

Community Resources

Shelter

Mercy House	432-1812
First Step	434-0295
Salvation Army	433-2785
	434-4854
Choices—Page County	743-4414
HARTS	578-3868

Other Assistance

Residents of Harrisonburg/

Rockingham County

Salvation Army	434-4854
People Helping People	433-7286
Social Services	574-5100

Residents of Elkton

Elkton Area United Services 298-8685

Residents of Page County

Page One	743-4357
Social Services	778-1053

Legal Services

Blue Ridge Legal Services 433-1830

Homeless Intervention Program

“The goal of HIP is to prevent homelessness by assisting individuals and families in maintaining permanent housing through financial assistance and education related to housing and financial literacy.”

~HIP Program Manual
VA DHCD



Homeless Intervention Program

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Se Hablo español.

Mercy House does not discriminate in the delivery of services based on age, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, ability or disability, sexual orientation, class or income

Mercy House, Inc.

Homeless Intervention Program



For those living in Harrisonburg City, Rockingham or Page County who are in temporary need of rental or mortgage assistance due to an unforeseen, short-term crisis.

United Way of Harrisonburg
and Rockingham County





What is HIP?

The Homeless Intervention Program (HIP) provides temporary rental and mortgage assistance to low-income households at imminent risk of homelessness due to an unavoidable crisis, and security deposit and temporary rental assistance to homeless families and individuals who have found permanent housing.

Qualifications

Eligible applicants must:

- Be experiencing a **temporary financial crisis** due to unforeseen crisis (illness, accident, lay-off, etc.)
- Be in **imminent danger of losing the home** (with a pay/quit notice or unlawful detainer) or are homeless
- Meet income limits
- Never have received HIP funding before
- Be willing to fulfill the expectations of the program
- Have used all other resources to remedy the crisis
- **Be able to be self-sufficient after the assistance from HIP has ended**
- **Have a history of self-sufficiency prior to the crisis**
- Have rent or mortgage fees that meet fair market rent guidelines

How can I apply?

Mercy House accepts phone calls for HIP pre-screenings on the 15th (or the following working day) of each month at 9:00 am. **No walk-ins!**

If you are found eligible to apply from the pre-screening you will be given an appointment with the Housing Counselor to finish your application.

All applicants over 18 in the household must be able to submit proof of:

- Housing Eligibility (lease, mortgage documents, homeless verification, landlord letter, pay/quit notice or unlawful detainer)
- Signed lease (if renting or planning to rent)
- Financial Eligibility (pay stubs, bank account information, SSI/SSDI, child support, etc.)
- Resources
- Current expenses
- Current and 3 years past employment information
- Photo ID
- Verification of the crisis and verification of plan for self-sufficiency

A committee of social workers and community agency personnel review applications to make the final decision on acceptance into the HIP Program and you will be notified in writing of the decision.

Final determination can take up to 2 business weeks from the pre-screening call.

Program Expectations

- Set a self-sufficiency plan
- Work with the Housing Counselor monthly to review and update the plan prior to assistance for that month (could require a 6 month commitment).
- Set and follow a monthly spending plan
- Payments will be made directly to your landlord or mortgagee. No payments will be made directly to clients.
- Assistance is given in the form of grants. Mortgage assistance may be given in the form of a no-interest loan which may be secured by a Deed of Trust.

Additional Opportunities

HIP participants will be encouraged to participate in the following:

- Financial Literacy Classes
 - SAFE at Home—Aftercare program for one additional year of support after HIP assistance is finished
 - Angel Food Ministries
 - Virginia Individual Development Accounts
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