

State Representative Karina Villa
District 49 News

May 5, 2020

Housing Information and Resources

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During COVID-19

Checking In

This time has proven to be challenging and sometimes very difficult to navigate. With the loss of income for many, the stress of maintaining housing is very real. The Governor has taken steps to try and ensure that individuals will not lose their homes during this time but we realize that may just not be enough.

In this week's newsletter, you will find multiple resources that may be able to help you during these uncertain times. We have also tried to clarify some of the information that has been released in order to help you better understand the

circumstances. As always, we are here to help you. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact my office at 630-326-9319 (English) 630-326-9419 (Spanish) or by email at StateRepKarinaVilla@gmail.com.

Rental Assistance

The [Illinois Housing Development Authority's Rental Housing Support Program](#) provides rental assistance to extremely low-income households.

For those living in Dupage County who are in need of rental assistance contact the [Dupage County Housing Authority](#) at (630) 690-3555.

For those living in Kane County in need of rental assistance contact [Lazarus House](#) at (630) 587-2144.

Utility Bill Assistance

Utility companies have agreed to a moratorium on electricity and gas shutoffs for the duration of the state of emergency; will suspend the imposition of late payment fees or penalties and implement temporary flexible credit and collections procedures. Governor Pritzker is committed to ensuring that customers remain connected to essential utility services during this time.

For specific information you may contact:

NICOR [Energy Assistance Program](#)

ComEd at ComEd.com/CARE or call 800-334-7661.

Comcast Xfinity at [Internet Essential](#) or call 1-855-846-8376

AT&T - If you are an AT&T customer needing assistance, please contact them a 800-288-2020 or dial 611 from your AT&T wireless device.

