

Housing Counseling Services, Inc.

TENANT ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

Are you facing a housing emergency and don't know where to turn?

- Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP): Effective October 1, 2023, residents can apply for ERAP at https://erap.dhs.dc.gov/. Residents with no or limited access to technology (computer, tablet, or Smart Phone) can call the ERAP Hotline at 202-507-6666 to get support in submitting applications or to follow-up on submissions. In the past year the Department of Human Services (DHS) received an influx of applications and closed the application portal in March 2023. To serve residents effectively and efficiently throughout the year, DHS will open the ERAP application portal on October 1, 2023, January 1, 2024, April 1, 2024, and July 1, 2024. DHS will close the portal once 3,500 applications are received in each quarter. Residents seeking emergency rental assistance are highly encouraged to note the above-mentioned dates and submit applications in a timely manner. Click DC DHS Rental Assistance Portal to learn more about documents needed to submit a complete application.
- Emergency Resources for Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness: DC residents with minor children who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability may contact the Virginia Williams Resource Center at 202-526-0017. Single individuals who are experiencing homelessness may access Project Reconnect at Project.Reconnect@dc.gov
- Veterans Resources: The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program offers veterans, who are homeless or at risk for homelessness, case management and financial assistance with rent, utilities, and other necessities. The new Veteran Flex Fund offers limited financial assistance to prevent or resolve Veteran homelessness. For either program Call 202-667-7366 or email ssvfprogram@housingetc.org.
- Resources for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA): The MHAP program is the entry portal for housing services for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The MHAP Program provides eligible HIV+ individuals and their families with housing opportunities, case management and financial assistance for rent, mortgage, utilities, food, moving costs, and other necessities. Call 202-667-2681 or email mhap@housingetc.org
- ➤ Legal Resources: The Landlord Tenant Legal Assistance Network (LTLAN) provides FREE legal support to qualified DC residents. Call LTLAN at 202-780-2575 or go online to DC Bar Housing Legal Assistance. For other legal support contact DC's Office of the Tenant Advocate (OTA) at (202) 719-6560. When facing eviction in court: seek legal support, attend all hearings, and there's no need to run. Only US Marshalls are authorized to carry out evictions based upon court issued writs!
- Tenant Rights: To discuss your rights when a building is being sold, dealing with poor conditions, and organizing a tenant association contact the HCS Tenant Services team at (202) 900-9464 or tenants@housingetc.org.
- Fair Housing Rights: For information about your fair housing rights and for help filing housing discrimination complaints contact the HCS Fair Housing team at 202-681-8386 or ronaldclarkson@housingetc.org.
- ➤ Housing Counseling and Budgeting Help: The HCS RISE Program offers housing counseling to help tenants establish a budget that prioritizes rent payments, learn about options to reduce the risk of eviction, access other resources and help to negotiate a payment plan with your landlord. Contact us at rise@housingetc.org.
- Achieve Stable Housing: Join HCS' webinars to learn more about how to achieve stable housing: Register for our Webinars at www.housingetc.org or by calling 202-667-7606.
- Tenant Rights and Resources Webinar learn how to protect yourself and sustain your housing.
- Housing Search Webinar learn ways to secure housing.
- Money Matters Webinar learn about budgeting.
- Inclusionary Zoning Webinar learn how to qualify for affordable IZ rentals.

For more information about these and other Housing Counseling Services' programs check our website at www.housingetc.org or send an email to info@housingetc.org UPDATED: October 2023