



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

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Household Payment Assistance for Low-Income Expected to Run Out Soon

Funds for rent, mortgage, property taxes expected to be completely out by end of February

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Today the Metropolitan Action Commission announced that funding for assistance to low-income families with rent, mortgage and help to seniors for delinquent property taxes will be completely obligated by the end of February.

Metro Action receives the largest funding within Davidson County for financial assistance for low-income families. The agency receives \$1.1 million in federal funds through the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) and \$408,500 in local funding.

“We’ve seen a steady increase in the amount of families needing our help with their rent or mortgage primarily due to layoffs, reduction of work hours and raising household costs,” said Cynthia Croom, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Action Commission.

Six-months into this year’s funding, Metro Action has helped nearly 100 more families than the agency assisted all of last year. As of January the agency assisted 2,029 families with rent, mortgage and other services allowed by CSBG funding. Last year 1,936 families were assisted within the 12-month period during the 2007-08 fiscal year.

“Given the news regarding our nation’s economy and the difficulty that many seniors and families are facing, we are working with other partners within our city to identify other resources that can provide some relief,” said Croom.

These funds not only help with rent and mortgage, but it also provides services to seniors to help pay delinquent property taxes and costly prescriptions. In addition, these funds help with water payments, rent and utility deposits for homeless residents that have found homes, and residents experiencing hardship issues, such as needing help with household payments due to a recent lay off or reduction in work hours.

Funding for help with energy payments is still available. The agency does not anticipate running out of funds in the foreseeable near future.

Applications for energy assistance will be processed in the normal manner; however customers seeking assistance with programs such as rent, mortgage, prescriptions, deposits and property taxes will be placed on a waiting list.

The agency will continue to accept applications for all programs Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. Customer Care hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

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