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Introduction

Housing Alliance Delaware is working to provide the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Delaware and across the nation as it pertains to persons experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. This document includes State of Delaware response efforts, the latest news from Congress, current resources for those in need, resources for homeless service providers, and resources for those interested in state and national policy and advocacy efforts in response to COVID-19.

State of Delaware

DE COVID-19 Updates

The centralized location for updates in the State of Delaware’s response to COVID-19. This includes general information on Delaware’s current COVID-19 confirmed case count, health protocols, testing, community resources, and frequently asked questions. The site contains the latest videos, posts from Delaware Public Health, and press releases from state officials including Governor Carney. Downloadable/printable resource documents and a sign up to receive email updates on the COVID-19 situation in Delaware are both available.

https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/

Elected Officials

Connect with your national, state, and local elected officials. Stay informed and advocate for the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity as well as vulnerable population service providers during the COVID-19 crisis.

https://delaware.gov/topics/yourgovernment

Congress

A bipartisan agreement has been reached for response to the coronavirus pandemic. The bill has been unanimously approved in the Senate (March, 25, 2020). The House of Representatives approved the bill on Friday, March 27, 2020, where after it was signed into law by President Trump.

The bill allots $12 billion in funding for HUD programs, including: $4 billion for Emergency Solutions Grants for homelessness assistance, $5 billion in Community Development Block Grants, $1.25 billion for the Housing Choice Voucher program, $1 billion for project based rental assistance, $685 million for public housing, $300 million for tribal nations, and more.

The bill also includes a temporary moratorium on evictions and foreclosures for homeowners and renters in federally subsidized apartments and homes with federally backed mortgages.

Resources for Individuals and Families in Need

Included are resources and notices relevant to services provided for vulnerable populations in Delaware in response to COVID-19. This is not an exhaustive list of resources and information may change as the COVID-19 situation develops. These resources will be updated periodically however, please contact service providers for the most up-to-date operating information in between document updates.

Food

Snap Benefits

Delaware SNAP will be issuing emergency benefits beginning April 1, 2020.


Emmanuel Dining Rooms

Grab and go lunches will be available in substitution for normal operations. For individual site contact information, times and locations, please see the link below.

https://www.ministryofcaring.org/services/emmanuel-dining-rooms/

St. Patrick’s Center

Grab and go meals will be available from 9 am-1 pm at 107 E. 14th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. If you would like more information or to donate food, please contact Sr. Catherine Marie at 302-652-6219 or make a donation at the link below.

https://www.stpatrickscenter.org/donate.aspx

Sunday Breakfast Mission

Food distribution days are offered on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 8:30 am-11:30 pm. Families in need of nonperishable food items may call SBM at (302) 652-8314, M-F from 9 am - 5 pm to schedule for one a food distribution day. Appointments are on a first come, first serve basis, and each distribution day will have space for sixty appointments. Individuals must have proof of Delaware residence, and must call in to schedule. Walk-ins or unscheduled requests are not permitted.

https://www.sundaybreakfastmission.org/

Friendship House

Wilmington Empowerment Center, 719 Shipley St, is open M - F from 7:30 am - 9 am and Sunday from 7 am - 8 am for coffee and a cold meal to go.

Newark Empowerment Center, 69 E Main St, is open M - F from 1 pm - 3 pm for lunch to go.
Community Resource Center Rehoboth

Food Rescue Program is open M-F from 10 am - 12:30 pm to provide food to those in need. For questions or updates please contact (302) 227-1340.

https://www.rehobothcommunitycenter.org/services/food-rescue.html

Ace Peer Resource Center, Georgetown

Providing breakfast sandwiches and lunch on site with ‘social-distancing’ protocols in place. Their food pantry is available for to-go items. For questions and updates, please contact (302) 858-4963. The hours of operation are currently as follows; M-W & F 8:15 am to 2 pm, Thurs 8:15 am to 1 pm

https://www.mentalhealthpartnerships.org/program-objects/2017/5/12/ace-peer-resource-center

