COVID-19 Eviction Prevention and Basic Needs Response

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Health and Human Services Committee
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COVID-19 Eviction Prevention:
# Eviction Prevention Strategies and Eviction Moratorium

Eviction Prevention Strategies:

- ➢ Eviction Prevention Task Force
- ➢ Rental Assistance
- ➢ Court and Sheriff Partnership
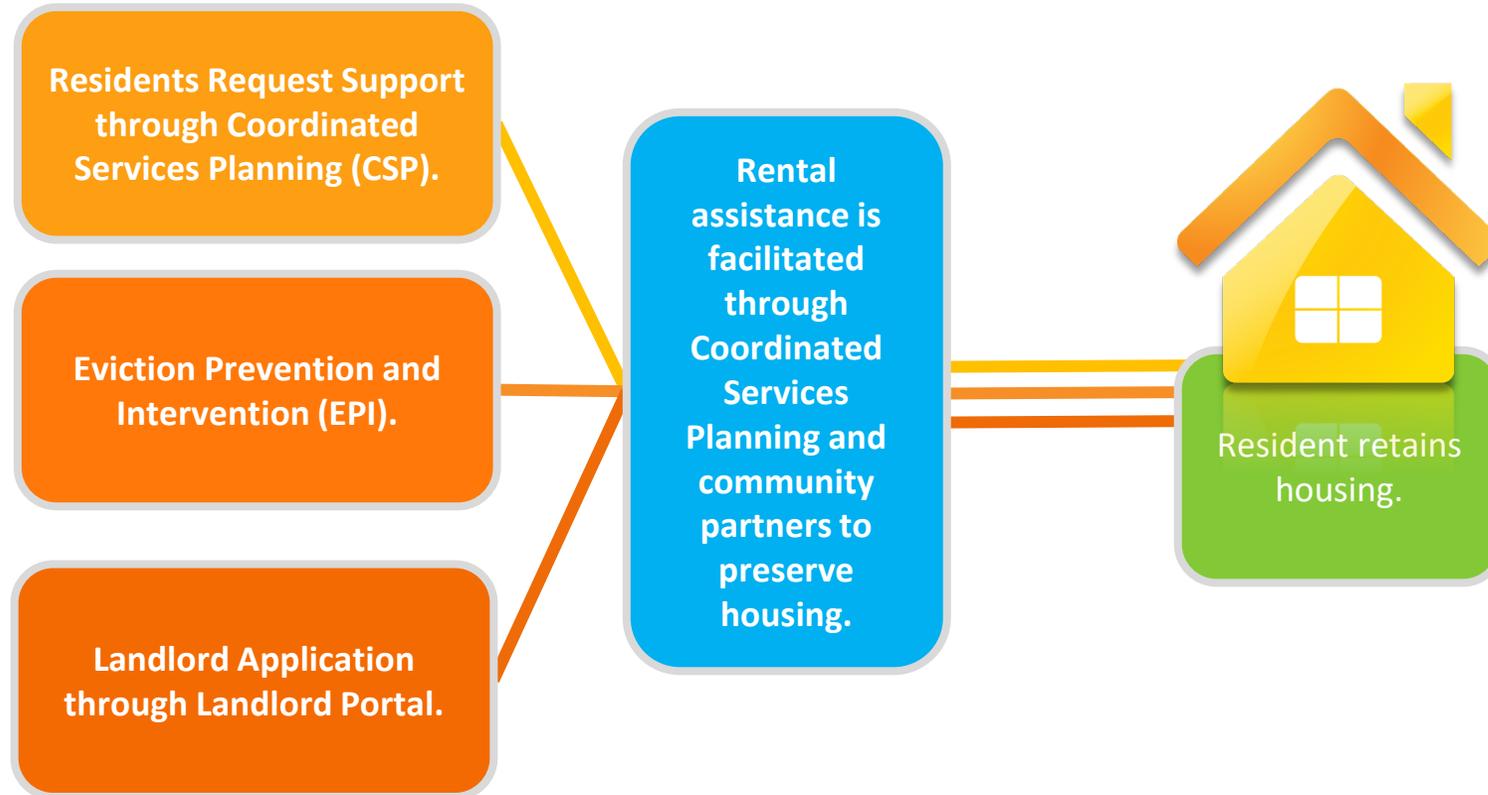- ➢ Landlord Outreach by Non-Profits
- ➢ Equity Considerations

