U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000



OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

August 6, 2021

SUBJECT: CDC Eviction Moratorium through October 3, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

On August 3, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an Order placing an **eviction moratorium in place through October 3, 2021,** for areas that are experiencing substantial or high levels of community transmission levels of COVID-19. The updated Order is available here. The CDC tracker for levels of COVID-19 community transmission can be found here.

The Order continues to ban evictions for certain renters under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 264) and 42 CFR § 70.2. As described in the Order, residents qualifying as a "Covered Person" cannot be evicted for nonpayment of rent when a declaration under penalty of perjury is provided to their landlord.

The Order does not relieve the tenants' obligation to pay rent, and tenants must continue to comply with the terms of their lease. Nothing in the Order precludes the landlords from charging or collecting fees, penalties, or interest as a result of the tenants' inability to pay rent on a timely basis. Tenants can still be evicted for criminal acts or other lease violations.

The Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) is working hard to raise awareness about the availability of financial assistance to help with rent, as well as tools to prevent evictions more broadly. For example, ONAP has:

- Shared information on the Department of the Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program. For more information about the programs in your area, please visit the <u>website</u>.
- Hosted a webinar about the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and highlighted the
 use of CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funding to help families
 remain stably housed. The webinar highlighted four promising Tribal programs and
 practices from across the country. A recording of the webinar can be found here.
- Hosted a webinar in partnership with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau on the CDC Eviction Moratorium and eviction prevention resources, which can be viewed here.
- Developed a dedicated webpage that features eviction moratorium resources for tenants and Tribes, which can be found here.
- Extended the foreclosure-related eviction moratorium for properties backed by mortgage loans guaranteed under the Section 184 Indian Home Loan Guarantee and Section 184A Native Hawaiian Housing Loan Guarantee programs through September 30, 2021.

- Updated our Codetalk webpage, which includes information about the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and ONAP programs that can help prevent eviction and homelessness. More information can be found here.
- Notified Tribes of an inaugural eviction protection grant program that will fund \$20 million for eviction protection and diversion services for low-income tenants at risk of or subject to eviction. More information can be found here.
- Provided training and technical assistance to Tribes to support the expenditure of CARES-Act and ARP funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

Please be assured that ONAP will continue to work with you to support Native families during these unprecedented times. Please reach out to us and share any ideas or suggestions you may have. Together, we can work to stem the tide of evictions, prevent homelessness, and ensure families remain stably housed.

Sincerely,

Heidi J. Frechette

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Deputy Assistant Secretary

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