HUD CDBG regulations authorizing use of CDBG funds for emergency shelter/housing and related payments

Emergency one time payments to a provider for up to three months are CDBG eligible as a public service income payment under 24 CFR 570.207(b)(4).

(4) *Income payments*. The general rule is that <u>CDBG funds</u> may not be used for <u>income</u> payments. For purposes of the CDBG program, "income payments" means a series of subsistence-type grant payments made to an individual or <u>family</u> for items such as food, clothing, housing (rent or mortgage), or utilities, but excludes emergency grant payments made over a period of up to three consecutive months to the provider of such items or services on behalf of an individual or <u>family</u>.

The above is confirmed in HUD's publication "Basically CDBG for Entitlements", which is posted on its website:

https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/19/basically-cdbg-training-guidebook-and-slides/

Section 7.1.2 of this publication reads as follows:

7.1.2 Ineligible Public Service Activities The provision of "income payments" is an ineligible CDBG activity if these payments are provided as a grant. Income payments are payments to an individual or family, which are used to provide basic services such as food, shelter (including payment for rent, mortgage, and/or utilities) or clothing. — However, such expenditures are eligible under the following conditions: The income payments do not exceed three consecutive months; and The payments are made directly to the provider of such services on behalf of an individual or family. — Income payments that are provided as a loan are permissible within the public services cap.

In addition, Section 7. 3.4 contains additional/alternative justification for use of the funds to provide shelter:

7.3.4 Urgent Needs \ It is possible for public service activities to qualify under this National Objective if the public service is designed to alleviate existing conditions that pose a serious and immediate threat the health or welfare of the community and following conditions are met: — The conditions are of recent origin or recently became urgent (generally within the past 18 months); — The grantee is unable to finance the activity on its own; and — Other sources of funding are not available.