

## **CARES Act funding for tenant representation**

Jurisdiction	Amount of funding for legal rep	Which CARES pot	Granting governmental office, and message to them	How funding is being used, and connection to the right to counsel
Chicago	\$500k City, \$1 million County	<u>CRF</u> : \$500k <u>Other</u> : \$1 million	City of Chicago Department of Housing. LCBH had been talking about right to counsel to them even before the pandemic. Cook County funded because it's worried about eviction wave when moratorium lifts.	Both legal work and emergency rent assistance case management (since they also had CARES Act funding for emergency rental assistance). Because of strong state moratorium, pivoted from eviction defense to 1) negotiation with landlords; 2) lock-out affirmative litigation; and 3) eviction defense of cases wrongly filed in violation of moratorium's exceptions (such as "health and safety").
Delaware	\$250k committed, \$950k probable	<u>CRF</u> : \$100k; <u>CDBG</u> , \$150k committed, \$750k probable; <u>ESG</u> : \$200k probable	New Castle County: \$100k CRF and \$100k CDBG; <u>Sussex County</u> : \$50k CDBG <u>Delaware State Housing Authority</u> : \$750k CDBG (probable), \$200k ESG (probable). Already had very close working relationships / partnerships with all of these. Framed housing as health issue, and showed ROI for civil legal aid	Couldn't hire enough legal staff quickly enough (<5% representation prior to this, and 75% default rate), so using combination of apps, ADR, pro bono, paid private attorney involvement, law students, and some staffing up at the legal aid agencies. Stout is helping develop this "ecosystem", which can bridge to future RTC. Meet regularly with Chief Magistrate and Governor's Counsel to make sure they are on top of eviction crisis, court's caseload, and possibility of extending moratoria into 2021. Planning on op-ed to set stage for RTC legislation, and work with stakeholders through advisory council. Have identified legislative champions at city and state level to advance RTC legislation. Also have \$400k from a private foundation to help bridge to RTC.

Detroit	<ul> <li>\$549k to be spent in second half of 2020, \$86k to be spent in first half of 2021, \$2.8 million to be spent from 7/20 to 12/21</li> <li>Other CARES Act funding obtained for areas outside of Detroit.</li> </ul>	<u>CRF</u> : \$549k <u>ESG</u> : \$86k <u>CDBG/ESG</u> <u>combo</u> : \$2.9 million	<u>CRF</u> : Michigan State Housing Development Authority <u>CDBG/ESG</u> : City of Detroit City had planned tenant rep pilot prior to pandemic using other funding.	Staffing eviction dockets, meeting with clients, negotiating with LLS, processing eviction diversion applications and documentation, enforcing CDC moratorium. Regular eviction defense dwarfed by eviction diversion work. Lakeshore Legal Aid hoping to study outcomes achieved during this period of near full- representation with significant rental assistance and compare them to outcomes achieved over the next year with significant representation and some amount of rental assistance and years without representation. Hope is that comparison will help make the case for right to counsel in eviction cases.
Houston	\$2 million	CRF	Conversation had been happening between Judge Brown and a county commissioner about the eviction problem. County in turn challenged city to match county's \$1 million commitment, which it did.	Representation provided for all tenants in 3 Justice of the Peace courts ("universal rep" short of RTC) as part of a "right to counsel pilot".
Los Angeles	\$4.7 million for calendar year 2021	CDBG	LA City Council. Preceded by 2 years of advocacy by citywide coalition (legal services providers, tenant organizers, tenants, and academics)	Expand Los Angeles County-funded Stay Housed LA eviction defense program (www.stayhousedla.org). Not a RTC; it's expanded rep. There is also \$1.3 million for outreach/public awareness and \$1 million for emergency rental assistance administered by legal services. Planning to build from Stay Housed LA towards RTC, and contemplating whether to go back to zip code model vs. expanding percentage represented across city.
Pennsylvania	\$8 million for civil legal services (not specifically designated for tenant rep)	CRF	State General Assembly, which responded to arguments that legal aid is frontline response to COVID-19 and that evictions spread the virus.	Funding allocated based on plans submitted by 14 legal aid programs and their partners. Funding used for combination of necessary remedial measures for remote work and safe return to office, outreach/education, and civil legal representation. Funding had to be spent on expenses incurred between 3/1/20 and 11/30/20, but contract only received on 7/2/20.