

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 14, 2021

The Honorable Marcia Fudge  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7th St SW,  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Fudge,

We write to request information regarding the use of funds appropriated by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act (PL 116-136) to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the purpose of rental assistance.

Recent reports<sup>1</sup> demonstrate an alarming problem related to the length of time it has taken for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funding to reach the individuals and families for whom the funds were intended, and further issues with entities being able to distribute funds in a timely manner due to a lack of clear guidance from the Department.

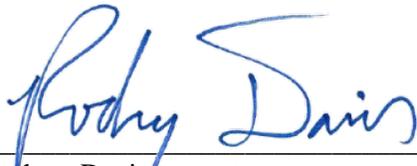
Given the slow state of economic recovery due to forced shutdowns over the course of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and a variety of factors that continue to contribute to high rates of unemployment, it is unacceptable that out of \$46.5 billion in additional funds, the Department has failed to issue clear and concise guidelines to the local governments and non-profit entities responsible for distributing these funds.

Therefore, we respectfully request further information regarding the following questions:

1. What guidance has the Department released to nonprofit and local entities directing how these funds should be allocated and released?
2. What is the Department doing to ensure that CDBG and ESG funds are reaching the individuals for which the programs were designed?
3. Regarding recent financial summaries of the HUD dollars appropriated via the CARES Act, approximately 10 percent of funds from the Community Planning and Development Office have been spent by people it was designed for. What is the Department doing to ensure that the remaining 90 percent of funds are properly allocated, and when does the Department anticipate 100 percent of funds being spent?

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



French Hill  
Member of Congress

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/05/24/my-back-is-against-wall-struggling-city-some-federal-rental-aid-has-proved-hard-spend/>