

Charleston Field Office Eviction Prevention Resource Guide

State Resources

West Virginia

- West Virginia Housing Development Fund
 - WVHDF is currently accepting applications for its <u>Mountaineer Rental Assistance Program</u>, which provides funds to renters for past due rent, utilities, eviction court costs, relocation expenses, among other eligible expenses. Eligibility is determined by rental status, residential address, and income limits.
 - Phone number: 1-866-623-6284
- West Virginia Continuums of Care (CoCs)
 - The CoC program provides funding to states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to provide permanent housing, transitional housing, supportive services, and homeless prevention.
 Contact the CoC to find homeless service providers in your area.
- Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)
 - Housing choice vouchers available through the following Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) for those experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness, fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence.
 - Housing Authority of the City of Huntington
 - Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority
 - Housing Authority of the City of Fairmont
- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
 - The PATH tool allows WV residents to apply for health and social services programs, such as utility assistance, monthly cash assistance, SNAP, and Medicaid.
- <u>West Virginia Department of Education</u>
 - The Office of Student Support and Well-Being (OSSW) was established during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide coordinated services to students, including those experiencing homelessness.
 - Homeless Liaison & contact info by county
 - OSSW phone number: 1-833-627-2833
- <u>2-1-1 West Virginia</u>
 - A free phone and online service that provides information and referrals regarding local resources for healthcare, education, financial services, transportation, housing, among other categories. Housing resources include eviction prevention, rental assistance, homelessness outreach, etc.
- Legal Aid of West Virginia
 - A statewide nonprofit organization that provides free legal services and advocacy for renters facing eviction.

National Resources

Federal Government

- <u>Consumer Finance Protection Bureau</u>
 - CFPB has information about rental assistance programs, eviction resources, legal assistance, tenant rights, as well as what to do if you have lost your housing.
- U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

 Comprehensive step-by-step guide for people at risk of eviction. This guide includes information on renters' rights, who to contact if at risk of eviction, as well as emergency rental assistance programs.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

- <u>Rental Housing Counseling and Eviction Prevention</u>
 - Housing counseling agencies offer rental assistance counseling to those who are rent burdened or may be facing evictions.
- Tools for Landlords with Tenants Impacted by COVID-19
 - Provides links to sample rent repayment agreements and assists landlords with engaging tenants at-risk of eviction due to non-payment of rent.
- Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
 - HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) works to eliminate housing discrimination, promote economic opportunity, and achieve diverse, inclusive communities. FHEO investigates complaints regarding discrimination under the Fair Housing Act and civil rights violations in housing and community development programs. If you have experienced one of these, you may file a complaint online, via email, phone, or mail.
- Bad Landlords in Federal Housing Complaints
 - Information on how to report a bad landlord to HUD. This is only for landlords doing business with the federal government.

Organizations

- The Eviction Lab
 - The Eviction Lab is the first nationwide database of evictions. Find out how many evictions happen in your community and create custom maps, charts, and reports. Eviction Lab has expanded their resources during the COVID-19 pandemic to include an eviction tracking system, a database with updated federal, state, and local housing policies.
- Just Shelter
 - An online database that provides a list of 700+ organizations offering housing assistance and legal aid to those impacted by evictions both nationally and locally.