

## Housing Assistance & Protections Information

### Dutchess County

#### Eviction/Foreclosure Protection:

The federal CARES Act provides eviction/foreclosure relief for 120 days for tenants/homeowners in all federally assisted housing (rental housing or federally backed mortgages). Privately owned rental housing is covered by an eviction moratorium issued by the Governor Cuomo on March 16, 2020, which now extends to August 20th. In addition, the state is banning late payments or fees for missed rent payments during the eviction moratorium, and allowing renters facing financial hardship due to COVID-19 to use their security deposit as payment and repay their security deposit over time. For more information, [view the COVID-19 housing-related FAQs](#) on the NYS HCR website.

Since each situation is unique, all questions about eviction/foreclosure protections should be directed to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley at 845-471-0058 x400 or x428. They have attorneys ready to provide personalized advice.

#### Housing Assistance:

The County anticipates there will be resources available to assist residents impacted by COVID-19 under the federal CARES Act, which was signed into law on March 30, 2020. We are awaiting guidance from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on the available resources and the guidelines for these funds.

\* If you would like to be contacted with information about these resources once more is known, please email [DutchessResponds@dutchessny.gov](mailto:DutchessResponds@dutchessny.gov) and provide the following:

- First and last name
- Email address (or phone number if you don't have an email)
- Town/City/Village where you live
- 1-2 sentences describing your issue

For more information on a wide range of housing-related questions, [view the COVID-19 housing-related FAQs](#) on the NYS HCR website.

#### Hudson River Housing's Emergency Response Fund:

Please direct questions to 845-337-4407 x105

With generous support from our community, Hudson River Housing's *COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund* has been created to provide assistance to Dutchess County households most at risk of being severely impacted by COVID-19. We recognize that the recently issued federal stimulus funding may not reach many of our most vulnerable neighbors – even if it did, it would likely not be enough to meet both current and future urgent and unavoidable expenses.

#### Eligibility Information and How to Apply for Funding:

Funds will be used to make direct payments to landlords and utilities companies. Housing expenses will be prioritized, but we will also accept applications for unavoidable expenses such as medical bills, car payments, etc. Applications were collected until May 15 for the first round of funding. After the first round of funding is distributed, remaining funds will be released on a first come first serve basis.

View the HRH website for [information on eligibility requirements](#). You can [apply now online](#), or [download a PDF application](#) and either drop it off through the back door mail slot at Hudson River Housing (313 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie NY 12601) or submit applications by mail to:

Hudson River Housing  
Care of Robin Dilio  
313 Mill Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

## Utilities:

### **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)**

A note from the Community Action Partnership (CAP) for Dutchess County: The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) has been extended to June 30<sup>th</sup>. There are 4 total benefits available this year: 1 Regular Benefit and 3 Emergency Benefits. The benefits start at \$575 for Deliverable Fuels and \$350 for Municipal Utilities. We are open and here to help you see if you are eligible! Please call us at 845-452-5104, or email us at [info@dutchesscap.org](mailto:info@dutchesscap.org).

### **Central Hudson (from their website)**

If you are impacted by this situation and have concerns about bill payment or other Central Hudson services, contact them using their [online "Web Chat" feature](#), via email through their [Contact Us form](#), or by phone at 845-452-2700. For payment assistance options, visit [www.CentralHudson.com/Assistance](http://www.CentralHudson.com/Assistance).

### **NYSEG (from their website)**

- We have suspended late payment charges.
- We have suspended all disconnections for non-payment.
- We have suspended required security deposits for new accounts.
- Please call us if you would like to discuss your account and manage your payments.
- You may qualify for assistance. Please visit our [Help With Bill page](#) or call **888.315.1755** to learn more.
- **Project SHARE Heating Fund.** Your donation helps income-eligible customers with energy emergencies. Active duty military personnel and well-discharged veterans with an active disconnect notice may qualify for help regardless of income.