Housing Resources

YOUR RIGHTS

Tenants who earn less than twice the federal poverty line can get a free lawyer under Washington's Right to Counsel program and should immediately seek legal assistance if they receive eviction notices. Call the statewide eviction defense screening line to get access to a lawyer: 855-657-8387.

Landlords cannot start an eviction for unpaid rent without first offering a tenant a reasonable repayment plan and the opportunity to participate in mediation. Landlords cannot evict tenants without a reason. They must have a "good cause" and provide the amount of notice required by law.

Learn more at WashingtonLawHelp.org.

Council for the Homeless Housing Hotline

councilforthehomeless.org | 360-695-9677

If you are struggling to remain in your home or if you are sleeping in your car or outside, call the Council for the Homeless Housing Hotline to learn about available shelter and housing assistance in Clark County.

Community Mediation Services

mediationclarkcounty.org | 360-334-5862

CMS provides mediation resources to facilitate dialogue and negotiation between tenants and landlords regarding rent payment plans to help renters maintain housing. Mediation is free and provides an independent, well-trained person who can help you safely communicate with your landlord and try to come to an agreement.

Clark County Volunteer Lawyers Program

ccvlp.org | 360-695-5313

This program provides and facilitates access to justice in Clark County for low-income individuals and marginalized communities through advocacy and civil legal services. Housing justice cases include landlord/tenant disputes, tenant discrimination, or any issue that prevents a client from being safely and fairly housed.

Clark County Veterans Assistance Fund

ccvac.net | 564-397-8478

The Veterans Assistance Fund administered by the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center offers financial assistance to veterans who meet income qualifications and need help. The program can assist with one month's mortgage, rent or security deposit (with housing voucher), provide rental assistance to prevent eviction, and more.

Northwest Fair Housing Alliance

nwfairhouse.org | 800-200-FAIR (3247)

NWFHA assists people who have experienced discrimination in housing because of their race, national origin, religion, sex/gender/DV, familial status, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military/veteran status.



<u>Tenants Union of Washington State</u> tenantsunion.org | 206-723-0500

The Tenants Union fights for housing justice through education, organizing, and advocacy. Their tenant's rights hotline is open Monday - Friday and is available for all languages.

Northwest Justice Project Eviction Defense Hotline nwjustice.org | 1-855-657-8387

NJP provides free legal assistance to address fundamental human needs such as housing, family safety, income security, health care, education, and more. The hotline is available for English and Spanish speakers.

<u>Service & Emotional Support Animals in Washington State</u> hud.gov/fairhousing

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a federal agency that administers the Fair Housing Act (FHA). Under the FHA, a service animal is defined as an animal that is a necessary reasonable accommodation for a person with a physical or psychiatric disability. Emotional support animals (ESA) provide therapeutic benefit to an individual with a mental or psychiatric disability and are included in the HUD definition and are therefore allowed into a person's dwelling.

There should be no "pet fee" for a service animal or ESA. The person with the disability must request the animal as a reasonable accommodation and must be able to show that the animal is necessary because of the person's disability, typically through a doctor's note. If you believe a reasonable accommodation has been denied without good cause, you can file a complaint online with HUD's Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity office.

This information is provided as a resource for our community. We cannot guarantee coverage or support from any resource listed here. Contact information, enrollment processes, and qualifications may change without our knowledge. Please contact the organization providing the service for additional information.