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## PRESS RELEASE

### CITY OF DOWNEY TO OFFER COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**Downey, CA, June 16, 2020:**

On **Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.**, the City of Downey will launch the **COVID-19 Emergency Residential Rental Assistance Program**. The purpose of the program is to provide emergency rental assistance grants to income-eligible households who were economically impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic through job loss, furlough or reduction in hours or pay.

These grants will serve as rental payments made on behalf of an income-eligible household in an amount determined by the State of California, for a maximum period of 1 month to maintain housing and/or to reduce rental payment delinquency as a result of the economic downturn during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rental payments will not be paid directly to households; rather, to the landlord or property management agent.

#### **Application and Grant Distribution Process:**

Emergency Rental Assistance grants will be awarded to qualified applicants on a “first come, first served” basis until funds run out.

Residents can apply for the program starting on **Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.** by calling **562-299-6706** to complete an intake form. Applications will only be accepted Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If a household is considered eligible, an application will then be sent by email, mail, or may be retrieved in person from Downey City Hall.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information on the City's Emergency Rental Assistance Program and to determine eligibility, please visit the City's website at [www.downeyca.org/rentassistance](http://www.downeyca.org/rentassistance).

Residents may also contact the City by phone at 562-299-6706 or by email at [rentassistance@downeyca.org](mailto:rentassistance@downeyca.org).

"We realize some of our residents are facing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and our goal with this program is to be able to provide some relief during these moments of distress," said Mayor Blanca Pacheco.

"Our City is committed to supporting our residents during this pandemic by seeking opportunities to help them in times of need," said Mayor Pro Tem Claudia M. Frometa. "This program is no less of an example of why we are here for our residents."

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