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# OFFICE OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

*Dedicated to serving our neighbors in need through emergency assistance services and preserving our community heritage in our fourteen public cemeteries*

*2020 Annual Lawrence Township Emergency Assistance*

*Deputy Trustee: Shawn Denney*

*Senior Case Manager: Betty Robinson*

**Steve Talley, Lawrence Township Trustee**

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# 2020 Challenges & Successes



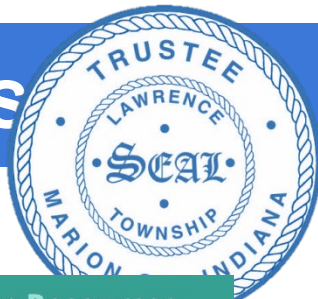
## The Big Challenge of the Year - Covid

- March 2020 - Covid shutdown begins
- How to Maintain Safety for the public and staff?
- How do we take applications?
- Schools are closed, businesses closed, Workforce Development closed, doctors offices closed – how to verify information?

## Successes – Overcoming the Challenge

- Special Covid-19 Application process approved by ITA & State Board of Accounts.
- Video and Phone based Application process to stay within county health department guidelines and minimize unnecessary in-person contact.
- Coordinated with other entities who were providing Covid assistance – the two largest for us being United Way & IndyRent

# Other Emergency Assistance Programs



## Need Help Paying Rent?

Many people in Indianapolis have lost work because of COVID-19. Are you having a hard time paying rent? Our Rental Assistance Program might be able to help.



### Is this program for me?

You can apply to get help paying rent if:

- You have lost your job because of COVID
- You are working less time at your job because of COVID
- Your monthly household income today (including unemployment) is less than it was at the beginning of March
- You're not receiving rental assistance from another source (public housing, housing choice voucher, HUD-WASH, etc.)



### How much of my rent could be paid?

Up to 3 months (90 days) rent paid, including back rent to April 1



### How do I apply?

**STEP 1** – If you qualify, you should talk with your property manager or landlord. **Your landlord must agree to participate in the program.**

**STEP 2** – Apply online at [indyrent.org](http://indyrent.org).

You need to provide income information from February 2020 AND income information (including unemployment) since March 1, 2020.

**STEP 3** – Once you apply, you'll receive a unique code to give to your landlord or property manager to complete their portion of the application. If you provide your landlord or property manager's email address, they'll receive the code automatically.

**STEP 4** – If you are approved, payment will be sent directly to the landlord.



Questions? Call **317-912-1260** if you need more information. We're happy to help!

Are you ready to apply? Visit [indyrent.org](http://indyrent.org) to get started.



### Did you know...

That 2-1-1 referral line received more than 8,000 calls for energy assistance last year?

## WINTER ASSISTANCE FUND

January through May

### No one should have to endure the winter without heat or electricity

United Way of Central Indiana's Winter Assistance Fund helps those who:

- Are not able to pay their heating bills during the winter months, and
- Are not eligible for government energy assistance programs, and
- Have an income range as shown below.

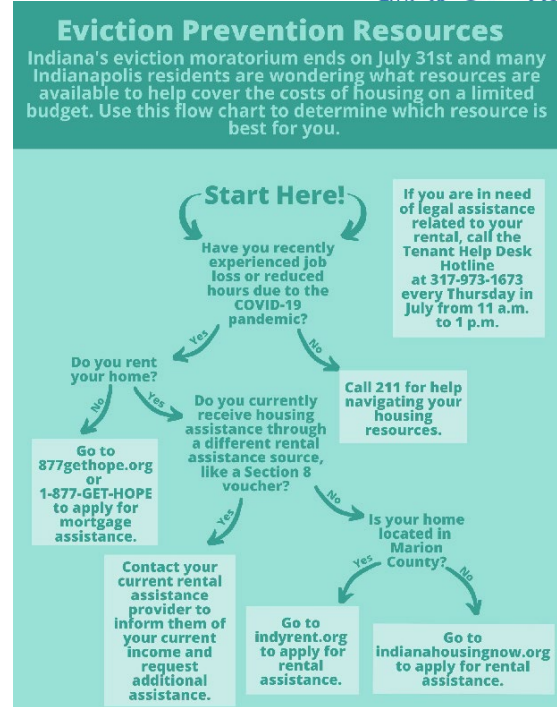
Size of Household	TOTAL Last 3 Months Gross Income Must BE OVER	TOTAL Last 3 Months Gross Income Must NOT EXCEED
1	\$8,489	\$7,170
2	\$8,457	\$6,099
3	\$10,482	\$12,219
4	\$12,480	\$14,730
5	\$14,478	\$17,250

The program, which runs from January 18th, 2021 through May, helps those who cannot afford heat and electricity, yet don't qualify for the government's Low-Income Energy Assistance Program.

Visit [uwci.org/waf](http://uwci.org/waf) to find locations accepting applications, call to make an appointment.

The Winter Assistance Fund helps ensure that those who need energy assistance the most have warm homes during the coldest months of the year.

[uwci.org](http://uwci.org)



# Trustee's Office– Assistance Number



The Trustee's Office processed a total of **1,607** applications for a total of **\$210,124.92** in assistance.

We also processed **92** WAF applications for **\$46,661.73** in indirect assistance.

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology Upgrades



## New Server Upgrade –

- Enhanced Stability for Zoom meetings
- Faster Connection Speeds
- Allows for more Zoom meetings in the building
- Capacity for upgrades as needed in the future.

## New Phone System with 8x8 Inc

- Calls can be answered from multiple devices
- Calls can be answered anywhere we are
- The office could have an emergency evacuation or loss power and we can still answer the phone

