Rent/Eviction Information & Help:
If you are facing eviction or have concerns about owing rent, please contact:

1. **Legal Aid Society of Story County**, housed in Nevada. Eviction and related landlord-tenant cases are being treated as “crisis” cases and will receive prompt assistance. Call 515-382-2471
2. **Iowa Legal Aid Hotline**, Free advice, Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. 1-800-332-0419. Please also refer to their website for information on the eviction moratoriums in place and paperwork to file to get a stay.
3. Financial assistance providers listed below for help with rent payments.

Emergency Financial Assistance Providers:

Most Story County providers are accepting applications over the phone and/or by email during the pandemic.

**Ames United Church of Christ**: Rent, utilities, medical bill assistance for those experiencing income or job loss due to COVID-19 when funds are available. The payee needs to be able to accept a credit card via phone or the internet. Payments by check are also available but only on a monthly basis. Contact Pr. Eileen Gebbie at either eileen@amesucc.org or 515-232-9323.

**ACCESS (Assault Care Center, Ames)**: Rent and utility assistance. This resource can provide other supports as well. To be eligible, you must be a survivor of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or violent crime. Housing helpline: 1-855-696-2980

**Christ Community Church (Ames)**: Rent and utility assistance when funds are available. Must be an Ames resident. Documents required: Rental assistance needs photo ID, lease/rental agreement with landlord’s information. Utility assistance needs a utility bill. Call (515) 232-2765 or email info@ccames.org.

**Covid-19 Emergency Fund for Story County Immigrants (at St. Cecilia, Ames)**: Emergency assistance for rent, utilities, and other necessities like prescriptions. Rent dollars will be provided directly to the landlord, and utility payments will be provided directly to the utility company. Assistance provided once per month or as needed. To be eligible, you must: Live in Story County, be an immigrant (this includes undocumented immigrants), have an immediate expense that is past-due, due now, or due within the next 7 days. Paper applications in both Spanish and English are available at St. Cecilia’s Narthex or Rosita’s Mexican Store. You can also apply online in Spanish or English at: https://tinyurl.com/storyimmigrantfund. If you have been helped before but need assistance again, please fill out our Re-application Form / Forma Corta para Solicitar Fondos de Nuevo. Se habla espanol (515-233-1664). We also speak Dinka and Arabic (515-203-5131).

**The Bridge Home (formerly Emergency Residence Project, Ames)**: Homelessness prevention $. Also a local provider of The **Emergency Solutions Grant** program which helps prevent households from becoming homeless due to eviction, and assists Iowans experiencing homelessness to quickly regain rental housing. (Examples of assistance available to eligible individuals include rent and utility payments, including in arrears, legal assistance, application fees, security and utility deposits, moving costs, case management and credit repair. All financial assistance is paid directly to landlords and service providers. The Emergency Solutions assistance will remain available until all funds are exhausted or September 30, 2022.) Call 515-232-8075 / erp@amesshelter.org / http://www.amesshelter.org/

**Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance (Ames)**: Rent, utility, gas, and food vouchers available. Good Neighbor is taking applications by phone and email only at this time. Pick up of Emergency Food vouchers will
be from a safe and secure location. Note: Good Neighbor is adjusting their help during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond; help may be available more than once per year. Please reach out! 515-296-1449 / assistance@gnea.org

**Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP at MICA, Ames): Utility assistance.** This program is accepting applications. If you are approved, your utility company will be given a one-time payment. You also will be protected from shut-offs. Story County enrollment phone number: 515-956-3333.

**St. Patrick's "Good Samaritan" Financial Assistance Program (Nevada): Rent, utility, and gas assistance.** This program is for residents of eastern Story County: Must live on east side of interstate (Cambridge, Collins, Colo, Fernald, Maxwell, McCallsburg, Nevada, Roland, Zearing). Provide rent and utility assistance every 6 months (up to $200). Provide gas assistance for work or medical appointments only every 3 months. Students are not eligible for the program. Assistance is currently by phone only, please call! Denials are not currently required; landlord and utility company information is still required for those requesting rent or utility assistance; driver’s license is required for those requesting gas assistance. 515-382-2974

**St. Thomas’ "Love Your Neighbor" program (Ames): Rent and utility assistance.** Applications may be made by phone only during parish office hours which vary and are posted on the web site. Face to face interviews are not being held at this time. If an applicant has internet access, information on the process and how to submit paperwork will be sent by e-mail. If an applicant does not have internet access, the requirements will be explained and they may bring documents to the office during office hours. Once paperwork is received an interviewer will call the applicant. 515-292-3810 / lyn@ staparish.net

**Story County Community Services: Rent and utility assistance.** Help can be accessed 1x in 6 month period or up to 3 consecutive months if there is a medical reason individual is unable to work. The general assistance application is on the SCCS website. You also can call and staff will email a PDF fillable application that you can return via email, print and mail, or leave in a drop box available outside their building. Applications for rent and utility assistance also can be filled out in the office- by appointment only. (Note: The Community Services office at 126 South Kellogg Ste 001 in Ames is closed to the public.) Call 515-663-2930 or email: communityservices@storycountyiowa.gov

**The Salvation Army (Ames): Rent, utility, other emergency assistance.** All assistance is by appointment only. Call to schedule phone interviews for homelessness prevention dollars. Help may be available more than once per year! 515-233-3567 / cari.mcpartland@USC.salvationarmy.org

**Other Financial Assistance Resources:**

**City of Ames Rent, Mortgage and Utility Relief Assistance Program:** This program is for low-income households impacted by loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic to assist with their mortgage, rent, and utilities. These funds may only be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus for households at 80 percent or less of the Ames median income limits. Applications and program guidelines (including income limits) are available online at [www.cityofames.org/housing](http://www.cityofames.org/housing) in the “What’s New Box,” or for pick-up in the front corridor (east side of building) of City Hall, 515 Clark Ave. Application drop-off location is at the City Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call the Housing Hotline number at 515-239-5380.

**Iowa Foreclosure and Eviction Prevention Program, Iowa Finance Authority:** This program provided short-term relief to income-eligible renters and homeowners who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure. Rental and mortgage assistance for up to four months. For more information, go to: https://www.iowafinance.com/covid-19-iowa-eviction-and-foreclosure-prevention-program/ Application period is now closed/December 2020.

**Iowa Immigrant Community Fund for Meatpacking and Farmworkers (American Friends and Al Exito): Rent and utility assistance.** If you are undocumented/nonstatus and work in agriculture or meatpacking, this is for you! This is a trusted helping resource by partner organizations. Click here to apply.

**Iowa State Student Financial Assistance:** For any ISU students in need of assistance, the Student Services team would be happy to connect with you to discuss resources. Email: studentassistance@iastate.edu.

For updates and other helpful community resources, please visit United Way of Story County’s website at [www.uwstory.org](http://www.uwstory.org) or call 515-268-5142. OR, call 2-1-1 for assistance 24-7.