

ST. TAMMANY PARISH GOVERNMENT EXPANDS RENTAL ASSISTANCE TO INCLUDE UTILITY PAYMENTS

ST. TAMMANY, LA. – St. Tammany Parish Government has expanded the Rental Assistance Program, STRAP, to provide eligible renters with utility assistance.

"We know there is a need in our community for rental and utility assistance," said Parish President Mike Cooper. "I am elated that our Grants Department has found a way to expand this program to help our citizens stay on their feet. I am appreciative of our federal partnership, which makes this program possible."

STRAP is now utilizing The Cares Act funding from the federal government to assist renters with utility funding. The program already provides emergency rental assistance to help stabilize housing and reimburse landlords for back due rent.

Applications for utility assistance are now being accepted.

Since St. Tammany Parish launched STRAP in April of this year, \$2.3 million in rental assistance has been provided to more than 350 parish residents.

St. Tammany Parish is currently taking applications for the assistance. The program requires participation and documentation from both the tenants as well as the landlords. Tenants must meet the program income requirements and provide the following:

- Government Identification
- Valid lease
- Details of back due rent
- Evidence of financial hardship
- Proof of housing instability

Assistance is paid directly to landlords on the tenant's behalf. For landlords to receive payments, they must provide the following:

- Government Identification
- Proof of ownership or authority to lease their property
- Details of back due rent
- Tax Identification Number

Please submit all information to STRAP@stpgov.org.

There are two drop off locations with a drop box to service the program. Case workers are available at each location to assist with the application process. Appointments are recommended.

Koop Drive Administrative Complex Building B 21454 Koop Drive Mandeville, LA 70471 Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Towers Building 520 Old Spanish Trail Slidell, LA 70458 Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

For questions, please contact STRAP by phone at, 985-898-3016, or by email at STRAP@stpgov.org.