



Mt. Vernon United Tenants, Inc.

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\$ FOR M.V.U.T

***THE HOT DAYS OF SUMMER ARE HERE AND THE
PANDEMIC WE'VE ALL BEEN LIVING THROUGH IS
SEEMINGLY COMING TO AN END – HOORAY! STILL –***

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!

MVUT has been busy delivering for you and all tenants:

ERAP – **MVUT** is assisting tenants in filing applications for rent arrears under the **Emergency Rental Assistance Program** if they've either lost income or had additional expenses as a result of Covid-19. We've processed over fifty (50+) applications, uploaded documents for dozens of others, and referred over one hundred (100+) to the ERAP website – nysrenthelp@otda.ny.gov or telephone 1-844-691-7368

CODE ENFORCEMENT- **MVUT** has always pushed the City of Mt. Vernon to strengthen its code enforcement process to protect tenants' apartments. Our advocacy has borne fruit as the City has hired three (3) more code enforcement inspectors, and will be hiring two (2) more! YES!!

HISPANIC OUTREACH – Through a grant with the City, we've been able to hire a Spanish-speaking tenant organizer, Andrew Aguilar, to help **MVUT** provide its services to the Spanish-speaking tenants who have been regularly abused by the system!

WESTCHESTER RENT GUIDELINES BOARD (WRGB) – The **WRGB** passed new rent adjustments for leases beginning between 10/1/21- 09/30/22. They are .5% for one (1) year renewals, and one 1% for two (2) year renewals. Thanks to WRGB Tenant Member and **MVUT** member Tamara Stewart for her strong advocacy on the Board and to the many **MVUT** members who testified at the Public Hearings!

SCRIE/DRIE – **MVUT** continues to help tenants who live in rent-regulated buildings to apply for both the **Senior and Disabled Rent Increase Exemption** Programs whereby their rents can be frozen.

(over)

BUILDING ORGANIZING– With the pandemic starting to wane, more buildings are willing to have meetings and address their issues. MVUT has recently been meeting with tenant associations in Mt. Vernon and Yonkers

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING/ADVOCACY –MVUT continues to provide intensive case management for tenants facing eviction, trying to restore services, fighting rent increases/overcharges and other landlord harassment. We assist dozens weekly.

POLICY ADVOCACY - In addition to the above items, MVUT has played a leading or supporting roll in many coalition efforts on housing and economic justice issues, e.g. the Westchester “Right to Counsel” Coalition; the campaign for non-discrimination protection in renting, regarding Source Of Income(SOI); the statewide Housing Justice for All (HJ4A)Coalition; the Westchester Eviction Prevention Network (WEPN);etc.

Support MVUT!!!

Yes, I agree MVUT is doing great work for tenants. I want to help them do even more! Enclosed find my contribution of:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$500 _____ other

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please make checks payable to MVUT and mail to MVUT at

P.O. Box 2107, Mt. Vernon, NY 10551

or bring to the office at 2 Gramatan Ave. Suite 304. Thank you!