

## **Difficulty Paying Your Rent?**

## STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR RENT?

HAS YOUR INCOME LOWERED?

### ARE YOU MOVING TO A NEW HOME?

WE CAN HELP!

#### HOW TO APPLY:

Tenants and landlords can apply online by visiting:

www.rcapsolutions.org/hcec-application

For homeowners who need assistance with mortgage payments, RCAP Solutions can refer you to the appropriate program.

## IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT US:

- HCEC@rcapsolutions.org
- (978) 630-6771
- 💿 TTY: (978) 630-6754
- 191 May Street Worcester, MA 01602

For individuals and families who have lost income or are struggling to pay their rent, there is help available.

RCAP Solutions serves as the regional Housing Consumer Education Center (HCEC) for Worcester County and a handful of surrounding towns and administers financial assistance through the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) program. This program can provide eligible households with funding that can be used to help stay in current housing, obtain new housing, or otherwise avoid becoming homeless.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Anyone experiencing a housing crisis, including:

- Individuals
- Families with or without children
- Unaccompanied youth
- Household income must be below 50% of the area median income (AMI)

Federal immigration status has no impact on eligibility for most of this funding.

#### HOW CAN FUNDS BE USED?

Program funds can be used for housingrelated expenses only, including:

- Rent arrears
- Utility arrears
- Short-term rental stipend
- Security deposits
- Start-up costs (if moving to a new apartment)
- First and last month's rent

There are some restrictions on assistance for families residing in subsidized housing or who have a rental voucher.

#### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

When completing the online application, you will be required to provide:

- ID for Head of Household
- Proof of current housing (for example, a lease)
- Proof of housing crisis (for example, a notice to quit, eviction letter, or utility shut-off)
- Proof of income (for example, paystubs)

#### **INFORMATION FOR LANDLORDS:**

The RAFT application system requires both a tenant application and a landlord application for tenants who are requesting rental assistance. Landlords and property owners can (a) begin the RAFT application process for their tenants who may need to request financial assistance for overdue rent OR (b) complete the application once the tenant has submitted their application.



### **C** 978.630.6771

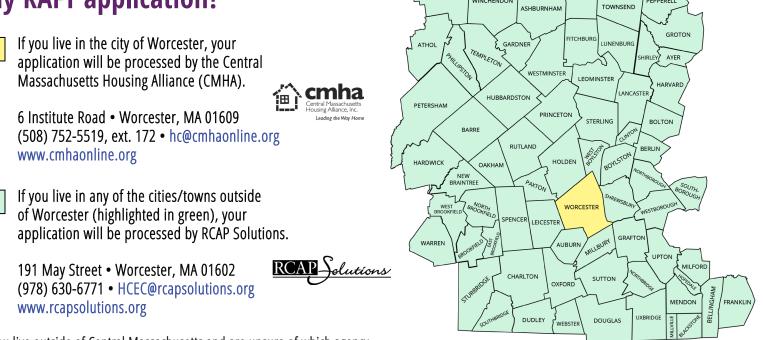
### www.rcapsolutions.org





## Financial Assistance for Renters (RAFT Program)

# Which agency will be processing my RAFT application?



ROYAL STON

WINCHENDON

ASHBY

PEPPEREII

If you live outside of Central Massachusetts and are unsure of which agency services your community, please visit: https://hedfuel.azurewebsites.net/

## I need help completing the online application. Who can I contact?

RCAP Solutions is proud to be partnering with several community-based organizations (CBOs) to bring RAFT application assistance to clients throughout Central Massachusetts. If you need help completing the online application, please contact RCAP Solutions or a CBO (listed below) to schedule an appointment. During the appointment, you will be guided through the application process. These appointments can be conducted in-person or virtually.

PLEASE NOTE: This service is only available to residents living in a community where RCAP Solutions administers the RAFT program (see map above).



Valuing Our Children

217 Walnut Street • Athol, MA 01331 (978) 249-8467 • info@valuingourchildren.org www.valuingourchildren.org

Spanish American Center "Sirviendo Nuestra Comunidad"

112 Spruce Street • Leominster, MA 01453 (978) 534-3145 • info@spanishamericancenter.org www.spanishamericancenter.org





Offering application assistance at multiple locations by appointment only. Scan the QR code to schedule.

(508) 754-1176 • resiliency@wcac.net

www.wcac.net Serving Southern Worcester County/Blackstone Valley