



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RENTAL AND MORTGAGE PAYMENT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS IN SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY

No income limits at this time for Emergency Food and Shelter Program relief

COOK COUNTY, IL—(Sept. 21, 2009)—Residents living in suburban Cook County on the verge of foreclosure or eviction can receive mortgage and rental payment assistance through the CEDA/United Way: Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EF &SP). CEDA has some \$250,000 in funding still available to help homeowners and renters with one-time payments toward delinquent mortgages and past-due rent.

“We have money available to help people most in need from losing their homes,” said CEDA Housing Director Barbara Hyshaw. “We’re encouraging homeowners and renters to come to CEDA for assistance before it’s too late for them and their families.”

Homeowners and renters seeking assistance must be living and/or moving to a community in suburban Cook County. Hyshaw says Summit still has \$25,000 in mortgage and rental assistance available and Cicero has \$30,000 to help local residents. At this time, there are no income limits for the EF & SP, but applicants must be able to afford future payments.

For renters who qualify, CEDA will provide a one-time payment of up to \$1200. Renters must be the lease holder and homeless or near homeless to apply. For homeowners the maximum payment amount varies based on client eligibility. Homeowners must be listed on the mortgage statement.

Residents seeking to apply must provide the following **required** documentation:

- Must be willing to work with housing Counselor;
- Must complete CEDA Housing Intake and sign Housing Agreement;
- Must show “Proof of Delinquency” and “Reason beyond Control.” (i.e. car repair, eviction, loss and decrease in income, etc.);
- Must show 90 days “Proof of Income or POTENTIAL Income.” (i.e. unemployment check, social security income, proof of child support, letter from potential employer showing income)

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- Must have CURRENT lease (those applying for rental assistance), CURRENT mortgage statement (Homeowners in delinquency and foreclosure), and eviction notice (delinquent renters), applicants name must be listed on document;
- Applicant must have valid driver's license or photo identification
- All family members MUST provide copies of social security cards.

For more information, applicants can call (800) 571-CEDA (2332) or visit www.cedaorg.net.

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CEDA is one of the nation's largest non-profit organizations that serves more than 375,000 individuals annually and operates over 40 programs throughout Cook County in the areas of education, housing, economic development, family and children services, health and nutrition, and several others.

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