Chester County Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program

April 16, 2021
Agenda

• Welcome & Introductions
• Overview of the Chester County Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program
• Questions and Answers
U.S. Department of the Treasury - Emergency Rental Assistance Program

- Created as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021
- U.S. Department of the Treasury administering the Emergency Rental Assistance Program
- Funding Allocated to Chester County:
  - $15,643,059 – funding from the US Treasury
  - $18,885,626 – funding from the US Treasury thru the PA Dept. of Human Services
Who is eligible for the Rent and Utility Assistance Program?

- Funding will serve individuals and families that are **obligated to pay rent** and meet the following three criteria:
  - Qualify for unemployment or have experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19.
  - Demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.
  - Have a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median (income limits are subject to change per guidance from the federal government).
What is eligible to be paid by the rent and utility assistance program?

- Rent
- Utilities
  - Electric
  - Gas
  - Sewer
  - Water
  - Fuel (Propane or Oil)
  - Trash

Rent and utilities can only pay over a 15 month period beginning in March 2020.
How to Access the Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program?

• Call Center
  – Staffed by PA 2-1-1 in partnership with the United Way of Chester County
  – Call 2-1-1
    • Press 2 for Homelessness and Housing Crisis
    • Press 2 for Chester County
    • Press 2 for Emergency Rental Assistance Program
Housing Providers – Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program

- Friends Association
- Housing Authority of Chester County
- Open Hearth Inc.
Additional Points – Chester County Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program

• New Federal Program
• Patience – Housing Providers working with numerous households
• Consistency and Free of Duplication
• Program only available for renters
• Homeowner Assistance Fund in the American Rescue Plan – to be released soon - PHFA
• Citizenship not a requirement
• On-going Outreach and Marketing across the County
Receive DCD and WDB Updates
chesco.org/ccddcd
Follow DCD on Facebook
Please direct any future questions regarding the Chester County Rent and Utility Assistance Program to:

E-mail: ccdcd@chesco.org
Phone: (610) 344-6900

Pat Bokovitz, Director
Chester County Department of Community Development
601 Westtown Road, Suite 365
P.O. Box 2747
West Chester, PA 19380