

20200321 2026

Dear Legislators,

I am writing you on behalf of my Employer and myself. I realize this is a difficult time, not only for renters but for those of us that house renters. I have worked for Harriet Hughes for over 4 years. Our housing is for low income folks. Some are challenged and some just need affordable housing.

With our situation we have people with extremely low incomes. One problem with that is, some will spend on other seemingly more important things like food. I'm not stating that food is not important, it obviously is. But, we do have a local food bank, and that is a blessing. However, some don't like to use the services so they will use their rent to purchase food that they can't necessarily afford.

Which brings up our problem. We will not receive our rent. We provide many benefits for our tenants to help them to be able to afford living, such as paying for all utilities. Our housing is a communal living style, so tenants have their own room, but share kitchen and bath. This helps to keep the cost of rent lower.

With that said, you can probably understand that if we don't receive rent, we will struggle a great deal. We house about 80 tenants, so if we have folks that stop paying, it will gouge our way of providing housing as it exists now.

Caring for our tenants and making sure they have a place to live and be safe is our highest priority.

I encourage you, as well as your fellow lawmakers, to make the right choice by choosing to compensate shelter providers directly for rental payment assistance during this crisis.

On behalf of my employer I thank you for taking this opportunity to read our plea.

Carla Rigor

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