ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Vermont Emergency Rental Assistance Program (VERAP) was created to help renters dealing with financial challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For eligible households, the program offers rental and utility assistance to help Vermonters avoid eviction or loss of utility service. ERAP was established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

HOW IT CAN HELP

VERAP helps tenant households with paying rent, post-due rent balances (a.k.a. arrears), utility and home energy costs including arrears, and other expenses related to housing. Rent expenses include rent, rent arrears. Utilities include separately stated electricity, gas, water, sewer, trash removal and energy costs, such as fuel oil.

BASIC ELIGIBILITY

You may be eligible for assistance if your household is obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling in the state of Vermont and can provide evidence your household meets the criteria below:

- One or more individuals within the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due, directly, or indirectly, to the COVID-19 outbreak.

- One or more individuals within the household can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and

- The household has a household income at or below 80% of area median income.

For a complete list of the eligibility criteria and requirements please visit www.VSHA.org