



Community Counselling & Resource Centre

Emergency Assistance Fund Peterborough City and County

Managed by the Housing Resource Centre
229 King Street, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 2R9
Telephone: 705-743-9122 Fax: 705-742-3015

Fund Purpose and Description

The Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF) exists to assist low-income people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness by providing one-time financial assistance. The Housing Resource Centre (HRC), a program of Community Counselling and Resource Centre, established, manages and administers the fund.

The EAF is a community based, charitable program for low income* residents of Peterborough City and County. Funding is provided by The City and County of Peterborough and by charitable donations from individuals and organizations. A committee of community volunteers helps to manage the fund by providing advice and expertise and by hearing appeals from applicants. The HRC provides regular financial reporting to the community and funders.

Eligibility

Any resident of Peterborough City and County who is *homeless or at risk of homelessness* can apply for emergency assistance funds. Eligible expenses must be related to a housing or homelessness situation. Strict standards and guidelines apply. Eligible expenses may include:

- rent or utilities arrears or deposits
- appropriate emergency shelter when existing community resources are unavailable
- fees related to eviction or disconnection of services
- costs for moving / storage
- emergency medical, food, personal hygiene or transportation for the homeless

How to Apply

Call the Housing Resource Centre for an appointment during regular business hours. 705-743-9122.

- ✓ All information is confidential, however complete verification of information provided is necessary
- ✓ Decisions on eligibility are made based on criteria and guidelines that are established by the community.
- ✓ If the application is approved, funds are provided directly to the landlord or service provider. Cash is not given to applicants.

How to Donate to Emergency Assistance Fund

100% OF ALL DONATIONS ARE ALLOCATED DIRECTLY TO APPLICANTS
to PREVENT HOMELESSNESS or to ASSIST THE HOMELESS

All donors will receive a charitable receipt for tax purposes

Make cheques payable to:
Community Counselling & Resource Centre
229 King Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 2R8

Emergency Assistance Fund Criteria, Standards and Limitations

1. This is a fund of **LAST RESORT** and ALL other means of assistance (e.g. Ontario Works and ODSP, FUSE and other charitable assistance) must be fully allocated BEFORE emergency assistance funds are granted. Assistance MAY be denied to applicants who do not access existing resources or to those who are evicted from (or not admitted to) existing emergency shelters.
2. Applicants must agree to information verification of income and expenses. Complete confidentiality of information provided is assured. We will not divulge information to other organisations without the applicants written authorization.
3. Levels of assistance may vary according to availability of funds. Applications will only be accepted a maximum of once per year.
4. The Fund's standards guarantee:
 - Timely response within HRC regular business hours
 - Equitable access for City and County residents
 - Flexibility to unique needs and situations
5. The Fund's standards require:
 - Homeowners may apply, however, applicants will be required to prove that alternative, secured financing is unavailable to them through their financial institution.
 - Applicants may be asked to submit partial payment to the HRC before amounts from the fund are disbursed.
 - Applicants may be required to attend a credit related counselling appointment before funds are granted.
 - Applicants in receipt of Ontario Works or O.D.S.P. will be required to contact their worker to apply for discretionary or mandatory benefits before emergency funds are granted. Emergency Funds granted under this program are charitable in nature and therefore not considered income or deducted from recipients.
 - Assistance provided is by voucher or made payable to the housing or service provider. Cash is never given to applicants.