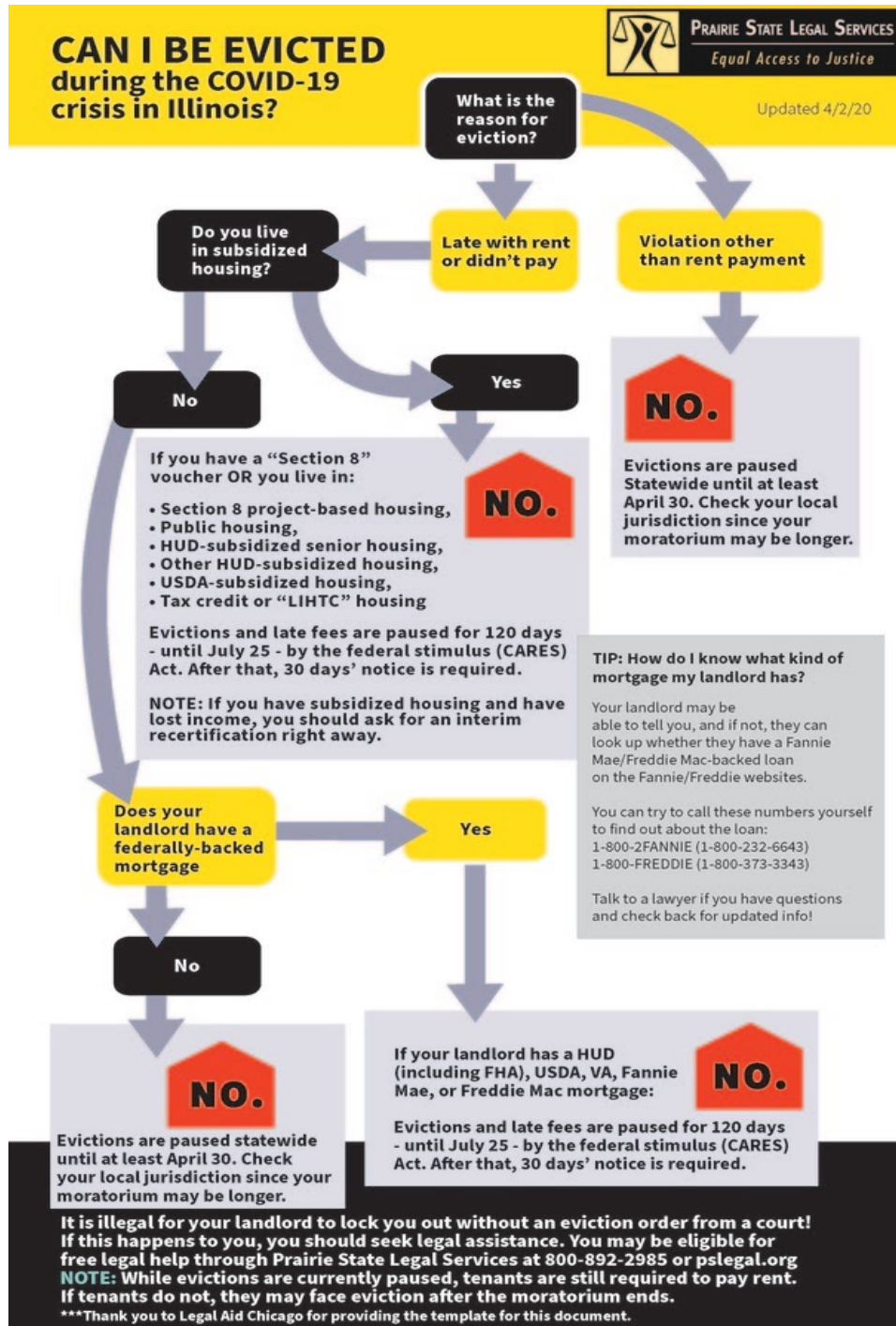
Evictions and Foreclosures

While Governor Pritzker has reissued and extended Executive Order 2020-30 through May 29, 2020, this does not mean that rent payments are not due.

All state, county, and local law enforcement officers in the State of Illinois are instructed to cease enforcement of orders of eviction for residential and non-residential premises. You can read the latest Executive Order in its entirety [here](#).

Renters residing in public or assisted housing, or in a home or apartment whose owner has a federally-backed mortgage, and who are unable to pay their rent, are

protected from eviction for 4 months. Property owners are also prohibited from issuing a 30-day notice to a tenant to vacate a property until after the 4-month moratorium ends. The chart below from the [DuPage Housing Authority](https://www.dupagehousingauthority.org/) may be able to help you.



CARES Act

If you are struggling to make your mortgage payments, or believe you may fall behind soon, you should contact your loan servicer. [The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#) allows a borrower with a Federally-backed mortgage loan experiencing a financial hardship due, directly or indirectly, to the COVID-19 emergency to request forbearance on the Federally-backed mortgage loan, regardless of delinquency status.

Foreclosures

Per the CARES Act, servicers of federally-backed mortgage loans may not initiate any judicial or non-judicial foreclosure process, move for a foreclosure judgment or order of sale or execute a foreclosure-related eviction or foreclosure sale, for not less than the 60-day period beginning on March 18, 2020.

Emergency Housing Options

If you are at-risk of homelessness or need immediate assistance, contact an emergency and transitional housing provider. A list of emergency and transitional housing providers can be found on the [Illinois Department of Human Services website](#).

[Hesed House](#)

Hesed House is still continuing to serve individuals that are in emergency situations and need services. They are also in need of [resources and donations](#). You can reach them at (630)897-2156 from 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday.

[Dupage Pads](#)

In response to COVID-19, all Interim (Overnight) Housing shelter sites are temporarily closed but they are still serving individuals. The Client Service Center, 703 W. Liberty is open for supply donations and client navigation to temporary emergency housing only. 8:00am-8:00pm M-F, 8:00am-4:00pm Sat/Sun. They are also in [need of resources and donations](#). You can reach them at 866.682.3846 x2275 or email streetoutreach@dupagepads.org

Housing for Healthcare Workers and First Responders

Airbnb hosts are offering healthcare staff and first responders places to stay that allow them to be close to their patients and safely distanced from their own families. To host a responder or find a place to stay visit the link below. <https://www.airbnb.com/openhomes/covid19relief>

Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

State Operated Developmental Centers, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities, and Community Integrated Living Arrangements

will continue to provide care. All in-home direct care staff are considered essential staff and should continue to support individuals in the home setting.

If You are Unsafe at Home

[Mutual Ground](#) and [Community Crisis Center](#)

Mutual Ground in Aurora and Community Crisis Center in Elgin are still providing emergency shelter as well as operating their 24 hour hotlines. Mutual Ground Domestic Violence Hotline 630-897-0080 (24 Hrs), Mutual Ground Sexual Assault Hotline 630-897-8383 (24 Hrs), Community Crisis Center Hotline 1-847-697-2380 (24 Hrs). If you are in immediate danger please call 911.

McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act

By law all school districts are required to designate a liaison for children and youth experiencing homelessness. Students identified as experiencing homelessness should receive information and services from homeless liaisons as it relates to COVID-19, and liaisons should proactively maintain contact with these students and their families to ensure they are connected to school instruction and other school- and/or community-based supports, as needed and appropriate. Please contact the Student Services Department at your child's school for additional housing resources and further information about the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act.

College Students

The closure of colleges and universities has posed a major problem for many college students who rely on their school's campus housing. In 2019, The Hope Center for College, Community and Justice at Temple University found that around half of all two-year students and almost one-third of four-year college students experienced housing insecurity, food insecurity, or both. If you would like to read more about the study conducted by the Hope Center for College, Community and Justice, the [Hope Center Report](#) can be found here.

During this stay at home order my thoughts are with international students, students who have aged out of foster care, students with extenuating family circumstances, and students who rely on their schools for basic needs who have all had to worry about not having a place to live. If you are a college student who is experiencing homelessness please reach out to your school's Housing and Financial Aid departments for assistance with housing, access to technology, access to food, etc.

