NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Post Office Box 797 Newport News, Virginia 23607

Information for Tenants

November 22, 2021

The U.S. Department of Treasury's ("Treasury") Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program makes funding available to assist households that are unable to pay rent or utilities. The funds were provided directly to states, U.S. territories, local governments, and (in case of the first program, ERA1) to Indian tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities, as applicable, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Grantees use the funds to assist eligible households through existing or newly created rental assistance programs.

In guidance and <u>FAQs</u>, Treasury advised that participants in HUD-assisted rental programs (including the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), Public Housing, or Project-Based Rental Assistance programs) are eligible for the ERA program and may receive assistance for the tenant-owed portion of rent or utilities that is not subsidized. In <u>FAQs</u> for PHAs and HCV landlords, PIH clarified that this assistance can include rent arrearages and utilities owed over the utility allowance. The <u>FAQs</u> include additional guidance on interim reexaminations, income calculations, and additional considerations for private landlords participating in the HCV program.

To learn more about how to apply for ERA go to: Virginia Rent Relief Program by visiting: https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/rmrp or calling 703-962-1884

You may contact 2-1-1 Virginia to determine the availability of any additional rent relief programs by visiting: <u>https://211virginia.org</u> or calling 211.

You may wish to contact your local legal aid program for free legal assistance to low-income people by visiting: <u>https://www.valegalaid.org/find-legal-help</u> or calling 1-866-LEGALAID (1-866-534-5243).

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible for temporary protection from eviction under the laws of your State, territory, locality, or tribal area, or under Federal law. Visit http://www.cfpb.gov/eviction or call a housing counselor at 800-569-4287 to learn more.

State and local ERA grantees can also be accessed from <u>Treasury's website</u> using the link <u>"Find rental</u> <u>assistance in your area."</u>

Leases may not be terminated due to nonpayment of rent until at least 30 days have passed after a tenant receives this notice.