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Mayor Joe Hogsett Unveils Details of Rental Assistance Program

Program aims to assist those hit hardest by pandemic

INDIANAPOLIS – This morning Mayor Joe Hogsett joined City-County Council President Vop Osili, Urban League President & CEO Tony Mason, Indianapolis Public Library CEO Jackie Nytes, and John Boner Neighborhood Centers CEO James Taylor to announce the details of the city's rental assistance program. The program will provide up to three months of rent, including back rent to April 1, to residents struggling to pay rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will begin on Monday, July 13.

"To whatever degree our way of life has endured, it is largely thanks to the oftentimes low-paid labor of men and women in our city," said Mayor Hogsett. "This rental assistance fund can help more residents stay afloat in an uncertain time. If the need for assistance proves greater than this initial estimate, then we intend to go back to the Council to request an additional appropriation. As long as this pandemic affects the lives of Indianapolis families, the City of Indianapolis will be doing all we can to relieve and repair the hurt."

Residents may apply by going to <u>indyrent.org</u>. Renters will need to provide income information from February 2020 and income/unemployment information since March 1, 2020. Landlords must agree to participate in order for renters to receive assistance. Several community organizations will be available to assist residents with language and technology barriers. The attached flyer contains a list of community organizations and information on how to apply.

"We stand ready to support this work at a crucial time for our city," said Urban League President & CEO Tony Mason. "Our network of community organizations will go far in ensuring that anyone eligible for this funding is aware and able to apply."

The program is funded by \$15 million of the nearly \$80 million CARES Act funding approved by the City-County Council on June 8. At that time, it was announced that Lilly Endowment Inc. would commit additional philanthropic support to the program.

"Rental assistance can make an enormous difference for those whose lives have been upended by COVID-19," said John Boner Neighborhood Centers CEO James Taylor. "Through extensive community partnerships, the benefits of the program will ripple across Indianapolis."

Marion County residents can request a free face covering at indy.gov/masks. Indianapolis residents impacted by COVID-19 should visit the City of Indianapolis resource guide, which can be viewed at www.indy.gov/covid. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource



Guide $\underline{\text{here}}$. Individuals who are unable to navigate the city's website can call 317-327-4MAC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative.

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