

Rental Assistance for Older Adult Tenants

By the GWAAR Legal Services Team (for reprint)

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased housing instability for many older adult tenants. There are tools available to help prevent evictions of older adults, including emergency rental assistance, available across the country through locally run programs.

This week, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) debuted a new tool that helps renters and landlords look up rental assistance in their area and apply for assistance. The Rental Assistance Finder is designed to help tenants and landlords take advantage of emergency rental assistance that can be used to cover rent, utilities, and other housing costs, with the goal to keep people in their homes.

Many individuals face barriers to accessing rental assistance funds, including lack of knowledge of the programs available, internet connectivity issues, language access issues, and difficulty navigating overly burdensome paperwork. Advocates can learn more about how to help older adults navigate these issues in NCLER's recent training on Emergency Rental Assistance Programs and Other Tools to Prevent Evictions of Older Adult Tenants and the Chapter Summary that accompanied the training.

Legal assistance providers also play a critical role in defending older adults from eviction to prevent unnecessary loss of housing and preserve individual rights. Learn more about eviction defense in NCLER's trainings on eviction prevention and find your local legal assistance provider through the Eldercare Locator or Legal Services Corporation.

- Emergency Rental Assistance Programs and Other Tools to Prevent Evictions of Older Adult Tenants <https://vimeo.com/566289793>
- Chapter Summary https://ncler.acl.gov/getattachment/Legal-Training/upcoming_event/Rental-Assistance-Ch-Summary.pdf.aspx
- NCLER's trainings on eviction prevention <https://ncler.acl.gov/Legal-Training/Housing.aspx>