



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greene County takes next steps in coordinating Emergency Rental Assistance Program

This week the Greene County Commission voted to approve initial funding for area agencies that have expressed interest in partnering with the County for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

Greene County applied for funds as part of the U.S. Treasury Department's Emergency Rental Assistance Program and on Jan. 22 received \$8,765,982.70 to distribute to the community per federal guidelines. These funds are part of the second federal \$900 billion COVID-19 relief package that was approved by Congress in December of last year. A key provision of that package is the Rental Assistance Program that set aside \$25 billion to help families and individuals nationwide whose ability to pay rent and utilities has been impacted by COVID-19.

"This vote by the Commission helps all of the agencies involved in this process build the capacity needed with extra staffing and administrative equipment and supplies to meet our community's need for rent and utility assistance," said Greene County Budget Officer Jeff Scott. "We are pleased to keep this process moving and we are taking the necessary steps to get these much-needed funds into the community."

While subrecipient agreements are still pending, the following agencies have estimated their client needs and capacities to work with the County to reach those who could benefit from these funds. They include:

- Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC)
- Consumer Credit Counseling Services
- Community Partnership of the Ozarks

- Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri
- Council of Churches of the Ozarks
- The Salvation Army

Work is also currently underway to create a dedicated Emergency Rental Assistance tab on the Greene County website and application information is expected to be available the first week in March.

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Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

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