Press Release

Direct Assistance for Individuals in the Coronavirus-Response Acts

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In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress quickly enacted three new laws that provide myriad new streams of financial assistance to individuals. AAF's Director of Human Welfare Policy Tara O'Neill Hayes summarizes these new streams — direct payments, paid leave, enhanced unemployment benefits, student loan relief, mortgage and rental assistance, and increased nutrition assistance — and how they are able to help individuals struggling during the ongoing crisis.

Her summary:

- Some provisions are cash transfers, while others offer forbearance for missing payments or limit penalties for withdrawing money from existing accounts;
- The effect is to ensure that individuals have access to more cash, that they receive adequate nutrition, and that they can receive testing for COVID-19.

Read the analysis.