

Emergency Housing Resources Directory

Introduction

This directory provides a comprehensive guide to emergency housing resources available across the United States, with a special focus on New York City. It is designed to assist individuals and families facing homelessness or housing instability in finding immediate shelter, long-term housing solutions, and supportive services.

Navigating the landscape of housing assistance can be overwhelming. This guide organizes resources into clear, accessible sections to help you quickly find the help you need. Whether you are facing an immediate crisis, seeking to prevent eviction, or looking for specialized support for veterans, youth, or families, this directory is your starting point.

How to Use This Directory

- **For Immediate Help:** Start with the **National Emergency Hotlines** section for 24/7 assistance.
- **For NYC Residents:** The **New York City Resources** section provides detailed information on local shelters, rental assistance programs, and intake centers.
- **For Specific Needs:** Refer to the **Resources for Specific Populations** section for tailored support for veterans, youth, and families.
- **For Broader Support:** Explore the **Major Nonprofit Organizations** and **State and Local Programs** sections for additional avenues of assistance.

Each entry includes contact information, website links, and a brief description of the services offered. We strongly recommend calling ahead or visiting the websites of these organizations for the most up-to-date information on eligibility and availability.

National Emergency Hotlines

When facing a housing crisis, immediate assistance is critical. These national hotlines are available 24/7 to connect you with essential services, including emergency shelter, food, and healthcare.

- **2-1-1:** By dialing 2-1-1, you can connect with a trained professional who can provide confidential assistance and referrals to local social services. This service is available in most areas of the United States and is a primary resource for anyone in need of immediate help.
- **National Runaway Safeline:** For youth and teens who have run away from home or are at risk of homelessness, the National Runaway Safeline provides 24/7 support. You can reach them at **1-800-RUNAWAY (1-800-786-2929)**. They offer a confidential, non-judgmental service to help you find safety and support.
- **National Call Center for Homeless Veterans:** Veterans facing homelessness can call **1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838)** to receive assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This hotline connects veterans with trained counselors who can provide information and referrals to VA homeless programs and other resources.

Key National Organizations

Several national organizations play a crucial role in providing housing assistance and support services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):** HUD is the federal agency responsible for national housing policy and programs. Their website, www.hud.gov, offers a wealth of information, including a tool to find local housing resources. HUD also oversees the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program, which provides rental assistance to homeless individuals and families.
- **The Salvation Army:** With a presence in communities across the country, The Salvation Army offers a wide range of services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and food assistance. Their programs are designed to

provide a safe and supportive environment for those in need. You can find more information on their website at www.salvationarmyusa.org.

- **Catholic Charities USA:** Catholic Charities agencies nationwide provide a variety of social services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. They are committed to helping vulnerable individuals and families find stable housing and achieve self-sufficiency. Learn more at www.catholiccharitiesusa.org.
- **United Way:** Through its 2-1-1 network, the United Way connects millions of people to essential resources, including housing assistance. By calling 2-1-1 or visiting 211.org, you can find information on local shelters, rental assistance programs, and other supportive services in your area.

New York City Resources

New York City has a comprehensive system of services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The primary agency overseeing these services is the Department of Homeless Services (DHS).

- **NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS):** DHS provides temporary emergency shelter and rehousing support for families and individuals. If you are in need of shelter, you must go to an intake center. There are separate intake centers for single adults and families. You can find the locations of these centers and more information on the DHS website at www.nyc.gov/dhs.
- **Coalition for the Homeless:** This advocacy organization provides a range of services, including a crisis intervention hotline, rental assistance, and legal aid. Their Crisis Intervention Program can be reached at **1-888-358-2384**. For more information, visit their website at www.coalitionforthehomeless.org.
- **NYC Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP):** This program provides assistance to households who are behind on their rent. Information on eligibility and how to apply can be found on the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) website at www.nyc.gov/hpd.
- **ACCESS NYC:** This online tool helps New Yorkers determine their eligibility for over 30 city, state, and federal benefit programs, including housing assistance.

You can use ACCESS NYC to screen for eligibility and apply for programs. Visit the website at access.nyc.gov.

Resources for Specific Populations

Certain populations, such as veterans, youth, and families, face unique challenges when experiencing homelessness. The following resources are tailored to meet their specific needs.

Veterans

- **VA Homeless Programs:** The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers a range of programs to help homeless veterans, including supportive housing, employment services, and healthcare. The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at **1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838)** is the primary point of contact for these services.
- **HUD-VASH Program:** This collaborative program between HUD and the VA provides rental assistance vouchers (Housing Choice Vouchers) to homeless veterans, along with case management and supportive services.
- **U.S. VETS:** This non-profit organization provides housing, employment, and counseling services to veterans and their families at locations across the country. Visit their website at usvets.org to find a location near you.

Youth

- **National Runaway Safeline:** At **1-800-RUNAWAY (1-800-786-2929)**, youth in crisis can find a safe and confidential resource. The Safeline provides support and referrals to local services, including emergency shelter.
- **Covenant House:** This organization provides housing and supportive services to youth facing homelessness. They have locations in cities across the country, offering a range of programs to help young people achieve stability and independence. Find out more at www.covenanthouse.org.

Families

- **Family Promise:** This national non-profit organization helps families experiencing homelessness find temporary shelter, meals, and supportive services. Their unique model utilizes a network of community partners to keep families together and help them regain their independence. Learn more at familypromise.org.