funds	488502	\$1,800,000
	TOTAL FUNDS	\$1,800,000

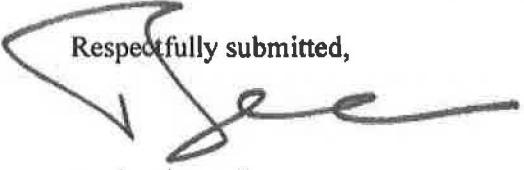
EXPLANATION

Recovery Housing Rental Assistance (Class 102) and Recovery Housing and SUD Treatment Provider Additional Capacity (Class 072) - Recovery housing facilities have been hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the New Hampshire Coalition of Recovery Residences (NHCORR), approximately 50% of residents in recovery houses have lost their income and fallen behind in rental payments. The NHCORR has received more than 180 requests for rent assistance totaling over \$90,000, and estimates that another \$500,000 in rental assistance is needed. Therefore, the Governor has allocated \$500,000 for rental assistance for those with SUD. New Hampshire Community Action Programs (CAPS) will administer the SUD-related rental assistance payments using their broader rental assistance infrastructure. To effectuate this, DHHS and the participating CAPS have amended their existing CARES Act rental assistance agreements under the NH Housing Relief Program to increase the price limitation by \$500,000 and create a separate allocation for individuals with SUD who are referred to the CAPS rental assistance program by the Doorways program. Through this mechanism, the CAPS will direct GOFERR-funded rental assistance payments to individuals with SUD that have had lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic and need help making their recovery housing rent payments.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the need to increase recovery housing and inpatient and outpatient SUD treatment provider capacity in this state. Specifically, as a result of COVID-19, New Hampshire has seen an increase in substance use that is likely related to the financial stress and social isolation caused by the pandemic. DHHS has determined that there is a statewide need for additional recovery housing and SUD treatment provider capacity to keep up with the increased demand. As a result, the Governor has allocated \$1.3 million to distribute to qualifying recovery houses and SUD treatment providers that apply for funds. Qualifying recovery houses and SUD treatment providers may use funds to increase or optimize their capacity based on pandemic-related need, such as increased demand, spacing/layout modification to ensure social distancing, or other capital improvements designed to assist New Hampshire's recovery houses and SUD treatment providers respond to the unique challenges presented by COVID-19. DHHS will develop an application process through which recovery houses and SUD treatment providers will identify their capacity-related projects and apply for funding. To ensure timely dispersal of funds, DHHS will employ a revolving or rolling application/approval process.

All CARES Act funds must be spent by the recipients before December 30, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell
Director, GOFERR