



COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION, INC.

Affordable Housing Services

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May 8, 2020

Dear Resident(s),

Your health and wellbeing are the Foundation's sense of purpose. That is what got us into affordable housing management in the first place. By closely monitoring developments of the COVID 19 virus, we put procedures in place for your safety while remaining open to serve.

Thank you for following our guidance, being patient and paying your rent. Your actions have contributed to Pinellas County starting its Phase 1 process to reopen from the COVID-19 quarantine. Next steps in the Foundation's process to provide general services in compliance with State and local guidance and regulations include the following:

1. CSF office remains open and staff are processing rental collections within guidelines of Fair Housing Laws. **May rental payments were due on the 1st**. If you missed this payment, please be reminded that CSF office staff will meet with you to make a repayment plan; otherwise when the eviction moratorium expires, CSF has no other option but to process your eviction.
2. CSF office visits are by appointment only and one leaseholder at a time (no one under the age of 18 years of age permitted during the crisis). To schedule an office meeting, call Mrs. Linda Wilcox, Community Housing Manager at 727-461-0618 ext. 2, or email at: linda@csfhome.org.
3. Until Florida COVID-19 Phase 2 begins, resident maintenance service requests will be supported solely for emergency situations such as water or gas leak, to ensure that the CSF maintenance team's contact with residents is limited. And, until Phase 2 begins, CSF laundry facilities will remain closed.
4. On **May 27, 2020**, the CSF maintenance team will distribute air filters and the bug spraying company will service your unit. Please call our office to reschedule the bug spraying and air filter distribution if you had a fever or contact with anyone with a fever within 14 days of May 27.

We realize that some residents have not been successful in applying for and receiving unemployment benefits due to circumstances beyond their control. If you need assistance, we urge you to contact the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity agencies listed below; this will enable you to pay your rent and remain in housing with the Foundation.

Pinellas Cares for Individuals and Families

Individuals, families and small businesses hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for emergency financial assistance through the County with the new Pinellas CARES fund. Pinellas CARES Financial Assistance supports eligible individuals and families who have lost their jobs or significant income due to COVID-19 with one-time assistance paying overdue rent, mortgage and utility bills. Payments will be disbursed directly to the utility, mortgage or other eligible agency to which the individual bills are due. Individuals can apply for one-time assistance by **contacting 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares: Text COVIDCARES to 898211**. Applicants will be asked to send proof of Pinellas residency, job loss and other information to qualify. This fund aims to help those in the greatest need, so income restrictions apply.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (even if you did not qualify before, you may qualify now)

Unemployment Benefits Assistance at FloridaJobs.org: The Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program provides unemployment benefits to those that may not otherwise be eligible under Florida's state Reemployment Assistance program, including independent contractors and individuals who are self-employed. Individuals who have been impacted by COVID-19 and believe they may be eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, can visit www.FloridaJobs.org and select "File a Claim" to apply and be considered for PUA.

As the process to reopen Florida begins, we will continue to monitor State and local guidance and regulations; adjust our operations further as needed and keep you informed of any additional changes we may make to protect you.

Take care,

Ed Thiebe

Executive Director