

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS RENTAL ASSISTANCE (GRA)

Does anyone in your community need rental or utility assistance? Georgia received \$552 million in federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA1) under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and an additional \$437 million in federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 from the U.S. Department of Treasury. The funds are used to provide relief to landlords and tenants whose finances have been negatively impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic by bringing past due rent and utility payments current up to 18 months. This program is being administered through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

Who is eligible?

- Those who qualify for unemployment or have experienced a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Those who demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.
- Those who have a household income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) with priority given to households below 50% of AMI.
- Renter households that receive a monthly federal subsidy (e.g. Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing, Project Based Section 8). Program eligibility is limited to the tenant's portion of rent.

Who is **not** eligible?

- Those who have a household income above 80% of the AMI.
- Those who cannot show a COVID-19 hardship or risk of homelessness or housing instability through an eviction notice or a past-due rent statement.

How to Apply?

To submit an application, please visit:
GeorgiaRentalAssistance.ga.gov

For questions regarding your application, please email:
rentalassistance@dca.ga.gov

NOW OFFERING STATE WIDE ASSISTANCE

Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Community Affairs
GEORGIA RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

GEORGIARENTALASSISTANCE.GA.GOV RENTALASSISTANCE@DCA.GA.GOV (833) 827-RENT(7368)

What Is GRA?

Georgia received \$552 million in federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA1) under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and an additional \$437 million in federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 from the U.S. Department of Treasury. The funds are used to provide relief to landlords and tenants whose finances have been negatively impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic by bringing past due rent and utility payments current up to 18 months. This program is being administered through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

Eligibility

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- ☒ Those who qualify for unemployment or have experienced a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- ☒ Those who demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability
- ☒ Those who have a household income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) with priority given to households below 50% of the AMI
- ☒ Renter households that receive a monthly federal subsidy (e.g. Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing, Project Based Section 8). Program eligibility is limited to the tenant's portion of the rent.

Who Is Not Eligible?




- ☒ Those who have a household income above 80% of the AMI
- ☒ Those who cannot show a COVID-19 hardship or risk of homelessness or housing instability through an eviction notice or a past-due rent statement

THE GEORGIA RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS
NOW PROVIDING FUNDING STATEWIDE

How to Apply

To submit an application, please visit
GeorgiaRentalAssistance.ga.gov.
For questions regarding your application,
please email rentalassistance@dca.ga.gov.

Scan here for more information:

BLOG WEBSITE FAQ

THE GEORGIA TRUST CALLS FOR PLACES IN PERIL NOMINATIONS



THE
GEORGIA TRUST
for HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PLACES IN PERIL: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominate an endangered historic place by June 17, 2022

CRITERIA

- We're looking for properties that are historically significant and significantly threatened.
- Sites must be subject to a serious threat to their existence or historical, architectural and/or archaeological integrity.
- There must have a demonstrable level of community commitment and support for the preservation of listed sites.

The Georgia Trust is calling for nominations to the annual *Places in Peril* list which highlights historically significant properties that are threatened. The *Places in Peril* program raises awareness about threatened sites and encourages owners, individuals, organizations, and communities to employ preservation tools, partnerships and resources necessary to preserve the properties in peril.

Sites named to the list must be subject to a serious threat to their existence or historical, architectural, and/or archaeological integrity. Nominees must have community support and demonstrable level of community commitment and support. Submissions are due June 18th. For more information, please visit www.georgiatrust.org/our-programs/places-in-peril/ and for assistance in nominating a property, please contact **Lydia Joffray, NEGRC Historic Preservation Planner**, at ljoffray@negrc.org.



NORTHEAST GEORGIA AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL AND CARE-NET

Caregivers provide a great service to their community and care receivers. However, sometimes caregivers need resources to thrive in their caregiving role. The Northeast Georgia Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Council and CARE-NET meet quarterly to discuss resources for caregivers. The quarterly meetings are an opportunity for caregivers to hear from experts in their community speak on a variety of topics. Past speakers include the Elderly Legal Assistance Program attorney, hospice staff, Veterans Affairs representatives, and representatives from the Rosalyn Carter Institute for Caregiving.

The mission of the NEGA CARE-NET is to serve as a resource for caregivers in the Northeast Georgia Region by identifying unmet needs, share information and resources among agencies, and advocate for caregivers. The Advisory Council has similar goals as the CARE-NET, and the groups have been combined as of 2019. Attendees include representatives from Adult Protective Services, Long Term Care Ombudsman, area hospitals, home health care companies, hospices, and caregivers from the community. Once a year, the CARE-NET hosts a Caregiver Celebration to recognize volunteer, professional, and family caregivers in the community who have gone above and beyond to serve.

