

# An Activity Book and Information Guide for staying empowered and learning through uncertain times



## Parents - A Quick List of Support During The Covid- 19 Crisis

## I Lost My Job, or My Hours Were Cut

Unemployment benefits are available to those whose hours have been reduced or who have lost their job due to coronavirus measures (and it also applies to those who choose to stay home due to underlying health issues making them more vulnerable). If your child's school is closed and you have to miss work to care for them. You might qualify for Unemployment Insurance benefits. Apply for unemployment benefits here: https://edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Filing\_a\_Claim.htm

## I Can't Pay Rent Right Now - Will I be evicted?

The city of Oakland has passed a law that does not allow your landlord to evict you if you can not pay rent due to losing income because of the Covid- 19 crisis. **Write to your landlord** informing them that due to the crisis and losing wages you can not pay rent. Your landlord can't legally give you an eviction notice right now for almost any reason - including failure to pay rent. If your landlord tries to evict you after the State of Emergency ends, you will still be protected in court if you can show that you couldn't pay due to the COVID-19 crisis. Your landlord can sue for the rent in other forums -- for example, in small claims court. However, you cannot lose your housing.

The law does NOT require you to provide personal documents like bank statements, pay stubs, or medical records to your landlord at this time, or to give your landlord personal information about your situation, even if your landlord asks you for it. You have the right to say that you are not comfortable giving out that information. You are also not required to sign any papers to access the eviction protections described above.

## **Talk To Your Neighbors**

If most neighbors in your building can't pay rent or decide not to pay, this can give you more support just in case you are worried about the landlord harassing you. You can also support one another with other needs, like access to groceries, health check-ins, and child care. Building community can help you get through this time of social isolation.

# Who Can I Contact in Oakland for Help If My Landlord Is Still Trying to Evict Me?

Legal Help: Centro Legal de la Raza - (510) 437-1554 East Bay Community Law Center - (510) 548-4040, ext. 629 Eviction Defense Center - (510) 452-4541 Bay Area Legal Aid - (888) 382-3405 Legal Assistance for Seniors - (510) 832-3040 Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach - (510) 251-2846

### Tenant Support:

Tenants and Neighborhood Councils (TANC) https://baytanc.com/ Oakland Rent Strike Committe rent-strikes.com/ Causa Justa Just Cause - Tenant Hotline: (510) TENANTS (836-2687) Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment - (510) 269-4692 Oakland Tenants Union - (510) 704-5276

### \$1200 Government checks

The United States Government has set in motion a "stimulus package" to help the U.S. economy while many businesses are closed and people are out of work. This plan includes giving \$1200 to each adult with a Social Security number. If you filed taxes in 2018 or 2019 the check will be sent to you. If you have not filed taxes for either year, you can fill out a form with your information so you can receive the check. Here is the link to that form: https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here

# I Don't Qualify, Can I Still Get Financial Support?

The State of California is creating a \$75 million Disaster Relief Fund to be distributed through regional nonprofits with experience serving undocumented communities. Approximately 150,000 undocumented adult Californians will receive a one-time cash benefit of \$500 per adult with a cap of \$1,000 per household. Individuals can apply for support beginning next month. You can also apply now for a \$500 grant at ElCentroDeLaRaza.org.

### Food

OUSD is providing "Grab and Go" breakfast and lunch meals for students and families. Pick up on Mondays and Thursdays from 8am - 12noon at Sankofa Academy, West Oakland Middle School, Hoover Elementary, Oakland HS, Garfield Elementary, Bret Harte, Life Academy, Coliseum College Prep, Madison Park Academy, Fremont HS, Elmhurst United, and Castlemont HS.



