



Utility and Rent Assistance

Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) to help pay utility bills for those in need. MEAP provides direct bill payment assistance for heat and electricity. Families at or below 150% of the federal poverty level are eligible. Call 1-800-866-8429 for assistance today and/or visit thawfund.org/programs for more information and to apply.

Eligible applicants must complete the 2 step process below.

1. Complete a State Emergency Relief Application through the Michigan Department of Health Services via the link here https://www.michigan.gov/.../0,5885,7-339-71547_5531 or call 616-248-1000.
2. Complete the THAW application at thawfund.org/programs or call 1-800-866-8429.

The application can also be downloaded, printed, and mailed directly to THAW's offices:

The Heat and Warmth Fund
535 Griswold St
Suite 200
Detroit, MI 48226

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

United Way is helping to manage the Kent County COVID Emergency Rental Assistance funds (CERA). CERA is available to renter households with incomes less than 80% Area Median Income (AMI), experienced financial hardship due to the coronavirus outbreak and are behind on rent. This is a great influx of assistance and has the potential to benefit thousands of Kent County residents. Please use the link below to access documents that will be helpful in communicating this opportunity to your participants, neighbors, family, and friends. I have also included some additional notes.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1zIKCFSYftXqb2TdwH8BMI-IISjO6pzPW>

- Walk-in Assistance is available at:
 - The Salvation Army
1215 Fulton St E, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Monday through Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm
 - Kent County Community Action
121. Franklin St SE Ste 110, Grand Rapids, MI 49507
Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM
 - Hispanic Center of West Michigan (Spanish speaking assistance available)
1204 Grandville Ave SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Monday through Friday, 9am to 12 PM and 1:30 PM to 5 PM

- The following toll-free number can be used starting Monday, April 19: **877.ERA.KENT**
- The Kent County Continuum of Care (CoC) will provide additional updates and answer questions at their CoC CERA Update on Friday, April 23 at 11am through zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4350176715?pwd=bXZ3THM5Mkd6eJlJlOE1SK2tmUFZUdz09>