



# MILWAUKEE COUNTY LAUNCHES \$10M INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS EVICTION & HOUSING CRISES

With the end to the moratorium on evictions, Milwaukee County expects to see the number of residents impacted by eviction to increase up to an estimated 60,000 residents – four times the annual rate – as unemployment rates surge due to the coronavirus pandemic.

## HOUSING IS A RACIAL EQUITY ISSUE

People of color are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including through the loss of income and the inability for many families to pay rent. In fact, 80% of those enrolled in the Milwaukee County Eviction Prevention Program are Black.

## QUICK ACTION FROM MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Together, Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley and the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors worked quickly to commit **\$10 million in CARES Act funding to launch a housing initiative to support Milwaukee County residents and decrease evictions.** The funds were made immediately available on Thursday, June 11 and within the first week nearly 900 applications were submitted.

The initiative includes three elements:

### \$7 MILLION

for eviction prevention efforts through a **rent assistance program** developed in partnership with Community Advocates.

- This program provides up to \$3,000 per cooperative landlord / tenant stipulated agreement
- Individuals and families who are facing eviction or are behind on rent and who meet eligibility criteria may apply



COMMUNITY ADVOCATES

Where Meeting Basic Needs Inspires Hope

Learn more and apply at

<https://communityadvocates.net/what-we-do/rent-assistance.html>

### \$2 MILLION

toward housing **acquisition efforts**, enabling Milwaukee County to purchase additional facilities to house individuals in need of shelter

- Additional housing options are essential as the number of Milwaukee County residents is projected to increase while available space in existing shelters remains at zero or limited capacity
- Due to COVID-19, it is not advised for those who are evicted to move in with family or friends

### \$1 MILLION

toward **mortgage assistance efforts** for individuals and families who have not been able to stay current on mortgage payments due to economic challenges brought on by COVID-19

- Applications for mortgage assistance are set to become available in July

As illustrated by this effort, Milwaukee County has the capacity to scale-up our efforts quickly and provide services directly to those who need them most. This will be the first of many initiatives aimed at advancing health and racial equity to ensure Milwaukee County can become the healthiest county in Wisconsin.