

Small Landlord Emergency Grant Program Available To Property Owners

The Small Landlord Emergency Grant Program (SLEG), administered by the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA), has been implemented to provide emergency grant funding for small property owners to benefit both landlord and tenant during the public health emergency, Freeholder Deputy Director Susan J. Soloway reported at the August 18th Freeholder Meeting.

Freeholder Soloway, the Board's Human Services Department liaison, said, "This program is being funded by the CARES Act that was signed into law by President Donald Trump in March. It is in response to layoffs and business closings caused by the state economic shutdown order by the Governor. Many renters are unable to pay their rent and they have received federal and state relief from being evicted, but this can cause hardship for landlords."

Small rental property landlords are not receiving rent payments that are needed to pay mortgages, taxes and maintenance costs. This new program is available to owners with properties that have at least three, but no more than ten total housing units for the four-month period between April and July according to the NJHMFA.

Properties that are seasonal and vacation rentals do not qualify.

"This program can be helpful for some property owners, so I encourage those who may qualify to look into it," Soloway said.

Information is available on the County's Human Services webpage and registration for the program opened August 19th at 9 am and is available through August 26th at 1 pm.

Landlords participating in the program must pass the benefit onto their tenants by forgiving outstanding back rent and late fees for COVID-impacted units for the April-July 2020 period.

Visit the County's website <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/humanservices.htm> for the application checklist and how to apply.

Visit the NJHMFA website to apply: <https://njhousing.gov/rentals/sleg/>