These meetings are open to the public. The group hopes to have more caregiver participation at future meetings. Megan Vogt and Toshia Lewis coordinate the quarterly meetings for the CARE-NET/Advisory Council. Toshia Lewis is the NEGA Area Agency on Aging Quality Assurance Manager, and Megan Vogt is the Program Manager for the Aging and Disability Resource Connection. Please call **(706) 583-2546** or email **Megan Vogt** at mvogt@negrc.org to inquire about attending the meetings.

APRIL IS SENIOR HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH

On March 21, 2022, Governor Brian Kemp designated April as Senior Hunger Awareness Month. Friday, April 8, 2022 was designated as the first Senior Hunger Awareness Day for the State of Georgia and partners across the State were encouraged to wear orange. The Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging staff joined in these efforts and supported this great cause.

The State of Georgia has been working for the last several years to end senior hunger. On December 17, 2018, the State Hunger Plan was released and it addresses 5 Focus Areas of Senior Hunger: 1. Today's Senior, 2. Health Impact of Senior Hunger, 3. Food Access, 4. Food Waste and Reclamation and 5. Meeting the Community's Needs.

The State Hunger Plan also called for each region to form a Senior Hunger Coalition to identify and address senior hunger needs

in each region—as the needs of each region vary. The Northeast Georgia Senior Hunger Coalition was formed and began meeting in 2018. The Coalition meets quarterly and has representatives from the community to include senior centers, businesses, non-profits, for-profits, colleges and universities, hospitals, hospice, home healthcare, DFCS, public health, civic organizations, churches, and community members. The Coalition continues to seek additional members to ensure that each community is represented and each specific senior hunger need can be addressed.

The Northeast Georgia Senior Hunger Coalition has focused much of its attention on Food Access as the region has many food deserts and limited transportation. The Senior Hunger Coalition has provided resources to the community to ensure that seniors know what resources are available in their community. At the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020, the Senior Hunger Coalition provided food access in all Northeast Georgia counties by providing the following: 630 shelf stable meals to seniors identified by senior centers to have food insecurity and low income; hosted a Farmer's Market to 50 senior community members in Oglethorpe county; provided ten \$100 gift cards and transportation to Oglethorpe County seniors for grocery shopping at the local Bells Grocery store; and partnered with Humana Medicare Advantage to host two additional farmers' markets. In recent years, the Coalition has issued mini grants to its partners to start or enhance senior hunger initiatives in their communities.

To join the efforts to end senior hunger or learn more about the Northeast Georgia Senior Hunger Coalition or Georgia State Plan please contact the **Senior Hunger Coalition Coordinator Toshia Lewis or Senior Hunger Coalition Secretary Katurah Patterson at 1-800-474-7540.**



Pictured from left to right. Front row: Michele Kelley, Kendall Burnette, Megan Vogt, and Traviara Harper. Back row: Peggy Jenkins, Toshia Lewis, Katrina Ogbe, Agnes Kakaire, and Urika Roebuck.

WELDREADY GRADUATION MADISON COUNTY COHORT

Our “hats off” to the 14 young men who recently completed the intensive 10-week Foothills Education Charter High School WeldReady program at Madison County Foothills.

The Foothills welding program positions students to earn American Welding Society (AWS) certifications that align closely with local employer needs.

“All 14 of our students passed and received the American Welding Certification,” said Michelle Garrison. “Other certifications that were also earned are: OSHA 10, CPR/AED, First Aid, Fork Lift, Lean Six Sigma White Belt, in addition to professional skills training.”

This program is a partnership between Foothills, Workforce Innovators, Inc. and the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission. The goal is to prepare workforce candidates for jobs through intense short-term skills training. A training curriculum is developed after consulting with employers and staffing agencies to understand the local workforce needs and then prepares students through the short-term skills training to meet those needs. Training was delivered on the WorkSource Northeast Georgia/NEGRC 8 bay welding training trailer. This group represents the first WeldReady Cohort at the Madison County campus.



WeldReady students pictured are: Blanton Adams, Zach Andrews, Rene Barrientos, Conner Berryman, Gabe Binkley, Ramsey Fowler, J.T. McDaniel, Nathan Palmer, Wyatt Palmer, Ashton Pethel, Hank Saxon, Jacob Scott, Braxton Shoemaker and Josi Silva.



305 Research Drive
Athens, GA 30605

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Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS
MAY

10 th	8:30 a.m.	Workforce Development Board Meeting	NEGRC
11 th	1:00 p.m.	Solid Waste Authority Meeting	NEGRC
19 th	Noon	NEGRC Council Meeting	Trumps Catering
25 th	9:00 a.m.	UOBWA Meeting	NEGRC