## HDC MidAtlantic Michael R. Carper Hope & Opportunity Fund Guidelines

The Hope & Opportunity Fund is dedicated to helping residents with emergency financial assistance in order to support them in maintaining their housing. Emergency funding is not intended to provide ongoing relief of recurring/routine expenses. Rather, it will provide funding as a transitional bridge over a financial gap to meet the goal of eviction prevention. HDC MidAtlantic ("HDC") staff will work with residents to identify any other possible resources, exhaust all options before requesting funds for rent payment, and plan for future stability.

## **Examples**

The types of situations for which the Fund is available may include, but are not limited to:

- Resident is facing possible eviction for late payment of rent due to an unforeseen emergency.
- Resident has lost transportation to work.
- Resident has been off work due to an illness and has experienced a decrease in income.
- Resident is waiting for benefits to begin and is experiencing a temporary gap in income.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for consideration a resident must:

- Be a current resident and have lived at an HDC-managed property for at least 6 months,
- Have received <u>no prior</u> lease violation notices in the past 6 months (excluding late notices and notices to quit related to this application),
- Complete Resident Application and submit to Community Manager or Resident Services Coordinator.
- Provide relevant documentation to support the application.

## Awards

Awards of up to \$1000 will be provided to any one resident once in a 2-year (24 month) period, unless the resident repays the award within that period. Residents will never be required to repay an award. Residents are encouraged to repay what they can afford in order to replenish the Fund. All awards are made at the sole discretion of HDC. Reasons why awards are not made in any one particular instance may include but are not limited to: availability of funds, if resident has had prior awards or if resident has had prior lease violations, if HDC determines that award will not help with a situation which requires a long-term solution, etc.

