

## Housing Assistance Resources for Hennepin County

### **I'm having trouble paying my mortgage.**

Some homeowners have the option of mortgage forbearance. This pauses your mortgage payment for a limited time. It does not erase what you owe. Instead, those payments will be tagged on to the end of your mortgage. Video on [Mortgage Forebearance](#) -

### **I'm having trouble paying my rent.**

- Applications are now being accepted for [suburban Hennepin households](#). Please check the information about eligibility and apply to the organization that is serving your City.
- Hennepin County emergency assistance applications are available at [www.ApplyMN.dhs.mn.gov](http://www.ApplyMN.dhs.mn.gov). Some restrictions are currently waived due to Covid-19.
- Additional emergency financial assistance programs will be announced in early June. Check back here or contact the Tenant Resource Center.

### **I applied for Minneapolis GAP funds and am waiting for a response or have been denied.**

We understand the urgency many applicants are experiencing. Please know that applications are being processed. Applicants will be notified in the second half of May. If you receive notification that you will not receive funds check out the resources above.

### **What does an eviction moratorium mean?**

An eviction moratorium means rent is due but your landlord cannot file an eviction until the moratorium is lifted. We encourage you to try and remain current on your rent and keep lines of communication open with your landlord.

### **When will the eviction moratorium lift?**

There are two moratoria. Most rental households are covered under the moratorium declared by Governor Walz. Currently, it is to expire on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

The National CARES Act also placed a moratorium on many rental properties. This moratorium lifts on July 24<sup>th</sup> and requires a 30-day notice to evict so late August is the earliest landlords covered by the CARES Act can file. In Hennepin County Housing Court, landlords wishing to file under the state timeline will need to certify that they are not bound by the CARES Act. Here is a [list of properties](#) with over 4 units covered by the CARES Act. If you are a landlord you may use this [tool](#).

### **What if an eviction was filed prior to the moratorium?**

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These will be the first cases scheduled for court hearings. A new eviction summons and court date will be issued by Housing Court. Landlords and tenants are encouraged to work something out. Please read the summons carefully for Covid-related court practices.

### **If I receive an evictions summons do I need to go to Housing Court?**

Landlords and tenants are encouraged to work things out prior to their court date. Due to the backlog and social distancing measures, it will take longer than usual to get a court date. Also, Housing Court has made arrangements to allow landlords and tenants to participate in person or remotely.

### **Where do I go for my Housing Court hearing?**

Due to Covid-19, Housing Court is offering landlords and tenants the option of participating in their hearing remotely. You can call in to your hearing or log in to a video conference. See your summons for details.

### **I need help working out a plan or other agreement with my landlord/with my tenant.**

Community Mediation & Restorative Services, Inc (CMRS) helps you start a conversation and, when you're ready, work out a plan. Mediators are available at no charge to help you work out agreements and put them into writing. CMRS mediators can also help you identify resources for legal assistance, emergency financial resources, and alternate housing. To learn more about mediation, call 763.561.0173. These conversations are taking place over the phone and through video conferencing.

Conflict Resolution Center provides free mediation services to help renters and landlords talk with each other to resolve housing conflicts. Call: 612 822 9883 or submit a mediation request online at [www.crcminnesota.org](http://www.crcminnesota.org)

### **I need help understanding my rights as a tenant**

- [Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid](http://Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid) provides legal advice to low-income Minneapolis renters. Information and resources for all Minneapolis renters is available at [www.mylegalaid.org](http://www.mylegalaid.org) or call: 612-334-5970.
- [HOME Line](http://HOME Line) provides free and confidential legal advice to all Minneapolis renters. Individual tenant questions can be directed to HOME Line. HOME Line's tenant hotline, free & confidential legal advice: 612-728-5767 or [email your question to HOME Line a housing attorney](mailto:email_your_question_to_HOME_Line_a_housing_attorney). [www.homelinemn.org](http://www.homelinemn.org).
- [LawHelpMN.org](http://LawHelpMN.org) is a great website that contains legal information in English, Spanish, Hmong and Somali.

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### Food

Find food shelves and free meals near you: <http://www.hungersolutions.org/find-help/> Apply for long-term food benefits (SNAP): <https://applymn.dhs.mn.gov/>

### Utilities

Xcel Energy announced it will indefinitely suspend service disconnections and waive late fees when associated with COVID-19 challenges. Call 1-800-895-4999 for more information. CenterPoint Energy is doing the same for gas. Call 1-800-245-2377. [USI Wireless](#) is providing free internet access throughout the City of Minneapolis. [Comcast](#) has also expanded access to internet, waiving late fees, and providing free hot spots.

### I am a Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) resident or have a Housing Choice Voucher

If you are an MPHA resident or Housing Choice Voucher holder, it is important to report any drop in income right away. MPHA advises households to **immediately report any loss of income** to their eligibility technician, so that rent can be lowered accordingly and promptly. You can also use MPHA's online forms:

- [Section 8 Income Change Form](#)
- [Public Housing Income Change Form](#)

More information is available on MPHA's website here: <https://MPHAOnline.org/COVID19>

### I need help accessing my Federal Economic Impact Payment and/or filing taxes

Prepare + Prosper works with people with low- to moderate-incomes to build financial well-being through free tax preparation and financial services, coaching, and products. Currently, they are offering remote support in filing returns for taxes and stimulus payments. For more information, visit [www.prepareandprosper.org](http://www.prepareandprosper.org). For tax help or general questions, contact 651-287-0187.

[CAPI](#) is providing assistance in multiple languages for households seeking assistance with basic needs.

**Not sure what help you need?** If you are a resident of Hennepin County and aren't sure what might be the most helpful, please contact the [Tenant Resource Center](#) at 612-302-3180.