CAN’T PAY RENT?
WHAT YOU CAN DO DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS TO KEEP YOUR HOME

1. COLLECT DOCUMENTATION
If you are in financial difficulty because of COVID-19 issues, collect and keep proof of any lost income that is due to the public health crisis. Proof can include things like pay stubs, receipts, letters, emails, photos, text messages.

2. PAY WHAT YOU CAN
Even if you can only make a partial payment, do what you can to minimize your debt to your landlord.

3. NOTIFY YOUR LANDLORD
Let your landlord know if you will be unable to pay rent on time and why. Provide the landlord with copies of the proof you have collected.

   You can write a LETTER, EMAIL, or TEXT. Be sure to keep a copy.

   If you receive written notice from the landlord demanding that you pay rent, be sure to send your written notice with your proof within 14 days of receiving the landlord’s notice.

   Need help writing your letter? Use the template available at [www.legalaidsmc.org](http://www.legalaidsmc.org).

4. STAY IN YOUR HOME
As long as you notify your landlord of your COVID-19-related hardship and provide proof, you are protected from eviction, even if you owe rent for April, May, and June 2020.

   Learn more about the San Mateo County Eviction Moratorium here [www.youarecommunity.org](http://www.youarecommunity.org).

5. FIND FINANCIAL HELP
Are you eligible for Unemployment Insurance Benefits, or other income replacement? Find out at [https://legalaidatwork.org](https://legalaidatwork.org).

   Rental assistance may be available to help pay all or some of your rent to the landlord. Applications are available at the Core Service Agencies [https://hsa.smcgov.org/emergency-safety-net-assistance-core-service-agencies](https://hsa.smcgov.org/emergency-safety-net-assistance-core-service-agencies).

6. REQUEST MORE TIME TO PAY IF YOU NEED IT
The San Mateo County Eviction Moratorium currently gives qualified tenants until at least September 30, 2020 to get caught up on rent, and allows for additional extensions of time if needed. Notify your landlord in writing again if you need more time.

QUESTIONS?
LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION FOR TENANTS AT [WWW.YOUARECOMMUNITY.ORG](http://WWW.YOUARECOMMUNITY.ORG) OR CALL LEGAL AID SOCIETY AT (650) 517-8911.