



CITY OF UTICA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
1 KENNEDY PLAZA
UTICA, NEW YORK 13502
PHONE: (315) 792-0100

ROBERT M. PALMIERI
MAYOR

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MAYOR PALMIERI ANNOUNCES PLAN TO SUPPORT RENT RELIEF

Mayor Palmieri today announced he has proposed a plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which would provide rent relief to Utica residents who have been impacted financially by COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

The Mayor has worked closely with his Department of Urban & Economic Development staff to develop the plan which utilizes the additional funding that was secured for the City through the CARES Act (including \$743,966 in Emergency Solutions Grant funds and \$1,510,166 in Community Development Block Grant funds).

The City's plan for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds was formally submitted to HUD earlier this week and the plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds will be submitted to HUD next week. Once HUD approves the plans, the City can begin the process of dispersing funds to residents.

Both plans can be found on the City's website, www.cityofutica.com. Any inquiries about the City's plans can be directed to Economic Development Commissioner Brian Thomas at bthomas@cityofutica.com.

In addition to Mayor Palmieri, utilizing this funding for rent relief was unanimously supported by the Utica Common Council.

Mayor Palmieri stated, "I am pleased to announce the City of Utica has crafted a plan that includes rent relief for residents who are experiencing financial hardship due to the Coronavirus. Our federal representatives did an outstanding job securing additional funds for our community and with HUD's anticipated approval of our plan, we will be able to provide direct assistance to those who need it most."

Utica Common Council Majority Leader Maria McNeil stated, "When we bring stability to Utica's families, we bring stability to Utica as a whole, and we ensure that our great potential remains intact. Rent relief will help renters struggling to pay bills, and it also helps local landlords who rely on rental income to feed their families. The only way we're going to get

through this is together, and I'd like to thank the Mayor, my colleagues on the Common Council and our state and federal partners for working together to help our City and its families.”

Utica Common Council Minority Leader Mark Williamson stated, “I commend the Administration, my colleagues and our federal representatives for securing rent relief for residents who most need it.”