

## Anne Arundel County

### EVICTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

The **Anne Arundel County Eviction Prevention Program** began in April 2020 in response to the **COVID-19 pandemic**. This Program provides **temporary financial assistance** to help with **rent and utility payments** for **tenants** whose household income has been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

The **Eviction Prevention Program** is funded with **\$4,598,000** from various sources of funds:

\$3,000,000 – **CARES Act Funds**

\$500,000 – **Video Lottery Terminal Funds**

\$500,000 – **County General Funds**

\$598,000 – **Community Development Block Grant Funds** awarded to the County through the CARES Act

Anne Arundel County is in the process of applying for an **additional \$1,200,000** from the **Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development** for Community Development Block Grant funds provided through the CARES Act for the Eviction Prevention Program.

The Eviction Prevention Program is managed and implemented by the County's community development agency, **Arundel Community Development Services, Inc. (ACDS)**. ACDS has partnered with three other organizations – **The Light House, Community Action Agency, and the Partnership for Children, Youth and Families** – to provide case management and financial assistance to all of the households needing assistance. As of September 11, 2020, the four organizations have received

- ❖ **1,470 calls** for assistance
- ❖ over **544 landlords** have received payments on behalf of eligible households
- ❖ **111 clients** are in the system working with case managers, and
- ❖ **60 clients** are waiting for assistance.

#### **Examples of Families Receiving Assistance**

Many households depend on tips and overtime to support the cost of their housing. We have seen many families whose household income has been drastically reduced due to lack of overtime hours and tips.

- ❖ A **single mother of three children** who works at a sub shop had her hours drastically reduced and could no longer keep up with her rent payments. The Program provided assistance with the past due rent payments. Her hours have since increased and she is able to stay current with the rent payments. Because the stress of being evicted was removed, she is better able to help her children with their schoolwork.

- ❖ A **single father of two children**, who pre-COVID worked 60 hours per week replacing windshields on an average of 45 vehicles per week, is now only averaging 25 vehicles per week. This is not only making it difficult for him to stay current on rent payments but it is also causing him to be depressed as he cannot afford to purchase birthday gifts for his children. The Program has provided rental assistance to the father of three, as well a case manager is working with him to access other programs for which he might be eligible and ensuring he is aware of the resources available for his mental health.
- ❖ A **father of three children supporting his wife and children** by working 60 to 70 hours per week as a contractor to make the monthly rent payments enabling him to earn an annual income of just over \$95,000. Once the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, his hours were drastically reduced cutting his annual income in half to less than \$45,000 and making it impossible for him to feed his family and pay rent. The Program provided him with rental assistance, which has enabled him to better care for his family.
- ❖ A **26-year old single mother** had her work hours reduced and was not aware that she was eligible to apply for unemployment due to her reduction in hours. A case manager worked to help her apply for unemployment. In addition, the Program provided assistance with the past due rent payments. The single mother is anticipating her work hours to increase in the near future and she is looking forward to stabilizing her income and housing so she and her son stay safe and healthy.