Love, INC. of Mid-Delmarva

Grab and go lunches are available at The Cross (701 E King St, Seaford) M-F, 10 am-3 pm as well as grab and go dinners Tues-Thurs evenings from 6 pm-7 pm. Anyone who is food insecure can call 302-629-7050 to do a short over-the-phone intake and receive a food referral for emergency assistance for pantry food items.

https://www.facebook.com/pg/LOVEINCSUSSEX/posts/?ref=page_internal

Department of Education

Grab and go meals are being provided to students during school closures. Please see the Statewide Child Nutritional Site for locations and times for meal pick up and drop off.

https://www.doe.k12.de.us/page/4149

Food Bank of Delaware Distribution Updates

https://www.fbd.org/covid-19-updates/

Delaware Health and Social Services Food Bank Locator

https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/foodbank/resourcelocator.html

2-1-1 Food Bank List

http://211service.com/index.php/basic-needs/food/food-assistance

Hygiene

Laundry and Showers

St. Patrick’s Center is offering very limited shower and laundry services. Only one client is allowed to use the facility at a time and you must sign up on site with the Homeless Respite Manager.
Ace Peer Resource Center, Georgetown location, is offering laundry and shower services from 8:15 am - 2:00 pm. Social distancing protocols are in place.

Community Resource Center Rehoboth is offering laundry and shower services by appointment only, normal day center operations are currently closed. To schedule an appointment, please call (302)-227-1340.

Shelters & Day Centers

Creative Vision Factory

Creative Vision Factory, 617 N. Shipley Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, is open M-F from 10 am - 5 pm. Electronic charging stations and free access to WIFI are being offered outside of the building and there is limited access inside. (302) 397-8472

Sunday Breakfast Mission

Sunday Breakfast Mission, 110 N. Poplar Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, (302) 652-8314. This shelter accepts single men and women as well as families on a night by night basis.

Kent County Code Purple

Code Purple Kent County is currently still operational. Please contact (302) 526-6098 for more information on which night by night sites are open.

Centralized Intake

Centralized Intake of Delaware is still operational and working to place individuals in 30-day shelters. Intake Specialists are available M-F form 8 am - 5 pm by phone (call and text) at 1-833-FIND-BED (833-346-3233). Email is also available at intake@housingalliancede.org

Housing

DSHA Housing Assistance Program

To assist Delawareans facing financial hardships as a result of the COVID-19 health crisis, this program provides emergency housing assistance to renters affected by shutdowns, closures, layoffs, reduced work hours or unpaid leave due to the COVID-19 health crisis.
**Evictions and Foreclosures**

All evictions currently ordered and scheduled between March 17 and April 16 must be rescheduled for a date not earlier than May 1, with case-by-case exceptions. Foreclosure proceedings have been similarly postponed. This is a result of an update to Governor Carney’s state of emergency.


**Utilities**

**Comcast/Xfinity**

Qualifying low-income families can receive two months of free internet access followed by a rate of $9.95 per month following the first 60 days. Additionally, xfinity has free WIFI hotspots across the county. Here is a link to more information about Comcast’s Internet Essentials Program:

https://www.internetessentials.com/

**Delmarva Power**

Delmarva has suspended all service disconnections and is waiving late fees through May 1, 2020.

http://s1329191838.t.en25.com/e/es?s=1329191838&te=7708&elqTrackId=efd74c1a1b7a40299e524d6e5aa03bea&elq=537dde570b74761bb2bb409169af58&elqaid=90&elqat=1

For more information about Delmarva’s response to COVID-19 please see the link below:


**Child Care**

**YMCA**

The YMCA is offering child care services for emergency personnel and essential staff starting Monday, 3/30/20.

