

Request to Use ARPA Funds to Help SAHA Residents with Rent Arrears

The San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) is the largest provider of affordable housing in San Antonio serving some of the most financially disadvantaged members of the community who are also among those who are experiencing the most severe hardships from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Below you can see the number of tenants in arrears and rent amounts owed in SAHA-owned and -managed properties as of September 2021 in the City of San Antonio, separated by council districts.

COUNCIL DISTRICT	TENANTS IN ARREARS	TOTAL AMOUNT IN ARREARS
D1 Mario Bravo	368	\$316,441
D2 Jalen McKee-Rodriguez	320	\$242,488
D3 Phyllis Viagran	73	\$63,782
D4 Adriana Rocha Garcia	136	\$128,404
D5 Teri Castillo	604	\$509,152
D6 Melissa Cabello Havrda	335	\$405,352
D7 Ana Sandoval	290	\$318,666
D8 Manny Pelaez	367	\$646,974
D9 John Courage	22	\$43,063
D10 Clayton Perry	244	\$496,895
Grand Total	2,759	\$3,171,217

SAHA is committed to not evicting residents for past-due rent, despite the expiration of the federal eviction moratorium. We know if these residents are evicted from their homes, not only could they become homeless, they would also become ineligible for

SAHA programs until they cleared their debt, per federal rules. Also, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rules prohibit public housing authorities from forgiving rent or debt.

While public housing authorities received funds from the CARES Act, they have not received any funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) outside of the Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs), which funded 284 housing assistance vouchers here in San Antonio through SAHA. It should be noted there are currently 55,000 residents on SAHA's waitlists needing rental assistance.

Taking into consideration the large impact the rent arrears has on both SAHA, the City of San Antonio and Bexar County, we kindly request you please consider using the ARPA funds the city has received to assist SAHA tenants in addressing these rent arrears. This will allow SAHA to keep the 2,759 San Antonio families in their homes without a negative impact on finances and services.