



## NCRWA and NCWaterWARN Members,

In consideration of the financial stressors and difficulties many utilities are facing during these trying times, we felt it would be beneficial to bring to your attention to the <u>HOPE</u> (Housing Opportunity and Prevention Eviction) program administered by the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency in partnership with United Way's NC 2-1-1 referral service. Additional information regarding the program, eligibility requirements, application process, as well as a fact sheet for utility providers is described below.

The Housing Opportunities and Prevention of Evictions (HOPE) Program is a new statewide initiative that may provide rent and utility assistance to eligible low- and moderate-income renters experiencing financial hardship due to the economic effects of COVID-19. The program is designed to help prevent evictions and utility disconnections in order to promote housing stability during the ongoing pandemic. HOPE is an initiative of the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency, a division of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. The HOPE Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program – Coronavirus and the U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Relief Funds.

NC 211 is an information and referral service provided by United Way of North Carolina. Families and individuals in all 100 counties in North Carolina can call to obtain free and confidential information on health and human services within their community. Available in most languages, NC 211 is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

For more information, please contact NC 211 at 1.888.892.1162 from 7:00am – 6:00pm Monday – Friday or on their website at <a href="https://nc211.org/hope/">https://nc211.org/hope/</a>.

Sincerely,

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