

# Walker River Paiute Tribe

# EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

# **ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

Dear Members of the Walker River Paiute Tribe:

The Walker River Paiute Tribe launched an Emergency Rental Assistance Program ("ERAP") on April 15, 2021 to assist eligible Tribal members, both on and off the reservation, who were financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with rent and utility assistance. The ERAP Program was funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020. Funding for the ERAP Program was authorized by Congress through September 30, 2022.

# The Emergency Rental Assistance Program offered by the Walker River Paiute Tribe will be ending on September 30, 2022.

The Tribe will accept applications for Emergency Rental Assistance through September 9, 2022. Please be aware, Tribal members ages 18 and older wishing to apply for ERAP assistance must meet the eligibility requirements listed on the back of this announcement. Additionally, assistance can only be provided for rent and utility expenses incurred from March 13, 2020 to September 30, 2022. Assistance cannot be provided for expenses incurred after the program end date of September 30, 2022.

Additional program information and application information can be accessed by visiting the Tribe's website at <a href="https://www.wrpt.org">https://www.wrpt.org</a> and clicking on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program "Apply Now" link to submit an online application or downloading the form to submit a hard copy.

#### Application deadlines:

- Applications for ERAP assistance must be received on or before Friday, September 9, 2022.
- Complete applications with all required supporting documentation must be received before applications can be processed.
- Members should allow for up to 3 weeks to process applications and plan for payment of rent and utility payments until they receive formal approval of their application. Submission of an application *does not* guarantee approval.
- Applications and supporting documentation may be submitted online at the above URL, mailed to PO Box 220, Schurz, NV 89427 or delivered to the drop box located on the east side of the parking lot of the Administration Building.

## Eligibility Requirements

- Enrolled members, 18 years or older, of the Walker River Paiute Tribe (WRPT) who are obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling (only one application per household, regardless of the number of WRPT members residing in the household) and the Tribe determines that:
  - one or more individuals within the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due, directly, or indirectly, to the COVID-19 outbreak;
  - o one or more individuals within the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and
  - o the household has a household income at or below 80% of area median income
- Landlords, property managers or utility providers (on behalf of WRPT clients). If a landlord or utility provider submits on behalf of a tenant, the landlord or utility provider must notify the tenant and obtain the tenant's written consent.

## Income Qualifications:

Per the ERAP grant regulations, the household income cannot be greater than 80% of your area median income, using HUD guidelines. Area Median limits for your County/Area can be found at <a href="https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html">https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html</a>. Eligibility will be determined using the area median income for the where the member resides.

## Type of Rental Assistance Available:

- Eligible Tribal members may apply for a maximum of 12-months of rental assistance, which can include rents due in arrears if the past due rents can be shown to be due to COVID-19.
- Rent for future months is paid monthly and only certified for 3-months. Additional months can be applied for, if the maximum of 12 months has not been reached, upon submission of a new application and all required supporting documentation.
- If 12-months of arrears rent is requested, an additional 3 months may be approved for future rents if funding allows for rent stabilization.
- Rent in arrears cannot be requested prior to March 13, 2020.

# Type or Utility Assistance Available

- Eligible Tribal members can apply for assistance for normal household utilities (e.g., electric, gas, propane, trash, sewer).
- Utilities that are covered by the landlord within rent will be treated as rent.

Cable and Telephone are excluded from utility assistance.

The Tribe is pleased to have been able to offer this program to Tribal members both on and off the reservation during the pandemic.

Sincerely,

Amber Torres Chairman Walker River Paiute Tribe