City to Close Applications for the Eviction Prevention Program — with over 32,000 applications processed and over $69.6 million in assistance provided.

"When COVID-19 infected my entire family, I had no choice but to ask for help. I was approved for the rental assistance program and they covered 100% of my missing rent. Thank you."
- Channell P., EVP recipient

Baltimore, MD (Monday, January 30, 2023)— The City of Baltimore's Eviction Prevention Program will be ending the current application period and closing its Eviction Prevention Program application portal to new applications on February 3, 2023. The Eviction Prevention Program will continue to process applications that have been submitted prior to this date in accordance with the Emergency Rental Assistance program (ERA) prioritization requirements as long as funding is available.

Housing instability impacted by COVID-19 created a huge demand for rental assistance for residents in the City of Baltimore with 1 in 3 residents becoming behind on rent by June of 2020. In December of 2020, the Eviction Prevention Program, which is administered by the Baltimore City Community Action Partnership (BCCAP) in the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS) was launched in partnership with the District Court of Maryland, the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office and Public Justice Center attorneys.

An extension of the Scott administration's eviction prevention strategy, the Eviction Prevention Program used its least restrictive funds first to quickly reach those facing immediate eviction. To date, BCCAP staff has answered over 1,000 calls per day and processed over 32,000 applications. The Eviction Prevention Program has provided over $69.6 million in assistance with over 12,000 payments made, having a direct impact on over 19,000 individuals in need.

"…a ROCA participant was at risk of being evicted today for being behind on rent. He was a victim of a shooting in December and has been unable to work. The team was able to process his assistance within 24 hours and he is no longer at risk of homelessness. ROCA is working to relocate him to a more affordable apartment so this isn't an issue in the future," said a ROCA staff member.

The City's Eviction Prevention Program represents the local administration of the federal Emergency Rental Assistance program, which provides assistance to households that have been impacted due to or during the COVID-19 pandemic and requires the prioritization of assistance for households that earn below 50% of the area median income, or one or more members of the household are unemployed and have been for 90 days or more.

Additionally, the City considers eviction status when assigning cases for processing. Applications submitted by February 3, 2023 will be prioritized according to household income, housing instability status, then in order of receipt. The City of Baltimore is working to expand partnerships to increase processing speed and capacity.

Demand for rental assistance is deep-rooted and the City will continue to acquire additional funding for this very important work by applying to the U.S. Department of the Treasury to request reallocated eviction prevention funds. We also will work to connect residents to additional resources from community organizations and programs that can provide rental assistance on a case by case basis.

Applicants can visit https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/ERAP-BALTIMOREMD to check their application status.

More information can be found online at www.bmorechildren.com

To access the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success' Eviction Prevention Data Dashboard, please visit https://mocfs-evp.shinyapps.io/EVP-Dashboard/