



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### RENT AND UTILITY SUPPORT AVAILABLE DUE TO COVID-19 IMPACTS

The County of Santa Cruz is pleased to announce the CARES Rental Assistance Program.

As directed by the Board of Supervisors, the County has allocated a portion of its Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to provide housing stabilization assistance to residents of unincorporated Santa Cruz County who have lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic and whose housing is at risk because they are in arrears for rent and/or utility payments.

The Santa Cruz County CARES Rental Assistance Program is limited to residents of the unincorporated area of Santa Cruz County whose annual income does not exceed 80 percent of area median income (for a single-person household, income must be at or below \$74,350). Unpaid or partially paid rent and utility payments going back to April 1, 2020 are eligible up to a maximum of \$10,000 per household. **Income losses must be due to COVID-19-related factors.**

The CARES Rental Assistance Program will be implemented by the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County Inc. (CAB) and Families in Transition (FIT). The County anticipates that there will be two application deadlines with recipients selected through a list prioritized through a random drawing. The deadline to apply for the first random drawing is September 15, 2020.

Applications can be submitted electronically or physically. Please visit <https://cabinc.org/> or <https://www.sccoplanning.com/PlanningHome/Housing.aspx>.