https://www.ymcade.org/emergency-child-care/

**Emergency Child Care Sites for Essential Personnel**

“Starting April 6 and continuing until the State of Emergency is lifted, child care may only be provided by child care centers and child care homes that have been designated as “Emergency Child Care Sites” by the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF). In order to be an emergency child care site, child care centers and homes must certify that they are only providing child care to
children of personnel working for essential businesses, as defined by Governor Carney’s State of Emergency, and cannot work from home”

https://news.delaware.gov/2020/03/30/governor-carney-signs-order-to-designate-emergency-child-care-sites-for-essential-personnel/?fbclid=IwAR35W2e1P1r_T9MIngoLJOXnw451SbUcsLwszm0jra2JAlw0xbsulmFt4wY

**Employment**

**Essential and Non-Essential Businesses**

Please see the list below for all essential and non-essential businesses in Delaware. This is in response to the Governor’s State of Emergency and is subject to change.


**Unemployment Expansion**

The Delaware Department of Labor has expanded unemployment benefits to workers affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic, for more information, please follow the link below:


**Employment Opportunities**

If you are experiencing financial hardship due to the loss of income as a result of COVID-19, the following links are for employers seeking immediate hire:


https://www.amazondelivers.jobs/?cmpid=PRPRLC0780H6

https://jobs.dominos.com/dominos-careers/

https://www.dotfoodcareers.com/

https://randstadstaffing.com

https://www.shoprite.com/careers

https://careers.walmart.com/

**Health**

*Henrietta Johnson*

To keep all patients, families, visitors and staff safe, everyone who comes to HJMC is being asked about
their recent travel and you may be asked to wear a face mask while on the premises. If you are feeling unwell, have flu-like symptoms with fever or have travelled internationally within the last 6 weeks, please call HJMC to speak with a nurse prior to your appointment.

https://www.hjmc.org/

**Westside Family Health Care**

If you are coming into our health centers and you have a fever, cough, and/or have traveled outside the USA, please call 302-224-6800 to discuss your symptoms before coming into the office. For the safety of all patients, staff, and our community, we recommend that you limit the number of family or caregivers that join you at your appointment.

https://www.westsidehealth.org/

**La Red**

Please call 302-855-1233 to discuss your symptoms before coming into the office if you have a fever, cough, or have been out of the country recently. For the safety of all patients, staff, and our community, we recommend that you limit the number of family or caregivers that join you at your appointment.

http://www.laredhealthcenter.org/

**Mental Health**

The following links provide important information for how to manage stress and anxiety during COVID-19.


https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/mental-health-considerations.pdf?sfvrsn=6d3578af_2


If you are in need of mental health services during this time, please follow the links below to access the Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health and the Delaware Psychological Association.

https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dsamh/

https://www.depsych.org/
Tax Filing

The tax filing deadline has been moved from April 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020.


Economic Impact Payments

Economic Impact Payments are a part of the CARES Act. Most taxpayers will receive their payments automatically through direct deposit or by mail starting April, 15, 2020. If you have not yet filed taxes or have more questions about receiving the Economic Impact Payments, please visit the IRS information page below.


Youth Homelessness

Resources for youth and LGBT youth experiencing homelessness.


Resources for Homeless Assistance Providers

Emergency Funds for Non-Profits

DANA, DCF, Philanthropy Delaware, and UWDE are requesting emergency funds to help non-profits manage their responses to COVID-19. Sign on here:

https://delawarenonprofit.org/covid-19/

Centers for Disease Control

Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers

This interim guidance is intended to support response planning by homeless service providers, including overnight emergency shelters, day shelters, and meal service providers.


Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

This guidance is intended to provide key actions that local and state health departments, homelessness service systems, housing authorities, emergency planners, healthcare facilities, and homeless outreach services can take to protect people experiencing homelessness from the spread of COVID-19

Department of Housing and Urban Development

COVID-19 Information and Resources

COVID-19 resources for Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs, FHA questions, HUD assisted residents, and multi and single-family housing stakeholders.

https://www.hud.gov/coronavirus

COVID-19 Prevention and Response for Homeless Providers: Daily Resource Digest

A comprehensive list of COVID-19 prevention and response resources targeted to homeless providers from HUD’s Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) and their federal, state, and local partners.


