

CHARLES COUNTY COVID-19 RELIEF COLLABORATIVE



United Way
of Charles County



MEDIA RELEASE

Charles County COVID-19 Relief Collaborative
(CCCRC)

August 24, 2020

The Charles County Department of Social Services, Community Support Systems, LifeStyles of Maryland, Salvation Army, Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, and United Way of Charles County have met and discussed strategies to work with our court system on the handling of eviction cases. Included in the discussion is developing a triage to lessen persons having to apply at multiple agencies to get the assistance that is needed.

Community partners have banded together to discuss and implement strategies on how to address the pending rental evictions and utility disconnections that may result when the moratorium is lifted in Maryland. It is estimated that approximately 100 households per week in Charles County may be evicted *due to COVID-19 and be unable to pay their past due rents that have accumulated since mid-March 2020*. While some households may have been eligible for unemployment and federal unemployment stimulus, there are some households that were not eligible to receive or have yet to receive unemployment. There is a significant concern that without developing a coordinated effort of resources, it can potentially increase the number of homeless households in our community.

While the focus is stopping evictions and utility disconnections, there are agencies that have additional resources that can be provided for persons affected by COVID-19, i.e., medical and burial expenses, additional daycare costs, food, mortgage assistance and counseling, etc. If you are in need of assistance, please feel free to contact the following agencies:

- Charles County Department of Social Services: 301-263-7325
- Community Support Systems, Inc.: 301-372-1491
- LifeStyles, Inc.: 1-866-293-0623
- Salvation Army: 301-638-9532
- Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee: 301-274-4474
- United Way of Charles County: 301-609-4844