

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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Community Action Human Resources Agency (CAHRA) is receiving the funds as the designated Community Action Agency for Pinal County. The agency is receiving \$150,000 through a contract with Arizona Department of Housing, with whom the agency has other contracts. These funds will be able to help so many affected by furloughs or reduction in hours due to COVID-19, “according to Jon Thompson, CAHRA Board President.

Information on the ADOH website asks the renters to do “if they are concerned about paying their rent or facing eviction is to contact their on-site manager or lease agent by phone or email right away to let them know if you may need rental assistance or a payment plan for your next monthly rental payment. Early communication with residents and managers allows for more time to respond and explore all options.”

The participant is asked to respond to a preapplication found at <https://www.saveourhomeaz.gov/RA/>. They initially go on the site and answer the questions. If they meet the initial requirements they are told to call their specific community action agency and the contact information in their area. If a participants has trouble with the website they can call CAHRA for help signing up.

Arizona renter households who have suffered a substantial loss of income resulting from COVID-19, including job loss, reduction in compensated hours of work, or other loss of income related to COVID-19, and do not have financial resources to cover their rent may be eligible to receive assistance with rent due on a primary residence in Arizona. Eligibility is restricted to households with income levels at 100 percent of the area median income adjusted for household size and varies by county. Applicants will be responsible for paying 30% of the total current gross monthly income of the household for rent; households with rent payments that are at or below 30% of their total gross monthly income will not be eligible for assistance.

Documents that must be provided are identification (driver’s license or state issued identification card) , copy of lease, proof of income, documentation of financial impact related to COVID-19 (letter from employer regarding layoff or cut in hours, or documentation from doctor to quarantine resulting in loss of income).

Complete applications are reviewed on a first come, first served basis. Only fully completed applications that provide all required documentation will be reviewed for eligibility. Applicants who receive a notice of incomplete application with instructions on missing information must successfully provide all necessary information to move their application forward. Incomplete applications shall be on hold until all information is

received. Applicants who fail to provide all required information or are found ineligible based on the program's requirements will not receive assistance. Applications that could be considered eligible may not receive assistance if funding is no longer available based on demand.

If eligible the agency will notify the applicant and the landlord and will pay the landlord/property owner directly.

CAHRA has received 94 calls to the office and many through the ADOH portal. The portal has some glitches and many from Pinal are being directed to other Community Action Agencies. ADOH is repairing the issue. "If those that have registered through the portal and have not received a call from CAHRA within a week, please call the office at 520-466-1112," Thompson added.

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