



Cedar County Disaster Newsletter March 1, 2021

Volume 1: Issue 14

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This will be the last issue of the Cedar County COVID-19 Newsletter published for the residents of Cedar County. As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, a monthly newsletter cannot bring you the information in a timely and expeditious manner. If you have questions or concerns regarding current happenings with the COVID-19 virus and pandemic, your best resource is to contact Cedar County Public Health at 563-886-2226. Take care and stay well!



Cedar County Public Health (CCPH) will continue to provide the residents of Cedar County with updates on the COVID-19 vaccine process through the extent of the Public Health Emergency. This information will be posted here:

- CedarCountyCOVID19Response at this address: <https://cedarcountycovid19.org/>
- Cedar County Iowa at this address: <https://cedarcounty.iowa.gov/>
- Cedar County Public Health Facebook Page at this address: <https://www.facebook.com/CedarcountyPH>

As of today, Cedar County Public Health continues to receive 400 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine weekly to dispense to the eligible population. We anticipate this number may increase over time as more vaccine becomes available in Iowa. CCPH will continue to partner with Healthcare Providers and Pharmacies within the county to disperse the vaccine as quickly as possible.

The Iowa COVID-19 website (<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>) is another great resource to look up statistical data by county. Information found on the website includes data on the number of doses administered as well as vaccine providers.

We know that these are trying times for everyone. The following resources are available for Cedar County residents:

COUNSELING SERVICES AVAILABLE

Free counseling is available to any Iowan who has been affected, in any way, by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The options available are:

- Call 800-447-1985 to connect with a counselor specializing in rural issues and agriculture 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Call the Iowa Warm Line, 844-775-9276, to connect with a peer counselor or request to get in touch with a COVID Recovery Iowa counselor.

DISASTER DISTRESS HELPLINE

Provides immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any disaster, natural or man-made. 1-800-985-5990. You can also text TalkWithUS to 66746 for assistance.

ARE YOU FACING AN IMMEDIATE CRISIS? PLEASE CALL FOR HELP:

- Call 911 for emergencies
- The Eldercare Locator: 1-800-677-1116 (interpretation services for 150 languages)
- National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4AChild (1-800-422-4453) or text 1-800-422-4453
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 or text LOVEIS to 22522
- National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) or Online Chat
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) for English, 1-888-628-9454 for Spanish, or Lifeline Crisis Chat.
- Veteran's Crisis Line: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or Crisis Chat or text: 8388255
- Domestic Violence Intervention Program 24/hr. Crisis Line: 1-800-373-1043
- Homeless or facing a housing crisis? Call Houselowa at 1-833-739-0065 for assistance.

IOWA LEGAL AID

Individuals with questions of a legal nature can call the Legal Information Hotline at 1-800-332-0419.

COVID-19 TESTING

COVID-19 testing appointments at Test Iowa locations are filling up. Before heading to a Test Iowa site, complete the assessment first at testiowa.com and schedule an appointment to be tested at any location. Call Test Iowa with questions about testing: 515-575-2131 or 844-844-1561 (toll free), 8 am - 8 pm seven days a week (except Holidays).

IOWA EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT - CARES ACT

The Emergency Solutions Grant program 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 assistance will remain available until all funds are exhausted. Call 1-833-739-0065 for more information.

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Iowans who may qualify for unemployment due to COVID-19 or under the CARES Act can find information by calling: 1-866-239-0843

UNINSURED?

If you are uninsured and need COVID-19 testing, you can call 1-855-889-7985 for assistance.

COMMUNITY ACTION OF EASTERN IOWA

Do you need help with food, utility bill assistance, crisis assistance, disaster assistance, or other help? Contact Community Action of Eastern Iowa at 563-324-3236

REFUGEE ALLIANCE OF CENTRAL IOWA

COVID-19 ELL Help Line is available Monday – Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm at 1-877-558-2609.

EASTERN IOWA MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES – It's OK to ask for help!!

- 24-Hour Mobile Crisis Outreach & 24-Hour Crisis Line 1-844-430-0375
- 24 Hour Life Connections Peer Respite Support Line 1-516-688-7484
- MCSA Peer Line and Virtual Groups. Open 8am-5pm M-F 563-200-2742
- Life Connections Peer Line and Virtual Groups. M, T, Th, F: 5pm-10pm, Sat-Sun 12pm-5pm 563-357-6352
- Vera French Peer Drop In- 8am-4pm M-F 563-322-5276
- 24 Hour Crisis Stabilization Residential 563-396-3017

NEED HELP WITH YOUR HOME ENERGY BILL?

For individuals who received a disconnection notice or who have difficulty paying a utility bill, there is help available through Community Action of Eastern Iowa. Families can apply for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) that can help pay a portion of an eligible household's utility bill.

The program began accepting applications October 1, 2020, for households that have a member who is at least 60 years of age, or disabled, or where disconnection is imminent. All others may apply November 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021. For assistance, please call 563-324-3236 or contact the Iowa Department of Human Rights at 1-800-351-4659.

FOOD BANK SERVICES

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has made several modifications to its food security programs due to the COVID-19 crisis. For more information, or to apply for SNAP benefits, call 1-855-944-3663.

CEDAR COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE

- There are three kinds of assistance in Cedar County
 - ▶ Emergency assistance for needy persons:
 - ▶ Assistance for poor persons,
 - ▶ Assistance for an extended nature.

You can also request food boxes from Cedar County General Assistance. For more information, call 563-886-1726

MARCH 2021 HACAP FOOD RESERVOIR SCHEDULE

- 3/5/2021 – Tipton UMC, 607 Lynn Street, Tipton. 3:30pm – 4:30pm
- 3/9/2021 – Bennett Ambulance Service Building – 145 Main Street, Bennett – 3:00pm – 4:00pm
- 3/16/2021 – West Branch Fire Department – 105 S. 2nd Street, West Branch – 3:30pm – 4:30pm

CDC EVICTION MORATORIUM

The CDC will extend its eviction moratorium until **March 31, 2021**. The moratorium protects renters who meet certain requirements and who sign a declaration form and give it to the landlord. If you are unable to pay your rent, you can call 211 or the Iowa COVID-19 Legal Advice Hotline at 1-800-332-0419.

This newsletter was published monthly by the Cedar County Emergency Management Agency to provide information, updates and resources regarding COVID-19 for our citizens. The contacts contained herein are being provided on an informational basis; we are not responsible for the content or services provided. Information is believed to be current as of the printing date of 03/01/2021.