Existing CDC Federal Moratorium will be ending July 31, 2021

- ➢ Existing infrastructure and preparations for the end of the Moratorium

2021 Eviction Data – Current as of June 14, 2021
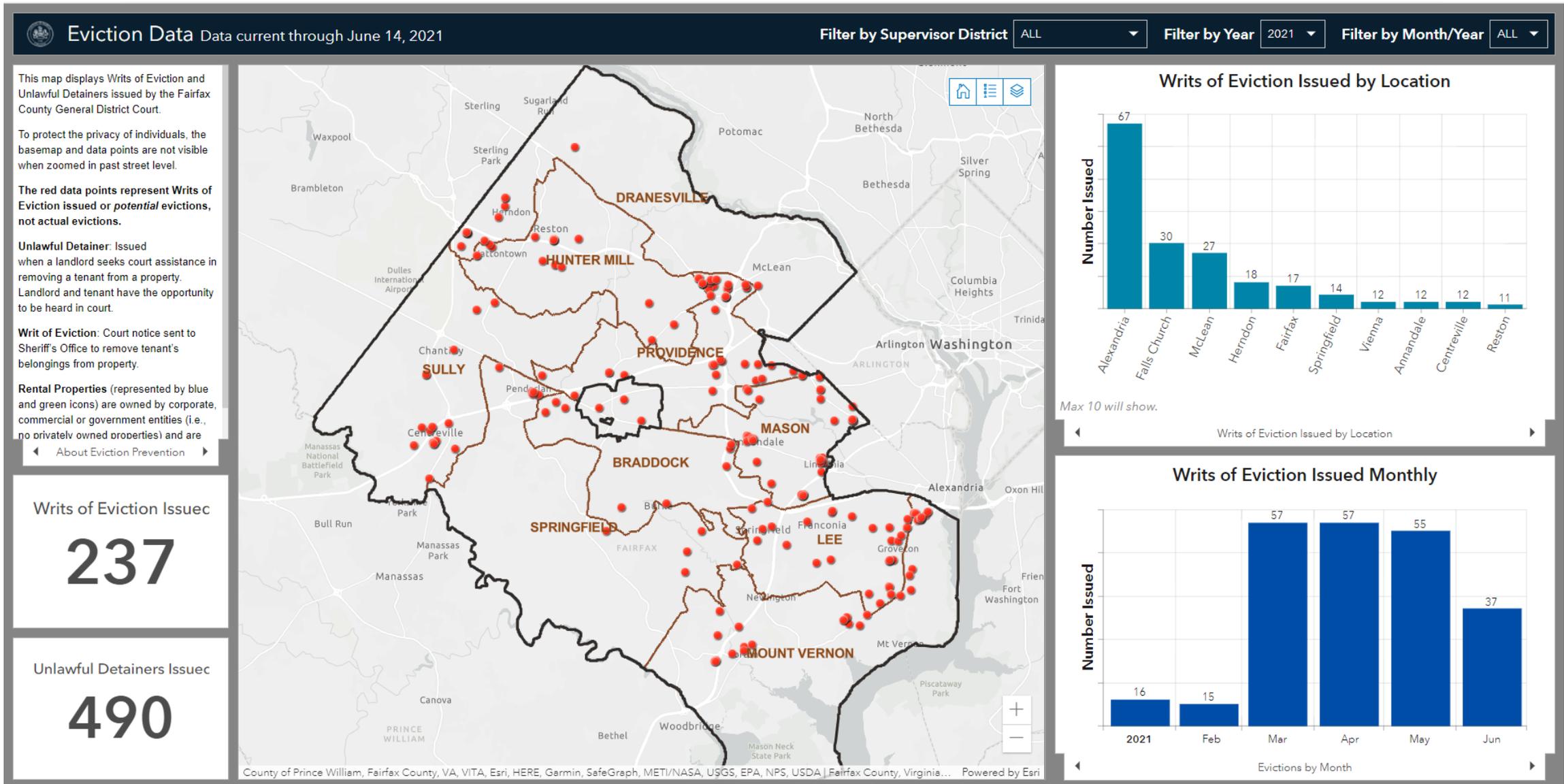
COVID-19 Basic Needs Response
Strategies to Support Residents and Landlords

