

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Monday, June 29, 2020**

**People Inc. now offers COVID-19 rent and mortgage relief program**  
Program will help residents avoid eviction and foreclosure

**ABINGDON, Va.** – People Incorporated of Virginia now offers rent and mortgage assistance to eligible residents unable to make payments and facing eviction or foreclosure due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis. Gov. Ralph Northam announced the rent and mortgage relief program, administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, on Thursday.

Residents eligible for assistance from People Incorporated must reside in the following Virginia cities and counties: Bristol City, Buchanan County, City of Winchester, Clarke County, Culpeper County, Dickenson County, Fauquier County, Frederick County, Madison County, Orange County, Page County, Rappahannock County, Russell County, Shenandoah County, Tazewell County, Warren County or Washington County.

“People Inc. will now be able to help families avoid eviction due to factors beyond their control,” said People Inc. Director of Housing Services Kyle Sensabaugh. “We are thankful for this opportunity from DHCD to help families remain in their homes during the ongoing pandemic.”

Residents must be unable to pay their rent or mortgage due to the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible circumstances include a layoff due to the pandemic, inability to work due to contracting the virus and inability to work in order to care for children while daycare centers and schools remain closed, among other qualifying circumstances. Assistance extends to residents who have rent or mortgage payments past due beginning April 1, 2020 and onward.

Recipients must also meet area market income guidelines and owe rent or mortgage payments that fall beneath a certain fair market rate for the area. Payments will be made directly to landlords, property management companies or mortgage lending institutions.

Interested applicants are encouraged to call the People Inc. hotline at 833-437-0114 for assistance determining their eligibility.

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**People Incorporated of Virginia**

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