

**From:** [Shanahan, Martha](#)  
**To:** [COB](#)  
**Cc:** [Fennell, Estelle](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support CARES Act Proposed Spending Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 10:03:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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July 28, 2020

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors  
825 5th St.  
Eureka, CA 95501

SUPPORT: Agenda # 20-905 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Relief Fund Proposed Spending Plan and Supplemental Budget for Emergency Preparedness in Fiscal Year 2019-20

Dear Chair Fennell and Members of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of St. Joseph Hospital of Eureka, I am writing to express our strong support for the Humboldt County's Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Relief Fund Proposed Spending Plan, including \$500,000 for rental assistance. This funding will benefit low- and moderate-income residents impacted by COVID-19 by providing much needed financial assistance to make their rental payments, remain housed while ensuring local landlords can make their mortgage payments.

At St. Joseph Health, we believe health is a human right. Everyone deserves the chance to live the healthiest life possible, especially those who are poor and vulnerable. But it's not easy to take care of your health when you don't have a safe place to call home. Our founding sisters understood better than anyone that housing and health care are inextricably linked. Keeping people in their homes during this public health crisis will not only keep families secure, but will also reduce the spread of this disease.

The record number of unemployment claims and small businesses in crisis requires a community response that prevents residents from becoming newly homeless or without the ability to pay utilities. St. Joseph Health believes that in these trying times, short term solutions such as these will provide immediate relief and support to our vulnerable residents, and we commend your actions to address this issue during this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Martha Shanahan  
Manager, Community Health Investment  
St. Joseph Eureka – Humboldt County

Martha Shanahan, RD, MPH  
MANAGER, COMMUNITY HEALTH INVESTMENT

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