

Sam Page
County Executive

Saint Louis
COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES
HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Howard Hayes
Director of Human Services

Amy Ellis, Director
Office of Community Development

Increasing the HIP Limit to \$7,500. Effective September 1st, 2022

To better serve our Home Improvement clients, we will be raising the maximum expenditure ceiling to \$7,500 from \$5,000. Over the past few years, material and labor costs have increased tremendously, making it difficult to conduct the necessary repairs while adhering to the \$5,000 limit. Homeowners are facing hardships by having to supplement projects with their own funds, which is not the intent of the program. Furthermore, it has become increasingly difficult to spend the funds in a timely manner because of the delays associated with finding home repairs that fall below the \$5,000 threshold. As a result, we will be increasing the maximum allocation to \$7,500 effective 9/1/2022. I have listed some guidelines to follow as it relates to previous and current participants moving forward:

- If your original participation was for \$5,000, **you cannot reapply for the balance of \$2,500.**
- If **your original participation was for \$5000**, and the full amount wasn't spent, the owner **can re-apply for the balance up to \$5000**, not \$7,500. (Owner must have at least a \$500 balance left)
- If a client doesn't spend the full \$7,500, they may re-apply for the balance up to \$7,500 (applies only to cases initiated after September 1, 2022, using September or later income). Owner must have at least a \$500 balance left.
- All new loan agreements will be made up to \$7,500, but the **actual amount spent** will be used to calculate the payoff, if necessary (**same as before**).
- There will be **no refunds** for those who paid out of pocket for any repairs made prior to 9/1/2022.
- The 2 Office Specialists will monitor the dates income was recd. for potential clients. If the "**Income recd**". date on the file is marked July/August 2022, the client will get \$5,000. If the date is September 2022 or after, they will get \$7,500.
- Any "suspended" cases (prior to September 1st **where no funds were spent**) that choose to re-apply, will only be eligible for \$5000.

There may be more situations that occur after the change is made. We will be addressing them as needed. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter and thank you for your participation.

Sincerely-

John Sullivan
Home Improvement Supervisor

CC: Brian Dufrenne, CDBG Grant Manager

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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