



September 15, 2022 Program Update

The Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) remains dedicated to keeping Missouri families safe in their homes. Since spring 2021, MHDC's State Assistance for Housing Relief program (SAFHR) has helped more than 50,000 Missouri families in every county in the state who have been impacted by the COVID pandemic to avoid eviction and foreclosure through more than \$300 million in direct assistance. SAFHR assistance is administered by MHDC and made possible through federal COVID relief funding provided to the State of Missouri.

Funding for SAFHR assistance is continuing for homeowners, renters, and landlords. In October 2022, a second phase of federal money will fund SAFHR for Renters and Landlords, which provides assistance to both renters and landlords. This new funding will enable MHDC to further its mission and improve the lives of thousands of Missourians.

In its first phase, SAFHR for Renters and Landlords focused on emergency relief as the pandemic created acute housing instability for thousands of Missouri families. Now, SAFHR is refocusing on long-term housing stability. Although the immediate challenges of the pandemic have faded, many of its ripple effects continue. In addition, Missouri families are affected by inflation and other continuing economic stresses.

To safeguard the continuing integrity of the program, as we've done from the beginning, MHDC carefully evaluates each application to verify it meets eligibility requirements before processing any payment.

A few weeks of scheduled system maintenance will occur prior to launching the second phase of SAFHR for Renters and Landlords. During this maintenance period, beginning October 1, applications for SAFHR for Renters and Landlords will be temporarily unavailable. SAFHR for Homeowners applications will continue to be available during this time. SAFHR for Renters and Landlords applications will reopen on October 17. Applications received through September 30 will continue to be processed during the transition to phase two. New applications after October 17 will also be processed normally.

To get this assistance into the hands of Missouri families in need, MHDC is continuing to reach out via traditional media and social media advertising, community partners, lenders, and local governments.

In addition to SAFHR assistance, MHDC also provides Housing Stability and Eviction Diversion programs for renters, and mortgage assistance counseling through Housing Counseling Agencies across the state.

More on SAFHR and its results are available at the SAFHR Dashboard website.

For other questions or more information, Missourians can call, email, or use the chat feature built into the online application platform at the application link. All current support features listed will remain available during the transition to phase two. Updates on SAFHR are also available by signing up for the SAFHR Partner Pulse.

 833-541-1599

 mo.safhr@mhdc.com

 mohousingresources.com