

# CERA: COVID EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE

**Updates from Wayne Metro** 



# **Eviction Moratorium & Legal Supports**

The national CDC eviction moratorium is no longer in effect (lifted 8/26)

## Recommendations & reminders if facing an eviction:

- Help is available!
  - o Lakeshore Legal Aid: 866-783-8190
  - Michigan Legal Help: www.michiganlegalhelp.org
- Evictions take a legal process people cannot be evicted without an order from a judge
- Go to every court hearing, whether in person or virtual
- Apply for assistance through CERA
  - Courts are allowing extra time for CERA assistance to be delivered
  - Stay on eviction proceedings for CERA applicants

# **CERA Implementation**

Statewide emergency relief program for renters, launched March 15 2021

- \$560 million in assistance is available
  - Approx \$200 million allocated YTD
- 41 partner networks administering the funds
- More to come funding included in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

## **Wayne Metro Community Action Agency**

- Serve all of Wayne County
  - Out-Wayne Network (alongside ACCESS)
  - Detroit, Highland Park, and Hamtramck (alongside UCHC + THAW)
- Administering approx. \$100 million in emergency financial assistance
  - Allocated \$51.6 million for 6,500 households
  - 4,000 applications currently assigned to a team member

# The Benefits of CERA

#### **CERA Rental** Assistance

- Up to 13 to 15 months of rental assistance depending on income level
  - Includes back rent plus forward rent in three month installments (simple re-certification process for those who need add'l support after initial term)
  - Rent can be paid back to March 2020

## CERA **Utility** Assistance

- Up to \$1,500 to \$2,500 depending on household size
  - Includes back payments plus future credit

#### **CERA Internet** Assistance

\$300 stipend per household

CERA is for Tenants <u>and</u> Landlords

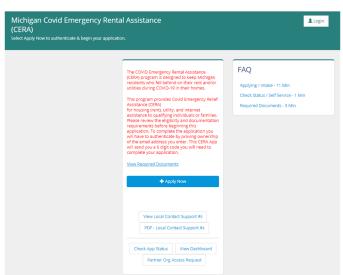
Avg. Payout \$7,925

# **How to Apply**

## **MSHDA Online Application**

www.ceraapp.michigan.gov





# For additional information or help completing the application:

#### **Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck**

866-313-2520 www.DetroitEvictionHelp.com www.waynemetro.org/cera

#### Out-Wayne (all other cities in Wayne Co.)

734-284-6999 (option 1) www.waynemetro.org/cera

#### **Oakland County**

888-441-1742 www.communityhousingnetwork.org

#### **Macomb County**

586-213-5757 www.macombhc.com

# Improving the Application Process

## Applicants can now **self-certify**

- Income
- COVID Hardship
- Housing instability

Wayne Metro's processing has tripled over the past month (650+ households assisted per week)

## Wayne Metro Enhancements

- Doubled staffing WM has 150+ staff directly supporting CERA
- Bulk processing for larger landlords
- Appointments available to help navigate the online application
  - Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck: 866-313-2520.
  - Out-Wayne: 734-284-6999

# To Get Started or To Get in Touch

### **MSHDA Online CERA Application**

www.ceraapp.michigan.gov

#### **Local CERA Resources**

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