

NEWS RELEASE

Department of External Affairs

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FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Fulton County Will Launch COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program for Residents Outside Atlanta

Fulton County is preparing to launch a COVID-19 emergency rental and utility assistance program based on an \$18 million federal funding award through the U.S. Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

Eligible Fulton County renters outside the City of Atlanta who have been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic will be able to apply through an online application in March. Eligible expenses include rent, rental arrears, and utilities resulting from the pandemic.

“At this very moment, there families across Fulton County worrying about how they will keep a roof over their heads,” said Chairman Robb Pitts. “Our team has been working hard to get this program ramped up and get these funds into the community as quickly as possible.”

Residents must meet eligibility requirements established by the federal government including:

- Incomes up to 80% of area median income (AMI) who meet the following criteria are eligible to receive assistance.
- One or more individuals in the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or can attest in writing that they have experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic; and
- One or more individuals in the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability which may include a past due utility or rent notice or an eviction notice; or unsafe or unhealthy living conditions; or any other evidence of such risk.

Households affected by unemployment for 90 days or more, and households with incomes at or below the 50 percent of AMI, will be prioritized.

Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility companies. Additional details will be provided closer to the March 1 launch date. For more information go to

www.fultoncountyga.gov/renthelp

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