

Housing Help for Southern Illinois 2026

Resources for Low-Income Individuals and Families

Updated: 9/7/26



If you are struggling to find housing or pay your rent and utility bills, assistance may be available through federal, state, and local programs. These organizations can help:

FEDERAL RESOURCES

HUD U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD supports affordable housing programs across Illinois. HUD Programs may include: Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8), public housing, affordable multifamily housing, housing counseling, homelessness prevention services. **Contact the HUD Illinois Office** 77 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 2608 Chicago, IL 60604 **312-353-5680**



Housing Counseling HUD Housing Counselor **hud.gov/states/Illinois** **800-569-4287**

HUD-approved housing counselors can help with: Finding affordable housing, preventing eviction, understanding tenant rights, applying for assistance programs.

STATEWIDE ILLINOIS RESOURCES

Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) IHDA provides housing support programs for renters, homeowners, seniors, veterans, and people experiencing homelessness.



IHDA Housing Search Find affordable rental housing throughout Illinois at **www.illinoishousingsearch.org**

Illinois Housing Help can assist you with: Rental assistance - Utility assistance - Eviction prevention – Court-based rental help **illinoishousinghelp.org** **866-454-3571**



Illinois Homeless Prevention Program - temporary financial assistance and support services to prevent homelessness. The household must document a temporary economic crisis beyond its control and must be able to demonstrate an ability to meet the prospective rental/utility obligations after the assistance has been granted based on current or anticipated income. Call the Illinois Helpline: **800-843-6154**

LOCAL PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES (PHAs)

Public Housing Authorities manage Section 8 vouchers and public housing. Contact local PHAs to ask about: public housing openings, Section 8 applications, waiting lists, senior and disability housing.



Jackson County	jcha-il.org	618-457-3455
Williamson County	ilwcha.com	618-985-2422
Union	myucha.com	618-833-5129
Perry	perrycountyhousing.org	618-542-5409



DISABILITY HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Southern Illinois Center for Independent Living - provides independent living services to Southern Illinoisans with disabilities, their families. Services are aimed at increasing independent living options. Serves Alexander, Franklin, Gallatin, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union and Williamson Counties. Carbondale office: **618-457-3318** 2135 W. Ramada Ln sicill.org
Harrisburg office: **618-252-7233** Metropolis office: **618 638-1377**

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Dial 2-1-1 for help or visit: or visit **211illinois.org** to be connected to resources for emergency shelter, rent and utility assistance, food assistance, mental health services, local nonprofits and churches

Find Help Southern Illinois is a searchable southern Illinois resource directory covering 19 counties for help with housing, food assistance, utility assistance, medical care, transportation, employment help, domestic violence services, senior support and more. Go to **findhelpsi.org**

Eviction Help Illinois Free legal aid and mediation services for renters facing eviction.
evictionhelpillinois.org **855-631-0811**



Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for help paying utility bills.
helpillinoisfamilies.com **877-411-9276**

The Salvation Army of Southern Illinois offers emergency assistance for rent, mortgage, utilities, prescriptions, transportation, temporary lodging to eligible families, when funding is available. 906 Tower Square Plaza, Marion, IL **618-993-5854**

HEROES (Helping Every Other Resource for Students) provides support for SIU students experiencing housing insecurity, who cannot pay rent or utilities, have had rent increases, or are at risk of eviction **heroes.siu.edu**.

TIPS

- Apply to multiple housing lists if possible.
- Waiting lists can be long. Apply as early as possible and to multiple housing programs when available.
- Be prepared to provide copies of ID, Social Security cards, Income verification, lease, utility bills
- Ask agencies about special programs for seniors, veterans, persons with disabilities, families with children
- Contact organizations directly to confirm eligibility, funding availability, and current program details.

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