

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 29, 2020

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## County Partners with United Way to Provide Rent and Mortgage Assistance

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**—On Monday, June 29, 2020, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro and Summit County Council passed legislation authorizing \$6.5 million in federal CARES Act, TANF and Title XX funds for Summit County CARES, a mortgage and rental assistance program coordinated between Summit County Department of Job and Family Services and United Way of Summit County. A community collaboration with the City of Akron, Community Action Akron Summit, Battered Women’s Shelter, Fair Housing Contact Service and Community Legal Aid, this program is designed to help keep Summit County families and residents housed in the wake of the historic economic recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Through no fault of their own, Summit County residents are experiencing unprecedented levels of unemployment, furloughs and pay cuts, leaving many vulnerable to evictions and foreclosures,” said Executive Shapiro. “The Summit County CARES program will provide desperately needed housing assistance to our community at a time when too many families are wondering how they will buy groceries, put gas in the car and make the rent or mortgage payment.”

The first application window will be open from July 6 through July 17. Summit County residents can apply online at [www.summitcountycares.org](http://www.summitcountycares.org). Individuals who are unable to complete the application online can call 2-1-1 and an agent will complete an application on their behalf. Eligible residents will receive up to four months of rent or mortgage payments, or up to \$5,000, with the first round of payments expected to be dispersed in late July or early August.

“United Way of Summit County is proud to partner with Summit County to offer a lifeline to county residents in need of rent and mortgage assistance,” said Jim Mullen, President and CEO of United Way of Summit County. “Our team is experienced in providing housing support to the community and we are ready to act quickly to get assistance to those most in need.”

To be eligible for the program, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- A resident of Summit County;
- Pay rent and have a lease agreement or a mortgage;
- Live in a household that was financially impacted by COVID-19;
- Have an unpaid rent or mortgage balance; AND
- Have countable income not in excess of 300% Federal Poverty Limit.

Individuals who indicate an eviction process has started against them will be fast tracked through the application process and will be connected to Fair Housing and Community Legal Aid as necessary. Following the initial application window, funding will be evaluated and applications may be open every month through November 2020 for a period of up to ten business days.

Monthly Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) Measure				
Household	100 % Monthly	200 % Monthly	300 % Monthly	300 % Annual
Size	FPG	FPG	FPG	FPG
1	1064	2127	3190	38280
2	1437	2874	4310	51720
3	1810	3620	5430	65160
4	2184	4367	6550	78600
5	2557	5114	7670	92040
6	2930	5860	8790	105480

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