

Apply By June 30 For Help

Struggling Windward households who need help from the Ko'olau Housing Hui must get their applications in no later than June 30, in order to receive assistance for rent and utilities.

About 18 months ago, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation made a series of grants to pull together a network of community action teams stretching from Kahuku to Waimānalo to help Windward O'ahu households to successfully apply for rent and utility support from the city, as well as to get free access to mediation services, financial counseling and legal help.

"To date, this Ko'olau Housing Hui has prevented eviction for some 1,000 households from region. We're still going strong, but we now need to get the word out quickly that the City's Rent and Utility Relief Program will no longer take any applications beyond June 30," states Terrence George, president and CEO of the Windward-based Harold K. L. Castle Foundation.

"Our community navigators would love to help more households get their applications in before the deadline," he adds.

Action teams will help people and families in

Windward O'ahu from Kahuku to Waimānalo in applying for Emergency Rent & Utility Assistance or Rapid Rehousing Assistance available through the City & County of Honolulu and their service providers.

Community naviga-

call Dynaka Merino at 808-888-0045 or email dynakahoh@gmail.com.

For Kailua, seek out Adventist Health Castle by calling Tiffany Ijima at 808-263-5HUI (5484) or email housinghui@ah.org. For Kualoa-Kāne'ohe, the

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tors will help struggling individuals and families who are at risk of eviction or need to be rapidly rehoused.

Support includes but is not limited to application assistance (help getting documents ready, accessing the city online application, completing the form); legal help; mediation services with landlords; financial counseling; assistance applying for other government benefits; and job training and employment referral.

There are places to go for help, but applicants need to act quickly before the June 30 deadline.

For Kahuku-Ka'a'awa, go to Hui O Hau'ula and

contact at KEY Project is Kawika Machida at 808-380-7379 or actionteam@keyproject.org.

Waimānalo Health Center's contact person is Latia Konohia Badiyo at 808-954-7175 or lbadiyo@waimanalohealth.org.

The Waimānalo Hui Mahi'ai 'Āina contact is Mokihana Iida, who can be reached by phone at 808-587-7053 or email waimanalohousinghui@gmail.com.

Founded in 1962, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation works to build resources for Hawai'i's future.

For more info about the Ko'olau Housing Hui, visit castlefoundation.org or call 808-263-7071.