

## CAMDEN COUNTY COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, Inc.

FAHEEM EL SALEEM BOARD PRESIDENT

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ARNOLD N. BYRD **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

## AGENCY PROGRAMS

**COMMUNITY ACTION SERVICES** WEATHERIZATION LIHEAP & ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM HOUSING CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION **EMERGENCY SERVICES** YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES TO HOMELESS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING YOUTH ACTIVITIES **GRANDPARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP URBAN WOMEN'S CENTER** LITERACY TRAINING **GED TRAINING** ADULT BASIC EDUCATION NJ SHARES PAGE PROGRAM HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM **DOLLAR TO DOLLAR** INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Homeless Program Stops Rental Evictions and Saves Families**

Camden, NJ (January 12, 2016) – Camden County Council On Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Camden County OEO) has been awarded \$130,725 from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to administer the Homeless Prevention Program.

The Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) began this past August and ends on July 31, 2016. Eligible Camden County residents must have a summons or warrant of removal from a landlord-tenant court that is no more than 6 months old, gross income at or below 80% of the area median income, have resided at the housing unit for at least three months without incurring arrears, and currently has the ability to pay monthly housing costs after receiving HPP assistance. To date, Camden County OEO has helped 15 families avoid eviction with the HPP program.

"The HPP grant was a life-saver because I had a series of unfortunate events happen and I fell behind on my rent. Without the grant, my son and I wouldn't have a place to live. The application was an easy process and the Case Manager worked with me to get in all the paperwork. The HPP grant gave me a second chance and allowed me to get back on my feet. It's a shame that more people don't know about Camden County OEO," said Christine Keck. The HPP program is available to help more families as well.

"Camden County OEO is pleased to administer the HPP Program, which stops rental evictions and saves families from experiencing homelessness. The agency is actively working with applicants so that they can remain in their housing units," stated Arnold N. Byrd, Executive Director of Camden County OEO.

Camden County OEO's dual purpose is arranging for and providing material assistance that gives immediate relief to low-income persons in emergency circumstances. In addition, the agency provides programs and services to help clients achieve self-sufficiency. Camden County OEO has helped thousands of men, women, and families throughout the years.



