

## **HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INFORMATION**

### **VA Aid and Attendance Benefit**

For veterans or their surviving spouses living in California, assistance for senior living programs may be available through the California VA. These benefits are in addition to a monthly pension, not in place of a pension. Eligibility for additional support under the VA benefits program requires the meeting one or more of the following conditions:

- The aid of another person to perform normal tasks of everyday living, including feeding, bathing, dressing and attending to medical needs.
- Disabilities that have resulted in the need to remain bedridden outside of any prescribed course of convalescence or treatment.
- Currently a patient in a nursing home due to physical or mental challenges
- Eyesight at a corrected acuity of 5/200 or less in both eyes or limitations in concentric correction to five degrees or less of the visual field.

As of 2020, the VA Aid and Attendance Benefit can provide up to \$1,788 per month for veterans, \$1,149 per month for a surviving spouse of a veteran, or \$2,120 per month for couples in need of assistance.

Contact: To apply, veteran seniors can contact their county office or call (800) 952-5626. Veterans can also send a completed VA Form 21-2680 to their regional Pension Management Center or nearest local VA office.

### **California State Department of Aging**

The California State Department of Aging is a state government agency dedicated to the well-being of seniors. With a wealth of information on everything from local programs and services to care options, seniors can connect with trusted resources online and by phone. A hotline is available to help seniors partner with the right resources, including sources of senior living financial support.

Anyone can contact the California State Department of Aging for assistance with questions and local services.

Contact: Call 1-800-510-2020 for access to the senior information line.

### **Housing Authority of the County of Riverside**

Low-income housing for adults age 62 and adults with disabilities is available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). "Low income" is typically considered to be less than 50 percent of the median area income, but some programs have exceptions. The two major HUD programs providing rental assistance are: HUD Section 8 Rental Housing Certificate Vouchers and HUD 202 Senior Housing.

Contact: 951-351-0700 or visit their website for additional information and registration:

<https://www.harivco.org/>

## Riverside County Department of Public Social Services

<https://rivcodpss.org/housing-help>

If you are experiencing homelessness and need housing, help is available through Home Connect. Call [1-800-498-8847](tel:1-800-498-8847) to connect with a staff member from an agency in Riverside County who can help you start the process to secure housing.

Our Housing Support Program also helps secure housing for eligible [CalWORKs](#) customers who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of homelessness. The program offers several benefits including housing outreach and placement, hotel/motel vouchers, and rental assistance. Call [\(833\) 391-0506](tel:833-391-0506) or email [HSP@rivco.org](mailto:HSP@rivco.org) for more information.

Riverside County's Housing Authority offers a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Learn more and apply online by visiting [www.harivco.org](http://www.harivco.org) or call [\(951\) 351-0700](tel:951-351-0700). Read below for further information.

## Riverside University Health Systems

Individuals and families living in homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness can find support through our department and partnering agencies. Behavioral Health Home Connect and can assist anyone experiencing homelessness or at risk of losing their home. If you need help, just call [\(800\) 498-8847](tel:800-498-8847).

Our partners with Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Workforce Solutions (HHPWS), which includes the Housing Authority, offer access to affordable housing programs and job training services. HHPWS also engages in research to help reduce future homelessness. You can visit <https://www.harivco.org/> to learn more.

## Cash Assistance (CalWORKs)

CalWORKs is designed to give families with children a way to meet their basic living needs. We want to help families in times of hardship enter or re-enter the workforce and become self-sufficient.

For working families, the CalWORKs program provides:

- Temporary cash assistance to eligible families with low or no income
- Education
- Employment and job training programs
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Work expenses
- Counseling

You may be eligible to receive cash assistance if:

- You have a child in the home who has a parent that is:
  - Deceased
  - Unemployed
  - Not living in the home
  - Disabled
- You are a relative taking care of a child
- You are a pregnant woman with no other children.

The amount of cash assistance a family can receive depends on the number of people who are eligible and the amount of income they receive. After you apply, your Eligibility Technician (ET) will go over all of the eligibility requirements with you during the interview.

Once every 12 months, eligible families qualify for sixteen non-consecutive days of temporary homeless assistance and a one-time payment for permanent housing assistance. Speak to your ET for more information. If you are homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness and need housing assistance

### **Hotel/Motel Vouchers**

If you are experiencing homelessness, hotel/motel vouchers can help. We provide hotel/motel vouchers to individuals who are receiving cash aid through CalWORKs for up to 30 days.

If you are a family receiving CalWORKs, you may be eligible for the Housing Support Program. For more information contact our Housing Support Program at [\(833\) 391-0506](tel:833-391-0506) or by emailing: [hsp@rivco.org](mailto:hsp@rivco.org)

If you are an individual adult and homeless and in need of housing, please call Home Connect at [1-800-498-8847](tel:1-800-498-8847). A staff member from a county agency will help you secure housing.

### **Rental Assistance**

IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING TO AFFORD RENT AND STAY IN YOUR HOME, WE WANT TO HELP.

If you're already receiving CalWORKs, you may qualify for our Housing Support Program! The program offers rental assistance to avoid eviction. See if you qualify by emailing [hsp@rivco.org](mailto:hsp@rivco.org) or calling [\(833\) 391-0506](tel:833-391-0506).

You can also try **United Lift**, which offers a rental assistance program for Riverside County. With help from **SoCal United Way** and non-profit Lift to Rise, there are millions of dollars available in rental assistance for communities countywide.

In addition, United Lift is proactively striving to understand how the rent burden impacts residents and communities by tracking and reporting data from the rental assistance program. This means that by utilizing the program for yourself, you are helping future individuals and families in need. Learn more by visiting <https://www.unitedlift.org>.

**Inland SoCal United Way:** 951-697-4700 or [rentalassistance@iscuw.org](mailto:rentalassistance@iscuw.org)