

Housing Insider

Issue 2021.4

"Communication leads to community."

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

As our country's economy struggles to recover from the effects of a now almost two-year pandemic in the U.S., we are doing what we can locally to ensure housing stability. Due to job losses, increased expenses, and other pandemic issues, numerous households have struggled to keep up on rents. In order to help clear rental debts, the City of Eureka Housing Authority has submitted applications to California's COVID-19 Rent Relief Program (ERAP) on behalf of our tenants.

However, in order for ERAP to complete a payment request, the tenant is responsible for completing their portion of documentation. You will need to provide: current income verification documents; proof of identity (birth certificate or current license/ID); a copy of your lease; and a list of unpaid rent charges (for which you are requesting payment).

If you have applied to ERAP independently (not initiated through the link provided by the Housing Authority), provide your case number to Stephanie (707.443.4583 x221) so she can prepare the information that ERAP requires from landlords. Be sure to check your spam and junk email folders as well as the Rent Relief app at least twice a week. The application may be cancelled if information is not received timely. If you have not received any messages or status updates after 21 days, call the hotline at 1.833.430.2122. Additionally, local community resource centers are available to help complete applications by appointment. Call 2-1-1 for help.

General Information

Lobby and Dumpster Hours: Open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 am – 3 pm at 735 West Everding Street, Eureka, CA 95503.

Business hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:00-5:30; Fridays alternating weeks with closed days and business hours until 4:30. Please call our main line during business hours at (707) 443-4583 if you need assistance.

We have a payment drop box by our front door for easy submission of any amounts payable.

Reminder About Bins for Garbage and Recycling

We appreciate how our tenants have been using the blue bins for recyclables and grey trash cans to dispose of rubbish and keep units and properties clean and tidy. However, just as important as putting your bins out is bringing them back in once they have been emptied. If left in the street, they block tenant and visitor parking spaces. Additionally, if left on the sidewalk, they present a barrier for people trying to pass. This is especially cumbersome for anyone in a wheelchair or with mobility issues. Please be kind to others and bring your bins in when empty. Thank you!

EHA Mission Statement: The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Eureka is to assist low-income families with safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities as they strive to achieve self-sufficiency and improve the quality of their lives. The Housing Authority is committed to operating in an efficient, ethical, and professional manner, and treating all clients with dignity and respect. The Housing Authority will create and maintain partnerships with its clients and appropriate community agencies in order to accomplish this mission.

Incident Reporting – When, How, Who?

The City of Eureka Housing Authority (CEHA) works closely with the Eureka Police Department (EPD) to ensure our neighborhoods are receiving adequate services and the protection our communities need. Recently, we discussed the question of when tenants should be calling the Housing Authority regarding neighborhood complaints and when it would be more appropriate to call EPD. Please review the following guidelines to help your household know who to contact when, and how to make that contact.

Report to EPD

EPD's Community Concern Reporting Form should be used to document and report known or suspected criminal activity, such as drug related criminal activity or theft, to the Police. Completed forms can be emailed to <u>bpowell@ci.eureka.ca.gov</u>, or dropped off or mailed to: Eureka Police Department, Attn: POP, 604 C Street, Eureka, CA 95501.

Report to CEHA

Whenever you notice something that would fall under a lease infraction, such as something that disturbs the peaceful enjoyment of your home, you can report that to the Housing Authority. Examples of this might be when a neighbor smokes at their unit or regularly has a dog off-leash and is not cleaning up pet waste. Though these aren't criminal activities, they do go against your lease, and if they present a pattern of noncompliance, may be cause for eviction. Complaints should be made by completing the Tenant Complaint/Concern Form and returning it to the CEHA office. You may also email Tykeshia Leschke, Community Liaison, at tykeshial@eurekahumboldtha.org or call 707.443.4583 x211 with any concerns.

Q&A

Q – Is the eviction moratorium over?

A – Yes, the CDC Eviction Moratorium, which prevented eviction for nonpayment of rent, ended September 30, 2021. However, you cannot be evicted if you've paid at least 25% of the rent you owe for the past year. Additionally, the Housing Authority has been working diligently to submit applications for Emergency Rental Assistance for any household with overdue rents. Please contact Stephanie with any questions about balances due.

Q – Are late fees still being charged?

A – The last month late fees were charged was March 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all late fees have been waived from April 2020 through December 2021. However, <u>beginning</u> January 2022, we will restart charging late fees, as stipulated in your lease. As a reminder, rents are due by the 5th of each month, or the next business day thereafter if the 5th falls on a weekend or holiday. Late fees will be charged thereafter if your rent has not been received as expected, and a notice of late fee will be sent to your mailing address. Sign up for the tenant portal at https://portal.eurekahumboldtha.org.

Volunteer opportunity: Are you a Public Housing tenant who is interested in serving on our Board of Commissioners? Please contact Heather at heatherh@eurekahumboldtha.org or 443.4583 x219 with any questions and to obtain an application for tenant commissioner.



Who to Contact

Call our main line at (707) 443-4583, then: Natalie for work ordersx218
Neil for paperwork, certification, rent /income calculation questionsx214
Stephanie for charges, account balance questions, and paymentsx221
Ty for questions, complaints, or concerns about the neighborhoodx211
Front desk for all other questions regarding Housing Authority servicesx210
Emergency Maintenance phone444-1424

In an emergency, please call 911 or the Eureka Police Department at (707) 441-4060



EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Problem Oriented Policing (POP)

COMMUNITY CONCERN REPORTING FORM



Use to report drug dealers, drug houses, drug related crimes, or other problems within your neighborhood.

PROBLEM ADDRESS: (Description of building or location if address is unknown)					Office use only POP Case #			
				Officer A	ssigned			
CHECK ONE OR MC	DRE OF THE BELOW	BOXES:	PERSONS INVOLV	/ED:				
				Name of suspect(s)(if known):				
□ Wanted Person			Description: Gender Race Est. Age					
Dealing in Stolen Property			Height	Height Weight Hair Eyes Facial Hair				
Transients Trespasser Prowler			Other descript	ion or frequently	worn clothing: _			
Trash/Garbag	ge/Weeds							
□ Other (Specify)			Weapon carrie	d by suspect? Ye	es No Type	•		
				sons involved: Ye				
Please provide the fo	ollowing information if k	nown:						
Property Owner'	s Name:				Phone:			
Landlord or Prop	erty Manager's Nan	ne:			Phone:			
	(Use additional sheets	of namer if necessar						
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CEHA TENANT COMPLAINT/CONCERN FORM

Date:		
Complaint/Concern Made By:		
Name:	Phone:	
Address:		
Complaint/Concern Against:		
Name:		
Address:		
Note any other parties involved:		
Name:		
Address:		
Date of incident:	Time:	AM/PM
Location of incident:		
Explanation of Complaint/Concern:		
I certify the foregoing statement is accurate and	true to the best of my know	ledge If the City of

I certify the foregoing statement is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. If the City of Eureka Housing Authority institutes legal proceedings against the tenant about whom I am complaining, I understand that I may be called as a witness at such proceedings.