Tips for Working with Landlords When Struggling to Pay Rent.

1. Talk to your landlord right away when the problem occurs.
2. Be honest with the landlord about current income situation.
   (We are hoping with the many people facing this problem there will be some understanding).
3. Explain how vulnerable the family will be.
   (How many members in the family and any pre-existing conditions).
4. Find out what other people in similar positions are doing with this landlord or with others.
5. Ask about payment arrangements.
6. Remember the landlords are stressed out too and try to be as calm and positive as possible.
   (Easier said than done).

Other Things to Consider.

1. Is anyone eligible for unemployment?
   Apply if you are unsure, worst they can say is no.
2. Have food resources been utilized to minimize household costs?
3. Apply for Food Stamps if not already utilizing. Talk to financial worker if Food Stamps need to be adjusted for income changes.
4. Go through the budget and determine what bills need to be paid. There are bills that are being waived (phone bills, student loans, some mortgages, etc.).
   Prioritize the bills that must be paid; make arrangements where you can.
5. When budget is determined explain to landlord what can be paid to him/her. Be realistic, they need their income too.
6. Brainstorm and be creative.