

Overview

Lift To Rise has convened and operated a regional Economic Protection Plan across the past 6 months. During this time, we have aggregated more than 13 million in regional resource and disbursed 1 million in emergency cash assistance to more than 4,000 households between March and June.

In June, Riverside County allocated \$33 million of federal funds for this program – \$30 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and \$3 million from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program – making it one of the most generous emergency rental assistance programs in the state in terms of funding per capita. Other organizations such as the Desert Healthcare District and the Regional Access Project Foundation have also contributed resources to support this effort.

The participation and leadership of organizations like the Regional Access Project and the Desert Healthcare District cannot be overstated. Generous support of our administration cost has allowed us to adapt and grow the program beyond any administrative obstacles. By providing flexible resources to augment this program, we have been able to make households whole and keep families housed.

United Lift Rental Assistance

The United Lift Rental Assistance Program is a coordinated effort between Riverside County, Inland SoCal United Way and Lift to Rise to keep 10,000 Riverside County families and residents housed between June and November by providing one-time support in direct rental assistance. Renters in the County of Riverside with a lease agreement that can document a COVID-19 related financial impact and are unable to make their rent payments are eligible to receive \$3,500 in rental assistance. The program is expected to run through December 2020.

Substantial eligibility modifications have widened the reach of our efforts in September. Expanded program eligibility and access includes:

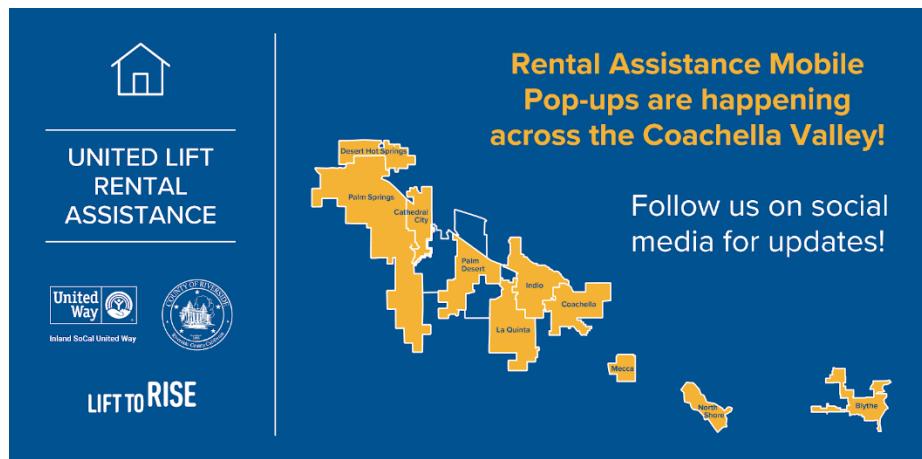
- Households DO NOT have to be past due on rent to be eligible.
- Households can qualify for rental assistance regardless of their income level.
- A one-time payment of \$3,500 in rental assistance.
- Applicants only need to demonstrate proof of COVID-19 impact.

All Riverside County renters who can document a financial impact related to COVID-19 are eligible for \$3,500 in rental assistance.

To date, we have disbursed more than 4 million in rental assistance to more than 1,100 households in our catchment. Together with the County of Riverside and the United Way of Inland SoCal, we continue to hold a goal of keeping as many families housed as possible.

Community Outreach

- Partnering with Coachella Valley Housing Coalition and Hope Through Housing to conduct on site application intake at rental properties across the Coachella Valley
- Rental Assistance Mobile Pop-Up Events across the Coachella Valley.
- More staff to support hard-to-reach, community-centered outreach.



For more information on United Lift, please visit www.unitedlift.org.

Key Learnings

This program has offered a window of opportunity to learn about the phenomenal sacrifices that residents are making to cope with their current and persistent housing situations. Aggregated data collected from the applications reveals that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe economic impact on households across the county and in our subregion. These findings will continue to inform our future work to increase the supply of safe and affordable housing for all residents across the Valley. Learn more about our plan to increase housing stability and expand economic opportunity at www.lifttorise.org.