

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** October 5, 2020

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## Rental Assistance Pop-Up Event in Hemet on Oct. 7

Qualified attendees will be conditionally approved on the spot for \$3,500 in rental assistance.

**Hemet, CA** — Residents struggling to pay rent as a result of the pandemic may find up to \$3,500 in assistance at a popup event on Wednesday (Oct. 7). Applications for the United Lift rental assistance program will be accepted at the Workforce Development Center in Hemet from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The United Lift rental assistance program is providing \$33 million to renters affected by COVID-19. Payments are made directly to landlords and there is no limit as to the number of payments a landlord may receive. Landlords are encouraged to help facilitate this program on behalf of tenants.

Residents living near Hemet, San Jacinto, Idyllwild, and Anza may be conditionally approved on the spot. Residents should bring the following documentation: a form of identification, lease agreement, proof of COVID impact or related loss of income, and landlord's contact information.

"We want to thank all of the staff, volunteers and partner organizations who are dedicating resources, working one-on-one-to assist our neighbors, and helping to spread the word about the available rental assistance," said Lisa Wright, president of Inland SoCal United Way.

Eligibility for the rental assistance program is limited to renters in Riverside County with a current lease agreement who can document a loss of income due to COVID-19 economic impacts, leaving them unable to make their rent.

There are no income limits for tenants, and landlords only need to provide a rental agreement and W-9 to participate. There is also no limit for landlords experiencing tough times.

For example, Wright said the program recently wrote a check for \$500,000 to a single landlord to help 140 families. She added "We are encouraging landlords to work directly with us, as we are able to help more families this way at once."

The county's Board of Supervisors is both the funding and operational partner in the program, Wright said. "The staff at the Housing, Homelessness Prevention, and Workforce Solutions Department have worked so hard to build this program. We are grateful that we are able to execute this program with their leadership and support."