

# RENTAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance (WERA) is a federally funded program for households experiencing income loss or financial hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic. If households are behind on rent and have lost income due to COVID-19, households may be eligible for financial assistance. This program takes the place of the 2020 Wisconsin Rental Assistance Program (WRAP), which ended in December.

\$322 million is available to renters state-wide through WERA. Households will be served on a first-come, first-served basis. The State of Wisconsin Department of Administration is distributing these funds to local non-profits, including Western Dairyland, who will be serving Clark County. Western Dairyland will begin accepting applications on Monday, February 22nd.

## Eligibility

- ✓ Applicants must have income loss or financial hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ Applicants must be unable to pay their rent, behind on rent, or have an eviction notice.
- ✓ Applicants must be an adult Wisconsin resident with a household income at or below 80% of the county median income in the month of or prior to the application date **and have applied for heat and electric benefits through the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) \*\*to apply for WHEAP contact Clark County Department of Social Services at (715) 743-5233\*\***

## Benefits

- WERA can provide financial assistance for past-due rent, up to 12 months, going back to March 13th, 2020 (widely viewed as the beginning of the pandemic).
- The program may be able to pay for three months of future rent.
- Applicants will also be referred to additional community resources depending on their specific situation.

## To Apply for Emergency Rental Assistance

- ❖ For fastest service, apply online at <https://www.westerndairyland.org/wera/>
- ❖ Call Western Dairyland for more information at (715) 836-7511