Residents Request Support through Coordinated Services Planning (CSP).

Eviction Prevention and Intervention (EPI).

Landlord Application through Landlord Portal.

Rental assistance is facilitated through Coordinated Services Planning and community partners to preserve housing.

Resident retains housing.

COVID-19 Basic Needs Response:
CSP and Landlord Portal Overview

Unprecedented Demand through CSP

➢ Increased call volume

➢ Increased number of new residents seeking support for the first time

➢ More complex and challenging cases

Eviction Prevention and Intervention (EPI)

➢ Outreach to court-involved residents, $600,000 in prevention assistance

Landlord Portal Utilization

➢ 961 applications submitted through the portal

Eviction Prevention and Basic Needs Resources – Spending
(As of June 24, 2021)

Funding Source	Amounts Available for Basic Needs Assistance	Amount Disbursed to Residents to Date (6/24/21)	Purpose
CARES 1.0	$20,000,000	$19,743,732	Rent, Utility, Mortgage, Food and Other Basic Needs
CARES 2.0 Gap	$2,000,000	$307,127	Mortgage, 81-100% AMI, Rent and Utilities (Resident's ineligible for ERA)
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	$7,900,000	$6,976,703	Rent, Utilities
Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA I)	$34,463,869	$3,146,455	Rent, Utilities
Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA II)	$35,100,967	TBD	Rent, Utilities and Other
Other County and Community Resources	Varied Sources - Community Based Organizations funding outside of CARES or ERA – (CCFP, Private CBO funding, etc.)	$1,360,534	Rent, Utilities, Other Basic Needs
TOTAL		$31,534,551	

Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program Details
ERA 1 and ERA 2

The Emergency Rental Assistance program provides funding to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ERA 1 provides up to $25 billion under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and was enacted on December 27, 2020.

ERA 1 Allocation: $34,463,869

ERA 2 provides up to $21.55 billion under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and was enacted on March 11, 2021.

ERA 2 Allocation: $35,100,967

Eligibility Criteria:

Has experienced a reduction in household income incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship during or due, directly or indirectly, to COVID-19.

Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

Have a gross household income at or below 80% of the area median income.

Eligible households must have a rent that is at or below 150% Fair Market Rent.

Up to 15 months of assistance may be available.

Moving Forward:
Reducing Barriers to Accessing Basic Needs Supports

Effective Outreach Strategies

- Work with Trusted Community Based Organization and Houses of Worship Partners
- Multilingual Media and Public Information Campaigns
- Promote Outreach Materials
    - Eviction Prevention Website: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health-humanservices/eviction-prevention)
- County Agencies and Board Offices (Community Events, Vaccine Equity Clinics, etc.)

Continuous Process Improvement

- Working with Courts, Sheriffs, CBOs on ensuring efficient and effective case coordination
- Streamlining CSP and Landlord Portal processes

Emphasis on Improving Resident's Experience

- Options for Community Access Points
- If a resident feels more comfortable, they may call with their worker, a trusted friend or advocate, not on their behalf, due to consent
- Continue to develop a network of supports for residents to ensure their documentation is prepared before calling

Questions ?