

# CAP



**COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP**  
OF SCOTT CARVER & DAKOTA COUNTIES

## **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.**