

Massachusetts Mutual Aid and Resources for COVID-19

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Compiled by RentStrikeMA with assistance from Allston Brighton Mutual Aid.

Do you have more resources to share, questions, or advice? Reach out to us!

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Keep Your Rent (Needs revisions as of 5/1/20)

COVID-19 has adversely affected all of greater Boston including low-income and working poor residents. If you don't have the means to pay your rent,
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO.

- Eviction proceedings are halted in Massachusetts Housing Court until *at least* May 4. ([source](#))
- Per Massachusetts law, if you receive a 14-day or 30-day notice to vacate, **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO LEAVE IN 14/30 DAYS**. You only have to vacate a rental unit when a judge tells you to leave, after having gone through a formal eviction process **in the court**.
- If you are on a lease in Massachusetts, your landlord cannot charge you a late fee UNLESS specifically permitted to in your lease and ONLY after 30 days from the rental period due date. If you are not on a lease, you cannot be charged a late fee AT ALL.
- Many units in greater Boston are controlled by landlord corporations with **hundreds of millions of dollars** in real estate assets in Boston *alone*. Some examples: The Hamilton Company (\$409M), Gerald Fineberg/The Fineberg Companies (\$223M), Anwar Faisal/Alpha Management Corp (\$198M), Leonard Samia/Samia Companies (\$184M), Charles Hajjar (\$99M), and the Micozzi Family/Micozzi Management (\$61M). ([source](#)) **Between you and these companies, who can more easily afford to weather the crisis?**
- Governor Baker and Mayor Walsh **personally** asked landlords to not enforce evictions during the month of April during a press conference on March 23. ([source](#))
- Rent strikes are being organized all across the country to respond to tenants' needs during the COVID-19 crisis. Examples: Philadelphia, PA ([link](#)) / Raleigh, NC ([link](#)) / Oakland, CA ([link](#))
- [If you are facing judge-ordered eviction, reach out!](#) If there is a tenants union in your neighborhood, [we can fight eviction together!](#)

Organizing Resources for Renters

- ★ [What are my rights as a tenant?](#)
- ★ [How do I start organizing an Autonomous Tenants Union?](#)
- ★ [Tools for reaching out to fellow renters in your neighborhood](#)
- ★ [Pledge for fellow renters to have each others backs](#)
- ★ [Sample letters to landlords](#)
- ★ [Help with bills](#)
- ★ [Help with utility bills](#)
- ★ [Cartilla para organizar Asambleas Territoriales y Cabildos Abiertos](#)
- ★ [City Life Vida Urbana Resource Page](#)
- ★ [Flyering Protocols](#)

Housing & Legal Resources

- ★ [COVID-19 Eviction Court Updates](#) (Updated March 24, 2020)
- ★ [List of Greater Boston shelters](#)
- ★ [List of Boston shelters for families and individuals](#)
- ★ [Emergency family shelters](#)
- ★ [Rapid re-housing](#)
- ★ [MA Residential Assistance](#)
- ★ [Greater Boston Legal Services COVID-19 Eviction Information](#)
- ★ [Boston Volunteer Lawyers Project](#)
- ★ [City Life Vida Urbana Resource Page](#)
- ★ City Life Vida Urbana Hotline: 617-934-5006 (English)
617-397-3773 (español)
- ★ [Domestic Abuse Emergency Housing](#)
- ★ [Boston Rental Relief \(RAFT\)](#)
- ★ [Greater Boston Legal Services](#)
- ★ [See if your property manager qualifies for mortgage forbearance](#)
- ★ [MA National Lawyers Guild \(sliding scale legal representation\)](#)
Phone: (617) 227-7335

Mutual Aid Groups

Mutual Aid groups in your immediate community can support you by buying your groceries, picking up your medication, offering childcare, transportation, cash or other monetary relief, safe house cleaning, translation services, getting news and accurate information, applying for jobs and rentals, or just some social support. Reach out if you have something you need or something to give.

- ★ [Jobs With Justice MA Mutual Aid Networks List](#)
- ★ [Directory of MA Mutual Aid Groups](#)
- ★ [Allston-Brighton Mutual Aid/](#)
- ★ [General Boston Community Care](#)
- ★ [MAMAS \(Ayuda Mutua Medford y Somerville\) \(en Español\)](#)
- ★ [MAMAS \(Medford and Somerville Mutual Aid\) \(in English\)](#)
- ★ [Brookline Mutual Aid](#)
- ★ [Cambridge Mutual Aid](#)
- ★ [Roxbury and Jamaica Plain Mutual Aid](#)
- ★ [General Assistance Matcher](#)
- ★ [COVID-19 Greater Boston Mutual Aid and Resources \(facebook group\)](#)
- ★ [Mutual Aid Worcester](#)

Food Resources

- ★ [Food access statewide](#)
- ★ [Boston Meals for Adults](#)
- ★ [Greater Boston Food Bank](#)
- ★ [Food for older adults \(60+\)](#)
- ★ [Boston Solidarity Supply Distro](#)
- ★ [Project Bread's food source hotline](#)
- ★ [Boston Public Schools Meals for Children](#)
- ★ [Mayor's meal sites for children and youth](#)
- ★ [Food For Free's "I Need Food"](#)
- ★ [Map of COVID-19 Food Resources in Boston](#)
- ★ [Free COVID-19 Testing and Grocery Supply in Mission Hill](#)
- ★ Grocery and Meal Supply for Seniors and Families by Dot
email: dotnot4sale@gmail.com or text (857) 309-3788
- ★ USDA's national hunger hotline, Mon-Fri 7 am to 10 pm
English: 1-866-348-6479
Espanol: 1-877-842-6273
- ★ Project Bread's Food Source Hotline:
1-800-645-8333
TTY: 1-800-377-1292
- ★ [Cambridge food pantries](#)
- ★ [Arlington Eats](#)
- ★ [Belmont Food Pantry](#)

- ★ [Cambridge Community Food Line](#)
- ★ [More Cambridge Resources](#)
- ★ [Medford Resources](#)
- ★ [Somerville Food Resources](#)
- ★ [Guía de Recursos de Comida de Somerville](#)
- ★ [Watertown](#)
- ★ [JP First Baptist Church Free Meals](#)

Other Resources

- ★ [Rosie's Place list of resources for the houseless](#)
- ★ [Newsfeed of Successful Campaigns in other Cities and States](#)
- ★ [Newsfeed of Tenant Protection Map](#)
- ★ [Harm Reduction for Sew Workers re: COVID-19](#)
- ★ [Harm Reduction for PWUD re: COVID-19](#)
- ★ [The Network La Red support for domestic/partner abuse](#)
- ★ [Safety Practices for Food Distribution & Mutual Aid](#)
- ★ [Mutual Aid Brookline Community Delivery Toolkit](#)
- ★ [Freelance Artist Resources](#)

Financial Resources

This section includes grants and financial relief not associated with mutual aid groups.

- ★ [Small Business Recovery Grant Program](#)
- ★ [Boston Artists Relief Fund \(application due before May 15th\)](#)
- ★ [Grants for Grassroots COVID Responders](#)
- ★ [Remote Job Application Directory](#)