



City of Middletown

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Mayor Benjamin D. Florsheim, (860) 638-4801

EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE THROUGH UNITECT Up to \$15,000 available for rental assistance and up to \$1,500 for electric utility assistance

Middletown, CT – Emergency Rental Assistance is available through the UniteCT Program. The State of Connecticut, through the Department of Housing (DOH), has \$235 million in funding to provide rental and electricity payment assistance to people in need throughout Connecticut. The United States Department of Treasury allocated over \$25 billion to assist people struggling to pay rent and utility expenses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Connecticut received \$235 million of this funding, which will be directed toward qualifying individuals and households. Up to \$15,000 is available to individuals and households for rental payments, and up to \$1,500 is available to help cover the cost of electric utilities. The program aims to provide needed financial relief and is also intended to assist in stabilizing the rental housing market in Connecticut.

More information about the UniteCT program is available on the State of Connecticut website at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/UniteCT>. The site provides a link to the application portal, which provides guidance on the application process. Applications can be completed using a computer or smartphone. UniteCT is working with community partners who can assist people in need of support to access the internet or technology. The website also provides contact information for local UniteCT Resource Centers located throughout the state. These centers will provide assistance during the application process. Further assistance is also available by calling 1-844-UniteCT (1-844-864-8328). UniteCT Technology Partners are located throughout Connecticut and will provide access to computers and the internet to complete the application. Russell Library in Middletown is available to help people who need technology assistance during the online application. Please call Russell Library's Information Department at (860) 347-2528 to make an appointment.

Mayor Florsheim commented, "The UniteCT program will provide much needed support to both tenants and landlords, as everyone continues to recover from the devastating financial impact of the COVID-19. This funding is crucial as the State of Connecticut moratorium on evictions ends. It will help ensure that people can stay in their homes, and will also help to stabilize the rental economy throughout the state. People continue to struggle with the impact of the pandemic, and we want to make sure everyone is aware of the financial assistance that is available. Access to support during the application process is key to making sure the program runs as efficiently as possible and that the monies go to those most in need."

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