



## Unemployment, Financial Assistance and Legal Support Resources

- [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) and Unemployment Benefits](#): If you do need to talk to someone, call one of our [Customer Service representatives](#). We can assist you in Spanish, Hmong, Somali, or any other language you prefer. Customer Service representatives are available Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Twin Cities area: 651-296-3644 | Greater Minnesota: 1-877-898-9090 | TTY users: 1-866-814-1252
- CLUES Emergency Relief Fund provides one-time support for undocumented Latino families and individuals experiencing income loss related to the COVID-19 crisis. Contact CLUES COVID-19 hotline 651-768-0000.
- CLUES COVID-19 Hotline: 651-768-0000 - At CLUES, the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff, program participants, volunteers and community partners is of the utmost importance. We are monitoring the developing COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation and are taking necessary precautions to minimize the exposure and spread of the disease to our staff, volunteers and the communities we serve.
- **Karen Organization of MN (KOM)** is helping their clients with a language barrier apply for unemployment benefits.
- **Workforce Solutions** provides employment and training services to job seekers and businesses in Ramsey County. Workforce Solutions Hotline 651-266-9890. Online Inquiries, encouraged!: [Ramsey County.us/workforce](https://www.ramseycounty.us/workforce)
- **Ramsey County Emergency Assistance - ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY EA/EGA ELIGIBILITY UPDATES EFFECTIVE MAY 13, 2020** To apply for EA/EGA, visit [ramseycounty.us/EmergencyAssistance](https://www.ramseycounty.us/EmergencyAssistance). If you are not already receiving public assistance and are applying for multiple programs (SNAP, health care, cash, child care assistance) you can also apply online at [applymn.dhs.mn.gov](https://applymn.dhs.mn.gov). For questions about eligibility or application status, call the EA/EGA hotline at 651-266-4884.
- **CAR REPAIR GRANT.** The Car Repair Grant (via CAP/RW) offers financial help to households in need of car repairs or maintenance. Onetime grants are limited to \$750 per household. Due to the limited number of grants, priority is given to households who rely on their car to continue working, attend school, or support their families. Check their website <https://caprw.org/services/money-jobs-transportation/car-repair-grant.html> for details. INTERESTED IN APPLYING? CALL 651-603-5880 TO LEARN MORE
- **Online Money Smart workshop, sponsored by Community Action Program.** Attend this online workshop to get real-world information, skills, and resources to manage your money with confidence. Topics Include:
  - Money Values and Influences
  - Income and Expenses
  - Spending and Saving

- Credit Reports and Scores
  - Managing Debt
  - Workshops are FREE and open to the public. Delivered online, the workshop is live and meets for two sessions. Call 651-603-5855 for additional information or questions.
- [Lutheran Social Services](#) provides budget & debt counseling, credit report review, student loan repayment plans, and more. Call 1-888-577-2227
- **Fair Wage Emergency Fund** is providing free cash assistance to restaurant workers, delivery drivers and other tipped workers and service workers — who are seeing their income decline during this disaster, or aren't able to work because of quarantines or other health concerns. They are actively raising money for this emergency fund and will be making temporary cash gifts to workers as funding becomes available. To get help, please fill out the form at <https://ofwemergencyfund.org/help> and one of our organizers will call you to follow-up.
- **East Metro's Beyond Backgrounds** - If you are working with individuals who have the ability to pay rent but are struggling to find housing because of barriers to renting, please know that the East Metro's Beyond Backgrounds program has capacity and the ability to help. With a quick on-line referral process at <https://www.eastmetrocrisisalliance.org/beyond-backgrounds/> you can refer an East Metro (Ramsey, Dakota or Washington County) client who:
  - Is in need of housing,
  - Has criminal, credit and/or rental history (e.g. eviction) barriers,
  - Makes at least \$15/hr or \$2,500/month or is receiving a subsidy or voucher to pay rent, and
  - Is receiving or has received services for Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorder
 Once they're referred to the program Justin, a Certified Peer Recovery Coach, will engage with them and help support their housing search, with access to landlords who have agreed to consider these types of rentals. Email Justin to learn more about the program, or have him come out to a staff meeting to explain the program and meet your team. Justin is working virtually and in-person to support individuals. He can also do a Zoom meeting with your staff to explain the program and answer any questions.
- **Parent Aware** - Financial aid and tax relief plans help families pay for child care. The cost of care depends on several factors, including the child's age, type of program, and program's location. There are several programs that can help make child care more affordable. These include the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Early Learning Scholarships (ELS), and credits and deductions on your income tax. You can call 888.291.9811 for help finding the right resources. You can use the Paying for Child Care Checklist as a financial aid guide. For more information, please visit their website at <https://www.parentaware.org/learn/paying-for-care-and-education/#/>
- **Bridge to Benefits:** You can use [Bridge to Benefit's](#) free financial aid screening tool to see if you might be eligible for help. Free help filing your tax return is also available in many communities. The federal and state government along with the non-profit and business communities are working together to bring additional resources and supports to children and families as quickly as possible. To help communicate this evolving information, CDF-MN will use Bridge to Benefits as a Bulletin Board to list resources.

