

Program Statement

MSHDA is pleased to announce that an independent energy-efficiency program will provide up to \$28,500,000 dollars statewide via the Michigan's Housing Opportunities Promoting Energy-Efficiency (MI-HOPE) Program which will be an extension of the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. This funding will be made available in conjunction with \$5 million dollars allocated directly to the City of Detroit and \$5 million dollars allocated to The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW).

MI-HOPE is a federally funded program utilizing United States Department of the Treasury American Rescue Plan (ARP) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). This funding will be made available statewide based on a formal subrecipient award structure to 501(c) nonprofit agencies and government entities with award determinations based on competitive funding rounds and subsequent obligation and expenditure performance.

This grant program is designed to encourage and facilitate energy-efficiency focused residential housing repairs and upgrades to owner occupied homes and non-owner-occupied single-family homes and multi-family properties, consisting of a maximum of three total units within both rural and urban areas. In conjunction with home repairs, the funding also allows for a portion of the award, up to ninety-five percent (95%), to be utilized for energy-oriented property repairs and administrative funding of up to five percent (5%).

MI-HOPE energy-efficiency improvement activities are defined as actions undertaken to incentivize energy efficiency and health improvements that promote health or safety for single-family and multi- family residential properties. Repairs are not to exceed \$25,000 in total assistance for either an owner-occupied home or non-owner-occupied unit. The program's intent is for regional distribution of the dollars. The program is structured to have both an individual short-term benefit and immediate impact on the household itself. The program is designed to facilitate a long-term community benefit that improves the existing housing stock and increases the area's home values.

MSHDA has implemented prioritization of funding in targeted areas and has reserved a percentage of the program funds for rural distribution. The program is based on a subrecipient structure that will facilitate the timely distribution, obligation, and expenditure of the allocated energy-efficiency funding in order to meet federal ARP deadlines. Subrecipient awards will consist of multi-year written agreements between MSHDA and the nonprofit 501(c) agency and/or government entity. The MI-HOPE program's intent is to direct at least thirty percent (30%) of the funding to rural communities with at least five percent (5%) being focused within the Upper Peninsula. The evaluation/awarding structure will identify rural agency applicants from urban agency applicants to ensure that each type of applicant is treated and evaluated separately.

Overall, the program's intent is to fund energy-efficiency activities that benefit area residents directly or indirectly. Funding award determinations will be made based on geographical regional distribution, area need, timing feasibility, organizational capacity, public and/or private partnerships, and identified leveraged resources. Respondents must be able to utilize funds strategically and mobilize quickly to meet the multi-year action response that is desired.