COVID-19 Risks and Homelessness

To support partnerships and the vulnerable households served, relevant federal agencies are issuing guidance from subject matter experts on lessons learned from previous response efforts to infectious diseases. This includes key guidance from the CDC, HUD’s Infections Disease Toolkits, and specific resource pages surrounding Community Planning and Preparedness, Site Specific Emergency Operations, Client Support and Care, News and Announcements, and Other Disease Risk Resources.


Webinars

Infectious Disease Preparedness for Homeless Assistance Providers and Their Partners

https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/courses/infectious-disease-preparedness-for-homeless-assistance-providers-and-their-partners/

Office Hours: COVID-19 Planning and Response - March 13, 2020


Office Hours: COVID-19 Planning and Response for Homeless Assistance Providers - March 20, 2020

https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/courses/covid-19-planning-response-for-homeless-assistance-providers/

Corporation for Supportive Housing

CSH has compiled resources, considering the material from the vantage point of supportive housing
providers, and created a brief to help agencies best support their residents, staff and community.

https://www.csh.org/2020/03/coronavirus-disease-what-supportive-housing-providers-need-to-know/

Advocacy Group Resources

National Low Income Housing Coalition

The NLIHC’s COVID-19 page includes webinars, congressional recommendations, national updates from Congress, FEMA, the USDA, News Outlets and Advocacy groups, as well as updates on specific state and local actions, and federal guidance.

The NLIHC hosts a weekly national call on COVID-19 and housing/homelessness on Monday afternoons from 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The call is open to anyone and can be signed up for on their Coronavirus page.

https://nlihc.org/coronavirus-and-housing-homelessness

National Alliance to End Homelessness

The NAEH is offering general guidance, federal government, state government, and partner agency resources for COVID-19 and homelessness.

https://endhomelessness.org/coronavirus-and-homelessness/

National Housing Law Project

The NHLP has created a campaign to protect renter and homeowner rights during COVID-19. The following resources are for attorneys, advocates, policy makers and others.

https://www.nhlp.org/campaign/protecting-renter-and-homeowner-rights-during-our-national-health-crisis-

National Multifamily Housing Council

The NMHC has compiled an overview of suggested apartment owner preparations and considerations to help guide firms in their work.

https://www.nmhc.org/research-insight/analysis-and-guidance/emergency-preparedness/coronavirus-
-resources-for-apartment-firms/

Council for Large Public Housing Authorities

The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities has worked to preserve and improve public and affordable housing through advocacy, research, policy analysis and public education. Please see the link below for their COVIS-19 specific resources for PHA’s.

https://clpha.org/covid19
Legislative-Policymaking Group Resources

National Council of State Legislators

A comprehensive list of state legislation in response to COVID-19.


COVID-19 resources for State Legislators and other policymakers including webinars, podcasts, health, federal actions, continuity of government, fiscal, education, elections, criminal justice, employments, census, federal and additional resources.


National Governors Association

Learn more about Governors actions across the nation in response to COVID-19 in their states.

https://www.nga.org/coronavirus/?utm_source=mc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=todayinhousing&utm_term=20200319-0031O00003NV151QAD&utm_content=march19#states

National Council of State Housing Agencies

COVID-19 information, guidelines, and notices published by the state Housing Finance Agencies, the Administration, the CDC, HUD and other federal agencies, and state governments.


National League of Cities

Local elected officials are distinctly positioned to protect the health and safety of America’s residents and to provide reassurance in times of crisis. The National League of Cities developed this resources website and a Pandemic Response email series to support cities, towns and villages during the COVID-19 outbreak.

https://covid19.nlc.org/