



CITY OF MUSCATINE
215 Sycamore Street
Muscatine, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550 • FAX (563) 264-0750

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Kim Reynolds ★ Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

For more information contact:

Pat Garrett
(515) 802-0986
Pat.Garrett@governor.iowa.gov

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE MONEY IS MADE AVAILABLE

Nearly \$9 Million available to assist low-income Iowans in preventing eviction or regaining housing; MCSA receives \$340,568

DES MOINES – Governor Reynolds announced Friday (December 4) that a total of nearly \$9 million in assistance is available to assist eligible low-income Iowans who are at imminent risk of eviction and individuals who have lost housing to quickly regain housing stability. The funding will also provide support for homeless shelter operations. The funds are made available through a supplemental appropriation to the Emergency Solutions Grant program through the federal CARES Act.

The Muscatine Center for Social Action (MCSA) was one of 35 agencies that received Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds. MCSA will receive a total of \$340,568 with \$200,000 going towards shelter and outreach programs, and \$140,568 for homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing.

“Throughout the pandemic, our focus has always been on protecting the lives and livelihoods of Iowans,” said Gov. Reynolds. “The funds announced today will assist those at risk of eviction while also providing support to homeless shelters supporting Iowa’s homeless population at this



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critical time. I appreciate the continued collaboration with our federal partners in support of the state's pandemic response."

"Providing housing assistance for Iowans in need remains a top priority," said Iowa Finance Authority Executive Director Debi Durham. "The ability for Iowans to thrive and prosper begins with a safe, stable place to call home and the program announced today will be essential in helping Iowans get back on their feet."

The Emergency Solutions Grant program will help to prevent households from becoming homeless due to eviction, assist Iowans who have lost their home to eviction regain rental housing as well as provide homeless shelters with financial support to assist with operations and outreach as they work to serve Iowans in need and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

To be eligible for eviction prevention assistance to avoid homelessness, Iowans must have an income of 50% of the area median income or less and be at imminent risk of eviction in addition to meeting other eligibility criteria. To be eligible for assistance in rapidly regaining housing, Iowans must be currently experiencing homelessness.

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.

Individuals in need of assistance must apply through the Coordinated Entry help line in their area, which is available along with additional eligibility and program information at iowahousingrecovery.com.

Thirty-five agencies were awarded a total of \$8.8 million in Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds. The full list of awards is available [here](#). The assistance will remain available until all funds are exhausted or September 30, 2022.



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The Emergency Solutions Grant program is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Iowa Finance Authority in partnership with participating Iowa service agencies.