- **The Restaurant Employee Relief Fund (“Fund”)** was created to help restaurant industry employees experiencing extraordinary hardship in the wake of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak. Through this Fund, grants will be made to restaurant industry employees who have been impacted by COVID-19, including a decrease in wages or loss of employment. Grants will be awarded as soon as possible to those individuals who meet the prescribed eligibility criteria, as reviewed and verified by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF). Click [here](#) to access an application.
- **The Minnesota Department of Human Rights** has launched a discrimination hotline to reinforce the state’s efforts to protect the civil rights of Minnesotans during the pandemic. Anyone that experiences or witnesses acts of discrimination can call 833-454-0148 or [complete an online form](#) to report incidents.
- [For Workers: Safely Returning to Work](#)
- **The Network for Public Health Law** is a national organization providing leadership, legal technical assistance and educational resources to help public health practitioners, attorneys, policy makers, researchers, advocates, and communities understand, develop and implement laws to solve public health challenges. The Network can assist local, county, tribal and state health agencies with timely guidance, resources and information critical to key COVID-19 response measures, particularly in the areas of:
  - public health authority and emergency powers,
  - constitutionality of practices,
  - health data privacy,
  - protections for disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals,
  - crisis standards of care, and
  - ethical decision making.

To learn more and/or request assistance from our law and policy experts, visit the Network’s website at <https://www.networkforphl.org/resources/topics/covid-19/> or contact Sara Rogers at [srogers@networkforphl.org](mailto:srogers@networkforphl.org).
- [Late Penalties, Collections Referrals, and Drivers’ License Suspensions Temporarily Stopped to Reduce Courthouse Visits](#)
- [Free Legal Help for Renters](#) (Website is available in English, Spanish, and Somali --select language at the top.)
  - English: 612-728-5767
  - Spanish: 612-255-8870
  - Somali: 612-255-8860
  - Hmong: 612-255-7104
  - Greater MN: 866-866-3546
- [Tenant Resource Center](#) - Call 612-302-3180 for support. You can leave a message on the voicemail. Calls will be returned within 24 hours.
  - Resources available on eviction and homelessness prevention, emergency assistance, mediation, workforce, and legal assistance.
- [LawHelpMN.org](#) (available in multiple languages)
  - Fact sheets available on various topics including house, unemployment, immigration cases, etc.
- **Standpoint, formerly known as the Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project (BWLAP)**, exists to serve domestic and sexual violence survivors, advocates, attorneys, and other professionals working within the justice system in the state of Minnesota. Since 1996, our organization has

established a statewide reputation as a premiere legal resource. To contact Standpoint call (800)313-2666, text (612)743-7397 or email: [info@standpointmn.org](mailto:info@standpointmn.org), Monday-Friday

- **In partnership with the Volunteer Lawyers Network**, LegalCORPS has launched an intake line for small businesses and nonprofits impacted by COVID-19 and the damage and destruction caused by recent civil unrest in response to the tragic killing of George Floyd. Owners of small businesses and representatives of nonprofits located in Minnesota can call 612-752-6687 to request help from a volunteer attorney through LegalCORPS. The intake line will be staffed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., with an option to leave a voicemail if nobody is available.
- **SOS – Sexual Violence Services**; Liz De La Torre, Hablo Español/Asesora | Fluent in Spanish/Advocate | She/Her/Hers, Legal Services Coordinator 555 Cedar Street, Saint Paul, MN, 55101. **24 hour line: 651-266-1000**. Desk: 651-266-1281 | Work Cell: 651-249-9669
- **Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS)** Offers free legal help to low-income and senior citizen (60+) clients in a full range of civil matters. To get help call 1-888-575-2954, apply [online](#), or visit [am I eligible](#).