



COUNTY OF BERGEN

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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James J. Tedesco III

Bergen County Executive

June 7, 2021

Dear Bergen County Tenant,

We understand the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in unprecedented economic hardship for residents across Bergen County over the past year, including many tenants who have been unable to pay rent. To address this challenge, my administration is pleased to inform you of the Bergen County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), a new financial relief program that provides funding for up to 12 months of past due rent and gas and electric utilities – dating back to March 13, 2020 - for qualifying Bergen County residents. Once approved, ERAP rental payments are made directly to the landlord. Likewise, approved ERAP utility payments are made directly to the utility service provider on behalf of the tenant.

Tenants can apply via www.BergenCountyCares.org beginning June 14, 2021, and submit completed applications through July 23, 2021. Tenants should apply as soon as possible beginning June 14, 2021, as funding for ERAP benefits is limited and provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please visit the website www.BergenCountyCARES.org to learn more about the program and eligibility requirements. Please call us for assistance or more program information beginning on June 7th at our Call Center line 855-203-6952. The Call Center will be open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. until July 23, 2021.

Landlords can pre-register their profile and required documentation beginning June 7, 2021 via www.BergenCountyCares.org. Landlords are encouraged to register for ERAP to expedite the receipt of payment for any qualifying tenants approved for ERAP funds.

Bergen County is committed to supporting its residents who were challenged and are struggling to recover from the financial hardships caused by COVID-19 pandemic. ERAP represents a meaningful opportunity for tenants and landlords to accelerate that recovery – know that relief is on the way!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James J. Tedesco, III".

James J. Tedesco, III
County Executive