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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE WARREN COUNTY EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WARREN COUNTY, OHIO – On February 16, 2021, the Warren County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) opted to move forward with the development of a locally controlled Emergency Rental Assistance program. As a local government with more than 200,000 residents, Warren County received a direct payment from the US Treasury of \$7,003,129.80 to use for any existing or newly created rental assistance programs. These funds come from the \$25 billion made available to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic through the Federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program.

The Warren County Emergency Rental Assistance Program will launch on April 5, 2021 and run through December 31, 2021 or until funds are depleted. Applicants are eligible to receive up to 15 months of rent and/or utility assistance either ongoing or for arrearages accrued after March 13, 2020. Those who require assistance for arrearages are eligible to receive up to 12 months, plus an additional three months for ongoing rent and/or utility payments.

Eligible households are those that meet specified criteria relative but not limited to financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, housing instability, unemployment, and household income. Applications will be prioritized based on households that include an individual who has been unemployed for 90 days prior to the application for assistance, households with a total income at or below 50% of the area median income, applicants who are in shelter status, and eligible applicants with rent and/or utility arrearages owed.

An application for rental and/or utility assistance may be submitted by either an eligible household or landlord on behalf of the renter. If a landlord is applying on behalf of the renter, Warren County Human Services will require that the renter also complete the application and submit any requested documents.

All applications will be submitted to Warren County Human Services and assigned a case manager. To apply visit https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/ERAP-WARRENCOUNTYOH/Participant or call Human Services at 513-695-1420. A link to the application portal can also be found on the main page at www.co.warren.oh.us.

For more details on the Warren County Emergency Rental Assistance Program, eligibility, verification documents, application status, or any other inquiry, email <a href="https://www.warren.com/warren

Interfaith Hospitality Network513-934-5250Metropolitan Housing513-695-3380Warren County Community Services513-695-2238

About the Warren County Board of County Commissioners

The Warren County Board of Commissioners is the legislative and executive body of county government. As the governing body, the Board is fiscally responsible for taxpayer dollars and for provision of services as required by state and federal law or mandated by the public. The Board works, through community partnership, to conscientiously protect and enhance the health, safety and quality of life of all Warren County residents, businesses and communities in a respectful, efficient and fiscally responsible way that addresses the needs today and invests in tomorrow.

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