

2022 Collaborative Emergency Rental Assistance Proposal

Purpose: The pandemic has exacerbated housing instability. Programs including the County and City Emergency Rental Assistance Program, increased public assistance benefits, and new funding opportunities to local agencies have helped to address this instability throughout the last two years. Unfortunately these opportunities have ended or will end in December 2022. There will continue to be an unmet need of community members facing eviction and homelessness.

According to the Pennsylvania Housing Alliance, there are five strategies that communities can adopt to prevent eviction. The first of these strategies to ensure community stability and make it possible for all families to fulfill their life aspirations through the foundation that stable housing provides is ongoing rental assistance.

We are seeking rental assistance funding that would allow community members facing eviction to remain in their homes through the winter months. This short-term approach will address an immediate need while housing organizations and local governments work together to expand programming and secure funding for longer term initiatives. This funding will keep families and individuals housed and prevent eviction during the cold weather. Private funding will allow a streamlined, collaborative, and low barrier process to processing applications and awarding funding to those in need.

Collaborating Agencies: Catherine McAuley Center

Project Description: All collaborating agencies will make referrals and advertise the availability of funds to their constituents and the community. Applications will be available online or to be completed in person and will be low barrier. Funding awards will be made to those facing eviction due to nonpayment of rent (defined as those with an eviction notice from a landlord or a court) and awards will be made directly to landlords that may include back rent and rent through April 2023.

Application Award Process:

- Applications collected electronically and in person at Agency A. Applications will be reviewed for completeness. Any applications that are missing information will be contacted for answers.
- Completed applications will be evaluated by Agency B and a funding decision made.
- If the funding decision is:
 - No: Agency B will call explaining this and offer other applicable resources
 - Yes: Agency C will call to confirm assistance pending landlord cooperation.

- For funding approvals, Agency C will follow up with the landlord to confirm participation, address and obtain completed W2. This information will go to Agency C to process a check.
- Agency C will process check upon receiving completed W2 and mail directly to landlord.
- Agency A will track awards and grant reporting.

Application:

Date: _____

Eviction Information

Are you facing eviction? _____

If yes, please explain why:

If you have received an eviction notice, who is the Magistrate? _____

Contact Information

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Phone #: _____

Household Composition

of Children (under age 18):

Are there other members of your household over age 18? Yes No

If Yes, please list their name: _____

Income

Monthly Income Amount: _____

Type of Income: _____

What will be your source of income for the next 6 months? _____

Income amount and type for other household members age 18 or

older: _____

Housing Information

Current Address: _____

Landlord Name: _____

Landlord Address: _____

Landlord Phone Number: _____

What is your monthly rent: _____

What do you owe in back rent? _____

After completing this application, please return it to Agency A:

By mail or in person to XXXX, Scranton PA

By email to XXEMAILADDRESS

You will be contacted to let you know if assistance is available. All rental assistance payments will be provided directly to your landlord. Assistance will be made on a first come, first serve basis and will be available until funds run out- which we anticipate to happen quickly. Questions? Call XXXX.